Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

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SELIGMAN WON THE SEPTEMBER CUP!

Seligman M.

Kwiecien M.

Pszczola J.

Starkowski W.

September CUP
Rounds 9-12 Results

1	Yellow Cap	90.55	52.85	143.4
2	Gillis	79.01	61.21	140.22
3	Harris	87.2	47.13	134.33
4	Black	76.55	42.98	119.53
5	Rubenstein	50.36	63.47	113.83
6	Crocodile	73.95	38.06	112.01
7	Sugi	69.87	36.69	106.56
8	Nadel	78.47	25.84	104.31
9	Pigot	63.16	39.92	103.08
10	Greenspan	73.88	24.52	98.4
11	Peanuts	67.55	25.05	92.6
12	Netbridge	57.49	22.28	79.77

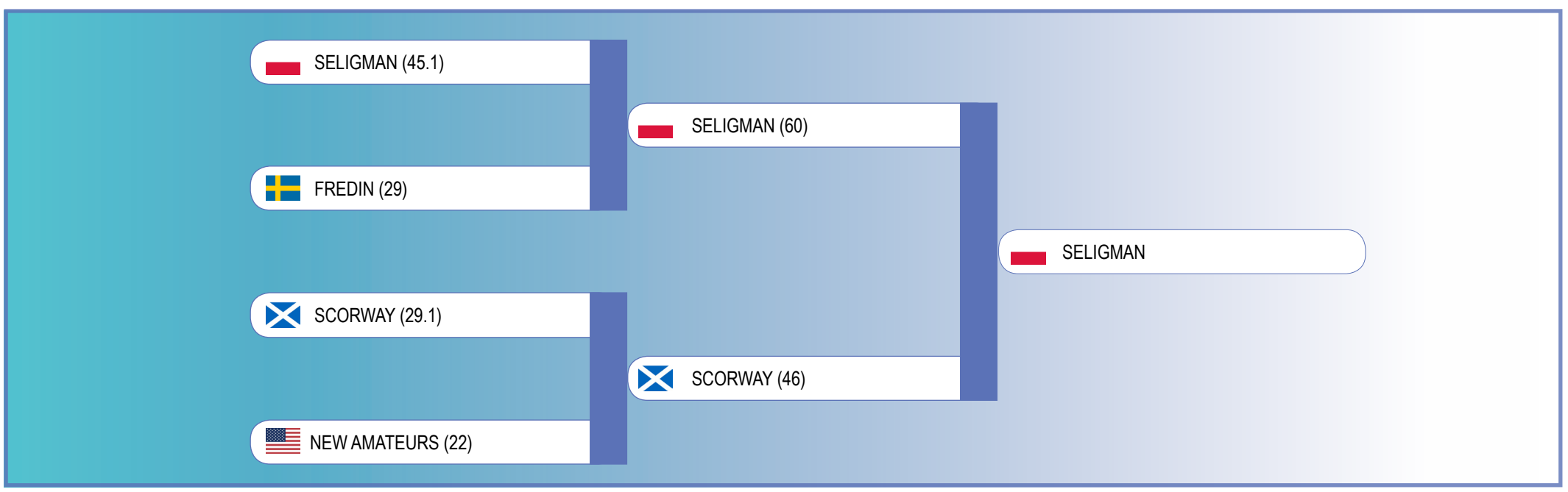
Bizon P.

Lair M.

Team SELIGMAN (Seligman M., Kwiecien M., Pszczola J., Starkowski W., Bizon P., Lair M.) won the September Cup!

In the Final they faced team SCORWAY (Levinson S., Shenkin B., Kvangraven N., Brekka G., Diamond D., Spears B., Saur O., Olsen J.).

The third place is shared between teams FREDIN (Fredin P., Apteker A., Schaltz P., Eber N., Schaltz D., Fick H.) and NEW AMATEURS (Lo A., Jiang Gu, Lusky J., Falk A., Pettis B., Kwok-Fei M., NG Chi-Cheung B., Chechelashvili D.)



Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL
UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER CUP
3 - 5 October, 2022

12 Rounds x 10 boards	CEST	EDT
Monday, 3 October R1 - R4	16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30	10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30
Tuesday, 4 October R5 - R8	16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30	10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30
Wednesday, 5 October R9 - R12 & SF/F	16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30	10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

HALLOWEEN CUP
25 - 27 October, 2022

12 Rounds x 10 boards	CEST	EDT
Tuesday, 25 October R1 - R4	16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30	10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30
Wednesday, 26 October R5 - R8	16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30	10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30
Thursday, 27 October R9 - R12 & SF/F	16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30	10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

MON - TUE SWISS
21 - 22 November, 2022

10 Rounds x 8 boards	CEST	EDT
Monday, 21 November	16.00 - 17.15 - 18.30 - 19.45 - 21.00	10.00 - 11.15 - 12.30 - 13.45 - 15.00
Tuesday, 22 November	16.00 - 17.15 - 18.30 - 19.45 - 21.00	10.00 - 11.15 - 12.30 - 13.45 - 15.00

DECEMBER CUP
13 - 16 December, 2022

		CEST	EDT
Qualification:	Tuesday 13 December	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
3 Rounds x 14 boards	Wednesday 14 December	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
	Thursday 15 December	16.00 - 18.00 - 20.00	10.00 - 12.00 - 14.00
KO:	Friday 16 December	16.00 - 18.30 - 21.00	10.00 - 12.30 - 15.00
3 Rounds x 16 boards			

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

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

Bridge NEWS

20th European Champions' Cup
Helsinki, Finland • 10 - 12 November 2022

The 20th European Champions' Cup will be played in the U14 Hotel, Helsinki, Finland, from Thursday 10th November to Saturday 12th November 2022. Qualifying through the recent Europeans Teams Championships in Madeira, teams from Belgium, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal & Switzerland have been invited to participate in the event with the defending Champions, Bergen Akademiske BK from Norway, and the Host Team – Finland.

14th Small Federation Games
Larnaca, Cyprus • 1-3 November, 2022

EBL SMALL FEDERATIONS GAMES 2022

LARNACA, CYPRUS

The EBL is delighted to confirm that the 2022 Small Federation Games will be held in Larnaca, Cyprus from 1st to 3rd November 2022.
The venue will be the Sun Hall Hotel, situated on the palm-tree seafront of Larnaca. Larnaca airport is Cyprus' main airport, 10-15 minutes away by taxi.
The format and exact schedule will be announced once the number of participating teams is known.

World Youth Team Championships 2023

Due to the disruption created by the pandemic over the past couple of years causing, amongst other things, difficulties in recruiting and training young players, the WBF has decided to make an exception to the age restrictions for the 2023 WYTC only.

The first information letter with the exact restrictions for this event can be downloaded here:

http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/WBF-Youth-Championships-2023-1st-Information-Letter-.-Age-restrictions.pdf

The Four Tops

by Mark Horton

It did not require the deductive powers of Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot to recognize that the winners of the September Cup must come from teams contesting the semifinals.

Seligman enjoyed a carryover of 8.1 while Scorway's start was 4.1.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Scorway v New Amateurs

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Chechelashv.	*Kvangraven*	*Gu*	*Shenkin*
—	1♡	1♠	2♠*
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

2♠ Three-card raise

South led the ♡2 and North won with the ace and returned the four, declarer winning with the king and playing the ♢Q. South took the ace and continued with the ♡Q, declarer ruffing, playing the ♠9 to the ace and following with two top diamonds. North ruffed the second of these and declarer overruffed with the ♠J and exited with the ♣J, North winning with the queen. Declarer won the return of the ♠10 with the king and claimed nine tricks, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Ng*	*Saur*	*Mak*
—	1♡	1♠	Dble*
3♣*	Pass	4♠	4NT*
Pass	5♣	Dble	5♡
Dble	All Pass		

3♣ Splinter

East led the ♣5 and declarer won with the ace, ruffed a spade and played a club. West ruffed and switched to the ♢K, declarer winning with dummy's ace and playing another club, ruffed with the ♡J and overruffed. A spade ruff was followed by the ♣K, ruffed and overruffed and declarer ruffed a spade and pitched a spade on the ♣10, East winning with the jack and exiting with the ♠K at which point declarer claimed nine tricks, two down, -300 and a 9 IMP loss.

It was tempting for South to bid over 4♠, but perhaps the spade void was a warning note.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Seligman v Fredin

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	*Starkowski*	*Apteker*	*Kwiecien*
1♣	1♠	2♢	3♢*
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

3♢ Spade support

Declarer lost the four obvious tricks, +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Seligman	*P Schaltz*	*Lair*	*D Schaltz*
Pass	Pass	1♢	1♡
2♣	Dble*	Pass	2♠
3♢	3♠	4♢	All Pass

Dble Spades

South led the ♡Q and declarer took dummy's ace and played a diamond, North taking the ace and switching to the ♠K. Declarer won with the ace and played the ♢Q, South taking the king and returning the ♠J, North winning with the queen and exiting with a heart. Declarer won in dummy, drew the outstanding trump and could claim when the ♣A collected South's queen, +130 and a gain of 7 IMPs.

To defeat 4♢, the defenders need to score a club ruff, which requires an initial club lead, or a spade lead when North has time to switch to a club.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Scorway v New Amateurs

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Chechelashv.	*Kvangraven*	*Gu*	*Shenkin*
1♡	Pass	1♠	4♣
Pass	Pass	4♡	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Declarer lost two clubs, a diamond and a spade, one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Ng*	*Saur*	*Mak*
1♡	2♢	Dble*	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♡	5♣
All Pass			

Dble Spades

West led the ♡K and switched to the ♠Q. Declarer took dummy's ace and settled down to the clubs to reach this position:

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

If he now cashes the last club pitching a diamond, East is forced to throw the ♡J after which he can be thrown in to lead into the diamond tenace.

In practice declarer ran the ♢10 and East won and cashed a spade for ne down, -50 and a 4 IMP loss.

You see the winning defence?

West must switch to the ♠3!

Well done indeed to Cédric Lorenzini who found this brilliant play in the 5th place Swiss!

Seligman had won the set 13-9 to lead 21.1-9, while Scorway had also scored 13 IMPs while restricting New Amateurs to just 4 IMPs to lead 17.1-4.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Seligman v Fredin

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	*Lair*	*Apteker*	*Seligman*
—	1♡	Pass	1NT
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

1NT Semi forcing

North led the ♡K and continued with the three, South winning with the queen and switching to

the ♣Q. North overtook that and played the ♡7, South ruffing with the seven and West overruffing with the ten. Declarer ducked a club to North's nine, ruffed the heart continuation, ruffed a club with the ♠J, cashed the ♢A, played a spade to the nine, ruffed a club and claimed, +470.

Having cashed the ♡A, switching to a diamond will be good enough to ensure one down. However, if North leads a spade at trick one declarer can be held to six tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*P Schaltz*	*Kwiecien*	*D Schaltz*
—	1♣*	Pass	2♢*
2♠	Pass	3♠	All Pass

1♣ 14+, artificial
2♢ 5+♢, no major, 6-9

North led the ♡A and switched to a spade, declarer winning in dummy and playing the ♢3. South went up with the king and returned the ♢J, North ruffing and returning the ♡7. South won, cashed the ♣Q and then played the ♢8. Declarer ruffed that and played a club but North won and returned a spade, ensuring three down, -150 and 12 IMPs.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Scorway v New Amateurs

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Falk	*Levinson*	*Pettis*	*Shenkin*
1♣	1NT	Pass	2♡*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

2♡ Transfer

East led the ♣4 and having won with dummy's king declarer played on spades, West withholding the ace. A heart to the ace was followed by a diamond to the jack and declarer then tried the hearts, cashing three more tricks in the suit. That got him up to eight tricks, but when he exited with the ♣8 West won with the queen and cashed the ♠A, squeezing declarer who threw a club. West exited with the ♣10 and that was one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Gu*	*Kvangraven*	*Lo*
1♣*	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

1♣ 2+♣

East led the ♡2 and declarer won with the king and played the ♠Q, West taking the ace and returning the ♡5. Declarer won with the queen, unblocked the ♠K, played a heart to dummy's ace and cashed the spades. West pitched the ♣10 on the fourth spade and East the ♣4. The defenders were still on track, but when the last spade was played West discarded another club which allowed declarer to play a diamond, establishing a trick in the suit to go alongside the thirteenth heart, +600 and 12 IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Seligman v Fredin

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	*Lair*	*Apteker*	*Seligman*
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♡	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♡*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
6♣*	Pass	7♣	All Pass

4NT RKCB
5♡ 2 key cards
5NT 'Got all key cards

The meaning of 6♣ was unclear, but when South led the ♢K declarer won, drew trumps and unblocked the hearts, getting the bad news. When the spades could nor be established he was a desperately unlucky one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*P Schaltz*	*Kwiecien*	*D Schaltz*
—	—	1♣*	2♢
Dble*	3♢	Dble	Pass
4♡	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	All Pass

1♣ Polish Club

South led the ♢K and declarer won with the ace, drew trumps, unblocked the hearts and must have been delighted when South discarded on the second round which meant the grand slam was not quite laydown. He was +1370 and 16 IMPs richer.

Scorway v New Amateurs

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Falk	*Levinson*	*Pettis*	*Shenkin*
—	—	1♠	3♢
3♡	Pass	4♡	All Pass

Perhaps East should try 4♢ at his second turn, but that is not going to locate the club fit. Declarer took 11 tricks, +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Gu*	*Kvangraven*	*Lo*
—	—	2♣*	Pass
2♢*	Pass	2♡*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2♣ 17-20 balanced
2♢ Transfer
3♠ 5 hearts, not spades

Here too the club fit was never in the equation, declarer scoring 11 tricks for a flat board.

It would be Seligman and Scorway in the final.

Final

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Lair*	*Olsen*	*Seligman*
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
Dble	1♢	1♡	3♢
4♡	5♢	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

North's wafer thin response paved the way for the excellent save.

East led the ♡2 (as is sometimes the case, a trump is best) and declarer ruffed in dummy and played the ♠K, West taking the ace and switching to the ♣K followed by the three. Declarer ruffed, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a club, crossed to dummy with a spade, ruffed a club, ruffed a heart and played the master club, assuring ten tricks, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*Kvangraven*	*Kwiecien*	*Shenkin*
—	Pass	Pass	1♢
Dble	3♢*	4♡	All Pass

3♢ Premeptive

South led the ♠K and declarer won with dummy's ace, cashed a top heart, drew trumps via the marked finesse and played a spade, soon claiming 11 tricks, +450 and 8 IMPs.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Lair*	*Olsen*	*Seligman*
1♡	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

West led the ♡A and switched to the ♣J followed by the ace. Declarer ruffed and played two rounds of spades, assuring nine tricks, +140.

The way the defence went, there is a way then one way to take ten – did you spot them?

Hint: One of them involves trick one!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*Kvangraven*	*Kwiecien*	*Shenkin*
1♡	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	Pass	2♠
3♣	3NT	All Pass	

1NT Forcing for one round
2♣ 2+♣

East led the ♣5 and after the defenders had cashed five tricks in the suit East switched to a spade, declarer going three down, -300 and a 10 IMP loss.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Lair*	*Olsen*	*Seligman*
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♡
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♣ Could be short
2♠ 6♠

East led the ♡J and declarer won with dummy's ace, cashed the top spades discarding diamonds and then ran the ♣9, East winning and exiting with a spade which left declarer with ten tricks, +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*Kvangraven*	*Kwiecien*	*Shenkin*
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♡
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♢*	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

2♣ Natural, game forcing or invitational with 3♠
4♢ Cue

East led the ♡J and declarer won with dummy's ace, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a diamond, cashed the top spades pitching a diamond and a heart, ruffed a spade, ruffed a diamond, came to hand with the ♡K and cashed the top clubs, +940 and 11 IMPs.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Lair*	*Olsen*	*Seligman*
1♢	1♠	Pass	3♠
4♢	4♠	All Pass	

With East strangely silent NS stole the pot.
Declarer had to lose two diamonds, a heart and a club, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*Kvangraven*	*Kwiecien*	*Shenkin*
1♣*	1♠	2♡*	4♠
5♢	All Pass		

1♣ Polish Club
2♡ Non forcing

Declarer lost a spade and a club, +400 and 8 IMPs.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Lair*	*Olsen*	*Seligman*
—	—	Pass	2♡
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♢*
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♡
All Pass			

3♢ Feature, not minimum

West led the ♣7 and when declarer played dummy's four East took the ace and returned the nine to dummy's king. Declarer unblocked the hearts, played a diamond to the king, cashed the ♡K and ran the ♠10 to East's king. He ruffed the club return, gave up a heart and claimed, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*Kvangraven*	*Kwiecien*	*Shenkin*
—	—	Pass	2♢*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♢*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

2♢ Multi
2NT Asking
3♣ Minimum
3♢ Asks for transfer
3♠ Hearts

East led the ♢6 for the jack, queen and ace and declarer unblocked the hearts getting the bad news. With no real hope, he played the ♠6 and East took the king and cashed the ♣A, West's trump trick translating to two down, -200 and 13 IMPs.

Seligman had taken the first half 39-16.

Onn the opening dela of the first half EW held ♠85 ♡876 ♢AK4 ♣AQ864 opposite ♠AK106 ♡AK10 ♢985 ♣K92. As the cards lay it was possible to secure 12 tricks via a squeeze, but both teams played in 3NT.

In the match between Rubenstein and Greenspan this was the auction in the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Z Grossack	*T Bishel*	*Rubenstein*	*Haji*
—	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♡	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♢*	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♢*	Pass	5♡*	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

1♣ 2+♣
1NT Game forcing with clubs or balanced
3♣ Clubs
4♢ RKCB
4♠ 3 key cards
5♢ King ask
5♡ ♡K

This was the layout:

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

South led the ♣3 for the four, jack and king and declarer continued with the ♣9, overtaking it with the king as North pitched the ♢3. A spade to dummy's ace was followed by the ♣2 and declarer drew trumps, went to dummy with a spade, ruffed a spade and played a heart to dummy's ten. South won and switched to the ♢2, but declarer won and cashed dummy's top hearts. On the last of these, North, was already down to ♠Q ♡Q ♢Q and the ♢K4 were good for two tricks and +920.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Starkowski*	*Saur*	*Kwiecien*
—	—	—	Pass
1♢	Pass	1♡	1♠
Dble*	Pass	2♠*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Dble 3♡
2♠ Asking for a stopper

North led the ♠8 and declarer won with the jack and played a diamond to the queen, when it held continuing with a diamond for the ten and

jack. North took South's ♠Q with the ace and continued with the ♢K. It must have come as surprise when South turned up with the ace and cashed three spades. It was a brilliant defence by Michal Kwiecien.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lair	*Kvangraven*	*Seligman*	*Shenkin*
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT*	Dble	Pass
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

1NT Semi forcing

North led the ♣6 for the nine, jack and king and declarer played the ♢K, followed by the seven when it held. South won and exited with a diamond and declarer won with the ten and played the ♡9 for the queen and ace. His next move was to play two rounds of spades and South won and exited with a club, at which point declarer claimed 11 tricks, +630 and 13 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Starkowski*	*Saur*	*Kwiecien*
—	—	—	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

2NT Asking
3♠ 6♠

North led the ♢7 and declarer won with the ace, played a spade to the king, overtook the queen and ran the ♡J, claiming the rest when it lost, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lair	*Kvangraven*	*Seligman*	*Shenkin*
—	—	—	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♢*	Pass	6♠	All Pass

2NT Asking
3♢ Feature

North led the ♣10 and declarer took dummy's ace, cashed the ♠K, played three rounds of diamonds, ruffing in dummy and overtook the ♠J with the ace. He then cashed all his remaining trumps, South discarding the ♢6, the ♡49 and finally the ♣K. Dummy was down to ♡AQ ♣J. North had followed to the diamonds with the seven, five and eight, so it looked as if he was 2-3-3-5. He had thrown three clubs and the ♡2.

Everyone had done their best, now declarer had to guess. When he took the heart finesse he was two down, -200 and 13 IMPs changed hands.

In noticed that in the 5th placed Swiss, Thomas Bessis played 6♠ from the East hand and received the lead of the ♣K which he ducked. He won the trump switch, played three rounds of diamonds, ruffing. At this point if he cashes the ♡A (a Vienna Coup) before running the spades, South will be toast!

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brekka	*Starkowski*	*Saur*	*Kwiecien*
—	—	Pass	2♡*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♡*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♡*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	5♢*
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♣
Dble	6♢	Dble	All Pass

2♡ Hearts plus any other suit
2NT Game forcing ask
3♡ 5♣
4♣ 'Asking about spades'
4♡ 1525
4♠ 'To play'
5♢ 1 key card +♣Q

As you can see from the explanations NS may have been struggling to recall their agreements. 6♣ doubled would have had chances. To be sure of defeating it East must lead a diamond. Then West must duck the ♣10, win the next club and exit with a diamond.

6♢ had no chance and declarer finished two down, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lair	*Kvangraven*	*Seligman*	*Shenkin*
—	—	—	2♡*
2♠	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♢*	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♡	All Pass	

2♡ Hearts and a minor
4NT 'RKCB I hope'
5♣ 'I have clubs'
5♢ Asking about the ♡Q

Here too NS were struggling.

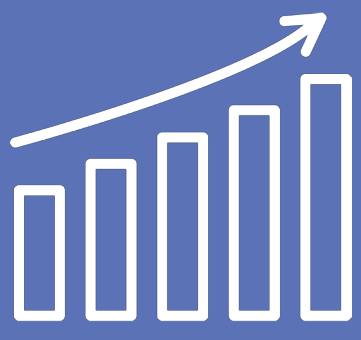
7♡ failed by 3 tricks, -300, a 5 IMP swing that meant Scorway had won the session 30-21, but it was not enough to deny Seligman the Cup, as they triumphed 60-46.

It had been a magnificent tournament with many examples of brilliant bidding, play and defence.

STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE!

Who are the strongest defenders?

Who are the overall leaders?



Who should I be more afraid of?

Who is the top declarer?

The answers to your questions are here:

https://public.tableau.com/views/OCBL2022TopDeclarersandDefenders/Topdeclarersanddefenders?:language=en-US&publish=yes&:display_count=n&:origin=viz_share_link%3AshowVizHome=no#2

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OCBL CTOBER CUP

3 - 5 October, 2022

12 Rounds x 10 Boards

Monday, 3 October
R1 - R4
CEST 16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30
EDT 10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

Tuesday, 4 October
R5 - R8
CEST 16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30
EDT 10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

Wednesday, 5 October
R9 - R12, SF/F
CEST 16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30
EDT 10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

Info and pre-registration: WWW.OCBL.ORG