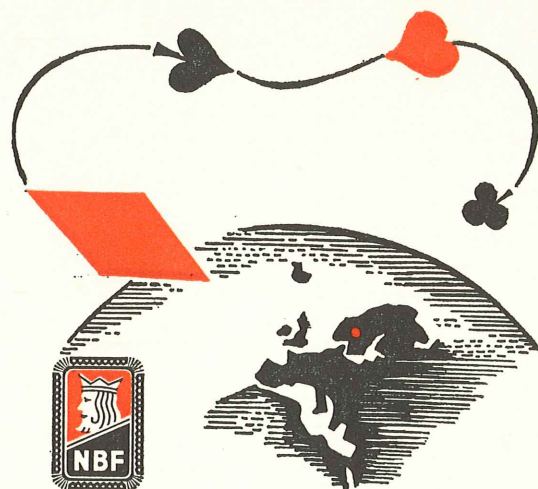


27. EUROPEAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

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

Bulletin No 2

Tuesday, 24th June 1969



DAILY BULLETIN

PRESENTED BY NORSK BRIDGEFORBUND

EDITOR: RHODA BARROW

RESULTS.

| <u>Draw</u> | <u>Half Time IMP</u> | <u>Result</u> | <u>V. P.</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <u>Open Series - Round 1</u> | | | |
| Norway - Greece | 6 - 3 ² | 47 - 58 | 3 - 5 |
| Switzerland - Italy | 41 - 31 | 60 - 87 | 1 - 7 |
| France - Ireland | 53 - 23 | 89 - 54 | 8 - 0 |
| Finland - Poland | 6 - 58 | 44 - 115 | 0 - 8 |
| Portugal - Germany | 33 - 34 | 80 - 60 | 6 - 2 |
| Austria - Belgium | 35 - 38 | 59 - 65 | 3 - 5 |
| Denmark - Turkey | 60 - 49 | 109 - 92 | 6 - 2 |
| Hungary - Sweden | 39 - 12 | 77 - 69 | 5 - 3 |
| Spain - Israel | 58 - 19 | 96 - 76 | 6 - 2 |
| Great Britain - bye | | | 5 |
| <u>Ladies Series - Round 1</u> | | | |
| Italy - Denmark | 34 - 30 | 72 - 69 | 5 - 3 |
| Great Britain - Poland | 47 - 30 | 104 - 40 | 8 - 0 |
| Finland - Sweden | 28 - 42 | 44 - 99 | 0 - 8 |
| Greece - Netherlands | 53 - 40 | 84 - 65 | 6 - 2 p. |
| France - Ireland | 27 - 24 | 80 - 27 | 8 - 0 |
| UAR/Egypt - Spain | 38 - 44 | 82 - 76 | 5 - 3 |
| Norway - bye | | | 5 |

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

ON RAMA AND ON T. V.

Tuesday, 24th June at 11.00, Italy v. Norway, Open Series.
RAMA, Tuesday 24th at 19.30, Denmark v. Poland

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

Members of the Executive Committee on duty:

Tuesday, 24th June, 11.00... Count R. de Vitry

19.30... Mr. G. Butler

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

/ V. P. Tables on p. 2

VICTORY POINTS

| <u>Open Series</u> | | <u>Ladies' Series</u> | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Poland | 8 | Great Britain | 3 |
| Iceland | 3 | Sweden | 3 |
| France | 3 | France | 8 |
| Italy | 7 | Greece | 6 |
| Portugal | 6 | UAR/ Egypt | 5 |
| Spain | 6 | Italy | 5 |
| Denmark | 6 | Norway | 5 |
| Greece | 5 | Denmark | 3 |
| Hungary | 5 | Spain | 3 |
| Belgium | 5 | Netherlands | 2 |
| Great Britain | 5 | Ireland | 0 |
| Austria | 3 | Finland | 0 |
| Sweden | 3 | Poland | 0 |
| Norway | 3 | | |
| Turkey | 2 | | |
| Israel | 2 | | |
| Germany | 2 | | |
| Switzerland | 1 | | |
| Ireland | 0 | | |
| Netherlands | 0 | | |
| Finland | 0 | | |

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

INTRODUCING..... Miss AMBJØRG AMUNDSEN
President of the Norwegian Bridge Federation

Miss Amundsen became Vice-President of the Norwegian Bridge Federation in 1963 and went on to become President in 1967, a position she still holds. You don't reach such exalted office without having done something for the game, and this Miss Amundsen has done in no small measure.

In 1935 she started her own club, of which she was secretary and, at the time, was one of only two women amongst eighty men. It was run for the working population, Miss Amundsen having been closely associated with the Socialist movement most of her life, and it soon became the largest Club in Norway. It was affiliated to the Workers' Association, which covered sport of all kinds. When war came to Norway in 1940, the Norwegian and the Workers' Federations united, just as Norway united.

Miss Amundsen has continued to work for the promotion of bridge in many ways. In 1947 she became a member of the Board of the Norwegian Bridge League, and she has continued actively since then, not only on the Board but as a member of the organising Committees.

In her spare (!) time Miss Amundsen works from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the offices of "Arbeiderbladet", Norway's largest socialist newspaper. She also writes a daily bridge column for the paper, and a weekly half page every Saturday.

As a token of their appreciation of the work she has done for the promotion of bridge over the years, and for her immense labours in connection with the presentation of these Championships, the Norwegian Bridge Federation yesterday presented Miss Amundsen with a beautiful diamond ring - a reward which she has richly earned.

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

Our Hosts, the Members of the Norwegian Team (Open Series)

The average age of the players is forty-one years and the members of the team have, among them, twenty previous appearances in the Championships.

From Stavanger, Erik Hoie and Louis Andre Strom are playing in their sixth championship together, and are proud that they have beaten Italy twice, last in Warsaw. They play the Efos System, which they handle extremely well, and this pair has the full confidence of all Norwegians.

From Oslo, Tore Jensen and Willy Varnas, playing their second championship, playing an Italian-inspired system - natural bidding with a One Club artificial opening. Their forceful bidding of games and slam is feared by all opponents.

The last pair is Knut Koppang and Bjorn Larson. Knut Koppang is the baby of the party and a newcomer to European Championships as well. In spite of his age he is an excellent player, and a fighter who is at his best when the opponents have the upper hand.

Bjorn Larsen, aged 47, is the old man of the team and is playing his ninth European Championship. When he played in Copenhagen in 1948 he was called "promising". By 1959 he had become an experienced player, and in 1965 the Swedish Bridge Magazine said that the young Swedes had no chance at all against Norway as the old men, Larsen and Halle, were too good. Now he's wondering what they'll say about him next!

The team's common hope is that the home public will encourage them, and that they will back them up instead of bothering them with useless talk and pessimistic criticism.

To show you that we still know how to play bridge in Norway, here is just one example from the Norwegian Championships.

North:

♠ 10

♥ K Q 3

♦ 10 4 3

♣ A Q 10 9 4 3

East:

♠ A K J 4 2

♥ 6 5 4

♦ 5 4 3 2

♣ J

N.

S.

3♣

3NT

West led the ♥8 which South won with the ace. Declarer then led a small club which fell to East's singleton knave.

What should East play next to defeat the contract?

Yes, quite right! The ♠J. Let's have a look at South's hand - ♠ Q 8 7 3: ♥ A J 8: ♦ A K 6: ♣ 8 5 3:

Arild Torp.

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ ♠ ♥ ♦ ♠

ALLOWED IN THE CLOSED ROOM AND NO OTHERS:

Count Carl Bonde

Dr. I. S. Carini Mazzaccara

Herr E. Heldring

Mr. G. L. Butler

Count C. de Hemricourt

Mr. D. Jackson

Herr Roman Skoroupo

Count R. de Vitry

Monsieur A. Littman Lemaitre

Tournament Directors

Two appointed members of the I. B. P. A.

A Representative of the Daily Bulletin

HEART FAILURE of the Bulletin forecasters when the first half score of the Switzerland v. Italy match threatened to upset one of the firmest forecasts. Italy were trailing 31 - 41 and here is one of the hands that did it:

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|--|-----------|-------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| Dlr: East | | ♠ K 8 | Open Room | | | |
| Vul: E/W | | ♥ Q 9 3 6 | N | E | S | W |
| | | ♦ K J 5 3 | Trad | Belladonna | Fenwick | Mondolfo |
| | | ♣ A Q 6 | | 1 ♠ | - | 1 ♦ |
| ♠ Q 9 5 4 2 | | ♠ A J 7 3 | 1 NT | - | 2 NT | - |
| ♥ 10 | | ♥ K 7 4 3 | 3 NT | - | - | - |
| ♦ Q 7 4 2 | | ♦ A 10 | Closed Room | | | |
| ♣ J 9 3 | | ♣ 10 7 5 | N | E | S | W |
| | | ♠ 10 6 | Messina | Jacoby | Bianchi | Catzlflis |
| | | ♥ A J 5 2 | | 1 ♥ | - | 1 ♠ |
| | | ♦ 9 3 5 | | 2 ♠ | All pass | |
| | | ♣ K 3 4 2 | Dbl | | | |

Against Two Spades the ♠ 3 was led and nine tricks were made for a score of 140 to Italy. In the Open Room Switzerland did well to reach 3 NT after Belladonna's opening bid on their somewhat thin values.

The ♥ 7 was led which was a help in the first place, the heart finesse was right and the clubs broke, all of which added up to nine tricks and 400 to Switzerland. Hard luck to Italy, who could hardly be held responsible for the loss of 6 IMPs.

The Italian squad had come as three set pairs, Garozzo - Frendo, Belladonna - Mondolfo, and Messina - Bianchi. But this lasted for exactly sixteen boards, after which the giants were back together again and one of the Swiss players commented somewhat sadly "Ah! Now the Italians are taking us seriously!" They were indeed, and ran out to win the match by 27 IMPs, 7 V. Ps.

THAT ONE HOYT

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--------------|-------------|------|---|------|
| Dlr: West | | ♠ 10 5 2 | Open Room | | | |
| Vul: None | | ♥ 6 2 | N | E | S | W |
| | | ♦ 9 7 2 | | | | |
| | | ♠ 10 9 8 5 2 | - | 1 ♠ | - | 2 NT |
| ♠ Q J 7 | | ♠ A K 3 | - | 4 NT | - | 5 ♦ |
| ♥ J 10 3 | | ♥ K Q 5 3 | - | 5 NT | - | 6 ♠ |
| ♦ 3 6 4 | | ♦ K Q J 10 | - | 6 NT | - | - |
| ♣ A Q 7 6 | | ♣ K J | - | | | |
| | | ♠ 9 8 6 4 | Closed Room | | | |
| | | ♥ A 9 7 4 | N | E | S | W |
| | | ♦ A 5 3 | | | | |
| | | ♣ 4 3 | - | 2 NT | - | 3 NT |

BOARD 24, LADIES SERIES, GREAT BRITAIN V. POLAND.

The Hoyt variation of Blackwood had an unfortunate airing in the first round Ladies match between Great Britain and Poland. It contributed towards the British 107 - 40 blitz win.

In the closed room routine natural bidding led to a dull 3NT and eleven tricks. In the open room, however, artificial bidding took over. The opening club bid was forcing, the response of 2NT showed a maximum pass, 4NT was Blackwood. Five Diamonds showed one Ace. So far, so good. At this point, Five hearts would have been Hoyt at work, asking for Kings, and the 5NT bid chosen should have stopped the partnership in the best spot, but alas, the message was not received and 6NT offered remarkable little play. Was this the first slam of the tournament to be bid without the appropriate number of Aces?

Alan Heron

DRAW - Tuesday, June 24th.

11.00 hours: Round 2, OPEN SERIES

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

IMPORTANT
TO ALL TEAM CAPTAINS

THE TOURNAMENT
DIRECTORS URGENTLY REQUEST
THE ATTENDANCE OF ALL TEAM
CAPTAINS AT A MEETING IN THE
OPEN ROOM 2? AT 10 a.m. THIS
MORNING, TUESDAY 24th JUNE

19.30 hours: Round 3, OPEN SERIES

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

19.30 hours: Round 2, LADIES SERIES

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

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE - IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PLAYERS:

Because of the absence of table scorers, competitors are referred to Rule 16 which appears on p. 31 of the official programme. They are requested to use the following formula when about to make any opening bid at higher than the one-level:

"Stop! I am about to make a skip bid."

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

A HEARTY INVITATION.....

is extended to all members of the Press and players to assist the Bulletin (office downstairs beyond the Press Room) with accounts of interesting hands or "human interest" stories. With Charles Monk and Bobby Slavenberg missing from the Championships, the latter will be sadly curtailed!

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

A TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE decision is that a bye shall be awarded 5 V.P., which it is considered will reflect more accurately the actual positions in the table.

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

The Shape of Things to Come?

Open Series - Round 2: Will the weakened Dutch side be able to cope with Finland, or will the feminine charms of Kate Runeberg carry the day? This would be our guess. Iceland may well produce one of the dark horse wins expected - as indeed they did in Round 1. On form France must beat Poland, and Great Britain should open their account at Portugal's expense. Ireland are always at their best early on, although in teetotal Oslo we may well get some surprises later!

Spain, as powerful starters and with the greater experience, should not have much trouble with Turkey, Greece-Hungary and Israel-Austria look the most likely candidates for draws, and Italy should not have too much trouble in disposing of Norway, for whom the added strain of both T. V. and 'Rama will be no help.

Open Series - Round 3: Bearing in mind Monday's results, it seems fair to forecast a draw for Netherlands-Germany, neither of whom have started well. France should take Finland in her stride, having opened convincingly against Ireland as forecast by our late tipster (dropped quietly into Oslo Fiord after some of his late predictions - we may fish him out again if we pass him on the trip to-night).

In spite of Iceland's 8-0 blitz of Netherlands yesterday, Gt. Britain should add to their anticipated store of V. Ps, and Denmark might well draw with Poland. It's time Sweden started their search for points after their anti-forecast loss yesterday. Spain may well continue in winning vein whilst Austria-Turkey look like bankers for a draw. The Italian juggernaut should sweep on against Hungary.

In recent years the Israeli team has regularly failed to conform with the Bulletin's forecasts, so it is in no way wishing either of them ill that we go for Switzerland here. Norway disappointed yesterday and the best we can predict for them is a draw against Belgium.

Ladies' Series - Round 2: There are no vital clashes in this round, and all may well go according to form. This means that we expect wins for Denmark, Ireland, Italy, France, and Great Britain, with Sweden-Switzerland the only probable draw.

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

THE FIRST DAY

At 11.00 Miss Ambjorg Amundsen opened the proceedings with a short speech of welcome to all competitors, officials, and visitors, wishing a happy stay in Norway to everyone.

Apart from the excitement of the bridge, to-night is Mid-Summer's Night, the shortest night of the year - and the nights are so short in Norway that it is scarcely dusk before it becomes dawn. It is also the feast of St. John the Baptist which is celebrated with music, huge bonfires, and dancing throughout the country. It is a noteworthy fact that the greater proportion of Norway's illegitimate babies are born in March, though this should not be taken as an open invitation by the visiting bridge players! They will, in any case, be having their own celebration, a trip on Oslo Fiord to which all are invited.

Count Carl Bonde, President of the E. B. L., then came to the microphone. He welcomed everybody, especially Turkey, newcomers to the Championships, and Hungary, not so much newcomers as returning to the fold. He then formally declared the Championships open.