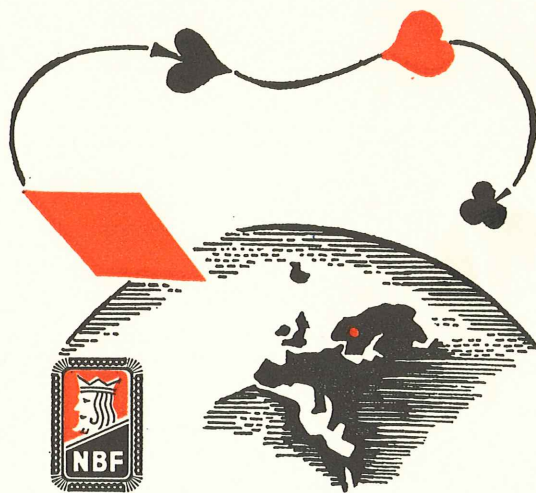


27. EUROPEAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Oslo, June 23^{rd.} - July 5^{th.} 1969



Bulletin No 1

Monday, June 23^{rd.}

DAILY BULLETIN

PRESENTED BY NORSK BRIDGEFORBUND

EDITOR: RHODA BARROW

Message from the President of the Norwegian Bridge Federation.

The Federation is delighted to welcome you to the 27th Championships. We are glad that so many have come to join us. We hope the tournament will give every satisfaction.

Welcome to you all!



THE BOAT TRIP.

We hope for nice weather. All players and officials are heartily invited. A few points to notice:

In the bags you will find tickets. You cannot come without a ticket! At the gangway you will find Miss A. Amundsen and Mr. H. Koritzinsky, who will give tickets to your wives and/or husbands. A free drink is included on the ticket.

On the boat there will be a self-service desk, where you can buy sandwiches, wine, beer, coffee etc., but unfortunately, not liquor. There will be dance, and everything will be informal, no speeches.



APPEAL COMMITTEE:

Two names should be added to the four appearing in the list of members of the Appeal Committee.

Here is the complete list:

Chairman:

Geoffrey L. Butler, Great Britain
Silvio Carini Mazzaccara, Italy
Andre L. Lemaitre, Belgium
Gudmund Pedersen, Norway
Denis G. Jackson, Ireland
Roman Skoroupo, Finland



PROGRAMME FOR MONDAY, JUNE 23rd.

11.00 hours: 1st Round.

Draw for Round 1:

Open Series
Norway - Greece
Switzerland - Italy
France - Ireland
Finland - Poland
Portugal - Germany
Austria - Belgium
Denmark - Turkey
Hungary - Sweden
Spain - Israel
Great Britain - bye

Ladies' Series
Italy - Denmark
Great Britain - Poland
Finland - Sweden
Greece - Netherlands
France - Ireland
UAR/Egypt - Spain
Norway - bye



PROSPECTS FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Many of the first-round matches, before "form" starts to show, are anybody's guess. We have, however, given much thought to possibilities and have come up with a few ideas - whether good or otherwise you will know later on Monday.

We give the Netherlands the edge over Iceland, though would not be altogether surprised if the Icelandic boys turned out to be dark horses, able to give a good account of themselves where least expected. When it comes to Finland v. Poland, we fancy that Poland may be nervous starters, suffering somewhat from the shock sustained when they came face to face with their hotel tariff! This may well give Finland the advantage they need.

What have the German selectors done with the longest cigarette holder in the whole business? It seems anyway, that it is out of business this year, which cannot but aid Portugal. A draw would not be an unexpected result.

In the Denmark v. Turkey match, experience alone should favour Denmark, as it is Turkey's first appearance in the Championships. We wish them well and hope they will be encouraged to compete regularly, however they fare this year.

The one prediction of which we feel completely confident is that Gt. Britain will emerge from the first day's play with the full quota of V. Ps. Owing to the last-minute withdrawal of Lebanon, Gt. Britain has a bye in the first round and, as the evening session is given over to a Mid-Summer Night's trip on Oslo Fiord, the British boys will not have to join battle until Tuesday.

France has a powerful team and it will be surprising if they don't end up within the first three. They are likely to start their climb at Ireland's expense in Round 1.

Hungary are newcomers to post-war European Championships, though they were the winners in 1934 and again here in Oslo in 1938, and it remains to be seen whether they can regain their erstwhile skill. Sweden will, however, almost inevitably prove too strong for them this time.

Norway should, unless their duties as the host-country become too onerous, take full V. Ps from Greece. Spain are noted for being hot starters, and we shall not be surprised if they repeat the flash-from-the-post which they achieved in Dublin in 1967. We hazard no guess in the matter of Austria v. Belgium.

Lastly, Switzerland v. Italy. For a Blue Team which is said to have broken up the Italians, to say the least of it, seem to float in an azure haze. Belladonna and Garozzo were amongst the Olympic winners in Deauville, and Belladonna, Bianchi, Messina and Mondolfo were on the winning team in Dublin in 1967. Switzerland, however, is capable of upsetting anyone in spite of the absence of Jean Besse and Jimmy Ortiz, though doubtless they are preparing a mighty onslaught for next year, when John Collings becomes eligible to join the squad. Nevertheless Italy must start - and will probably remain the favourites to take this year's title.

For those who like figures, Italy has won the European Championship seven times since the restart in 1948. Great Britain has won six times and, France four. Sweden has a lone success in 1952.

Turning to the Ladies Series, we give Great Britain to topple the holders, Sweden, in spite of the fact that the latter wear the double crown. In fact we have it on his own authority that the n. p. c. of British girls is taking two-to-one on this final result. They play the tough babies from the Polish woods in the first round and should come through with a nice few V. Ps. in the bag. It may be interesting to note that Mrs. Gordon and Mrs. Markus, though not always in partnership, have played on all Great Britain's winning teams. They are now joined by Mrs. Durran and Mrs. Friday, one of, if not the leading ladies' pair of the day, as well as the redoubtable Miss Shanahan and Mrs. Landy, which should augur well for their chances.

This does not mean that we underestimate the Swedish ladies, who have on their team four of the double crown holders, Mrs. Blom, Mrs. Segander, Mrs. Silborn and Mrs. Werner. It is sad for Finland, to have lost one of their leading players, Kate Runeberg, to the Open Team where she is one of the few ladies, and probably the youngest, to have earned this honour. Nor are the Italian girls to be trifled with.

The printed programme came through too late to show the cancellation of Switzerland, whose place is being taken throughout by UAR/Egypt.

Since 1948 Great Britain has taken the title seven times, Denmark five times, though have they faded since 1958. France have won four times and Sweden twice.

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

WORKING HONEYMOON?

One of the members of the Irish team, Eoin MacNeill, was married a few days ago to Miss Evelyn Clancy. Happy honeymoon, Evelyn!

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Starting Times, etc.

1. Rounds start at 11.00 hours and 19.30 hours respectively and any team which is not seated and ready to play within five minutes of the start of the session will be fined 5 match points for each minute thereafter.

2. Matches in both the Open and Ladies' Series will be of 32 boards, scored on the International Match Point scale and converted into V.P.s as follows: In each match:

- a) The winner will receive 3 Victory Points (V.P.)
- b) If the difference between the teams is less than 33 I.M.P., as the case may be, the 3 V.P.s will be divided between them according to the following scale:

0 to 2 I.M.P. each will receive	4 V.P.
3 to 12 I.M.P. the leading team will receive	5 V.P. -the opponents 3 V.P.
13 to 22 I.M.P. the leading team will receive	6 V.P. -the opponents 2 V.P.
23 to 32 I.M.P. the leading team will receive	7 V.P. -the opponents 1 V.P.

The teams shall be ranked according to the total number of victory points gained in the Championship.

All ties on the final V.P. list shall be broken by reference to the quotient obtained by dividing the total match points gained by the total match points lost. (The higher quotient in each case ranks above the lower.) In the event of a team having a bye in any round it will receive 3 V.P.

Penalties for Slow Play:

- a) At the beginning of each session the Tournament Director on Duty will announce the time by which the half-match must be completed. This will be 2 hours 10 minutes after the start.
- b) There will be 5 minutes grace not involving fines, but any team finishing the Session more than 5 minutes after the announced time for completion, will receive a warning. This will be a Yellow warning.
- c) Any team being more than 5 minutes late a second time, will receive a further warning, designated a Red warning.
- d) Any team which has received a Red warning and again finishes more than 5 minutes late, shall be fined according to following scale:

- I) From 6 to 10 minutes 10 I.M.P.
- II) From 11 to 15 minutes 3 V.P.
- III) From 16 to 20 minutes 4 V.P.
- IV) Over 20 minutes such fine in V.P.s not being less than above as the Tournament Committee shall think fit.

Players are requested to use the call "Pass" instead of "No Bid". English is the official language of the Championships.



BAGS FOR COMPETITORS:

Mrs. Ellinor Jervell, Chairman of the Service Committee, has done excellent work with the bags for the players. Unfortunately, as she does not know the names of the hotels in which the players are staying, a few have not been delivered. These can be obtained at the Information Desk.