World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 53. Thursday, 25 February, 2021

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE: THE FINAL IS STARTING TODAY

The Final of the OCBL Open League between teams Moss vs Lebowitz is starting today.
The match is starting with a 0.10 IMPs carryover for Moss.

The match will also be broadcast on Twitch.
The commentators will be Magnús Ólafsson (pictured right) and Kevin Rosenberg (pictured left).

You can enjoy the show at:
https://www.twitch.tv/worldbridgetour

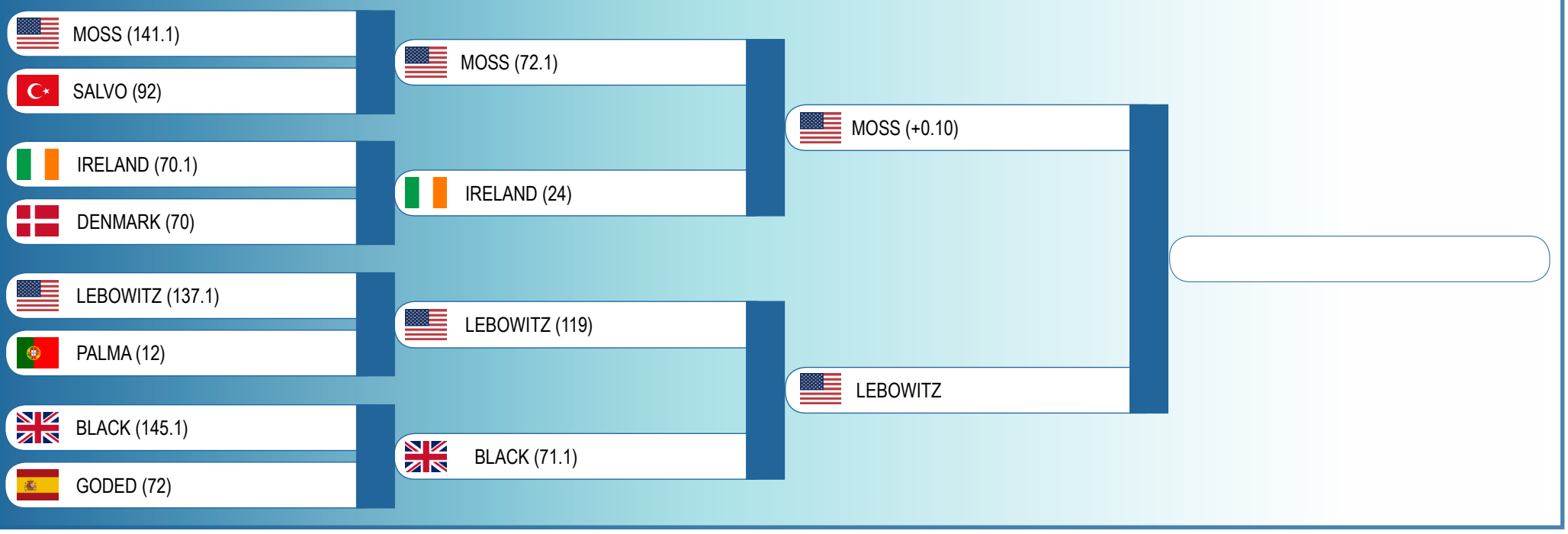
DISCOVER THE SUPER CUP

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

32 AMAZING teams have already registered!

Check the details on page 5.

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE - THE BRACKET



World Bridge Tour
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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

The Labours of Hercules
Cattle of Geryon

by Mark Horton

Hercules tenth labour required him to capture the cattle of the giant Geyron. On route Hercules was given a magic golden cup by the sun god Helios. From time to time one encounters some magical play at the bridge table.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ Q 4 3
♡ Q J 3
♢ A Q J 8 4
♣ 9 8

♠ K 9 8 7
♡ K 10 9
♢ 7
♣ A K 7 6 3

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♢	3NT	All Pass	

East led the ♡6 and declarer won with dummy's nine and played a spade to the queen and ace. He won the return of the ♡4 in hand and ran the ♣8 to West's queen. When a diamond came back he put in the queen and when it held he played a spade for the eight and jack. West exited with a club and when the suit divided, declarer cashed his winners to reach this ending...

♠ 4
♡ —
♢ A J
♣ —

♠ K 9
♡ K
♢ —
♣ —

He exited with the ♡K. East could win, but was forced to lead into dummy's ♠K9. A delightful piece of play that garnered 12 IMPs

This was the full deal:

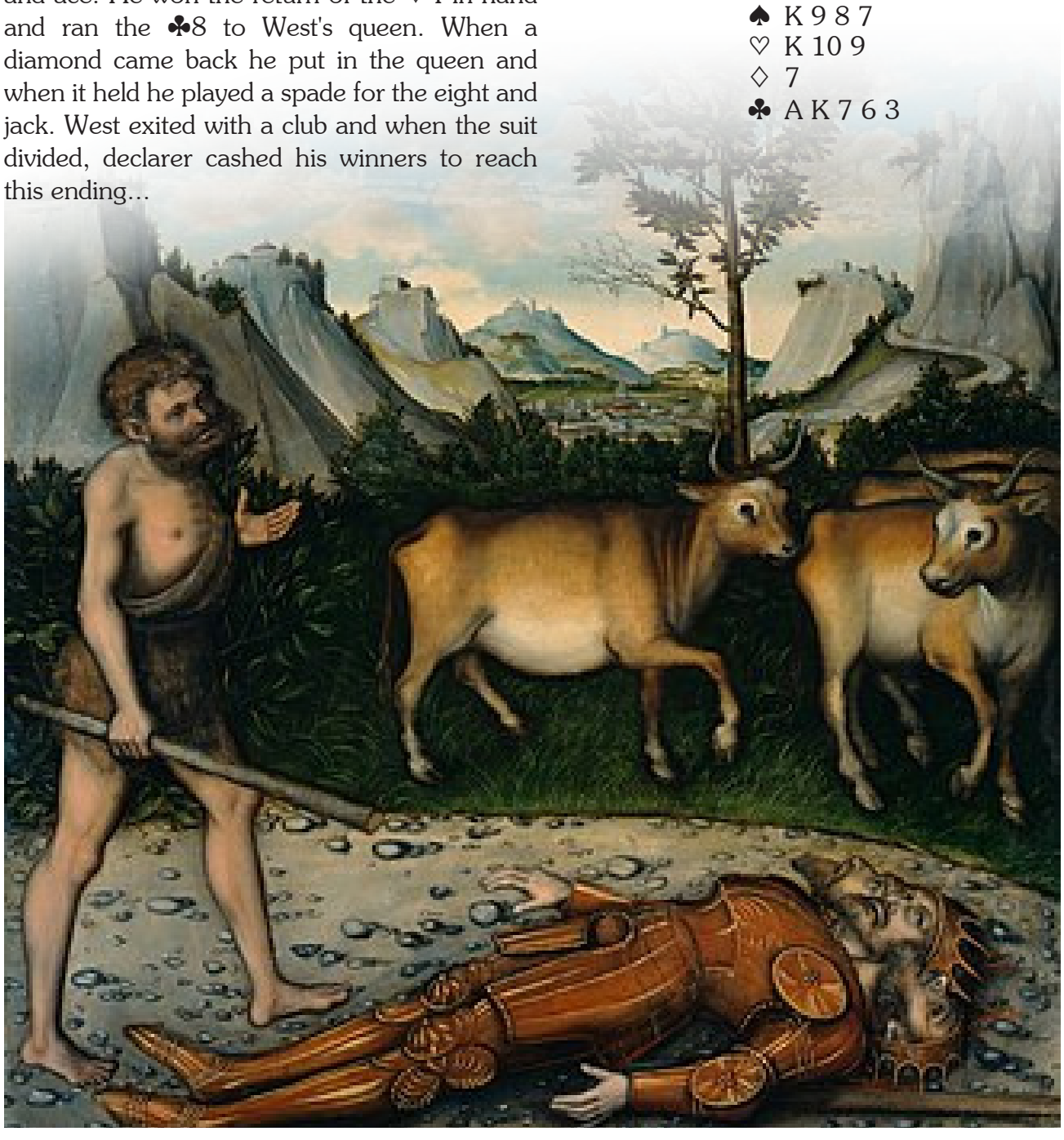
Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ Q 4 3
♡ Q J 3
♢ A Q J 8 4
♣ 9 8

♠ J 6
♡ 5 2
♢ K 10 9 6 5 2
♣ Q J 4

♠ A 10 5 2
♡ A 8 7 6 4
♢ 3
♣ 10 5 2

♠ K 9 8 7
♡ K 10 9
♢ 7
♣ A K 7 6 3



Hercules and the Cattle of Geryones

From Wikipedia:

The tenth labour was to obtain the Cattle of the three-bodied giant Geryon. In the fullest account in the Bibliotheca of Pseudo-Apollodorus, Heracles had to go to the island of Erytheia in the far west (sometimes identified with the Hesperides, or with the island which forms the city of Cádiz) to get the cattle. On the way there, he crossed the Libyan desertand became so frustrated at the heat that he shot an arrow at the Sun.

The sun-god Helios "in admiration of his courage" gave Heracles the golden cup Helios used to sail across the sea from west to east each night. Heracles rode the cup to Erytheia; Heracles in the cup was a favorite motif on black-figure pottery.

Such a magical conveyance undercuts any literal geography for Erytheia, the "red island" of the sunset.

When Heracles landed at Erytheia, he was confronted by the two-headed dog Orthrus. With one blow from his olive-wood club, Heracles killed Orthrus. Eurytion the herdsman came to assist Orthrus, but Heracles dealt with him the same way.

On hearing the commotion, Geryon sprang into action, carrying three shields and three spears, and wearing three helmets. He attacked Heracles at the River Anthemus, but was slain by one of Heracles' poisoned arrows. Heracles shot so forcefully that the arrow pierced Geryon's forehead, "and Geryon bent his neck over to one side, like a poppy that spoils its delicate shapes, shedding its petals all at once."

Heracles then had to herd the cattle back to Eurystheus. In Roman versions of the narrative, Heracles drove the cattle over the Aventine Hill on the future site of Rome. The giant Cacus, who lived there, stole some of the cattle as Heracles slept, making the cattle walk backwards so that they left no trail, a repetition of the trick of the young Hermes. According to some versions, Heracles drove his remaining cattle past the cave, where Cacus had hidden the stolen animals, and they began calling out to each other. In other versions, Cacus' sister Caca told Heracles where he was. Heracles then killed Cacus, and set up an altar on the spot, later the site of Rome's Forum Boarium (the cattle market).

(text taken from Wikipedia - License text CC BY-SA 3.0GFDL - and added here by Francesca Canali)

Online Bridge NEWS

US BRIDGE TO FULLY COME BACK BY NOVEMBER

Yesterday the ACBL sent the following e-mail to its members:

Dear Member,

The road back to face-to-face bridge has been a long one, but we do see a light at the end of the tunnel.

While more areas across the continent are "reopening" as the COVID-19 vaccine gains traction, there is still quite a way to go to reach security for member and staff health. With that in mind, we want to give you an update on what the rest of 2021 looks like.

***First, the Providence North American Bridge Championships (NABC) set for Summer 2021 has been moved to Summer 2022**. Staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to ensure that this event will be held in Providence RI next year at the same location.*

Additionally, the previously scheduled 2022 Summer NABC in Washington DC has been canceled due to the playing and lodging site's bankruptcy and subsequent closing.

Thank you to the NABC committees of both Washington DC and Providence for their incredible efforts!

Second, we have developed a phased plan for the safe return to face-to-face play.

***Return to playing in person will begin at the local club level. All tournament sanctions have been canceled through the end of July.** This is largely due to access to vaccines and the progressing travel needs to play at the local club, in a Sectional, in a Regional and at an NABC.*

Already, some clubs are playing face-to-face with safety protocols in place, and we expect this number to grow. Holding this kind of play at the club level is up to each individual club; however, we urge you to act with caution and in accordance with your local safety requirements.

***The next phase of "reopening" face-to-face play will be the return of Sectionals.** This will run parallel to increased availability of vaccines, and we estimate these tournaments to begin in August 2021 depending on local conditions (this is subject to change).*

The following phase will be the return of Regionals. We estimate this period to begin in early October. However, please note that these dates are subject to change as the year progresses.

Finally, we plan to resume the NABC schedule in Fall 2021 with the Austin NABC in November.
The dates for the 2021 Fall NABC are set as November 25-December 5.

*We are very excited for the return of face-to-face tournament bridge! In the meantime, there are daily opportunities to play online, along with many special events (https://acbl.us17.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0a09fd687ebd2b74a40bba3c4&id=d955b7c8c9&e=3b2e6ca165). We are especially excited to announce improvements to the **Summer North American Online Bridge Championships (NAOBC)**. Click here (https://acbl.us17.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0a09fd687ebd2b74a40bba3c4&id=4af8731004&e=3b2e6ca165) to see the new schedule of NAOBC events.*

Thank you so much for your support this past year. Your loyalty ensures there is a future for bridge. We hope you will continue to bear with us as the plan to return to face-to-face play unfolds in 2021. Please note it is subject to change; however, we will notify you as soon as possible with any potential adjustments.

Sincerely,
Joseph Jones
Executive Director

EBL PLANS

The EBL also released a statement about the upcoming European Team Championships.
The event is scheduled to take place in the second half of June in Madeira, Portugal.

The EBL said that they are continuing to closely follow the development of the pandemic and related restrictions.

At this time, they are hopeful that the situation will improve sufficiently to allow to arrange the championships as planned, obviously with a very rigorous safety protocol on site.

However, this may ultimately not be possible. They are coordinating very closely with the host, the Portuguese Bridge Federation. Together they have decided on a deadline for a decision - March 31.

In case the event can not take place in Portugal as scheduled, they are working on a 'plan B'.

SUPER CUP

2-9 March, 2021

Registered Teams

32 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)
Ševák 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)

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)

FREDIN
Fredin P. (P_Fredin)

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.

MIKADINHO
Verhaegen M. (Marcel_ve)
Zanasi G. (Zanna9)
Todd K. (Ktmnyc)
Lahrmann C. (christianl)
Drijver B.
Nab B.
Rimstedt O.

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)

SELIGMAN
Seligman M. (Mseligman)
Lair M. (mslair)
Klukowski M. (Skrzat96)
Kalita J. (paulinka18)
Kwiecien M. (michal1)

HUNGARY
Winkler G. (winkiboy)
Szabo C. (csaboka13)
Dumbovich M. (dumbovich)
Lakatos P. (nyul11)
Kemény G. (kemeny)

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

World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

SUPER CUP

Qualification + Knockout

2 - 9 March 2021

QUALIFICATION

12 Rounds x 16 boards

	CET	EST
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

KOs

QuarterFinals, SemiFinals, Final: 32 boards each

	CET	EST
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

Info and pre-registration: WWW.OCBL.ORG