World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

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SKALMAN ARE LEADING

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE RESULTS

ROUND 2

Senior Ball	9.39 VPs 38 IMPs	10.61 VPs 40 IMPs	Flyfalcon
Scorway	14.6 VPs 50 IMPs	5.4 VPs 32 IMPs	Junior Squad
Sugi	0 VPs 11 IMPs	20 VPs 78 IMPs	Skalman
Harris	8.52 VPs 37 IMPs	11.48 VPs 42 IMPs	Black
Fredin	10 VPs 41 IMPs	10 VPs 41 IMPs	Bridge42
Râteau bavoir	19.52 VPs 73 IMPs	0.48 VPs 19 IMPs	French Juniors

RANKING AFTER ROUND 2

1	Skalman	30.61
2	Scorway	27.15
3	Senior Ball	25.97
4	Râteau bavoir	25.77
5	Flyfalcon	24.36
6	Black	20.57
7	Fredin	18.8
8	Harris	17.91
9	Bridge42	17.45
10	Junior Squad	16.6
11	Sugi	10.91
12	French Juniors	3.9

Sanna Clementsson, Alexander Sandin and P.O. Sundelin

After two rounds, team Skalman (Ahlesved K., Warne N., Elmroth G., Eliasson P., Fallenius B., Nilsland M., Karlsson T., Sandin A.) are leading the ranking (30.61 VPs).

They are followed by Scorway (Levinson S., Shenkin B., Diamond D., Kvangraven N., Saur O., Silverstone V., Stornes H., Brekka G.) (27.15 VPs) and Senior Ball (Fox Ji., Helms J., Chambers N., Graves A., Pellegrini C., Garcia da Rosa R.) (25.97 VPs).

Today the third round of the Qualification stage will be played.

ANY INTERESTING PLAY? LET US KNOW!

If you see an interesting bid or play please let us know by e-mail at: journal@ocbl.org

Thank you!

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OCBL
UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEKEND LEAGUE
2 - 17 October, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Every Saturday and Sunday at:		16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
Qualification:	12 Rounds, 12 boards each		
KO:	QuarterFinals and SemiFinals: 2 Rounds, 12 boards each Final: 3 Rounds, 12 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/

The Luck Factor

by Mark Horton

Bridge is not essentially a game of luck (although try telling that to a poor card-holder at Rubber bridge) but it can be a factor. In pre-pandemic days a journalist might choose to follow a match which proved to be disappointing because the deals offered little scope for swings. In the Covid age, reporting matches on the Internet allows you to pick and choose (as long as time permits!). However, you have to make an initial choice and in Round 2 I opened my iPad and the first match to be listed was that between Senior Ball and Flyfalcon. Was that going to be a lucky accident?

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fox*	*Kiljan*	*Helms*
	Pass	1♠	4♢
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

No textbook that I know of can advise you as to the best bid with South's cards. One must rely on experience as much as anything. I can offer one piece of advice – consider at what level you might like your opponents to play and bid accordingly. However, don't fall into the trap of bidding so high that you offer them 'fielder's choice.' For example were South to overcall 5♢ then the defenders are sure to double unless they feel confident about a five-level (or higher) contract. Facing a passed partner there was little chance of missing 3NT, so South went past 3♢. East was short on points, but good on shape and his double found partner at home.

North led the ♢Q and South overtook it with the king and switched to the ♡3. Declarer took the king, ruffed a diamond, cashed the ♡A, ruffed a heart, ruffed a diamond and played the ♣10. North ducked, but declarer cashed the ♠AK, North, having pitched a spade on the third diamond following with the three and queen. Declarer was confident of the layout and ruffed a heart with the ♣5, +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Garcia da R	*Mendes de L*	*Pellegrini*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	Pass	1♠	4♢
All Pass			

West led the ♣K and declarer pitched a spade on dummy's ace and played the ♡4 for the two, jack and king. West switched to the ♠9 and East took two tricks in the suit, cashed the ♡A and gave West a heart ruff, two down, -100 but a 7 IMP gain.

6 players overcalled 3♢, 4 went with 4♢ while 2 opted for 2♢.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fox*	*Kiljan*	*Helms*
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♡	Pass	1♠	All Pass

South led the ♣7 and North won with the king and switched to the ♠3. South won with the king and switched back to clubs, the nine seeing North won and play a second spade. Declarer won with dummy's queen and played a heart, dropping the queen when North won with the king. North cashed a second heart, but the ♢A was the last defensive trick, +80.

The winning defence is hard to find; North must switch to a diamond, ducked by South. Now the defenders are threatening to score a diamond ruff, but if declarer tries playing two rounds of trumps South can win and playa third round. With no entry to dummy declarer will loose two diamonds and seven tricks in all.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Garcia da R	*Mendes de L*	*Pellegrini*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♡	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

West led the ♠2 and East took the ace and returned the jack, Declarer winning with the king, cashing dummy's top trumps and claiming 11 tricks, +150, 6 IMPs and a fast start for Flyfalcon.

From the comfort of my office, a cup of George Clooney's favourite coffee in hand, it loos plausible for North to bid on – 3♠ would see South bid 3NT. However, the weight of evidence is against me – no-one bid a game with the NS cards.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fox*	*Kiljan*	*Helms*
—	—	1♣*	2♣*
2♠*	4♣	All Pass	

1♣ 2+♣
2♣ Natural
2♠ Non-forcing

The principle I expounded on Board 1 can also be applied to the situation that arose here – North wants to support clubs, but how high to go? With such modest values bidding 4♣ (as opposed to 3♣) risks pushing EW into a contract they might not reach under their own steam.

Declarer lost to the black aces, the ♡K and those, along with three diamonds meant three down, -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Garcia da R	*Mendes de L*	*Pellegrini*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	1♢	2♣
Dble*	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

With no interest in advancing West was delighted to take whatever was on offer from 5♣. It turned out to be -800 and 12 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fox*	*Kiljan*	*Helms*
—	—	—	1♢
1♠	Pass	2♠	Dble
3♠	All Pass		

North led the ♡Q and South took the ace and returned the nine, declarer winning and running the ♣J to South's king. South exited with the ♣4 and declarer won in dummy and tried to cash the ace. North ruffed and the missing aces meant one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Garcia da R	*Mendes de L*	*Pellegrini*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	—	1♣*
2♠	Pass	3♠	Dble
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

1♣ 2+♣, may have 5♢

East led the ♠2 and having taken dummy's ace declarer tried a diamond to the ten and king, East switching to the ♡6. West won

with the king and returned the ten and when declarer won and played a club East took the ace and exited with his remaining heart. That meant three down, -300 and 9 IMPs.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fox*	*Kiljan*	*Helms*
1♣*	Dble	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

1♣ 2+♣, may have 5♢

West led the ♣A, cashed the ♡A and then went back to clubs. Declarer won in dummy, played off the top spades and claimed, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Garcia da R	*Mendes de L*	*Pellegrini*	*Sprinkhuizen*
1♣*	Dble	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♡*	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

1♣ 2+♣
4NT RKCB
5♡ 2 key cards

That was one too many, -50 and a 10 IMP loss. That meant Senior Ball had moved well ahead, 33-13.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fox*	*Kiljan*	*Helms*
—	—	—	1♢
Pass	Pass	1NT*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

1NT 11-14

South led the ♢5 and North put in the nine, declarer winning with the ten, playing a club to the ace and running the ♡J. South won and switched to the ♠Q, declarer putting up dummy's king and playing two rounds of clubs, South discarding the ♢2. North won and elected to return the ♢K, declarer rapidly taking ten tricks, +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Garcia da R	*Mendes de L*	*Pellegrini*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	—	1♢
Pass	1♡	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♢	All Pass	

West started with three rounds of clubs and declarer won and played a spade to the queen. West won and played a heart and declarer could not avoid one down, -50 and 9 IMPs.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fox*	*Kiljan*	*Helms*
—	—	Pass	1♠
3♡	4♠	5♡	5♠
All Pass			

West led the ♡K and declarer ruffed in dummy, played a spade to the king and a club to the king. East took the ace and switched to the ♢5 so that was +480.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Garcia da R	*Mendes de L*	*Pellegrini*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♡	4♡*	4♠	4NT*
5♡	Pass*	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

4♡ Splinter
4NT RKCB
Pass 1/4 key cards

Thibo Sprinkhuizen

Having ruffed the heart lead and returned to hand with a spade declarer ruffed a heart and played the ♣9, West winning with the queen and exiting with the ♡4. Declarer ruffed in dummy pitching a diamond and played the ♣K, ruffing when East followed with the six. A spade to the ace was followed by a diamond to the queen, +980 and 11 IMPs.

Flyfalcon had turned the match around and as the last deal settled on the table they led 40-33.

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	Fox	Kiljan	Helms
Pass	1NT	2♣*	3NT
Pass	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

2♣ Majors
4♣ Undiscussed

North led the ♢A and declarer ruffed in dummy and played a club to the jack and ace. North switched to the ♡2 and declarer put in dummy's jack, played a club to the jack and the ♠9, North following with the five. This was the critical point; when declarer played dummy's jack South won with the queen and returned the ♠10, North taking the ace and playing the ♠6. That meant South's ♡10 was the setting trick, -100.

Credit that result to North's lead of the ♢A. Declarer placed North with the ♢AK, ♡K and ♣A. The ♠A would give him 18 points, too many for 1NT.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Garcia da R	*Mendes de L*	*Pellegrini*	*Sprinkhuizen*
Pass	1♣*	2♢*	Pass
2♡	Pass	2♠	Dble*
Rdbl	3♢	4♢*	5♢
All Pass			

1♣ 2+♣, may have 5♢
2♢ Both majors
Dble Takeout

East led the ♠4 and when dummy's ten held declarer drew trumps, played a club for the ten and ace and a club for the queen and king. West switched to the ♡7 and declarer lost two hearts and a club to finish two down, -100 and a 5 IMP loss, preserving a 2 IMP lead that translated into 10.61 VP.

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OCBL WEEKEND LEAGUE

2 - 17 October 2021

Qualification + Knockout

Qualification:

12 Rounds x 12 Boards

Play every Saturday and Sunday at: 16.00 CEST / 10.00 am EDT
18.00 CEST / 12.00 pm EDT
20.00 CEST / 2.00 pm EDT

KOs:

Quarterfinals: 24 Boards (2 Rounds x 12 Boards)
Semifinals: 24 Boards (2 Rounds x 12 Boards)
Final: 36 Boards (3 Rounds x 12 Boards)

Info and pre-registration: WWW.OCBL.ORG