World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 139. Thursday, 30 September, 2021

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE: BLACK ARE LEADING THE FINAL DUEL

OCBL OPEN LEAGUE RESULTS

FINAL - Round 1

Black	41 IMPs	18 IMPs	Skalman
OPEN ROOM N: G. Hallberg S: S. Hult	CLOSED ROOM E: A. McIntosh W: T. Paske	OPEN ROOM E: N. Warne W: K. Ahlesved	CLOSED ROOM N: G. Elmroth S: P. Eliasson

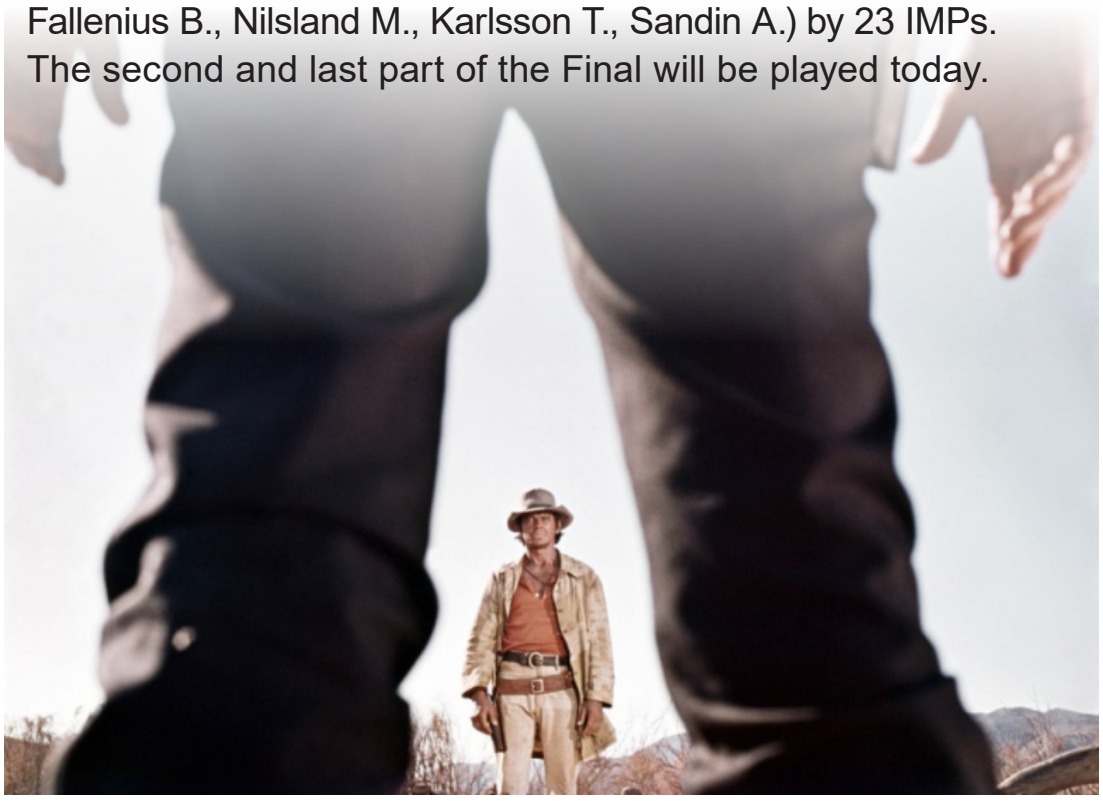
SCORE:https://webutil.bridgebase.com/v2/tview.php?t=60232-1632942941

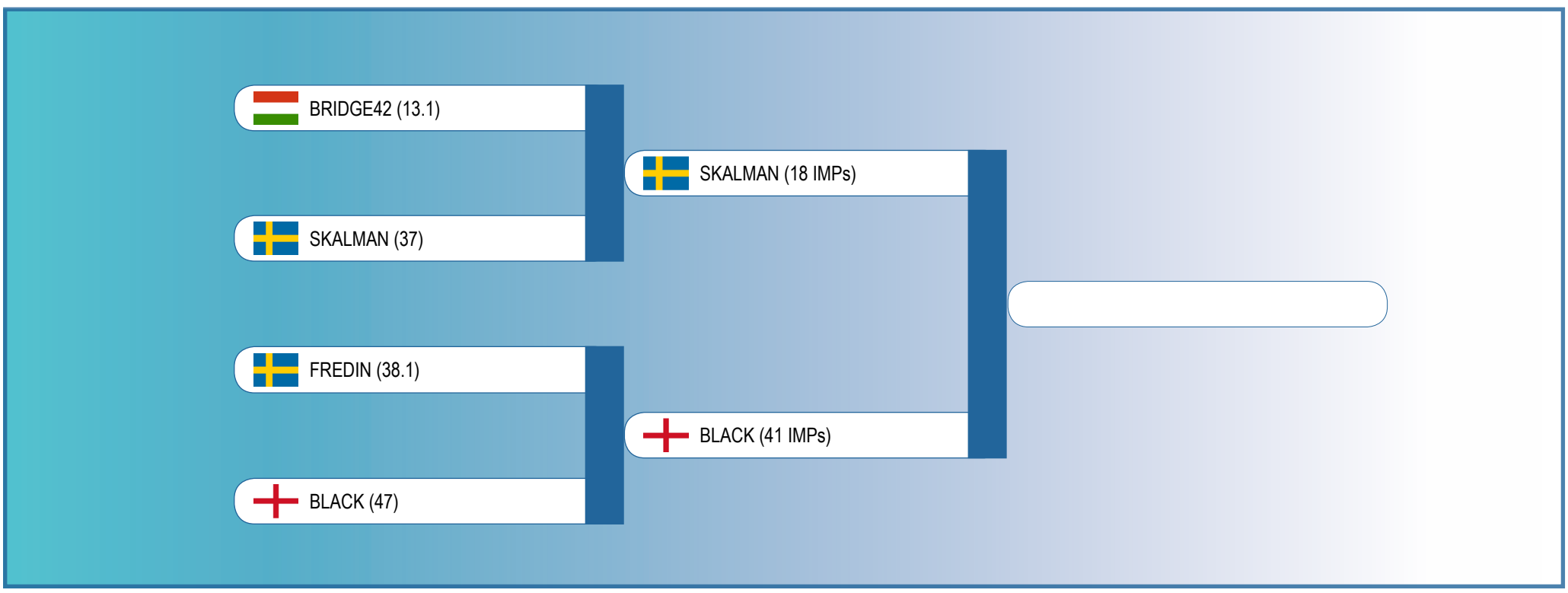
If you see an interesting bid or play please let us know by e-mail at:

journal@ocbl.org

Thank you!

Yesterday the first round of the OCBL Open League Final was played.
Team Black (Black A., Gold D., McIntosh A., Paske T., Hult S., Hallberg G., Bertheau P.) are leading versus team Skalman (Ahlesved K., Warne N., Elmroth G., Eliasson P., Fallenius B., Nilsland M., Karlsson T., Sandin A.) by 23 IMPs.
The second and last part of the Final will be played today.





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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

DECEMBER CUP
20 - 23 December, 2021

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Monday 20 December	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Tuesday 21 December	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Wednesday 22 December	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
KO:	Thursday 23 December	16.00 - 18.30 - 21.00	10.00 - 12.30 - 15.00

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

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

Online Bridge NEWS

UPDATES ON AUSTIN for INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS

Some users on Bridgewinners have posted the following information.

From Bridgewinners.com:

Randy Breuer:
" This arrived today so adds to cost for alot of players from out of country.

Upon arrival, international travelers will need to quarantine for at least 3 days, and then provide another negative COVID-19 test after quarantining.
Please plan on arriving at least 4 days prior to the first day you intend on playing.

Travelers will need to wear a mask over their nose and mouth on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation while traveling.
If the travel restrictions are not lifted, then the ACBL will need to receive the names and certain biographical information in advance from international players wishing to play in Austin. This information may be submitted here.

Now not sure if this applies to Canadians which can fly across now and not quarantine."

Ulf Nilsson
"As we were preparing this press release, the Biden Administration announced it plans to rescind
the COVID-19 Travel Bans in November. As of this writing, the CBP has advised the ACBL that the current policies (detailed below) must remain in effect despite this announcement. CBP did indicate that they may permit modifications in the future when the new travel policies are finalized."

Link to the thread:
http://bridgewinners.com/forums/read/coronavirus-forum/any-word-or-thoughts-on-canceling-or-not-the-fall-austin-nabc/

THE MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS IS UNDERWAY

Today the last two rounds of the September Monthly Mixed Teams will be played.
At the moment, Netteale are leading (David Gold, Marusa Gold, Diana Nettleton, Thomas Paske, Catherine Seale) (79.05 VPs).

They are followed by BAMSA (Sally Brock, Fredrik Jarlvik, Barry Myers, Stephen Peterkin, Samantha Punch, Tatyana Trendafilova) (71.95 VPs) and Turnips (Pierre Franceschetti, Cedric Lorenzini, Jennifer Mourgues, Hilda Setton, Anne Laura Tartarin) (67.88 VPs).

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.

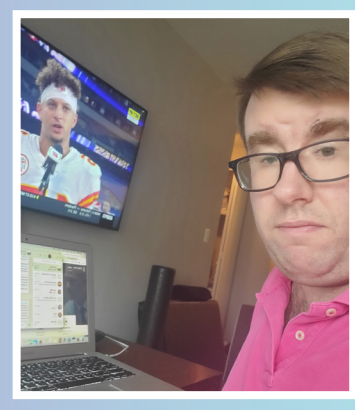
Obviously when producing Bridge articles it is necessary to use photos from the archives.

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



Total Bridge

by Mark Horton

Continuing with a football theme I was reminded the other day by an article I read in New in Chess of the development of what became known as 'Total Football'. The concept is basically that a player can take up various positions on the pitch, epitomized by the legendary Johan Cruyff. In bridge terms it could perhaps be ascribed to a free-wheeling strategy in the bidding phase of the game. Would the first half of the OCBL League final witness any 'total bridge'?

The match started quietly, Black amassing four overtrick IMPs over the course of the first five deals.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gold	*Elmroth*	*Black*	*Eliasson*
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♣	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

North led the ♠2 and South cashed the king and ace and exited with the four, declarer pitching a diamond on the ten. Three rounds of clubs saw South win with the queen and switch to the ♡Q, two down, -200.

North had followed to the second spade with the seven. Some pairs might have an agreement about the order in which North plays his spades, the nine on the second round suggesting something useful in hearts. If South switches to the ♡Q for the king and ace, wins the next heart and then underleads the ♢A North wins and plays another heart for South to ruff with the ♣Q which secures an extra undertrick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fallenius	*Hallberg*	*Nilsland*	*Hult*
—	—	Pass	1NT
3♣	Dble*	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West cashed the top clubs and when East discarded the ♢45 he switched to the ♢3, declarer taking East's nine with the ace and playing the ♡Q for the king and ace. A heart to the jack was followed by the ♠A and the ♠5, East winning with the queen as declarer claimed ten tricks, +430 and 6 IMPs.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gold	*Elmroth*	*Black*	*Eliasson*
—	—	Pass	1♣*
Pass	1♡*	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♢*	Pass	4♣
Pass	6♣	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

1♣ 16+
1♡ Any 11-13
2♣ Stayman
3♢ 4♡

West led the ♡7 and declarer could try for a overtrick via the spade finesse, +1440.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fallenius	*Hallberg*	*Nilsland*	*Hult*
—	—	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♢
Pass	3♡	Pass	3NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

2NT 22-24
3♣ Slammish, Baron

Thomas Paske

Here West led the ♣7 and declarer claimed, +1440.

As the players took their seats for the second half Black led 13-0.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	*Elmroth*	*McIntosh*	*Eliasson*
2♢*	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♢*	Pass	4♡
All Pass			

3♣ Ask
3♢ No 4♡/♠
4♡ 'Should have spades too'

West led the ♣3 and declarer went up with dummy's ace, cashed the ♡A and played a heart to the queen, West discarding the ♢6. East took the ♡J with the king and exited with the ♢2, declarer winning with the ace and drawing the outstanding trump. A spade to dummy's queen saw East win and return the three, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ahlesved	*Hallberg*	*Warne*	*Hult*
3♢	3NT	Pass	4♢*
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♡
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

4♢ Puppet to 4♡

I fired off an email to Gunnar to ask about the auction, but his reply might not arrive before the journal is posted. I asked the man on the Clapham Omnibus what he thought was going on and he surmised that 4NT was to play as was 5♡, while 5♠ was an attempt to play in 5NT. Perhaps, but possibly North took a different view about the meaning of 4♢?

East led the ♢2 and declarer won perforce with dummy's ace and ran the ♡10. East taking the king and returning the ♡3. West ruffed and switched to the ♣7 but declare put up the ace and played a spade, West winning with the ten and exiting with the ♢Q. Declarer won and played a second spade, -200 when the defenders remaining trumps appeared, 3 IMPs changing hands.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	*Elmroth*	*McIntosh*	*Eliasson*
—	1NT*	Pass	2♣*
Dble	2♢*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1NT (13)14-16
2♢ 'I think no 4♡/♠ but club stopper'

2♣ redoubled would have been a fun contact – but only for NS, who can take as many as ten tricks if EW don't run.

East led his club and West took dummy's nine with the ace and switched to the 2♠. Alas, the bird had flown as declarer took East's jack with dummy's king and played a club for the two and six, East pitching the ♠3. The ♡9 was covered by the queen and king and declarer played a spade to the ten and a diamond to the king. When that held he already assured of nine tricks and East came under pressure declarer cashed two clubs and an overtrick was inevitably recorded, +630.

An initial spade lead should defeat 3NT, but it would be a brave man who tried it in face of partner's double.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ahlesved	*Hallberg*	*Warne*	*Hult*
—	1♣	1♠	Dble*
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

East led the ♠3 and declarer won with dummy's king, played a club to the queen, a diamond to the king, a spade to the ace, ruffed a spade, returned to hand with the ♡A and played another diamond, East taking the ace and exiting with the ♡Q. Declarer won in dummy, cashed the ♢Q and played a club to the king, +110, but a loss of 11 IMPs which meant Skalman had taken the lead, 17-13.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	*Elmroth*	*McIntosh*	*Eliasson*
—	—	—	1♢*
2NT*	3♡*	4♡	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♣	Pass
Pass	5♢	Pass	5♡*
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

1♢ At least 1 four-card major
2NT ♣+♡
3♡ 4+♠

EW can make 5♣, but it not easy to double 5♠, especially when South is the declarer.

West led the ♡Q and declarer won (ducking saves a trick) and played a spade, West taking the king and continuing with the ♡8. East won and returned the ♢3, West's ruff meaning two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ahlesved	*Hallberg*	*Warne*	*Hult*
—	—	—	1♢
2♢*	2♡*	3♡	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

2♢ ♡+♣
2♡ Fit, invitational +

It would have been speculative to double 4♠, but as long as East reads it as Lightner style and starts with a diamond the contract should fail. His actual lead of the ♡7 saw declarer take dummy's ace and play a spade and when West followed with the eight the contact was secure and declarer went on to record 11 tricks and collect 13 IMPs.

Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Paske	*Elmroth*	*McIntosh*	*Eliasson*
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣*	1♠	2♣*
2♡	3♢	Pass	4♢*
Pass	4♡*	Pass	4♠*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	6♢*
All Pass			

1♣ 16+
2♣ Game forcing, 5+♢
4♢ RKCB
4♡ 3 aces of 5
4♠ 'Q at least 1 KC'
5♣ 'No heart control'
6♢ '♢Q'

East led the ♡4 and that meant a rapid one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ahlesved	*Hallberg*	*Warne*	*Hult*
—	—	—	3♢
Pass	5♢	All Pass	

3♢ was a perfect example of 'total bridge' and it ensured that NS would not advance beyond game, +400 and 10 IMPs that meant Black enjoyed the overnight lead, 41-18.

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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