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♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ **DAILY BULLETIN**

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Editor: Eric Laurant

Head of Communication: Francesca Canali • **Journalist coordinator:** Brian Senior

Journalists: David Burn, Jos Jacobs, David Bird

THE EARLY FRONT-RUNNERS



The European Youth Teams Championships are up and running in Riga, and after the opening rounds leaders are beginning to emerge across all five age categories.

In the Under 31, after 10 rounds, Bulgaria have taken command with 137.59 VPs, ahead of France on 130.60 and Türkiye on 129.81.

In the Under 26, after 7 rounds, the top three are covered by barely five victory points: Israel lead with 99.03 VPs, followed by Türkiye on 94.07 and Estonia on 93.96.

In the Under 26 Women, after 6 rounds, Poland are at the top with 114.50 VPs, ahead of Denmark on 101.03 and England on 78.11.

In the Under 21, after 8 rounds, Poland lead the way with 113.05 VPs, just ahead of France on 111.06, with Israel third on 98.41.

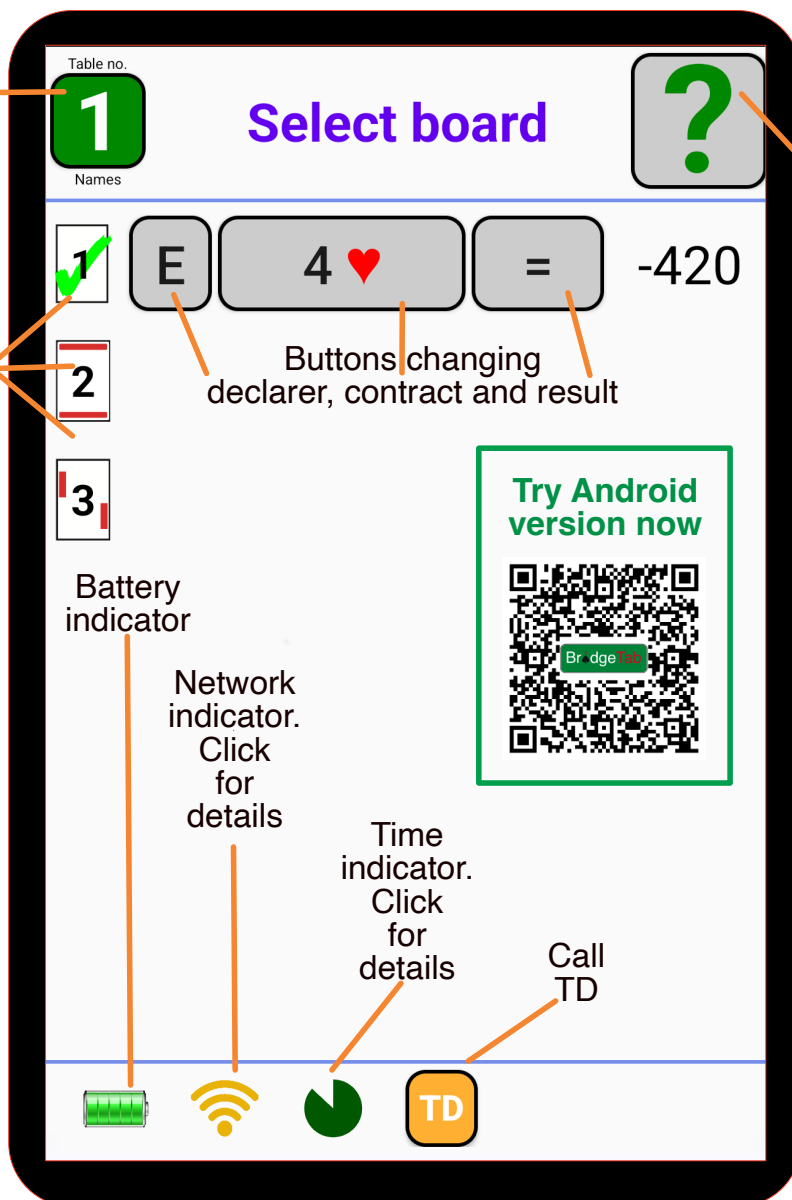
In the Under 16, after 5 rounds, Israel are in front with 74.08 VPs, followed by Norway on 68.66 and Poland on 67.96.

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Sweden v Bulgaria (U26) Israel v England (U26W)

by David Burn

Larry Cohen has a theory. No, not that one – he thinks that boards like this one should be removed from matches before they are played. The North-South cards were:

♠ Q 10 5
♥ A K 9
♦ K 10 7 4 2
♣ K 2



♠ A K 9
♥ 6 4
♦ A Q J 8 6
♣ J 7 6

Since slams on finesses essentially swing large numbers of IMPs pretty much at

random, Cohen would like them not to exist. So would the Swedish pair who bid to six diamonds and found the ace of clubs in the wrong hand for this endeavour. Bulgaria was off to a 10-IMP start; no one else in our featured matches ventured beyond game, though there were six swings in the U26 event and two in the U26W (one of which went to the side that bid slam and were favoured with the lead of ♣A).

A timid effort by an Englishwoman resulted in a missed game on the next deal, and Israel were off the mark with 7 IMPs. Sweden picked up 2 for overtricks. Board 3 was a ghastly slam that no one bid in our matches or in the U26W field as a whole; the two pairs who attempted it in the U26 field deservedly failed (the DD solver was about the only entity that could bring home 980, and it's too old for junior events).



Board 4. Dealer West. Game all.

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

SWEDEN v BULGARIA (U26)

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Psychev</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Momov</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
1♦	1NT	2♣ (1)	2NT (2)
Pass	3♣	3♥	4♥
5♦	Dble	All pass	

(1) Majors (2 Clubs)

This had five losers, and declarer lost them all – 800 to Sweden. A small gain? Not exactly.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Warlenius</i>	<i>Kraynin</i>	<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Stoilova</i>
5♦	Dble	Pass	6♣
All pass			

This had two losers. A large gain to Sweden, then? Not exactly, for West did not believe that a diamond would cash so he led ♥7 instead. Of course, East won the ace and tried to give partner a ruff, so Bulgaria scored 1370 and 11 IMPs. In the U26W match one West opened 1♦ and the other 4♦; it made little difference as the North-Souths settled for 5♣ and no swing.

Board 5 saw very small swings that could have been larger, but partscores are

notoriously difficult to defend and a couple of chances to go plus at both tables were missed. Board 6 was another low-key affair where Sweden did go plus at both tables for a 5-IMP gain and so did England, off the schneider with 4 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. Game all.

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

In the U26W event West passed her partner's 1♦ opening; North reopened and East-West competed to 3♥ for plus 140. At the other table West responded, inevitably reaching 4♥ and failing by a trick. 6 IMPs to England. In the U26 the Bulgarian West could open a strong club and stay low after a negative response – 2♥ made an overtrick. The Swedish West responded to a natural 1♦ opening, only to find himself in game a moment later. I confess, I thought only the DD engine would make this, but Warlenius atoned in great part for his opening lead on board 4. He won the opening spade lead in dummy and made the natural-looking (but theoretically fatal) play of a club to the ace for a diamond up. South beat the king with the ace and had “only” to shift to a club into dummy's tenace, but he returned a spade instead. Warlenius cashed a diamond and ruffed a diamond, overruffed. North played a spade, ruffed in dummy, and declarer cashed ♥A before ruffing the fourth diamond to establish the fifth. A club finesse and that winning diamond saw

South without recourse – 620 for Sweden and 11 IMPs to go with it.

Board 8 saw West with a strong no trump (16 points) and South with an even stronger one (19 points). In the U26W event the Israeli South could not double West's strong no trump for penalty; a curious artificial sequence ensued that landed her in a 4-3 spade fit that handled well enough for plus 110. But not only could the English South double 1NT for penalty, she could double an escape to 2♥ for takeout which became the final contract and went down two for 5 IMPs to England. There was only a 1-IMP swing in the U26 match, though Bulgaria lived dangerously by trying a different seven-card fit at the three level that Teodora Stoliova did well to make.

Board 9 was a grand slam if you knew the lie of the cards; if you didn't the seven level was hard to assess. Neither Sweden nor Bulgaria felt like conducting the assessment on the battlefield, and the board was flat at 1440 in 6NT. Israel reached the same contract in the women's match, and Tamar Atzmon outshone her male counterparts

by making an overtrick. It was perhaps the least relevant overtrick of her career, because at the other table someone forgot the methods and the English pair made 13 tricks in 3♠. 15 IMPs to Israel.

Board 10 saw a normal partscore complicated by a 5-0 trump break, but declarer had enough to overcome this hurdle and the U26W match saw no swing. The Swedish North-South pair competed to the three level where they lost 100 (could have been worse), while at the other table competition by the Bulgarians drove Sweden to the three level also, where not only was that trump break too hard to handle but the final contract was doubled for 200 more and 7 IMPs to Bulgaria.

Board 11 was a slam that needed a heart suit of ♥AKJ9 facing ♥108652 not to have a loser. The hand under the ace-king had a 1=1=4=7 shape, but that heart was the queen so twelve tricks were available. It should be mentioned, perhaps, that this slam was on a combined point count of 22, so no one bid it and the Bulgarians did not even reach game, sending 6 IMPs to Sweden.



Board 12. Dealer West. NS game.

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

SWEDEN v BULGARIA (U26)

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Peychev</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Momov</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
1♣ (1)	Pass	1♦ (2)	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All pass

(1) Strong (2) Weak (3) Limited (1♥ would be artificial)

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Warlenius</i>	<i>Kraynin</i>	<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Stoilova</i>
1♥	Pass	3♥ (1)	Pass
4♥	All pass		

(1) Weak

Bertheau led a high club and Peychev was one down in short order. Kraynin led ♦9 to the jack and queen, and Stoilova tried to cash ♦A. 10 IMPs to Sweden. The same swing for the same sort of reason happened in the U26W match, England being the beneficiaries. Game was allowed to make more than once across the field, and one East-West did rather better – they started their cards 2♥-3♥, enticing South to overcall 3♠ and North to continue to 4♠ over West's 4♥. The engine would go down one in this contract (although left to its own devices it would bid and make 5♦); the actual declarer took a couple of wrong

views and ended up down six, which may have disappointed team-mates who had brought back plus 420.

On board 13 North-South could make 1♠ and East-West 2♦. In Israel-England South had to make 2♠ and did so to gain an IMP; in Sweden-Bulgaria East-West were too high at both tables for 5 IMPs to Sweden. Board 14 was more of the same; North-South had seven top tricks in 1NT but two declarers needed a finesse for an eighth because they were in 2NT and rated to go down three if it failed. When it didn't, Sweden picked up an IMP and Israel, who had received a friendly rather than a hostile opening lead from the other side of the table, closed out the match with a couple of overtricks. In the U26 match Bulgaria won 39-31 (12.44-7.56 VPS); in the U26W match Israel prevailed 28-27 (10.33-9.67 VPs).



Markus BERTHEAU

Sila kobiet¹

by David Burn

I don't actually know very much Polish – "trzy duże piwa poproszę"² is about the limit of my competence – so I hope that the title is a good enough approximation to what the U26W team from Poland have been demonstrating in the tournament so far. Averaging 19 VPs per match for the first six rounds, they took on Estonia in the seventh. In round six of the U26 event Italy faced Bulgaria.

¹Three large beers please

²Woman power

Board 1. Dealer North. Love all.

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

ITALY v BULGARIA U26

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Yotova</i>	<i>Sanmartino</i>	<i>Lafchieva</i>	<i>Ramazzotti</i>
–	1♦	Pass	1♥
Dble	2♥	2♠	3♥
4♠	5♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Draghi</i>	<i>Peychev</i>	<i>Lombardi</i>	<i>Momov</i>
–	1♦	Pass	1♥
Dble	2♠	3♠	Pass
4♠	Dble	All pass	

Sanmartino for Italy hadn't shown much

about his shape in the early going, so when his opponents seemed to have plenty of spades he opted for 5♥ at his third turn, only to find his partner with most of his values in the wrong place. Peychev for Bulgaria had already shown quite a lot about his distribution, and could trust Momov to bid on or pass as he chose. Five hearts doubled was down one, four spades doubled down two, and Bulgaria broke on top with 9 IMPs.

ESTONIA v POLAND U26W

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kapala</i>	<i>Allas</i>	<i>Gryzlo</i>	<i>Orma</i>
–	1♦	Pass	2♥ (1)
Dble	3♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♠	All pass

(1) Four spades, longer hearts, less than invitational

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Braun</i>	<i>Lucka</i>	<i>Madissoo</i>	<i>Suzanowicz</i>
–	1♦	2♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All pass			

In the Open Room the Polish pair found their spade fit despite South having, so to speak, bid the suit first – the defence was accurate and the contract was down one. For Estonia, East made sure that her side would bid spades first with a weak jump overcall, finding West with a pretty good hand in support but the distribution hostile. The play was not accurate and the contract was down four, Poland collecting 13 IMPs.

Board 2 saw the Easts with a good balanced 18-count that was not enough to stop the opponents from being able to make 11 tricks in 4♥. At many tables East was able to show

enough strength to dissuade the opponents from actually bidding 4♥, including the Estonian women who stopped at the two level, The Polish women bid game, and though their opponents did the best they could by saving for minus 300 four more IMPs went to Poland. The Bulgarian U26 East/West did best of all, buying the hand in a making partscore their way; the Italian East opened 2NT which silenced everybody. Minus 50 was a fine result, but Bulgaria still collected 4 IMPs.

On Board 3 North/South were due plus 120 with their balanced 14 facing a balanced nine. No one achieved this in our matches – Italy were plus 260 in one spade doubled, a 4-3 fit that could take eight tricks despite a 6-0 break. At the other table East-West bought a partscore of their own that could have been beaten but wasn't, and Italy opened their account with a 9-IMP gain. Estonia over-reached to 3NT against Poland, down one, and the six-card spade suit contrived to buy the contract in 2♠ after partner opened the bidding on slender values. Not only would she gladly have sold you the contract, she'd have paid you to take it away – the penalty was 300 and 8 IMPs went with it.

Board 4 was a flat 4♠ except where it wasn't, which included Italy-Bulgaria when

♠ J 8 ♥ A K J 9 8 7 ♦ Q 10 ♣ K 5 4

thought that it had a 5♥ overcall of a 4♠ opening to its right at game all. The next hand begged to differ, and the 800 penalty cost Bulgaria 4 IMPs. Board 5 really was flat, 450 to everyone in 4♥.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W game.

♠ J
♥ 10 9 7 2
♦ Q J
♣ Q J 10 7 5 4

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

♠ K 5 3
♥ 4
♦ A 10 7 6 4 3 2
♣ K 3

At three of our featured tables spades were not mentioned – East opened 1♥, South overcalled in diamonds, and West placed the contract in 4♥, either directly or via some artifice or other. The lead of ♦A and another is enough to put paid to the



heart game, and Suzanowicz for Poland found it. Orma for Estonia did not, but for once the Polish declarer muddled the play and went down anyway for no swing. In Italy-Bulgaria, Ramazzotti did lead $\heartsuit A$, but what he saw persuaded him to shift to a spade, which did not trouble Bulgaria's Maria Lafchieva, who took 11 tricks. What Momov would have led against $4\heartsuit$ will never be known, because he avoided the issue altogether by saving in $5\diamondsuit$ and losing 300; 8 IMPs to Bulgaria. Italy struck back swiftly.

Board 7. Dealer South. Game all.

$\spadesuit$ 10		$\spadesuit$ Q 9 4
$\heartsuit$ J 10 8 7 6 5 2		$\heartsuit$ A Q
$\diamondsuit$ 8 5 3 2		$\diamondsuit$ A K Q 9
$\clubsuit$ J		$\clubsuit$ K 10 7 4
$\spadesuit$ K 8 7 6 5 2		$\spadesuit$ A J 3
$\heartsuit$ 9 3		$\heartsuit$ K 4
$\diamondsuit$ J 10 7		$\diamondsuit$ 6 4
$\clubsuit$ Q 3		$\clubsuit$ A 9 8 6 5 2

ITALY v BULGARIA U26

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Yotova</i>	<i>Sanmartino</i>	<i>Lafchieva</i>	<i>Ramazzotti</i>
–	–	–	$1\clubsuit$
Pass	$1\heartsuit$	Dble	$2\clubsuit$
$2\spadesuit$	Pass	2NT	Pass
$4\spadesuit$	All pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Draghi</i>	<i>Peychev</i>	<i>Lombardi</i>	<i>Momov</i>
–	–	–	$2\clubsuit$ (1)
Pass	$2\heartsuit$ (1)	Dble	Pass
$3\spadesuit$	Pass	3NT	Pass
$4\spadesuit$	All pass		

The defence in the open room, if the record is to be believed, started with North leading $\clubsuit J$, which held the trick, and shifting to a heart. I doubt that the record is actually what happened – probably the defence started as it did at the other table with a club to the ace, a club ruff and a heart shift. Yotova finessed and was down; Draghi put up $\heartsuit A$ and went for his only chance by cashing a club that North could not ruff. Draghi knew what to do now, and Italy collected



Lee Ann MADISSOON

Natalia SUSZANOWICZ

Dominika LUCKA

Margaret BRAUN

13 IMPs when he did it. Poland made 4♠ while Estonia passed themselves out in a cuebid that didn't make but wouldn't have made much difference if it had – another 13 to Poland.

Board 8. Dealer West. Love all.

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

At all four of our tables West opened 3♦, North doubled, and East passed. The Souths for Poland and Bulgaria opted for 3NT, the wrong decision in theory but right in practice because when the Souths for Estonia and Italy passed the double for penalty both defences went awry. For Italy North started with a high spade and shifted to a club, but that wasn't immediately fatal because declarer put the ace on it. ♦A was followed by a club ruff, ♦K and a spade that North won only to reject his last chance to play a heart – his actual spade continuation saw declarer's losing heart eventually disappear on dummy's ♠J as South scored his winning trumps. That was 470 and 9 IMPs to Bulgaria. A similar defence by Estonia conceded the same score, so the fact that 3NT somehow made at the other table merely added a few IMPs to Poland's already substantial gain.

Board 9 saw everyone score 400 in 3NT.

On board 10 East/West could make six diamonds or six clubs, while North-South could make two hearts. In Italy-Bulgaria North/South were not only allowed to play in 3♥ but to make it – they stayed in game at the other table and won 13 IMPs. Poland

made an overtrick in 5♦ while Estonia doubled 4♥ and beat it two for a 4-IMP loss.

Board 11 was a difficult game that three declarers negotiated successfully – only Italy failed when declarer cashed his 5-5 fit ending in the wrong hand for the end-game he envisaged for 10 IMPs to Bulgaria – at this point the match score would have been called deuce at Wimbledon, 40-40. Board 12 did nothing to alter that score despite the best efforts of some of the protagonists.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S game.

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

ITALY v BULGARIA U26

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Yotova</i>	<i>Sanmartino</i>	<i>Lafchieva</i>	<i>Ramazzotti</i>
Pass	Pass	1NT	All pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Draghi</i>	<i>Peychev</i>	<i>Lombardi</i>	<i>Momov</i>
Pass	2♦ (1)	3NT	Dble
Pass	Pass	4♣	All pass

(1) Weak, 4+ diamonds and 4+ in a major

There can be no doubt that West's opening bid matched the description; when South doubled 3NT East thought better of the whole business. In truth West's hand proved surprisingly useful to his partner; the spade lead set up East's king and West's

possession of ♦K and ♥10 enabled East to escape for the loss of a trick in each suit. When 1NT failed at the other table the board was flat at 50 to North/South. East made 120 in 1NT for Poland, worth 1 IMP when North/South at the other table competed to 3♦ and failed by a trick.

Board 13 saw everyone play a spade partscore for 140 and no swing. Board 14 provided one last chance, and Italy grabbed it.

Board 14. Dealer East. Love all.

♠ 6432		
♥ 3		
♦ QJ84		
♣ K1053		
♠ K J 10 7		♠ 9
♥ K 9		♥ 7 6 5 2
♦ K 9 7 3		♦ A 10 6 5
♣ J 8 4		♣ Q 9 6 2
		
♠ A Q 8 4		
♥ A Q J 10 8 4		
♦ 2		
♣ A 7		



Angel MOMOV

ITALY v BULGARIA U26

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Yotova</i>	<i>Sanmartino</i>	<i>Lafchieva</i>	<i>Ramazzotti</i>
–	–	Pass	1♥
Dble	Pass	2♣	Dble
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Draghi</i>	<i>Peychev</i>	<i>Lombardi</i>	<i>Momov</i>
–	–	2♣ (1)	Dble
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
All pass			

(1) Weak, clubs and a major

Judging by West's effort on Board 12, East had a maximum for his gadget; at any rate West was not disposed to double when his opponents bid the spade game. In fact North can take nine tricks in spades, and might well have emerged with that many if warned in advance that an effort to make would be futile. His actual effort to make consisted of finessing on East's opening heart lead and did not greatly improve from there, eventually resulting in down four. At the other table North/South did not unearth their spade fit at all, ending in 3NT on a club lead that ought to have been defeated but wasn't. The 12-IMP swing to Italy saw them victors by 52-40 (13.48-6.52 VPs). Poland made 3♥ with an overtrick at one table, beat it by one at the other, and had improved their VP average.



England v France (U21)

Round 5

by Brian Senior

There has been a fierce, albeit friendly, rivalry between England and France in international competition, so their U21 clash in Round 5 was an attractive proposition for me. More so on this occasion because, remarkably, two members of the English U21s, Lucy Norman and Charlotte Bedford, were members of the England team which had won the European Women's Team Championships just three days earlier.

I sat behind Lucy Norman to record the action and the match was lively from the start.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Norman</i>	<i>Crepin</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Lyoen</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Rouille</i>	<i>Anoyrkatis</i>	<i>Guigui</i>	<i>Furness</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Dble	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Charlotte Bedford stayed silent with the East cards and Esteban Lyoen made a simple spade raise. If Lubin Crepin's reraise to 3♠ was constructive, then surely Lyoen owed him a raise to game. As it was, Lyoen passed out 3♠ and, after two rounds of clubs and a heart switch, Crepin could win, draw trumps, and take the diamond finesse. That lost but he had the rest; 10 tricks for +170.

To what degree Costa Theodore Ben Guigui's take-out double affected Tom Furness's thinking when he raised to 3♠ in the other room is unclear, but it gave Venetia Anoyrkatis an easy 4♠ bid with the North hand and again there were 10 straightforward tricks, but this time for +420 and 6 IMPs to England.

Five pairs out of 12 bid and made game.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Norman</i>	<i>Crepin</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Lyoen</i>
–	–	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Rouille</i>	<i>Anoyrkatis</i>	<i>Guigui</i>	<i>Furness</i>
–	–	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

clubs, Lyoen showed support, and Crepin checked on key-cards then bid the small slam. A heart lead went to the jack and ace, and Crepin could afford to ruff high, just in case, and could then claim 12 tricks for +920.

Furness opened the South hand then showed a weak NT type over Anoyrkatis's inverted raise. Anoyrkatis set trumps for a slam hunt then settled for the small slam when her partner was unable to cuebid on the way to game. Here the ace of hearts was on lead, and that was all for the defence; +920 and no swing.

Eight pairs made 6♣ and one 6NT. One stopped in 5♣, and there were two 3NT+3s.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norman	Crepin	Bedford	Lyoen
Rouille	Anoyrkatis	Guigui	Furness
1♥	Pass	1NT	Dble
Pass	2♣	All Pass	

Identical auctions saw the two Norths declare 2♣. I don't have the play record from the English contract, but the play must have gone very badly for Anoyrkatis as she was down three for -300. Meanwhile...

Bedford led the ten of hearts and Norman followed with the seven. That convinced Bedford to switch to a diamond, selecting the eight, which Crepin ran to his ten. He led a club to the ace and a second club,

Norman rising with the king to play ace and another heart. She no doubt thought her partner had started with a singleton heart and the failure to continue hearts at trick two did put the defence on the back foot. Bedford ruffed the ♥K and led a diamond. Crepin put in the jack and Norman ruffed, and that was that, declarer's spade loser going away on the fourth diamond. The contract was just made for +90 and 9 IMPs to France.

Two Clubs was played six times, making eight (twice), seven, six (twice), and five. Three N/Ss got sll the way to 3NT and one to 2NT, all unsuccessfully. One No Trump made eight tricks, while the only pair to declare a contract on the E/W cards were down one in 2♥.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norman	Crepin	Bedford	Lyoen
-	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Rouille	Anoyrkatis	Guigui	Furness
-	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	All Pass

A simple uncontested auction was concluded by Lyoen giving preference to

2♥, against which Bedford led the ten of hearts. That didn't look like a great choice at first glance as it meant that declarer would be able to hold himself to one trump loser very easily. However, it worked out just fine for the defence.

Norman gave up on any hopes of a second trump trick by rising with the ace and returning the four of hearts. Crepin won the king, cashed the queen, then led a diamond to the king and ace. Norman returned the seven of clubs to the king and ace, and Bedford switched to the queen of spades. That was covered by king and ace and Norman returned the eight of spades to the jack. Bedford cashed the ♣Q then exited with a spade to the ten. Crepin ruffed and cashed his trumps then diamonds, conceding a diamond at the end for down two and -200.

Furness raised hearts immediately and when that came round to him Guigui made a balancing double. Xavier Roulle responded with a two-places-to-play 2NT, and Guigui, of course, chose diamonds. Three Diamonds was hard work and drifted two down after a heart lead; -100 and 7 IMPs to England.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norman	Crepin	Bedford	Lyon
–	–	1NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Rouille	Anoyrkatis	Guigui	Furness
–	–	1NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	Dble
All Pass			

Both Easts opened 1NT and both Wests transferred to clubs. Bedford contented herself with completing the transfer to show that she liked the suit, and 3♣ ended the auction. Guigui broke discipline by guessing to bid 3NT and Furness, looking at a 17-count including a club stopper, doubled.

South is rather awkwardly placed on lead to 3♣. Lyon cashed the ace of diamonds then saw nothing better than to continue with the king. Next, he cashed the ace of spades then switched to a heart round to the queen. He had a club to come, but that was all; nine tricks for +110.

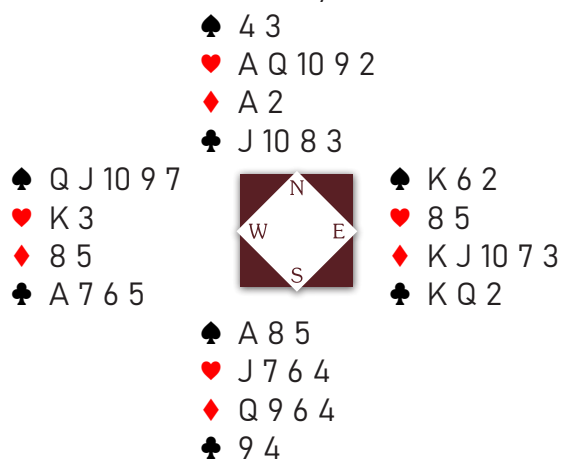
Furness led the ace of diamonds against 3NT and his good spots meant that he could continue the suit to set up the setting trick – three diamonds, one club, and the ace of spades. That was another 200 to England and another 7 IMP swing to them.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norman	Crepin	Bedford	Lyon
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♦	All
Pass			

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



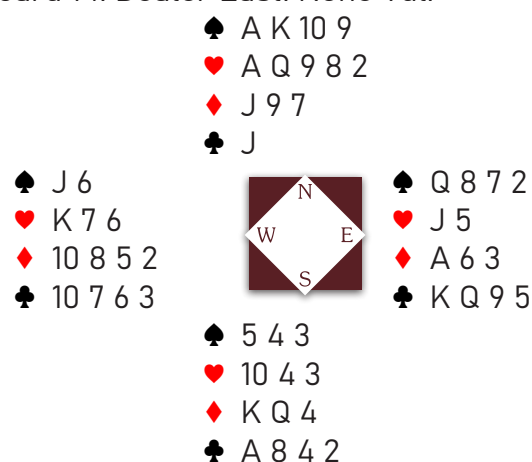
West	North	East	South
<i>Norman</i>	<i>Crepin</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Lyoen</i>
–	1♥	Pass	2♥
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Roule</i>	<i>Anoyrkatis</i>	<i>Guigui</i>	<i>Furness</i>
–	1♥	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

Norman won the ♣J lead with dummy's king and called for the king of spades. It was bad news when the ace proved to be on her right and a heart came through. There were two of those to lose, and back came

There was one more swing of note, and it came on the final board of the match to break what was at that point a 21-21 IMP tie.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
<i>Norman</i>	<i>Crepin</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Lyoen</i>
–	–	1♣	Pass
1♦	1♥	2♦	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Rouille</i>	<i>Anoyrkatis</i>	<i>Guigui</i>	<i>Furness</i>
–	–	1♣	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

At the other table, Norma scraped up a 1♦ response to Bedford's opening. The opposing diamond bidding may have

discouraged Lyeon when it came time to decide whether to accept his partner's game invitation or settle for partscore. Anyway, he settle for 3♥, against which Bedford' lead of the jack of hearts did not, as they say, paralyse declarer. Crepin won the ♥Q, crossed to the ace of clubs and picked up the hearts. He could have made 11 now, but rather obscurely tried the ten of spades from hand and lost two of those plus a diamond, so 10 tricks for +170 and 6 IMPs to France.

Four Hearts was bid and made twice, once on the lead of a club and once on the ♥J. It was defeated four times.

That last swing meant a 27-21 IMP win for France, converting to 11.88-8.12 VPs. After five rounds, France headed the rankings with 73.05 VPs, while England had 52.15 and were lying sixth.



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Open U26 and Women U26 Round 5

by Jos Jacobs

In this report, the focus match will be Israel v. Sweden. In this match, the scoring squad had lots of work to do. This justifies focussing on this match, IMHO, but at the same time I should not forget to look over the fences behind which various other matches are in progress, both in Open and Women U26. Off we go.

Israel v. Sweden

The opening board of the set was very, very flat but the next board was not at all flat. The scores varied from a slam going down, off two aces (surprise, surprise), up to a telephone number (an expression only understandable for boomers) in undertricks. Here is some proof.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hjorth W</i>	<i>Mesika</i>	<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Moskovitz</i>
1♣	2♦*	Pass	3♥
Dble	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

*majors

Change the two East queens into one simple ace and the slam already has some play; Israel +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
1♣	2♦	Pass	2♥
Dble	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the ♠K and followed this with the ♠J, to keep defensive communications intact. Declarer cleverly ducked this in dummy but, when the clubs broke 3-0, the ♣Q could no longer be finessed a second time anyway. Even a double dummy play of the ♦8 to dummy's nine should fail if North is keen enough to insert his ♦10. So declarer had to lose five tricks in the black suits and thus was one down; Sweden +100 and a push.

Over now to the Women: England v. France.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bultel</i>	<i>Zeman</i>	<i>Mauberquez</i>	<i>Bennett</i>
1♣	2♣*	3♣	3♥
5♣	5♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

*majors

The English declarer might consider herself unlucky because it turned out that she could hardly come to her hand to play trumps through West. By consequence, she had to go down no less than five, for an expensive loss of 1100 points. It should be said to her consolation that she was not the only one to reach double figures on this board.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hazel Birdsall</i>	<i>Nugues</i>	<i>Cork</i>	<i>Schlumberger</i>
1♣	2♦*	3♣	4♥
5♣	All Pass		

Mainly the same type of auction here but, when North left the final decision to her partner, South's ensuing pass resulted in a loss of 600 points but a gain of 11 IMPs.

Back to the Open U26 now.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hjorth Warlenius</i>		<i>Mesika</i>	
<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Moskovitz</i>		
–	–	Pass	1♠
3♥	4♣	4♦	Dble
4♥	4♠	5♥	Dble
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

In the Open Room, the Swedes showed us that fit bids don't have any secrets for them. The Israelis, on the other hand, also showed something, even the most important thing of them all: restraint. On the N/S cards only, 5♠ was not cold but with each black suit breaking for no loser, eleven tricks were always there. Israel +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
–	–	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	3♦	Pass
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Dble	Pass
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, the Swedes were given a free run and...duly found out that there were no direct losers except one ace. Intrinsic suit quality was more difficult to assess and exactly this caused the downfall of their ambitious final contract; Israel another +100 and 13 IMPs to them.

On this board, the Swedes were in the good company of two other N/S pairs, who shall remain nameless. The most remarkable auction I spotted was in the Women's Series. M. Braun for Estonia was allowed to open 3♥ in third position and... played there for +140 to add to her team-mates'+650 (13 IMPs).

A few quiet boards and then: (back to Israel-Sweden again)

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hjorth W</i>	<i>Mesika</i>	<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Moskovitz</i>
–	–	–	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Two Clubs was Precision and 3♣ showed diamonds. This explains why West could find the disastrous heart lead into declarer's tenace. The ♥J won, a spade went to the ♠J and ♠A and a heart came back to declarer's king. A diamond to the king in dummy held the trick and when next the ♣10 was

successfully finessed, declarer had his tricks;- Israel +600.

In the Closed Room, we saw a different approach.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
–	–	–	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
All Pass			

North looked once again at his misfit-like collection and called it a day. Well judged but not today. Two overtricks meant Sweden +130 but 10 IMPs to Israel.

The contract of 3NT was bid at all tables in the U26W Series. It was made seven times and thus went down five times. In the Open U26, 3NT was also bid 12 times but out of 22 chances four declarers went down.

When I looked through the results on the board below, my eye fell on a really eccentric coincidence. Shakespeare came to my mind immediately. 'Something is rotten in the state of Latvia.' Why?

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

The popular contract was 3NT all over Riga. There were two notable exceptions, one in

the Women and one in the Open U26. Neither Latvian pair had managed to reach 3NT, one of the locals coming to rest at the early stage of 2♠ only and the other local pair racing all the way to the stars, finally landing in 6♠. Investigations have commenced...

In the meantime, making 3NT is not a piece of cake. Even the unlucky diamond lead by a number of Easts did not produce a free ride for all declarers involved.

This had been the auction in our Israel-Sweden match:.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hjorth W</i>	<i>Mesika</i>	<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Moskovitz</i>
–	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

XYZ for a simple auction and East found the best lead of a heart. North won the ♥A in hand and...next ran the ♠10! When this held, he continued spades to dummy's king and cleared the suit when the ♠K also held. When the defenders did not cash all their heart winners next, Mesika even had an overtrick; Israel +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
–	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

At the other table, it was shown that even the ♦J lead does not guarantee declarer's contract. Bertheau won the ♦A in hand and played a spade to the king. When this held, he cashed three rounds of clubs and tried another spade, the ♠Q losing to West's ♠A.

When West returned the ♥Q while still holding the ♦K as an entry, the roof fell in a bit. One down, meant another 10 IMPs to Israel.

More than half the U26 Open declarers went down in 3NT but only two in the U26W. In either series, diamonds were the most popular lead.

On the next board, in our main match we saw extremely consequent bidding at both tables, though with vastly different results.

South did not hesitate to show his majors over the opponents' 1NT and was rewarded by partner who found a premature sacrifice against a making E/W game. One down, Israel -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
–	–	1NT	Pass
3♣	Dble	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hjorth W</i>	<i>Mesika</i>	<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Moskovitz</i>
–	–	1NT	2♣*
Dble	4♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

To reach the aforementioned making game, however, E/W should do a bit more than just launch the modern day variation of Puppet Stayman. However, the E/W approach paid off when North found a lead-directing double, to keep South away from leading his longest and strongest. As the cards lay, 5♦ is the place to be, but without a heart lead 3NT is easy enough, thanks to the (bare) ♠A onside. This +600 brought Israel 9 more IMPs.

Overall, it was about 50-50 in ether Series for making 3NT or going down in it. The optimum contract of 5♦ was far less often reached: twice in the women's and five times in the open series.

The next board also was spectacular in its results. For me, they were a little puzzling.

*majors



Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hjorth W</i>	<i>Mesika</i>	<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Moskovitz</i>
-	-	-	1♦
2♣	2♦	3♣	4♦
5♣	All Pass		

This went one off, of course, but where are the hearts?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
-	-	-	1♦
2♣	2♦	2♠	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

This also went one off, of course, but where are the hearts? Scoring +50 and +100 amounted to 4 IMPs to Sweden.

In the Open Series, 4♥ was played three times and made just once. In the Women's Series, it was also made just once but from five attempts.

On the last board before lunch, it was sacrificing time again.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

No, sacrificing time does not necessarily mean that you were better off on the board by doing so.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hjorth W</i>	<i>Mesika</i>	<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Moskovitz</i>
3♠	4♥	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

In our main match, Israel v. Sweden, they knew what it was all about. Sweden found the normal enough sacrifice for -300 only to find out afterwards that 4♥ was not quite on.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Wiberg</i>
2♠	3♥	3♠	4♥
All Pass			

Or was it? The Israelis judged well to defend 4♥ rather than go on to 4♠, but after three top clubs East did not play a spade, for some unknown reason...That was +620 and 8 IMPs to Sweden, all of a sudden.

At two tables 4♠ went down three for -500. We do not know how the play went but it seems to me that the third undertrick might have been an over-ruff with the ♠K after cashing all five red winners in exactly the right order. If so, well defended indeed.

Under 26



◆ RANKING AFTER ROUND 7

#	TEAM	VP
1	 ISRAEL	99.03
2	 TURKIYE	94.07
3	 ESTONIA	93.96
4	 NETHERLANDS	88.81
5	 NORWAY	85.33
6	 FRANCE	82.66
7	 CZECH REPUBLIC	80.57
8	 ITALY	79.71
9	 DENMARK	76.11
10	 BULGARIA	75.75
11	 GREECE	73.14
12	 SWEDEN	71.25
13	 GERMANY	69.62
14	 ENGLAND	69.05
15	 POLAND	68.56
16	 LATVIA	68.24
17	 HUNGARY	67.66
18	 AUSTRIA	51.21
19	 BELGIUM	51.16
20	 FINLAND	45.97
21	 CROATIA	44.20
22	 IRELAND	43.60
23	 ROMANIA	39.24



View all results →

Full standings & round-by-round results

Under 26 Women



◆ RANKING AFTER ROUND 6

#	TEAM	VP
1	 POLAND	114.50
2	 DENMARK	101.03
3	 ENGLAND	78.11
4	 NORWAY	60.98
5	 FRANCE	58.61
6	 SWEDEN	56.80
7	 ITALY	55.03
8	 TURKIYE	43.05
9	 ESTONIA	41.56
10	 LATVIA	41.00
11	 ISRAEL	40.31
12	 HUNGARY	29.02



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Full standings & round-by-round results

Under 21



◆ RANKING AFTER ROUND 8

#	TEAM	VP
1	 POLAND	113.05
2	 FRANCE	111.06
3	 ISRAEL	98.41
4	 NORWAY	93.62
5	 SWEDEN	91.37
6	 ENGLAND	85.45
7	 CZECH REPUBLIC	83.99
8	 NETHERLANDS	83.89
9	 DENMARK	81.75
10	 GREECE	68.18
11	 LATVIA	62.39
12	 SCOTLAND	48.89
13	 ESTONIA	32.95



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Under 16



◆ RANKING AFTER ROUND 5

#	TEAM	VP
1	 ISRAEL	74.08
2	 NORWAY	68.66
3	 POLAND	67.96
4	 FRANCE	67.16
5	 ENGLAND	62.44
6	 NETHERLANDS	51.79
7	 SLOVAKIA	50.14
8	 GREECE	47.82
9	 SWEDEN	45.19
10	 GERMANY	43.86
11	 ESTONIA	39.57
12	 TURKIYE	21.48
13	 LATVIA	19.35

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Under 31



◆ RANKING AFTER ROUND 10

#	TEAM	VP
1	 BULGARIA	137.59
2	 FRANCE	130.60
3	 TURKIYE	129.81
4	 DENMARK	124.02
5	 POLAND	115.68
6	 ENGLAND	111.78
7	 NETHERLANDS	110.09
8	 ITALY	104.23
9	 AUSTRIA	95.93
10	 ESTONIA	93.67
11	 GERMANY	91.12
12	 LATVIA	87.05
13	 CROATIA	78.64
14	 SCOTLAND	59.41
15	 SPAIN	44.38



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Venue

2026 edition will be played in [Hotel Olympik Congress](#), U Sluncové 14, 186 00 Praha 8. All tournaments, including accommodation and breakfast will be organized in the Olympik Congress area, higher quality rooms can be ordered in Hotel Artemis which is situated next door and has a direct entrance to the playing area as well.

Accommodation and entry fees

We will arrange accommodation, including breakfast, at the Olympik hotels. You pay a single price for the full package, which includes the entry fee. Entry fees for players organizing their own accommodation will be collected separately (50 EUR).

135 €

per player in double/triple room

Tournament package include

- **3 nights in double**/triple Olympic Congress hotel, including city tax (no additional cost)
- **Breakfast** on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday
- **Participation in all tournaments**

Tap water is high quality in Prague, probably even better than bottled water in the shop. We recommend you to take bottles with you and refill in your room or rest rooms. Supermarket is 3 min walk.

What is not included

- **Lunch & dinner** – individual arrangements in the nearby shops and restaurants (1-10 min walk). The price per meal at the restaurant is typically between 7 and **15 EUR**.
- A single room has an extra cost – **210 EUR total**.
- Higher-quality rooms in Hotel Artemis for an extra charge – **+5 EUR** per night.
- Extra night before or after the event – **+40 EUR per night** in a double/triple room, +60 EUR per night in a single room.
- Drinks and refreshments in the hotel bar

Special price for coaches and captains

- **3-night accommodation, including breakfast**
- Single room = 180 EUR
- Double room = 105 EUR