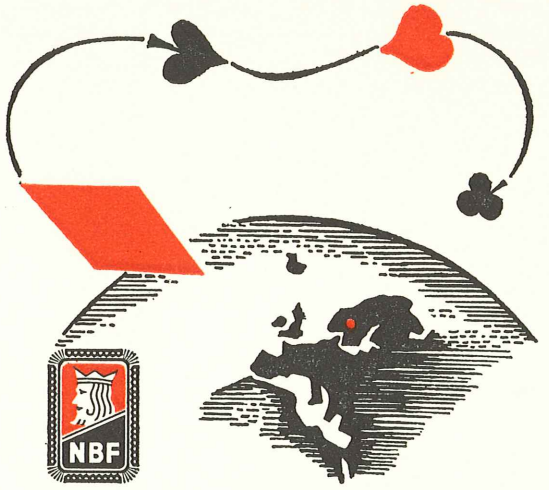
27. EUROPEAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Oslo, June 23rd. - July 5th. 1969



Bulletin No. 6

Saturday, 28th June

DAILY BULLETIN

PRESENTED BY NORSK BRIDGEFORBUND • EDITOR: RHODA BARROW

RESULTS

Draw	Half Time IMP	Result	V.P.
Open Series - Round 7			
Netherlands - Sweden	96 - 13	138 - 51	8 - 0
Spain - Denmark	27 - 33	60 - 105	0 - 8
Great Britain - Greece	53 - 22	80 - 34	8 - 0
Austria - France	58 - 35	87 - 70	6 - 2
Germany - Italy	18 - 66	41 - 145	0 - 8
Switzerland - Finland	63 - 16	114 - 48	8 - 0
Iceland - Belgium	20 - 37	48 - 57	3 - 5
Norway - Poland	29 - 17	51 - 81	1 - 7
Portugal - Israel	11 - 35	55 - 70	2 - 6
Hungary - Ireland	23 - 23	66 - 54	5 - 3
Turkey - bye			5
Open Series - Round 8			
Spain - Netherlands	7 - 35	32 - 52	2 - 6
Greece - Sweden	24 - 31	55 - 68	2 - 6
Denmark - Austria	52 - 29	94 - 65	7 - 1
Italy - Great Britain	47 - 19	92 - 50	8 - 0
France - Switzerland	23 - 45	66 - 66	4 - 4
Belgium - Germany	38 - 20	69 - 57	5 - 3
Finland - Norway	47 - 57	73 - 112	0 - 8
Israel - Iceland	43 - 18	96 - 53	8 - 0
Poland - Hungary	44 - 15	81 - 57	7 - 1
Turkey - Portugal	55 - 42	85 - 96	3 - 5
Ireland - bye			
Ladies' Series - Round 5			
Finland - Ireland	9 - 54	31 - 99	0 - 8
Denmark - Spain	30 - 47	62 - 98	0 - 8
UAR/Egypt - Greece	28 - 33	55 - 69	2 - 6
Norway - Sweden	29 - 62	75 - 108	0 - 8
Great Britain - Netherlands	31 - 56	91 - 77	6 - 2
Italy - France	48 - 12	69 - 27	8 - 0
Poland - bye			5

♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇

VICTORY POINTS

	Open Series:	
x	Italy	55
	Poland	47
x	Sweden	45
	France	44
	Switzerland	39
x	Belgium	39
x	Great Britain	37
x	Turkey	35
	Portugal	34
x	Israel	34
	Austria	33
	Norway	32
	Denmark	29
	Netherlands	28
x	Ireland	27
	Iceland	25
	Spain	25
	Hungary	22
x	Greece	20
	Germany	17
	Finland	13

	Ladies' Series:	
	Great Britain	33
	Sweden	29
	Italy	27
x	Ireland	27
	France	25
x	Greece	25
	Spain	23
x	Norway	23
	Netherlands	21
x	Denmark	12
	UAR/Egypt	11
x	Poland	10
	Finland	1

But see note on p.7 re pending appeal in the Great Britain - Netherlands match.

x= Had Their Bye (5 VP).

♤ ♡ ♧ ♢ ♤ ♡ ♧ ♢

MEMBERS of the Executive Committee on duty:
Saturday, 28th June, 11.00... Mr. W. Herseth
19.30... Mr. G. Butler

ON RAMA:
Saturday, 28th June at 19.30, France v. Norway, Ladies' Series.

ITALY v. ICELAND, Open Series - Round 6

The Italian recovery against Iceland, who were leading by 32 IMPs at half time, was a task which might have proved even beyond the Italian capacity were it not for a typically inspired choice of opening lead by Belladonna. This was his hand in the North position, with East the dealer and both sides vulnerable:

♤ A
♡ K 6 3
♢ 10 7 5 2
♧ A K Q J 9

and this was the auction in the Open Room:

N.	E.	S.	W.
	1♢	-	1♤
3♧	4♧	4♢	4♤
5♧	6♢	-	6♤
-	-	-	

What would your choice of opening lead be ?

32 IMPs behind at the half-way stage, the Italians brought in Messina and Bianchi, and firing on all cylinders, they managed to turn imminent defeat into a 6 - 2 V. P. win.

Reverting to the earlier problem, this was the full deal:

Dlr: East
Vul: All

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

And this the bidding in the Closed Room:

N.	E.	S.	W.
	1◇	-	1♠
1NT	D	2♣	3♠
-	4NT	-	5♣
D	6◇	-	-
-			

Six Diamonds was clearly an impossible contract which might have cost the Italians very heavily. Only Belladonna's choice of an opening heart lead saved the board, and prevented an adverse swing of 17 IMPs and an even more devastating half-time deficit.

BRIDGE AS SHE IS BEING SPOKE:

In a certain fourth round match the following deal turned up:

Dlr: South
Vul: N/S

	♠ A J 9 8 2 ♡ 10 5 4 3 ◇ 2 ♣ A K 7	
♠ 7 6 5 3 ♡ K J 8 6 ◇ Q 8 6 3 ♣ 5		♠ Q 10 ♡ A 7 ◇ A 10 9 5 4 ♣ Q 10 9 2
	♠ K 4 ♡ Q 9 2 ◇ K J 7 ♣ J 8 6 4 3	

Room 1

N.	E.	S.	W.
		-	-
1♠	-	2♣	-
2♡	-	2♠	-
3♣	-	3NT	-
-	-		

Result:
Made 4 tricks, 500 to E/W.

Room 2

N.	E.	S.	W.
		-	-
1♠	2◇	2NT	3◇
3♡	-	3NT	-
-	-		

Result:
Made 4 tricks, 500 to E/W.

Bidding Let us review the case for 3N. T. Combined point count 22 - well below the accepted practice. Any compensating feature such as a solid suit? None.

Play In both rooms West led the three of diamonds. In one room East took and returned the Ten(!). South played the Knave (!).

Problem How do you make only 4 tricks? If you are in a bad contract you must play for a favourable distribution, not an impossible one. When the King of Spades drops the Ten (or even a cunning Queen), you must plod on with the Ace. The first miracle has happened. Now you play the A K of clubs and the Queen does not drop - unlucky! But at least you've made eight tricks.

♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇

RIXI AND FRITZI AT WORK:

With the British girls having reached the top of the ladies' table, a spot, punters will recall, that your tipster forecast for them from the start, here's a hand from their Round 2 match against Spain which netted them 11 IMPs towards their 6 - 2 victory.

Dlr: North
Vul: None

	♠ Q 9 8 7 ♡ 7 2 ◇ J 5 4 ♣ A Q 8 4	
♠ K 10 6 5 3 ♡ A K Q 10 ◇ A 9 3 ♣ J		♠ A ♡ J 9 7 ◇ K Q 10 8 7 2 ♣ 7 6 2
	♠ J 4 2 ♡ 8 6 4 3 ◇ 6 ♣ K 10 9 5 3	

Closed Room

N.	E.	S.	W.
	Paternina		Merino
-	-	-	1♠
-	2◇	-	2♡
-	3♡	-	4♡
-	-	-	

Open Room

N.	E.	S.	W.
	Gordon		Markus
-	-	-	1♠
-	2◇	-	3♡
-	4◇	-	4NT
-	5◇	-	6◇
-	-	-	

In the Closed Room the Spanish girls bid to Four Hearts, a safe enough contract which can only be broken on a 5 - 1 trump split.

A much better sequence by the redoubtable Mrs. Rixi Markus and Mrs. Fritzi Gordon brought in the slam.

The diamond fit, of course, greatly enchanced Rixi's already strong hand, which she could be relied on to notice, and twelve tricks in diamonds proved a cert.

DENMARK v. SPAIN Round 7 - Ib Lundby.

The sun has been shining every day since we arrived in Oslo - but alas, more on our opponents, we think. Yesterday, however, we hit the target by beating Spain 8 - 0. It was our first blitz, and we will take good care of it. In board 22 Leif Bøgh-Sørensen made 3N. T. on a very nice play - 21 points in the combined hands was enough for him!

Dlr: East
Vul: E/W

	♠ A 9 8 6 5 ♡ K 9 ◇ A 10 9 3 ♣ 8 4	
♠ J ♡ A Q 8 7 6 4 ◇ K 9 7 ♣ 10 7 6		♠ K Q 10 2 ♡ 3 2 ◇ J 2 ♣ K Q J 9 5
	♠ 7 4 3 ♡ J 10 5 ◇ Q 6 5 4 ♣ A 3 2	

Of course the Spanish North should have thrown away a small heart instead of a diamond, because Bøgh- Sørensen now played a diamond to the King. North could take his master spade, but had to lead away from the King of Hearts, after which declarer claimed the balance.

In the Closed Room the Spanish E/W reached Four Hearts which was defeated by two tricks.

The optimistic bidding:

N.	E.	S.	W.
	1♠	-	1♡
1♠	1NT	-	3NT
-	-	-	

The opening lead, a small spade, was taken by North, and Bøgh took the next trick with the King of Spades. Three rounds of Clubs followed and South led his third Spade. Now East cashed his two Clubs and the ♠10 and the situation was this:

	♠ 9 ♡ K 9 ◇ A	
♠ - ♡ A Q ◇ K 9 ♣ -	♣ -	♠ - ♡ 3 2 ◇ J 2 ♣ -
	♠ - ♡ J ◇ Q 6 5 ♣ -	

INTRODUCING ..... Sven Rosengren, n.p.c. of the Swedish team:

Mr. Rosengren wasn't too happy about the time we chose to interview him - it was just at the end of the first half of the Swedish match against Netherlands. The four Swedes had played badly as well as being out of luck, and Netherlands was in the lead by 93 - 13 IMPs.

Mr. Rosengren still thinks the Swedish future in Oslo is promising, and that they have a good chance of being at least the runners-up, which in turn means a chance to play in the World Championships next year. The Swedish public expects a lot of its players and will be disappointed if they don't come through. Mr. Rosengren's chief consolation was that, at the half-way stage in this round, France, whom he considers to be their closest rivals for the runner-up spot, were also in a perilous position, being down to Austria by a margin of 23 IMPs. (We wonder who he is thinking of when he doesn't mention the winners.)

At the half-way stage of the Championships in Dublin in 1967, Sweden was in the lead but sagged more than somewhat thereafter. Mr. Rosengren doesn't think there is much risk of the same thing happening this year, as he likes his team. They make, he considers, a very well-matched group though each has his own characteristics, both good and bad. Because of the high standard of Swedish bridge, there are many other teams equally qualified to represent Sweden, amongst them the Swedish Champions. He is happy, however, that the gruelling trials brought this team to the top.

In the trials an original entry of eighteen teams played 160 boards in a qualifying round and, by the end of the trials the winners had played something like 800 boards. It hardly seems possible that any other team had to work so hard for the right to come to Oslo.

A WINNING LEAD.

Netherlands v. Sweden Open Class.
One of the positive Swedish boards in their calamitous blitz by Netherlands was board 29.

Dlr: North
Vul: All

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

BIDDING:

Open Room

N	E	S	W
-	5◇	-	5♡
-	6◇	-	-
-			

Closed Room

N	E	S	W
-	4◇	-	4♡
-	5◇	-	6◇

The Swedish South found the inspired lead of ♣Q. Declarer's only chance to make his contract after this lead is to cash the Ace of Clubs and iten lead the King of Hearts and play for the Ace to be with North.

The Dutch South did not find the killing lead. He led the Ace of Hearts and saved declarer's life. In the light of the bidding, though, this was a pretty dangerous lead

E. Wagle

GRANNIE BIDS GRANNIE.

A well bid hand by glamorous grandmother Joan Durran of Great Britain gave the British girls a flying start in their Friday clash with the Netherlands.

Dlr: West
Vul: All

	♠ A K Q 7 6 ♡ A Q J 2 ◇ A K J ♣ A	
♠ J 4 2 ♡ 8 5 ◇ 9 8 6 4 ♣ K J 6 2		♠ 10 8 5 3 ♡ 6 4 3 ◇ Q 10 5 3 ♣ 8 3
	♠ 9 ♡ K 10 9 7 ◇ 7 2 ♣ Q 10 9 7 5 4	

Closed Room

N.	E.	S.	W.
		-	-
1♣	-	1◇	-
2♠	-	3♣	-
3♡	-	4♡	-
6♡	-	-	-

Open Room

N.	E.	S.	W.
Friday		Durran	
			-
2♣	-	2◇	-
2♠	-	3♣	-
3♡	-	5♡	-
7♡	-	-	-

South's Five Heart bid was particularly well judged in the open room and enabled her partner to call the grand with confidence. In spite of this juicy swing the table leaders were facing a worrying 25 point deficit at half time and had to work hard to pull back to their eventual 6 - 2 win.

DON'T ASK QUESTIONS!

Dlr: East
Vul: N/S

	♠ 9 4 ♡ K 8 ◇ A 7 6 ♣ K 10 9 7 4 3	
♠ A J 5 ♡ Q 7 4 3 2 ◇ 10 4 2 ♣ J 5		♠ Q 8 7 3 2 ♡ A 10 9 5 ◇ 8 ♣ Q 8 6
	♠ K 10 6 ♡ J 6 ◇ K Q J 9 5 3 ♣ A 2	

Open Room

N.	E.	S.	W.
	-	1◇	-
2♣	-	2◇	-
3♡	-	3NT	-
-	-		

Closed Room

N.	E.	S.	W.
	-	1◇	-
2♣	-	2◇	-
-	-		

At the end of the bidding West asked if 3♡ were a cue bid and was informed that it just showed a value in hearts. He led the Three of Hearts and Silverstone, the declarer, had no difficulty in playing small from dummy.
MORAL: A question unasked in the hand is worth 2 answered in the bush.

B. J. Shenken.

LONGING FOR THEIR NIGHT-CAPS?

Hungary v. Turkey took only 70 minutes to complete the second half of their match. This is a record so far.

♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇

IMPORTANT:

Will members of the I. B. P. A. intending to participate in the Press Lunch next Thursday please hand in their names to the hostesses in the Press Room.

Jack Kelly.

♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇

SWEDEN v. GREAT BRITAIN, Open Series, Round 6

On Board 8 of their almost blitz match against Great Britain, both teams reached the same contract, though not played by the same hand.

Dlr: East
Vul: None

	♠ A 4 3 2 ♡ A J 6 3 ◇ K 3 ♣ 9 6 4	
♠ 7 ♡ Q 9 4 ◇ Q 10 6 4 2 ♣ Q J 10 8		♠ Q 10 9 5 ♡ 10 8 7 2 ◇ 9 7 5 ♣ 7 3
	♠ K J 8 6 ♡ K 5 ◇ A J 8 ♣ A K 5 2	

Bidding:

Open Room

N.	E.	S.	W.
	-	1♣	-
1♡	-	2NT	-
3♠	-	4♠	-
6♠	-	-	-

Closed Room

N.	E.	S.	W.
	-	2NT	-
3♣	-	3♠	-
4NT	-	5♡	-
6♠	-	-	-

The British South in the Closed Room got the lead of the ♣J, subsequently took the diamond finesse and went one down.

Played by the Swedish North in the Open Room, the lead was the ◇7. Dummy's knave was put in, covered by the queen and taken in the closed hand, effectively eliminating any chance of taking a losing finesse in that suit, so another line of play had to be tried. Declarer followed with the Ace and a small spade to the knave revealing the trump break. The ◇A was cashed and the last diamond ruffed in hand. The Ace and King of Clubs were taken, then the ♡K and a finesse of the heart knave. A club went away on the heart ace, North's last heart was ruffed, and the trump king provided the twelfth trick, East coming to just one winner from his remaining ♠Q-10.

♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇

GREAT BRITAIN v. NETHERLANDS, Round 5, Ladies' Series

A protest on Board 17 was lodged by the Netherlands team. The Tournament Director's decision that the board should be cancelled has been referred to the Appeals Committee by the Netherlands team. The result of this appeal may affect the score on the match by 1V.P.

♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇

Having agreed to play CAB, the lady opened Two Clubs, her partner bid 2N.T. and then she bid Six Hearts, against which the opponents promptly cashed two aces.

"But partner, you knew I had no ace!"
"AH! but I have not ze Two Clubs."

♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇

DRAW - Saturday, June 28th.

Open Series

11.00 hours: Round 9

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

19.30 hours: Round 10

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

Ladies' Series

19.30 hours: Round 6

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

♤ ♡ ♧ ♢ ♤ ♡ ♧ ♢

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME?

Open Series - Round 9: Netherlands-Greece looks a fair draw as, indeed, does Austria-Spain. Top-of-the-table Italy are likely to crash home with their advantage against Sweden and we give the away team to win by at least 6-2. On balance Switzerland should have the edge over their Danish cousins and Gt. Britain-Belgium looks a likely draw though the British may be a little disenchanted after last night's loss to Italy. Norway is disappointing the home public, who were hoping for better things, but they can't expect much from to-day's clash with France. Israel looks a banker for an away win against Germany who have hardly started up the ladder as yet. Finland are still back-markers and look likely to stay that way for the moment. Turkey should have the edge over Iceland and Ireland will, if those cokes, beers and milk are still hitting the spot, at least draw with Portugal.

Open Series - Round 10: Austria may well gain a few V.Ps. at Netherland's expense, but Greece are not likely to have much say as the Italian juggernaut rolls on. The Swiss seem in better form than the Spanish, and we give this match as a home win. Sweden, as we've heard, are working hard for the runner-up spot and may help themselves at Belgium's expense. Denmark-Norway is a local Derby which Norway will be straining to win, though the match may well end in a draw. Gt. Britain should take Israel in their stride and France should be able to cope with Hungary in spite of recent reverses. Turkey is still in the picture and may improve their position in the table against Germany. The islanders from Ireland and Iceland look good for a draw, and Poland is another banker for a home win.

Ladies' Series - Round 6: Spain are the likely winners against Poland and the lassies from the Emerald Isle should have the edge on UAR/Egypt. Sweden are bankers for a home win against Denmark, and Gt. Britain for an away win against Greece. The home country may well hope to do no worse than draw against France and Italy, back in their determined vein, should take points from Netherlands.