World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 131. Friday, 10 September, 2021

SENIOR BALL BACK ON TOP

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE RESULTS

ROUND 3

Skalman	8.8 VPs 22 IMPs	11.2 VPs 26 IMPs	Scorway
Senior Ball	19.07 VPs 69 IMPs	0.93 VPs 20 IMPs	Râteau bavoir
Flyfalcon	4.81 VPs 16 IMPs	15.19 VPs 37 IMPs	Black
Fredin	20 VPs 99 IMPs	0 VPs 4 IMPs	Harris
Bridge42	17.85 VPs 45 IMPs	2.15 VPs 7 IMPs	Junior Squad
Sugi	17.03 VPs 56 IMPs	2.97 VPs 24 IMPs	French Juniors

RANKING AFTER ROUND 3

11	Senior Ball	45.04
2	Skalman	39.41
3	Fredin	38.8
4	Scorway	38.35
5	Black	35.76
6	Bridge42	35.3
7	Flyfalcon	29.17
8	Sugi	27.94
9	Râteau bavoir	26.7
10	Junior Squad	18.75
11	Harris	17.91
12	French Juniors	6.87

After three rounds, team Senior Ball (Fox Ji., Helms J., Chambers N., Graves A., Pellegrini C., Garcia da Rosa R.) (45.04 VPs) took the lead of the ranking.

They are followed by Skalman (Ahlesved K., Warne N., Elmroth G., Eliasson P., Fallenius B., Nilsland M., Karlsson T., Sandin A.) (39.41 VPs) and Fredin (Fredin P., Sylvan J., Morath A., Clementsson S., Clemmensson J., Ek B., Westman A., Gustawsson M.) (38.80 VPs).

The third round of the Qualification stage will be played on Monday.

Carlos Pellegrini

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World Bridge Tour
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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		

SUPER CUP
22 - 27 November, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 22 November	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Tuesday 23 November	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Wednesday 24 November	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Thursday 25 November	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
KO:	Friday 26 November	16.00 - 17.45 - 19.30 - 21.15	10.00 - 11.45 - 13.30 - 15.15
	Saturday 27 November	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

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

Under the Microscope

by Mark Horton

In the third round of the OCBL Open League the deals presented some tough challenges. We'll visit many of the tables, to see how the players coped:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

North might open 3♣ when South has an easy 3NT. If West doubles East has an awkward decision, but bidding 4♠ might work if South leads a heart.

Skalman v Scorway

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Eliason*	*Saur*	*Elmroth*
—	3♣	Pass	3NT
Dble	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led the ♡Q and declarer cashed dummy's ♡AK getting rid of a club. He ruffed a heart, played a spade to the queen and ace and continued with a fourth heart. When North ruffed in with the ♠J declarer pitched his remaining club, ruffed the club return and played a diamond, claiming when South took the ace, +420.

If North discards a diamond on the fourth heart, declarer ruffs and must avoid the trap of playing a diamond rather than a trump. South can take the ♢A and give his partner a diamond ruff which will mean one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Warne	*Levinson*	*Ahlesved*	*Shenkin*
—	3♣	Pass	3NT
Dble	Pass	4♠	All Pass

After the same opening lead the first four tricks were identical, but then declarer played a second spade, easily securing ten tricks when the ♢A was onside.

Junior Squad v Bridge 42

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Basler	*Gyorgy*	*Mélic*	*Trenka*
—	3♣	Pass	3NT
Dble	All Pass		

West led the ♡A for the three, eight and ten. West now did well to switch to spades, but he went with the three when the ace (which was the choice of Johan Sylvan in the match between Fredin and Harris) is clearer. East followed with the two and declarer won with the queen and played on clubs. Now East needs to hold on to three spades, when as long as West discards the ♠10 at some point declarer will he held to eight tricks, but he discarded one on the third round and another on the fourth. Now declarer could cash two more clubs and play a heart. West could win, but after cashing two spades he had to lead away from the ♢K, giving declarer an overtrick, +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gabor	*Guichet*	*Talyigas*	*Bonin*
—	3♣	Pass	3NT
Dble	All Pass		

West led the ♡A and this time South followed with the nine. When West continued with the ♡K the contract was more than safe. East discarded the ♠9 and West switched to the ♢K. Declarer won, cashed a couple of clubs, took his heart winners and then cashed four more clubs pitching spades and a diamond. In the two card ending declarer had to guess if West's remaining diamond was the jack. He played a diamond to the queen, +650 and a push.

French Juniors v Sugi

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bellicaud	*Rohinun*	*Guth*	*Sugiharto*
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣*	3NT	All Pass	

2♣ Majors

West started with three rounds of hearts and declarer won and played the ♠Q. When that held declarer cashed winners to reach a two-card ending. Holding ♢AQ and with nine tricks already in the bag declarer took the finesse and West scored the last two tricks, +400.

Sugi

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Reza	*Grosset*	*Elwindra*	*Vallet*
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣*	3NT	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

2♣ Majors

South led the ♣9 and North won with the ace and continued with the queen, switching to the ♢9 when South allowed it to win. The contract was one down, -100 and a 7 IMP swing.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

This is one of those deals where it is hard to predict how the bidding will develop, much depending on the initial actions of North and South.

Senior Ball v Râteau Bavoir

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mauberquez	*Garcia da R*	*Oursel*	*Pellegrini*
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
1NT	Dble	Pass	2♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	2♡	Dble	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♣	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♣Q, usually a good idea when your side holds the balance of power and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the ♢5 for the three, nine and ten. West returned the ♣J and declarer won in dummy, ruffed a diamond and ran the ♠J. West covered the next spade with the ace and declarer ruffed in dummy and played a heart, eventually scoring another trump and three more spades, +670.

The winning defence is virtually impossible to find – West must switch to hearts at trick three, playing the ace and another, which will work as long as East plays a third round of the suit.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Chambers	*van Oosten*	*Graves*	*Thorpe*
—	Pass	Pass	2♠*
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2♠ Weak two

North led the ♡10 and declarer won with the ace and ran the ♢J. He continued with a diamond to the king and two more rounds of the suit, North winning as South pitched the

Ricco van Prooijen

♣8, ♠6 and ♡5. North exited with a heart and declarer won in dummy and played a club, North winning and clearing the hearts. Declarer cashed the ♠A and a diamond, -50 but a 12 IMP gain.

Black v Flyfalcon

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	*van Prooijen*	*McIntosh*	*Wilson*
—	Pass	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

West led the ♣Q and declarer won in dummy and played a heart for the jack and ace, West continuing with the ♣J. Declarer took dummy's king and played a heart East winning, cashing the ♣10 and playing the ♡K. When declarer ruffed with the ♠6 West overruffed with the nine, cashed the ♢A and continued with the six. Declarer covered with dummy's seven, ruffed East's king and played the ♠K. West took the ace and returned the ♢J and when declarer did not put up dummy's queen he was three down, -300.

When East played the third heart, declarer could have discarded a diamond (or a club) after which he should always manage six tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Hallberg*	*Kiljan*	*Hult*
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
1NT*	Dble	Rdbl*	2♣
Dble	All Pass		

1NT 'Natural'
Rdbl 'Points'
Dble 'Takeout'

West led the ♣Q and declarer won in dummy, exited with a diamond, won the club return, ruffed a diamond and played the ♠K for the ace and a ruff. A diamond ruff was followed by the winning spades, +380 and 12 IMPs.

Fredin v Harris

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harris	*Fredin*	*Malhasyan*	*Clementsson*
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♢	1♡	Dble	1♠
Pass	2♡	All Pass	

East led the ♢3 and West won with the ace and played two rounds of heats, East winning, cashing the ♢K and exiting with the four. That meant an easy two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sylvan	*Root*	*Gustawsson*	*Igoe*
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
1NT	Dble	Rdbl*	2♣
2♢	2♡	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Rdbl Values

North led the ♣A and switched to the ♡10, but it was too late. Declarer won with dummy's queen and played a diamond to the ten, continuing with the ♣Q when it held. North won and exited with a club and declarer won in dummy, crossed to the ♡A and played the ♢J, ducking when North played the queen. He had the tricks on top now, +550 and 10 IMPs.

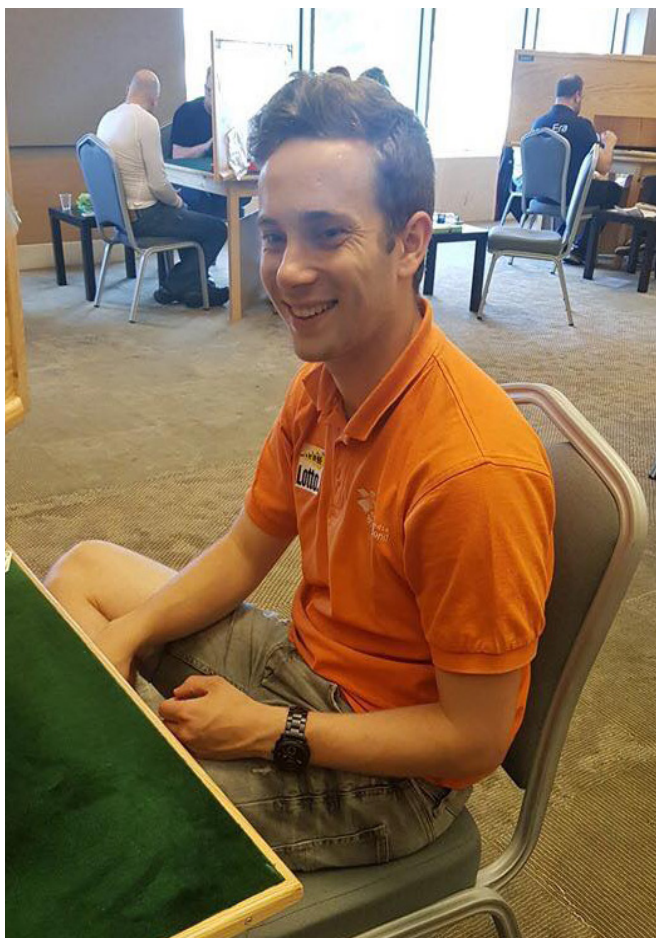
Junior Squad v Bridge 42

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Basler	*Gyorgy*	*Mélic*	*Trenka*
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	2♢*	Pass	2♡*
Pass	Pass	Dble*	All Pass

2♢ One major
2♡ Pass or correct
Dble 'Takeout'

West led the ♣Q and declarer won with dummy's ace and played a heart, East winning with the queen and returning the ♣10. Declarer won with dummy's king and played a heart, West taking the ace and switching to the ♠3. Had declarer pitched a diamond on that he would have been in line for couple of overtricks, but there was no reason to suppose West was underleading the ace and he ruffed in dummy and played a heart, pitching the ♠10. You will have realized that if instead of playing a spade West had cashed the ♢A and then played the jack the defenders would have prevailed, and now it was East's turn to have a choice of suits. The winning defence is to switch to a low diamond, but when East exited with a club declarer could win and claim eight tricks, +670.



Luc Tijssen

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gabor	*Guichet*	*Talyigas*	*Bonin*
—	Pass	Pass	2♠*
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

2♠ 5♠+minor

North led the ♡10 and declarer won with the ace and ran the ♢10. He cleared the diamonds, but North exited with a heart and there were only eight tricks, -100 but 11 IMPs.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

An innocuous looking deal where you would not expect anything more than a partscore.

Black v Flyfalcon

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	*van Prooijen*	*McIntosh*	*Wilson*
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♢
Pass	1♠	All Pass	

East led the ♡10 and declarer ducked East's king, took the spade switch with dummy's jack and played a club for the jack and king. East exited with a spade and declarer won with the ace and played a club for the nine and ace. He could dispose of a losing diamond, +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Hallberg*	*Kiljan*	*Hult*
1NT	All Pass		

North led the ♠3 for the queen and king and after cashing the ♠J South switched to the ♡Q for the king and ace. North cashed his spades before switching to the ♢9 and declarer claimed five tricks, -100 and a 2 IMP swing.

Junior Squad v Bridge 42

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Basler	*Gyorgy*	*Mélic*	*Trenka*
Pass	2♠*	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♡	3♠
All Pass			

2♠ Weak, 6-10

East led the ♡10 for the queen, king and ace and declarer immediately played a club for the eight, nine and ace. West switched to the ♢Q and declarer took dummy's ace and played a club for the jack and king, East cashing the ♢K and continuing with the ten. Declarer ruffed, cashed the ♠A and played a second spade, +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gabor	*Guichet*	*Talyigas*	*Bonin*
All Pass			

Jonathan Harris

In the modern era that is not an everyday auction, but a perfectly understandable one. It meant a swing of 4 IMPs.

Fredin v Harris

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Harris	*Fredin*	*Malhasyan*	*Clementsson*
1♢	1♠	Dble*	2♢*
2♡	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

2♢ 'Good raise'

Declarer ducked the first round of hearts and when West continued the suit he won, played a spade to the king and a club for the jack and king. When East exited with the ♣4 the nine forced the ace and declarer had a parking place for a diamond, +620.

The point to remember is that declarer could be reasonably sure that East did not have a diamond pair such as ♢QJ or ♢KQ which would have made a diamond lead attractive. By making sure East won the first round of clubs he gave himself a slightly better chance of avoiding a diamond switch.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sylvan	*Root*	*Gustawsson*	*Igoe*
All Pass			

Sometimes lightning does strike twice! This time the swing was 12 IMPs.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

NS can take 11 tricks in diamonds, but 3NT is unlikely to make.

Skalman v Scorway

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Eliason*	*Saur*	*Elmroth*
—	—	—	2♢*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♢	All Pass	

2♢ 5+♢, no 4♡/♠ 10-15
2NT Invitational+

West led the ♠3 and declarer took East's king with the ace, crossed to the ♢A and then played two rounds of clubs, easily collecting 11 tricks, +150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Warne	*Levinson*	*Ahlesved*	*Shenkin*
—	—	—	1♢
2♡	3NT	Dble	All Pass

2♡ Weak

East did well to avoid a heart lead, selecting the ♠6. Declarer won with dummy's queen and played a diamond to the ace, West pitching the ♡8. When declarer continued with two rounds of diamonds East won, West discarding the ♡2 and ♠2. East exited with the ♠K and after taking dummy's ace declarer ran the ♡Q, East winning with the king. He cashed two spades, West throwing the ♡5 and had only to exit with a club to complete an excellent defence, ensuring -500. Alas, the ♡7 allowed declarer to record +750 and 12 IMPs.

Senior Ball v Râteau Bavoir

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mauberquez	*Garcia da R*	*Oursel*	*Pellegrini*
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♢	Dble	Rdbl
3♡	Pass	Pass	5♢
All Pass			

East led the ♡4 and having won with dummy's queen declarer played a diamond to the ace, pitched the ♠Q on the ♡A, played a spade to the ace and ducked a club, soon claiming, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Chambers	*van Oosten*	*Graves*	*Thorpe*
—	—	—	1♢*
Pass	2♣*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♡*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1♢ 4(5)+♢
2♣ 8+, (3)4+♢
3♣ 5+♢, 4+♣ unbalanced
3♡ Values

West led the ♡2 and East won with the king and switched to the ♠5. Declarer won with the queen and played the ♢10, ducking when West discarded the ♡3. East won and played a second spade and declarer could only muster eight tricks, -100 and a 12 IMP loss.

World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

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