

Swiss Pairs for the Harold Poster Cup

Standings after Round 10

Position		VPs
1	Tom Hanlon & Hugh McGann	156
2	David Gold & David Bakhshi	154
3	Andy Bowles & John Howard	152
4	David Herman & Artur Malinowski	151
5=	Alan Woo & Tom Townsend	146
5=	Alice Kaye & Odin Svendsen	146
7=	Benjamin Paske & Ed Jones	145
7=	Neil Rosen & Martin Jones	145
9	Peter Crouch & John Armstrong	144
10=	Eddie Lucioni & David Moir	142
10=	Graham Jepson & David Musson	142
12	David Clifton & Julian Mitchell	141
13=	Andrew Thompson & Tony Clark	139
13=	Ashley Bach & Johnny Lenart	139
13=	John Phelan & Lucy Phelan	139
16=	Andrew McIntosh & Peter Hasenson	138
16=	Michael Byrne & Benjy Green	138
16=	Rune Hauge & Jan Svendsen	138
19=	Miles Cowling & David Jones	137
19=	Bernard Goldenfield & Rhona Goldenfield	137
21=	Peter Clinch & Ian Payn	136
21=	Steve Lee & Gad Chadha	136
23=	Alex Wilkinson & Tony Wilkinson	135
23=	Nissan Rand & Alex Hydes	135
25=	David Hinkin & Rosalind Concanon	134
25=	Alexander Allfrey & Anthony Forrester	134
27=	Mark Stretch & David Sheerin	133
27=	Ian Pagan & Chris Jagger	133
27=	Waseem Naqvi & Jerry Stamatov	133
27=	Michelle Brunner & Bill Hirst	133
27=	Chris Chambers & Jim Gobert	133
32	Andrea Galpin & David Galpin	132
33=	Heather Dhondy & Rob Cliffe	131
33=	Cameron Small & Martin Garvey	131
33=	Alan Kay & Andrew Macnair	131
36=	Ron Davis & Bill Taylor	130
36=	Malcolm Robinson & John O'Sullivan	130
36=	David Cooper & John C Williams	130
36=	Terry Walsh & Peter Goodman	130
40=	Gerry Stanford & Dave Franklin	129

40=	Bernie Harrison & Dave Duffy	129
40=	Ting To & Bob Rowlands	129
43=	David Dickson & Mike Hill	128
43=	Chris Smart & Peggy Moss	128
43=	Bill Godenzie & Alex Maddocks	128
43=	Maria Budd & Vernon Gaskell	128
43=	David Stimson & Roger Edmonds	128
48=	Alex Harding & Duncan Curtis	127
48=	Samantha Punch & Dee Harley	127
48=	Fiona Brown & Susan Stockdale	127
51=	Kath Nelson & Steve Eginton	126
51=	Brady Richter & Jennifer Richter	126
51=	Filip Kurbalija & Tim Rees	126
51=	Alan Wilson & Stuart McPhee	126
55=	Rebecca O'Keeffe & Ciara Burns	125
55=	John Herbert & Dawn Herbert	125
55=	Victor Savage & Chris Mooney	125
55=	Kate Morgan & Philip Morgan	125
59=	Brenda Garrini & Dennis Brogan	124
59=	Tony Waterlow & Ian Panto	124
59=	Paul Fegarty & Catherine Curtis	124
62=	Jim Grant & Stefan Lindfors	123
62=	Maureen Baser & Ian Hopkins	123
62=	Helen Erichsen & Espen Erichsen	123
65=	Ruth Edmondson & Brigid McElroy	122
65=	Mike Bell & Tom Dessain	122
65=	Thomas MacCormac & Eamon Galligan	122
65=	Michael Clark & Bryony Youngs	122
65=	John Williamson & Malcolm Grimston	122
65=	Tom Slater & Andrew Murphy	122
65=	Louise Solomon & Warner Solomon	122
65=	Jon Cooke & Graham Osborne	122
73=	Michael Pownall & Sarah Fazakerley	121
73=	Nigel Freake & Anne Catchpole	121
73=	Clive Owen & John Holland	121
73=	Anna Onishuk & Karel De Raeymaeker	121
73=	Philip Town & Neill Marcus	121
73=	Richard Butland & John Reardon	121
73=	Geoffrey Lederman & Noorul Malik	121
73=	Prakash Paranjape & Vivek Bhand	121
81=	Geoffrey Wolfarth & Gary Hyett	120
81=	Mike Webley & Ernest Schlesinger	120
81=	Stuart Nelson & David Ewart	120
81=	Dave Rutter & Stuart Rutter	120
81=	John Sutcliffe & Chris Megahey	120
81=	Mike Davies & Dave Armstrong	120
81=	Keith Bennett & Jeremy Dhondy	120
88=	Tim Brierley & Mike Elliott	119
88=	Michael Whittaker & Roger Sweet	119
88=	Dave Nastaszczuk & Phil Roxburgh	119
91=	Helen McEwing & Ivan Bruce	118

Today's Schedule

11.00 am	Discuss it with an Expert
12.30 pm	Swiss Pairs , Session 4 (4 matches)
5.00 pm	Partner Teacher Training
8.00 pm	Open Pairs and Open Teams

It's All On The Lead

Often, the opening lead can be crucial, and this was the case on these three deals from the Friday evening session of the Swiss Pairs Championship.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Morton	Schogger	Derwig	Paul
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Four Spades offers a secure eleven tricks, as declarer can take hearts pitches on the clubs before drawing trumps if need be, but 3NT is the normal contract, and one against which the opening lead will swing a lot of matchpoints.

On any non-heart lead, declarer has time to knock out the ace of spades and come to eleven tricks. But Jane Morton led the jack of hearts, ducked by Vanda Derwig, and now the best that Ned Paul could do was to also duck as South, else he is held to nine tricks. Derwig won the next heart and the declarer had the spade ace to come; ten tricks for +430 but only 26 MPs out of 118 for North/South.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

A few boards later, Schogger and Paul extracted their revenge as they bid to a bad contract but via a route that made it difficult to beat.

West	North	East	South
Morton	Schogger	Derwig	Paul
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

Personally, I prefer a simple 2♦ rebid with the North cards, but it is a matter of style – being an incurable pessimist, I never expect AKQxxx to play for six tricks so take the more cautious approach.

Here, Schogger chose the more aggressive rebid and Paul just blasted the small slam – a practical approach which paid rich dividends when West could not find a club lead.

The actual spade lead would be the popular choice, I suspect.

Declarer did not risk the heart finesse so there was no overtrick, but still 91 MPs to North/South for +990.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Belsten	P. Littlewood	Davies	F. Littlewood
—	—	Pass	2♣
Dble	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Omission

In yesterday's article on the 3rd European Open Championships, I neglected to mention that Nick Sandqvist and Artur Malinowski took the silver medal in the Open Pairs, giving them a second medal at the Championships to go with the bronze in the Mixed Teams.

The article was a reprint of one for publication overseas, where English success was not particularly relevant, and I simply overlooked their success when preparing it for the bulletin here in Brighton. Sorry about that.

Swiss Pairs 2

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

This one was a triumph for Precision. If South opens 1♣, it is normal for West to overcall 1♠ and, after East has raised in competition, a spade will always be led should N/S reach 3NT – holding the contract to eight tricks.

When South opens 2♣, showing long clubs with around 11-15 HCP, a take-out double becomes a better choice as West.

The point is that, after a one-level opening, you overcall because otherwise you lose the fifth spade – the hand is clearly not strong enough to double then bid the spades later – but you intend to show your extra values and support for the other suits later, by doubling 2♣ or perhaps even 3♣.

After a two-level opening, the hand is only really worth one bid, as after overcalling you would have little to spare for a second action, and if you are only going to bid once then the three-suited nature of the hand should take precedence over the fifth spades, hence double is correct.

This time, 2♣ worked a treat because, when Paul Littlewood tried 3NT, Stuart Davies had no clear reason to lead a spade. He thought that the 10-9 combination in diamonds might help to establish the suit in partner's hand and so the ♦9 was his choice.

Paul Belsten won the diamond and switched to a spade but it was too late. Declarer could win and play the ♦J and, while ducking that held him to one diamond trick, +400 was still an excellent score for N/S.

♠ 8 5 3 ♥ J 10 8 2 ♦ 8 7 2 ♣ Q J 8	♠ Q 7 4 2 ♥ K 9 6 4 ♦ J 9 6 5 3 ♣ –	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; 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 9 6 ♥ A 5 3 ♦ 4 ♣ K 10 9 6 5 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ K J 10 ♥ Q 7 ♦ A K Q 10 ♣ A 7 4 3												

West	North	East	South
–	<i>H. Erichsen</i>		<i>E. Erichsen</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dble
Pass	1♥	2♣	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

When a stranger asks my opinion about a bid I try to be constructive and give the best opinion I can. When one of my occasional partners comes along with a query I may be less helpful – barking mad, or clinically insane, are quite normal descriptions for my partners. On this deal from Match 5, Espen Erichsen gave me ample scope to be insulting.

The initial take-out double can only be described as immaculate. However, I believe that either of the above descriptions is entirely appropriate for someone whose second call is to raise partner's forced bid on queen-doubleton. Espen was not confident how a second double would have been taken but, in theory, it shows precisely this type of hand – strong and semi-balanced but lacking primary support for partner's suit.

Had Espen doubled again, I guess that Helen Erichsen, with a fair hand and support for three suits, might have cuebid 3♣, after which game should be reached. The 2♥ raise might have pointed the partnership in the wrong direction had it not been for Helen's 3♦ bid, which Espen raised to game – an excellent contract.

Trivia Quiz 2

Middle Names

What is or was the middle name of the following?

1. Elvis Presley
2. Lt.Col. George Custer
3. Mikhail Gorbachev
4. Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi
5. John Lennon
6. Kevin Costner
7. Isambard Brunel
8. Wayne Rooney
9. Ian Botham
10. Neil Armstrong

Today in History

On August 12th 1887, American inventor Thomas Edison made the world's first sound recording – reciting 'Mary Had A Little Lamb' onto a foil-wrapped cylinder on a machine which he called the Edisonphone – showing that the imagination which helped him as an inventor did not extend to the naming of his creations!

SMOKING

The only approved smoking area is outside the front entrance of the hotel.
 Using the fire exits is not permitted.
 Local residents have complained to the Environmental Health Department, which has warned the hotel that further complaints could lead to the premature closure of the congress.

What The Director Sees

By John Probst

Bridge players know that they've scored a goal when I scurry off to get the Law Book. I probably shouldn't but I rule the common infractions from memory because the players know the laws pretty well themselves and are just going through the motions of getting the ruling so that they can get on with the game. They really don't need me to thumb through the book for them.

Here's a good one, though, and a situation where I did need to use the book.

Match 5. Board 13. (See previous article for deal)

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Dhondy</i>	—	<i>Bennett</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dble
Pass		!	

! – 'OK, I pass then.'

We have an out of turn Pass after the bidding has been opened and the player agrees that he tried to pass.

We all know that the next player can condone the call out of turn, but this one has an extra wrinkle. So, what are the options?

- 1) We can refuse to accept the call out of rotation, in which case North gets to speak and East must repeat his pass.
- 2) We can bid over the pass and everything carries on as normal with no penalty.
- 3) We can pass and, since there have been three passes, you might think that the auction would be over, but it is not. There is a little known Law (L34) which states that a player cannot be deprived of his right to bid. So if South passes 1♣ doubled out we cancel the last two passes and give North his bid back – and this is what actually happened. I really did need my book for this one.

South later explained that he thought that, by passing and letting the auction revert to his partner, he should be showing a four-card club suit, rather than refusing to accept the call out of rotation and having to take action after the bidding came back around to him.

As he would not have doubled in the first place with a weak no trump type, and would usually have overcalled INT with 15-17, accepting the call out of rotation by passing, thereby sending the auction back to partner, should really show 18+ balanced.

Pretty neat to show your hand in that fashion, don't you think?

Nissan Rand is over from Israel as every year because of the Seniors Congress in the midweek period of the tournament. When his partner let him down at short notice, he was fortunate to be paired up with the talented young English player, Alex Hydes. Nissan and Alex scored 100% of the matchpoints on this deal from Session 2.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Hydes</i>	—	<i>Rand</i>
INT	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdbl	Pass	2♣	Dble
2♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	2♠	Dble
All Pass			

Nissan is not a great fan of the weak no trump, especially when vulnerable – except, of course, when it is used by his opponents!

When Hydes doubled the INT opening, East passed, forcing to redouble, and the mad scramble began. When the merry-go-round finally came to a halt, East was in 2♣ doubled, where he managed to come to only two tricks – not a great effort in the play by declarer, who might have made another trick, one would think – and that was 1700 to Hydes/Rand.

Deep Finesse assures us that, while 7♣ can be made on this next deal, also from Session 2 (there is a red-suit squeeze against East), even 6♥ should be defeated.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A 6 5		♠ K Q J 2									
♥ K J 6 2		♥ Q 9 5 3									
♦ 6		♦ Q 9 4 3 2									
♣ A K Q 8 2		♣ —									
♠ 10 9 8 7 3											
♥ 10											
♦ J 10 5											
♣ 10 7 6 5											
	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 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										
		♠ 4									
		♥ A 8 7 4									
		♦ A K 8 7									
		♣ J 9 4 3									

West	North	East	South
<i>T. Copeland</i>	<i>Pownall</i>	<i>G. Copeland</i>	<i>Fazakerlay</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

Neat Endplay

Leading junior, Ben Green played this partscore nicely in Session 1 of the Swiss pairs.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

Mike Pownall found himself in the heart slam on the lead of the king of spades, which he won with the ace. Aided by the take-out double, he advanced the jack of hearts to the queen, ace and ten, and now the ♥8 was run to East's nine.

East played back a top spade but that allowed the contract homw. Pownall ruffed in dummy, drew trumps with the king-six, and had a discard for his third spade on the king of diamonds; +980.

Declarer needs the spade return to allow him to take the spade ruff for his twelfth trick. A diamond or heart return would leave him an entry short to take a ruff and draw trumps, due to the four-zero club split.

Note also that declarer's best play was the ♥J at trick two, as this gave him a chance for success when the defence slipped up. If he instead plays the ♥K then a second heart, the nine forces the ace and it is easy for East to come to two trump tricks.

♠ J 9 4 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ 10 9 8 5 ♣ A 7 3	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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	♠ Q 7 6 5 3 ♥ 7 3 ♦ K ♣ K Q 10 4 2 ♠ 10 2 ♥ K Q J 10 2 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ 9 8 6 ♠ A K 8 ♥ 9 6 5 ♦ Q J 7 6 3 ♣ J 5
N					
W E					
S					

West	North	East	South
<i>Byrne</i>		<i>Green</i>	
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♦
2♥	All Pass		

Green and Michael Byrne had already won the board in the auction, where North really needed to get involved, probably best being to make a competitive double of 2♥ – he will be delighted to hear partner bid either black suit and has sufficient high-card strength to make up for the lack of trump length should South repeat the diamonds. Here, South should respond 2♠ to the double, and North will even consider raising to 3♠.

South led out the top spades then continued with a third round – not that it mattered at this point. Green ruffed the third spade and ducked a club to cut the defensive communications. It didn't matter what North returned but in practice he chose a trump. Green won, drew the trumps and cashed the ace of clubs. Finally, he played ace of diamonds, dropping the king, and another diamond. South could win the second diamond and cash another but, down to nothing but diamonds, had then to give a trick to dummy's ♦10, and away went declarer's remaining club loser; +110.

Nicely done. Declarer could be almost certain that North had a bare honour in diamonds as South would otherwise have either led or switched to the suit.

Trivia Quiz 2 Solutions

1. Elvis Aaron Presley
2. Lt.Col. George Armstrong Custer
3. Mikhail Sergeevich Gorbachev
4. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi
5. John Winston Lennon
6. Kevin Michael Costner
7. Isambard Kingdom Brunel
8. Wayne Mark Rooney
9. Ian Terence Botham
10. Neil Alden Armstrong

Discuss it with an Expert

(11.00 am in the Cambridge Room)

This morning's expert will be one of the country's leading players:

Andrew Robson

Why not bring your problems from yesterday for some expert advice.

Dress Code

It is perfectly acceptable to wear tailored shorts whilst playing in the congress, but not trunks or football-style shorts.