

Bridgeur

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FFB
FEDERATION FRANÇAISE DE BRIDGE

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Daily Bulletin

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The Bridge Avengers

"I PLAY BRIDGE, AND WHAT IS YOUR SUPER-POWER?"



Glorious sunshine adorned the opening day of the 10th European Transnational Championships as the Mixed and Senior Teams set off in search of their respective titles.

It was a great day for **Just Mixed** who won all five matches to take pole position.

Second placed **Turnips** also recorded five victories but could not quite match the scoring power of the leaders. Third place is occupied by the reigning World Champions, **Fern**.

With 32 teams advancing to the knockout phase there still a lot to play for today.

In the Senior Teams, **France Seniors** lead from **Roth**, followed by **BBCX**. Eight teams will advance to the quarterfinals.

Important Notes

CAPTAINS' MEETING

A captains' meeting will be held in the playing area at 7.40 pm to determine the bracket. Please make reference to the Conditions of Contest for details.

MIXED TEAMS → MIXED BAM TEAMS

Players eliminated from the Mixed Teams can register either to the Mixed BAM Teams (no restriction about team members: you register the same team, or a different one) or to the Pairs. If you register to the BAM the same team, then you simply tell the registration desk. Otherwise, you can register your team online, on the Championship's registration page.

KO

For the players playing the KO stage, the same as above applies: you must register and pay before the start of the BAM and Pairs events in order to be eligible to drop into them. Later entries will not be allowed other than filling gaps.

BBO Matches

During the Qualification stage, tables 1 and 2 will be broadcast on BBO Vugraph.





Editor's Log

Stardate 03062023

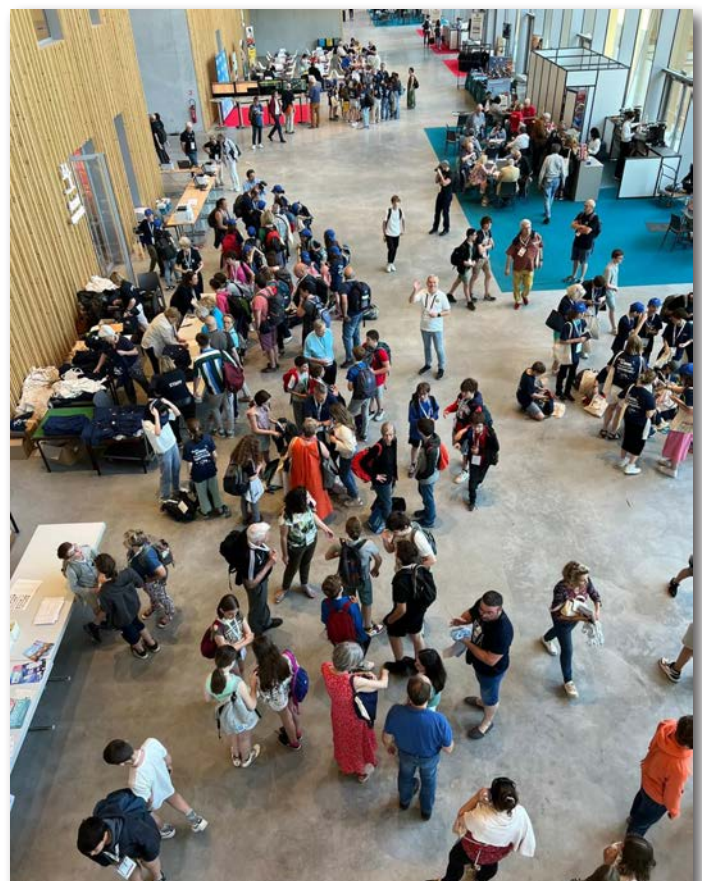


It's a good idea to train before a major event – to reach Strasbourg I travelled on a train to London (luckily on the only non-striking day over a four-day period) the Underground, Eurostar the Metro and the TGV.

We have a great team of writers – David Bird will cover the first session, Marc Smith the second, Jos Jacobs the third (Jos having to overcome some significant connectivity issues) and Ron Tacchi the fifth. Barry Rigal will be our roving reporter, sometimes visiting tables not being featured on BBO.

If you happen to be sitting out, you could do worse than follow the matches that are being featured on BBO. The commentators include Mats Nilslund, David Bird and Martin Cantor.

Yesterday and today the FFB staged the finals of their School and Cadet Championships, with more than 450 students having qualified from the regional finals. They also hosted a hybrid competition for players under 31, with simultaneous play at the Exhibition Center and online via BBO.



I don't usually include deals in the Log, but this one from Round 2 contained a subtle point – and it was on the last board, which frequently has potential.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 9 7 6 5

♥ 9 6 4 2

♦ 8

♣ A J 6 2

♠ J 8 3 2

♥ K 3

♦ K 4

♣ K Q 9 5 3



♠ A K 10 4

♥ A Q J

♦ A Q 10 5 2

♣ 7

♠ Q

♥ 10 8 7 5

♦ J 9 7 6 3

♣ 10 8 4

Despite the missing ace and the absence of the ♠Q 30 pairs bid 6♠. If West is the declarer a diamond lead is a killer because declarer needs to ruff a club but will be short of an entry to draw trumps.

That won't work if East is the declarer as a diamond lead gives up a vital trick. It's a great hand for those pairs employing MAFIA responses. +1430 was recorded 21 times, West being the declarer on 15 occasions.

The only person to lead the ♦8 against 6♠ was Micheline Appertet handing team Austerlitz a last gasp win over Rosenthal.



MADEIRA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE OPEN

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Mixed Teams Round 1

Jobs v Orca

Board 3. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

<p>♠ J 10 4 3 ♥ A 4 ♦ J 6 ♣ Q J 9 7 6</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ A ♥ Q 10 9 7 6 5 2 ♦ 2 ♣ 5 4 3 2</p>	<p>♠ Q 8 7 6 5 ♥ — ♦ A 8 7 5 4 3 ♣ A 10</p>
---	--	---	---

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>O Rimstedt</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Fischer</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Dble	2NT	4♥	4♠
Dble	Pass	5♥	Dble
All Pass			

Brigitta Fischer certainly did not take the low road in the auction here. She led a spade and Simon Cope won and led the ♥10 to the king and ace. Ola Rimstedt accurately switched to a club and Fischer took her aces for down one.

In the other room Paula Leslie was allowed to declare 4♠x. After a heart lead, declarer can avoid the possibility of a club loser but has to negotiate the diamond ruffs and overruffs and the ♠9 looms large as a possible winner. In the endgame West was allowed to score that card for down one.

In the same contract Ollie Burgess played 4♠x on a trump lead as South. He pitched his club and played ace and another diamond to discover the break. He ruffed the next heart, led a third diamond ruffed and overruffed, took the ♣A and passed the ♠6 successfully to make his game. (West has to win the ♠K here and play a heart for the ruff and discard to set 4♠. Equally, declarer can succeed by force by ruffing a diamond low instead of leading the trump.)

At double dummy, only a low trump opening lead for the club shift beats the game.

Simon Cope

Brigitta Fischer

Ola Rimstedt

Sally Brock



Board 8. Dealer West. Nil Vul.

♠ A 9 6 3 ♥ Q 9 7 5 ♦ A Q ♣ K 7 6	♠ K Q 7 ♥ A 10 2 ♦ J 10 5 ♣ Q J 10 9	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 8 2 ♥ K J 8 4 ♦ 9 2 ♣ A 8 5 2
West <i>Brock</i> 2♣* Pass All Pass	North <i>O Rimstedt</i> 2NT 3♥	East <i>Cope</i> Pass Pass	South <i>Fischer</i> 3♣ 4♥

2♣ Strong, or weak with diamonds

Take a look at 4♥ by North and consider if you can see a way to come home with 10 tricks.

The problem is that in theory if you can play four rounds of trumps, four clubs, and two diamonds, ending in hand, you can lead a spade up to endplay East. The problem is that if you eliminate the minors and somehow manage to play the fourth trump, East can pitch a spade to come down to ♠KQ and a diamond winner.

Ola Rimstedt gave this one the old college try, however, and it required the defenders to work hard to get the better of him. He took the top club lead in dummy and played a trump to the queen and ace. Back came a second top club and Rimstedt won and played a third club. To set the game Sally Brock had to ruff her partner's winner and shift to a spade, which after a little reflection she duly did. Very nicely done. Had Rimstedt drawn a second trump before playing the club loser Simon Cope would have been able to exit either with the third trump or with a diamond and declarer cannot handle the entries. (If declarer had won the first club in hand – running the risk of having the other top honour ruffed away – the third club play would have come from dummy. Would that have been harder for Brock to ruff?)

If Brock does not ruff her partner's winner, Cope would exit with a trump, Declarer wins in dummy and ruffs the club, then crosses to dummy's third trump and leads the fourth, in this ending:

♠ 10 5 4 ♥ — ♦ K 8 7 ♣ —	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 9 6 3 ♥ — ♦ A Q ♣ —	♠ K Q 7 ♥ — ♦ J 10 5 ♣ —
♠ J 8 2 ♥ 8 ♦ 9 2 ♣ —			

When North leads the fourth heart and pitches a spade East is caught in something like a non-material squeeze. A spade is obviously fatal, but a diamond is no better when declarer takes the diamond finesse and cashes the ♦A before leading a low spade towards the jack to endplay East.

Photo:
 Barry Rigal
 watching the match





Mixed Teams, Round 1

Ferm v CBL

So, another two weeks of face-to-face bridge, played at the very top level. All we need now are some interesting boards. Perhaps we'll be lucky. FERM, the current world mixed champions, face CBL.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>♠ — ♥ Q 9 6 5 ♦ 10 8 6 4 2 ♣ A 9 3 2</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ A K Q J 6 ♥ 10 2 ♦ A J 9 7 5 ♣ 4</p>	<p>♠ 10 9 8 7 4 ♥ J 8 ♦ K Q ♣ K 8 7 6</p>
---	--	---	---

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lara	Ferm	Capucho	Brink
—	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The play may have looked comfortable when dummy went down, but a 5-0 trump break was lurking. Lara won partner's ♣7 lead with the ace and returned the ♣2. Barbara Ferm ruffed with the ♠6 and played the trump ace. When West showed out, playing the ♣9, declarer's heart rate may have risen. Not what you want on the very first board.

Fern cashed one more trump, crossed to the ♥A and returned a diamond to her ace. After a diamond ruff in dummy, she cashed the ♥K and ran the ♣J, discarding a diamond loser. She won the trump return and played another top trump. Her last two cards were the ♦J9. The ♦J had been established by the fall of East's ♦KQ. When she led that card, East had to ruff and lead the ♣8 to dummy's stranded ♣Q. It was a splendid piece of play and a fine +420 in the bag.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lund Madsen	Rosado	Drijver	Goncalves
—	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

This time Drijver led the ♠10, won by declarer as West pitched the ♣3. Ace of diamonds and a

Manuel Capucho

Sjoert Brink

Barbara Ferm

Maria J. Lara



diamond ruff drew the king-queen from East. Declarer then played the ♥AK and ruffed a heart with the ♠6. East overruffed and played a club to partner's ace. He returned the ♥Q, declarer pitching a diamond, and East a club. East then ruffed a heart and that was one down for a swing of 10 IMPs to FERM.

Two boards later, there was a considerable disparity in the level of contract:

Board 3. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lara</i>	<i>Ferm</i>	<i>Capucho</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	1♦
1NT	Pass	2♦*	2♠
3♥	3♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	5♥	All Pass

The heart game could not have been beaten, so Ferm's 4♠ bid was another sparkling effort. The spade game can in fact be made, unless West finds a trump lead to partner's ace. (East can then set up the ♣K, before declarer can reach dummy for a discard on the ♥A.) Declarer can survive a ♦K opening lead against 4♠ by winning and playing a second diamond.

When East advanced to 5♥, the defenders scored three aces for one down. What would the contract be at the other table, do you think?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lund Madsen</i>	<i>Rosado</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>
—	—	—	1♦
1NT	Dble	2♦*	All Pass

We were denied the pleasure of a second high-level competitive auction, when the world champions had a surprising bidding lapse. Was system 'on' or 'off', after North's double? If East/West didn't know, you will hardly expect me to give you a definitive answer. South led a trump and Drijver tried his luck with dummy's ♦9, losing to the singleton jack. Unsurprisingly, Rosado could not then diagnose the ace and another heart continuation that would have given partner a heart ruff for four down! Declarer went three down for 300 away, and it was a 5-IMP swing to CBL.

With your permission, we will now move on to Board 7.




Bas Drijver

Paolo Goncalves

Alexandra Rosado

Christina Lund Madsen

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lara	Ferm	Capucho	Brink
—	—	—	2♥
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

A diamond lead would have succeeded. Brink preferred the ♥10 and declarer won in the dummy. Mats Nilsson and I learnedly predicted that declarer would make his contract by finessing North (the hand that was seven cards shorter in hearts) for the ♣J. As it turned out, Capucho was willing to pay quite a high price for proving us wrong. He immediately led a club to the king!



A subsequent finesse of the ♣10 lost to North's jack. Diamonds were then cleared to put the contract one down.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lund Madsen	Rosado	Drijver	Goncalves
—	—	—	2♦
Pass	2♥*	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Goncalves opened with a multi. Rosado might have considered passing this, but responded 2♥. When 3NT was reached, Drijver won the ♥Q lead in dummy and ran the ♣10. Had we been commentating at this table, our prediction in the club suit might have drawn a ripple of applause. It was 660 to FERM and a swing of 13 IMPs.

Four boards out of ten is good measure for a match report. Was Board 8 likely to be of any interest?

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lara	Ferm	Capucho	Brink
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Should North-South reach a non-vulnerable game on these hands? 15 HCP opposite 9 HCP, yes, but not a 10 in sight. Also, the loser-count is 7 opposite 9. When Ferm opened 1♣, I thought this might be a well-judged downgrade of her hand from a 15-17 1NT. Why is she thinking so long after partner's 1♥, I asked the kibitzers? Is a 2♥ rebid not clear-cut now? I will be the first to applaud.

Brink raised the eventual 3♥ rebid to game. The ♦4 was led and Brink finessed the queen successfully. He cashed the ♦A and played a trump to the king. After a second trump to the queen and ace, East switched to the ♣Q. Brink won with the ace, crossed to the ♣K

and drew the outstanding trump with the jack. He then threw East on lead with a club to the 10. These cards remained:

♠ A 9 6 3		♠ K Q 7									
♥ 9		♥ —									
♦ —		♦ J									
♣ —		♣ J									
♠ 10 5 4	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 8 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ —		♥ 8									
♦ K 8		♦ —									
♣ —		♣ 8									

It was safe to play the ♣J now. If declarer ruffs in dummy and plays a low spade towards the jack, East can go in with an honour. Declarer has to ruff the ♦J, and East then makes a second spade trick.

Sadly for his side, East played the ♠7 next. Brink rose with the ♠J and claimed the heart game. Ah, I have a message from a kibitzer. “Do you see your mistake now, David, maligning the 3♥ rebid?”



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lund Madsen</i>	<i>Rosado</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

This was commendable stop (we were told that 70% of the field bid to game). Their +140 went largely unrewarded, and 7 IMPs were lost.

It had been a pleasing match to watch, with interest on many of the boards. FERM emerged the winners by 34 IMPs to 6.

The Reykjavik Bridge Festival

will be held in Harpa Concert hall
on 25th of January through 28th of January

2024

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Mixed Teams Round 2

De Botton vs Turnips

Four teams scored maximum 20-0 wins in their opening match, and we join Cedric Lorenzini's French Turnips against Janet de Botton's Anglo-Norwegians in Round 2.

Only one problem for you today. With neither side vulnerable, you are North holding:

♠ Q
 ♥ A K J 10 9 5 2
 ♦ A J 8
 ♣ K 2

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♠	?		

You make a penalty double of West's 15-17 1NT opening. What action, if any, do you then take when West removes to 2♠?

We join the action on the first deal of the match. It is a rarity indeed for Thor Erik Hoftaniska to be found on the musculus side of a man versus mouse debate...

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Malinowski	Lorenzini	De Botton	Tartarin
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	4♥	All Pass	

Artur Malinowski opened 1♠ on the West hand, and Cedric Lorenzini adopted a pragmatic approach, simply overcalling 4♥ facing a passed partner.



Quentin Robert

Gunn Tove Vist

Thor Erik Hoftaniska

Donatella Halfon

Unfortunately, the play records are incomplete, simply showing declarer claiming eleven tricks after a spade lead at trick one, although it would seem that declarer has only one entry to dummy to take two minor-suit finesses, and therefore can only come to ten tricks unless helped by the defence. N/S +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Halfon</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Robert</i>	<i>Vist</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♠	3♥	All Pass	

For the French, Donatella Halfon opened 1NT on the West hand. Hoftaniska had a penalty double available, so he began with that, but Halfon retreated to 2♠ when the double was passed back to her. With the worm having wriggled off the hook, Hoftaniska was now faced with the problem posed above. His choice was to bid his strong seven-card suit, but only at the three-level. Is Gunn Tove Vist really supposed to raise with her flat 4-count? That's a tough ask.

Here the defenders did manage to come to their three tricks, and it earned them an extra IMP: N/S +170 and 7 IMPs to TURNIPS to get the ball rolling.



Cedric Lorenzini and Janet De Botton

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

	♠ 9 8 2		
	♥ 8 5 4 2		
	♦ Q 2		
	♣ A Q 9 3		
♠ K 10 7 4 3		N W E S	♠ Q J 6 5
♥ K 9			♥ A 10 3
♦ 10 7 5 4			♦ A Q 6 3
♣ 6 5			♣ J 7
	♠ A		
	♥ Q J 7 6		
	♦ K 9 8		
	♣ K 10 8 4 2		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Halfon</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Robert</i>	<i>Vist</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass

The French were left to play peacefully in 2♠, making the obvious nine tricks. E/W +140.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Malinowski</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>De Botton</i>	<i>Tartarin</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Dble
Pass	3♣	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Around the room, I suspect there were a number of 2♠ openings on this West hand, but Artur Malinowski resisted the temptation. After the same start as in the Closed Room, here Anne-Laure Tartarin came in with a takeout double on the South hand when East raised spades. Had he been sure that his partner held four-card support, Malinowski might perhaps have bid a third spade now, which would presumably have ended the auction. Instead, he allowed Lorenzini to respond to his partner's double. When Janet de Botton competed to the three-level, Malinowski then decided that his hand had become good enough to take a shot at game. Undisciplined for sure, but it wouldn't be the first time that the mercurial Artur had generated IMPs for his side for doing something that no one else would even consider.

Lorenzini opened the ♥5, to three, jack and king. Other than finding a miracle ♦K-J in the North hand, it looks like declarer's only chance is that North has led away from the ♥Q. Is it worth investing an extra 50-point undertrick for the chance of making game? Maybe, although would North not perhaps have bid 3♥ rather than 3♣ if he held ♥Qxxx? Could be have



♥Qxx and South five hearts? Malinowski decided it was all very unlikely and settled for one down by playing a trump at trick two. Tartarin duly won with the ♠A and the defence cashed their two club tricks. They came to the ♦K in the fullness of time: E/W -50 and another 5 IMPs to TURNIPS.

If you are going to have a bad board in both rooms, the contraction of the IMP scale lessens the effect when it happens on the same deal. Alas, the VuGraph records are incomplete on this deal, so I can only report the details as far as they are known.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Halfon</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Robert</i>	<i>Vist</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

Gunn Tove Vist opened a strong/artificial 2♣ and Thor Erik Hoftaniska's 2♥ response showed any very bad hand. I can only assume that Vist now bid what she thought was a 3♥ transfer to spades. Hoftaniska's pass makes it clear that one of them had got the system wrong, but which we shall never know.

This inelegant contract drifted three down, but the main damage here was only to Norwegian pride. At 50 a trick, N/S -150 was hardly a disaster with 3♠ seeming to have five losers (two diamonds and one in each other suit).

What happened in the other room appeared to be harder to explain to teammates...

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Malinowski</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>De Botton</i>	<i>Tartarin</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT

The auction here seems to be one that is likely to be duplicated at a number of tables around the room, and a small minus score for N/S seems fairly inevitable, wherever the bidding ends. However, those watching live on VuGraph were told that De Botton led the ♦Q, covered by the king and ace, and declarer then claimed ten tricks.

I would have been delighted to report some magical play by the French maestro but no details were available, which would probably have been a good thing from the defenders' point of view, as it is hard to see how it is possible to allow declarer to make more than eight tricks. N/S +430 would have been 11 IMPs to TURNIPS but, when the final match score was reported the French total was 11 IMPs lower than had been shown on the VuGraph, so we can assume that this contract also drifted three down for a flat board.

The French were headed for a second win to open the tournament, leading 21-5 when the last board arrived at the tables. However, the Great Dealer had one more hurdle for them to overcome.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Halfon</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Robert</i>	<i>Vist</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

Too strong for a direct spade raise at his second turn, Quentin Robert forced to game with a fourth-suit 2♥, then showed his spade fit over Donatella Halfon's 2NT. With no aces and bad trumps, Halfon had no slam interest, so she simply raised to game. Robert wasn't done. He first discovered that there was an

ace missing and only finally gave up when his partner also denied holding the ♠Q. Avoiding a trump loser is worse than a 50% prospect, and even if you do that there is still work needed to make twelve tricks, so stopping is certainly correct in theory.

Hoftaniska led a trump and declarer played low from dummy, Vist winning with the singleton queen. Back came a club to the king and ace, and a second round of trumps. Declarer just had enough: she cashed one high trump, crossed to the ♥K, ruffed a club, returned to the ♦K and drew North's last trump with the ♠. After cashing the ♣Q, dummy was high: E/W +650.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Malinowski</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>De Botton</i>	<i>Tartarin</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

After an identical auction up to Blackwood, Janet de Botton found an ace was missing but she then showed faith in her wizard by jumping to the slam. Lorenzini led a heart, declarer winning in dummy with the jack. Cashing the ♠A revealed the position in that suit, so

Championship offer

The NEW dealing machines (only) used during the championships in Strasbourg are sold during the event for delivery at the end for the occasional price of €2650. Visit Jannersten's stall or email anna@jannersten.com



Malinowski led a club to the king. Lorenzini won with the ace and continued hearts, but declarer was home now. He won in hand with the ♥K, ruffed a club and claimed his twelve tricks. E/W +1430 and 13 IMPs to De BOTTON.

Despite making all the early running, the match ended with TURNIPS ahead by just 3 IMPs, 21-18, meaning that both teams dropped a half dozen places behind the early leaders. The odds are that we'll be seeing both of these teams later in the week, in the knockout stage of this event.



Janet de Botton

Anne-Laure Tartarin

Artur Malinowski

Cedric Lorenzini

Results - Mixed Teams

Round 1

1	FERM	CBL	34	6	17.51	2.49
2	EDMONDS	GROUP ONE TEAM	36	16	15.97	4.03
3	COOPER	BALLEBO	5	18	5.72	14.28
4	BRIDGESCANNER MIXED	APAHEILI	24	36	6.00	14.00
5	ALPERT	FOX	35	18	15.29	4.71
6	BRIDGE24	MONAS	24	12	14.00	6.00
7	ROSENTHAL	MOJITO	45	2	19.55	0.45
8	PEPSI	BLUE NOTE	26	11	14.80	5.20
9	SPARKLING VINTAGES	CRASH	31	25	12.18	7.82
10	JOBS	ORCA	19	17	10.77	9.23
11	NETHERLANDS 4	123KEEPITUP	48	13	18.58	1.42
12	KWON LEE	BV WALDSOLMS	19	26	7.49	12.51
13	BRENO	ADA	40	13	17.34	2.66
14	TURNIPS	BEATUS	52	0	20.00	0.00
15	DE BOTTON	BELUGALIA	55	1	20.00	0.00
16	OTRA VEZ	MUNICH	25	27	9.23	10.77
17	BIG HAT	EX S	20	7	14.28	5.72
18	EPSILON	BODIS	50	1	20.00	0.00
19	XANADU	ISTANBUL	16	26	6.57	13.43
20	ARROW	MEDIUM RARE	32	21	13.72	6.28
21	GILLIS	TCHIN TCHIN	13	41	2.49	17.51
22	EYTHORSOTTIR	CATS N DOGS	19	22	8.86	11.14
23	VALIO	BLACKY	23	7	15.05	4.95
24	ROBINSON	IRELAND MIXED	18	17	10.39	9.61
25	BRIDGE 24 MIXED	TARDY	2	24	3.61	16.39
26	EMERALD	CAUMEL	34	23	13.72	6.28
27	54FUN	AUSTERLITZ	10	45	1.42	18.58
28	FRIENDS	RF KJELLERN	25	27	9.23	10.77
29	SWEDEN 2	TARTU	36	10	17.16	2.84
30	JUST MIXED	PARS	55	4	20.00	0.00
31	KNOTTENBELT	PRAHA	22	23	9.61	10.39
32	SWISS MIXT TEAM	AKINOM	30	32	9.23	10.77
33	SUSHI	XYZ	26	17	13.14	6.86
34	LA LA LAND	NORDIC FOURS	34	20	14.54	5.46
35	TURKISH POWER	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

Round 2

1	TURNIPS	DE BOTTON	21	18	11.14	8.86
2	EPSILON	JUST MIXED	18	41	3.41	16.59
3	ROSENTHAL	AUSTERLITZ	22	29	7.49	12.51
4	NETHERLANDS 4	FERM	35	14	16.18	3.82
5	TCHIN TCHIN	BRENO	33	35	9.23	10.77
6	SWEDEN 2	TARDY	6	45	0.90	19.10
7	EDMONDS	VALIO	15	25	6.57	13.43
8	PEPSI	ALPERT	16	21	8.15	11.85
9	LA LA LAND	BALLEBO	10	38	2.49	17.51
10	BIG HAT	BRIDGE24	21	30	6.86	13.14
11	APAHEILI	ARROW	19	53	1.56	18.44
12	EMERALD	ISTANBUL	29	23	12.18	7.82
13	SUSHI	BV WALDSOLMS	34	24	13.43	6.57
14	CRASH	CATS N DOGS	15	15	10.00	10.00
15	JOBS	MUNICH	15	50	1.42	18.58
16	RF KJELLERN	AKINOM	13	20	7.49	12.51
17	ROBINSON	PRAHA	46	16	17.84	2.16
18	IRELAND MIXED	KNOTTENBELT	35	9	17.16	2.84
19	SWISS MIXT TEAM	OTRA VEZ	12	40	2.49	17.51
20	FRIENDS	ORCA	29	22	12.51	7.49
21	EYTHORSOTTIR	SPARKLING VINTAGES	6	44	1.03	18.97
22	KWON LEE	TURKISH POWER	25	52	2.66	12.34
23	XYZ	XANADU	18	30	6.00	14.00
24	CAUMEL	MEDIUM RARE	18	26	7.17	12.83
25	BRIDGESCANNER MIXED	MONAS	30	18	14.00	6.00
26	EX S	COOPER	38	16	16.39	3.61
27	NORDIC FOURS	FOX	21	12	13.14	6.86
28	BLUE NOTE	BLACKY	37	5	18.15	1.85
29	GROUP ONE TEAM	BRIDGE 24 MIXED	20	3	15.29	4.71
30	TARTU	ADA	24	41	4.71	15.29
31	GILLIS	CBL	19	29	6.57	13.43
32	123KEEPITUP	54FUN	11	52	0.67	19.33
33	MOJITO	PARS	19	12	12.51	7.49
34	BODIS	BELUGALIA	31	14	15.29	3.71
35	BEATUS	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

Results - Mixed Teams

Round 3

1	JUST MIXED	TARDY	20	15	11.85	8.15
2	NETHERLANDS 4	ARROW	37	1	18.71	1.29
3	BALLEBO	SPARKLING VINTAGES	1	30	2.32	17.68
4	TURNIPS	AUSTERLITZ	12	7	11.85	8.15
5	MUNICH	DE BOTTON	35	13	16.39	3.61
6	VALIO	ROBINSON	11	41	2.16	17.84
7	BRENO	ALPERT	41	2	19.10	0.90
8	BRIDGE24	ROSENTHAL	37	14	16.59	3.41
9	IRELAND MIXED	OTRA VEZ	6	74	0.00	20.00
10	TCHIN TCHIN	SUSHI	11	13	9.23	10.77
11	EMERALD	TURKISH POWER	3	11	7.17	12.83
12	EPSILON	BLUE NOTE	25	1	16.78	3.22
13	AKINOM	PEPSI	12	37	3.03	16.97
14	EDMONDS	EX S	6	13	7.49	12.51
15	FRIENDS	FERM	17	23	7.82	12.18
16	ISTANBUL	BIG HAT	0	30	2.16	17.84
17	CATS N DOGS	54FUN	17	40	3.41	16.59
18	XANADU	BRIDGESCANNER MIXED	16	12	11.50	8.50
19	GROUP ONE TEAM	MEDIUM RARE	50	3	19.96	0.04
20	BV WALDSOLMS	NORDIC FOURS	44	15	17.68	2.32
21	RF KJELLERN	SWEDEN 2	18	18	10.00	10.00
22	ADA	CRASH	12	35	3.41	16.59
23	LA LA LAND	ORCA	14	10	11.50	8.50
24	CBL	APAHEILI	8	23	5.20	14.80
25	BODIS	CAUMEL	22	30	7.17	12.83
26	MOJITO	PRAHA	13	23	6.57	13.43
27	XYZ	KNOTTENBELT	25	36	6.28	13.72
28	JOBS	MONAS	9	25	4.95	15.05
29	BEATUS	SWISS MIXT TEAM	18	32	5.46	14.54
30	FOX	KWON LEE	11	15	8.50	11.50
31	EYTHORSOTTIR	COOPER	35	24	13.72	6.28
32	GILLIS	BRIDGE 24 MIXED	18	36	4.48	15.52
33	TARTU	PARS	36	13	16.59	3.41
34	BLACKY	BELUGALIA	36	10	17.16	2.84
35	123KEEPITUP	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

Round 4

1	NETHERLANDS 4	SPARKLING VINTAGES	31	13	15.52	4.48
2	JUST MIXED	BRENO	42	9	18.30	1.70
3	OTRA VEZ	ROBINSON	15	38	3.41	16.59
4	MUNICH	BRIDGE24	14	14	10.00	10.00
5	TARDY	TURNIPS	2	53	0.00	20.00
6	EPSILON	PEPSI	26	31	8.15	11.85
7	GROUP ONE TEAM	AUSTERLITZ	25	12	14.28	5.72
8	BIG HAT	SUSHI	27	17	13.43	6.57
9	54FUN	TURKISH POWER	14	7	12.51	7.49
10	BV WALDSOLMS	TCHIN TCHIN	20	22	9.23	10.77
11	EX S	CRASH	30	8	16.39	3.61
12	BALLEBO	FERM	12	57	0.24	19.76
13	ARROW	EMERALD	15	22	7.49	12.51
14	DE BOTTON	XANADU	16	37	3.82	16.18
15	VALIO	ROSENTHAL	19	58	0.90	19.10
16	APAHEILI	EDMONDS	4	40	1.29	18.71
17	FRIENDS	LA LA LAND	23	27	8.50	11.50
18	BRIDGESCANNER MIXED	RF KJELLERN	17	20	8.86	11.14
19	SWEDEN 2	ALPERT	0	42	0.56	19.44
20	MONAS	IRELAND MIXED	30	7	16.59	3.41
21	BLUE NOTE	AKINOM	27	14	14.28	5.72
22	CAUMEL	KNOTTENBELT	15	31	4.95	15.05
23	SWISS MIXT TEAM	PRAHA	12	19	7.49	12.51
24	ORCA	CATS N DOGS	25	1	16.78	3.22
25	TARTU	BLACKY	11	33	3.61	16.39
26	BRIDGE 24 MIXED	EYTHORSOTTIR	41	19	16.39	3.61
27	ISTANBUL	BODIS	45	0	19.76	0.24
28	KWON LEE	ADA	7	52	0.24	19.76
29	CBL	NORDIC FOURS	40	10	17.84	2.16
30	FOX	MOJITO	28	20	12.83	7.17
31	MEDIUM RARE	XYZ	35	18	15.29	4.71
32	BEATUS	JOBS	2	46	0.34	19.66
33	COOPER	123KEEPITUP	31	37	7.82	12.18
34	GILLIS	PARS	17	48	2.00	18.00
35	BELUGALIA	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

Results - Mixed Teams

Round 5

1	NETHERLANDS 4	JUST MIXED	8	43	1.42	18.58
2	TURNIPS	ROBINSON	45	12	18.30	1.70
3	MUNICH	GROUP ONE TEAM	26	50	3.22	16.78
4	BRIDGE24	SPARKLING VINTAGES	21	25	8.50	11.50
5	FERM	BIG HAT	31	0	18.00	2.00
6	PEPSI	EX S	8	28	4.03	15.97
7	OTRA VEZ	54FUN	16	44	2.49	17.51
8	ROSENTHAL	BRENO	2	20	4.48	15.52
9	EDMONDS	EPSILON	27	32	8.15	11.85
10	XANADU	ALPERT	19	34	5.20	14.80
11	TCHIN TCHIN	EMERALD	26	28	9.23	10.77
12	BV WALDSOLMS	AUSTERLITZ	16	21	8.15	11.85
13	TURKISH POWER	SUSHI	32	4	17.51	2.49
14	TARDY	MONAS	21	16	11.85	8.15
15	ISTANBUL	ORCA	23	23	10.00	10.00
16	KNOTTENBELT	ADA	54	11	19.55	-0.05
17	ARROW	BLUE NOTE	33	12	16.18	3.82
18	BLACKY	BRIDGE 24 MIXED	27	41	5.46	14.54
19	LA LA LAND	RF KJELLERN	21	36	5.20	14.80
20	CBL	PRAHA	35	10	16.97	3.03
21	FRIENDS	CRASH	2	35	1.70	18.30
22	BRIDGESCANNER MIXED	JOBS	23	30	7.49	12.51
23	DE BOTTON	MEDIUM RARE	0	46	0.14	19.86
24	BALLEBO	SWISS MIXT TEAM	26	25	10.39	9.61
25	FOX	AKINOM	29	41	6.00	14.00
26	APAHEILI	VALIO	25	24	9.89	9.61
27	CAUMEL	IRELAND MIXED	3	40	1.16	18.84
28	PARS	SWEDEN 2	0	30	2.16	17.84
29	CATS N DOGS	TARTU	12	21	6.86	13.14
30	EYTHORSDDOTTIR	MOJITO	17	5	14.00	6.00
31	123KEEPITUP	XYZ	9	35	2.84	17.16
32	COOPER	NORDIC FOURS	26	30	8.50	11.50
33	BODIS	KWON LEE	14	25	6.28	13.72
34	BELUGALIA	BEATUS	13	34	3.82	16.18
35	GILLIS	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

Ranking after Round 5

1	JUST MIXED	85.32
2	TURNIPS	81.29
3	FERM	71.27
4	NETHERLANDS 4	70.41
5	GROUP ONE TEAM	70.34
6	54FUN	67.36
7	EX S	66.98
8	SPARKLING VINTAGES	64.81
9	BRENO	64.43
10	ROBINSON	64.36
11	ALPERT	62.28
12	BRIDGE24	62.23
13	TURKISH POWER	62.17
14	KNOTTENBELT	60.77
15	EPSILON	60.19
16	MUNICH	58.96
17	ARROW	57.12
18	EDMONDS	56.89
19	AUSTERLITZ	56.81
20	EMERALD	56.35
21	CRASH	56.32
22	CBL	55.93
23	PEPSI	55.80
24	TARDY	55.49
25	TCHIN TCHIN	55.20
26	BV WALDSOLMS	54.91
27	BRIDGE 24 MIXED	54.77
28	BIG HAT	54.41
29	MEDIUM RARE	54.30
30	RF KJELLERN	54.20
31	ROSENTHAL	54.03
32	XANADU	53.45
33	ISTANBUL	53.17
34	OTRA VEZ	52.64
35	ORCA	52.00
36	MONAS	51.79
37	JOBS	49.31
38	IRELAND MIXED	49.02
39	SWEDEN 2	46.46
40	SUSHI	46.40
41	AKINOM	46.03
42	BLACKY	45.81
43	LA LA LAND	45.23
44	BRIDGESCANNER MIXED	44.85
45	BALLEBO	44.74
46	BLUE NOTE	44.67
47	SWISS MIXT TEAM	43.36
48	APAHEILI	41.54
49	PRAHA	41.52
50	EYTHORSDDOTTIR	41.22
51	VALIO	41.15
52	ADA	41.07
53	XYZ 41.01	
54	TARTU	40.89
55	FRIENDS	39.76
56	FOX 38.90	
57	DE BOTTON	36.43
58	KWON LEE	35.61
59	CATS N DOGS	34.63
60	NORDIC FOURS	34.58
61	BEATUS	33.98
62	MOJITO	32.70
63	CAUMEL	32.39
64	COOPER	31.93
65	PARS	31.06
66	123KEEPITUP	29.11
67	BODIS	28.98
68	GILLIS	27.54
69	BELUGALIA	22.37



Results - Senior Teams

Round 1

51	RUMMEL	LES MOUSQUETAIRES	15	18	8.86	11.14
52	NORWAY	ROTH	27	31	8.50	11.50
53	GERMANY	VICTORS	7	13	7.82	12.18
54	DUTCH SENIOR TEAM	MILNER	14	22	7.17	12.83
55	ZIMMERMANN	SWISS SENIORS	54	22	18.15	1.85
56	FRANCE SENIORS	GEHAKTMOLEN SENIORS	23	16	12.51	7.49
57	BBCX	BUCHAREST SENIORS	38	13	16.97	3.03
58	LA FONTAINE	ENGLAND PRYOR	10	50	0.78	19.22

Round 2

51	RUMMEL	LES MOUSQUETAIRES	15	18	8.86	11.14
52	NORWAY	ROTH	27	31	8.50	11.50
53	GERMANY	VICTORS	7	13	7.82	12.18
54	DUTCH SENIOR TEAM	MILNER	14	22	7.17	12.83
55	ZIMMERMANN	SWISS SENIORS	54	22	18.15	1.85
56	FRANCE SENIORS	GEHAKTMOLEN SENIORS	23	16	12.51	7.49
57	BBCX	BUCHAREST SENIORS	38	13	16.97	3.03
58	LA FONTAINE	ENGLAND PRYOR	10	50	0.78	19.22

Round 3

51	FRANCE SENIORS	SWISS SENIORS	4	13	6.86	13.14
52	VICTORS	ZIMMERMANN	14	13	10.39	9.61
53	ROTH	GEHAKTMOLEN SENIORS	14	5	13.14	6.86
54	ENGLAND PRYOR	BBCX	22	12	13.43	6.57
55	RUMMEL	NORWAY	3	39	1.29	18.71
56	GERMANY	LES MOUSQUETAIRES	25	11	14.54	5.46
57	BUCHAREST SENIORS	DUTCH SENIOR TEAM	12	28	4.95	15.05
58	LA FONTAINE	MILNER	6	7	9.61	10.39

Round 4

51	SWISS SENIORS	DUTCH SENIOR TEAM	26	28	9.23	10.77
52	MILNER	GEHAKTMOLEN SENIORS	22	1	16.18	3.82
53	VICTORS	BBCX	13	19	7.82	12.18
54	ROTH	RUMMEL	42	10	18.15	1.85
55	LES MOUSQUETAIRES	ENGLAND PRYOR	25	12	14.28	5.72
56	NORWAY	BUCHAREST SENIORS	34	5	17.68	2.32
57	FRANCE SENIORS	GERMANY	29	5	16.78	3.22
58	LA FONTAINE	ZIMMERMANN	6	25	4.25	15.75

Round 5

51	DUTCH SENIOR TEAM	GERMANY	11	17	7.42	11.78
52	ZIMMERMANN	BBCX	10	27	4.71	13.29
53	MILNER	RUMMEL	8	5	11.14	8.86
54	VICTORS	LES MOUSQUETAIRES	7	10	8.76	11.04
55	BUCHAREST SENIORS	ROTH	29	8	16.18	3.82
56	ENGLAND PRYOR	FRANCE SENIORS	12	36	3.22	16.78
57	SWISS SENIORS	NORWAY	9	24	5.20	14.80
58	LA FONTAINE	GEHAKTMOLEN SENIORS	13	36	3.41	16.59

Ranking after Round 5

1	FRANCE SENIORS	69.32
2	ROTH	66.47
3	BBCX	65.19
4	NORWAY	62.91
5	LES MOUSQUETAIRES	60.63
6	DUTCH SENIOR TEAM	57.75
7	ZIMMERMANN	57.08
8	VICTORS	54.44
9	ENGLAND PRYOR	52.73
10	GEHAKTMOLEN SENIORS	51.54
11	MILNER	50.68
12	GERMANY	41.18
13	SWISS SENIORS	30.71
14	BUCHAREST SENIORS	30.09
15	RUMMEL	23.52
16	LA FONTAINE	22.76





World Bridge Federation
an International Sports Federation (IF) recognized by the International Olympic Committee

PRESS RELEASE



You may have heard that the World Bridge Federation has been invited to the Olympic Esports Week ("OEW") in Singapore, June 19-25, organized by the International Olympic Committee.

The WBF, together with the platform providers BBO and Funbridge, will have a pavilion at the Free-To-Play Zone ("FTPZ") the IOC is providing, June 22-25, for a limited number (10-15) of its recognised "International Federations" during the OEW. It is a great achievement and honour for Bridge to have been selected as one of them, to showcase our progress and activities in the field of electronic sports.

The FTPZ will be a large exposition at the Suntec Convention Centre, and tens of thousands of visitors are expected. It is an important opportunity for all of us, NBOs as well as the WBF, to showcase Bridge as a modern sport - adopting the latest technology, including Artificial Intelligence.

At our pavilion we will live-stream tournaments on both platforms with both local and international competitors, provide "Minibrige" demonstrations, show play on Lovebridge tablets on site and various other promotional activities. Many activities can be followed online on YouTube, and possibly Twitch.

Leading up to the tournaments in Singapore we are arranging qualification events on both BBO and Funbridge and would appreciate it if you would promote these through all your channels of communication including social media, NBO bulletins and website, event flyers and direct mailings. Attached you will find the detailed format of these qualifying events. The overall winner on each platform will be invited (travel and accommodation) to the Transnational week (August 28 - September 2) during the World Championships in Marrakech, and there will be a ranking by country with prizes in the form of the platforms' "currencies".

You may also be aware that Bridge is an official sport in the upcoming Asian Games.

We thank you for your cooperation in this effort, which we believe can bring substantial benefits to the whole bridge community. However, nothing will be gained if we don't actively make use of all these promotional tools at all levels.

Jan Kamras
President, World Bridge Federation

José Damiani
WBF President Emeritus



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Programme for Online Bridge Olympic Esports Week, June 19/25

Qualification phase

19/21, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - Tournaments of 6 boards (100 tournaments available)
(0.50 Babydollars BB\$ on BBO) (25 diamonds on Funbridge) per tournament

Best five tournaments to qualify with a minimum average of 55 %

Thursday off

Final

23/25 Friday, Saturday, Sunday, free of charge, 8 Tournaments of 6 boards (50 tournaments available)

Ranking according to the average of the best five.

Players should register on the sites and may play on either one or both. They should follow the online instructions, stating which Federation they belong to.

Registration implies complete acceptance of the BBO, Funbridge and WBF rules.

More Information

Additional information about this event will be available on the BBO and Funbridge websites:

<https://www.bridgebase.com/>

<https://www.funbridge.com/>