



World Bridge Games

Daily Bulletin

Beijing / China



3rd -18th October 2008

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Bulletin 11 - Wednesday, 15 October 2008

MOUNTAINS TO CLIMB



Happy winners: The French Champions of the U-21 Teams

It's the halfway point in the semi-finals of the Open, Women's and Seniors, and some teams have a lot of work to do to get to the gold-medal round.

Chief among them is Norway, including three members of the Bermuda Bow gold medal winners last year. The Norwegians started the day against Italy by losing the first set 65-17. By the end of the day, Norway were down 138-59. No doubt the Italians are hoping for very flat boards for the remainder of the semi-final (48 boards).

In the Seniors, Egypt lost their first set against USA 81-9 and must try to make up a 164-72 deficit in the three remaining sets.

The Turkish women, trailing England 143-70, will have to stage a huge rally to survive, but the China-USA match is very close at 86-80 for the Chinese, who trailed 48-3 after yesterday's first set.



Today's Schedule

- 11.00** Open - Women - Senior Teams, S-Final, 4th Session
- 14.20** Open - Women - Senior Teams, S-Final, 5th Session
- 17.10** Open - Women - Senior Teams, S-Final, 6th Session

10.30 - 20.15
Transnational Mixed Teams, Swiss (13-15), Round of 16 (1-2)



OPEN TEAMS RESULTS - S-Final

Match		1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	Total
1	Italy Norway	65 - 17	43 - 31	30 - 11	138 - 59
2	England Germany	17 - 25	36 - 35	30 - 31	83 - 91

WOMEN TEAMS RESULTS - S-Final

Match		1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	Total
1	China USA	3 - 48	30 - 12	36 - 10	69 - 70
2	England Turkey	40 - 29	45 - 13	58 - 28	143 - 70

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS - S-Final

Match		1st Session	2nd Session	3rd Session	Total
1	USA Egypt	81 - 9	34 - 31	49 - 32	164 - 72
2	Indonesia Japan	17 - 33	20 - 33	33 - 33	70 - 99

TRANSNATIONAL MIXED TEAMS - AFTER 12 SESSIONS

1	BEIJING HUAYUAN	232	31	BEIJING HENGSHA	194	61	BALDURSSON	180	SEE FAH THAI/ENG	166
2	ZIMMERMAN	231	32	BEIJING ALLEYS	193		PIRET	180	SHENZHEN QIAOYOU	166
3	RUSSIA	219	33	GARVEY	192	63	INDIAN ACES	179	93 HESEN FUND	165
4	AUKEN	217		TRINERGY	192		JIANGSU	179	94 GEOLIT	164
	MAHAFFEY	217	35	GOODMAN	191	65	B - EVERTRUST	178	NEW STAR	164
6	YEH BROS	213	36	TISLEVOLL	190		TIANJIN FUTURE TEAM	178	ONI	164
7	GOLDBERG	210	37	KYRIAKIDOU	189.5	67	DONGFENG	177	SHANGHAI THINKBRIDGE	164
	GUANGDONG	210	38	CHINA KANG JIAN	189		GLOBAL FABTECH	177	98 MA STEEL	163
9	A - EVERTRUST	209		HANGZHOU	189		NANIWADA	177	PTT	163
10	CHAGAS	208		NORAUT	189	70	BEIJING BAXY LY	176	100EURO-PAK	162
11	HANLON	206	41	HAPPY BRIDGE	188		SENI-BRIDGE	176	101 DIAMONDS	161
	WELLWISE	206		NANFANGDIANWANG	188		WARE	176	102JAMAICA	159
13	SHENZHEN WOMEN'S	204		TOPBRIDGE	188	73	BEIJING BEIDIK	175	103TIANJIN TEAM	156
14	BROWN	203	44	INDONESIA A	187		ERIK	175	104GREEPAK	154
15	BLACK SEA	202		ROSSARD	187	75	CONNACHT-LEINSTER	173	105URU-VEN	152
	HUGON	202		VITAS	187	76	KAKASI	172	106LIAONING	151
17	RIKI	199	47	NEW SLOVAKIA	186		TEAM SECURE	172	107WELSH DRAGONS	150
	SHORT	199		SHANGHAI PUDONGPUFA	186	78	HUBEIZHUJIANG	171	108TEAM PURSUIT	148
	ZALESKI	199	49	BEIJING RED BULL	185		INDONESIA B	171	109HEILONJIANG	146
20	HERBST	198		HUA AN SECURITIES	185		SHANXI LANXI	171	110KARUS	145
	LATVIA	198	51	HAIGUANZONGSHU	184.5	81	JINYING	170	111 HUBEI	140
	XMG	198	52	CHINA WESTERN VIP	184		NEWTON	170	112QINGHAI ELECTRIC	137
23	EST28	197		S RIMSTEDT	184		PEKING UNIVERSITY	170	113SHANGHAI WUSONG	134
	FOS	197		SUNG KYUNG HAE	184	84	ATMU	169	XUZHOU	134
	KYOKO	197	55	GOWER	183		SHANXI GUOMAO	169	115NANJING SPORT	133
	ZOBU	197		HEBEI	183	86	BEIJING LAWYER	166	116LEE	127
27	A TEAM	196		HUBEI	183		CLEARY	166	117BEIJING INST.OF CIV. ENG	123
28	ARCOVEN	195	58	JILIN	182		HUANHE	166	TIANJIN NORMAL	123
	CHENGDULIAOZHI	195		TRUMP QUEEN	182		KOSK	166		
	N3Z	195	60	JACKSON	181		MTK	166		

WOMEN TEAMS Q-FINAL - 4TH

Germany v China

Maximum Pressure

by Mark Horton

China started the set trailing by 22 IMPs, but they continued to employ their basic approach, which is to bid every hand to its limit, putting maximum pressure on the defenders.

The Chinese pair quickly announced themselves by bidding game with only just over half the pack.

When South led the two of diamonds (it was impossible to find a top heart, which would have left declarer a trick short) declarer was allowed to win in hand with the ten. She cashed the top spades and ruffed a spade before playing a diamond. North took the ace and played a third round and South ruffed and switched to a club. Declarer took dummy's ace, cashed the ace of hearts, ruffed a club and ruffed her last spade, +420 delivering 9 IMPs.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nehmert	Wang	Gromann	Liu
	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

East/West had no obvious way to get into the auction, so North was left to play Two Spades.

East led the jack of hearts for the king and ace and West switched to a spade, ducked to dummy's jack. When declarer played a club off the dummy West went in with the ace and played another spade. East won and played a heart and declarer won with the nine, cashed the queen of hearts and tried the king of clubs. East ruffed, and had only to cash the ace of spades and then play hearts to ensure two down, but she played a heart and found herself endplayed after declarer ruffed and put her back in with a spade. One down, +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Auken	Sun	von Arnim
	2♣*	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	4♥	All Pass

2♣ 5+♠ plus a 5+ minor, 4-9 points



Pony Beate Nehmert, Germany

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nehmert	Wang	Gromann	Liu
1♥	Pass	2♥	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When South could bid at the three level facing a passed partner North had enough to try 3NT.

East led the two of hearts for the queen and ace and after some thought declarer ran the jack of clubs. West won and had she found a spade switch declarer would still have had some work to do, but that would look very foolish if East had held the jack of hearts. She played the king of hearts, heart and declarer had nine tricks, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Auken	Sun	von Arnim
1♥	Pass	3♥*	All Pass

The more preemptive raise did its job, and although the contract drifted three down, -300 was worth another 7 IMPs to China.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ 9 8 6						
♥ J						
♦ A Q 6 3 2						
♣ J 9 8 4						
♠ Q J 7 5 4		♠ K				
♥ K 8 6 3		♥ A Q 10 9 7 4				
♦ J 5		♦ 9 8 7				
♣ K 10		♣ A 6 3				
	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	
N	E					
W	S					
	♠ A 10 3 2					
	♥ 5 2					
	♦ K 10 4					
	♣ Q 7 5 2					



Wang, China

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nehmert	Wang	Gromann	Liu
4♥	All Pass	1♥	Pass

Pony Nehmert gave notice that it the Chinese did not have a monopoly when it came to the bidding of games. There were three tricks to lose, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Auken	Sun	von Arnim
2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
3♥	All Pass		Dble

When the Chinese pair missed the boat Germany had hit back with 10 IMPs.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 10 7						
♥ A K 8 5						
♦ 9 8 3 2						
♣ 9 3 2						
♠ K 9 6 3		♠ Q 8 5 4 2				
♥ 9		♥ J 7 3 2				
♦ K 10 7		♦ Q				
♣ A J 7 6 4		♣ K Q 10				
	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	
N	E					
W	S					
	♠ A J					
	♥ Q 10 6 4					
	♦ A J 6 5 4					
	♣ 8 5					

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nehmert	Wang	Gromann	Liu
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦*
Dble	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Another 21-point game was available to East/West, but it was difficult to reach. Declarer was not hard pressed to take ten tricks, +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Auken	Sun	von Arnim
Dble	2♥	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South's canapé style opening gave West an easy opportu-

nity and in a twinkle of an eye +620 and 10 IMPs had been recorded.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nehmert</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Gromann</i>	<i>Liu</i>
Pass	2♠*	Pass	INT
All Pass			2♥

North did not really have enough to go on over Two Hearts, so the double fit never came to light. With the club king inside ten tricks rolled home, +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
All Pass	2♥*	Pass	4♥

2♥ 5+♥ plus a 5+ minor, 4-9 points

A systemic triumph for the German pair that earned them 6 IMPs.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nehmert</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Gromann</i>	<i>Liu</i>
1♠	2♣	Pass	Pass
All Pass		All Pass	

East led the six of spades for the queen and ace and declarer played ace of clubs, club. West won, cashed a spade and played a third round, ruffed and overruffed. East switched to a heart and declarer was +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
1♠	2♣	2♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass

When North reopened with a double it was normal for South to take a shot at defeating the part score, although as the cards lie there is only a narrow path to victory.

South led the two of clubs and North took the ace and switched to the four of hearts. (The only – very difficult – defence is for North to switch to a trump. South wins and must table the ten of hearts, a classic surrounding play in the style of another of the Mind Sports – Go.)

Declarer took South's king of hearts with dummy's ace, cashed the king of clubs and played a top spade. North took the ace, cashed the queen of hearts (South playing the ten) and played a club, but declarer simply won with the queen, cashed the nine of hearts (South gains nothing by ruffing at any stage) and played a low diamond towards the nine. South could make two trump tricks, but declarer had the rest, +180 and 7 IMPs.



Sabine Auken, Germany

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A 8 7 5 3 ♥ A Q 8 6 ♦ A 4 ♣ K 2	♠ Q J 10 9 2 ♥ K J 10 7 ♦ K 9 7 ♣ Q <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div> ♠ — ♥ 9 5 3 ♦ J 8 6 2 ♣ A 10 7 5 4 3	♠ K 6 4 ♥ 4 2 ♦ Q 10 5 3 ♣ J 9 8 6	
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nehmert</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Gromann</i>	<i>Liu</i>
Dble	Pass	3♦	3♣
3♠	Dble	Pass	Pass
3NT	Dble	All Pass	

South's aggressive action worked well and East/West were pushed into an awkward corner.

North led the queen of spades and declarer won in hand, South discarding a club, and started well by cashing the ace of diamonds and playing a diamond to the queen. When she played a club off the dummy, South eventually put up the ace and switched to the nine of hearts. That was a mistake (if South exits with the eight of diamonds the defenders should come to an extra trick) and when your opponent is a multiple World Champion you can expect them to take advantage.

Declarer put up the ace of hearts, cashed the king of clubs, crossed to the king of spades, cashed the jack of clubs and exited with a spade. North could cash out for one down, but had to surrender a trick to the queen of hearts, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
			Pass
1♣*	Dble*	Rdble	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	All Pass

North's double promised a major or minor two suiter and North must have been delighted to see her opponents end up in her five card suit.

North led the queen of spades and declarer won in dummy and tried the heart finesse. North won and played the jack of spades, declarer winning, cashing the ace of hearts and ruffing a heart. A club was taken by South's ace, the club continuation was ruffed by North and she cashed two spades before exiting with a diamond. When declarer

guessed wrong she was three down, -150 and Germany had picked up 2 IMPs.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ Q J 8 ♥ A 5 3 ♦ 10 8 6 5 ♣ Q 10 7	♠ K 9 5 3 2 ♥ Q 8 ♦ J 9 2 ♣ K 8 2 <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div> ♠ A 4 ♥ 9 6 ♦ A K Q 7 4 3 ♣ 9 6 4	♠ 10 7 6 ♥ K J 10 7 4 2 ♦ — ♣ A J 5 3	
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nehmert</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Gromann</i>	<i>Liu</i>
Pass	2♣*	Pass	INT
3♥	3♠	2♥	3♦
		All Pass	

East led the jack of hearts and West won and switched to the ten of clubs. Declarer tried the king and East won, cashed the ace of hearts and then continued clubs. When she played a fourth club West ruffed with the queen of spades and declarer could not avoid three down, -150.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>von Arnim</i>
		1♥	2♦
2♥	Dble	4♥	All Pass

Not for the first time in the match the Chinese scored with some controlled aggression, and in today's game the policy of bidding when it your turn has much to commend it.

South led the ace of diamonds and declarer ruffed and was soon claiming eleven tricks and 7 IMPs.

China still trailed by 6 IMPs, but Germany would have to be on their guard if they were to make it to the next round.



WBF Systems Committee

There will be a meeting of the WBF Systems Committee in the WBF Meeting Room at 11 a.m. today, Oct. 15.

WOMEN TEAMS Q-FINAL - 6TH

Germany v China

Beijing Blues

by Mark Horton

Although the last set started with China just 2 IMPs ahead, one felt that Germany might have missed their chance, as in the previous 16 boards a great card from their youngest pair had been matched by an atypically modest one from the Auken/von Arnim IMP machine.

That foreboding was confirmed in short order.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

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

	N	
W	S	E

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Della Monta</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>Liu</i>
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass	3♥	Pass

The German auction fell short of the mark and the reasonable slam was missed.

Declarer won the trump lead in hand, ruffed a spade, cashed the ace of hearts, came to hand with the ace of diamonds and ruffed a second spade. The simple route to twelve tricks now is to cash the ace of clubs, ruff a club, draw the last trump and cash the diamonds, but declarer simply played diamonds, allowing North to score a ruff and hold declarer to +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wang</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Arnim</i>
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
4♣*	Pass	2♥	Pass
4NT*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
		6♥	All Pass

If I had any life savings left I would have happily put them on the Chinese pair reaching a slam and they got there in double quick time. South led the three of clubs and declarer won with the ace, ruffed a club, played the king of spades

and ruffed it when the ace did not appear from North, ruffed a club, played a diamond to the king and ruffed a fourth club. She cashed the king of hearts, crossed to hand with a diamond and played the ace of hearts, matching it with dummy's ace of diamonds. North could get a trump but that was all, +980 and 11 IMPs for China.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

	♠ 10 8 6	
	♥ 9 7 4	
	♦ 7 6 4 2	
	♣ Q 3 2	

	N	
W	S	E

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Della Monta</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>Liu</i>
4♠	3♥	4♣*	Pass
	All Pass		

Four Clubs promised the black suits. West will forgive me for describing Four Spades as the underbid of the year/decade/century/millennium.

Declarer recorded +480 and must have feared the worst, not least because the diamond position meant that all thirteen tricks were available.



Barbara Hackett, Germany

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Auken	Sun	Arnim
	2♦*	4♣*	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	6♥*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

For what it's worth, I prefer the full-blooded preempt made at the other table to the Multi chosen here, but it's a matter of style.

East was able to use Leaping Michaels and over West's 4NT she showed her heart void and a couple of aces. South led a diamond and declarer won in hand, cashed the ace of spades, then unblocked the diamonds and was soon +980 for another 11 IMP pickup.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Della Monta	Wang	Hackett	Liu
1♣*	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the queen of spades and when that held followed with the king. Declarer ducked, won the third spade and played a heart to the ten. When that held she played the king of hearts and West won and switched to a club for the ten, queen and ace. Declarer crossed to the queen of diamonds and cashed the queen of hearts, claiming when the jack fell, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Auken	Sun	Arnim
1♦	2♥	All Pass	

Just as in the other room Two Hearts purported to be weak, but if weak can be this good then maybe South has to make a move.

Declare made ten tricks, +170 but lost 10 IMPs.

China won going away, deservedly so, as they had bid everything in sight and made enough of their ambitious contracts to show a substantial profit over the course of the match.

Bidding With Imagination

by Phillip Alder

The International Bridge Press Association hands out four awards per annum, for excellence in bidding, declarer play and defense, and for the best performance by a junior in any of those three areas of the game.

If I ever disagree with an award winner, it is in the bidding category, where pairs having been recognized even though all they had to do was use their system correctly. Anyone can reach a great contract if it happens to be tailor-made to their methods. I think the IBPA should give the award to a player or pair who showed imagination – as in this deal from the eleventh round in the Senior teams.

Now, I agree that there is some system advantage here. Matthew Granovetter and Russ Ekeblad use the system that Ekeblad worked out, taking ideas of his own and parts of other strong-club and relay methods. But it also required imagination on Granovetter's part.

Board 29. Dealer North. Both vul.

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

West	East
Granovetter	Ekeblad
	1♠ ^(a)
2♣ ^(b)	2♦ ^(c)
2♥ ^(b)	2♠ ^(d)
2NT ^(b)	3NT ^(e)
4♦ ^(f)	4♥ ^(g)
4NT ^(h)	5♠ ⁽ⁱ⁾
6♣ ⁽ⁱ⁾	Pass

- (a) 11-15 points; if only four spades, a longer side suit.
- (b) Game-forcing relay.
- (c) A five-card or longer minor.
- (d) Five-plus clubs.
- (e) 4=2=2=5 with ace- or king-doubleton in each red suit (he would have bid 3♣ followed by 3NT with a weak doubleton).
- (f) Sets spades as trumps.
- (g) "I like my hand." (4♠ is "I do not like.")
- (h) Roman Key Card Blackwood.
- (i) Two key cards and the spade queen.
- (j) Voilà!

Most of the field played in three notrump, including the Swedish pair at the other table in this match.

OPEN TEAMS Q-FINAL - 5TH

Italy v Poland

That sinking feeling

Poland entered the fifth of six sets against the powerful Italian team trailing by only 22 IMPs with 32 boards to play. Poland managed to pull virtually even with Italy at one point, but then suffered a string of poor results that left them trailing by 48.

The Polish team did start well, earning a 6-IMP swing on board 2 then 13 on board 3.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Martens</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
			1♣
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass



Slawek Zawislak, Poland

Giorgio Duboin started with a high diamond and tried to cash a second. Martens ruffed, ruffed a low club, picked up trumps and threw all of dummy's spades on clubs. Plus 680.

At the other table, Boguslaw Pazur and Slawek Zawislak pushed Claudio Nunes and Fulvio Fantoni to 5♥ after discovering their diamond fit. They did not err in cashing their tricks, so plus 100 gave Poland a 13-IMP gain.

On the next board, Poland managed a 2-IMP gain. All of sudden, it was a 1-IMP match.

Italy scored 43 of the next 45 IMPs, however, and Poland was back in the hole. The slide started with board 5.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Nunes</i>	<i>Zawislak</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Pazur</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Pazur started with a low club to the jack and queen. Fantoni played a heart to the king and North's ace, and a club was returned. Pazur won the ♣K, cashed the ace and continued with a fourth round of the suit. Fantoni was up to nine top tricks at that point, and the lucky fall of the spade suit gave him 10 tricks for plus 430.

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Martens</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Duboin started with the ♦9, taken by Martens with the ace. He tried a heart to the king, but Sementa won the ace and played the ♣J to the queen and king. A second diamond went to declarer's jack. Martens played a low club from hand, taken by Duboin with the ace. Duboin cashed the ♥Q

and played a diamond.

The contract was dead at that point. Martens had the choice of taking one spade trick by playing to the singleton king in his hand – or cashing his spade ace and queen but establishing one or more tricks for the defense. He played a spade to his king and cashed the ♠J, but when the suit did not split he was one down. Minus 50 and 10 IMPs to Italy. More IMPs went to the Italians on board 7.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 9 7 4 2 ♥ — ♦ K J 10 6 5 ♣ K J 7 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A 5 ♥ J 7 6 4 ♦ 9 8 7 ♣ Q 6 4 3
N					
W E					
S					
♠ K Q J 3 ♥ A Q 9 5 ♦ 3 ♣ 10 9 8 2	♠ 10 8 6 ♥ K 10 8 3 2 ♦ A Q 4 2 ♣ A				

West Nunes	North Zawislak	East Fantoni	South Pazur
			1♣*
Pass	1♥*	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
All Pass			

Pazur's 1♣ showed hearts. He and Zawislak did well to stop in 4♦, the limit on the North/South cards. It was plus 130, but still a big loss because their teammates had a disaster at the other table.



Boguslaw Pazur, Poland

West Jassem	North Sementa	East Martens	South Duboin
			1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Krzysztof Jassem started with the ♠K, inexplicably ducked by Krzysztof Martens. A second spade went to Martens' ace, and he could still have defeated the contract by continuing with a trump, but he got out with a club, allowing Duboin to discard his spade loser on the ♣K and score all nine of his trumps separately for plus 750 and a 12-IMP gain.

Three pushes followed, then came this deal.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A 2 ♥ A J 6 2 ♦ — ♣ K J 10 8 7 5 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K 9 3 ♥ Q 7 3 ♦ J 4 3 2 ♣ 6 3 2
N					
W E					
S					
♠ Q 10 7 4 ♥ K 10 9 5 4 ♦ A K 7 ♣ Q	♠ J 8 6 5 ♥ 8 ♦ Q 10 9 8 6 5 ♣ A 9				

West Nunes	North Zawislak	East Fantoni	South Pazur
			Pass
1♥	2♣	2♥	Dble
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Again, Zawislak and Pazur stopped on a dime and went plus 130, and again suffered a double-digit loss because of what happened at the other table.

West Jassem	North Sementa	East Martens	South Duboin
			Pass
1♥	2♣	2♥	3♣
3♦	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

The only lead to defeat the contract is a trump because it limits declarer to one heart ruff. Martens, however, started with a heart, and it was quickly over. Antonio Sementa won the ♥K with the ace, ruffed a heart, ruffed a diamond to hand, ruffed another heart as the queen appeared, ruffed another diamond, cashed the ♣K and claimed when the queen fell. With the good ♥J and two trump tricks in dummy, he lost only a spade for plus 650 and another 11 IMPs.

There was more bad news for Poland on the next deal.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ J 10 8 7 ♥ J 2 ♦ J 10 9 4 ♣ Q 8 7	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K 6 5 3 ♥ 8 7 6 4 ♦ A 8 ♣ A K 4
♠ Q 9 4 ♥ A K 10 3 ♦ K 3 ♣ 10 5 3 2	♠ A 2 ♥ Q 9 5 ♦ Q 7 6 5 2 ♣ J 9 6	

The auction was identical at the two tables.

West	North	East	South
Jassem	Sementa	Martens	Duboin
Nunes	Zawislak	Fantoni	Pazur
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Against Claudio Nunes, Zawislak stated with the ♦J. Nunes studied dummy a long time before winning with the ace and playing a heart to his 10. Zawislak won the ♥J and played the ♠J. Nunes played low from dummy and Pazur went up with the ace. Declarer lost only a club trick from there for plus 420.

Sementa also started with the ♦J. Jassem won the ace in dummy, played a heart to his ace, a club to dummy's ace, a heart to his king, a club to the king, followed by a third round of hearts. Duboin, in with the ♥Q, played a club to his partner's queen, and Sementa exited with a deceptive ♠10. According to the play record, Jassem played the ♠K from dummy, losing to the ace, then played the queen when Duboin continued the suit. It seems more likely that he would have put in the 9. In either case, he was down when the played the ♠K from dummy. That was 10 more IMPs to Italy.

It is worth noting that North had discarded the ♠8 on the third trump, so there was virtually no lie of the cards that would make his play of the ♠K correct.

After a promising start, Poland lost the set 49-33. Italy went on to a 210-173 win in the match.



Fulvio Fantoni, Italy

Accommodation in the Free Apartments

The World Bridge Federation has been provided with the following statement from the Chinese Organizing Committee for the 1st World Mind Sports Games:

“As you know, and is clearly stated in the Information for Participants: the apartment will be open to the players 1-2 days earlier and 1-2 days later than their competition dates. That means those who didn't qualify for the knockout competition should check out (of) the free apartment on Oct. 13 (today), because their competition concluded on Oct. 11. If they wish, they can stay more days in the same apartment, just paying the extra day expense.”

The Organising Committee has also provided us with the following notice:

Accommodation for Bridge Open and Women

As the Preliminary Competitions of Bridge Open and Women will be concluded on Oct. 11, participants who are not qualified for the knockout competition are supposed to check out (of) the free apartment by Oct. 13 (See to the provision in the Information for Participants of the 1st WMSG: participants shall check out 1-2 days after the competition ended).

The Chinese Organizing Committee will not provide free accommodation for those who will participate in the Transnational Mixed Team Competitions.

— Chinese Organizing Committee for the 1st WMSG

The World Bridge Federation regrets that it is unable to assist teams in resolving this matter.



Airport taxes for Air China

The representatives of the following countries are requested to get in touch urgently with the WBF secretariat (Miss Laurene Wolff or Mr Jean-Louis

Derivery, the WBF treasurer) before Wednesday evening:

Albania, Bulgaria, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Philippines, Portugal, Slovenia, Ukraine.

This is our last call!

SENIOR TEAMS Q-FINAL - 6TH

Hungary v USA

by Phillip Alder

As the last session of this senior team quarterfinal between Hungary and the United States began, the Americans led 191-172.

I watched in the closed room, where Miklos Dumbovich and Mihaly Kovacs sat East-West against Sam Lev and Billy Eisenberg. At the other table, Geza Szappanos and Peter Magyar took on Russ Ekeblad and Matthew Granovetter.

Let's start with a quick quiz. The answers will come later in the article, when we get to the appropriate deals.

1. Dealer East. East-West vul.

♠ J 10 4 3
♥ A K 8 3
♦ 8 4
♣ 10 6 3

West	North You	East	South
		Pass	1♠
2NT ^(a)	?		

(a) Minors

What would you respond?

2. Dealer East. East-West vul.

♠ J 10 4 3
♥ A K 8 3
♦ 8 4
♣ 10 6 3



♠ A 9 7 6
♥ Q 10 9 5 2
♦ 5 2
♣ J 8

West	North	East You	South
		Pass	1♠
2NT ^(a)	3♦ ^(b)	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

(a) Minors.

(b) Game-invitation in spades.

Partner leads the club ace: three, jack, two. West cashes the club king: six, eight, queen. Then West leads the club four. Plan your defense.

3. Dealer South. Both vul.

♠ K 8 5
♥ A Q 10 9
♦ 6 2
♣ K J 9 7

West	North You	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

What would you lead?

Back to problem 2 for a moment. Suppose you ruff dummy's club ten with your spade six. South overruffs with his eight and leads the spade king, partner discarding the club five. What now?

Hungary gained an overtrick IMP on the first two deals. Then, what would you open at favorable vulnerability with 1=2=1=9, nine solid clubs and the singleton diamond queen?

Board 19. Dealer South. East-West vul.

♠ A K 10 8 6 2
♥ 9 8
♦ J 10 9 7
♣ J

♠ Q 7 5
♥ K 6 5 4
♦ A K 6 4
♣ 7 5



♠ J 9 4
♥ A Q J 10 2
♦ 8 5 3 2
♣ 4

West Kovacs	North Lev	East Dumbovich	South Eisenberg
			3NT
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

West Granovetter	North Szappanos	East Ekeblad	South Magyar
			5♣
All Pass			

Eisenberg opened with a gambling three notrump, showing a solid minor with no side stoppers. Lev ran to four clubs, and Eisenberg made a disciplined pass. Kovacs judged well not to balance with a takeout double.

Magyar opened five clubs, the full-bore shotgun approach. As is so often the case in bridge, the pair not in game made game, and the pair in game went down.

Against four clubs, Dumbovich led the spade four, so declarer won in his hand and promptly pitched the diamond queen from the dummy for 11 tricks.

Against five clubs, though, Granovetter had an easy diamond-king lead. He accurately shifted to a heart, and Ekeblad equally accurately returned a heart.

Plus 150 and plus 50 gave the United States 5 IMPs.

Hungary gained two overtrick IMPs, then we get to the deal featuring the first two problems.

Board 22. Dealer East. East-West vul.

<p>♠ — ♥ 6 4 ♦ A J 10 7 3 ♣ A K 9 7 5 4</p>	<p>♠ J 10 4 3 ♥ A K 8 3 ♦ 8 4 ♣ 10 6 3</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ A 9 7 6 ♥ Q 10 9 5 2 ♦ 5 2 ♣ J 8</p>
	<p>♠ K Q 8 5 2 ♥ J 7 ♦ K Q 9 6 ♣ Q 2</p>	

After (Pass)-1♠-(2NT), Lev jumped to four spades. Szappanos invited game with a three-diamond cue-bid. Over the invitation, Magyar signed off in three spades.

Both Wests, cashed two top clubs and led a third club, each East ruffing.

Eisenberg overruffed and played a spade to the ten and ace. Back came a diamond, covered by the king and ace. West returned the diamond jack, South winning with his queen, taking dummy's top hearts, and ruffing a heart in his hand. Declarer cashed his spade king, ruffed a diamond high



Peter Magyar, Hungary

in the dummy, played a spade to his queen, and drifted down two.

At the other table, Ekeblad would have defeated three spades if he had discarded a diamond at trick three, which is the guaranteed defense if partner has the diamond ace, as seems likely from his suit-preference club four at trick three. Then they would have taken one spade, one diamond, two clubs and a diamond ruff.

Magyar overruffed and led the spade king, giving East a second chance. If he had won the trick and returned a trump, three spades would have failed. But East ducked the trick. Now declarer played perfectly, driving out the diamond ace and getting home on a crossruff.

Plus 100 and plus 140 gave Hungary 6 IMPs. Then:

Board 23. Dealer South. Both vul.

<p>♠ A 7 6 3 ♥ 8 7 4 3 ♦ Q 8 4 ♣ A 4</p>	<p>♠ K 8 5 ♥ A Q 10 9 ♦ 6 2 ♣ K J 9 7</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ Q 10 4 ♥ K 6 2 ♦ A K J 5 3 ♣ 8 5</p>
	<p>♠ J 9 2 ♥ J 5 ♦ 10 9 7 ♣ Q 10 6 3 2</p>	

West <i>Kovacs</i>	North <i>Lev</i>	East <i>Dumbovich</i>	South <i>Eisenberg</i>
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West <i>Granovetter</i>	North <i>Szappanos</i>	East <i>Ekeblad</i>	South <i>Magyar</i>
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	All Pass

Ekeblad was under no pressure in two diamonds, collecting an overtrick.

Lev was worried that if he led a club, it would be into the ace-queen. So he guessed to lead a diamond. But that did not work. Declarer won in his hand, played a spade to dummy's queen, and continued spades to establish nine tricks: three spades, five diamonds and one club.

"Why didn't you raise clubs?" asked Lev.

"Because I had no hand," replied Eisenberg reasonably.

Minus 110 and plus 600 gave Hungary 10 IMPs. The margin was down to only 2 IMPs.

Three of the next boards were flat. On the fourth, the United States gained 4 IMPs from more accurate partscore bidding.

Then came the two decisive deals:

Board 28. Dealer West. North-South vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kovacs	Lev	Dumbovich	Eisenberg
1♣	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
Granovetter	Szappanos	Ekeblad	Magyar
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Granovetter did not like his 12-point hand and passed. Then Szappanos, noting the unfavorable vulnerability, opened with a weak two-bid. South maybe expected a weaker hand, or did not like his singleton heart, or both. Whatever, he passed.

Szappanos got everything right, discarding his spade losers on dummy's ace-king of diamonds and playing a heart to his ten to collect 11 tricks.



Billy Eisenberg, USA

In the other room, where Lev made a simple overcall, Eisenberg drove to game.

Three notrump was no great shakes – except that it made! Eisenberg took the diamond lead with dummy's bare queen, played a club to his ace, and continued with a heart to dummy's ten. When that won, declarer coasted to 11 tricks.

Minus 200 and plus 660 gave the United States 10 IMPs and the lead by 12.

Board 29. Dealer North. Both vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kovacs	Lev	Dumbovich	Eisenberg
	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♣ ^(a)	Pass	4♥	All Pass

(a) Quasi-splinter, his only clear slam-try

West	North	East	South
Granovetter	Szappanos	Ekeblad	Magyar
	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♦	Dble	Pass	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Four spades is the best game contract, and Ekeblad collected ten easy tricks.

Four hearts seems all right too, until you look at the North-South hands. Lev took the first two tricks in diamonds, then accurately shifted to his spade jack, giving declarer no chance. Dumbovich won with his ace and drew two rounds of trumps, then led a spade from his hand, but South won with his king and gave his partner a spade ruff.

Plus 620 and plus 100 gave 12 IMPs to the United States and the lead by 24.

The last three deals were quiet, Hungary gaining 5 IMP. The final score was a slightly flattering 222-198 to the United States, who moved forward to play Egypt in the semi-finals.

WBF Cards etc.

WBF cards, World Championship books and some other items will be sold on the second floor of the Intercontinental Hotel near the Vugraph auditorium.

USA v China Women Semi-Final 2

by Mark Horton

When the second session got underway China badly needed to get on to the scoreboard in a significant way – another losing set would leave them with a lot of work to do even with four sets to play.

No doubt they would stick to their game plan of bidding them up.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Wang	Radin	Liu
		Pass	Pass
INT	2♣*	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

The no-fear approach of the Chinese women was quickly evidenced with North showing her major two-suiter.

West led the ace of clubs and continued the suit when East followed with the king. Her diamond switch went to West's queen and she cashed the ace of diamonds and followed it with the ace of spades. The best defence now is to force the dummy with a club, which should lead to two down, but West played another spade and declarer won with dummy's king and ruffed a spade. Had she done so with the ten of hearts she would have been able to escape for one down, but she ruffed with the six and West overruffed with the seven. A club is still best, but West tried her diamond and declarer won with her king, discarding a spade from dummy. The jack of hearts was covered by the queen and ace and declarer came to hand with the ten of hearts. Now she could ruff a club, and draw the last trump for one down.

At least that is what she should have done, but when she played a diamond she promoted a trump trick for East to be two down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Seamon-Molson	Sun	Sokolow
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

With North/South keeping quiet the normal looking game was quickly reached, and played by West there is no legitimate way to defeat it, although declarer would do well to emerge with nine tricks on a passive diamond lead. Of course, North was never going to do that and when she started with two top hearts declarer had an easy route to +400 and 5 IMPs.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Wang	Radin	Liu
			Pass
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Four Spades is the normal contract, but it looks as if declarer should lose a trump, a heart and two clubs.

East led a diamond and declarer won with dummy's nine, knocked out the ace of spades, won the diamond continuation and took all her trumps and the king of diamonds to reach this position:

♠ — ♥ Q 4 ♦ — ♣ 8 4	N W E S	♠ — ♥ K 7 ♦ — ♣ A Q	♠ — ♥ A 9 ♦ — ♣ J 7
------------------------------	-------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------

Declarer exited with a club and East put in the queen. When West inexplicably failed to overtake the defence had engineered the endplay declarer was hoping for.

Of course, West must take most of the blame, but East should have spared her partner's blushes by taking the ace and

exiting with the queen.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Seamon-Molson	Sun	Sokolow
Pass	1♠	Dble	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♥*
All Pass			3NT

I doubt the Chinese would have let Four Spades make, but in the event they were not tested as the Americans rejected their ten-card fit. East led the ace of clubs and continued with the ten, so the defenders took the first six tricks for two down and 11 IMPs.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Wang	Radin	Liu
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the six of clubs for the queen and king and declarer crossed to the ace of hearts and ran the ten of spades. When that held she may have thought she was home, but North won the next spade and cleared the clubs. There was nothing declarer could do – she ducked a diamond to North and the defence cashed out for three down, -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Seamon-Molson	Sun	Sokolow
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The same contract, but with a big difference – East was declarer.

South led the two of hearts and declarer took North's queen with the ace and ran the ten of spades. North won and played back a heart, but declarer won and cleared the spades to set up nine tricks, which she was soon claiming. +400 was worth another 11 IMPs

China was on a roll and they missed a great chance on the next deal:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moss	Wang	Radin	Liu
2♥	1♣*	1♥	Pass
	3♦	4♥	All Pass

Five Diamonds is a very good save, but South preferred to defend.

Realising there was little point in leading partner's suit, she looked elsewhere and came up with a deadly spade lead – well almost, as she selected the four, rather than the killing ten. North put up the ace and switched to a trump, declarer taking two rounds ending in dummy. When a club brought forth North's ace the hand was over, declarer emerging with eleven tricks, +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Seamon-Molson	Sun	Sokolow
1♠	1♦	Dble	Pass
3♥	2♦	2♥	Pass
	Pass	4♥	All Pass

There was little chance South would lead a spade at this table and South led her partner's suit. North took the ace and switched to a trump. Declarer won with dummy's eight and played a club to North's ace, declarer being careful to unblock the ten from her hand.

North exited with a trump and declarer drew trumps and claimed ten tricks to give USA 1 IMP.

China had recovered some of the ground lost in the first set – there was all to play for.

Today's Coverage

Semifinals - 11.00

China - USA (W)	VG
England - Germany (O)	BBO2
England - Turkey (W)	BBO3
Italy - Norway (O)	BBO4
Indonesia - Japan (S)	OurGames1
Egypt - USA (S)	OurGames2

Semifinals - 5th & 6th Sessions to be decided