World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 66. Tuesday, 30 March, 2021

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE GREAT START FOR SWEDEN!

1		Alexander	19.85
2		Swedish Fish	18.66
3		Robinson	16.88
4		Leslie	16.26
5		Anatolia	15.38
6		Goded	14.80
7		Apex Predators	13.97
8		Compton	13.75
9		Ventin	13.28
10		Donner	13.04
11		Ireland	12.55
12		Austromany	12.29
		Salvo	12.29
14		Black	12.03
15		Amateurs	10.91
		Turkish Delight	10.91
17		Denmark	10.61
18		Amalgamated	9.39
19		De Michelis	9.09
		Moss	9.09
21		Slovakia	7.97
22		Skeidar	7.71
		German Strain	7.71
24		DenMix	7.45
25		Bourricot	6.96
26		The Expats	6.72
27		Scorway	6.25
28		Skalman	6.03
29		Harris	5.20
30		De Botton	4.62
31		Swedese	3.74
32		Cannon Fodder	3.12
33		Baltic Express	1.34
34		MikaRippey	0.15

The first Round of the OCBL Open League has been played and the Swdish teams Alexander and Swedish fish had a great start, and are now leading the ranking.

It is still very early, and 6 more rounds will be played before finishing the first stage of the qualification.

After Round 7, the ranking will be divided into two parts and the teams will play a 3-rounds Swiss before establishing who will get a pass to the knockouts.

Picture: Sanna Clementsson and Alexander Sandin (team Alexander)

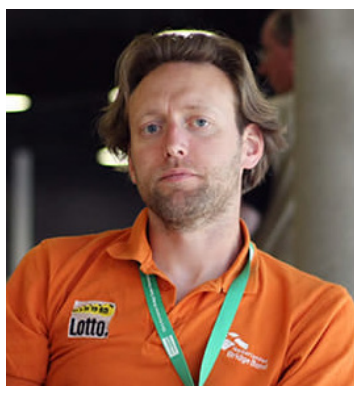
THE OCBL APRIL CUP IS STARTING ON MONDAY

Amazing teams have already registered to the OCBL APRIL CUP.
The 5 days event is starting on Monday, April 5 and ending on Friday, April 9.
On April 5, 6, 7 and 8 the qualification stage will be played.
On April 9, only the knockouts will be played.
Find out more about the registered teams **on page 6**.

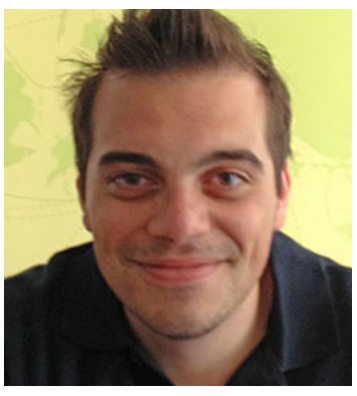
APPLE WON THE WBT MASTERS I!

Hilda Setton

Sjoert Brink



Bas Drijver


Pierre Franceschetti

Quentin Robert

Team Apple, with Hilda Setton, Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Pierre Franceschetti and Quentin Robert, won the **WBT Masters I**!
In the Final of the World Bridge Tour event they faced team Gillis (Simon Gillis, Boye Brogeland, Erik Saelensminde, Espen Lindqvist, Odin Svendsen). Tha match ended 162-88.1 for Apple.

The third place is shared between the teams who lost in the Semifinal: Apres-Bridge Champs (Sabine Auken, Wojciech Gawel, Hemant Lall, Reese Milner, Rafal Jagniewski, Roy Welland) and France Sud (Bernard Cabanes, Eric Gautret, Pierre-Yves Guillaumin, Jean Hayet, Guy Lasserre, Marc Mus, Jean-Jacques Palau, Phillipe Poizat).

Results: https://wbtresults.org/results/2021/WBT_Masters/WBT_Masters_I/2/index.html#000OO000289003001000000000

World Bridge Tour
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OCBL UPCOMING EVENTS

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

OPEN LEAGUE

10 May - 6 June, 2021

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

MAY CUP

17 - 21 May, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 17 May	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
	Tuesday 18 May	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Wednesday 19 May	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
	Thursday 20 May	16.30 - 19.00	10.30 - 13.00
KO:	Friday 21 May	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30

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

SUPER CUP

28 June - 3 July, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 28 June	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Tuesday 29 June	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Wednesday 30 June	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Thursday 1 July	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
KO:	Friday 2 July	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30
	Saturday 3 July	16.30 - 19.00 - 21.30	10.30 - 13.00 - 15.30

Do not go gentle into this good tournament

by Martin Cantor

I don't know about you, but when I sit down to play a tournament I rather like the first board to be a fairly gentle one so that I can get into the swing of things. Truth to tell I'm happy to be dummy after a problem-free auction. Just as well that I wasn't playing today, where the first board presented the toughest play problem of the round.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

The par on the board is 4♡ by East (though not by West), a contract found by only three pairs, and made by only one of them. Unsurprisingly, at most tables (twenty-two in fact) the contract was 3NT, at all but three tables by East, South having overcalled in spades. One West was successful, as were three Easts, two of them with an overtrick after helpful leads: in one case an imaginative but reasonable ♠K, hoping to pin a singleton queen, and in the other an equally imaginative ♢Q through West's bid suit. The secret to making lies, as so often in notrump contracts, in the throw-in. Even where North is on opening lead s/he can't get in to lead both pointed suits through enough (as long as declarer resists the temptation to put the ♠Q up). Depending how the play goes declarer can come to five heart tricks, two club tricks, and either two spades or a spade and a diamond. Or four clubs and five from the other suits in various combinations. I watched one table where East played 3NT on the lead of South's singleton club, and spent almost ten minutes

Joe Grue

Kevin Rosenberg

before playing a card from dummy; and still didn't make it. Absolutely not the kind of easy start I like, so I was glad to be in the gallery.

The excitement didn't let up; this was the very next board.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

	♠ Q J 10 5 3 2 ♡ 7 2 ♢ A Q 10 9 4 ♣ —	
♠ 8 7 6 4 ♡ 8 5 3 ♢ K J 5 3 ♣ A 8		♠ — ♡ J 10 ♢ 8 7 ♣ QJ10975432
	♠ A K 9 ♡ A K Q 9 8 4 ♢ 6 2 ♣ K 6	

As we will see in some other deals below, there has been a noticeable degree of inflation in pre-emptive bidding over the years. Partly because, as the maxim so rightly says, "pre-empts work", but perhaps also fuelled to some extent by an increasingly macho approach. But I hope no-one would accuse a 5♣ opening bid by East here of hyper-inflation, what with a nine card suit, and at favourable vulnerability. Mind you, a good number chose only 4♣ and two chose to walk the dog, one of them with a 3♣ start, the other with a pass. Forced to guess at a high level, six of the North-South pairs stopped in five of a major, and one rather timidly in 4♡. Apart from two who doubled 6♣ for 800, all the others bid slam, but only two of them bid any of the making grands; 7♠ from either hand, or 7♡ or, more intriguingly, 7♣, by North. A number of the 6♡ bidders were rewarded with a Lightner double, which rather expensively saved a possible overtrick. While four of the East-Wests saved in 7♣ costing the full 1100 just once, 800 the other times. So what about this 7♢ by North? It's just a 'simple' trump coup, crossing to North in hearts (not spades!) to finesse twice in trumps, then just playing winners through West.

Further on the impact of pre-empts.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Where NS didn't get involved in the auction - or didn't get involved enough - EW were able to check on aces and stop in 5♡. But plenty of NS were less kind to their opponents. Several Norths produced a weak jump 3♢ overcall of West's 1♡ opening, and their South partners in pre-empting then bid 5♢, making EW guess; mostly, and quite fairly (change the ♠KQ for the ♠A), guessing high. Where North didn't jump in most Easts responded with a fitting 2NT, then mooched around to get to the five level. I must say I much prefer the direct 4NT keycard ask - which is also a good move over 3♢. Incidentally, one West made 6♡ when North led the ♣2, I think misinterpreting South's double of East's 4NT as showing both minors.

Still on pre-empts, and how high. Dealer at favourable, how many spades would you open with:

♠ A Q 10 6 4 3 2
♡ 7 6 2
♢ 7 4
♣ 7

The ancients would pretty much all have contented themselves with 3♠, but a majority here went one higher.

Thomas Paske

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Very few of the NS pairs took the bait, letting their opponents play, and mostly (but not quite always) defeating them since there are, or should be, only eight tricks in spades, and the defence is not hard to see; a top diamond lead, or even two, then a heart switch for the first five tricks. Two tables played 5♣ NS, which I initially assumed was after a takeout of a 4♠ opener, but in fact none of the North Souths acted over 4♠. That surprised me slightly since no-one likes being stolen from at this vulnerability.So how come 5♣? One auction went 3♠ - P - P - Dbl - P - 4NT - P - 5C. And the other, in a distorted mirror reflection of the solo East on board 2, went P!! - P - P - 1♢ - 3♠ - Dbl - 4♠ - P - P - 4NT - P - 5♣. The big wins went to some of the 3♠ openers when South declared 3NT, usually after North doubled, but in one case directly after two passes. The price was anything from 200 to 400.

I'll end with an oddity. Unless you're living in a Victor Mollo book, it's not usually a good idea to have both your pairs play the same contract. Especially if neither of them makes. But that's what one team did on

Brad Moss

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♣
1♠	Pass	2♢*	Pass
2♡	All Pass		

2♢ It seems they play transfer advances after overcalls, so this was transfer to hearts

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1NT*
Dbl	2♡*	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

1NT 12-14
2♡ to play

David Bakhshi

Both declarers made six tricks, -100 -300 - 9 IMPs.

David Gold

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OCBL OPEN LEAGUE

RESULTS

ROUND 1

Moss	9.09 VPs 35 IMPs	10.91 VPs 38 IMPs	Turkish Delight
Robinson	16.88 VPs 48 IMPs	3.12 VPs 17 IMPs	Cannon Fodder
Donner	13.04 VPs 48 IMPs	6.96 VPs 37 IMPs	Bourricot
Black	12.03 VPs 24 IMPs	7.97 VPs 17 IMPs	Slovakia
De Botton	4.62 VPs 20 IMPs	15.38 VPs 42 IMPs	Anatolia
Compton	13.75 VPs 24 IMPs	6.25 VPs 10 IMPs	Scorway
Ventin	13.28 VPs 57 IMPs	6.72 VPs 45 IMPs	The Expats
De Michelis	9.09 VPs 32 IMPs	10.91 VPs 35 IMPs	Amateurs
Denmark	10.61 VPs 37 IMPs	9.39 VPs 35 IMPs	Amalgamated
Ireland	12.55 VPs 38 IMPs	7.45 VPs 29 IMPs	DenMix
Salvo	12.29 VPs 34 IMPs	7.71 VPs 26 IMPs	German Strain
Swedish Fish	18.66 VPs 62 IMPs	1.34 VPs 17 IMPs	Baltic Express
Skeidar	7.71 VPs 27 IMPs	12.29 VPs 35 IMPs	Austromany
Goded	14.8 VPs 44 IMPs	5.2 VPs 25 IMPs	Harris
Apex Predators	13.97 VPs 37 IMPs	6.03 VPs 22 IMPs	Skalman
Swedese	3.74 VPs 23 IMPs	16.26 VPs 50 IMPs	Leslie
MikaRippey	0.15 VPs 18 IMPs	19.85 VPs 76 IMPs	Alexander

BUTLER RANKING

1	C. Lahrmann, (christianL)	Swedish Fish	2.94	16
	J. Sylvan, (JoppeSyl)	Swedish Fish	2.94	16
3	M. Byrne, (Mgb81)	Leslie	2.75	16
	K. Dyke, (Woozle)	Leslie	2.75	16
5	J. Larsson, (Jela79)	Alexander	2.38	16
	J. Molberg, (juve_)	Alexander	2.38	16
7	T. Hanlon, (kinder1)	Ireland	2.31	16
	H. McGann, (hmg2)	Ireland	2.31	16
9	J. Breihan, (devilscoup)	Anatolia	2.25	16
	C. Berktas, (babacan2)	Anatolia	2.25	16
11	G. Fractman, (gabrielf)	Goded	1.88	16
	F. Goded, (aupaleti)	Goded	1.88	16
	O. Ekinci, (Ekinci)	Turkish Delight	1.88	8
	C. Henderson, (cwh)	Turkish Delight	1.88	8
15	A. Sandin, (stridsvagn)	Alexander	1.81	16
	T. Karlsson, (Charlie99)	Alexander	1.81	16
	D. Bilde, (ballebo-jr)	Robinson	1.81	16
	A. Madala, (septiembre)	Robinson	1.81	16
19	J. Grue, (joegrue)	Donner	1.69	16
	B. Moss, (brad)	Donner	1.69	16
21	D. Bakhshi, (Bakhshi)	De Botton	1.56	16
	T. Townsend, (mug)	De Botton	1.56	16
23	J. Hammelev, (johse61)	DenMix	1.44	16
	C. Krefeld, (camse2)	DenMix	1.44	16
25	N. Zorlu, (begse)	Salvo	1.19	16
	S. Aluf, (monk99)	Salvo	1.19	16
	J.C. Ventin, (phave)	Ventin	1.19	16
	J. Pacareu, (paca1987)	Ventin	1.19	16
29	Fu Zhong, (dutouqi)	Compton	1.06	16
	Jie Zhao, (brgpro)	Compton	1.06	16
	L. Bellicaud, (lbellicaud)	Bourricot	1.06	16
	A. Boulin, (tutur300)	Bourricot	1.06	16
33	Lo Ai-Tai, (aitail)	Amateurs	0.81	16
	B. Pettis, (buffalo6)	Amateurs	0.81	16
35	J. Fritsche, (joefri)	Austromany	0.75	16
	K. Reps, (rops)	Austromany	0.75	16
	P. Fredin, (P_Fredin)	Swedish Fish	0.75	16
	J. Clemmensson, (jannec69)	Swedish Fish	0.75	16
	M. Wust, (desert)	Amalgamated	0.75	16
	P. Freche, (pfreche)	Amalgamated	0.75	16
	O. Saur, (Saurdino)	Scorway	0.75	16
	G. Brekka, (kaninen)	Scorway	0.75	16
43	A. Soliman, (Rabie3)	The Expats	0.69	16
	D. Chechelashvili, (Dato)	The Expats	0.69	16
45	A. Black, (boggis)	Black	0.63	16
	D. Gold, (dagold)	Black	0.63	16
47	P. King, (philking)	Apex Predators	0.5	16
	K. Castner, (Jafra)	Apex Predators	0.5	16
	K. Konow, (konow)	Denmark	0.5	16
	M. Askgaard, (askgaard)	Denmark	0.5	16
	S. De Wijs, (sm1)	Moss	0.5	16
	B. Muller, (beukertje)	Moss	0.5	16
53	D. Probert, (davpro)	Swedese	0.38	16
	T. Borgesson, (saturmos)	Swedese	0.38	16
	M. Di Franco, (M_DiFranco)	De Michelis	0.38	16
	A. Manno, (maqeda)	De Michelis	0.38	16
57	L. Aaseng, (Lasseaa)	Skeidar	0.31	16
	T. Johansen, (Brulle)	Skeidar	0.31	16
	M. Schneider, (docms)	German Strain	0.31	16
	G. Smykalla, (karo72003)	German Strain	0.31	16
61	A. Khandelwal, (Fide51)	Apex Predators	0.19	16
	B. Green, (benjy)	Apex Predators	0.19	16
	L. Robinson, (saba)	Robinson	0.19	16
	A. Grossack, (nevereast)	Robinson	0.19	16
65	J. Sabaté, (jsabate)	Goded	0	16
	G. Goded, (fluffy)	Goded	0	16
	S. Root, (AsNuttyAs)	Harris	0	16
	N. Igoe, (ibraves)	Harris	0	16
	A. McIntosh, (mcintosh)	Black	0	16
	T. Paske, (thomas1000)	Black	0	16
	E. Velecký, (edowell)	Slovakia	0	16
	K. Lohay, (karci)	Slovakia	0	16
73	K. Ahlesved, (kruska)	Skalman	-0.19	16
	N. Warne, (nikwar2)	Skalman	-0.19	16
	J. Pitt, (scoobyroo)	Cannon Fodder	-0.19	16
	T. Hantveit, (hantveit)	Cannon Fodder	-0.19	16
77	D. Guttmann, (daviesG)	Austromany	-0.31	16
	H. Berger, (wuzi5)	Austromany	-0.31	16
	A. Uçar, (no weak)	Salvo	-0.31	16
	E. Suiçmez, (grundar)	Salvo	-0.31	16
81	T. Leslie, (Culross66)	Leslie	-0.38	16
	M. Bell, (MickyB)	Leslie	-0.38	16
	M. Sheng, (Kainsheng)	Amateurs	-0.38	16
	Gu Jiang, (Jiang_Gu)	Amateurs	-0.38	16
	S. Sofu, (Serkansofu)	Turkish Delight	-0.38	8
	E. Serdar, (Exerdar)	Turkish Delight	-0.38	8
87	H. Kvick, (kvicken)	Skalman	-0.5	16
	PA Karlsson, (st1energy)	Skalman	-0.5	16
	O. Yilmaz, (ovncylmz)	Amalgamated	-0.5	16
	D. Seker, (possessed)	Amalgamated	-0.5	16
	E. Ultav, (Simplyhi)	Turkish Delight	-0.5	16
	S. Uras, (safaku)	Turkish Delight	-0.5	16
93	J. Kvoček, (Big Baran)	Slovakia	-0.63	16
	M. Vodička, (vodka47)	Slovakia	-0.63	16
95	A. Palma, (apalma)	Ventin	-0.69	16
	F. Nystrom, (F_Nystrom)	Ventin	-0.69	16
97	M. Andresen, (Mime477)	Skeidar	-0.75	16
	G. Helgemo, (micelle45)	Skeidar	-0.75	16
	V. Vahe, (Vilmar)	Baltic Express	-0.75	16
	M. Karpov, (rott2020)	Baltic Express	-0.75	16
	H. Caspersen, (hcasp)	Denmark	-0.75	16
	H. Graversen, (HCDK)	Denmark	-0.75	16
	A. Goodman, (agoodman1)	Compton	-0.75	16
	C. Compton, (compton)	Compton	-0.75	16
	M. Klukowski, (skrzat96)	Moss	-0.75	16
	J. Kalita, (paulinka18)	Moss	-0.75	16
107	L. Cima, (100dog)	De Michelis	-0.81	16
	A. Sementa, (ilaria75)	De Michelis	-0.81	16
109	S. Levinson, (sc0tsteve)	Scorway	-1.06	16
	B. Shenkin, (Barnets)	Scorway	-1.06	16
	G. Donner, (GDonnersc1)	Donner	-1.06	16
	S. Rimstedt, (sandria)	Donner	-1.06	16
113	J. Lepper, (mumenrider)	German Strain	-1.19	16
	F. Doermer, (feli1912)	German Strain	-1.19	16
	P. Trenka, (trp42)	The Expats	-1.19	16
	G. Kemény, (kemeny)	The Expats	-1.19	16
117	M. Moran, (markpm)	Ireland	-1.44	16
	J. Carroll, (coppers)	Ireland	-1.44	16
119	T. Erkoc, (MrAce)	Anatolia	-1.56	16
	I. Chorush, (Chorush)	Anatolia	-1.56	16
121	P. Bedouet, (pi420)	Bourricot	-1.69	16
	E. Vallet, (rasko179)	Bourricot	-1.69	16
123	M. Rippey, (radiators)	MikaRippey	-1.81	16
	P. Thurston, (Thurston)	MikaRippey	-1.81	16
	E. McNay, (ewan)	Cannon Fodder	-1.81	16
	D. Marker, (marker544)	Cannon Fodder	-1.81	16
127	J. Harris, (Jdache)	Harris	-1.88	16
	E. Malhasyan, (master DJ)	Harris	-1.88	16
129	T. Charlsen, (tcharlsen)	De Botton	-2.25	16
	D. Padon, (Drorp)	De Botton	-2.25	16
131	S. Thomsen, (Thomsen)	DenMix	-2.31	16
	P. Jepsen, (P_Jepsen)	DenMix	-2.31	16
133	G. Zanasi, (Mikadinho)	MikaRippey	-2.38	16
	M. Verhaegen, (Marcel_ve)	MikaRippey	-2.38	16
135	G. Hammarstrom, (maximum)	Swedese	-2.75	16
	M. Arnberg, (marnberg)	Swedese	-2.75	16
137	J. Alfejeva, (Helenaaa)	Baltic Express	-2.94	16
	S. Birin, (birin)	Baltic Express	-2.94	16

APRIL CUP

5 - 9 April, 2021

Registered Teams

27 Teams already registered!
The OCBL April Cup will take place from 5 to 9 April, 2021.

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

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

ORCA
Plackett R. (hoofie)
Erichsen E. (espene)
Crouch P. (pitiful)
Zorlu N. (begse)

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

CLASH
Hinze G. (ghinze)
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Robert Q. (ptit)

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Marill P. (cortex)
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