World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 52. Wednesday, 24 February, 2021

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE:
THE FINAL WILL BE MOSS vs LEBOWITZ

The Final of the OCBL Open League will be Moss vs Lebowitz.

Both Moss and Lebowitz were leading after the first half of the Semifinals.
With the second segment they increased their lead, and will now face each other in the Final.

Yesterday's match was broadcast on Twitch.
The commentators were Simon Cope and Alon Birman.
You can replay the show at:
https://www.twitch.tv/videos/925760143

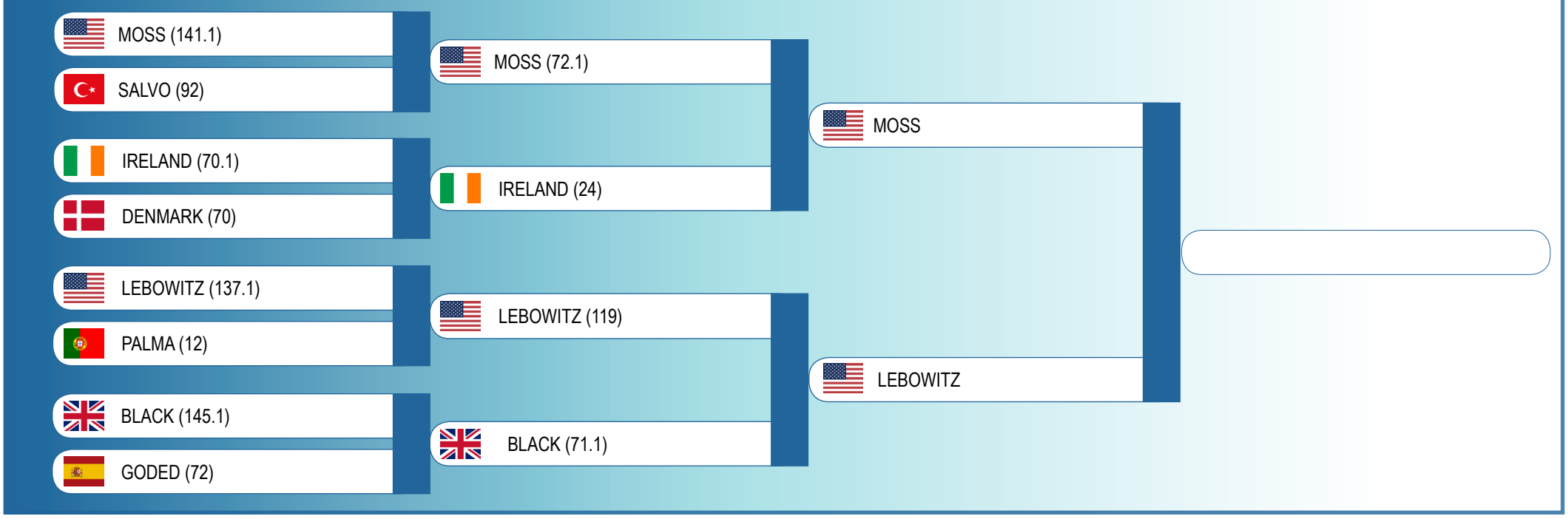
DISCOVER THE SUPER CUP

The new OCBL event will be played from 2 to 9 March, 2021.

29 AMAZING teams have already registered!

Check the details on page 6.

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE - THE BRACKET



World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL UPCOMING EVENTS

SUPER CUP

2 March - 9 March, 2021

		CET	EST
Qualification:	Tuesday 2 March	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Wednesday 3 March	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Thursday 4 March	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Friday 5 March	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
KO:	Monday 8 March	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Tuesday 9 March	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30

OPEN LEAGUE

29 March - 25 April, 2021

Play every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday at 21.30 CEST - 15.30 EDT

APRIL CUP

5 - 9 April, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 5 April	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
	Tuesday 6 April	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Wednesday 7 April	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
	Thursday 8 April	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
KO:	Friday 9 April	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30

MAY CUP

3 - 7 May, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 3 May	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
	Tuesday 4 May	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Wednesday 5 May	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
	Thursday 6 May	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
KO:	Friday 7 May	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30

OPEN LEAGUE

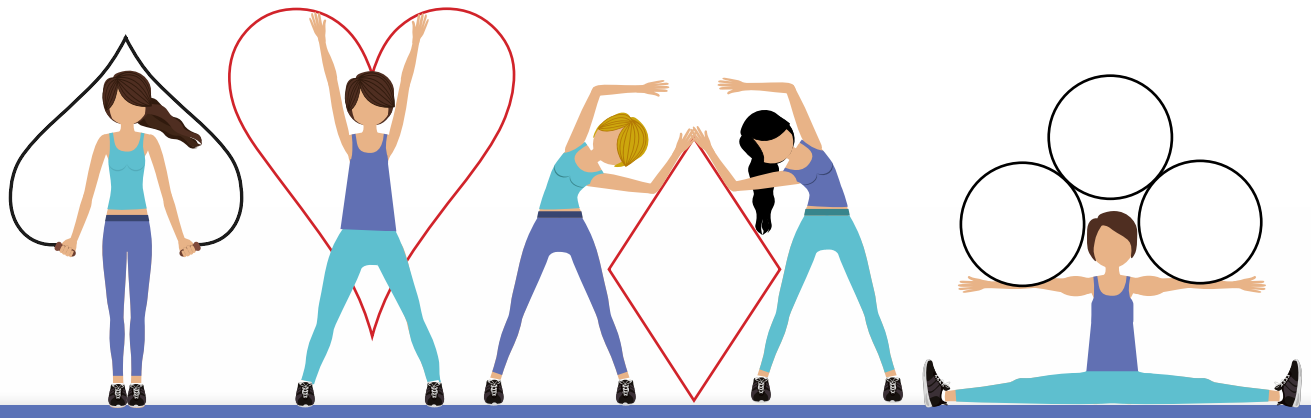
10 May - 6 June, 2021

Play every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday at 21.30 CEST - 15.30 EDT

JUNE CUP

31 May - 4 June, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 31 May	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
	Tuesday 1 June	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Wednesday 2 June	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
	Thursday 3 June	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
KO:	Friday 4 June	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30



OCBL Training

Yesterday we posed the following problem:

♠ A Q 9 7 6 5 2
♡ K 5
◇ 7 6
♣ Q 7

Dealer East. All Vulnerable

West	North	East	Sud
—	—	Pass	Pass
?			

What would you bid?

And here is the answer...

This board was taken from the OCBL February Open Teams.
The players who found themselves in such situation decided to bid:

3♠:
Robert Quentin
Simon Hult
Geir Brekka
Artur Malinowski
Lasse Aaseng
Johan Sylvan
Thibo Sprinkhuizen
Yosi Engel

1♠:
Vinita Gupta
Giovanni Donati
Peter Lakatos
Andrea Manno
Ali Ucar
Eric Gautret
Michał Klukowski
Michael Byrne
Wojtek Gawel

2♠:
Dennis Dewit
Kevin Castner

Contrasts

by **Mark Horton**

There was a significant difference when play resumed in the semifinals of the OCBL Open League. In the third quarter, Moss and Ireland scored 9 IMPs between them, while Black and Lebowitz amassed 59 (as you may have guessed, they were playing different deals!). Here are the highlights, mostly from the latter contest, with a dash of the former:

Board 21. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Z Grossack	*McIntosh*	*Grossack*	*Paske*
—	1♢	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♡	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♢
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	6♢
All Pass			

Declarer ruffed the heart lead in dummy, came to hand with a spade, ruffed a heart, unblocked the ♢A, cashed the ♣A, ruffed a club and drew trumps, claiming when East discarded a club, +940.

4NT RKCB

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M Rimstedt	*Bilde*	*O Rimstedt*	*Madala*
—	1♢	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♡	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♢
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♢	Pass	4♡
Pass	4♠*	Pass	6♢
All Pass			

4♠ RKCB

Declarer won the lead of the ♠9 in hand, ruffed a heart, played a spade to the king, ruffed a heart, unblocked the ♢A, cashed the ♣A, ruffed a club and drew trumps. When East pitched a club declarer claimed, +940. An honourable push.

Board 22. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Z Grossack	*McIntosh*	*Grossack*	*Paske*
—	—	Pass	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♢*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♠*	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

4♣ RKCB for ♣
4♠ 2 key cards, no ♣Q

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M Rimstedt	*Bilde*	*O Rimstedt*	*Madala*
—	—	Pass	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♢*	Pass
3NT*	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♢	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♢*	Pass	5♡*	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

2♣ Weak in diamonds or strong hands
3NT 6+♣,no side suit
4NT RKCB
5♢ 3 key cards
5♡ All key cards, ♣Q?

Another flat slam.

That run was almost extended on Board 24, where 6♠ depended mainly on bringing in ♠K1062 opposite ♠AJ743 for no loser. The 53% chance did not materialise - West held ♠Q985 and Lebowitz gained 13 IMPs by stopping in 4♠.

Mikael Rimstedt

Board 30. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Z Grossack	*McIntosh*	*Grossack*	*Paske*
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♡	1♠*	2♡
3♢	Pass	3♡	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
5NT*	Pass	6♠	All Pass

1♠ 5+♠
5NT Pick a slam

South led the ♠4 and declarer ruffed in dummy, unblocked the ♠K, came to hand with a diamond, drew trumps and claimed, +1430. It was worth 13 IMPs as they stopped in 5♣ in the other room.

Remarkably , Lebowitz had outscored Black 57-2 over the first ten deals.

Then came yet another bidding test:

Board 33. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Z Grossack	*McIntosh*	*Grossack*	*Paske*
—	Pass	1♡	Pass
2♢*	Pass	2♡	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♢	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
6♣*	Pass	7♠	All Pass

2♢ 5+
4♣ Serious
4NT RKCB
5NT Even with a void
6♣ Queen ask

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M Rimstedt	*Bilde*	*O Rimstedt*	*Madala*
—	Pass	1♡	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♢*	Pass
2♡*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♠	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♠*	Pass	7♠	All Pass

2♣ Game forcing relay
2♢ Many hands
2♡ Relay
3♣ 10+ major cards
5♣ Voidwood
5♠ '2 key cards, no ♠Q (except ♣A)'

Both passed it with flying colours.

Board 36. Dealer West. EW Vul.

♠ A K 9 8 7 3
♡ A 9 2
♢ 7 2
♣ 9 6

♠ 6 2
♡ Q 8 3
♢ Q J 9 8 4
♣ Q 7 2

♠ Q J 5 4
♡ K 6 5 4
♢ 5
♣ A 5 4 3

♠ 10
♡ J 10 7
♢ A K 10 6 3
♣ K J 10 8

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moran	*de Wijs*	*Carroll*	*Muller*
—	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♠*	All Pass	

2♣ Artificial, 9-12, less than three spades
2♠ 6♠, minimum

I have lost count of the number of times that I have written that when partner opens the bidding and you also have an opening bid it is incumbent upon you to ensure that game is reached. However, every rule has it's exceptions as this deal illustrates.

Knowing that North was minimum, and that he could offer little help in establishing his partner's spades he was content to pass 2♠.

Declarer won the diamond lead with dummy's ace and the ♡J was covered by the queen and ace. Declarer continued with three rounds of spades and when he got the club suit right he had nine tricks, +140.

In the other room NS reached 3NT, but as the cards lay it had no real chance and declarer finished two down, a 6 IMP swing.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ A K 8 6
♡ K J 10 3 2
♢ —
♣ J 9 6 5

♠ 4 3
♡ 9
♢ A J 10 6 5
♣ K 10 8 7 3

♠ 9
♡ A Q 6 5 4
♢ K Q 9 3 2
♣ 4 2

♠ Q J 10 7 5 2
♡ 8 7
♢ 8 7 4
♣ A Q

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moran	*de Wijs*	*Carroll*	*Muller*
—	—	1♡	1♠
Dble*	4♠	5♢	Pass
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

Facing an opening bid it was only natural that West followed the principle that 'the five-level belongs to the opponents.'

West led the ♡9 and East took dummy's jack with the queen and switched to the ♣4 for the queen and king. Declarer won the club return, cashed dummy's top spades, pitched a heart on the ♣J and played the ♡K, claiming 11 tricks, +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	*Fitzgibbon*	*Kalita*	*Mesbur*
—	—	1♡	2♠*
Dble*	4♠	5♢	Pass
Pass	5♠	Pass	Pass
6♢	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

2♠ 'Weak(ish)'

South led the ♠Q and then cashed the ♣A, but those were the only tricks the defenders could take and East/West's judgement was rewarded with 11 IMPs as Moss won the set 37-7.

Board 37. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 6 4 3
♡ 8 5
♢ K Q
♣ A K Q J 10 2

♠ A K 10 9 8 2
♡ A Q 9 6 4
♢ A 8
♣ —

♠ Q 7
♡ K 3 2
♢ J 9 5 3 2
♣ 8 7 6

♠ J 5
♡ J 10 7
♢ 10 7 6 4
♣ 9 5 4 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Z Grossack	*McIntosh*	*Grossack*	*Paske*
—	1♣	Pass	1♢
2♣*	3♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	4♡	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
6♡	All Pass		

2♣ Majors
4NT RKCB
5♣ 1 key card

In the other room, needing to press for points, EW naturally bid 7♡. If East had held four trumps it would have had excellent chances, but here it meant the loss of 14 IMPs.

Board 39. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ K J 9 5
♡ 7 2
♢ K J 10 9 4 3
♣ A

♠ A Q 3
♡ A 10 9 6
♢ A 7 5 2
♣ 4 2

♠ 10 8 6 4 2
♡ K 8 3
♢ Q 6
♣ 10 7 5

♠ 7
♡ Q J 5 4
♢ 8
♣ K Q J 9 8 6 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Z Grossack	*McIntosh*	*Grossack*	*Paske*
—	—	—	4♣
Dble	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

South led the ♢8 and when declarer played low from dummy North won with the king, cashed the ♣A and then played the ♢4. South ruffed, cashed the ♣K and continued with the queen. When declarer ruffed in dummy North discarded his remaining heart. Declarer cashed the ♢A pitching a heart, ruffed a diamond and played the ♡K. North ruffed and the die was cast, declarer having to lose two more trump tricks for four down, -1100.

In the other room, after an identical sequence North did not double so Black picked up 12 IMPs. They won the set 32-16, but it was Lebowitz who advanced to the final.

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE - RESULTS

SEMIFINALS 2/2

Moss (+30.1)	42 IMPs TOTAL: 72.1	11 IMPs TOTAL:24	Ireland (+13)
OPEN ROOM N: Lee R. S: Moss S.	CLOSED ROOM E: Kalita J. W: Klukowski M.	OPEN ROOM E: Hanlon T. W: Amoils L.	CLOSED ROOM N: Fitzgibbon N. S: Mesbur A.

SCORE: https://webutil.bridgebase.com/v2/tview.php?t=72219-1614112156

Black (+37.1)	34 IMPs TOTAL: 71.1	73 IMPs TOTAL: 119	Lebowitz (+46)
OPEN ROOM N: McIntosh A. S: Paske T.	CLOSED ROOM E: Rimstedt O. W: Rimstedt M.	OPEN ROOM E: Grossack A. W: Grossack Z.	CLOSED ROOM N: Bilde D. S: Madala A.

SCORE: https://webutil.bridgebase.com/v2/tview.php?t=72255-1614112266

SUPER CUP

2-9 March, 2021

Registered Teams

29 Teams already registered to the **new OCBL event**!
The Super Cup will take place from 2 to 9 March, 2021.

GUPTA
Gupta N. (nareng)
Zia Mahmood (zia)
Muller B. (beukertje)
de Wijs S. (sm1)
Madala A. (septiembre)
Bilde D. (ballebo-jr)

BLACK
Black A. (boggis)
Gold D. (dagold)
McIntosh A. (mcintosh)
Paske T. (thomas1000)
Hult S. (hultahult)
Hallberg G. (rerack)

CLASH
Hinze G. (ghinze)
Enfield K. (cx107)
Kranyak J. (jkrans)
Demuy V. (okvince)

SKEIDAR
Andresen M. (Mime477)
Bogø K. (osvaill83)
Farstad A. (kha66)
Aaseng L. (lasseaa)
Johansen T. (Brulle)
Kristoffersen C. (stoffers)

GILLIS
Gillis S. (rayas78)
Saelensminde E. (skaal1)
Brogeland B. (boye)
Lindqvist E. (stevieg)
Bakke C. (Chrien)
Svendsen O. (Pirrum)

ORCA
Plackett R. (Hoofie)
Crouch P. (Pitiful)
Forrester T. (Anthonyf)
Erichsen E. (Espene)
Cope S. (CopeyJ)

SCORWAY
Levinson.S (sc0tsteve)
Shenkin B. (Barnets)
Kvangraven N. (Nils123)
Lie T. (Terjel)
Silverstone V. (Odysseus 69)
Diamond D. (Derekd)
Saur O. (saurdino)
Brekka G. (kaninen)
Ovesen J. (jo-arne)

SKALMAN
Ahlesved K. (kruska)
Warne N. (nikwar2)
Selberg J. (janselb)
Petersson J. (motvillige)
Kvick H. (kvicken)
Karlsson PA (st1energy)
Säfsten J. (johansaf)
Malmström P. (pekk_swe)

DE BOTTON
De Botton J. (Capt Lulu)

COMPTON
Compton C. (Compton)
Goodman A. (Agoodman1)
Dwyer K. (Kdweyer)
Huang S. (precisebri)
Moses T. (Hottodstl)
Smith R. (RonsmithSF)

HARRIS
Root S. (AsNuttyAs)
Harris J. (Jdache)
Igoe N. (ibraves)
Malhasyan E. (master dj)
Gold M. (Marusab)
Isporski V. (smileyv)
Trendafilov R. (rumen)

FERGUSON
Ferguson B. (bruceferg)
Nadel J. (juliejoy)
Van den Bos B. (berendbs)
Van Lankveld J. (ennaji)
Snellers A. (asnellers)
De Boer B. (bukkum)

SLOVAKIA
Velecký E. (edowell)
Števák D. (dustek)
Ploščica M. (mirop)
Belčák P. (blog)
Lohay K. (karci)
Henc M. (hewex)
Vodička M. (vodka47)
Kvoček J. (big baran)
Jakabšic J. (oldo)
Rumančík J. (the_dagda)

APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS
Auken S. (jcmax)
Welland R. (roy)
Jagniewski R. (mlodybog)
Gawel W. (redds)
Lall H. (hemantlall)
Milner R. (reesem)

SEPTUPLE DUMMY
Warner M. (marcwarner)
Bussink B. (bart3)
Zolotow S. (lzvee)
McAllister J. (jgm7x)
Tebha A. (anamtebha)
Grossack Z. (germs345)
Grossack A. (nevereast)

AMATEURS
Ai-Tai L. (aitail)
Pettis B. (buffalo6)
Kolesnik A. (Kolesnik)
Baseggio F. (Baseggio)
Chechelashvili D. (dato)
Soliman A. (rabie3)

SALVO
Zorlu N. (begse)
Aluf S. (monk99)
Kubac N. (nezihk)
Ucar A. (no weak)
Aslan B. (baylind)
Umur O. (ttlfb)
Koksoy E. (koksoy)
Suiçmez E. (grundar)

LEVINE
Levine M. (mikerl)
Wold E. (womoco)
Helgemo G. (micelle45)
Helness T. (helstokk)
Meckstroth J. (jjmeck)
Rodwell E. (bumportant)
Morris R (bobat3333)

FREDIN
Fredin P. (P_Fredin)

IRELAND
Barton G. (barton)
Moran M. (markpm)
Carroll J. (coppers)
Hanlon T. (kinder1)
McGann H. (hmg2)
Mesbur A. (amesbur)
Fitzgibbon N. (nickfg1)
Amoils L. (amoils)

LESLIE
Leslie T. (culross66)

APPLE
Setton H. (Ldase)
Franceschetti P. (Gewd)
Brink S. (Sjoertbr)
Drijver B. (Basdr)
Robert Q. (Ptit)

FRANCE SUD
Poizat P. (taziop)
Cabanes B. (tonel34)
Mus M. (musmarc)
Gautret E. (truffe34)
Guillaumin PY. (pyg)
Palau JJ. (grozny06)
Fleury H. (juransson)
Girollet M. (maxile)

WILSON
Van Prooijen R. (riccovp)
Verhees L. (loukie)
Mendes De Leon G. (guymdl)
Wilson A. (flyfalcon)
Gronkvist I. (Halko)
Gronkvist M. (Mike_G)
Kiljan V. (Vkill)
Sprinkhuizen T. (thibos)
Tijssen L. (luctijs)

DAUGAVA
Neimanis J. (zombis)
Rubenis I. (banco1)
Jansons U. (ugisj)
Germanis A. (aigars31)
Smilgajs A. (smilgajs)
Romanovska M. (MaijaLat)
Lorencs M. (malorencs)

RIPPEY
Rippey M.

DONNER
Donner G. (GDonnerSC1)
Rimstedt C. (CillaR)
Grue J. (joegrue)
Moss B. (brad)
Rimstedt S. (sandria)

PETER AND CO
Cole M.
Bianchedi A.
Bertheau P. (Pbertheau)
Zagorin D. (pez007)
Toledano O. (orentol)
Zamir A. (zamir1)
Muzzio T. (oyzzum)

MARUPE
Antonovs J. (Mafuzz)
Khyuppenen Y. (hupp)
Balasovs J. (Perkons)
Bethers U. (Uldis)
Bethers J. (Janis-B)
Bendiks J. (doks)
Rubenis B. (brunchiks)

Book your seat at:
https://ocbl.org/preregistration/

World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE

Qualification + Knockout

UPCOMING OPEN LEAGUE (1)
29 March - 25 April 2021

UPCOMING OPEN LEAGUE (2)
10 May - 6 June 2021

Qualification:

10 Rounds x 16 Boards
Play every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday
at 21.30 CEST - 15.30 EDT

KOs:

Quarterfinals - Semifinals - Finals: 40 Boards each

Info and pre-registration: WWW.OCBL.ORG