World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 136. Thursday, 23 September, 2021

THE FIRST CUT...

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE
RESULTS

ROUND 8

Bridge42	13.97 VPs 23 IMPs	6.03 VPs 8 IMPs	Râteau bavoir
Senior Ball	7.97 VPs 23 IMPs	12.03 VPs 30 IMPs	Black
Fredin	14.6 VPs 42 IMPs	5.4 VPs 24 IMPs	Flyfalcon
Skalman	13.04 VPs 29 IMPs	6.96 VPs 18 IMPs	French Juniors
Junior Squad	6.48 VPs 15 IMPs	13.52 VPs 28 IMPs	Sugi
Scorway	15.92 VPs 37 IMPs	4.08 VPs 12 IMPs	Harris

RANKING AFTER ROUND 8

1	Bridge42	106.03
2	Fredin	97.14
3	Senior Ball	91.02
4	Black	90.8
5	Skalman	89.56
6	Râteau bavoir	85.11
7	Sugi	78.17
8	Junior Squad	73.41
9	Flyfalcon	72.7
10	Scorway	68.34
11	French Juniors	64.3
12	Harris	43.42

SCHEDULE TODAY

Round 9. 21.15 CEST / 3.15 p.m. EDT

Bridge42	VS	Sugi
Fredin	VS	Râteau bavoir
Senior Ball	VS	Scorway
Black	VS	French Juniors
Skalman	VS	Flyfalcon
Junior Squad	VS	Harris

All the tables will be open to kibitzers

Today the last round of the Qualification stage of the OCBL Open League will be played.

After 8 Rounds, Bridge42 (Macskásy G., Talyigás P., Czímer C., Szalka T., Trenka P., Kemény M., Kemény G.) are leading the ranking (106.03 VPs).

They are followed by Fredin Fredin P., Sylvan J., Morath A., Clementsson S., Clemmensson J., Ek B., Westman A., Gustawsson M., Gottlieb G.) (97.14 VPs) and by Senior Ball (Fox Ji., Helms J., Chambers N., Graves A.,
Pellegrini C., Garcia da Rosa R.) (91.02 VPs).

After Round 9, the top 4 teams of the ranking will advance to the Semifinals.

We wish to thank all the teams who will not qualify for being part of this event. We are looking forward to welcome you in the next OCBL events!
The calendar is available in the next page.

If you see an interesting bid or play please let us know by e-mail at:

journal@ocbl.org

Thank you!

World Bridge Tour
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Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL
UPCOMING EVENTS

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	

OPEN 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/

Online Bridge NEWS

Open USBC Quarterfinalists

From USBF.org:

OPEN USBC QUARTERFINALISTS:

Spector
(Spector-Wolpert-Kranyak, Hurd-Bathurst)

Bramley
(Bramley-Woolsey, Lall-Weichsel)

Nickell
(Nickell-Katz, Greco-Hampson, Levin-Weinstein)

Fleisher
(Fleisher-Martel, Grue-Moss, Korbel-Lee)

Hill
(Hill-Dwyer-Huang, Grainger-Wooldridge)

Gu
(Gu-Ao, Sheng-Wei)

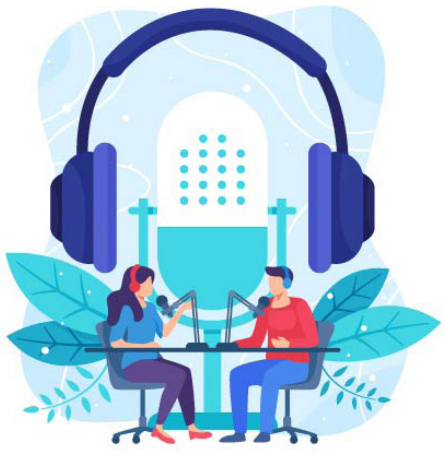
Donner
(Donner-Rimstedt, Delmonte-Kolesnik, Nistor-Rotaru)

Levine
(Levine-Wold, Garner-Meckstroth, Lair-Passell)

The teams are listed in order of their finish in the Round Robin.

The Setting Trick Episode 41

From Bridgefeed:



Jacek Kalita
Hailing from Poland, Jacek Kalita is our first European guest. He is also the first to whom I asked especially difficult questions, such as what his reaction was after hearing about his partner's cheating. I appreciate his spirit, humor, and candor in this conversation and willingness to share everything.

You can listen to the podcast here:
https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-setting-trick-conversations-with-world-class/id1345780835?i=1000530603363

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.

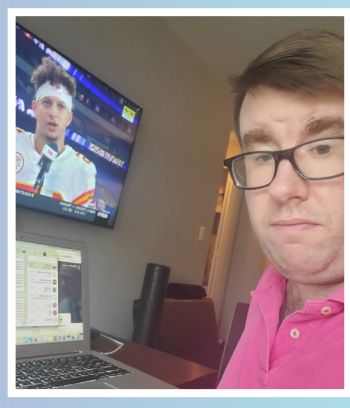
Obviously when producing Bridge articles it is necessary to use photos from the archives.

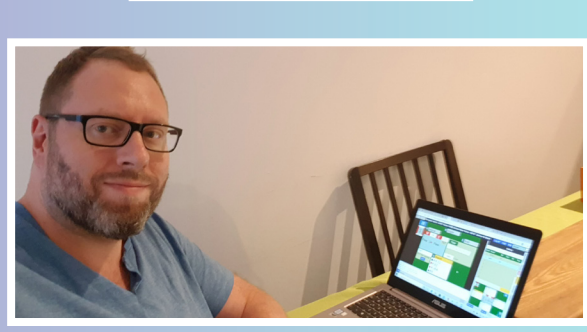
Since online play is at the moment a big part of our present, we would like to represent it as it is!

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





Ethos Pathos and Logos

by Mark Horton

During an interview given some years ago, Benito Garozzo mentioned that although he had been playing bridge for more than 40 years, he still discovered something new every day. So it is in life. During a recent episode of Great Canal Journeys Gyles Brandreth mentioned the three words that form my title. Not to be confused with the Three Musketeers, they refer to the way in which one can attempt to persuade one's audience.

Ethos is the way in which one convinces an audience of one's credibility, demonstrating a knowledge of the chosen subject.

Pathos is the way in which one obtains the sympathy of the audience.

Logos is the application of logic and reason, citing statistics and facts.

It occurred to me that these three words well-represent the requirements for a writer or commentator on any sport and suggest that experience built up over a number of years, will be a considerable asset, which brings me back perfectly to the legendary Italian star.

Would Round 8 of the OCBL League reveal any stars, old or new?

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Flyfalcon v Fredin

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fredin*	*Kiljan*	*Clemmensson*
—	—	—	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

There was a time when opening 3♣ with a four-card major on the side would have been frowned upon, but in the modern era the advantages of opening such hands has gained in popularity, rightly so in my opinion.

North led the ♡A and when South followed with the five he switched to the ♠Q, declarer winning with dummy's king, unblocking the ♣A, ruffing a heart and cashing the ♣K. When South discarded the ♢2 declarer cashed the ♠A, played a diamond to the ace and a spade, establishing a ninth trick, +110.

On much less revealing auctions 3♣ failed three times, declarer taking the diamond finesse.

Before we leave this deal, here are two points to consider:

If West's pattern was 4-2-0-7 or 4-0-2-7 would you still open 3♣? (A close decision with two first round controls outside the club suit.)

If East held ♣Ax would you consider bidding 3NT? (If partner's clubs are as on this deal you might take nine tricks.)

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Andersson	*M de Leon*	*Bennet*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♢	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♣	Dble	All Pass	

1♣ 2+♣ (5♢ possible)

In the match between Skalman and the French Juniors the final contract in the Closed Room was 1♢ doubled which cost EW -500, so West did well to venture 2♣.

North led the ♡A and switched to the ♣7, but declarer won in dummy, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♠A and played a spade for the seven, eight and queen. North switched to the ♢6 and declarer took dummy's ace and played a spade to the ace, +380 and 7 IMPs.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Flyfalcon v Fredin

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fredin*	*Kiljan*	*Clemmensson*
—	—	Pass	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♢*	Pass
3♡*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

2NT (20)21-23
3♢ Hearts
3♡ 'Shows fit'
3♠ 'Good hand, no shortness'

Luc Tijssen

North led the ♠K and declarer won, cashed the ♡A and claimed, +680.

Although West is short of a maximum, his controls are excellent which perhaps suggests bidding 4♣ over 3♠.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Andersson	*M de Leon*	*Bennet*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	1♣*	Pass
1♢*	Pass	1♡*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	3♡	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♢*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
6♡	All Pass		

1♣ 2+♣
1♢ 4+♡
1♡ 'Accepting transfer'
2♣ 'Puppet to 2♢, weak ♢ or invitational+'
3♠ 'Cuebid or asking if 3NT may be an option'
4♢ Cuebid
4NT RKCB
5♠ 2 key cards +♡Q

That was worth 13 IMPs.

One table stopped in 5♡ after 2NT-3♢*-4♡-5♢-5♡ while another stretched to 7♡ after East opened 1♡ (the only other occasion that East opened the bidding).

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Flyfalcon v Fredin

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fredin*	*Kiljan*	*Clemmensson*
—	—	—	1♠
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	3♣
Pass	Pass	5♢	All Pass

2♠ ♡+♢
2NT Invitational + ♢

South led the ♠K and switched to the ♣K, declarer taking the ace and running the ♠10 which took care of dummy's remaining club. After cashing the ♢K declarer played the ♡Q, covered by the king and ace, ruffed a heart and played a second diamond, claiming the rest, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Andersson	*M de Leon*	*Bennet*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	—	1♠
2♡	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♣K and when North followed with the six and declarer ducked he continued with the four, declarer taking the third round of the suit and playing the ♡Q for the king and ace. Declarer could cash six more tricks in the red suits, but was then out of ammunition, -50 and a 10 IMP loss.

3NT was reached at three tables, always failing when South led the ♣K. In some circles leading the king against a no-trump contract asks partner to unblock (and leading a queen asks partner to encourage/discourage).

5♢ was reached 5 times, the four remaining contracts being 3♠ by South.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Flyfalcon v Fredin

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tijssen	*Fredin*	*Kiljan*	*Clemmensson*
—	—	Pass	2♠*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♢*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♢*
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

2♠ 10-13, 6♠
3♢ Maximum, no shortage
4♣ Cue
4♢ Cue

East led the ♣4 for the two, ten and ace and declarer played the ♠A followed by the ten, claiming when it was covered by the jack, queen and king, +990. A perfect illustration of the potential power of a six-card suit when you have a lot of controls.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Andersson	*M de Leon*	*Bennet*	*Sprinkhuizen*
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Dble	2♢*
Pass	2♡*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♣ Game forcing, asking
2♢ 10-14 without 4♡
2♡ Ask
3♠ '6♠, no shortness'

East led the ♢3 and declarer allowed West's ten to take the trick. He won the next diamond in dummy, played a spade to the ace and a low club,

East taking the queen to hold declarer to ten tricks, +430 and a loss of 11 IMPs.

Skalman v French Juniors

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Vallet	*Warne*	*Bedouet*	*Ahlesved*
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♡
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♢*
Pass	3♡*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♢*	Pass	4♡*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

2♣ Game forcing relay
2♡ One suiter
2♠ Ask
2NT 13-15
3♣ Ask
3♢ No shortage
3♡ Ask
4♣ 6322
4♢ Sets ♠, asks
4♡ Minimum
4NT RKCB
5♠ 2 key cards +♠Q

West led the ♢Q and when the trump suit behaved declarer was soon claiming, +980. The spade suit will provide five tricks 58.78% of the time. It was the only other table where a slam was reached, being worth 10 IMPs against the 3NT bid in the other room.

On the final deal NS held ♠82 ♡AK5 ♢QJ65 ♣K1097 opposite ♠AQ1065 ♡Q97 ♢109 ♣A85 and 3NT was the popular contract, being reached at 10 tables. It can always be made, but West held ♠KJ74 ♡J1064 ♢A43 ♣Q2 and after East led a heart it is not impossible that declarer might go down (it happened once).

If West opens the bidding (which happened three times) declarer should have an easy time even if East leads a heart as long as he leaves the spade suit alone and plays on diamonds, eventually playing a club to the ace and a second club.

Interestingly after (1♣)-Pass-(Pass) 1♠, one North responded 1NT, another 2NT and the third 3NT!

In what was generally a low-scoring round Fredin won our featured match 42-24, 14.6-5.4 VP to move into second place.

Peter Fredin

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Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL OCTOBER CUP

18 - 21 October, 2021

Qualification + Knockout

Qualification:

9 Rounds x 12 Boards	CEST	EDT
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

KOs:

Quarterfinals - Semifinals - Finals: 16 Boards each

	CEST	EDT
Thursday 21 October	16.00 - 18.30 - 21.00	10.00 - 12.30 - 15.00

Info and pre-registration: WWW.OCBL.ORG