Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL JOURNAL

Issue N. 180. Tuesday, 4 October, 2022

SELIGMAN ON TOP!

October CUP
Results after Round 4

1		Seligman	62.82
2		McAllister	61.77
3		Harris	47.38
4		Yellow Cap	46.32
5		Netbridge	43.62
6		Peanuts	39.69
7		Greenberg	38.77
8		New Amateurs	25.94
9		Crocodile	17.24
10		Nadel	16.45

SCHEDULE TODAY

All the tables will be closed to kibitzers, but the matches will be broacast on Vugraph. The show will be delayed by 15 minutes.

Round 5. 16.00 CEST / 10.00 a.m. EDT

Peanuts	VS	Yellow Cap
Netbridge	VS	Nadel
Harris	VS	Crocodile
Greenberg	VS	McAllister
Seligman	VS	New Amateurs

Round 6. 17.30 CEST / 11.30 a.m. EDT

Peanuts	VS	McAllister
Greenberg	VS	Seligman
Nadel	VS	Yellow Cap
Harris	VS	Netbridge
New Amateurs	VS	Crocodile

Round 7. 19.00 CEST / 1.00 p.m. EDT

Peanuts	VS	Netbridge
Harris	VS	New Amateurs
Seligman	VS	McAllister
Nadel	VS	Greenberg
Crocodile	VS	Yellow Cap

Round 8. 20.30 CEST / 2.30 p.m. EDT

Peanuts	VS	Greenberg
Nadel	VS	Crocodile
New Amateurs	VS	Netbridge
Seligman	VS	Harris
Yellow Cap	VS	McAllister

Today is Golf Lovers day!

Team SELIGMAN (Seligman M., Kwiecien M., Pszczola J., Starkowski W.) won the OCBL September Cup just few weeks ago and are now leading the ranking of the OCBL October Cup!

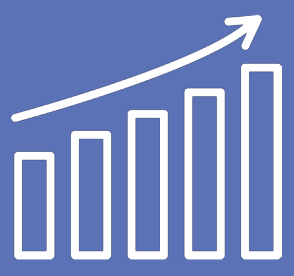
They are followed by teams McAllister (McAllister J., Root S., Kennedy S., Bucknell C.) and Harris (Gold M., Harris J., Igoe N., Malhasyan E., Gross S., Trendafilov R., Isporski V., Tiholov T.)

Today, four more rounds will be played. Then, the top four teams will advance to the Semifinals. The remaining teams will be playing four more rounds.

STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE!

Who are the strongest defenders?

Who should I be more afraid of?



Who are the overall leaders?

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

Online Contract Bridge League

OCBL
UPCOMING EVENTS

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

2022 Max Bavin Main TD Course

From the EBL website:

The Max Bavin Main TD Course was held in Warsaw, Poland from 15-18 September 2022.

The primary objectives of the Course are:

to support NBOs in their activity through updating the knowledge of their leading Tournament Directors,
to offer NBO Tournament Directors the opportunity to achieve the title of NBO International Tournament Director and to be appointed in the EBL Official TDs Register,
to offer NBO International TDs the opportunity to achieve the title of EBL TD and to be appointed in the EBL Official TDs Register,
to offer EBL TDs, already appointed in the EBL Official TDs Register, the opportunity to maintain or improve their category.
43 candidates from 18 NBOs took part in the Warsaw course where the following were successful –

Yuval Ben David (Israel)(pictured – 1st Place), Dirk Logghe (Belgium), Rens Philipsen (Netherlands) – all promoted to EBL Tournament Director.

Yossi Reichman (Israel), Jonathan Lillycrop (England), Artur Wasiak (Poland), Tomasz Radko (Poland), Diarmuid Reddan (Ireland), Thomas Mathiasen (Denmark) – all promoted to NBO International Tournament Director.

Sorry, Partner - the podcast

Latest episodes:

- **Diana Molina Leans in to her Bridge Future**
  Chilean champion Diana Molina talks about being the first and only person in her family to play bridge, life as a junior player moving into the big leagues, and gender politics. Plus, she shares her top tip for developing players. But first, we kibitz!

- **Matthew Granovetter is the Ace, King, Queen and Jack of All Bridge Trades**
  American champion Matthew Granovetter joins us to talk about golf coaches as bridge coaches, his love/hate relationship with forthcoming matches, and the many pleasures of playing bridge with his wife. Plus, he shares his top tip for developing players. But first, we kibitz! Matt is the author of many bridge books, including I Shot My Bridge Partner. Get 20% off at the Bridge Shop with code SP20 (offer valid until September 30--also available at other retailers)

https://sorrypartner.com/

Day One

by Brian Senior

All 10 N/Ss bid to 3NT on this deal from Round One, with exactly half being successful, half not.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Peanuts v Nadel

West	North	East	South
de Boer	*Franceschetti*	*Snellers*	*Setton*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♢	Dble	2♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	*v d Bos*	*Bessis*	*Nadel*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	1NT	2♣	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Having overcalled in clubs, Bessis led a heart – the seven – round to the ten and queen. Van den Bos led the nine of clubs from hand and, when Bessis played low, ran it, losing to the stiff ten – disaster! Back came a heart to the eight and ace, and Van den Bos ran the ♣Q to the king, Lorenzini pitching his last heart. Rather than cash the heart winners, which might inconvenience his partner and there was no hurry, Bessis returned a club. Van den Bos won the jack and led a diamond to the king followed by a second diamond to Bessis's ace. Now Bessis cashed the hearts. Bessis returned his singleton spade to the eight, queen and ace, and now, when Van den Bos cashed the ace of clubs, Lorenzini was squeezed to concede the eighth trick; –100.

Snellers had doubled to show both clubs and hearts, and she now led her longer suit, the three of clubs going to the ten and jack. Franceschetti promptly returned a low club, so Snellers took the king and returned the two of spades to the nine and ace. Franceschetti led a diamond to the king and a second diamond, ducked to Snellers' ace. Back came a club. Franceschetti won the nine and led the queen of hearts, running it when Snellers played low. He continued by cashing the ace of clubs, crossing to the ace of hearts, and leading a diamond towards the jack. De Boer, who had discarded hearts to keep his spade and diamond holdings intact, won the ♢Q and was down to ♠QJ4 so could not prevent Frceschetti from winning two of the last three tricks with his ♠K108; just made for +600 and 12 IMPs to PEANUTS.

New Amateurs v McAllister

West	North	East	South
Bucknell	*Loo*	*Kennedy*	*Tan*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♢	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Yang	*McAllister*	*Gu*	*Root*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

In this match both N/Ss had silent opponents and played 3NT from the South seat.

Bucknell led the ten of hearts to the jack and king, ducked by Tan. That was a good start for the defence and Kennedy continued with a second heart to declarer's queen. Tan played two rounds of spades, getting the bad news. Winning the ♠K, Tan ran the queen of clubs, which was ducked, then switched his attention to diamonds, leading a low card and seeing Bucknell win the queen and cash the queen and jack of spades, before switching to a heart. Tan won the ♡A, cashed the fifth spade, then played a second diamond. Kennedy threw his winning heart on the last spade and now won the ace of diamonds but was endplayed to lead into the ♣AJ at trick 12; down one for –100.

Yang led the six of diamonds, Gu winning the ace and continuing with the ♢9 to declarer's king. Root cashed the ace of spade then continued with a second spade, ducking to Yang's nine when Gu pitched a club. Yang returned a heart to the queen, king and ace, and Root led a diamond towards the jack. Yang won the queen and returned the queen of spades, but Root won that, discarding a heart, and ran the queen of clubs. He had three club tricks to go with two in each of the other suits; +600 and 12 IMPs to McALLISTER.

Yellow Cap v Harris

West	North	East	South
Isporski	*Pyykkko*	*Trendafilov*	*Johansson*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Nilsland	*Malhasyan*	*Bern*	*Harris*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Johansson rebid 2♠, while Harris preferred 2NT, resulting in 3NT being reached from opposite sides of the table.

Trendafilov led a club round to the ten and jack, and Pyykkko played ace and another spade, ducking to Isporski's nine when Trendafilov showed out, discarding the nine of diamonds. Pyykkko led a diamond up, Trendafilov winning the now bare ace and returning the seven of hearts to the ten and queen. Ace and another club saw Trendafilov back on lead, and he cleared the clubs. Pyykkko led a diamond to the king and another diamond, but when Isporski won the queen then returned a heart to the nine and ace, all Pyykkko could do was to cash the ♠K then concede the last trick; down one for –100.

Nilsland led a diamond to his partner's ace, but Johansson switched to the eight of hearts round to dummy's jack. Harris crossed to hand with the king of spades to lead the seven of clubs to the ten, jack and king, and back came a second heart, which Harris ran to the queen. He cashed the queen of clubs, crossed to the ace of spades, and cashed two more club winners, followed by the king of diamonds, so had nine tricks for +600 and 12 IMPs to HARRIS.

Crocodile v Seligman

West	North	East	South
Seligman	*Bareket*	*Pszczola*	*Saada*
Bogo	*Starkowski*	*Fyrun*	*Kwiecien*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Identical uncontested auctions saw the two Norths at the helm in the usual contract.

Fyrun led a club to the ten and jack and Starkowski played the queen of hearts, ducking Fyrun's king. Fyrun returned his singleton spade to the nine and ace, and Starkowski ducked a spade to the jack. Back came a diamond to the ace and a second diamond, ducked to the queen. Bogo returned the ten of hearts, Starkowski winning the ace, cashing the kings of spades and diamonds, followed by the red jacks and, finally, the ace of clubs, but the last trick was won by Fyrun's ♣K and that was down one for –100.

Pszczola led a heart round to the ten and queen. Bareket led a diamond to the king then ran the queen of clubs, losing to the king, and back came a second club to his jack. A second diamond now went to Pszczola's ace and he got off play with another club. Bareket won that and crossed to the king of spades to lead a diamond towards his jack. That established his ninth trick – three clubs and two in each of the other suits – so +600 and 12 IMPs to CROCODILE.

Netbridge v Greenberg

West	North	East	South
Serdar	*v Roosmalen*	*Ekinci*	*Gast*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♢
Pass	2♡	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Zomer	*Tokay*	*Bouwen*	*Greenberg*
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Van Roosmalen and Gast took an extra round of bidding, but both pairs got to 3NT played by South.

Zomer led the eight of diamonds, Bouwen winning the ace and switching to the eight of hearts, which was won by dummy's jack. Ace and another spade got the bad news when Bouwen discarded a club, and Greenberg ducked the spade to Zomer's nine. Back came the ten of hearts, covered all around, and when Greenberg now ran the queen of clubs, Bouwen could win the king and cash two heart winners before returning the nine of diamonds. That was down one for –100.

Serdar too led a diamond, but Ekinci won the ace and continued the suit. Gast ducked that to the queen and now Serdar switched to a heart for the queen, king and ace. Like a number of other declarers, Gast tested the spades now, winning the ace and king before running the ♣Q. That lost to the king but Gast had nine tricks for +600 and 12 IMPs to NETBRIDGE.

Most N/Ss found the paying save on this deal from Round Two, but not all.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Crocodile v Netbridge

West	North	East	South
Zomer	*Barel*	*Bouwen*	*Katz*
–	Pass	1♢	2♠
3♢	4♠	5♢	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Bareket	*Bremer*	*Saada*	*v d Hoek*
–	Pass	1♢	2♠
3♠	4♠	5♢	5♠
6♢	6♠	Dble	All Pass

Zomer's mildly cautious 3♢ raise was still enough to persuade Bouwen to go on to 5♢ over 4♠, but there was not so much momentum in this auction and Katz/Barel saw no reason to save in 5♠. This would have been a paying save, in the sense that it would have cost only –500 against the actual –640 after a heart lead, but it would also have given E/W one more chance to bid their cold slam, when N/S would have to save a level higher, costing –800.

Bareket's cuebid raise also saw 4♠ from Bremer and 5♢ from Saada, but now Bareket went on to slam, forcing Bremer to take the save in 6♠ for –800 and 4 IMPs to CROCODILE.

Yellow Cap v New Amateurs

West	North	East	South
Chechelash.	*Pyykkko*	*Gu*	*Johansson*
–	Pass	1♢	2♠
3♠	4♠	6♢	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Nilsland	*Pettis*	*A-Sivelind*	*Lo*
–	Pass	1♢	3♠
5♢	5♠	6♢	Pass
Pass	6♠	Dble	All Pass

Chechelashvili's cuebid raise convinced Gu to bid the slam and N/S, perhaps because slam had been bid with no exploration so might have been a bit of a guess, were willing to defend rather than risk their opponents thinking again and getting to a cold grand slam. Johansson's heart lead meant all 13 tricks for +1390.

Lo made a bigger pre-emptive overcall than the rest and, inevitably, that meant that Pettis saved, firstly in 5♠ over 5♢, and secondly in 6♠ over 6♢. Asplund-Sivelind doubled that and collected +800. That was the best that E/W could do, of course, but it meant 11 IMPs to NEW AMATEURS.

All the other six tables saw N/S save in either 5♠ doubled or 6♠ doubled, as necessary. There were three in 5♠ doubled, five in 6♠ doubled, and the two we have seen who were allowed to play in 5♢ and 6♢ respectively.

Round 4. Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

When South opens 1♣, would you overcall 1♠, vulnerable against not, with the West cards? Three Wests out of 10 did so, and all three Norths passed, intending to also pass the reopening double. Two of those Norths were disappointed when South instead rebid 2♣ and they had to content themselves with bidding and making 3NT. In total, seven N/Ss made 3NT, all with overtricks, while one played in 3♣+1 and one in 5♣-1. And then there was the table at which North's dreams came true.

West	North	East	South
Serdar	*Gu*	*Sofu*	*Lo*
–	–	–	1♣
1♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Gu led the three of hearts, Lo winning the ace and switching to the seven of spades for his partner's ten. Gu cashed the ace of spades to prevent a club ruff in the dummy – he could not, of course, imagine that his partner had a seven-card suit – then switched to ace and another club. Lo won the second club and continued with a third round, which Serdar ruffed with the nine. Gu discarded a heart and now Serdar erred by cashing the king of spades before playing the ten of hearts to the queen and king. That meant that, when Gu ruffed the next heart, he could cash the queen of spades, dropping declarer's jack. Gu led a diamond to the king and ace next, and Lo had club winners for the last two tricks; down four for –1100 and 12 IMPs to NEW AMATEURS.

Round 4. Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Nadel v Seligman

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	*v d Bos*	*Kwiecien*	*Nadel*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♡	2♠	3♣	4♠
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Essink	*Pszczola*	*Friesen*	*Seligman*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
3♣	4♡	5♣	5♠
All Pass			

Essink overcalled 3♣ and Pszczola jumped to 4♡, transfer to spades. That suited Seligman very well so he was happy to compete with 5♠ when Friesen supported his partner's clubs. Somebody needed to take the save in 6♣, which would have cost only –300, but 5♠ was left undisturbed and Seligman soon chalked up +680.

OK, so if E/W save in 6♣ their opponents might find a way to go on to the cold slam, but then E/W can save in 7♣ and that is still only –500.

At the other table, Starkowski overcalled 2♡. Hearts and a minor, and van den Bos bid a quiet 2♠ for now. Kwiecien, with good support for either minor, bid a pass or correct 3♣, and that was music to Starkowski's ears, making it easy for him to go on to 5♣ over 4♠. Van den Bos doubled that, ending the auction, but down only one was –100 and 11 IMPs to SELIGMAN.

McAllister v Harris

West	North	East	South
Tiholov	*McAllister*	*M Gold*	*Root*
–	Pass	Pass	1♢
2NT	Dble	5♣	Dble
Pass	5♢	Dble	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Bucknell	*Malhasyan*	*Kennedy*	*Harris*
–	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♡	3♠	Pass	4♠
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

Harris opened 1NT and Bucknell overcalled 2♡, hearts and a minor. When Malhasyan jumped in spades and harris raised to game, Bucknell had sufficient extra playing strength to go on to 5♣. For a second time we see North, the hand with the club void, doubling 5♣, which looks wrong to me. Anyway, that was down one for –100.

Root had to open 1♢ and Tiholov overcalled 2NT, hearts and clubs. McAllister doubled then, when Root doubled the jump to 5♣, took it out

into 5♢, which in turn was doubled by Marusa Gold. Tiholov led the king of clubs, which Root ruffed. He played the nine of diamonds at trick two, and Gold played low. When the diamond held the trick and Tiholov followed, Root had an assortment of winning lines. In practice he just played winning spades, Gold ruffing the fourth round and returning a heart. There was just a second diamond to be lost so that was 11 tricks for +750 and 12 IMPs to HARRIS.

The E/W competition was too much for N/S, with nobody getting to the good spade slam and, as we have just seen, one pair not even bidding spades. Two pairs played 5♠+1, one played 5♢ doubled making, and the rest took inadequate penalties from 5♣, six times, or 6♣ once.

OCBL OCTOBER CUP

RESULTS

ROUND 1

Peanuts	14.54 VPs / 28 IMPs	5.46 VPs / 14 IMPs	Nadel
New Amateurs	2.32 VPs / 17 IMPs	17.68 VPs / 46 IMPs	McAllister
Yellow Cap	13.43 VPs / 37 IMPs	6.57 VPs / 27 IMPs	Harris
Crocodile	8.5 VPs / 22 IMPs	11.5 VPs / 26 IMPs	Seligman
Netbridge	11.85 VPs / 35 IMPs	8.15 VPs / 30 IMPs	Greenberg

ROUND 2

Peanuts	2.32 VPs / 7 IMPs	17.68 VPs / 36 IMPs	Seligman
Crocodile	0 VPs / 4 IMPs	20 VPs / 52 IMPs	Netbridge
McAllister	12.83 VPs / 38 IMPs	7.17 VPs / 30 IMPs	Nadel
Yellow Cap	14 VPs / 42 IMPs	6 VPs / 30 IMPs	New Amateurs
Greenberg	0.56 VPs / 6 IMPs	19.44 VPs / 48 IMPs	Harris

ROUND 3

Peanuts	6.86 VPs / 19 IMPs	13.14 VPs / 28 IMPs	New Amateurs
Yellow Cap	5.46 VPs / 20 IMPs	14.54 VPs / 34 IMPs	Greenberg
Netbridge	5.2 VPs / 14 IMPs	14.8 VPs / 29 IMPs	Seligman
McAllister	15.29 VPs / 39 IMPs	4.71 VPs / 22 IMPs	Crocodile
Harris	17.34 VPs / 31 IMPs	2.66 VPs / 4 IMPs	Nadel

ROUND 4

Peanuts	15.97 VPs / 29 IMPs	4.03 VPs / 9 IMPs	Crocodile
McAllister	15.97 VPs / 37 IMPs	4.03 VPs / 17 IMPs	Harris
Greenberg	15.52 VPs / 40 IMPs	4.48 VPs / 22 IMPs	New Amateurs
Netbridge	6.57 VPs / 8 IMPs	13.43 VPs / 18 IMPs	Yellow Cap
Nadel	1.16 VPs / 9 IMPs	18.84 VPs / 46 IMPs	Seligman

Online
Contract
Bridge
League

OCBL HALLOWEEN CUP

25 - 27 October, 2022

12 Rounds x 10 Boards

Tueday, 25 October
R1 - R4
CEST 16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30
EDT 10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

Wednesday, 26 October
R5 - R8
CEST 16.00 - 17.30 - 19.00 - 20.30
EDT 10.00 - 11.30 - 13.00 - 14.30

Thursday, 27 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