World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 55. Saturday, 27 February, 2021

UPDATES ON F2F BRIDGE

One year ago many of us were in Monaco for the 2020 European Winter Games.

That was the last international event before the stop of almost all gatherings around the world.

A stop that still persists: the ACBL has canceled the Spring NABC and has recently announced that there will be no Summer NABC this year, too.

Both the ACBL and the EBL have recently published a statement about their upcoming events.

Here is what they are planning...

ACBL: THE TIMELINE TO RETURN OF LIVE PLAY

The highlights of the latest ACBL statement:

"The Providence North American Bridge Championships (NABC) set for Summer 2021 has been moved to Summer 2022.
The previously scheduled 2022 Summer NABC in Washington DC has been canceled due to the playing and lodging site's bankruptcy and subsequent closing. [...]

Return to playing in person will begin at the local club level. All tournament sanctions have been canceled through the end of July. [...]

The next phase of "reopening" face-to-face play will be the return of Sectionals. [...] 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."

EBL: THERE WILL BE A EUROPEAN BRIDGE EVENT IN JUNE

The highlights of the latest EBL statement:

"ENTC Madeira 2021 Update.
Together we have decided on a deadline for a decision of March 31.

The EBL is already developing a "Plan B" in case we have to cancel the Madeira event.
Such a plan will likely involve play on an online platform.
Various options are being considered and we are not restricting ourselves to the usual ENTC format.

We need some way to determine which NBOs qualify for the World Teams Championships (which are at this point still planned to take place in August/September in Salsomaggiore) and can even consider arranging a limited event for that purpose.

DISCOVER THE SUPER CUP

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

35 AMAZING teams have already registered!

Check the details on page 4.

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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
The Golden Apples of the Hesperides

by Mark Horton

As his eleventh labour, Hercules was charged with acquiring three golden apples from the garden of the Hesperides. Whether these apples are in any way connected to the modern day variety known as 'Golden Delicious' I cannot say. This was one of his most complex tasks and involved him in meeting the Old Man of the Sea (I misremembered that as the title of an Ernest Hemmingway book) Atlas and a dragon.

On this deal, declarer had to find a way to avoid the loss of more than three tricks:

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	3♣
Pass	4♣	4♡	All Pass

South led the ♣Q and continued with the ♣4, declarer ruffing with the ♡J and cashing the ♡A. When South pitched a club, declarer drew trumps ending in dummy. A diamond to the queen lost to the ace and South returned the three. Declarer won with dummy's king, played a spade to the queen and cashed the ace to reach this position:

	♠ 9 ♡ 7 ♢ 6 5 ♣ —	
♠ 2 ♡ Q 5 ♢ 7 ♣ —		

When he exited with a spade, North had to win and offer up a ruff and discard, +420.

This was the full deal:

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Atlas and Hercules

From Wikipedia:

After Heracles completed the first ten labours, Eurystheus gave him two more, claiming that slaying the Hydra did not count (because Iolaus helped Heracles), neither did cleaning the Augean Stables (either because he was paid for the job or because the rivers did the work).

The first additional labour was to steal three of the golden apples from the garden of the Hesperides. Heracles first caught the Old Man of the Sea, the shapeshifting sea god, to learn where the Garden of the Hesperides was located.

In some variations, Heracles, either at the start or at the end of this task, meets Antaeus, who was invincible as long as he touched his mother, Gaia, the Earth. Heracles killed Antaeus by holding him aloft and crushing him in a bear hug.

Herodotus claims that Heracles stopped in Egypt, where King Busiris decided to make him the yearly sacrifice, but Heracles burst out of his chains.

Heracles finally made his way to the garden of the Hesperides, where he encountered Atlas holding up the heavens on his shoulders. Heracles persuaded Atlas to get the three golden Apples for him by offering to hold up the heavens in his place for a little while. Atlas could get the apples because, in this version, he was the father or otherwise related to the Hesperides. This would have made the labour – like the Hydra and the Augean stables – void because Heracles had received help.

When Atlas returned, he decided that he did not want to take the heavens back, and instead offered to deliver the apples himself, but Heracles tricked him by agreeing to remain in place of Atlas on the condition that Atlas relieve him temporarily while Heracles adjusted his cloak. Atlas agreed, but Heracles reneged and walked away with the apples. According to an alternative version, Heracles slew Ladon, the dragon who guarded the apples instead.

Eurystheus was furious that Heracles had accomplished something that Eurystheus thought could not possibly be done.

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

SUPER CUP

2-9 March, 2021

Registered Teams

35 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)
Wademark O. (flashrex)

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. (radiators)

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

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

PETER AND CO
Cole M. (mtc146)
Bianchedi A. (alecuque)
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)

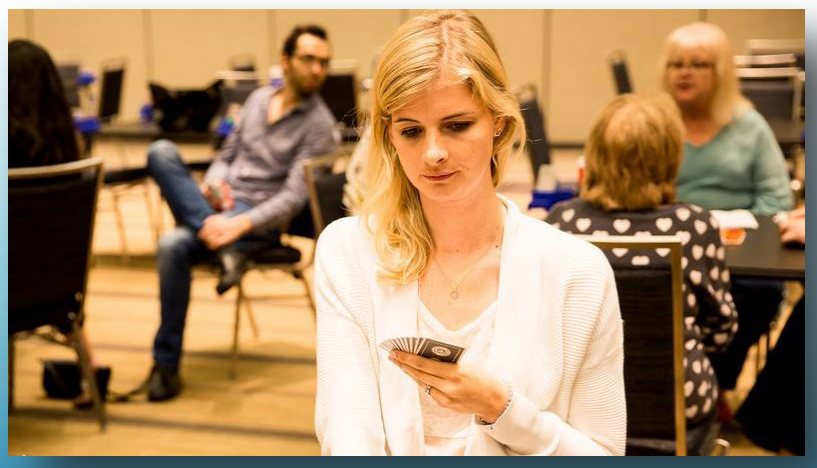
SELIGMAN
Seligman M. (Mseligman)
Lair M. (mslair)
Klukowski M. (Skrzat96)
Kalita J. (paulinka18)
Kwiecien M. (michal1)

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

BISHEL
Bishel J. (rxguy2)
Bishel T. (tobias31)
Seelbach C. (babushkka)
Greenspan B. (BernieG)
Schenker F. (JBCoyle)

HOTSPURS
Naqvi W. (waseem)
Segal O. (oseg63)
Dewit D. (Hyperon)
Vandewiele E. (blink128)
Van Bijsterveldt N. (nielsvbij)
Schols E. (Mkgnao)
Van den Bos T. (Timvdb)
Schols M. (futuralis)

FOX
Fox Ji (mmbridge)
Pellegrini C. (carlosp)
Garcia da Rosa R. (rgdruru)
Di Franco M. (M_DiFranco)
Manno A. (maqeda)



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: 2 Rounds x 20 Boards
Semifinals: 2 Rounds x 20 Boards
Finals: 2 Rounds x 20 Boards

Info and pre-registration: WWW.OCBL.ORG