



Editor : Mark Horton

Co-Editors: Jos Jacobs, Brian Senior

Journalists: David Bird, John Carruthers, Barry Rigal, Ron Tacchi

Photographers: Arianna Testa, Iva Mrkić

Lay-out Editor: Francesca Canali



WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 6 2018
ISSUE No 1

WELKOM IN OOSTENDE!

CONTENTS

Draw & BBO Matches

p. 2

Poirot's Last Board

p. 3

Rosters - Open Teams

p. 5



Ostend, City by the Sea, plays host to the 54th European Team Championships. There are 33 teams in the Open, 23 in the Women's and 22 in the Seniors' competing for the gold, silver and bronze medals, and the top 8 in all series will qualify for the World Championships in Sanya, China, in late October and early November next year.

The format is a single round-robin of 16-board matches. The Open starts today, the Women and Seniors, who have the option of warming up in their respective Pairs Championships, start on Sunday.

Spectators at the venue can follow play in the VuGraph theatre located on the third floor in Meeting Room Styne.

There will be comprehensive coverage on Bridge Base Online (BBO) with David Bird, Mark Horton, Peter Lund, Marc Smith, Bill Jacobs, and Roland Wald providing voice commentary in English throughout the championships.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

OPEN TEAMS

10.00 Round 1
12.40 Round 2
16.00 Round 3
18.40 Round 4

WOMEN/SENIOR PAIRS

10.00 Qualifier 1
13.30 Qualifier 2
16.15 Qualifier 3

PRINTED BULLETINS AT OSTEND

All paid-up members of the IBPA can receive printed copies of the Daily Bulletins at Ostend gratis from Jan Swaan in the Press Room.

Anyone else wishing to receive printed bulletins can pay the Press-Room manager, Jan Swaan 10 € (for the entire tournament). The Press Room can be found in the Permeke Meeting Room on the 3rd Floor.



Loterie Nationale



Cartamundi





DRAW & BBO SCHEDULE TODAY

ROUND 1

BBO 2		SCOTLAND	vs	TURKEY	
		LITHUANIA	vs	CZECH REP.	
		UKRAINE	vs	HUNGARY	
		WALES	vs	ITALY	
		PORTUGAL	vs	POLAND	
BBO 1		LATVIA	vs	FRANCE	
		MONACO	vs	BELGIUM	
		SWEDEN	vs	CROATIA	
		FINLAND	vs	NETHERLANDS	
BBO 3		AUSTRIA	vs	GERMANY	
		ENGLAND	vs	SPAIN	
BBO 4		IRELAND	vs	BULGARIA	
		NORWAY	vs	GREECE	
		ISRAEL	vs	ROMANIA	
		ESTONIA	vs	RUSSIA	
		DENMARK	vs	SWITZERLAND	
		ICELAND	vs	Bye	

BBO commentators:

Bill Jacobs, Roland Wald (BBO 1)

David Bird, Mark Horton

ROUND 2

BBO 1		NORWAY	vs	ESTONIA	
BBO 2		BULGARIA	vs	RUSSIA	
		ROMANIA	vs	ENGLAND	
BBO 3		GERMANY	vs	GREECE	
		NETHERLANDS	vs	IRELAND	
		SWEDEN	vs	SPAIN	
		MONACO	vs	AUSTRIA	
		FINLAND	vs	FRANCE	
		CROATIA	vs	POLAND	
BBO 4		ITALY	vs	BELGIUM	
		HUNGARY	vs	LATVIA	
		PORTUGAL	vs	LITHUANIA	
		TURKEY	vs	WALES	
		UKRAINE	vs	DENMARK	
		CZECH REP.	vs	ICELAND	
		SWITZERLAND	vs	SCOTLAND	
		ISRAEL	vs	Bye	

BBO commentators:

Bill Jacobs, Peter Lund (BBO 1)

ROUND 3

BBO 1		FRANCE	vs	SWEDEN	
BBO 2		POLAND	vs	NETHERLANDS	
BBO 3		GERMANY	vs	ITALY	
		HUNGARY	vs	ENGLAND	
		LITHUANIA	vs	BULGARIA	
BBO 4		TURKEY	vs	NORWAY	
		DENMARK	vs	ISRAEL	
		ESTONIA	vs	ICELAND	
		SCOTLAND	vs	ROMANIA	
		CZECH REP.	vs	GREECE	
		IRELAND	vs	UKRAINE	
		WALES	vs	SPAIN	
		AUSTRIA	vs	PORTUGAL	
		FINLAND	vs	LATVIA	
		CROATIA	vs	BELGIUM	
		RUSSIA	vs	SWITZERLAND	
		MONACO	vs	Bye	

BBO commentators:

David Bird, Marc Smith (BBO 1)

Roland Wald, Mark Horton

ROUND 4

BBO 1		ISRAEL	vs	RUSSIA	
		NORWAY	vs	ROMANIA	
		GREECE	vs	BULGARIA	
BBO 1		ENGLAND	vs	IRELAND	
		GERMANY	vs	SPAIN	
		NETHERLANDS	vs	AUSTRIA	
		SWEDEN	vs	FINLAND	
BBO 2		CROATIA	vs	MONACO	
BBO 3		BELGIUM	vs	FRANCE	
		POLAND	vs	LATVIA	
		ITALY	vs	PORTUGAL	
		WALES	vs	HUNGARY	
		LITHUANIA	vs	UKRAINE	
		CZECH REP.	vs	TURKEY	
BBO 4		SCOTLAND	vs	DENMARK	
		SWITZERLAND	vs	ICELAND	
		ESTONIA	vs	Bye	

BBO commentators:

Roland Wald, Peter Lund (BBO 1)



POIROT'S LAST BOARD

Mark Horton

Hercule Poirot is a fictional Belgian detective, created by Agatha Christie. Poirot is one of Christie's most famous and long-lived characters, appearing in 33 novels, one play (*Black Coffee*), and more than 50 short stories published between 1920 and 1975.

To celebrate the retirement of his old friend to Styles, Court Captain Arthur Hastings had arranged a bridge match. He would partner Hercule, while in the other room Poirot's secretary, Miss Felicity Lemon, would join forces with Chief Inspector Japp.

Their opposition consisted of the Countess Vera Rossakoff and Lord Edgware, who were teaming up with Roger Ackroyd and Colonel Race.

The match was to be over 24 deals, split into two halves either side of dinner.

Hastings had asked Ariadne Oliver to be the third girl at the match to lend a hand with the catering. As the guests arrived she offered them coffee and something from the chocolate box. As the weather was pleasant she suggested they move on to the terrace, but Hastings demurred, pointing out that there was a wasp's nest in the garden.

The first half did not go well for the hosts and Captain Hastings' team found themselves in arrears to the tune of 21 IMPs. 'Mon dieu Hastings, twice I have misjudged the bidding, a double sin to be sure.' However, Poirot consoled his teammates, informing them that it was hardly unexpected, given that they were up against the big four and therefore as he put it, 'the underdog'.



As the players settled down to a dinner of beef chop with vermicelli soufflé, Poirot lectured Hastings on the shortcomings of his country's cooking. "*The English, they do not have a cuisine, my friend, they have only the food. Like the meat, overcooked, the vegetables too soft, the cheese inedible.*" When this drew no reaction Poirot turned to the Countess Rossakoff, "*I should, perhaps, Madame, tell you a little more about myself. I am Hercule Poirot.*" "What a lovely name," she said kindly. "Greek, isn't it?"

This was the first deal after dinner:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 10 6 5 3		♠ 9 8 7 2
♥ Q 9 7 4		♥ 8 6
♦ 10		♦ A K Q 7 6
♣ A Q 7 2		♣ K 9
♠ 4	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W S E </div>	♠ A K Q J
♥ K J 10 5		♥ A 3 2
♦ J 9 5 4		♦ 8 3 2
♣ J 10 4 3		♣ 8 6 5

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lemon	Race	Japp	Ackroyd
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

Roger Ackroyd led the ♠A and switched to the ♦2. Chief Inspector Japp took the Colonel's ten with the ace, ruffed a spade and played the ♣3. The Colonel went up with the ace and returned the two. Japp won with the king, ruffed a spade and played the ♣J, ruffing when it was covered. He ruffed his last spade and threw a heart on the ♣10. Roger Ackroyd ruffed, and cashed the ♥A but the Inspector could claim the rest, +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rossakoff	Hastings	Edgware	Poirot
—	Pass	1♦	1♠
2♦	4♠	All Pass	

Hoping to put the cat among the pigeons Poirot decided to overcall on his four-card suit. Hastings did not hesitate in raising him to game.

The Countess led the four of diamonds and Lord Edgware won with the ace and switched to the ♠2. Poirot won with the king and paused to take stock. The obvious line was to play to ruff two diamonds, hoping to develop the extra tricks in hearts and clubs. If West held the ♥K then East would surely have the ♣K for his opening bid. On the other hand, the location of the missing kings might be reversed. There was also the possibility that the trump suit might break badly.

It seemed to Poirot that there was no clear indication as how best to proceed, but eventually he decided to play a heart at trick three. West took the king and returned the ♥5. Poirot won with the ace, and played the ♣5. When West followed with the three Poirot called for dummy's ♣2 and Lord Edgware won with the nine and returned the ♠7. When Poirot won with the ace West discarded the ♦5. Poirot ruffed a diamond in dummy and drew the outstanding trumps, discarding dummy's ♥9. When Poirot played the ♣8 West followed with the jack, but the detective played dummy's ace and asked Lord Edgware to play the king of clubs.

When it appeared Hastings exclaimed *"I say, Poirot. How on earth did you know that would happen?"* *"Ma chere Hastings, there was the double clue and at this game, unless you are good at guessing, it is not much use being a detective."*

When the last board settled on the table the margin was down to 9 IMPs.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ —		
	♥ A Q J 6 4 2		
	♦ A Q 7 5 3		
	♣ 8 3		
♠ A 7 5 4 3	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">N W E S</div>	♠ K J 9 6	
♥ 5 3		♥ K 10 9 7	
♦ 10 8 4		♦ J 9 6	
♣ Q 4 2		♣ 10 6	
	♠ Q 10 8 2		
	♥ 8		
	♦ K 2		
	♣ A K J 9 7 5		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lemon	Race	Japp	Ackroyd
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Miss Lemon led the four of spades and Chief Inspector Japp won with the king and returned the jack, covered by queen and ace. When Miss Lemon played a third spade Roger Ackroyd won and played three rounds of clubs, claiming ten tricks, +430.

In the other room Poirot inspected his curtain card. When West passed Hastings opened 1♥ and Poirot responded 2♣. When Hastings rebid 3♦ Poirot paused for thought. he could bid 3NT, but his ♦K must be a useful card and so he rebid his clubs. When Hastings raised him to game Poirot felt it was likely that Hastings would have at most one spade and so he went on to 6♣. This had been the auction:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rossakoff	Hastings	Edgware	Poirot
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

West led the ♥5 and Poirot inspected the cards on the table.

Having bid nothing but clubs it occurred to Poirot that were he to go down it would be nothing less than a three act tragedy.

The obvious approach would be to hope there was not a trump loser and that the diamonds would break. Such a simple solution did not appeal and, having won with the ♥A, at trick two Poirot played dummy's ♥Q, discarding a spade when East followed with the nine. He then played three rounds of diamonds, discarding a spade, followed by a fourth diamond. When East ruffed with the ♣6 Poirot overruffed with the ♣K, ruffed a spade and played dummy's remaining diamond. East ruffed with the ♣10 and this time Poirot overruffed with the ♣A. He ruffed his remaining spade in dummy and conceded a trick to the ♣Q.

"Good Lord Poirot!", exclaimed Hastings.

"It was nothing more than an application of the little grey cells mon ami. Rest assured, I am the best!"

If you would like to exercise your 'little grey cells' then try to discover the titles of a number of Poirot novels that are concealed within the text.

ROSTERS - OPEN TEAMS

 **AUSTRIA**

Andreas BABSCH
Wolfgang BIEDER
Arno LINDERMANN
Josef SIMON
Christian TERRANEO
Franz TERRANEO
Andreas BABSCH pc
Arno LINDERMANN coach

 **BELGIUM**

Sam BAHBOUT
Philippe COENRAETS
Steven DE DONDER
Steve DE ROOS
Zvi ENGEL
Mike VANDERVORST
Hubert JANSSENS npc

 **BULGARIA**

Grozio DONEV
Zhivko DRAGANOV
Rossen GUNEV
Kalin KARAIVANOV
Vladimir MARASHEV
Ivan TSONCHEV
MARTA NIKOLOVA npc
Nikolay DEMIREV coach

 **CROATIA**

Goran BOREVKOVIC
Marshall LEWIS
Renata MULLER
Marina PILIPOVIC
Branko REFI
Nikica SVER
Jurica CARIC

 **CZECH REPUBLIC**

Daniela HNATOVA
Milan MACURA
Ales MEDLIN
Jiri MEDLIN
Martin SCHANKA
Vit VOLHEJN
Milan MACURA pc

 **DENMARK**

Michael ASKGAARD
Dennis BILDE
Lars BLAKSET
Jonas HOUMOLLER
Kasper KONOW
Lauge SCHAFFER
Bo Loenberg BILDE npc
Peter MAGNUSSEN coach

 **ENGLAND**

Jeffrey ALLERTON
David BAKHSHI
Tony FORRESTER
Chris JAGGER
Artur MALINOWSKI
Andrew ROBSON
Neil ROSEN npc
Andrew MURPHY coach

 **ESTONIA**

Vassili LEVENKO
Leo LUKS
Jaanus MARIPUU
Lauri NABER
Olavi OJA
Sven SESTER
Vassili LEVENKO pc

 **FINLAND**

Vesa FAGERLUND
Arttu KARHULAHTI
Kauko KOISTINEN
Clas NYBERG
Mika SALOMAA
Pekka I VIITASALO
Hulda AHONEN npc
Heike KOISTINEN coach

 **FRANCE**

Thomas BESSIS
Cedric LORENZINI
Jerome ROMBAUT
Lionel SEBBANE
Paul SEGUINEAU
Frederic VOLCKER
Julien CLEMENT npc
Philippe CRONIER coach

 **GERMANY**

Sabine AUKEN
Michael GROMOELLER
Helmut HAEUSLER
Peter JOKISCH
Udo KASIMIR
Roy WELLAND
Claus DAEHR npc

 **GREECE**

Konstantinos DOXIADIS
Aris FILIOS
Konstantinos KONTOMITROS
Tassos KOUKOUSELIS
Y.PAPAKYRIAKOPOULOS
Petros ROUSSOS
Petros ANGELOPOULOS npc
N. DELIMPALTADAKIS coach

 **HUNGARY**

Miklos DUMBOVICH
Gal HEGEDUS
Peter LAKATOS
Balazs SZEGEDI
Gabor WINKLER
Peter TALYIGAS npc

 **ICELAND**

Jon BALDURSSON
Sigurbjorn HARALDSSON
Adalsteinn JORGENSEN
Ragnar MAGNUSSON
Omar OLGEIRSSON
Matthias G. THORVALDSSON
Anton HARALDSSON npc
O. THORSTEINSDOTTIR coach

 **IRELAND**

Rory BOLAND
John CARROLL
Tommy GARVEY
Tom HANLON
Hugh McGANN
Mark MORAN
Grainne BARTON npc

 **ISRAEL**

Ilan BAREKET
Alon BIRMAN
Assaf LENGY
Amir LEVIN
Dror PADON
Josef ROLL
Ehud FRIEDLANDER npc

 **ITALY**

Alejandro BIANCHEDI
 Norberto BOCCHI
 Giovanni DONATI
 Giorgio DUBOIN
 Agustin MADALA
 Antonio SEMENTA
 Maria Teresa LAVAZZA npc
 Massimo ORTENSI coach

 **LATVIA**

Aigars GERMANIS
 Ugis JANSONS
 Martins LORENCS
 Janis NEIMANIS
 Ivars RUBENIS
 Karlis RUBINS
 Ivars RUBENIS pc

 **LITHUANIA**

Andrei ARLOVICH
 Boguslaw GIERULSKI
 Wojtek OLANSKI
 Jerzy SKRZYPCZAK
 Erikas VAINIKONIS
 Vytautas VAINIKONIS

 **MONACO**

Jean Charles ALLAVENA
 Geir HELGEMO
 Tor HELNESS
 Krzysztof MARTENS
 Franck MULTON
 Pierre ZIMMERMANN
 Pierre ZIMMERMANN pc
 Dominik FILIPOWICZ coach

 **NETHERLANDS**

Simon DE WIJS
 Bob DRIJVER
 Danny MOLENAAR
 Bauke MULLER
 Bart NAB
 Tim VERBEEK
 Anton MAAS npc
 Ton BAKKEREN coach

 **NORWAY**

Terje AA
 Boye BROGELAND
 Nils Kare KVANGRAVEN
 Espen LINDQVIST
 Allan LIVGARD
 Ulf Haakon TUNDAL
 Christian VENNEROED npc
 Sten BJERTNES coach

 **POLAND**

Krzysztof BURAS
 Wojciech GAWEL
 Rafal JAGNIEWSKI
 Jacek KALITA
 Grzegorz NARKIEWICZ
 Michal NOWOSADZKI
 Piotr TUCZYNSKI np

 **PORTUGAL**

Joao BARBOSA
 Paulo DIAS
 Nuno PAZ
 Paulo Goncalves PEREIRA
 Sofia PESSOA
 Paulo SARMENTO
 Rui PINTO npc
 Antonio MORTAROTTI coach

 **ROMANIA**

Ionut COLDEA
 Marius IONITA
 Bogdan MARINA
 Dan MORARU
 Marina STEGAROIU
 Cornel TEODORESCU
 Razvan SPIRIDONESCU npc

 **RUSSIA**

Yury KHIUPPENEN
 Jouri KHOKHLOV
 Vadim KHOLOMEEV
 Georgi MATUSHKO
 Sergey ORLOV
 Evgeni RUDAKOV

 **SCOTLAND**

Mike ASH
 Paul BARTON
 Miroslav DRAGIC
 James HAY
 Jun NAKAMARU-PINDER
 Abigail WILSON
 Sandy DUNCAN npc

 **SPAIN**

Carlos FERNANDEZ
 Federico GODED
 Gonzalo GODED
 Ramon GOMEZ
 Pedro GONCALVES
 Luis LANTARON
 Federico GODED pc

 **SWEDEN**

Simon EKENBERG
 Simon HULT
 Fredrik NYSTROM
 Mikael RIMSTEDT
 Ola RIMSTEDT
 Johan UPMARK
 Jan LAGERMAN npc

 **SWITZERLAND**

Bachar ABOU CHANAB
 Bartlomiej IGLA
 Stephan MAGNUSSON
 Dmitrij NIKOLENKOV
 Fernando PIEDRA
 Marco SASSELLI
 Fernando PIEDRA pc

 **TURKEY**

Sedat ALUF
 Namik KOKTEN
 Nezih KUBAC
 Ugurcan SUZER
 Sarper USLUPEHLIVAN
 Nafiz ZORLU
 Levent OZGUL npc

 **UKRAINE**

Volodymyr DRAGAN
 YURY LUKKE
 Volodymyr PORKHUN
 Oleg ROVYSHYN
 Borys SHUKHMEYSTER
 Vitaly ZUBAN
 Volodymyr DRAGAN npc

 **WALES**

Gary JONES
 Paul LAMFORD
 Richard Mark PLACKETT
 Julian POTTAGE
 Mike POWNALL
 Simon RICHARDS
 Jonathan RICHARDS npc