World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 121. Thursday, 5 August, 2021

OCBL AUGUST CUP
RANKING AFTER ROUND 9

1	Apres-Br. Champs	120.18
2	Ventin	111.04
3	Black	100.52
4	Flyfalcon	89.48
5	Ferguson	89.16
6	Rippey	87.24
7	Gillis	82.39
8	Compton	77.51
9	Gupta	72.16
10	Leslie	70.32

OCBL AUGUST CUP
SCHEDULE TODAY

Semifinal.

Round 1	16:00 CEST	/	10:00 am EDT
Round 2	17:45 CEST	/	11:45 am EDT

Final.

Round 1	19:30 CEST	/	1:30 pm EDT
Round 1	21:15 CEST	/	3:15 pm EDT

THE FOUR ACES

The Qualification stage has ended.
The four Semifinalists are:

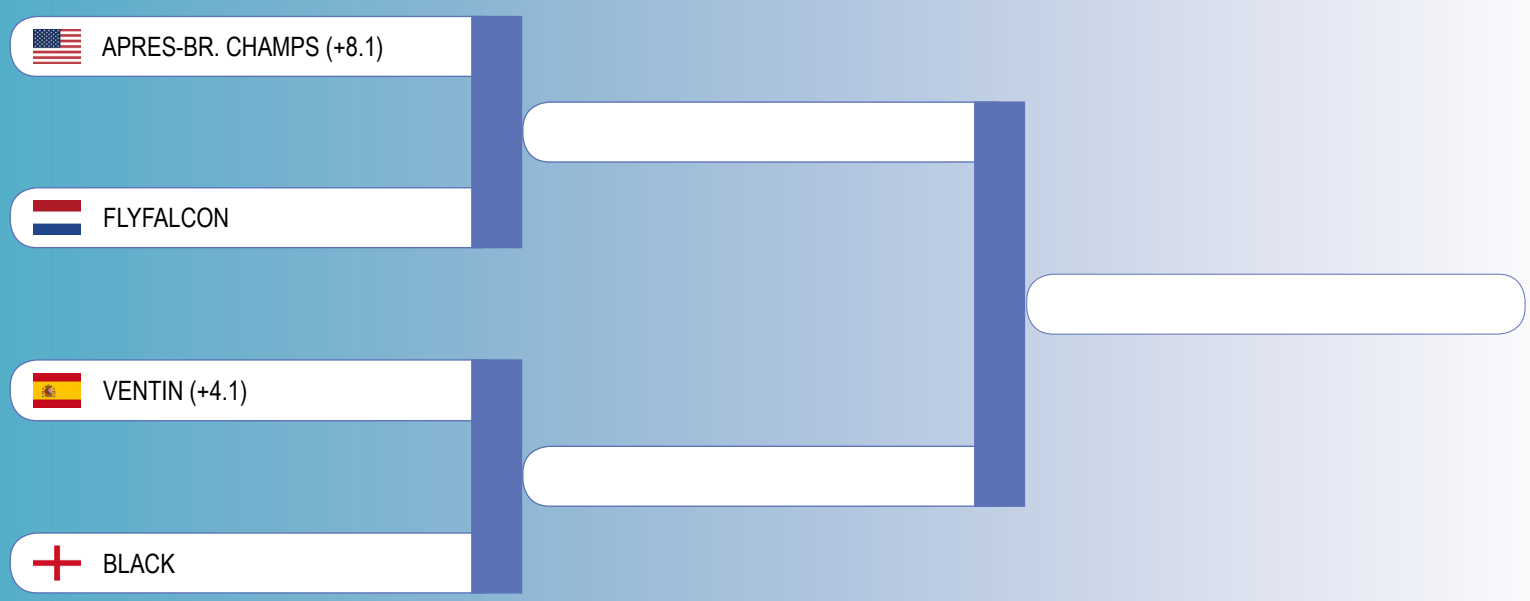
Apres-Bridge Champs
(Auken S., Welland R., Milner R., Lall H., Jagniewski R., Gawel W.)

Ventin
(Ventin J.C., Fernandez C., Palma A., Pacareu J., Wrang F., Nystrom F., Chrueheras J.)

Flyfalcon
(Wilson A., Van Prooijen R., Verhees L., Gronkvist I., Gronkvist M., Sprinkhuizen T., Mendes De Leon G., Kiljan V., Tijssen L.)

Black
Black A., Gold D., McIntosh A., Paske T., Hult S., Hallberg G.

OCBL AUGUST CUP - THE BRACKET



All the tables will be open to kibitzers

World Bridge Tour
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OCBL
UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER CUP

31 August - 3 September, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Tuesday 31 August	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Wednesday 1 September	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Thursday 2 September	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
KO:	Friday 3 September	16.00 - 18.30 - 21.00	10.00 - 12.30 - 15.00

OPEN LEAGUE

6 - 30 September, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at:		21.15	15.15
Qualification:	9 Rounds, 16 boards each		
KO:	3 Rounds, 20 boards each		

OCTOBER CUP

18 - 21 October, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 18 October	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Tuesday 19 October	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Wednesday 20 October	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
KO:	Thursday 21 October	16.00 - 18.30 - 21.00	10.00 - 12.30 - 15.00

OPEN LEAGUE

25 October - 18 November, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at:		21.15	15.15
Qualification:	9 Rounds		
KO:	3 Rounds		

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

https://www.ocbl.org/registration/

Online Bridge
NEWS

NICKELL WINS PREMIER KNOCKOUT

Winners of the NAOBC Premier Knockout (clockwise from left):
Nick Nickell, Steve Weinstein, Bobby Levin, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson and Ralph Katz.

From the ACBL website:

The team captained by Nick Nickell, playing with Steve Weinstein, Robert Levin, Ralph Katz, Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson, won the summer NAOBC Premier Knockout. They defeated the team captained by Gary Donner, playing with Cecilia Rimstedt, Per-Ola Cullin, Marion Michielsen, Brad Moss and Joe Grue.

Donner started out well, going up 15–2 over the first four boards. After that, the IMPs just rained in the Nickell column. They went on a 44–6 run to close out the quarter up by 25.

The second quarter started like the first quarter ended – with a torrent of plus scores for Nickell, this time a 43–6 run over eight boards. By the half, Nickell was up by 66; the score was 99–33.

The third quarter belonged to Donner, however. While holding Nickell to 1 IMP, they scored 37. By the time the dust settled, the Nickell lead was cut to 30, certainly possible to stage a comeback.

But it was not to be. Nickell outscored Donner 44–2 in the last set to win the event 144–72.

Send us your up-to-date pic, please!

It has been a long time since many of us last met and we are doing our best to make your online Bridge experience as valuable as we can.

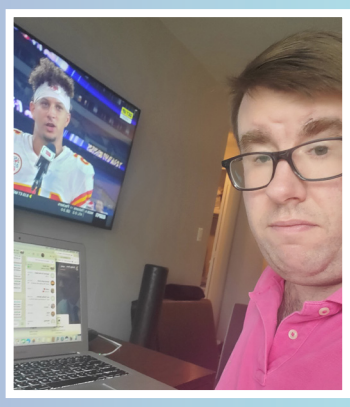
Obviously when producing Bridge articles it is necessary to use photos from the archives.

Since online play is at the moment a big part of our present, we would like to represent it as it is!

So if you can please send us a picture (can be a selfie) of yourself playing online Bridge.

Let your Bridge friends see you in the present!

You can send the pic to:
info@ocbl.org



Rounds 5, 6 and 7

by Brian Senior

Round 5

Board One was a partscore at most tables, with both sides being successful in their 10-card fits. At one table, however, a great of the game was embarrassed when he failed to see the danger and let through a game that was missing three cashing aces.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Flyfalcon v Gupta

West	North	East	South
Zia	*Kiljan*	*Stamatov*	*Tijssen*
–	Pass	Pass	1♣
Dble	1♡	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	*N Gupta*	*M de Leon*	*Korbel*
–	Pass	Pass	1♣
Dble	1♡	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♢	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♢	All Pass

Neither East was prepared to bid diamonds freely over North's 1♡ response, but Mendes de Leon was happy to bid the suit at his next turn, having limited his hand, and he competed for a second time when Korbel's 3♣ came round to him. Korbel led the king of spades, Mendez de Leon winning the ace and playing ace and another diamond. Gupta won the second diamond and led the ten of clubs, Korbel winning the queen and attempting to cash the ace. That was ruffed and the eight of spades was won by Korbel's queen. He returned the jack of hearts to the queen and king and back came a second heart to the ten and ace. But declarer had a priceless asset in the dummy – the seven of spades. He crossed to hand with a trump and led his low spade to the seven, and the heart loser went away on the jack of spades; nine tricks for +110.

Kiljan gave jump preference to 3♣ at the other table, and Tijssen bid the club game. Zia led the six of clubs round to declarer's seven. Tijssen led the jack of diamonds, which Zia won. He cashed the ace of hearts, Tijssen playing the ten, then, not seeing the danger, got out with his remaining club. Tijssen won in hand, ran the jack of hearts and, when it held, crossed to dummy with a club to cash the king of hearts. When the queen appeared, he had three hearts and one diamond winner on which to discard all four spades, and the contract was just made for +400 and 11 IMPs to FLYFALCON.

Nobody managed to stop at a making level on the N/S cards on this next deal.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Rippey v Leslie

West	North	East	South
Norton	*Nowak*	*Bell*	*Rippey*
–	1♡	Pass	1♠
2♢	3♣	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Wiankowski	*Burgess*	*Nawrocki*	*Leslie*
–	1♡	Pass	1♠
2♢	Pass	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Nowak couldn't resist getting his second suit into the game but all that did was to push the bidding to the three level, where of course Rippey repeated his own long suit. Three Spades drifted four off for –400.

Burgess resisted temptation and passed over the 2♢ overcall. He stayed disciplined on what looked like a horrible misfit and passed again when Leslie rebid his spades. Two Spades was down three for –300 but 3 IMPs to LESLIE.

In two other matches, N/S stopped in 2♠, three times after the same auction as at our second table, once when there was no overcall. One declarer escaped for down one, the others down two.

Compton v Ferguson

West	North	East	South
V Lankveld	*Smith*	*V D Bos*	*Moses*
–	1♡	Pass	1♠
2♢	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Dwyer	*Nadel*	*Huang*	*Ferguson*
–	1♡	Pass	1♠
2♢	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Smith did not bid his clubs after the overcall but, when Moses repeated the long spades, Smith now introduced his second suit, having limited his hand by passing at his previous turn. Moses duly passed and Smith was down two in 3♣.

Nadel did bid 3♣ over 2♢ but, when Ferguson rebid the spades, went on with 4♣, and Ferguson did well to let that go. Nadel was down two so the board was a push at –200.

In the remaining match, both Norths passed over 2♢ then converted 2♠ to 3♣ – down one for –100 and another flat board.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

There was one 3♡ opening, six 4♡ openings, and three 1♡ openings.

The 3♡ opening was raised to game, while four of the 4♡ openings were passed out. A fifth 4♡ opener was raised to 5♡ by Nowak, but Rippey, looking at jack-high trumps, was not interested and passed. Which leaves us with the four successful auctions which reached the small slam.

West	North	East	South
Welland	*Hallberg*	*Auken*	*Hult*
–	–	–	4♡
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♡
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

Hallberg was the only North to take control facing a 4♡ opening. He asked for key-cards, found his partner with two, and bid the slam. Welland led a diamond to Hult's bare ace and Hult gave up a club at trick two. With clubs four-three, he could eventually establish the fifth club for a spade discard and had 12 tricks for +1430 and 13 IMPs to BLACK.

West	North	East	South
V Lankveld	*Smith*	*V D Bos*	*Moses*
–	–	–	1♡
Pass	2NT	3♢	4NT
6♢	Dble	Pass	6♡
All Pass			

Smith showed a game-forcing heart raise, leaving room for Van Den Bos to introduce his diamond suit. Moses asked for key-cards and Van Lankveld jumped to 6♢. Smith doubled, presumably to show an even number of key-cards, as Moses took it out to 6♡. He too won the diamond lead and gave up a club; +1430 and 13 IMPs to COMPTON.

West	North	East	South
Gillis	*Wrang*	*Saelensminde*	*Nystrom*
–	–	–	1♡
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♡
All Pass			

Wrang showed a game-forcing raise and, after a couple of artificial bids, Nystrom asked for key-cards, finding two plus the trump queen. He bid 6♡, won the diamond lead and gave up a club; +1430.

West	North	East	South
Palma	*Eriksson*	*Pacareu*	*O Rimstedt*
–	–	–	1♡
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♢	Dble	3♡
4♢	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

Eriksson made the game-forcing raise and now I'm guessing but, maybe, 3♣ showed any shortage, 3♢ asked, and 3♡ said in clubs (lowest suit). Palma's 4♢ facing the double of the artificial 3♢ did not inconvenience his opponents at all, as here it was Eriksson, North, who used Key-card. Ola knew that his great length meant that the ♡Q was irrelevant, so claimed to hold it along with two key-cards, and Eriksson signed off in 6♡. Olan won the diamond lead and drew the sole missing trump before giving up a club; +1430 and no swing, as the match between VENTIN and GILLIS earned bragging rights on this deal by being the only one in which both N/S pairs reached the slam.

Round 6

How many clubs would you bid with the West cards on this deal?

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

For Burgess and Garner the answer to my question was four, and both were left to pay there in GUPTA v LESLIE, making 11 tricks for a flat board at +150.

Four was also the choice of Paske, while Sprinkhuizen preferred to open a level lower. They too were both left to play in the opening bid of their choice so it was also flat at +150 in BLACK v FLYFALCON.

And Van Lankveld was another 4♣ opener who was left to play there, but he was held to 10 tricks when Lall led the king of diamonds, got a count signal showing an odd number, and switched to a heart; +130.

In the other room of that match, Gawel opened 3♣, Nadel doubled for take-out with the North cards, and Ferguson jumped to 4♡, where he was doubled by Jagniewski (East). That cost –300 when Gawel cashed a top club then switched to his singleton diamond, so there was a diamond ruff to go with the ♠AK and ♠♡A; down two and 5 IMPs to APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS.

Ferguson was not the only South to play in 4♡, because Gillis opened 1♡ as dealer and Saelensminde raised to game over Dwyer's 3♣ overcall. There was no double here, however, though Dwyer found the same defence of cashing one club then switching to his singleton, so the contract was again down two, this time for –100. And that was worth 2 IMPs to GILLIS, as at the other table Eriksson opened 3♣ and payed there for +150.

In our final match, Wiankowski opened 3♣ and, after two passes, Pacareu balanced with 3♡. Ventin had seen his partner pass as dealer so knew what to expect and wisely passed. This time the usual defence led to down one for –50, which rated to be worth a modest profit for VENTIN.

But the contract at the other table was not the expected club partscore. Palma opened 3♣ and an optimistic Fernandez responded 3♠. Palma liked that and jumped to 5♣, where he played. When Vallet led king followed by queen of diamonds, Palma was in control. He could ruff the second diamond, cash the top clubs, then play three rounds of spades, ruffing to establish a spade trick on which to park his heart loser; +600 and a far from modest profit of 11 IMPs to for VENTIN.

We have seen a club contract held to 10 tricks by a diamond lead and heart switch. Could Vallet have found that defence and would it have beaten the club game? Well, he certainly could have found the heart switch, as he knew after trick one that declarer had started with an odd number of diamonds, and perhaps three was less likely than one, but it might not have been good enough to beat the contract. Palma would have won the ace of hearts and cashed the top clubs, discovering that he had a trump loser. His best chance would now have been to lead a spade and play for both queen and jack to be onside, thereby providing him with a third winner on which to deposit his losing heart. If Vallet split his honours, Palma had a diamond ruff as an entry back to hand to lead the second spade for a finesse. To beat 5♣, North has to lead a heart at trick one, before he has opened up declarer's communications by cashing a diamond, and good luck to anyone who could find that opening lead.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

In RIPPEY v VENTIN and GILLIS v COMPTON, both Souths opened 1♠, were raised to 2♠, and played there, three declarers making exactly for +110, Pacareu coming to an overtrick for +140 and 1 IMP to VENTIN. There was more action in the other three matches.

Gupta v Leslie

West	North	East	South
Burgess	*N Gupta*	*Leslie*	*Korbel*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Garner	*Byrne*	*A Gupta*	*Dyke*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♡	All Pass

Korbel and Naren Gupta had the familiar auction to 2♠, against which Burgess led the ace of clubs, followed by a switch to the ten of diamonds to the queen and king, ducked by Korbel. That nice play worked out very well for Korbel when Leslie returned a low diamond which he could run to dummy's nine. In the hand where he wanted to be, Korbel led the jack of spades to the queen and king, and now it was Burgess's turn to duck. Korbel, clearly seeing the ball well, continued with the three of spades to the four and dummy's five. He played a third spade to the ace, won the heart return in hand, and drew the outstanding trump. There was just a club to be lost from here so Korbel had nine tricks for +140.

The auction at the other table began the same way but, when the spade raise came round to him, Garner made a balancing double with the East cards. Knowing that his partner had not been able to bid over 1♠, Ash Gupta bid only 3♡ in response, and was allowed to play there. Dyke led a low spade, which Gupta won with the ace. He led the ten of diamonds to the queen, king and ace, and Dyke played ace and another heart. Byrne won the king and switched to a spade. Gupta could ruff that and play jack of diamonds then ruff a diamond, but was left with a diamond loser at the end so had nine tricks for +140 and a handy 7 IMPs to GUPTA.

Ferguson v Apres-Bridge Champs

West	North	East	South
Gawel	*Nadel*	*Jagniewski*	*Ferguson*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
V Lankveld	*Lall*	*V D Bos*	*Milner*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♠	3♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

Gawel and Jagniewski went quietly with the E/W cards so Ferguson was left to play in 2♠, against which Gawel led the ten of diamonds to the queen, king and ace. Ferguson crossed to the king of hearts to lead the jack of spades to the queen and king. Gawel ducked that but won the ace when Ferguson continued with a low spade towards dummy. He played back his remaining diamond, Jagniewski winning and giving him a ruff. Looking for a sixth defensive trick, Gawel now underled the ace-king of clubs in hope of finding his partner with the jack. It was no to be. Ferguson put up the queen and cashed the nine of spades; nine tricks for +140.

At the other table, Van Den Bos overcalled 3♡ as East, and Van Lankveld had an easy raise to game. Milner led a low spade and Van Den Bos rose with the ace and led the ten of diamonds. That was not covered so he ran it, losing to the ace. Milner played ace and another heart but, due to the lack of a diamond cover, Van Den Bos could ruff the spade switch and cross to a top club to repeat the diamond finesse. When the jack scored, he only needed one diamond ruff so had 10 tricks for +620 and 13 IMPs to FERGUSON.

Black v Flyfalcon

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	*Black*	*M de Leon*	*Gold*
Paske	*V Prooijen*	*McIntosh*	*Wilson*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♠	3♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

In BLACK v FLYFALCON, both Easts overcalled 3♡ and played the heart game.

Gold led a low club, Mendes de Leon winning the ace and playing the ten of diamonds, covered all around. Now Gold returned the king of spades to dummy's ace, but Mendes de Leon could win the ace, play a diamond to the jack and ruff a diamond, ruff a spade back to hand and ruff his last diamond. There were only the top hearts to be lost so he had 10 tricks for +620.

Wilson led a low spade and McIntosh found a different way to 10 tricks, and one which did not require that a defender either fail to cover the ten of diamonds or fail to switch to two rounds of trumps. McIntosh played low from dummy on the spade lead and, when his queen scored, had a discard for his fourth diamond. McIntosh crossed to a top club and led dummy's low diamond to his jack. Wilson won the ace and played two rounds of hearts, but here that was no good enough. As the cards lay, McIntosh had found the line that could not be beaten; +620 and no swing.

Round 7

Going into the third and final day of the qualification phase of the OCBL August Cup, everyone was still well in contention for the top four and a place in the knockout stages. The last-placed team, COMPTON, was within 9 VPs of third, and even the top two, VENTIN and APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS, still had some work to do to ensure qualification, though substantially less than those in the chasing pack.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Gillis v Apres-Bridge Champs

West	North	East	South
Gillis	*Auken*	*Saelensminde*	*Welland*
Lall	*M Rimstedt*	*Milner*	*O Rimstedt*
–	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♠	Dble
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Both Souths overcalled 2♣ then, on getting a competitive raise from partner, doubled East's 3♠ to invite game. Both Norths quickly signed off in 4♣.

Lall led a diamond to the two, ten and ace. Ola drew trumps then gave up a spade. After the defenders had taken their two spade winners, Lall led the jack of diamonds through dummy's queen and Ola played low, seeing the king drop on his right. The queen of diamonds now provided a discard for the heart loser; +130.

Gillis led ace and another spade, and Saelensminde switched to a trump. Welland drew trumps, and played ace of hearts then a low heart, ducking to Saelensminde's ten, which would have endplayed him had he started with a doubleton heart. Saelensminde won the heart and got out with the ♡Q to dummy's king and the thirteenth heart was cashed for a diamond discard; +130 and no swing.

Ventin v Compton

West	North	East	South
Dwyer	*Ventin*	*Huang*	*Palma*
–	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Wrang	*Smith*	*Nystrom*	*Moses*
–	Pass	2♠	3♣
4♠	5♣	All Pass	

Palma overcalled but then let his opponents play in 3♠. Palma cashed the king of clubs, getting a count signal from Ventin, then switched to ace and another rheart, Ventin winning the king and playing a third heart. Huang had unblocked the queen under the king so won that with dummy's jack. He led a spade to the king, ruffed his club loser, and cashed the ace of spades. Now it was time for the diamond guess, and Palam's silence over 3♠ now worked in his favour as Huang did not exkpect him to hold another ace. He led low to the king and had two diamond losers for down one and –50.

Nystrom's constructive weak two opener forced Moses to overcall at the three level and, when Wrang jumped to 4♠, Smith was bullied into bidding 5♣ as the spade game could easily have been making. Wrangled ace and another spade to Nystrom's queen. Nystrom switched to his low trump and Moses won that, cashed the other top trump, and ducked a heart. A heart came back and, after cashing s couple of rounds of trumps, Moses tested the hearts and found that he had a third heart winner and 10 in all; down one for –50 and 3 IMPs to VENTIN.

Flyfalcon v Ferguson

West	North	East	South
V Lankveld	*V Prooijen*	*V D Bos*	*Wilson*
–	Pass	1♠	Dble
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
3♠	4♣	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	*Snellers*	*M de Leon*	*De Boer*
–	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♠	4♣
All Pass			

De Boer overcalled 2♣ and, as each player in turn competed in their side's black suit, simply competed in turn with 4♣, where he was allowed to play. Van Lankveld led the seven of diamonds to the queen, king and ace, after which there were four losers; down one for –50.

Wilson judged the South hand to be too strong for a simple overcall, so doubled then bid his suit at his next turn. Van Lankveld competed with 3♠ but Van Prooijen had four-card club support so he in turn competed and Wilson too became declarer in 4♣. Sprinkhuizen led ace then ten of spades to Mendes de Leon's queen. De Boer won the club switch, drew the remaining trump, then played ace and a second heart, ducking to Mendes de Leon's ten. Mendes de Leon returned the king of diamonds, and De Boer had 10 tricks for +130 and 5 IMPs to FERGUSON.

Rippey v Gupta

West	North	East	South
Garner	*Nowak*	*A Gupta*	*Rippey*
–	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♠	4♣
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Vallet	*N Gupta*	*Bedouet*	*Korbel*
–	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Rippey overcalled 2♣ then competed with 4♣ over 3♠ and played there. Garner led the seven of diamonds and Rippey put up the queen. The king forced the ace and there was no way to avoid four losers; down one for –50.

At the other table, there was no 3♠ bid from Ash Gupta, East, and Korbel took the opportunity to bid 3 himself, asking Naren Gupta for a spade stopper. Gupta signed off in 4♣ and that was that. Vallet led the six of diamonds, Korbel playing low from dummy and winning the ten with the ace. He cashed the top clubs then gave up a spade to the queen, won the heart return with the ace, and led the nine of diamonds to the jack and five, dropping the king. Well done, and 10 tricks for +130 and 5 IMPs to GUPTA.

Black v Leslie

West	North	East	South
Gold	*Burgess*	*Black*	*Leslie*
–	Pass	2♠	3♣
3♠	4♣	4♠	5♣
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Norton	*Hallberg*	*Bell*	*Hult*
–	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♠	Dble
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Hult overcalled 2♣ then doubled 3♠ but Hallberg had no interest in higher things and signed off in 4♣, ending the auction. Norton led the eight of diamonds and Hult played low from dummy, won the ace, and drew trumps before ducking a diamond to the king. The queen of diamonds took care of his heart loser; 10 tricks for +130.

Black's constructive weak two opening added momentum to the auction, as we saw in VENTIN v COMPTON. Leslie overcalled 3♣ and everything happened a level higher than at tables where the opening bid was at the one level. That left Leslie to bid 5♣ over 4♠, a level too high. Gold also led the eight of diamonds and Leslie's play of the queen meant that he was actually two levels too high; down two for –100 and 6 IMPs to BLACK.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Gillis v Apres-Bridge Champs

West	North	East	South
Gillis	*Auken*	*Saelensminde*	*Welland*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	3♡
4♢	Pass	4♡	Pass
5♢	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Lall	*M Rimstedt*	*Milner*	*O Rimstedt*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	3♣
3♢	4♡	5♢	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Welland opened 1♡ on the South cards and, on catching a simple raise from Auken, competed with 3♡ at his next turn. Gillis bid freely over that, encouraging Saelensminde to cuebid in search of slam, but now Gillis felt that he had done enough and signed off in game. Welland won the heart lead with the king and switched to the eight of diamonds for the ten and ace. Gillis played safely, cashing the king of diamonds and playing out the spades; 11 tricks for +600.

After an identical start to the auction, Ola introduced his second suit with the South hand and that suited Mikael, who jumped to 4♡ over Lall's diamond call. Unfortunately, Mikael thought his partner would be stronger for the 3♣ bid so doubled the final contract, only to find that the play was all about the overtrick. Mikael led a club, so Lall won the ace, pitching a heart from hand, and cashed the ace and king of diamonds before playing on spades. The heart went away from dummy and a cross-ruff led to 12 tricks for +950 and 8 IMPs to APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS.

Rippey v Gupta

West	North	East	South
Garner	*Nowak*	*A Gupta*	*Rippey*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	3♣
3♢	4♡	5♢	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Vallet	*N Gupta*	*Bedouet*	*Korbel*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	3♣
Pass	4♡	Dble	All Pass

Rippey too made the 3♣ bid and saw his partner double Garner in 5♢. Rippey won the heart lead and switched to the queen of clubs, which Garner ruffed. He led the jack of diamonds and ran it, seeing that Rippey had to be very shapely to justify his 3♣ bid so rated to be short in diamonds. A second diamond went to the ten and ace and the king was cashed. Garner had five spade tricks, the ace of clubs, and two more trumps in the dummy; 12 tricks for +950.

In the other room, Korbel was a third player to rebid 3♣ with South's 10-count, and again North jumped to the heart game. Here, however, Bedouet doubled to get his extras into the game and Vallet left it in. Vallet led the five of diamonds to the two, king and eight, and Bedouet switched to king and another spade. Vallet won that and switched back to diamonds, the ten forcing the ace and ruffed by Korbel, who played ace of hearts and a heart to the queen, followed by the king of clubs. Bedouet won that with the ace and returned the nine of clubs to the ten and ruff. Vallet played back the jack of hearts to declarer's king, and Korbel had to concede a club at the end; down three for –500, but 10 IMPs to GUPTA.

Ventin v Compton

West	North	East	South
Dwyer	*Ventin*	*Huang*	*Palma*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	3♡
4♢	Pass	6♢	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Wrang	*Smith*	*Nystrom*	*Moses*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	3♡
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5♢	All Pass		

In this match both Souths contented themselves with a simple competitive 3♡ at their second turn, after which there was no reason for North to get any further involved in the auction.

Wrang passed over 3♡ but jumped to 5♢ in response to Nystrom's take-out double, and played there. Moses won the heart lead and switched to a low club for the king and ace. Wrang cashed the top diamonds, and had 11 tricks for +600.

Dwyer bid 4♢ freely over 3♡ and Huang just jumped to the small slam. The play was the same as at the other table, but here the trump loser meant down one for –100 and 12 IMPs to VENTIN.

Flyfalcon v Ferguson

West	North	East	South
V Lankveld	*V Prooijen*	*V D Bos*	*Wilson*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	Pass
3♢	Pass	5♢	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	*Snellers*	*M de Leon*	*De Boer*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	3♡
4♢	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♢	Pass	6♢	All Pass

De Boer rebid 3♡ on the South cards and Sprinkhuizen's free 4♢ bid saw Mendes de Leon ask for key-cards then bid the small slam. Snellers made the usual heart lead against 6♢ and De Boer won the king and continued with the ace. Sprinkhuizen cashed the top trumps so was down one for –100.

Wilson stayed silent at his second turn. That took a little momentum out of the auction. Van Lankveld responded with a simple 3♢ to his partner's double, and Van Den Bos just raised to game. The same defence and same play also meant 11 tricks at this table, but that was worth +600 and 12 IMPs to FERGUSON.

Black v Leslie

West	North	East	South
Gold	*Burgess*	*Black*	*Leslie*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	4♡
Dble	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♢	Pass	6♢	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Norton	*Hallberg*	*Bell*	*Hult*
–	–	–	1♡
1♠	2♡	Dble	Pass
3♢	Pass	4♡	Pass
5♢	All Pass		

Hult too passed at his second turn, Norton bid a simple 3♢ and Bell splintered with 4♡, but Norton was not tempted and settled for game. Hallberg led a club, so Norton won the ace, discarding a heart from hand, cashed the top trumps, and started on the spades. Dummy's heart went away, so Norton had an overtrick for +620.

Leslie put a lot of momentum into the auction when his choice of rebid with the South cards was a jump to 4♡. Gold doubled and Black bid 4NT, pick a minor. When Gold did so, Black raised him to Six. Burgess led a heart, which seemed to give the defence a chance. Leslie won the king and switched to the queen of clubs. Gold knew that Leslie had to be very shapely for his jump to 4♡ and played accordingly. He ruffed the club in hand and led the jack of diamonds and, when Burgess played low, ran it. When the jack held it was a simple matter to draw trumps and cash out 12 tricks for +1370 and 13 IMPs to BLACK. Well played, David Gold.

At most tables this next deal was played in a partscore, usually by E/W, and always successfully. Just two tables saw E/W bid to the thin heart game.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wrang	*Smith*	*Nystrom*	*Moses*
–	1♣	2♣	4♣
4♡	All Pass		

Nystrom overcalled 2♣, both majors, and Moses made a pre-emptive raise to 4♣. Wrang was not prepared to be shut out and bid 4♡, where he played. Smith led the eight of clubs to his partner's ace and back came a second club to the king. Smith now switched to a low trump. Wrang won the ♡A and ruffed a spade, took a spade pitch on the queen of clubs, then played ace and ruffed a diamond. The play continued with a spade ruff, high diamond ruff, and low spade round to Smith's queen.

He returned a low trump and Wrang put in the nine. He had to lose a second spade, however, so was down one for –100 and 6 IMPs to COMPTON, the contract at the other table being 2♢+3 by East.

West	North	East	South
Lall	*M Rimstedt*	*Milner*	*O Rimstedt*
–	1♣	2♢	3♣
3♡	Pass	4♡	All Pass

Milner also made a two-suited overcall to show the majors, but here Ola bid only 3♣ with the South cards. That left room for Lall to compete with 3♡ and Milner, with a better hand than he might have had, raised him to game. Mikael led the king of clubs and, when that held the trick, made the very natural looking switch to a trump. Lall won the ♡A and ruffed a spade then played ace and another diamond, ruffing, and took a second spade ruff. He ruffed another diamond with the nine, establishing the rest of his diamonds, then cashed the king and queen of hearts, drawing trumps. And now it was time to lead the jack of clubs, and Ola was powerless. If he won the ace, he would either have to lead a club back to Lall's queen, and Lall, would have the rest with winning diamonds, while if he won the club and returned a spade, Mikael would win the ace but then have a choice of returning a club to declarer's queen, or a spade to dummy's king, and the thirteenth spade would be declarer's tenth trick. So Ola ducked the club and hoped that Lall would not read the ending correctly. No such luck. Lall overtook the jack of clubs with the queen and cashed two diamond winners before conceding a club at the end. That was nicely done for 11 tricks, +650, and 11 IMPs to APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS as the contract at the other table was 2♢+1 by East.

OCBL AUGUST CUP - RESULTS

ROUND 7

Rippey	12.01 VPs / 21 IMPs	7.99 VPs / 15 IMPs	Gupta
Compton	10 VPs / 19 IMPs	10 VPs / 19 IMPs	Ventin
Leslie	2.44 VPs / 17 IMPs	17.56 VPs / 48 IMPs	Black
Apres-Br. Champs	17.08 VPs / 32 IMPs	2.92 VPs / 4 IMPs	Gillis
Flyfalcon	10.36 VPs / 25 IMPs	9.64 VPs / 24 IMPs	Ferguson

ROUND 8

Rippey	6.03 VPs / 12 IMPs	13.97 VPs / 25 IMPs	Compton
Black	17.56 VPs / 39 IMPs	2.44 VPs / 8 IMPs	Gupta
Ventin	6.82 VPs / 18 IMPs	13.18 VPs / 28 IMPs	Apres-Br. Champs
Ferguson	12.9 VPs / 33 IMPs	7.1 VPs / 24 IMPs	Leslie
Gillis	6.82 VPs / 17 IMPs	13.18 VPs / 27 IMPs	Flyfalcon

ROUND 9

Rippey	12.61 VPs / 26 IMPs	7.39 VPs / 18 IMPs	Black
Apres-Br. Champs	17.24 VPs / 44 IMPs	2.76 VPs / 15 IMPs	Compton
Gupta	8.3 VPs / 45 IMPs	11.7 VPs / 50 IMPs	Ferguson
Flyfalcon	5.78 VPs / 22 IMPs	14.22 VPs / 36 IMPs	Ventin
Leslie	5.78 VPs / 17 IMPs	14.22 VPs / 31 IMPs	Gillis

OCBL AUGUST CUP - RESULTS

BUTLER RANKING

1	F. Wrang, (fly21)	Ventin	1.32	84
2	F. Nystrom, (F_Nystrom)	Ventin	1.32	72
3	R. Milner, (reesem)	APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS	0.89	72
	H. Lall, (hemantlall)	APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS	0.89	72
5	G. Mendes de Leon, (guymdl)	Flyfalcon	0.72	60
	T. Sprinkhuizen, (thibos)	Flyfalcon	0.72	60
7	L. Cima, (100dog)	Rippey	0.58	24
	G. Percario, (giacomopr)	Rippey	0.58	24
9	M. Eriksson, (Magnus_E)	Gillis	0.5	36
10	R. Jagniewski, (mlodybog)	APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS	0.46	72
	W. Gawel, (redds)	APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS	0.46	72
	C. Fernandez, (carlitosf)	Ventin	0.46	48
13	G. Hallberg, (rerack)	Black	0.44	72
	S. Hult, (hultahult)	Black	0.44	72
15	L. Tijssen, (luctijs)	Flyfalcon	0.4	60
16	P. Nawrocki, (nawrot)	Rippey	0.39	72
	P. Wiankowski, (vifon_e)	Rippey	0.39	72
18	R. Welland, (roy)	APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS	0.33	72
	N. Gupta, (nareng)	Gupta	0.33	84
	S. Auken, (jcmax)	APRES-BRIDGE CHAMPS	0.33	72
	D. Korbel, (dank)	Gupta	0.33	84
22	D. Gold, (dagold)	Black	0.32	72
	A. Black, (boggis)	Black	0.32	72
24	M. Bell, (MickyB)	Leslie	0.29	84
	A. Palma, (apalma)	Ventin	0.29	84
	B. Norton, (Bechno)	Leslie	0.29	84
27	C. Compton, (compton)	Compton	0.27	48
	A. Goodman, (agoodman1)	Compton	0.27	48
29	V. Kiljan, (Vkill)	Flyfalcon	0.19	84
30	B. Van Den Bos, (Berendbs)	Ferguson	0.16	108
	J. Van Lankveld, (ennaji)	Ferguson	0.16	108
32	O. Rimstedt, (olarim)	Gillis	0.11	108
33	J.C. Ventin, (phave)	Ventin	-0.01	72
34	M. Rimstedt, (Mikaelrim)	Gillis	-0.08	72
35	M. Byrne, (michaelGB)	Leslie	-0.1	72
	K. Dyke, (Woozle)	Leslie	-0.1	72
37	J. Pacareu, (paca1987)	Ventin	-0.24	72
38	K. Nowak, (kamiln)	Rippey	-0.28	72
	W. De Boer, (bukkum)	Ferguson	-0.28	36
	A. Snellers, (asnellers)	Ferguson	-0.28	36
	M. Rippey, (radiators)	Rippey	-0.28	72
42	T. Paske, (thomas1000)	Black	-0.33	72
	L. Verhees, (loukie)	Flyfalcon	-0.33	24
	A. McIntosh, (mcintosh)	Black	-0.33	72
45	K. Dwyer, (kdwyer)	Compton	-0.38	108
	S. Huang, (precisebri)	Compton	-0.38	108
47	E. Saelensminde, (skaal1)	Gillis	-0.39	84
48	J. Stamatov, (jerry72)	Gupta	-0.43	72
	Zia Mahmood, (Zia)	Gupta	-0.43	72
50	S. Gillis, (Rayas78)	Gillis	-0.44	108
51	T. Moses, (hottodstl)	Compton	-0.55	60
	R. Smith, (ronsmithsf)	Compton	-0.55	60
53	J. Nadel, (juliejoy)	Ferguson	-0.58	72
	B. Ferguson, (bruceferg)	Ferguson	-0.58	72
	O. Svendsen, (Pirrum)	Gillis	-0.58	24
56	A. Wilson, (flyfalcon)	Flyfalcon	-0.65	72
	R. Van Prooijen, (riccovp)	Flyfalcon	-0.65	72
58	P. Bedout, (pi420)	Rippey	-0.69	48
	E. Vallet, (rasko179)	Rippey	-0.69	48
60	A. Gupta, (axp1011)	Gupta	-1.2	60
	S. Garner, (garner)	Gupta	-1.2	60
62	O. Burgess, (mrspen)	Leslie	-1.35	60
	T. Leslie, (Culross66)	Leslie	-1.35	60

SEPTEMBER CUP

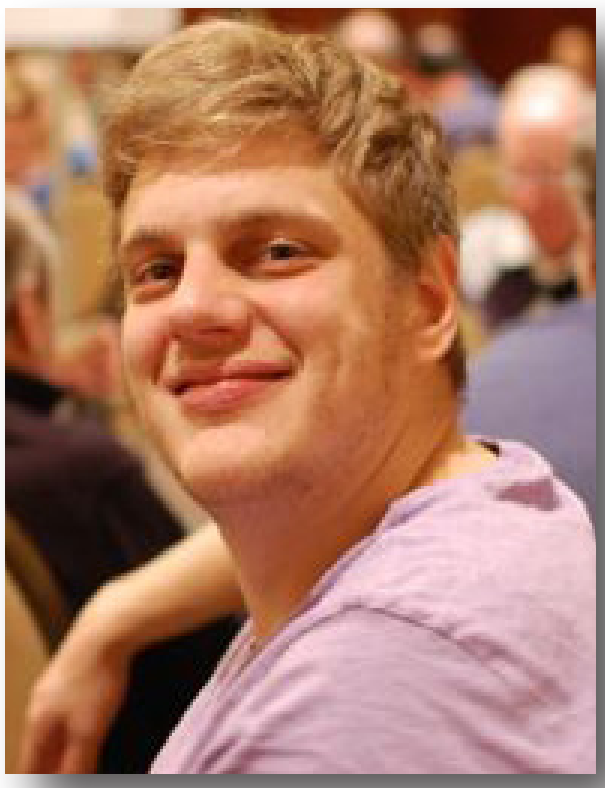
31 August - 3 September, 2021

Registered Teams

The OCBL September Cup will take place from 31 August to 3 September, 2021

GILLIS
Gillis S. (Rayas78)
Brogeland B. (boye)
Svendsen O. (Pirrum)
Saelensminde E. (skaal1)
Lindqvist E. (stevieg)

ORCA
Plackett R. (hoofie)
Erichsen E. (espene)
Crouch P. (pitiful)
Cope S. (Copeyj)

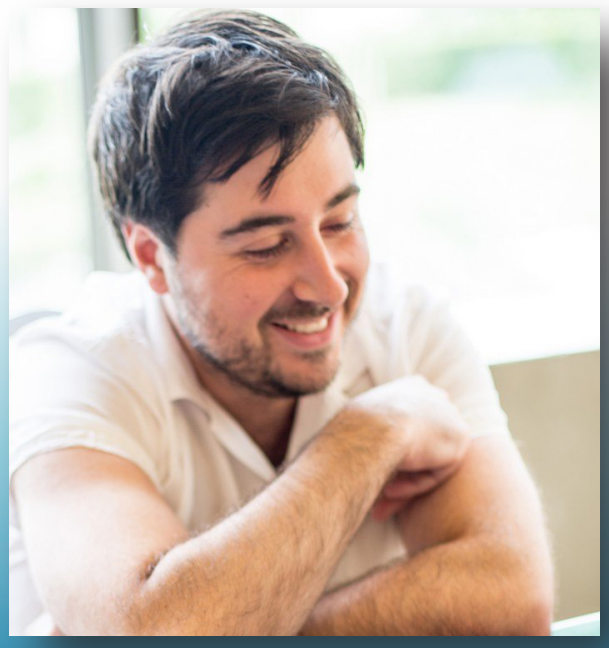


LEVINE
Levine M. (mikerl)
Wold E. (womoco)
Meckstroth J. (jjmeck)
Garner S. (garner)
Helgemo G. (micelle45)
Helness T. (Helstokk)
Morris B. (bobat3333)

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

PARKER
Rubenstein S. (stewr)
Parker C. (cmp56)
Grossack A. (nevereast)
Grossack Z. (germs345)
Demuy V. (Okvince)
Kranyak J. (jkrans)
Tebha A. (anamtebha)

ISR-TUR
Zeitak A. (avivz)
Khutorsky N. (nir khut)
Tatlicioglu S. (Sinantos)
Baskan B. (baskanb)



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Qualification:

9 Rounds x 12 Boards	CEST	EDT
Tuesday 31	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
Wednesday 1	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
Thursday 2	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00

KOs:

Quarterfinals - Semifinals - Finals: 16 Boards each

	CEST	EDT
Friday 3	16.00 - 18.30 - 21.00	10.00 - 12.30 - 15.00

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