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IT'S A MARATHON



Play begin on Sunday in the round-robin qualifying phase.

The round-robin qualifying sessions began on Sunday as teams in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and the Seniors Bowl embarked on their 21-match odysseys, all in search of a finish in the top eight. Those teams will find themselves in the quarter-final round, when head-to-head matches begin.

The early standings are not necessarily useful in predicting who will make it to the knockout stages, but the leaders can enjoy the view from the top even if it's only temporary.

In the Bermuda Bowl, England held a slim lead after three rounds, their 58 Victory Points just two ahead of Italy, followed closely by Argentina. The Englishmen played two close matches against Guadeloupe and Brazil but clobbered Russia to assume first place.

Two American teams were in qualifying spots — USA2 in fourth place and defending champs USA1 in eighth but less than half a match out of first.

China led the Venice Cup round-robin, 8 VPs clear of second-place France. USA1 followed just 3 VPs behind, with another North American squad, Canada, close as well. China were impressive in dispatching Venezuela, the Netherlands and India in their first three matches.

In the Seniors Bowl, the round-robin this time will not be

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 4 – 10.00

China v Canada

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 5 – 14.00

Egypt v Russia

Bermuda Bowl – ROUND 6 – 17.30

USA 2 v USA 1

Contents

Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup Program	2
Seniors Bowl Program	3
Bermuda Bowl Results	4
Venice Cup Results	5
Seniors Bowl Results	6
Seniors Bowl, Round 1 — Australia — USA 1	7
Bermuda Bowl, Round 1 — Argentina — USA 1	10
Bermuda Bowl, Round 2 — Portugal — Chinese Taipei ..	13
Sports News	16

the end of play, as has been the case in the past.

The Netherlands took the lead among the Seniors teams, handling Brazil, New Zealand and Denmark for a VP total of 64, seven ahead of USA1, which includes four members of the team that won the Bermuda Bowl in 2001 — Rose Meltzer, Alan Sontag, Lew Stansby and Peter Weichsel.

Italy, featuring two members of the legendary Italian Blue Team — Pietro Forquet and Benito Garozzo — were in third place.





TODAY'S PROGRAM



Bermuda Bowl

ROUND 4 10.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL
2	ENGLAND	NETHERLANDS
3	JORDAN	INDIA
4	RUSSIA	SOUTH AFRICA
5	BRAZIL	POLAND
6	GUADELOUPE	EGYPT
7	ARGENTINA	ITALY
8	CHINESE TAIPEI	AUSTRALIA
9	NEW ZEALAND	U.S.A.1
10	JAPAN	U.S.A.2
11	CHINA	CANADA

Venice Cup

ROUND 4 10.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	BRAZIL	NEW ZEALAND
13	AUSTRIA	PORTUGAL
14	GERMANY	U.S.A.2
15	ARGENTINA	ENGLAND
16	NETHERLANDS	MOROCCO
17	INDIA	SWEDEN
18	VENEZUELA	JAPAN
19	CHINA	EGYPT
20	SINGAPORE	FRANCE
21	PAKISTAN	AUSTRALIA
22	U.S.A.1	CANADA

ROUND 5 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	NETHERLANDS	JORDAN
2	EGYPT	RUSSIA
3	SOUTH AFRICA	BRAZIL
4	POLAND	GUADELOUPE
5	ITALY	AUSTRALIA
6	ARGENTINA	CHINESE TAIPEI
7	U.S.A.1	CHINA
8	NEW ZEALAND	JAPAN
9	U.S.A.2	CANADA
10	INDIA	SWEDEN
11	PORTUGAL	ENGLAND

ROUND 5 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	PORTUGAL	GERMANY
13	U.S.A.2	ARGENTINA
14	JAPAN	NETHERLANDS
15	MOROCCO	INDIA
16	SWEDEN	VENEZUELA
17	AUSTRALIA	CHINA
18	EGYPT	SINGAPORE
19	FRANCE	PAKISTAN
20	NEW ZEALAND	U.S.A.1
21	CANADA	BRAZIL
22	ENGLAND	AUSTRIA

ROUND 6 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	ENGLAND	INDIA
2	JORDAN	PORTUGAL
3	RUSSIA	POLAND
4	BRAZIL	EGYPT
5	GUADELOUPE	SOUTH AFRICA
6	CHINESE TAIPEI	ITALY
7	AUSTRALIA	ARGENTINA
8	U.S.A.2	U.S.A.1
9	JAPAN	CHINA
10	CANADA	NEW ZEALAND
11	SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS

ROUND 6 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
12	ARGENTINA	PORTUGAL
13	NETHERLANDS	SWEDEN
14	INDIA	JAPAN
15	VENEZUELA	MOROCCO
16	CHINA	FRANCE
17	SINGAPORE	AUSTRALIA
18	PAKISTAN	EGYPT
19	U.S.A.1	BRAZIL
20	NEW ZEALAND	CANADA
21	AUSTRIA	U.S.A.2
22	GERMANY	ENGLAND



TODAY'S PROGRAM

Seniors Bowl

ROUND 4 10.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	CANADA	PAKISTAN
24	INDONESIA	BANGLADESH
25	POLAND	EGYPT
26	MOROCCO	JAPAN
27	NETHERLANDS	GUADELOUPE
28	ITALY	FRANCE
29	ISRAEL	GERMANY
30	U.S.A. 2	NEW ZEALAND
31	PORTUGAL	DENMARK
32	AUSTRALIA	BRAZIL
33	U.S.A. 1	SWEDEN

ROUND 5 14.00

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	BANGLADESH	POLAND
24	EGYPT	MOROCCO
25	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS
26	GUADELOUPE	ITALY
27	FRANCE	ISRAEL
28	BRAZIL	U.S.A. 2
29	NEW ZEALAND	PORTUGAL
30	DENMARK	AUSTRALIA
31	PAKISTAN	U.S.A. 1
32	SWEDEN	CANADA
33	JAPAN	INDONESIA

ROUND 6 17.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
23	MOROCCO	BANGLADESH
24	NETHERLANDS	FRANCE
25	ITALY	GERMANY
26	ISRAEL	GUADELOUPE
27	U.S.A. 2	DENMARK
28	PORTUGAL	BRAZIL
29	AUSTRALIA	NEW ZEALAND
30	U.S.A. 1	CANADA
31	PAKISTAN	SWEDEN
32	INDONESIA	EGYPT
33	POLAND	JAPAN

Preliminary Bout

By Ron Klinger

Try this problem:

Dealer North. None Vul.

West	North	East	South
	1♥(i)	2♥	2♠(ii)
4♥	5♣(iii)	5♥	5♠
Dble	All Pass		

- (i) 4+ spades, 10-17 points, unbalanced hand
 - (ii) 6-9 points, spade support
 - (iii) Second suit, could be canapé
- What would you lead as West from:

♠ Q J
♥ A 10 8 4
♦ Q 10 6
♣ A 9 8 3

The deal arose in a pre-tournament practice match between the Seniors teams from Denmark and Australia, won comfortably by Denmark. The full deal:

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

Jens Auken found one of the leads to defeat 5♠, a diamond. Note ♣A and a club ruff is not good enough; but a low club in East ruffing and switching to a diamond. Denmark +100.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
	1♣	4♥	All Pass

Spades were not led and so Zoli Nagy scored 11 tricks for +450.

Swan Games Internet broadcast



Seniors Bowl	USA 1 v. Sweden	10.00
Bermuda Bowl	USA 1 v. China	14.00
Seniors Bowl	USA 2 v. Denmark	17.30

RESULTS**Bermuda Bowl****ROUND 1**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	JAPAN	CANADA	73	34	23	7
2	RUSSIA	JORDAN	61	34	21	9
3	BRAZIL	SWEDEN	44	37	16	14
4	GUADELOUPE	ENGLAND	25	39	12	18
5	POLAND	NEW ZEALAND	21	33	12.5	16.5
6	EGYPT	USA 2	37	55	11	19
7	SOUTH AFRICA	CHINA	37	46	13	17
8	ITALY	PORTUGAL	54	25	21	9
9	CHINESE TAIPEI	NETHERLANDS	57	24	22	8
10	AUSTRALIA	INDIA	35	34	15	15
11	USA 1	ARGENTINA	57	38	19	11

ROUND 2

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	JORDAN	BRAZIL	25	49	10	20
2	SWEDEN	GUADELOUPE	69	43	20	10
3	CHINA	POLAND	32	50	11	19
4	NEW ZEALAND	EGYPT	31	42	13	17
5	USA 2	SOUTH AFRICA	35	50	12	18
6	INDIA	ITALY	41	34	16	14
7	PORTUGAL	CHINESE TAIPEI	55	66	13	17
8	NETHERLANDS	AUSTRALIA	24	26	15	15
9	CANADA	USA 1	38	24	18	12
10	ARGENTINA	JAPAN	51	35	18	12
11	ENGLAND	RUSSIA	71	14	25	4

ROUND 3

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs		VPs	
1	GUADELOUPE	JORDAN	58	39	19	11
2	POLAND	USA 2	24	58	8	22
3	EGYPT	CHINA	39	24	18	12
4	SOUTH AFRICA	NEW ZEALAND	35	27	16	14
5	ITALY	NETHERLANDS	36	9	21	9
6	CHINESE TAIPEI	INDIA	30	46	12	18
7	AUSTRALIA	PORTUGAL	59	24	22	8
8	USA 1	JAPAN	48	27	19	11
9	CANADA	ARGENTINA	14	64	5	25
10	RUSSIA	SWEDEN	40	30	17	13
11	BRAZIL	ENGLAND	14	12	15	15

Ranking after 3 rounds

1	ENGLAND	58
2	ITALY	56
3	ARGENTINA	54
4	USA 2	53
5	AUSTRALIA	52
6	BRAZIL	51
	CHINESE TAIPEI	51
8	USA 1	50
9	INDIA	49
10	SWEDEN	47
	SOUTH AFRICA	47
12	JAPAN	46
	EGYPT	46
14	NEW ZEALAND	44.5
15	RUSSIA	42
16	GUADELOUPE	41
17	CHINA	40
18	POLAND	38.5
19	NETHERLANDS	32
20	CANADA	30
	JORDAN	30
	PORTUGAL	30

**Symmetrical
Playing Cards**

The WBF will be selling symmetrical cards. They will be available at the Hospitality Desk from Monday, 24th October. Minimum quantity will be 10 decks at €1 per deck.

**Arrangement for
Prayers**

All our Muslim bridge players are informed that, in order to facilitate them in offering their prayers (Namaz/Salaat) on time during this holy month of Ramadan, special arrangements for a Prayer room, located at Sala VIP on the ground floor, have been made by the organizers.



RESULTS

Venice Cup

ROUND 1

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 MOROCCO	JAPAN	37 40	14 16
13 USA 1	PORTUGAL	59 25	23 7
14 BRAZIL	USA 2	24 48	9 21
15 NEW ZEALAND	ENGLAND	40 49	13 17
16 EGYPT	AUSTRIA	5 65	2 25
17 FRANCE	GERMANY	54 18	23 7
18 AUSTRALIA	ARGENTINA	43 36	16 14
19 PAKISTAN	NETHERLANDS	14 34	10 20
20 INDIA	CHINA	45 62	11 19
21 SINGAPORE	VENEZUELA	50 17	23 7
22 SWEDEN	CANADA	26 56	8 22

ROUND 2

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 PORTUGAL	BRAZIL	41 10	22 8
13 USA 2	NEW ZEALAND	45 19	21 9
14 AUSTRIA	AUSTRALIA	26 41	12 18
15 GERMANY	EGYPT	74 17	25 3
16 ARGENTINA	FRANCE	33 30	16 14
17 NETHERLANDS	SINGAPORE	36 16	20 10
18 PAKISTAN	INDIA	27 28	15 15
19 CHINA	VENEZUELA	72 18	25 3
20 SWEDEN	MOROCCO	28 26	15 15
21 CANADA	JAPAN	23 31	13 17
22 ENGLAND	USA 1	36 33	16 14

ROUND 3

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
12 FRANCE	AUSTRIA	51 12	24 6
13 AUSTRALIA	GERMANY	4 38	7 23
14 EGYPT	ARGENTINA	21 22	15 15
15 NETHERLANDS	CHINA	8 54	5 25
16 INDIA	SINGAPORE	36 30	16 14
17 VENEZUELA	PAKISTAN	8 20	12 18
18 JAPAN	SWEDEN	15 21	14 16
19 CANADA	MOROCCO	37 11	21 9
20 USA 1	USA 2	31 4	21 9
21 BRAZIL	ENGLAND	9 24	12 18
22 NEW ZEALAND	PORTUGAL	35 22	18 12

Ranking after 3 rounds

1 CHINA	69
2 FRANCE	61
3 USA 1	58
4 CANADA	56
5 GERMANY	55
6 ENGLAND	51
USA 2	51
8 SINGAPORE	47
JAPAN	47
10 ARGENTINA	45
NETHERLANDS	45
12 AUSTRIA	43
PAKISTAN	43
14 INDIA	42
15 PORTUGAL	41
AUSTRALIA	41
17 NEW ZEALAND	40
18 SWEDEN	39
19 MOROCCO	38
20 BRAZIL	29
21 VENEZUELA	22
22 EGYPT	20

CHAMPIONSHIP
DIARY

By the time Lew Stansby started playing for the USA, one of his heroes, Pietro Forquet (who made his first appearance in the Bermuda Bowl in 1951), had retired from international play. However, here in Estoril, Lew is hoping they will meet at the table when Italy face USA 1 in the Seniors Bowl.

Tacchi was pondering the eternal problem of what picture to put on today's front cover. We suggested the vugraph, but he pointed out it was too early — 'That's the ace up my sleeve!'

Alan Mould, captain of the English Women's team, is a frequent visitor to the Bulletin Room — he prints out defensive notes for his team — but on Saturday the printer mysteriously managed to change all the suit symbols. When he handed them out prior to the start of the team's first match they pointed out that they were all gobbledegook.

Our question: how could they possibly tell the difference?



RESULTS

Seniors Bowl

ROUND 1

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	CANADA	USA 2	14 33	11 19
24	PORTUGAL	PAKISTAN	21 73	4 25
25	ISRAEL	DENMARK	18 53	7 23
26	NETHERLANDS	BRAZIL	52 13	24 6
27	ITALY	NEW ZEALAND	21 35	12 18
28	MOROCCO	FRANCE	27 32	14 16
29	GERMANY	INDONESIA	14 34	10 20
30	POLAND	GUADELOUPE	79 8	25 1
31	EGYPT	SWEDEN	14 47	7 23
32	JAPAN	BANGLADESH	45 27	19 11
33	AUSTRALIA	USA 1	24 32	13 17

ROUND 2

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	BANGLADESH	EGYPT	39 38	15 15
24	SWEDEN	JAPAN	25 45	10 20
25	USA 1	PORTUGAL	21 18	16 14
26	CANADA	AUSTRALIA	52 31	20 10
27	USA 2	PAKISTAN	42 19	20 10
28	DENMARK	ITALY	33 36	14 16
29	BRAZIL	ISRAEL	16 58	5 25
30	NEW ZEALAND	NETHERLANDS	23 42	11 19
31	FRANCE	POLAND	44 14	22 8
32	MOROCCO	GERMANY	34 35	15 15
33	GUADELOUPE	INDONESIA	31 28	16 14

ROUND 3

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
23	PORTUGAL	CANADA	28 10	19 11
24	NETHERLANDS	DENMARK	36 12	21 9
25	ITALY	BRAZIL	50 5	25 5
26	ISRAEL	NEW ZEALAND	26 28	15 15
27	INDONESIA	FRANCE	30 12	19 11
28	POLAND	GERMANY	22 16	16 14
29	GUADELOUPE	MOROCCO	15 13	15 15
30	EGYPT	JAPAN	36 24	18 12
31	BANGLADESH	SWEDEN	28 26	15 15
32	USA 2	USA 1	6 46	6 24
33	PAKISTAN	AUSTRALIA	24 12	18 12



Ranking after 3 rounds

1	NETHERLANDS	64
2	USA 1	57
3	ITALY	53
	INDONESIA	53
	PAKISTAN	53
6	JAPAN	51
7	POLAND	49
	FRANCE	49
9	SWEDEN	48
10	ISRAEL	47
11	DENMARK	46
12	USA 2	45
13	NEW ZEALAND	44
	MOROCCO	44
15	CANADA	42
16	BANGLADESH	41
17	EGYPT	40
18	GERMANY	39
19	PORTUGAL	37
20	AUSTRALIA	35
21	GUADELOUPE	32
22	BRAZIL	16

No need to go hungry

Playing bridge can make you hungry. Luckily, there are several options at the Centro de Congressos. There is a cafeteria with hot food on the ground floor of the facility, and there are snack bars on the first floor with sandwiches, snacks, soft drinks and cakes.

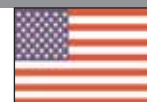
Shopping

There are several stalls on the ground floor selling, amongst other things, bridge books, wine and objets d'art. Well worth a visit. When you come into the building through the main entrance, turn right and keep walking; not going up the slope to the first floor.

ROUND 1

Seniors Bowl

Australia v USA I



USA I were the Seniors champions in Monte Carlo two years ago but only two of the team, Roger Bates and Garey Hayden, are here defending their title in Estoril. Round One saw the holders face an experienced team representing Australia.

win with the ♠K, draw trumps and take a spade pitch on the ace of clubs before knocking out the top hearts; +130.

Bruce Neill's 1♣ showed either a balanced 11-14, or a one-suited hand with six or more clubs (10-17) or a major (14-17). Lew Stansby made a simple overcall, then showed his hearts in response to Roger Bates' unassuming cuebid. The defence has to be spot on to defeat 4♥. Ron Klinger led a spade to the ace and Neill returned a spade. Stansby rose with the king, crossed to a diamond and pitched his spade loser on the ace of clubs, then played a heart to the nine and king. Klinger smoothly switched to the ♠6 and Neill equally smoothly ruffed with the ♥A and gave his partner a diamond ruff for down one; -100 and 6 IMPs to Australia.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sontag	Haughie	Weichsel	Nagy
		1♦	3♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Sontag	Haughie	Weichsel	Nagy
		1♣	1♦
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Peter Weichsel's 1♦ opening was precision, not promising real diamonds, and Zoltan Nagy's methods permitted him to make a weak jump overcall in that suit, buying the contract. After a spade lead to the ace and spade return, Nagy could

West	North	East	South
Klinger	Bates	Neill	Stansby
		3♦	1♠
2NT	Pass		3♠
4♦	All Pass		



Peter Weichsel, USA

How would you handle the West cards after a 1♠ opening on your right? Apart from the two actions chosen in this match, a take-out double is plausible, as is a 2♦ overcall followed by a double or, I suppose, 2NT followed by a double to show the extra values. In our match, Alan Sontag's choice of overcalling 2♦ then showing the clubs worked out better than Klinger's 2NT followed by a diamond raise in competition.

It is only the five-zero spade break that prevents N/S from making 4♠, so Nagy would have been quite happy with his +140 in 3♠. However, that meant 4 IMPs lost by Australia as 4♦ was not a comfortable spot. Stansby led a top spade, ruffed, and Neill led a low club off the dummy, round to Stansby's nine. He switched to a trump and Neill won, took a club ruff, ruffed a second spade, then cashed his top tricks; three

down for -300.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 7 5 3 ♥ J 7 2 ♦ K J 9 2 ♣ K 8 5	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A 8 4 2 ♥ A K 4 ♦ A 8 5 ♣ Q 3 2	♠ Q J 9 ♥ Q 10 9 6 5 3 ♦ 7 ♣ 10 6 4
N						
W E						
S						

West	North	East	South
<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Haughie</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Nagy</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Bates</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Stansby</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

While Nagy took the simple approach of raising Bill Haughie's INT opening directly to game, Stansby could show game values with 3-1-5-4 or 3-1-4-5 shape and chose to do so in case there was a trump fit and partner had weak hearts. With no five-card minor, Bates judged to trust in his double heart stopper and tried 3NT.

With no reason to believe that declarer would hold particularly strong hearts, Weichsel made his natural lead of the ♥9, zero or two higher, and that held the trick. Haughie won the next heart and played ace and another diamond, getting the bad news. Sontag won and cleared the hearts, and Haughie tried the club finesse. In the fullness of time, the defence had to come to five winners now; down one for -100.

At the other table, Neill had good reason to picture declarer with strong hearts and decided to try the effect of the lead of the queen of spades. The effect was to present declarer with his ninth trick. Bates won the ace and played ace and another diamond to the queen and king. Klinger switched to a heart to the king, and Bates played a spade to the jack and



king, Neill trying to conceal the fact that there were four spade tricks to be had. Then came the ♣J off the table. Klinger ducked that but won the low club continuation and played a second heart. Bates won, cashed the ♣Q and crossed to the ♠10 to cash the ♣A; +600 and 12 IMPs to USA1.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A Q 7 5 3 ♥ A ♦ Q 7 ♣ K Q 8 4 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 8 6 2 ♥ J 8 7 4 2 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ J 7	♠ J 10 9 4 ♥ Q 6 ♦ K J 9 5 ♣ 10 9 6
N						
W E						
S						

West	North	East	South
<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Haughie</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Nagy</i>
2♠	All Pass		2♦

West	North	East	South
<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Bates</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Stansby</i>
1♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		Pass

Nagy's multi 2♦ opening saw Sontag make a slightly heavy overcall, not liking the texture of his suits for a two-suited bid, and there the matter rested. When declarer got the clubs right he had eleven tricks for +200.

Klinger did not have to contend with an opposing opening bid. He was able to open 1♥, showing an unbalanced hand with at least four spades, frequently canapé. The 2♠ response showed 6-10 with four or more spades (no shortage if maximum), and Klinger had an easy raise to game. Stansby led a heart, so Neill won and played dummy's low diamond. Bates won with the ace and returned the suit, Neill rising with the king to get the entry to hand he wanted to take a trump finesse. That, of course, proved not to be necessary. Neill drew trumps and ran the ten of clubs so made only ten tricks; +620 and +9 IMPs to Australia.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ A Q 10 7 ♥ 10 5 ♦ J 8 6 4 ♣ Q J 5	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ J 9 5 2 ♥ 9 7 2 ♦ K 10 9 5 3 ♣ A	♠ K 8 4 3 ♥ K Q 8 3 ♦ Q ♣ K 10 8 2
N						
W E						
S						

♠ 6
 ♥ A J 6 4

♦ A 7 2
♣ 9 7 6 4 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Haughie</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Nagy</i>
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Bates</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Stansby</i>
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Weichsel opened 1♦, Precision, then raised the 1♠ response to 2♠. Sontag made a game—try and Weichsel showed his heart values. That did not excite Sontag, who was minimum for his previous bidding, so the Americans stopped in a partscore. Haughie led the ten of diamonds to the queen and ace, and Nagy returned the ♦7 to eight, nine and ruff. A club to the queen lost to the bare ace and back came a low diamond, which Sontag ran to his jack. He cashed two top spades, played a heart to the king and ace, won the club return as Haughie declined to ruff, and ruffed his last diamond; nine tricks for +140.

Neill's 1♦ opening showed an unbalanced hand with four or more hearts and 1♥ was 10+ artificial. 1NT showed at least four spades and 3♠ was natural and invitational. Against 4♠, Bates cashed the ace of clubs and switched to a heart for the king and ace. Stansby cashed the ace of diamonds then gave his partner a club ruff. Back came a heart to the queen. Klinger still had a lot of diamonds to get rid of and, twist and turn as he might, could not avoid another loser; down two for -200 and 8 IMPs to USA1.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ Q J 8 4 3
♥ A
♦ A
♣ A Q J 10 7 6

♠ 7
♥ 5 3
♦ K Q 10 8 7 6 3 2
♣ 3 2

♠ 6 5
♥ K J 8 2
♦ J 9 4
♣ 9 8 5 4

♠ A K 10 9 2
♥ Q 10 9 7 6 4
♦ 5
♣ K

West	North	East	South
<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Haughie</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Nagy</i>
			1♥
4♦	Dble	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Bates</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Stansby</i>
			All Pass

4♦ Pass 4NT 6♠ Pass All Pass 1♠ 5♦

Neither N/S pair managed to bid the cold grand slam. Nagy opened one of his longer suit and Haughie made a negative double of the pre-emptive overcall. Upon hearing of the spade fit, he continued by asking for key cards then, when Nagy showed both top spades, made a grand slam try with 5NT. The one-king response did not solve his problem. All those who show specific kings here will be feeling smug, no doubt; +1010.

Stansby started well by opening 1♠, simplifying the auction as Bates could bid 4NT immediately. Alas, he thought the response was to RKCB, meaning that a top spade was missing, while Stansby was confident that they had agreed to play simple Blackwood in this situation; +1010 and a push.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 6 4 3
♥ 9 8 4 3 2
♦ J 6 5
♣ K 6

♠ A 9 7 2
♥ K J 10
♦ A 8 7 2
♣ 10 9

♠ K Q J 5
♥ A Q 7
♦ 10 4
♣ 7 5 4 2

♠ 10 8
♥ 6 5
♦ K Q 9 3
♣ A Q J 8 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Sontag</i>	<i>Haughie</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Nagy</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Bates</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Stansby</i>
1♣	Pass	1NT	All Pass

After a diamond lead and continuation, Weichsel made an easy ten tricks for +420.

Klinger's 1♣ opening was multi-meaning as before and the 1NT response showed 11-12 balanced, including any 5-3-3-2. Stansby led the ♣Q then continued clubs from the top to claim the first five tricks; +120 but 7 IMPs to USA1.



ROUND 1

Bermuda Bowl



Argentina v USA I



In Their Defence

As the defending champions in the Bermuda Bowl, the USA I team captained by Nick Nickell wanted to get off to a good start in the marathon that is the round-robin — 21 matches of 20 boards against each of the other teams in the event.

The Americans started with Argentina on vugraph. Rising star, Agustin Madala and Pablo Lambardi faced Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell.

It was a shootout, with nearly 100 IMPs changing hands before the match was concluded.

The South Americans scored first on the second board.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 8 7 4 ♥ Q 10 8 4 ♦ K Q 9 ♣ A Q 5	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A 10 ♥ A 6 5 ♦ 5 3 2 ♣ K J 10 8 6	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ Q 6 5 3 2 ♥ K 7 ♦ 7 ♣ 9 7 4 3 2		♠ K J 9 ♥ J 9 3 2 ♦ A J 10 8 6 4 ♣ —										

West <i>Freeman</i>	North <i>Mooney</i>	East <i>Nickell</i>	South <i>Monsegur</i>
1♠	Dble	1♣	1♦
3♣	4♥	Pass	2♥
5♣	Dble	All Pass	Pass

In the Closed Room, Dick Freeman's save against the vulnerable heart game was normal enough, and Nick Nickell played trumps for one loser to finish one down for -100. The problem was that 4♥ is not a make with proper defense.

West <i>Madala</i>	North <i>Meckstroth</i>	East <i>Lambardi</i>	South <i>Rodwell</i>
1♠	2♣	1♣	1♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	2♥
		All Pass	

Madala could have assured defeat of the contract by leading his singleton diamond — he can put partner in with the ♠A after winning the ♥K to get his diamond ruff. Madala, however, started with a low spade, taking that entry out of partner's hand.

Lambardi won with the ♠A and returned the suit, taken by Rodwell with the king. He needed to discard his ♠J on the ♣A, and the only way to get there was by playing a diamond. After returning to hand with club ruff, Rodwell played a low heart from hand. Madala rose with the ♥K and led a low spade. Lambardi ruffed with the trump ace and returned a diamond for one down. That was 5 IMPs to Argentina.

They scored again on the next deal.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ — ♥ A 6 5 ♦ A K Q 9 2 ♣ Q 8 7 6 2	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 7 6 ♥ Q J 3 ♦ J 10 6 4 ♣ K 10 5 4	♠ 10 9 8 5 4 ♥ 10 9 8 4 2 ♦ 8 7 ♣ 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		♠ A K Q J 3 2 ♥ K 7 ♦ 5 3 ♣ A J 9										

West <i>Madala</i>	North <i>Meckstroth</i>	East <i>Lambardi</i>	South <i>Rodwell</i>
INT	Dble	Pass	1♣
2♦	Dble	All Pass	Pass

The 1♣ bid was strong and artificial, and INT showed the minors. Lambardi's pass obviously indicated no preference, so Madala chose the stronger of his suits.

Meckstroth started the attack with a spade, and Madala could not be prevented from taking seven tricks — two spade ruffs in hand, a club ruff in dummy, three top trumps and the ♥A. That was minus 200.

West <i>Freeman</i>	North <i>Mooney</i>	East <i>Nickell</i>	South <i>Monsegur</i>
2NT	3NT	All Pass	1♣

Martin Monsegur and Guillermo Mooney also employ a strong 1♣ system, so Freeman was bidding very aggressively by intervening with 2NT. Mooney, with stoppers in both minors, bid what he thought he could make. Indeed, 3NT cannot be defeated. On a diamond lead, West can set up his suit (hoping to get in with the ♥A to cash the setting trick) but, when declarer cashes four spade tricks, the West hand is squeezed. If he ever discards the winning diamond, declarer can simply knock out the ♥A. If West hangs onto the ace and the diamond, he must come down to three clubs, allowing



North to score four club tricks for the game. Plus 400 was another 5 IMPs for Argentina.

Argentina was leading 13-0 when Board 6 came along. When it was over, the Americans had closed to within 1 MP.

When the same strain is played East/West at one table and North/South at the other, it's safe to say one of them was wrong. It was Argentina on the following:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>
		Pass	Pass
INT	Dble	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Meckstroth's double showed a hand with one minor or both majors. Rather than wait to discover which it was, Lambardi transferred to spades and invited game. The bad trump split doomed the contract, and Madala finished one down.

There was an apparent accident at the other table.

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Mooney</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Monsegur</i>
		Pass	Pass
INT	2♦	Dble	2♥
Dble	2♠	Dble	All Pass

Mooney's bid of 2♠ seems strange given his partner's clear preference for hearts. This forlorn contract finished three down for -500; - 12 IMPs to USAI.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Mooney</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Monsegur</i>
		Pass	Pass
INT	2♦	Dble	2♥
Dble	2♠	Dble	All Pass

USAI picked up 10 IMPs when the bidding made the defense clearer.

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	2♦	2♠	3♣
3♦	Pass	4♠	All Pass

After Rodwell raised diamonds with a cuebid, Meckstroth had an easier time leading his suit. Rodwell won with the ace and returned the suit. Madala ruffed in dummy and played a spade to the ace, followed by a low heart to dummy's king. Rodwell won with the ace and tapped dummy again with a diamond return, Madala playing the jack. He got off dummy with a club to the queen, and then was forced to ruff a diamond with the ♠K. He cashed the ♥K and ruffed a heart, but the ♠Q was his last trick. That was three down for -300.

At the other table, Nickell and Freeman did better in the auction, and much better in the play.

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Mooney</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Monsegur</i>
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

After Freeman's diamond bid, Mooney was less inclined to start with his long suit, so he tried a heart. Monsegur took the ♥K with the ace and returned a club. Mooney won and exited with a heart. It was easy sailing from there and Freeman scored up +140.

The Argentines picked up 11 IMPs when Meckstroth and Rodwell stopped in 6♠ where 13 tricks were trivial in any of three denominations (they bid 7♠ at the other table), but USAI got some of it back when Nickell and Freeman bid a non-vulnerable game missed in the other room.

Another small swing went Argentina's way in unexpected fashion.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Meckstroth led the ♦10, and Rodwell won with the ace, reand turned the six, reverse suit-preference for clubs. Madala won with the ♦K and played a low heart from hand. Dummy's ♥J won the trick, and declarer discarded a low club on the ♦Q. Meckstroth ruffed and erred by not cashing his ♥A before playing a club. Madala ruffed the second club and played a heart to Meckstroth's bare ace, leaving him the choice of providing a ruff-sluff (declarer ruffs in dummy and pitches a spade from hand, and two more spades go on dummy's good diamonds) or breaking the spade suit. Madala guessed well on the spade return to finish with +140.

The contract was the same at the other table, and play went along similar lines, but when Mooney as North took his diamond ruff, he cashed the ♥A before getting out with a club, leaving Freeman with an unavoidable spade loser for one down.

Both sides bid aggressively on the following deal, but it did not work out well for Argentina.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ Q 9 7 3 ♥ K Q 4 ♦ Q 7 ♣ K Q 6 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ 6 5 4 ♥ 9 ♦ A 8 2 ♣ A 10 9 7 3 2	♠ A J ♥ J 10 5 2 ♦ K J 10 9 5 4 ♣ J ♠ K 10 8 2 ♥ A 8 7 6 3 ♦ 6 3 ♣ 8 5
N		E							
W		S							

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	1♦	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

Lambardi started with the ♥9. Meckstroth won with dummy's ace and played a diamond to his jack. Lambardi won with the ace and played a spade to the eight, nine and ace. Meckstroth played the ♠J to the king and continued with a diamond. When the queen appeared, Meckstroth claimed nine tricks for +110.

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Mooney</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Monsegur</i>
		Pass	2♦
Dble	4♥	All Pass	

Monsegur's 2♦ showed a hand of less than opening value with both majors. Mooney's jump to 4♥ did not work out well, although he did escape a double.

Nickell started with the ♣A, continuing the suit. Mooney ruffed, played a heart to the ace and misguessed diamonds by playing low to his king. Nickell won and led a spade to Mooney's jack, and when declarer played a heart from hand, Freeman could cash his two heart winners and exit with a spade to declarer's bare ace. Mooney then had to play a dia-

mond from hand. Freeman won with the queen and stuck declarer in dummy by playing a club. Mooney still had to lose a spade for three down. That was 6 IMPs to USAI.

Near the end of the match, with Argentina leading 37-35, Meckstroth and Rodwell bid well to a superior contract. All Rodwell had to do was make it.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 9 8 2 ♥ K Q 8 ♦ A Q 6 ♣ A 8 7 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ 10 7 4 ♥ 10 4 3 2 ♦ 5 ♣ K 10 6 5 3	♠ A K J 6 5 3 ♥ A ♦ K J 9 7 4 ♣ 9 ♠ Q ♥ J 9 7 6 5 ♦ 10 8 3 2 ♣ Q J 2
N		E							
W		S							

In the Closed Room, Mooney and Monsegur stopped in 3♦ on the North-South cards, making five. Meckstroth and Rodwell did better in the bidding.

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Lambardi</i>	<i>Rodwell</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

* 6-7 points, fewer than three spades

Rodwell, by virtue of his artificial 1♦ bid, became declarer in the best game contract — 3NT had no play, and 4♠ was doomed on the lead of the singleton diamond by East. Against 5♦, Madala started with the ♥K. Rodwell won, played a spade to his queen and continued with the ♦10. Madala rose with the ace, cashed the ♣A and got out with a spade. Rodwell played low from dummy, ruffed in hand and continued with another diamond. Madala followed low, and Rodwell spent a long time deciding on his play before finally inserting the jack. That was +400 and a lead of 41-37 for USAI.

USAI led by only 6 IMPs with a board to go, gaining 13 IMPs when Nickell and Freeman stopped in 3NT with 32 high-card points between them, while Madala and Lambardi landed in a 6♣ that was no play as the cards lay. Two down cost 13 IMPs and USAI had started the defense of their title with a 57-38 victory; 19-11 VPs.



ROUND 2

Bermuda Bowl



Portugal v Chinese Taipei



Juggernaut

Players from both teams had to face the ordeal of being interviewed by Mark Horton before the start of the match.

Patrick Huang revealed his team had already discovered an excellent Chinese restaurant, that if he had to play with another partner he would like it to be a beautiful girl, and his team hoped to improve on their fifth placed round robin finish from Monaco.

Sofia Pessoa thought the early start would be a problem for her team, doubted she would follow in the footsteps of Rose Meltzer, would like to be shipwrecked on a desert island with her husband (Rui Santos) and dreams of reaching the quarter finals.

The bridge proved to be every bit as entertaining as the interviews, with points flying in both directions. It was Chinese Taipei who made all the early running.

ducked as (West discarded the six of clubs), won the next diamond and switched to the king of hearts. Declarer's goose was cooked and he had to go one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Santos</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Chiu</i>
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The Precision auction saw North become declarer and East lead the nine of clubs. Declarer now had four tricks in that suit and when he advanced the king of diamonds he was in complete control, eventually recording +460 to win 11 IMPs.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shih</i>	<i>Pessoa</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Castanheira</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
All Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT

Given that North did not want to rebid INT with her singleton spade she had to choose between Two and Three Clubs and she went for the more aggressive option.

West led the four of clubs, and declarer, in order to preserve an entry to hand, put up the queen. His next play was a diamond, and had it been the king he would have been sure of the contract. West won with the queen and switched to a spade. Declarer won and played the king of diamonds. East



Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shih</i>	<i>Pessoa</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Castanheira</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

Three Clubs was an intermediate raise, which North took very seriously. East led the four of spades; declarer won and laid down the ace of diamonds. Her hopes must have soared when the king appeared, but the club finesse failed and the contract was one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Santos</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Chiu</i>
Pass	1♣*	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

On the lead of the king of hearts, declarer won in dummy, unblocked the ace of spades and played a low diamond. That led to ten tricks, +630 and 12 IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ Q 6 4 ♥ 10 8 7 3 ♦ Q 10 8 3 ♣ 10 4	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A K 10 5 3 ♥ A J 5 2 ♦ 7 4 2 ♣ 7	♠ J 9 7 2 ♥ K 9 ♦ 9 ♣ A Q 8 6 3 2
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shih</i>	<i>Pessoa</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Castanheira</i>
	1♦	1♠	2♣
2♠	4♣	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

For the second board in a row North/South went overboard, with North taking a very rosy view of her cards. West led a spade and East cashed his aces, +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Santos</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Chiu</i>
	1♦*	1♠	2♣
Pass	3♠*	Pass	4♥*
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Once again the Precision auction had no trouble hitting the right spot, +600 and another 12 IMPs to Chinese Taipei.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A J 4 3 ♥ A 10 9 2 ♦ K 6 4 2 ♣ 5	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 9 5 ♥ J 5 3 ♦ A Q 10 7 3 ♣ A 10 4	♠ 7 2 ♥ K Q 8 4 ♦ 9 8 5 ♣ J 8 7 3
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shih</i>	<i>Pessoa</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Castanheira</i>
		1♦	1♠
Dbl*	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Dbl*	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Although it is not alerted on the Bridgebase record I suspect that North's double denied spade values. With West as declarer North could have defeated the contract with a club lead, but the seven of spades saw declarer duck the queen and subsequently take the spade finesse for his ninth trick, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Santos</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Chiu</i>
		1♦	1♠
Dbl*	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

This time it was East/West pair who went overboard, bidding a slam that was hopeless on the lie of the cards. It cost Portugal 13 IMPs and they trailed 48-5, leaving their opponents just short of a maximum after only six deals.

However, to their credit, the Portuguese players started to hit back.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 3 ♥ K Q 9 2 ♦ A J 10 3 ♣ Q 10 9 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 9 8 2 ♥ A J 10 ♦ Q 8 6 2 ♣ A 8 6	♠ A 6 4 ♥ 8 7 6 5 3 ♦ K 9 5 ♣ 7 4
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shih</i>	<i>Pessoa</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Castanheira</i>
			1♠
Dbl	2♠	Dbl	3♠
All Pass			

West led the nine of clubs. East took the ace and switched to a diamond, which was allowed to run to dummy's king. The contract was secure and declarer emerged with ten tricks, +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Santos</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Chiu</i>
			1♠
Dbl	2♥*	2♠*	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Perhaps North should have doubled Four Hearts? As it was, when South took out insurance it was East who produced a red card. West led the king of hearts; and East overtook and switched to a trump. Declarer had to go one down, -200 and 9 IMPs to Portugal.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 7 ♥ A 8 5 2 ♦ J 10 5 3 ♣ 9 8 6 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A 10 9 8 ♥ 4 ♦ A K 6 4 ♣ A Q 5 2	♠ Q 2 ♥ K J 10 6 3 ♦ Q 9 7 ♣ K 10 4
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shih</i>	<i>Pessoa</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Castanheira</i>
	2♦*	Dbl	2♠*
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2NT looks dubious, despite the chunky spades, and it led to a contract that needed a huge amount of luck. Declarer ducked the lead of the queen of spades, won the next spade and cashed the top diamonds. When the queen failed to oblige it was simply a question of how many undertricks and that number proved to be two, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Santos</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Chiu</i>
	2♦*	2♥*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣	All Pass

After North's Multi East made a take-out bid and West relayed to what he hoped was a playable spot. Indeed it was. Declarer won the spade lead, ruffed a spade, crossed to a diamond and ruffed another spade as South discarded. Then East cashed the ace of hearts and ruffed a heart. In due course he arrived at ten tricks, +130 and 8 IMPs.



Rui Santos, Portugal

The rally continued on the next deal:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 8 5 ♥ 5 4 3 ♦ Q J 10 7 ♣ J 8 7 5	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A K 4 3 2 ♥ Q J 9 8 ♦ 4 3 ♣ K 2	♠ Q J 10 ♥ A 10 7 2 ♦ K 9 6 5 ♣ 6 3
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shih</i>	<i>Pessoa</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Castanheira</i>
Pass	INT	1♠	Pass
All Pass		Pass	3NT

If East had led a low spade, declarer would have had no chance, but he went for the queen of hearts. Declarer won in hand and played a club. East put up the king, but declarer could win and clear the clubs; he could not be denied a ninth trick, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Santos</i>	<i>Yang</i>	<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Chiu</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♦	Pass	Dbl	Pass
		2♥	All Pass

Two Hearts was no fun for declarer - but with no double, two down and -200 proved to be worth 9 IMPs.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 9 5 4 ♥ 9 8 7 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ Q 9 5 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ J 10 7 3 ♥ J 5 4 3 ♦ J 3 ♣ K 7 6	♠ K 8 6 2 ♥ A K Q ♦ A K 6 ♣ J 10 8
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shih</i>	<i>Pessoa</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Castanheira</i>
	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

That was twelve easy tricks, +990.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Santos	Yang	Goncalves	Chiu
	1♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

If North's 2NT guaranteed a hand that was better than minimum, then South might have bid 4NT. Whatever, Portugal had another 11 IMPs and had come back to 49-56.



Portugal on vugraph against Chinese Taipei in the Bermuda Bowl

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shih	Pessoa	Huang	Castanheira
		Pass	2♦*
Dbl	2♥*	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the jack of spades. East won and played a club to the queen and king. When North returned a heart it speeded up the play and declarer was soon claiming, +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Santos	Yang	Goncalves	Chiu
		Pass	2♦*
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led a heart. Declarer took South's queen with the king and cashed three rounds of diamonds ending in dummy. He then played a club to the queen and king, won the heart return in dummy and led another club. He had to go one down from this point, -50 and 10 IMPs to Chinese Taipei, who had won a blood - and - thunder encounter by 66-55.

Sports News

Baseball

The Chicago White Sox made a successful start in their bid for a World Series victory with a 5-3 win over Houston in Saturday's opening game of the series. Joe Crede blasted a solo homer in the fourth inning and made two dynamic defensive plays at third base to give the home side the early advantage. Cuban pitcher Jose Contreras outduelled Houston's veteran starter Roger Clemens, who lasted just two innings. Clemens, who gave up three runs on four hits, was troubled by a sore hamstring.



Cricket

Justin Kemp scored 73 from 64 balls as South Africa recovered to snatch victory in the first one-day international against New Zealand. The Kiwis scored 249-8 from their 50 overs and South Africa replied with 250-8 from 49.3 overs.

Tennis

Zurich Swisscom Challenge

Lindsay Davenport defeated Patty Schnyder 7-6, 6-3 in the final. Davenport has gone back to the top of the WTA rankings.



Madrid Masters

Rafael Nadal came back from two sets down to defeat Ivan Lujicic in the final, winning 3-6, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6.

Soccer

Italy Serie A

AC Milan 2-1 Palermo; Sampdoria 3-3 Siena; Livorno 1-0 Reggina; Udinese 0-1 Inter Milan; Lecce 0-3 Juventus; Chievo 2-1 Cagliari; Treviso 1-2 Empoli.

English Premier League

Newcastle 3-2 Sunderland; Bolton 2-0 WBA; West Ham 2-1 Middlesbrough; Everton 1-1 Chelsea.

Golf

Jose Maria Olazabal captured his first title since 2002 after finishing with a 66 to ease to a five stroke victory in the Mallorca Classic at La Pula. Beginning one shot ahead of halfway leader Paul Broadhurst, Olazabal birdied three holes in succession from the fourth and collected two others. Broadhurst, who briefly shared the lead with a birdie at the second, faded and tied for runner-up at five under. Defending champion Sergio Garcia joined him after an impressive closing 66.



Rugby Union - Heineken Cup

Saracens 22-10 Biarritz; Ospreys 13-8 Stade Francais; Edinburgh 32-31 Wasps.

Motorsport

Sebastien Loeb sealed his ninth win of the season after a stunning victory on the Corsica Rally on Sunday. The Frenchman became the first driver in the history of the World Rally Championship to claim a grand slam - winning all of the event's stages. Finland's Toni Gardmeister sealed the runners-up spot, while Norwegian driver Petter Solberg was third.