

# 17<sup>th</sup> European Bridge Champions' Cup

8-10 November 2018

Eilat  Israel



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## 'T ONSTEIN ARE IN THE LEAD. WHAT'S NEW?



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### LIST OF CONTENTS

|         |       |
|---------|-------|
| Round 1 | p. 2  |
| Round 2 | p. 4  |
| Round 3 | p. 8  |
| Round 4 | p. 9  |
| Results | p. 11 |

### SCHEDULE

|             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| 10:00-11:30 | Round 6  |
| 11:45-13:15 | Round 7  |
| 13:15-14:15 | Lunch    |
| 14:15-15:45 | Round 8  |
| 16:00-17:30 | Round 9  |
| 17:45-19:15 | Round 10 |
| 19:30-21:00 | Round 11 |

Last year, when we left Riga, 't Onstein were feeling quite happy. Their only team present there had just won the 2017 Champions' Cup. In the final Bulletin it read that as the winning team was the number 3 team of the club, there would be stronger teams available as well. One of those stronger teams earned the right to represent the Netherlands in this year's edition and yes, they are leading the field after the first day. On the other hand: the defending champions Onsteinians must be disappointed to find themselves back very close to the rear end of the table. Consistency was shown certainly by Connector, the Polish team that was well placed in the table all day long. Israel's Bareket also had a decent day, like the Norwegians from Sunndalsøra. Both teams, like the Poles, were among the leaders and even took the lead some time during the day. Only the initial leaders, Harplinge BK from Sweden, just dropped out of the top half teams in the last round of the day. They also are the first team to have scored below average today, with 49,5 VP.

The overnight leaders have a margin of under 2 VP over the runners-up and of 4 VP over the nos. 3 so with the round robin not even halfway, there is everything to play for, especially for the English and the Russians who experienced mixed results and some good recoveries during the day to finish on just over 53 VP which leaves them very much in the running for today.

The prospects for today thus are fine, in my opinion. It's going to be another exciting day! Don't be surprised if a few surprises occur in the course of it.



**ENGLAND VS SWEDEN**   
**RUSSIA VS MONACO**

ROUND 1

by JOS JACOBS

For the first round of this year's Round Robin, my choices for a combined match report were the matches Black (England) v. Harplinge BK (Sweden) and Lazy (Russia) v. Monaco. The format of the event would be a full round robin of 11 rounds, played over 2 days and 110 boards in all, with the top four teams fighting it out for the medals in Saturday's semifinals and finals. The other teams would then play on for the ranks 5 through 12.

The first board of the set was a near-push in both matches, though in the Black v. Harplinge match either team missed the chance to punish an adverse 3♣-pre-empt on ♣KJ7532 holding ♣AQ86 and a king and an ace behind it. The contract went three off at one table and four off at the other. These things happen in modern bridge.

Board 2 was more interesting as it featured a classic theoretical issue: should you play game in a 4-4 fit major or is 3NT the better option?

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| ♠ 10 9 8 4<br>♥ 8 5<br>♦ A J 8 6 5<br>♣ 8 6 |  | ♠ A K 7 3<br>♥ A 6 3<br>♦ 9 4 3<br>♣ J 10 3 | ♠ 5<br>♥ K Q 9 4 2<br>♦ 7 2<br>♣ Q 9 5 4 2 |
|---|--|---|--|

**OPEN ROOM**

| West              | North           | East              | South            |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>M Rimstedt</i> | <i>Hallberg</i> | <i>O Rimstedt</i> | <i>Patterson</i> |
| —                 | —               | 1♣                | 1♥               |
| Dble              | Pass            | 2♠                | Pass             |
| 3♥                | Pass            | 3NT               | All Pass         |

In the England v. Sweden match, the Rimstedts had no trouble in first locating the 4-4 fit and then suggesting an alternative final contract. When declarer ran the ♣4 lead to his jack, nine tricks were safe. Harplinge +400.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West         | North             | East        | South           |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <i>Black</i> | <i>C Rimstedt</i> | <i>Gold</i> | <i>Eriksson</i> |
| —            | —                 | 1♣          | 1♥              |
| Dble         | Pass              | 2♠          | Pass            |
| 4♠           | All Pass          |             |                 |

The immediate raise to 4♠ made all the difference, even more so when South led a diamond and North ducked dummy's king. This killed any possible endplay, even if the trumps had not been 4-1. Harplinge another +50 and 10 IMPs.

In the Russia v. Monaco match, the weak NT led directly to the proper contract.

**OPEN ROOM**

| West              | North           | East          | South          |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Zimmermann</i> | <i>Matushko</i> | <i>Multon</i> | <i>Sterkin</i> |
| —                 | —               | 1NT           | Pass           |
| 3NT               | All Pass        |               |                |

When South led a logical heart, nine tricks were even easier than in the Open Room of our other match. Monaco +400.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West              | North         | East             | South          |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>Khiuppenen</i> | <i>Lauria</i> | <i>Kholomeev</i> | <i>Versace</i> |
| —                 | —             | 1♣               | 1♥             |
| Dble              | Pass          | 1♠               | Pass           |
| 2♥                | Pass          | 3♠               | Pass           |
| 4♠                | All Pass      |                  |                |

When Versace led the ♥K, declarer got a chance which he did not take. You can win the ace, draw four rounds of trumps and concede a heart, hoping that the ♦A is with North. An unlikely line, I have to admit: in view of South's overcall, the ♦A is more likely with South. This illusion was strengthened when a diamond to the king after drawing only three rounds of trumps won the trick.. Declarer now thought that a heart could do little harm but South won the ♥Q, gave his partner a heart ruff and saw North collect two more diamond tricks in the end for one down. Monaco +50 and 10 IMPs for them as well.

Two boards later, the problem was to decide about the right level to stop bidding.



Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| ♠ 8 5<br>♥ A J 10 8 2<br>♦ K J 7 5<br>♣ A 2 |  | ♠ Q 6 3 2<br>♥ 7<br>♦ Q 9 8<br>♣ K J 9 5 4 | ♠ A K 10 7 4<br>♥ Q 6 5 4<br>♦ 4<br>♣ Q 10 7 |
| ♠ J 9<br>♥ K 9 3<br>♦ A 10 6 3 2<br>♣ 8 6 3 |  |  |  |

**OPEN ROOM**

| West              | North           | East              | South            |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>M Rimstedt</i> | <i>Hallberg</i> | <i>O Rimstedt</i> | <i>Patterson</i> |
| 1♠                | 2♥              | 3♠                | 4♥               |
| 4♠                | Dble            | All Pass          |                  |

For the English, N/S stopped bidding too early. The two red suit singletons meant that 4♠ was unbeatable when there was no club ruff possible either. Harplinge +790.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West         | North             | East        | South           |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <i>Black</i> | <i>C Rimstedt</i> | <i>Gold</i> | <i>Eriksson</i> |
| 1♠           | 2♥                | 3♥          | 4♦              |
| 4♠           | 5♦                | Pass        | Pass            |
| 5♠           | All Pass          |             |                 |

With the double red-suit fit located, bidding on was automatic for N/S. Some good guesses might even see 5♦ home but the damage for E/W had already been done as they could no longer get a big plus score on the board, no matter what they would do over 5♦. Harplinge another +100 and 13 IMPs for them when 5♠ had to go one down.

In the other match, they were less competitive.

**OPEN ROOM**

| West              | North           | East          | South          |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Zimmermann</i> | <i>Matushko</i> | <i>Multon</i> | <i>Sterkin</i> |
| 1♠                | 2♥              | 2NT           | 3♥             |
| 3♠                | 4♥              | 4♠            | Dble           |
| All Pass          |                 |               |                |

Without knowing about the double red-suit fit, South had a normal enough double over 4♠, only to find out that -790 was pretty inevitable now.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West              | North         | East             | South          |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>Khiuppenen</i> | <i>Lauria</i> | <i>Kholomeev</i> | <i>Versace</i> |
| 1♠                | 2♥            | 3♦               | 3♥             |
| Pass              | Pass          | 3♠               | All Pass       |

Careful tactical bidding resulted in a plus score for the Russians but +170 was by no means enough to avoid the loss of 12 IMPs.

A few boards later, a pushy slam sealed the fate of the Black team.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| ♠ 10 7 6 5 3<br>♥ Q J 4<br>♦ 6<br>♣ J 10 8 4 |  | ♠ K Q<br>♥ A 10 3<br>♦ Q J 8 4 2<br>♣ A 6 5 | ♠ A J 4 2<br>♥ 9 8 6<br>♦ A K<br>♣ Q 7 3 2  |
|  |  |   | ♠ 9 8<br>♥ K 7 5 2<br>♦ 10 9 7 5 3<br>♣ K 9 |

**OPEN ROOM**

| West              | North           | East              | South            |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>M Rimstedt</i> | <i>Hallberg</i> | <i>O Rimstedt</i> | <i>Patterson</i> |
| —                 | —               | —                 | Pass             |
| 1♣                | Pass            | 1♦                | Pass             |
| 1NT               | Pass            | 3NT               | All Pass         |

Nothing special on a spade lead. Harplinge +660 when the diamonds grossly misbehaved. A heart lead thus was not necessary to beat a possible slam.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West         | North             | East        | South           |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <i>Black</i> | <i>C Rimstedt</i> | <i>Gold</i> | <i>Eriksson</i> |
| —            | —                 | —           | Pass            |
| 1♣           | Pass              | 2♣          | Pass            |
| 2NT          | Pass              | 6NT         | All Pass        |

East's 2♣ showed diamonds and 2NT was not a minimum. Even on the favourable-looking ♣J lead from North, the slam had to go down. Harplinge another +100 and 13 IMPs more to win the match 43-9 or 18.44 – 1.56 VP.

In the other match, Monaco beat Lazy 29-8 or 16.19-3.82 VP.

**POLAND** VS **GREECE**   
**NORWAY** VS **ONSTEIN 2**

ROUND 2

by JOS JACOBS

For the second round, the chosen matches were Connector (Poland) v. Athens Bridge Club (Greece) and Sunndalsøra (Norway) v. the defending 2017 champions, 't Onstein 2 (Netherlands).

After a routine heart game for N/S on the first board, this one came next. It looks like a routine heart game for E/W but at our four tables, 4♥ never became the final contract.

On the same start of the auction, the Poles followed a simple approach. West's double of 2♣ showed points, East's double of the p/c 2♥ showed hearts (as it might have done at the other table...) and West's second double thus showed spades. 1,100 points later the Poles had scored 12 IMPs for their simplicity. Not bad going at all...

In the other match, the situation was slightly different at one of the tables.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

|            |               |             |  |
|------------|---------------|-------------|--|
|            | ♠ 7           |             |  |
|            | ♥ 10 3        |             |  |
|            | ♦ 8 7 5 3     |             |  |
|            | ♣ Q 8 6 5 4 2 |             |  |
| ♠ Q 10 8 6 |               | ♠ A 2       |  |
| ♥ Q 8 5    |               | ♥ A K J 7 2 |  |
| ♦ A J 10 6 |               | ♦ 9 4 2     |  |
| ♣ 7 3      |               | ♣ A 10 9    |  |
|            | ♠ K J 9 5 4 3 |             |  |
|            | ♥ 9 6 4       |             |  |
|            | ♦ K Q         |             |  |
|            | ♣ K J         |             |  |

## OPEN ROOM

| West            | North               | East              | South             |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Vroustis</i> | <i>Araszkiewicz</i> | <i>Delimpalta</i> | <i>Kotorowicz</i> |
| Pass            | Pass                | 1NT               | 2♦                |
| Dble            | 2♥                  | 3♥                | Pass              |
| 3NT             | All Pass            |                   |                   |

South's 2♦ showed one major and 2♥ was pass or correct, of course. The side advantage of this bid was that East thought he could no longer show his five-card heart suit with 100% certainty. The Greeks thus ended up in the second-best game of 3NT in which they might have run into trouble, had a club lead made sense for the defence. As it obviously did not, on this layout, declarer had an easy road to ten tricks and +430 to Athens BC.

## CLOSED ROOM

| West               | North                | East         | South             |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <i>Bestrzynski</i> | <i>Protonotarios</i> | <i>Serek</i> | <i>Sapounakis</i> |
| Pass               | Pass                 | 1NT          | 2♦                |
| Dble               | 2♥                   | Dble         | 2♠                |
| Dble               | All Pass             |              |                   |

## OPEN ROOM

| West         | North         | East             | South          |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>Tichá</i> | <i>Ovesen</i> | <i>Ritmeijer</i> | <i>Høyland</i> |
| Pass         | Pass          | 1♥               | 1♠             |
| 2♥           | Pass          | Pass             | 2♠             |
| Pass         | Pass          | 3♥               | All Pass       |

"What would double over 2♠ by West and later East have meant?" I was asking myself. These questions became irrelevant when game was not reached...+200 to 't Onstein 2 when two overtricks were duly made.

## CLOSED ROOM

| West               | North               | East        | South               |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| <i>Kindsbekken</i> | <i>Ijsselmuiden</i> | <i>Voll</i> | <i>Steenbakkens</i> |
| Pass               | Pass                | 1NT         | 2♦                  |
| Dble               | 2♥                  | Dble        | 2♠                  |
| Dble               | All Pass            |             |                     |

In the other room, East opened 1NT and thus soon found himself in the same pleasant doubling situation as his counterpart in our other match. For the Norwegians, this meant +1,100 as well and 14 IMPs.



Richard Ritmeijer


ONSTEIN 2




The Greeks recouped a lot of IMPs halfway down the set.

In the same match, the Poles reached an interesting contract two boards later.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

|            |   |              |  |
|------------|---|--------------|--|
|            | ♠ J 7   |              |  |
|            | ♥ Q 10 8 7 6 4 2  |              |  |
|            | ♦ 8   |              |  |
|            | ♣ J 6 3   |              |  |
| ♠ A Q      |  | ♠ K 9 6 5    |  |
| ♥ J 5 3    |   | ♥ K          |  |
| ♦ J 10 9 2 |   | ♦ 7 6 3      |  |
| ♣ 7 5 4 2  |   | ♣ K Q 10 9 8 |  |
|            | ♠ 10 8 4 3 2  |              |  |
|            | ♥ A 9   |              |  |
|            | ♦ A K Q 5 4   |              |  |
|            | ♣ A   |              |  |

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

|              |   |             |  |
|--------------|---|-------------|--|
|              | ♠ A 8 5 3   |             |  |
|              | ♥ 7 5 3   |             |  |
|              | ♦ Q 4   |             |  |
|              | ♣ 10 9 5 4  |             |  |
| ♠ J 6 4 2    |  | ♠ Q 10      |  |
| ♥ Q J 10 9 8 |   | ♥ A K 6 4 2 |  |
| ♦ J 5        |   | ♦ 7 3 2     |  |
| ♣ K 6        |   | ♣ A 8 3     |  |
|              | ♠ K 9 7   |             |  |
|              | ♥ -   |             |  |
|              | ♦ A K 10 9 8 6  |             |  |
|              | ♣ Q J 7 2   |             |  |

**OPEN ROOM**

| West     | North        | East       | South      |
|----------|--------------|------------|------------|
| Vroustis | Araszkievicz | Delimpalta | Kotorowicz |
|          |              |            | 1♠         |
| Pass     | Pass         | 2♣         | 2♦         |
| 2NT      | All Pass     |            |            |

**OPEN ROOM**

| West     | North        | East       | South      |
|----------|--------------|------------|------------|
| Vroustis | Araszkievicz | Delimpalta | Kotorowicz |
|          |              |            | 2♦         |
| 4♥       | Pass         | 1♥         | 4NT        |
| Pass     | 5♣           | All Pass   |            |

When North elected to pass 1♠, the Greeks had a free road to wherever they wanted to go down, as there is no successful denomination available for them. When North led the ♠J, declarer won and led a club to the king and South's ace. When the defenders continued with four rounds of diamonds, declarer could win his ♦J and continue a club. Had he finessed the jack, he would have been home but when the called for the ♣Q and next played another club to North's jack, the outcome was down four when North continued ♥A and another. Connector +200.

Only very far-sighted defence can defeat 5♣. Spade lead, East to win the first club, spade back and only then, West can cash a spade winner after getting the lead with his ♣K. On a more normal heart lead, this defensive chance quickly vanished. Connector +400.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West        | North         | East  | South      |
|-------------|---------------|-------|------------|
| Bestrzynski | Protonotarios | Serek | Sapounakis |
|             |               |       | 1♠         |
| Pass        | 1NT           | Pass  | 2♣         |
| Pass        | 2♥            | Pass  | 3♦         |
| Pass        | 3♥            | Pass  | 4♥         |
| All Pass    |               |       |            |

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West        | North         | East  | South      |
|-------------|---------------|-------|------------|
| Bestrzynski | Protonotarios | Serek | Sapounakis |
|             |               |       | 2♦         |
| 4♥          | Pass          | 1♥    |            |
|             | All Pass      |       |            |

When South did not bid again over 4♥, the Poles were allowed to play there. One down, of course, but 10 IMPs to Connector.



1NT was one-round forcing and 2♣ was Gazzilli. North showed a weak hand with his 2♥ but when he could show them once again, the Greeks found themselves back in game. On a club lead by East, declarer could both shed two losing spades on the diamonds and ruff two clubs in dummy to end up with 11 tricks for +650 and 10 IMPs back to Athens BC.



On the next board, the Dutch stole a partscore but the Greeks even stole a game.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| ♠ 10 9 7 4<br>♥ 7 4 3<br>♦ A Q 2<br>♣ 10 7 2 |  | ♠ 8<br>♥ A J 10 9<br>♦ K J 7<br>♣ J 9 8 6 3 | ♠ A K Q J 3<br>♥ 8 6 2<br>♦ 8 6 5<br>♣ K 5<br>♠ 6 5 2<br>♥ K Q 5<br>♦ 10 9 4 3<br>♣ A Q 4 |
|--|--|---|---|

In the Connector v. Athens BC match, this was the bidding in the Open Room:

**OPEN ROOM**

| West            | North              | East              | South             |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Vroustis</i> | <i>Araszkiwicz</i> | <i>Delimpalta</i> | <i>Kotorowicz</i> |
| Pass            | 1♠                 | Dble              | Rdbl              |
| Pass            | Pass               | 2♣                | 2♠                |
| All Pass        |                    |                   |                   |

This normal enough contract made with an overtrick. Connector +140. In the other match, the Dutch N/S pair reached the same contract and result, South launching Drury when East did not intervene,

In the two other rooms, they had entirely different ideas. For 't Onstein 2, Ritmeijer as East found a 1♣ opening bid. West then bid a natural 1♠ and when East rebid 2♣, everyone nodded in admiration. Just made, another +90 and 6 IMPs to 't Onstein 2.

This was the auction in the Closed Room of the Connector v. Athens match.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West               | North                | East         | South             |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <i>Bestrzynski</i> | <i>Protonotarios</i> | <i>Serek</i> | <i>Sapounakis</i> |
| Pass               | 1♠                   | Dble         | Rdbl              |
| Pass               | Pass                 | 2♣           | 3♠                |
| Pass               | 3NT                  | All Pass     |                   |

East's second-round action clearly backfired here. With the diamonds 3-3, nine tricks were always there. Athens BC a wonderful +600 and 10 IMPs to them.

The last board of the set showed both good

technique and fine inspiration.

Board 20. Dealer West/All

|   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| ♠ 10 6 5<br>♥ Q J 5 4<br>♦ 5<br>♣ A K 9 7 5 |  | ♠ A K 8<br>♥ A 10 7 3<br>♦ A 9 7 2<br>♣ 8 6<br>♠ Q 2<br>♥ K 9 8 6 2<br>♦ K J<br>♣ J 10 3 2 | ♠ J 9 7 4 3<br>♥ -<br>♦ Q 10 8 6 4 3<br>♣ Q 4 |
|---|--|--|---|

**OPEN ROOM**

| West            | North              | East              | South             |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Vroustis</i> | <i>Araszkiwicz</i> | <i>Delimpalta</i> | <i>Kotorowicz</i> |
| 1♣              | Dble               | 1♦                | 3♥                |
| Pass            | 4♥                 | All Pass          |                   |

Against this normal enough contract, West cashed two top clubs and continued the suit. Dummy ruffed with the ♥10 and when this held, the rest was easy for this declarer. Heart to the king and heart back. A trump trick was all the defence could get from here. Connector +620.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West               | North                | East         | South             |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <i>Bestrzynski</i> | <i>Protonotarios</i> | <i>Serek</i> | <i>Sapounakis</i> |
| Pass               | 1NT                  | Pass         | 2♦                |
| Pass               | 3♣                   | Pass         | 3♦                |
| Pass               | 3♥                   | Pass         | 4♥                |
| All Pass           |                      |              |                   |

The same contract was reached by the Greeks in the other room, by means of a standard retransfer sequence. East led the ♣Q but West overtook, cashed the ♣A and continued the suit. Declarer ruffed with the ten but rather than playing a low heart now, he cashed the ace and thus had to go one down. Connector another +100 and 12 IMPs.

In the other match, East's daring overcall might have cost 800 but the lesser disadvantage for E/W was that it blew away the N/S heart fit.

**OPEN ROOM**

| West         | North         | East             | South          |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>Tichá</i> | <i>Ovesen</i> | <i>Ritmeijer</i> | <i>Høyland</i> |
| Pass         | 1NT           | 3♦               | 3NT            |
| All Pass     |               |                  |                |



In 3NT, there are always nine tricks provided you take the right view in hearts, not too difficult after the overcall. The Norwegians thus scored an unassailable +600 at this table.

At the other table, they showed a classy defence against 4♥.

East led a diamond to dummy's jack and declarer continued ♥K and another. West split his honours and when he was given the lead with the ♥Q, he simply (!) played ♣K and a low club to partner's ♣Q to get his diamond ruff. Very well done for a fully deserved +100 and 12 more IMPs.

Anyone for the DD line of first discarding dummy's ♦K on the 3rd round of spades to avoid the ruff?

The results of the two matches:

Connector (Poland) v. Athens Bridge Club (Greece)  
38-25 or 14.28 – 5.72 VP

Sundalsøra (Norway) v. 't Onstein 2 (Netherlands)  
27-7 or 15.97 – 4.03 VP.

### CLOSED ROOM

| West        | North        | East     | South        |
|-------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| Kindsbekken | IJsselmuiden | Voll     | Steenbakkens |
| Pass        | 1NT          | Pass     | 2♦           |
| Pass        | 2♥           | Pass     | 3NT          |
| Pass        | 4♥           | All Pass |              |



**ZACK (IL)** VS **GREECE**   
**ENGLAND** VS **ONSTEIN 1**

ROUND 3

by JOS JACOBS

For the third round, the chosen matches were Zack (Israel) v. Athens Bridge Club (Greece) and Black (England) v. 't Onstein 1 (Netherlands).

As it happened, the boards for once were very quiet. After 7 boards of the scheduled 10, the scores in our two matches read 6-4 to Athens and 11-2 to Black respectively. Board 28 was less straightforward.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| ♠ J 9 7 6 3<br>♥ 10 5<br>♦ K Q J<br>♣ 10 4 3 |  | ♠ 10 5 4<br>♥ A J 7 2<br>♦ 8 3<br>♣ A J 7 6 | ♠ 8 2<br>♥ 9 8 3<br>♦ A 9 6 4 2<br>♣ Q 8 2<br>♠ A K Q<br>♥ K Q 6 4<br>♦ 10 7 5<br>♣ K 9 5 |
|--|--|---|---|

**OPEN ROOM**

| West              | North           | East          | South             |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| <i>Braunstein</i> | <i>Vroustis</i> | <i>S Zack</i> | <i>Bompolakis</i> |
| Pass              | Pass            | 1NT           | Dble              |
| 2♠                | 3♦              | Pass          | 3NT               |
| All Pass          |                 |               |                   |

After East's 10-12 NT, this South bidding looks slightly optimistic, maybe, but with some useful layout or, even more useful, some help this might be a contract that has play. Spade lead, diamond duck and then not another spade but the ♥10 to partner's ace first and only then the next spade. Well, West knows there will be no entry for his established spades but where are declarer's trick going to come from? Declarer might as well sort of squeeze himself on the two established diamonds if the defenders stay passive and play spades all the time.

On the actual defence, declarer had ample time to establish a club trick, too, and ended up with even an overtrick for +630 to Athens.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West              | North        | East                        | South |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| <i>Sapounakis</i> | <i>Barel</i> | <i>Protonotarios Y Zack</i> |       |
| Pass              | Pass         | 1♣                          | 1NT   |
| 2♠                | All Pass     |                             |       |

No higher ambitions here for N/S. After East's 3rd hand opening, South expressed his full values by overcalling 1NT so nobody could reasonably go beyond 2♠. One down, Zack +50 but 11 IMPs to Athens.

On the next board, we saw the other side of the coin.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| ♠ A<br>♥ A Q 5 3<br>♦ A Q 10 8<br>♣ A Q 9 3 |  | ♠ K 9 8 5 2<br>♥ J<br>♦ 9 7 3<br>♣ 10 8 6 4<br>♠ J 10 6<br>♥ 10 9 7<br>♦ J 6 5 4 2<br>♣ 7 2 | ♠ Q 7 4 3<br>♥ K 8 6 4 2<br>♦ K<br>♣ K J 5 |
|---|--|---|--|

**OPEN ROOM**

| West              | North           | East          | South             |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| <i>Braunstein</i> | <i>Vroustis</i> | <i>S Zack</i> | <i>Bompolakis</i> |
| Dble              | 1♥              | Pass          | Pass              |
| 2NT               | Pass            | 1♠            | Pass              |
|                   | Pass            | 3NT           | All Pass          |

A sensible way to reach the optimum contract. Zack +600 on a ♣J lead to the queen even though declarer returned this gift by losing a trick to the blank ♦K.

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West              | North        | East                        | South |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| <i>Sapounakis</i> | <i>Barel</i> | <i>Protonotarios Y Zack</i> |       |
|                   | 1♥           | Pass                        | 1NT   |
| All Pass          |              |                             |       |

South's semiforcing 1NT response paralysed everyone. One down, Athens +100 but 11 IMPs back to Zack. Needless to say, this board was a push in 3NT just made in our other featured match.

The results of the two matches:

Zack (Israel) v. Athens Bridge Club (Greece) 17-15 or 9.77 - 923. VP (including penalties)





# ONSTEIN 1 VS SUNNDALSØRA

## IDEA BRIDGE TORINO VS MONACO



ROUND 4


by JOS JACOBS

In round 4, we are going to take a very short look at 't Onstein 1 v. Sunndalsøra and Idea Bridge Torino v. Monaco.

In this round, the boards kept even quieter than we already saw during the round before. The main issue seems to have been a revoke which cost 4 IMPs plus the compliments of BBO on which revoking is not as easy as it may look.

The only board of real bridge interest, in my opinion, was board 4. The point of interest, however, is pretty negative because only one of our 12 E/W pairs recorded a plus score for staying in a partscore on a board with no game on.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

|              |   |                 |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| ♠ Q 10 8 5 4 |   | ♠ J 7           |
| ♥ 10 8 5 3   |   | ♥ A 7           |
| ♦ A 10 3     |   | ♦ Q 2           |
| ♣ J          |   | ♣ A 9 8 7 6 3 2 |
| ♠ K 9 3 2    |  | ♠ A 6           |
| ♥ K J 9 6 2  |   | ♥ Q 4           |
| ♦ K J 8      |   | ♦ 9 7 6 5 4     |
| ♣ Q          |   | ♣ K 10 5 4      |

### OPEN ROOM

| West           | North             | East           | South         |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Helgemo</i> | <i>Mortarotti</i> | <i>Helness</i> | <i>Duboin</i> |
| 1♥             | 1♠                | 2♣             | Pass          |
| 2♥             | Pass              | 3♥             | Pass          |
| 4♥             | All Pass          |                |               |

Well, on paper 4♥ does not look as if it has to go down four but sometimes, these things happen. North led the ♣J to South's king and Duboin returned a low spade, the old trick against which there is no obvious defence. North won the queen and returned the suit. In with the ♠A, South returned a club, ruffed with declarer's nine and overruffed by North with the ♥10. The ♦A was then cashed and a spade ruffed by dummy's ace. By means of a heart finesse, declarer can escape now for down only three (!) but any other line, including a premature claim, should result in down four and

so it proved. Monaco -400.

In the other room, E/W did much better.

### CLOSED ROOM

| West         | North         | East             | South          |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>Manno</i> | <i>Lauria</i> | <i>Di Franco</i> | <i>Versace</i> |
| 1♥           | Pass          | 2♣               | Pass           |
| 2♥           | Pass          | 2NT              | Pass           |
| 3♦           | Pass          | 3NT              | All Pass       |

On a diamond lead by South, this was not a success either but 7 tricks were inevitable. So Monaco recouped half of the points lost in the Open Room but the Italians from Turin could still register 5 IMPs to their credit.

In our other match, the Norwegians in the Open Room did not respect North's warning signal.

### OPEN ROOM

| West           | North          | East          | South         |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Høyland</i> | <i>De Wijs</i> | <i>Ovesen</i> | <i>Muller</i> |
| 1♥             | 1♠             | 2♣            | Pass          |
| 2NT            | Pass           | 3NT           | All Pass      |

North led a spade to partner's ace and a spade came back, enabling North to establish the suit while still looking at his ♦A. After dislodging it, Høyland had his 7 inevitable tricks. 't Onstein 1 +200.

### CLOSED ROOM

| West       | North       | East           | South              |
|------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Nab</i> | <i>Voll</i> | <i>Drijver</i> | <i>Kindsbekken</i> |
| 1♥         | Pass        | 2♣             | Pass               |
| 2♦         | Pass        | 3♣             | All Pass           |

As 2♦ showed a minimum and less than six hearts, East could rebid his clubs, thus showing a limited hand (8-11 hcp.) and giving partner the option to pass. Well done for ten tricks, +130 and a useful 8 IMPs to 't Onstein 1.

Two boards later, the Dutch were on their way to adding 6 more IMPs when their opponents missed a non-vulnerable game. A revoke resulted in two penalty tricks so even the partscore went down and the Dutch gained 10 IMPs.



Not that it mattered too much as this was the final and decisive board in this match:

Just made, 't Onstein 1 +620.  
 "What can go wrong here?" you might think...  
 Just look at the other table.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| ♠ 10 8 4<br>♥ K 9 8<br>♦ A 7 5<br>♣ J 9 3 2 |  | ♠ 9 5<br>♥ J 5<br>♦ K J 10 8 6 4<br>♣ 8 7 5 | ♠ A Q 6 3<br>♥ A Q 6 3 2<br>♦ Q<br>♣ A Q 6 |
|---|--|---|--|

**CLOSED ROOM**

| West       | North       | East           | South               |
|------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| <i>Nab</i> | <i>Voll</i> | <i>Drijver</i> | <i>Kindsbekkenn</i> |
|            |             | 2♣             | Dble                |
| 3♦         | 3♠          | Pass           | 4♦                  |
| Pass       | 4♠          | Pass           | 4NT                 |
| Pass       | 5♦          | Pass           | 6♠                  |
| All Pass   |             |                |                     |

**OPEN ROOM**

| West           | North          | East          | South         |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Høyland</i> | <i>De Wijs</i> | <i>Ovesen</i> | <i>Muller</i> |
|                |                | 2♦            | Dble          |
| 3♦             | Pass           | Pass          | Dble          |
| Pass           | 4♠             | All Pass      |               |

At both tables, East pre-empted as dealer but it was North's action that made all the difference. After De Wijs' Pass over West's 3♦. Muller was never tempted but over Voll's immediate 3♠ bid, South suddenly had a problem. For the slam to make, East needed ♥KJ bare, I think. One down, another +100 and 12 IMPs to 't Onstein 1 who thus won the match 31-4 or 17.34 -2.66 VP.

In the other match, Monaco beat Idea Bridge Torino 10-6 or 11.50 - 8.50 VP.



# RESULTS

## ROUND 1

|   |                                |                |    |    |       |       |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| 1 | Black - English National Champ | Harplinge BK   | 9  | 43 | 1.56  | 18.44 |
| 2 | Lazy                           | Monaco FMB     | 8  | 29 | 3.82  | 16.18 |
| 3 | Zack – Israeli National Champi | Bareket Team   | 14 | 14 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| 4 | Idea Bridge Torino             | Connector      | 2  | 21 | 4.25  | 15.75 |
| 5 | Athens Bridge Club             | Sunddalsøra    | 8  | 20 | 6.00  | 14.00 |
| 6 | BC't Onstein 2                 | BC't Onstein 1 | 15 | 21 | 7.82  | 12.18 |

## ROUND 2

|   |                                |                         |    |    |       |       |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| 1 | Connector                      | Athens Bridge Club      | 38 | 25 | 14.28 | 5.72  |
| 2 | Sunddalsøra                    | BC't Onstein 2          | 27 | 7  | 15.97 | 4.03  |
| 3 | BC't Onstein 1                 | Harplinge BK            | 24 | 6  | 15.52 | 4.48  |
| 4 | Bareket Team                   | Idea Bridge Torino      | 20 | 1  | 15.75 | 4.25  |
| 5 | Monaco FMB                     | Zack – Israeli National | 17 | 29 | 6.00  | 14.00 |
| 6 | Black - English National Champ | Lazy                    | 38 | 10 | 17.51 | 2.49  |

## ROUND 3

|   |                    |                          |    |    |       |       |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| 1 | BC't Onstein 1     | Black - English National | 2  | 15 | 5.72  | 14.28 |
| 2 | Athens Bridge Club | Zack – Israeli National  | 17 | 15 | 9.77  | 9.23  |
| 3 | BC't Onstein 2     | Lazy                     | 13 | 33 | 4.03  | 15.97 |
| 4 | Harplinge BK       | Idea Bridge Torino       | 30 | 15 | 14.80 | 5.20  |
| 5 | Sunddalsøra        | Monaco FMB               | 32 | 18 | 14.54 | 5.46  |
| 6 | Connector          | Bareket Team             | 14 | 22 | 7.17  | 12.83 |

## ROUND 4

|   |                         |                          |    |    |       |       |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| 1 | Idea Bridge Torino      | Monaco FMB               | 6  | 10 | 8.50  | 11.50 |
| 2 | BC't Onstein 1          | Sunddalsøra              | 31 | 4  | 17.34 | 2.66  |
| 3 | Harplinge BK            | Lazy                     | 12 | 31 | 4.25  | 15.75 |
| 4 | Athens Bridge Club      | Bareket Team             | 23 | 30 | 7.49  | 12.51 |
| 5 | BC't Onstein 2          | Connector                | 20 | 30 | 6.57  | 13.43 |
| 6 | Zack – Israeli National | Black - English National | 4  | 19 | 5.20  | 14.80 |

## ROUND 5

|   |                          |                    |    |    |       |       |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| 1 | Black - English National | BC't Onstein 2     | 7  | 22 | 5.20  | 14.80 |
| 2 | Bareket Team             | Sunddalsøra        | 14 | 27 | 5.72  | 14.28 |
| 3 | Monaco FMB               | BC't Onstein 1     | 14 | 27 | 5.52  | 13.48 |
| 4 | Connector                | Harplinge BK       | 29 | 22 | 12.51 | 7.49  |
| 5 | Lazy                     | Athens Bridge Club | 25 | 6  | 15.25 | 3.75  |
| 6 | Zack – Israeli National  | Idea Bridge Torino | 2  | 26 | 3.22  | 16.78 |

## RANKING AFTER ROUND 5

|   |                                |       |    |                                |       |
|---|--------------------------------|-------|----|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | BC't Onstein 1                 | 64.24 | 7  | Harplinge BK                   | 49.46 |
| 2 | Connector                      | 63.14 | 8  | Monaco FMB                     | 44.66 |
| 3 | Sunddalsøra                    | 61.45 | 9  | Zack – Israeli National Champi | 41.65 |
| 4 | Bareket Team                   | 56.81 | 10 | Idea Bridge Torino             | 38.98 |
| 5 | Black - English National Champ | 53.35 | 11 | BC't Onstein 2                 | 37.25 |
| 6 | Lazy                           | 53.28 | 12 | Athens Bridge Club             | 32.73 |