World Bridge Tour
THIS IS HOW WE PLAY

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

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QUARTERFINALS, SEMIFINALS, FINAL DAY

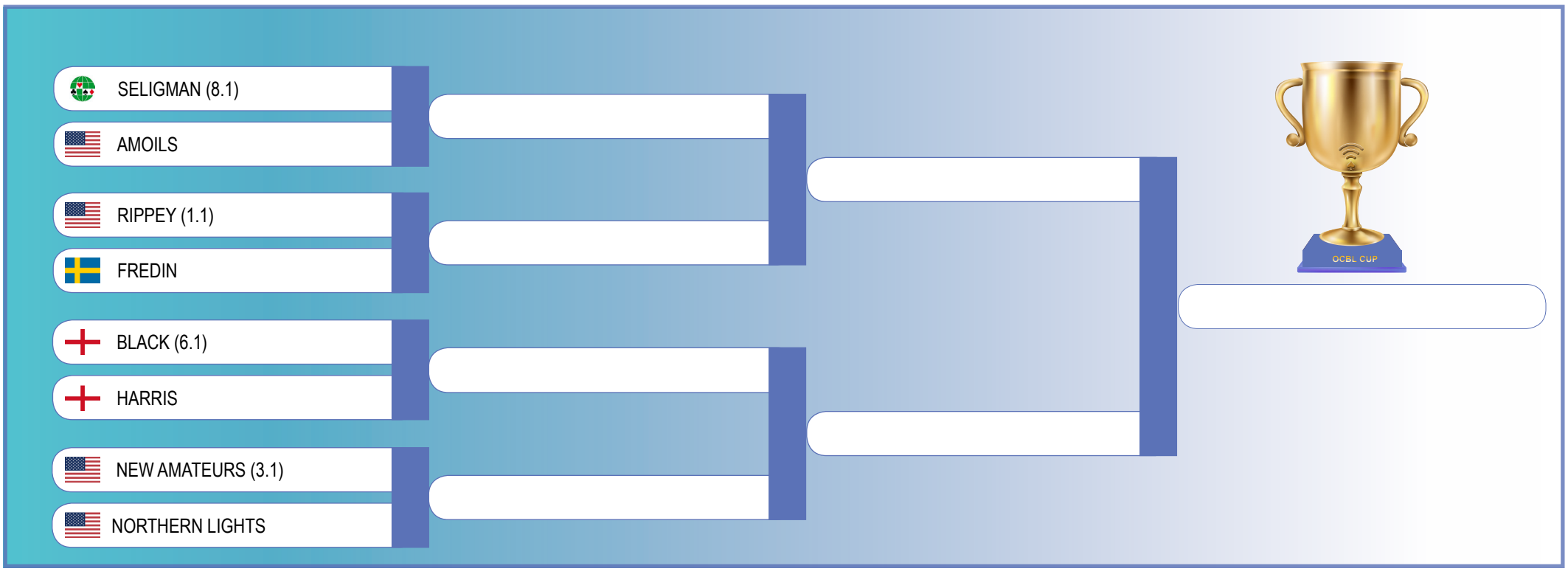
Qualifications are over.
The top-8 teams from the qualifying stage advanced to the Quarterfinals.

The teams who qualified are:

- Seligman (Seligman M., Lesniewski M., Kwiecien M., Starkowski W., Kalita J., Nowosadzki M.)
- Black (Black A., Gold D., McIntosh A., Paske T., Hult S., Hallberg G.)
- New Amateurs (Lo A., Chechelashvili D., Jiang Gu, Baseggio F., Falk A., Yang D., Lusky J., Kolesnik A.)
- Rippey (Rippey M., Bedout P., Nowak K., Wiankowski P., Vallet E., Stansby J., Stansby L., Nawrocki P.)
- Fredin (Fredin P., Apteker A., Gustawsson M., Sylvan J., Morath A., Eber N., Bosenberg C.)
- Northern Lights (Rimstedt O., Rimstedt M., Bussink B., Thuillez M., Eriksson M.)
- Harris (Root S., Harris J., Igoe N., Malhasyan E., Gross S., Gold M., Tiholov T., Trendafilov R., Isporski V.)
- Amoils (Hanlon T., Amoils L., Delmonte I., Kolesnik F., Zamir A., Toledano O., Carroll J.)

NOVEMBER CUP
RANKING AFTER ROUND 9

1	Seligman	124.66
2	Black	112.26
3	New Amateurs	106.5
4	Rippey	104.26
5	Fredin	101.76
6	Northern Lights	100.97
7	Harris	98.94
8	Amoils	91.02
9	Sam	78.76
10	Goodman	78.37
11	Flyfalcon	75.91
12	Scorway	65.81
13	Netbridge	61.15
14	Friends	59.63



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OCBL
UPCOMING EVENTS

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/

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!

https://www.facebook.com/Red-Sea-Bridge-Festival-314136868678382

Rounds 5, 6 and 7

by Brian Senior

Round 5

Who is your money in in this 3NT, declarer or the defence?

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Black v Rippey

West	North	East	South
Wiankowski	*Hallberg*	*Nawrocki*	*Hult*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣	Dble	2♡	Pass
Pass	3♡	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Gold	*Nowak*	*Black*	*Rippey*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣	Dble	3♡	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Both Wests showed the majors but this did not dissuade their opponents from bidding to the NT game.

Wiankowski beat it immediately by leading the ten of diamonds to Nawrocki's ace. The ten of hearts return picked up five heart tricks for down two; –100.

Gold led the queen of hearts round to declarer's king. Hult cashed five club winners, discarding a heart and a diamond from hand. When Gold pitched both his diamonds followed by a heart, Hult led a diamond, winning the king when Black played low, followed by king of spades and a spade to the ace. A second diamond up saw Black win the ace and return a heart, Gold having the last two tricks; just made for +400 and 11 IMPs to BLACK.

Seligman v Flyfalcon

West	North	East	South
M de Leon	*Seligman*	*Sprinkhuizen*	*Lesniewski*
–	1♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♡	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*V Prooijen*	*Kwiecien*	*Wilson*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣	3NT	All Pass	

Seligman opened the North hand, the 2NT response showing either 12-15 or 18-19 balanced with no major. Three Hearts showed the shortage and Lesniewski settled for 3NT.

Mendes de Leon led the queen of hearts. Lesniewski won the king and cashed the clubs, discarding a heart and a spade from hand. Mendes de Leon was squeezed and threw both diamonds and a spade, while Sprinkhuizen discarded a spade and a diamond. Lesniewski led a spade to the king and a second spade to the jack, and four spade tricks brought his total to 10 for +430.

Van Prooijen did not open the North hand but, when Wilson opened 1NT and Starkowski overcalled to show the majors, simply blasted 3NT, small singleton heart or no small singleton heart. Starkowski led the queen of hearts, which Wilson won with the king. He played the king of spades followed by a spade to the jack then, mindful of the fact that West had shown length in both majors, led the nine of clubs and ran it, losing to the jack. The defence took three hearts, but blocked the suit so that the fifth heart was left stranded. However, the ace of diamonds was the setting trick; down one for –50 and 10 IMPs to SELIGMAN.

Fredin v Goodman

West	North	East	South
Dwyer	*Fredin*	*Goodman*	*Apteker*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
Dble	3♡	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Bosenberg	*Kennedy*	*Eber*	*Compton*
–	1♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Kennedy opened the North hand and the 2NT response was a natural game-force. Kennedy just raised that to game, leaving Bosenberg with a blind lead. Bosenberg, of course, led the queen of hearts. Compton won the king and cashed the clubs, throwing diamonds from hand. Bosenberg discarded both diamonds and a spade, while Eber threw a heart and a diamond. Compton led a spade to the king then a spade back to the jack, and had four spade tricks and 10 in all; +430.

Fredin did not open the North hand. Apteker opened 1NT as South and Dwyer's double showed either one minor or both majors. Fredin now jumped to 3♡, showing a game-force with four spades and heart shortage. Apteker could see nothing better than 3NT so bid it. Dwyer led the queen of hearts to Apteker's king. Apteker led a club to the king then a second club to his ten, trusting the same inference as we saw defeat Wilson. The club lost to the jack and Swyer returned a diamond to his partner's ace, wanting a heart through in case Apteker had started with ♡ K10xx. Four heart tricks meant down two for –100 and 11 IMPs to GOODMAN.

Both declarers in HARRIS v NORTHERN LIGHTS, Marusa Gold and Eriksson, received heart leads to their king and played both black suits successfully for a flat board at +430.

New Amateurs v Amoils

West	North	East	South
Amoils	*Falk*	*Hanlon*	*Lusky*
–	1♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Yang	*Kolesnik*	*Gu*	*DelMonte*
–	1♣	Pass	1♢
1♡	Dble	3♡	3NT
All Pass			

Both Norths opened the 10-count. Lusky responded with a natural and game-forcing 2NT and Falk just raised to game, while DelMonte responded 1♢ then bid 3NT in face of his opponents' heart competition.

Amoils led the jack of hearts and Lusky ducked. A second heart went to the ten and king, and Lusky cashed all the clubs, Amoils discarding two spades and a diamond, followed by four spades; 10 tricks for +430.

Yang led the nine of spades. DelMonte put in the jack, which scored, then cashed the ♠K and ♠A. When that suit failed to divide as hoped for he was in trouble. He cashed all the clubs then played a diamond, but Gu could win the ace and push the ten of hearts through and the defence had the rest; down one for –50 and 10 IMPs to NEW AMATEURS.

Scorway v Netbridge

West	North	East	South
T Drijver	*Kvangraven*	*Bouwen*	*Levinson*
Brekka	*V D Hoek*	*Saur*	*Bremer*
–	1♣	Pass	1♢
1♡	1♠	3♡	3NT
All Pass			

Both Norths opened and both Souths responded 1♢. When E/W bid and supported hearts, both Souths took a shot at 3NT.

Drijver led the queen of hearts, which Levinson ducked. A second heart went to the ten and king, and Levinson rattled off all five clubs, pitching diamonds from hand. Meanwhile, Drijver discarded a spade followed by two diamonds, and Bouwen one card from each red suit. Levinson led a spade to the king and a second spade, putting up the ace. When the queen did not drop, he was down one for –50.

Brekka led the ten of spades, Bremer putting in the jack. Five rounds of clubs saw Brekka discard both diamonds then a heart. Three rounds of spades now threw Brekka in with nothing but hearts in his hand. The king of hearts therefore became Bremer's ninth trick; +400 and 10 IMPs to NETBRIDGE.

Friends v Sam

West	North	East	South
V Lankveld	*Sheng*	*Bakkeren*	*Huang*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Yan	*Nadel*	*Xu*	*Ferguson*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣	Dble	3♡	All Pass

Neither North opened in this match so both Souths opened 1NT and both Wests showed the majors. Sheng now just blasted 3NT without worrying about his heart weakness, while Nadel doubled 2♣. When Xu's pre-emptive raise came back to her, Nadel could find no good way forward so opted to defend.

Van Lankveld led the queen of hearts, Huang winning the king and cashing all the clubs. Van Lankveld threw diamond, spade, diamond, and now Huang led a spade to the king, a spade back to the jack, and cashed the ace. He seems to have miscounted because he next played a diamond rather than the fourth spade, but that was only the overtrick; nine tricks for +400.

There were two spades, two clubs and a diamond to be lost in 3♡, which drifted down one for –50 and 8 IMPs to FRIENDS.

Of the 13 pairs who played in 3NT, eight were successful, five were defeated. As we have seen, the heart lead or lack of heart lead was not always decisive, with some going down after getting a heart lead, others succeeding despite not being given a heart trick.

Eight Norths opened the 10-count, a number which would surely not have been matched when most of us started out in this game.

Round 6

Sometimes, one might wish to have a slightly weaker hand, as we find ourselves on lead when we would prefer not to be. Witness Board 5 from Round 6.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Amoils v Friends

West	North	East	South
Yan	*Kolesnik*	*Xu*	*DelMonte*
–	1♣	1♢	1♠
Pass	2♠	Dble	Rdbl
3♢	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Zamir	*Mou*	*Toledano*	*Han*
–	1NT	Dble	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♢	3NT

All PassKolesnik opened 1♣ then raised DelMonte's spades and, when DelMonte next redoubled to show extras, Kolesnik jumped to the spade game. Yan led the nine of diamonds to the ten, king and ace. DelMonte led a club to the eight, losing to the queen, and back came the seven of diamonds. He won the queen, drew two rounds of trumps, then took a second club finesse, losing to the king. Xu cashed the jack of diamonds, Yan discarding his remaining club, and Xu duly gave him his ruff. There were still two heart tricks to come for the defence so the contract was down three for –300.

Mou opened a 14-16 NT and Toledano doubled for penalties. Han was content for now and passed but, when Zamir wriggled with 2♣ and Toledano converted to 2♢, Han jumped to 3NT rather than settle for what might well be an inadequate penalty. Toledano led the queen of clubs and, on receiving a discouraging signal, switched to the jack of diamonds. Mou put in dummy's queen and cashed all five spades, throwing a heart from hand. Toledano, crushed by all those spades, came down to two cards in each of the other suits. Ace and another diamond now threw him in and he played the king of clubs. Mou won the ace and jack and had nine tricks for +600 and 14 IMPs to FRIENDS.

Northern Lights v Flyfalcon

West	North	East	South
I Gronkvist	*Eriksson*	*M Gronkvist*	*MRimstedt*
–	1♣	1♢	1♠
Pass	2♠	Dble	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	*V Prooijen*	*Bussink*	*Wilson*
–	1♣	Dble	1♠
Pass	2♠	2NT	3♠
All Pass			

Wilson and Van Prooijen stopped short of game. Ola led the nine of diamonds against 3♠. That was covered by the ten, jack and queen, and Wilson cashed all five rounds of trumps, Bussink discarding three diamonds and a heart. The nine of clubs was run to the queen and Bussink got out with the king of diamonds. Wilson won the ace then cashed the two of diamonds (he had thrown a diamond from dummy on the fifth trump). A club to the ace followed by an exit with the jack of clubs left Bussink to lead round to dummy's ♡K to give the tenth trick; +170.

Though his partner had supported spades, Mikael offered NT as an alternative and Eriksson left him to play the NT game. Ida led the nine of diamonds round to the queen and Mikael cashed all the spades, throwing a heart from dummy. Mikael Gronkvist was feeling the pressure, of course, and threw a club, two hearts, a diamond, and a second club. Mikael ducked a club into the East hand, won the diamond return, and led a club to the ace, dropping the king. The jack of clubs was his ninth trick; +600 and 10 IMPs to NORTHERN LIGHTS.

Black v Goodman

West	North	East	South
Hult	*Kennedy*	*Hallberg*	*Compton*
–	1♣	1♢	1♠
Pass	2♠	Dble	Rdbl
2NT	Pass	3♣	3♢
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Dwyer	*Black*	*Goodman*	*Gold*
–	1♣	1♢	1♡
Pass	2♠	Dble	4♠
All Pass			

We have seen 3NT made twice, but what about 4♠, where an extra trick would be required?

Both N/Ss bid to the spade game but with an important difference, as Gold's 1♡ transfer got the contract played from the North hand.

Hult led a diamond against Compton, who won the queen and took two rounds of trumps then led a low club to the eight and king. Compton won the diamond return with the ace and led a club to the jack. That lost to the queen and the jack of diamonds was cashed, Dwyer discarding the ten of clubs. A club ruff came next, followed by a heart through, and Compton was down three for –300.

Goodman led a low diamond against Black, who ran it to his ten. That was a great start but when Black now attacked trumps he found that they were four-zero. He therefore cashed four rounds then took the diamond finesse and cashed the ♢A. Goodman, who had had to find four discards on the spades, was now out of diamonds so had no safe exit card when Black now led a low club to the eight and queen. Goodman returned the king of clubs to declarer's ace, praying that his partner might hold the jack, but it was not to be. Black won the ace then jack of clubs and had 10 tricks for +620 and 14 IMPs to BLACK.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ 7 6 3 ♡ Q 9 7 5 2 ♢ – ♣ A Q J 8 5	
♠ A K Q 10 9 2 ♡ A ♢ Q ♣ K 10 6 4 3		♠ J 8 4 ♡ 6 ♢ AKJ1098652 ♣ –
	♠ 3 ♡ K J 10 8 4 3 ♢ 7 4 3 ♣ 9 7 2	

Black v Goodman

West	North	East	South
Hult	*Kennedy*	*Hallberg*	*Compton*
–	–	5♢	Pass
6♢	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Dwyer	*Black*	*Goodman*	*Gold*
–	–	5♢	Pass
6♢	Dble	Pass	6♡
Dble	All Pass		

Hallberg opened 5♢, as who would not, and Hult raised to Six. There were 13 top tricks, but could anyone get to Seven with confidence after this start? Anyway, +1390 proved to be a great result for Hult/Hallberg because…

In the other room, the same start saw Black double 6♢ for take-out, and he must have been delighted when Gold picked one of his five-card suits. Dwyer doubled 6♡ and led out two top spades. The second was ruffed, a trump was played, and Gold later took and repeated the club finesse, losing only to the major-suit aces so down one for –100 and 15 IMPs to BLACK.

Even had Dwyer been sufficiently inspired as to give his partner a club ruff, the second undertrick would have saved only a simple IMP.

Northern Lights v Flyfalcon

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	*V Prooijen*	*Bussink*	*Wilson*
–	–	3NT	Pass
6♢	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
I Gronkvist	*Eriksson*	*M Gronkvist*	*MRimstedt*
–	–	5♢	Pass
6♢	6♡	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Bussink opened with a gambling 3NT and, inferentially, had to have extra length to justify making the bid missing the queen of his long suit. Ola jumped to 6♢ and that was that; +1390.

The Gronkvists bid 5♢ – 6♢ and, if Black

had been pleased to see his partner pick one of his five-card suits rather than spades, imagine how Mikael Rimstedt felt when Eriksson bid 6♡ over 6♢. I think the 6♡ bid is worth a WOW! Ida doubled and Mikael led a top diamond. That was ruffed and Eriksson played a round of trumps; down one for –100 and 15 IMPs to NORTHERN LIGHTS.

In the other five matches, all the East players opened 5♢ and all but one West raised to Six. Nobody else came in on the N/S cards, so there were four flat boards and one 13 IMP swing to NEW AMATEURS, the team whose opponents did not bid the slam.

Round 7

Going into the third and final day of the qualifying Swiss, BLACK probably had scored enough already to qualify, while SELIGMAN needed only a handful more VPs. Only the bottom-placed team looked to be completely out of contention.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 8 6 5
♡ Q 7
♢ Q 8 4 3
♣ A 6 5 3

♠ J 10 9 2
♡ K 9 2
♢ J 9 6
♣ J 7 4

♠ 7 4
♡ A J 10 8 6 5 3
♢ 7 5 2
♣ Q

♠ A K Q 3
♡ 4
♢ A K 10
♣ K 10 9 8 2

Black v Northern Lights

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	*McIntosh*	*Bussink*	*Paske*
–	Pass	3♡	Dble
4♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Gold	*M Rimstedt*	*Black*	*Eriksson*
–	Pass	2♡	Dble
3♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Black opened a constructive weak two bid and Gold raised over Eriksson's double. When that came round to Eriksson he doubled again and Mikael, rather than bid a four-card minor at the four level, left it in, trusting that his side would have enough high-card strength that the lack of even the semblance of a defensive trump trick would not prevent their going plus.

At the other table Bussink opened the more mainstream 3♡ pre-empt and Paske doubled. Ola raised to 4♡ and Paske doubled again when that came back to him. McIntosh too left in the double with his balanced eight-count.

There was nothing to the defence. The two Souths cashed two spades, after which they knew that the third spade was not cashing, and switched to diamonds – three diamonds, two spades and one club meant that both declarers lost six tricks; –300 for Black, –500 for Bussink, and 5 IMPs to BLACK.

Fredin v Rippey

West	North	East	South
Fredin	*Nowak*	*Apteker*	*Rippey*
–	Pass	3♡	Dble
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♡
Dble	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Wiankowski	*Sylvan*	*Nawrocki*	*Morath*
–	Pass	3♡	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Both Easts opened at the three level and both Souths doubled. Neither West raised, leaving North to find the best action with his awkward hand.

Nowak opted for 4♣ and Rippey, with a big hand and five-card club support, tried a heart cuebid and, when that got doubled on his left, continued with a spade cuebid, also denying first-round heart control. But Nowak wasn't interested and signed off in 5♣, where he played. Two rounds of hearts saw Nowak ruff, cash the king of clubs, then run the ten of clubs. He had the rest now; 12 tricks for +420.

Sylvan is obviously a paid-up member of the 'Queen-doubleton is always a stopper' club. Three No Trump was his best guess as to what to do with the North hand. Alas, while he would have had nine tricks on any other lead, Nawrocki led the jack of hearts and the defence took the first seven; down three for –150 and 11 IMPs to RIPPEY.

Flyfalcon v Friends

West	North	East	South
Sheng	*V Prooijen*	*Li*	*Wilson*
–	Pass	3♡	Dble
4♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	*Yang*	*M de Leon*	*Han*
–	Pass	3♡	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Li opened 3♡ and Sheng raised to 4♡ over the double. When Wilson doubled again, Van Prooijen passed with his flat hand and collected the normal +500 for down three.

Sprinkhuizen did not raise with the West cards and that once again worked out well, when Yang took a stab at 3NT. The heart lead swiftly put paid to that; down three for –150 and 12 IMPs to FLYFALCON.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 5 3
♡ A K J
♢ K 9 8 6 2
♣ 10 3 2

♠ Q 10 9 8 7 6 4
♡ 8 6 3
♢ Q
♣ Q 6

♠ K J 2
♡ Q 9 5 2
♢ J 5 4 3
♣ 9 8

♠ A
♡ 10 7 4
♢ A 10 7
♣ A K J 7 5 4

Black v Northern Lights

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	*McIntosh*	*Bussink*	*Paske*
–	–	–	1♣
2♠	3♢	Pass	4♢
Pass	5♢	Pass	6♢
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Gold	*M Rimstedt*	*Black*	*Eriksson*
–	–	–	1♣
Pass	1♢	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♡	Pass	3♠
Dble	5♣	All Pass	

Gold passed with the West cards, allowing his opponents to have a free run and explore the hand at their leisure. When Eriksson could make an invitational club rebid and Mikael did not have an independent spade stopper, 5♣ was the logical conclusion. Gold led the queen of diamonds. With no opposition bidding, there was no reason to get those right, and Eriksson won in hand with the ace. There was also no reason to get the clubs wrong and Eriksson duly cashed the ace and king. He just had to lose a diamond now so had 12 tricks for +420.

Ola made a weak jump overcall and McIntosh showed his diamonds. Perhaps expecting a slightly better suit from his partner, Paske first agreed diamonds, then went on to slam over McIntosh's sign-off. McIntosh won the spade lead and played ace of diamonds then the ten of diamonds to his king. McIntosh ruffed his spade loser, cashed the ace of clubs, then came to hand with the ace of hearts to play the nine of diamonds. Bussink won that and returned a heart round to the jack. McIntosh cashed the ♢8 and ♡K, then led the ten of clubs and put up the king. The fall of the queen meant 12 tricks for +920 and 11 IMPs to BLACK.

Fredin v Rippey

West	North	East	South
Fredin	*Nowak*	*Apteker*	*Rippey*
–	–	–	1♣
2♠	3♢	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♢	Pass	5♢
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Wiankowski	*Sylvan*	*Nawrocki*	*Morath*
–	–	–	1♣
2♠	Dble	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Both Souths opened 1♣, clubs or balanced, and both Wests overcalled 2♠. Sylvan now doubled and Morath jumped to 3NT, where he played. Nowak preferred to show his diamonds and repeated the suit when Rippey cuebid 3♠. Rippey raised to 5♢ now.

Apteker led the two of spades against 5♢, Nowak winning the ace and cashing the ace of diamonds. On seeing the queen fall on his right, he cashed the ace of clubs before playing a second diamond, the seven. To his king. Nowak ruffed his spade loser, came to hand with a heart to the ace, and played the nine of diamonds to Apteker's jack. Apteker returned a club and Nowak played low, losing to the queen. However, he was now in control of the hand. He could win the king on the heart return, draw the missing trump, and cash the clubs; 11 tricks for +400.

Wiankowski led the ten of spades against 3NT. Morath won the bare ace and cashed the ace of clubs. Mindful of the pre-emptive overcall on his left, he now crossed to the ace of hearts to take the club finesse. When that lost the defence took six spade tricks and Sylvan/Morath had their second 3NT-3 in three boards; –150 and 11 IMPs to RIPPEY.

Flyfalcon v Friends

West	North	East	South
Sheng	*V Prooijen*	*Li*	*Wilson*
–	–	–	1♣
2♠	3♢	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♢
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	*Yang*	*M de Leon*	*Han*
–	–	–	1♣
3♠	Pass	4♠	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

When Sheng overcalled 2♠, Van Prooijen showed his diamonds then admitted to club tolerance at his next turn. However, when Wilson went on with 4♢, clearly intending this to be a forcing bid, Van Prooijen read it differently and passed. Plus 170 would only be a good result if N/S at the other table were going down in slam.

Sprinkhuizen overcalled a full-blooded 3♠ and Yang passed. However, when Mendes de Leon raised to 4♠, Han was not prepared to be shut out and bid 5♣. Having passed at his first turn, Yang had a lot now and added a Sixth. Sprinkhuizen led the queen of diamonds and here there was a case for getting the suit right. No, Han won in hand with the ace. Now that he had a diamond loser he needed to get the trumps right and, if he was playing West for diamond length, there was a real danger that he would play East for club length and finesse. Han cashed the ace of clubs then, after a little thought, got it right by laying down the king. The fall of the queen meant that he had 12 tricks for +920 and 13 IMPs to FRIENDS.

There were four pairs in slam, all making – three in clubs, one in diamonds.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Seligman v New Amateurs

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*Falk*	*Kwiecien*	*Lusky*
–	–	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♡	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♢	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Yang	*Seligman*	*Gu*	*Lesniewski*
–	–	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♡	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

Falk transferred to spades then forced to game to show his second suit, and Lusky jumped to the spade game. Starkowski led the three of clubs, Polish style, to the ten, jack and ace. Lusky led aheart towards the jack, Starkowski going in with the king and returning the ten of hearts, which Lusky ruffed in the dummy. He led a spade to the king and ace, ruffed the heart return, and cashed the queen of spades. Seeing the bad break, Lusky switched his attention to diamonds. All Starkowski could take were his two trump tricks, but that was enough to beat the contract; down one for –100.

Seligman too began with a transfer but, unwilling to commit to game, he preferred to follow through with an invitational 2NT. When Lesniewski now jumped to 4♠, his partnership were known to have nothing to spare, and Yang doubled on the strength of his spade holding. It proved to be an expensive double. Yang led the two of diamonds, Lesniewski winning with dummy's king and playing a heart. Gu won the ace of hearts and returned a diamond, imaging that his partner might be ruffing, but Lesniewski won the ace and took a heart ruff. Next he played the queen of diamonds but, when Gu followed suit, was certain that the suit must be divided evenly so ruffed to get to hand to take a second heart ruff. A club to the ace allowed Lesniewski to take a third heart ruff, and now he played a club to the king followed by his last club, ruffed with the nine and over-ruffed with the queen. Lesniewski led the ten of diamonds, discarding his remaining heart. Down to just the ace-jack-ten of spades, Yang had to over-ruff his partner's two and Lesniewski's king of spades won track 13, giving him 10 tricks in all for a beautifully played +790 and 13 IMPs to SELIGMAN.

Thirteen players were in 4♠, six of them doubled. Lesniewski was the only one to find a way home. To be fair, without the double declarer would have no reason to play this way, while early club leads look to take away a crucial late entry to play the third club.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Black v Northern Lights

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	*McIntosh*	*Bussink*	*Paske*
–	–	–	1♡
3♢	Dble	Pass	4♢
Pass	4♡	Pass	5♡
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Gold	*M Rimstedt*	*Black*	*Eriksson*
–	–	–	1♡
2♡	Dble	Pass	4♡
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	All Pass	

Ola made a weak jump overcall with his two-suited hand and McIntosh doubled. When Paske cuebid in response then went on over his sign-off, McIntosh committed to slam and chose 6NT. Bussink led the seven of diamonds to the king and ace and McIntosh played a heart, Bussink following with the six. This was the moment of truth. I think that, in isolation, I would put in the nine, and later plan to finesse the queen, but the weak jump overcall reduced the chance of there being ♡Kx offside and ♡J10x onside, while perhaps increasing the danger of there being a bare ten or jack offside, when it would be essential to play the queen. Well, that was how McIntosh saw it. The queen held, of course, and now he ducked a heart, discovering the bad news. There was no squeeze, and McIntosh had to go down one for –50.

Meanwhile, Gold made a two-suited cuebid and his opponents bid confidently to game but without giving any consideration to slam. Black must have expected more for the 2♡ cuebid, because he doubled, based entirely on his trump holding. When that came round to Mikael he redoubled, and Eriksson could achieve a slam-sized score without having to worry about finding the line to make a slam. Gold led the jack of clubs, which Eriksson won in dummy. Eriksson led a heart to the queen, cashed the ace, and just conceded two trump tricks; +1080 and 15 IMPs to NORTHERN LIGHTS.

Goodman v Harris

West	North	East	South
Harris	*Kennedy*	*Malhasyan*	*Compton*
–	–	–	1♡
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♡
Pass	4♡	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Dwyer	*Root*	*Goodman*	*Igoe*
–	–	–	1♡
2♡	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

Dwyer made the two-suited overcall and Root jumped to 3NT. Igoe probed with 4♣ and Root signed off in 4♡, ending the auction. Igoe won the club lead with dummy's queen and led a heart to his seven. Back to dummy with the ace of diamonds, he led a second heart to the ten and queen, and had 12 tricks for +480.

Harris showed a third way with which to deal with the West hand, passing throughout so giving no clues to an eventual declarer. Kennedy made a forcing 2-over-1 response and Compton drove to slam. Harris led a diamond. Compton rose with the ace and led a heart to his nine, crossed to the queen of clubs and took a second heart finesse; +980 and 11 IMPs to GOODMAN.

Sam v Scorway

West	North	East	South
Levinson	*Keller*	*Shenkin*	*Ferguson*
V Lankveld	*Kvangraven*	*Bakkeren*	*Brekka*
–	–	–	1♡
2♡	Dble	Pass	Pass
3♢	Dble	All Pass	

Rather than settle for game or try a borderline slam, both Keller and Kvangraven opted to try for a penalty against the two-suited overcall.

Keller led a heart against 3♢ doubled, the ten losing to the queen. Ferguson switched to the king of clubs, collected a count signal from Keller, and now switched again, this time to a trump. The three of diamonds went to the four, nine and five, and Keller returned a heart – jack, ace, ruff. Levinson played a low spade, Keller going in with the queen to return a low club for the ace and ruff. Levinson played another spade, which Ferguson won with the ace. He returned a heart and Levinson discarded a spade. Keller ruffed with the two, cashed the ace of diamonds, then played the queen of clubs. Levinson ruffed, cashed the king of diamonds, and led the nine of spades, which was ducked, then the jack. Keller won the ♠K and that was down four for –800.

Kvangraven too led a heart to the ten and queen and Brekka switched to his trump for the jack and queen. Kvangraven led a club to his partner's king and back came a low club, which Van Lankveld ruffed. He played a low spade so Kvamgraven put in the queen, cashed the ace of diamonds to prevent any ruffs in the dummy, then forced declarer again by playing the queen of clubs. Van Lankveld ruffed the club and cashed the king and ten of diamonds then played the jack of spades, which saw the defence crash the king and ace. No matter, Brekka had the aces of clubs and hearts to come, so the contract was again down four for –800 and no swing.

OCBL NOVEMBER CUP - RESULTS

ROUND 7

Black	7.39 VPs 37 IMPs	12.61 VPs 45 IMPs	Northern Lights
Seligman	18.9 VPs 43 IMPs	1.1 VPs 2 IMPs	New Amateurs
Rippey	15.99 VPs 38 IMPs	4.01 VPs 16 IMPs	Fredin
Goodman	8.95 VPs 23 IMPs	11.05 VPs 26 IMPs	Harris
Amoils	7.39 VPs 27 IMPs	12.61 VPs 35 IMPs	Netbridge
Sam	17.24 VPs 43 IMPs	2.76 VPs 14 IMPs	Scorway
Flyfalcon	17.4 VPs 44 IMPs	2.6 VPs 14 IMPs	Friends

ROUND 8

Seligman	4.63 VPs 10 IMPs	15.37 VPs 29 IMPs	Fredin
Black	11.05 VPs 14 IMPs	8.95 VPs 11 IMPs	Sam
Rippey	7.1 VPs 11 IMPs	12.9 VPs 20 IMPs	Northern Lights
New Amateurs	16.55 VPs 31 IMPs	3.45 VPs 6 IMPs	Scorway
Goodman	6.03 VPs 19 IMPs	13.97 VPs 32 IMPs	Friends
Harris	17.4 VPs 52 IMPs	2.6 VPs 22 IMPs	Netbridge
Flyfalcon	3.27 VPs 11 IMPs	16.73 VPs 37 IMPs	Amoils

ROUND 9

Black	4.63 VPs 19 IMPs	15.37 VPs 38 IMPs	Harris
Seligman	18.66 VPs 44 IMPs	1.34 VPs 5 IMPs	Sam
Rippey	6.29 VPs 34 IMPs	13.71 VPs 46 IMPs	Amoils
Northern Lights	6.03 VPs 30 IMPs	13.97 VPs 43 IMPs	New Amateurs
Fredin	15.58 VPs 31 IMPs	4.42 VPs 11 IMPs	Friends
Goodman	2.29 VPs 20 IMPs	17.71 VPs 52 IMPs	Netbridge
Flyfalcon	7.69 VPs 22 IMPs	12.31 VPs 29 IMPs	Scorway

OCBL NOVEMBER CUP - RESULTS

BUTLER RANKING

1	A. Yekutieli, (Tol23)	Amoils	1.67	12
2	M. Eriksson, (Magnus_E)	Northern Lights	1.5	72
3	M. Rimstedt, (Mikaelrim)	Northern Lights	1.46	108
4	L. Verhees, (loukie)	Flyfalcon	1.38	24
5	O. Toledano, (orentol)	Amoils	1.22	60
6	A. Zamir, (zamir1)	Amoils	1.1	48
7	V. Isporski, (smileyv)	Harris	1.02	60
	R. Trendafilov, (rumen)	Harris	1.02	60
9	T. Paske, (thomas1000)	Black	1	24
10	A. McIntosh, (mcintosh)	Black	0.92	36
	T. Sprinkhuizen, (thibos)	Flyfalcon	0.92	36
12	M. Kwiecien, (michal1)	Seligman	0.9	108
	W. Starkowski, (wstarkowsk)	Seligman	0.9	108
14	S. Hult, (hultahult)	Black	0.79	84
15	G. Hallberg, (rerack)	Black	0.78	96
16	M. Seligman, (mseligman)	Seligman	0.72	108
	M. Lesniewski, (lesniak)	Seligman	0.72	108
18	P. Nawrocki, (nawrot)	Rippey	0.7	108
	P. Wiankowski, (vifon_e)	Rippey	0.7	108
20	D. Yang, (hyang)	New Amateurs	0.69	72
	Gu Jiang, (Jiang_Gu)	New Amateurs	0.69	72
22	N. Eber, (eebs)	Fredin	0.43	72
	C. Bosenberg, (bosie1)	Fredin	0.43	72
24	M. Huber , (marijnhu)	Netbridge	0.36	36
	M. van der Starre , (martin001)	Netbridge	0.36	36
26	L. Stansby, (lew2)	Rippey	0.33	36
	J. Stansby, (jumpshift)	Rippey	0.33	36
28	T. Bakkeren, (Tbak)	Sam	0.32	108
	J. Van Lankveld, (ennaji)	Sam	0.32	108
30	P. Fredin, (P_Fredin)	Fredin	0.29	108
	A. Apteker, (alonap)	Fredin	0.29	108
32	J. Lusky, (pachyderms)	New Amateurs	0.18	72
	A. Falk, (Allan Falk)	New Amateurs	0.18	72
34	M. Thuillez, (Thildou)	Northern Lights	0	36
	I. Gronkvist, (Halko)	Flyfalcon	0	48
	M. Gronkvist, (Mike_G)	Flyfalcon	0	48
37	B. Keller, (brenkell)	Sam	-0.02	48
	A. Black, (boggis)	Black	-0.02	96
	D. Gold, (dagold)	Black	-0.02	96
40	F. Baseggio, (baseggio)	New Amateurs	-0.03	72
	A. Lo, (aitail)	New Amateurs	-0.03	72
42	O. Saur, (Saurdino)	Scorway	-0.04	72
43	G. Mendes de Leon, (guymdl)	Flyfalcon	-0.06	36
44	J. Harris, (Jdache)	Harris	-0.06	48
	E. Malhasyan, (master DJ)	Harris	-0.06	48
46	G. Brekka, (kaninen)	Scorway	-0.09	108
47	W. Huang, (wshuang)	Friends	-0.11	36
48	T. Tiholov, (polborta)	Harris	-0.12	60
	M. Gold, (marusab)	Harris	-0.12	60
50	M. Rippey, (radiators)	Rippey	-0.17	72
	K. Nowak, (kamiln)	Rippey	-0.17	72
52	S. Root, (AsNuttyAs)	Harris	-0.21	48
	N. Igoe, (ibraves)	Harris	-0.21	48
54	M. Gustawsson, (Lagom)	Fredin	-0.25	12
55	A. Goodman, (agoodman1)	Goodman	-0.3	108
	K. Dwyer, (kdwyer)	Goodman	-0.3	108
	O. Rimstedt, (olarim)	Northern Lights	-0.3	108
58	T. Yang, (tcyang)	Friends	-0.31	36
59	C. Compton, (compton)	Goodman	-0.31	108
	S. Kennedy, (Kenprop)	Goodman	-0.31	108
61	M. Sheng, (Kainsheng)	Friends	-0.33	72
62	I. Delmonte, (ishd)	Amoils	-0.36	72
	F. Kolesnik, (fkolesnik)	Amoils	-0.36	72
	T. Hanlon, (kinder1)	Amoils	-0.36	72
65	A. Bremer, (arisbreem)	Netbridge	-0.42	72
	J. Sylvan, (JoppeSyl)	Fredin	-0.42	36
	J. Van Den Hoek, (janonline)	Netbridge	-0.42	72
68	N. Kvangraven, (Nils123)	Scorway	-0.46	84
69	A. Morath, (andersm)	Fredin	-0.5	24
70	W. Yan, (wy7199)	Friends	-0.54	72
	E. Xu, (edward3048)	Friends	-0.54	72
72	I. Xin, (jq_sos)	Friends	-0.56	36
73	L. Amoils, (amoils)	Amoils	-0.56	84
74	A. Wilson, (flyfalcon)	Flyfalcon	-0.7	84
	R. Van Prooijen, (riccovp)	Flyfalcon	-0.7	84
76	S. Levinson, (sc0tsteve)	Scorway	-0.71	96
77	B. Bussink, (bart3)	Northern Lights	-0.76	108
78	K. Bouwen, (kebosporto)	Netbridge	-0.78	60
	Tom Drijver, (tdrijverrr)	Netbridge	-0.78	60
80	Y. Han, (ynh)	Friends	-0.82	72
81	B. Ferguson, (bruceferg)	Sam	-0.98	108
82	B. Shenkin, (Barnets)	Scorway	-0.98	60
83	V. Kiljan, (Vkill)	Flyfalcon	-1.11	36
	L. Tijssen, (luctijs)	Flyfalcon	-1.11	36
85	W. Mou, (wmou)	Friends	-1.33	36
86	Bob Drijver, (bobdrijver)	Netbridge	-1.71	48
	M. Verhaegen, (Marcel_ve)	Netbridge	-1.71	48
88	J. Nadel, (juliejoy)	Sam	-1.75	60
	J. Carroll, (coppers)	Amoils	-1.75	12

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