

Open Teams

Gold **Zimmermann**

Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Jacek Kalita, Michał Klukowski,
Michał Nowosadzki, Pierre Zimmermann (SUI)

Silver **Jeo Hidro**

Altuğ Göbekli, İsmail Halezeroğlu, İsmail Kandemir,
Ömer Kızılok, Suleyman Kolata, Doğan Üzümlü (TUR)

Bronze **Naukabrudzapl**

Krzysztof Jassem, Paweł Jassem, Piotr Jassem, Piotr Tuczyński (POL)
France Green

and

PierreBedouet, Bénédicte Cronier, Philippe Cronier, Colin Deheeger,
Jérôme Rombaut, Léo Rombaut (FRA)

Open Pairs

Gold Rafał Marks, Jakub Wojcieszek (POL)

Silver Krzysztof Kujawa, Tomasz Pilch (POL)

Bronze Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad, Thor Erik Hoftaniska (NOR)

Open BAM

Gold **Daisy Chain**

Pierre Franceschetti, Quentin Robert (FRA), Agustín Madala (ARG),
Dennis Bilde (DEN), Hilda Setton (SUI)

Silver **Poland S**

Piotr Bizon, Marek Blat, Apolinary Kowalski, Michał Kwiecień,
Włodzimierz Starkowski, Piotr Tuszyński (POL)

Bronze **French Women BAM:**

Margaux Kurek Beaulieu, Anaïs Leleu, Carole Puillet,
Anne-Laure Tartarin (FRA)

The B-final for Open and Women Pairs was won by PIECHOCKI Sławomir Pichocki and Paweł Gruszczyński

143 separate individual medals were awarded in these championships, but 25 players won two medals.
leaving 118 medallists, from 14 different countries.

Selena Pepić becomes the first medal winner from Serbia, which becomes the 37th country to medal at European Championships.

Poland (53) has the largest share of the medals this year, before France (19), Türkiye (13) and USA (12).
France now has a total of 165 medals at the Open Europeans, while Poland (162) passes the Netherlands (128), who are ahead of USA (103) and Italy (94).

Justyna Żmuda adds two medals to her already impressive total. She now has 11 medals at the Open Europeans, one behind Sylvie Willard.

Katarzyna Dufurat now has nine medals, but Carla Arnolds, Catherine d'Ovidio and Wietske van Zwol, with 10, are still ahead of her. Marion Michielsen also has nine medals.

Philippe Cronier is the top male player, having also now won his ninth medal.

Open Teams SemiFinal, Set 3

OPEN

Zimmermann v. Naukabrydzapl

Jeo Hidro v. France Green

Jos Jacobs

At halftime on Friday afternoon, the Zimmermann v to be. Jeo Hidro +420 on a heart lead by East.

Naukabrydzapl semifinal looked almost decided. After a tremendous first quarter, the reigning world champions Closed Room

were already leading 71-14 and the score stood at 108-60 West

when they sat down for segment 3. In the other semifinal Uzüm

Jeo Hidro v France Green, they had been fighting two — 2{

close segments between them and reached a score of 65 Dble

65. So, with the scores level in that match, it looked only Pass

a logical step for me to concentrate on how things would

develop there. However, with so much happening in both

these two matches, I changed my plan, and I am going to

present you a report of one of the most interesting sets of

boards I have seen during this Poznan event.


After this introduction, it should not be a surprise, dear reader, that already the opening deal of the set is worth including in this report...

West	North	East	South
J Rombaut	Kizilok	L Rombaut	
1{	1[2]	Dbl	
Pass	Pass	e 3[
Pass	All	5{	
6{	Pass		

In the Closed Room, North followed a wait-and-see policy when the other players at the table all began to show good hands. North's own good hand came to light only at the last minute but with much more conviction, one would think. Right he was: East led the [A and exited with a heart so 12 tricks were easy enough. France Green +920, 11 IMPs to them. They had immediately taken the lead.

In the other match, at both tables the auctions were short and the results were the same.

Board1.Dealer North. None Vul.

[9 8 5 3		[A J 10 4 2
] A J 10		] 8 3
{ A 10 7 5 4		{ 8
} A		} 10 6 5 3 2
[KQ7]Q652		[A J 10 4 2
{2 }KJ984		] 8 3
		{ 8
		} 10 6 5 3 2
[6		
] K 9 7 4		
{ K Q J 9 6 3		
} Q 7		

West	North	East	South
KJassem	Kalita	Tuczynski	Klukowski
Brink	Pi Jassem	Drijver	Pa Jassem
—	1{	1[	5{
Dble	All Pass		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bedouet	Kandemir	Deheeger	Kolata
— 2{	1{	1[2[	Dble
Pass	Dble	Pass	* 3[
Pass	4}*	Pass	4{
Pass	4}*	All	4[*
	5{	Pass	

In this lively auction, East was the only player who did not show a particularly good hand at any moment in the auction. Still, the combined N/S noises were not quite loud enough to convince them that slam was a good place




Michal KLUKOWSKI

Here too, East's heart lead made declarer's task an easy one. One overtrick, +650 to N/S and a push.

Board 2 was flat but the next deal was not:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

[A 10 9 7 3] A J 7 { J 9 2 } 9 3		[J 8 6 4] — { K 10 8 5 } K J 10 4 2	
[2] 864 { AQ 6 3 } AQ 8 7 5			
[K Q 5] K Q 10 9 5 3 2 { 7 4 } 6			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>KJassem</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Tuczynski</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
—	—	—	4]
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pas
4NT*	5]	Pass*	s
5NT*	Dble	6}	Pas
All Pass			s Dbl

The delicate balancing double and useful forcing pass by East made it easy for West to press on to the slam. In the 5-5 fit, there were no problems in getting rid of the many major suit small cards. That was a quick +1540 to Naukabrydzapl.

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Brink</i>	<i>Pi Jassem</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Pa Jassem</i>
—	—	—	1]
2}	3}	5}	5]
Dble	All Pass		

Over South's quiet 1] opening bid, Brink could produce a nowadays well-established type of overcall on his lousy club suit. North saw no reason to get overenthusiastic and for East, a simple raise to game also looked more than enough for the time being. When South doubled 5] to show some sort of defence, what else could East do than sit it? One down, just +100 to Zimmermann but 16 IMPs to Naukabrydzapl.

In our other match, the South players opened 1] resp. 2]. They both reached 4] and played there for a push. Nothing was heard of either E/W pair – a remarkable contrast.

Board 4 was another push but the next deal once again was not:

Board 5. Dealer North, N/S Vul.

[K 9 3] K J 7 { Q 5 3 } Q J 9 3		[8 7] 9 5 { A 10 6 2 } A K 8 7 5	
[AJ42]AQ643 2			
{ 7 } 10 6		[Q 10 6 5] 10 8 { K J 9 8 4 } 4 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>KJassem</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Tuczynski</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
—	1}	2}	Pass
2]	All Pass		

A quiet partscore and ten tricks when the defence could not profitably lead trumps at any time. Naukabrydzapl +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brink</i>	<i>Pi Jassem</i>	<i>SDrijver</i>	<i>Pa Jassem</i>
— 2{	1}	2}*	Pass
Rdbl	Pass	2]	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	2[
	Pass	Dble	All Pass

A transfer sequence in the other room would have placed the declaration in a heart contract in the East hand and thus liable to a trump lead. For South, however, this was not enough; he competed once more and was immediately caught speeding by one of the world's strongest pairs. West led a club to East's ace and a heart came back. West won the ace and returned the suit. Dummy's]J won the trick and a spade was led off dummy to declarer's [Q and West's ace. Another heart was ruffed by East with his [8 and overruffed by declarer with the [10. The {A and }A as well as two diamond ruffs brought the number of defensive tricks to seven. Down two, +500 from almost nowhere to team Zimmermann, good for 8 IMPs.

In our other match, there also was more action at one of the tables:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Üzüm</i>	<i>JRombaut</i>	<i>Kizilok</i>	<i>L Rombaut</i>
—	1}	Pass	1[
2]	All Pass		

No, not in the Closed Room, Here, E/W settled for +170 in their partscore.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>	<i>Deheeger</i>	<i>Kolata</i>
—	1}	Pass	1[
2]	Pass	2[	Pass
4]	All Pass		

Here, East quite sensibly thought that something should be done with his A/AK. Right he was when North could not profitably lead a trump. Ten tricks France Green +420 and 6 IMPs to them.

The next deal was much more spectacular.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

[Q 10 3		
] A Q 9 7 6 4 2		
{ A 5		
} 2		
[A J 9 7 6 4]		[K 8 5 2] K 5
— { Q 4 2 } K J		{ 9 6 } Q 9 6 4
10 7		3



[—
] J 10 8 3
{ K J 10 8 7 3
} A 8 5

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>KJassem</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Tuczynski</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1[	2]	3]*	4]
4[	5]	Dble	All Pass

Maybe, East's double was even intended as a stripe-tail ape double. One overtrick, of course, N/S +1050.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brink</i>	<i>Pi Jassem</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Pa Jassem</i>
— 1[4}	—	—	1{
All	2]	3]*	3[
Pass	4NT	5[	6]

Once Pawel Jassem showed his void at an early stage, the N/S pair would always end up in six. That was an easy enough +1430 and 9 IMPs to Naukabrydzapl.

In the other match, there also was a swing. This should not surprise you at all, I would think...

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>	<i>Deheeger</i>	<i>Kolata</i>
— 1[	— 2] 5]	—	Pass
4[5[	Pass	2NT*	4]
Dble	All	Dble	Pass
	Pass	Pass	6]



Dogan UZUM

Jerome ROMBAUT

Omer KIZILOK

Leo ROMBAUT

This was a much more interesting auction than in our other match. East's double of 5] was more clearly for business than in the other match but when West went to 5[and North did not double this, South knew enough. Well judged for a fine +1660 when West expressed his doubts.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Üzüml	JRombaut	Kizilok	LRombaut
— 1[	—	—	1{
4[	2]	2NT*	4]
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5}
	5]	All Pass	

It looks to me that North's message (4NT) was lost on South. Twelve tricks were as easy as anything but scoring only +680 cost the French 14 IMPs.

One peanut on board 8 but then came a much more exciting push or near-push:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

[A K 8 5 3		[10 6 2
] 8 6 4 3		] A 9
{ J		{ Q 10 8 7
} A K Q		} 10 8 7 6
[9 4] Q 7 { K		
9 5 } J 9 5 4 3		
2		
[Q J 7		
] K J 10 5 2		
{ A 6 4 3 2		
} —		



Yes, a push we saw in the Zimmermann – Naukabrydzapl match. Both N/S reached 6] and went one down by adopting the percentage play (low to the jack) in trumps.

They reached the same contract (and result) in the Open Room of the France Green-Jeo Hidro match:

OpenRoom

West	North	East	South
Bedouet	Kandemir	Deheeger	Kolata
—	1[	Pass	2]
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5NT*
Pass	6]	All	
		Pass	

A nice auction, btw, but to little avail. France Green +50.

In the Closed Room, they needed much more time...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Üzüml	JRombaut	Kizilok	L Rombaut
—	1[2[	Pass	2} 3]
Pass	4NT*	Pass	6}* 7]
Pass	6{	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	All
Pass	7[	Dble	Pass
Pass		Dble	

On this auction, the void was clear, but the number of keycards was not. When East led the JA and another, declarer just went one down when the JQ appeared under dummy's JK. So Jeo Hidro scored +100, good for just 2 IMPs to them – a clear case of much ado about nothing.

Piotr TUCZYNSKI

Michal KLUKOWSKI

Jacek KALITA

Krzysztof JASSEM



Over to the next deal, another slam:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

[J 6 5 2
] 9 8 6
 { Q 6 4 2
 } Q 7
 [8 7
] AKQ J 10 5
 { AKJ 9
 } 10
 [A Q 10 3
] 4 3 2
 { 10 8 7
 } A 9 6
 [K 9 4
] 7
 { 5 3
 } K J 8 5 4 3 2



the length in both these suits.

So, South wins the [K and returns a safe looking card in any minor. You ruff and play for the squeeze, making your contract.

However, if you are playing against Klukowski, this plan will not work. In with the [K, he will return a spade (!!) into dummy's tenace, thus breaking up your communication with dummy, essential for the squeeze to operate. You can get rid of one diamond loser now but not of both of them. The later diamond finesse will then seal your fate.

Needless to say Klukowski found this marvellous defence at the table: my candidate for the defence of the year...

Zimmermann +100.

In the other room, the transfer jump did not work very well:

Open Room

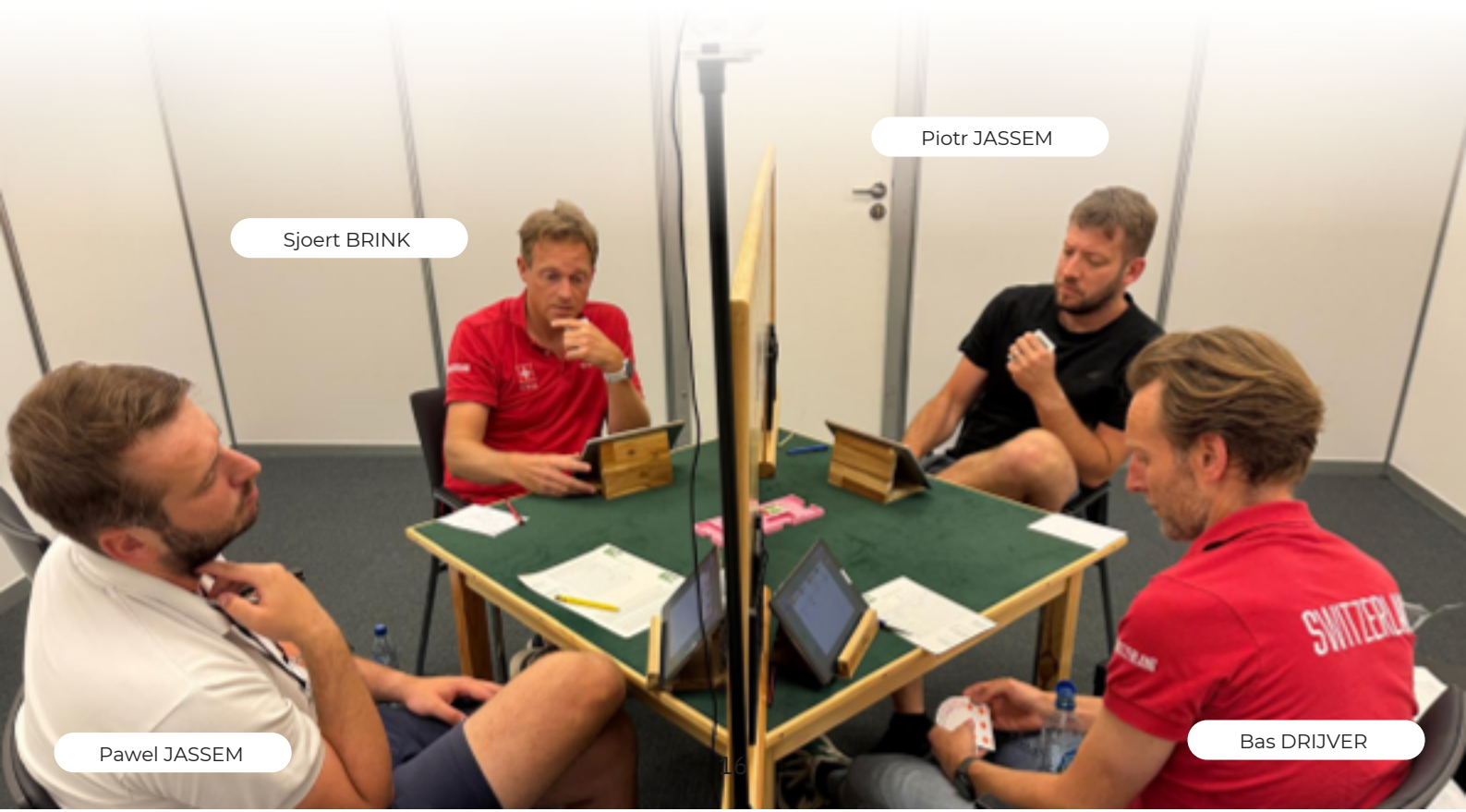
West	North	East	South
<i>KJassem</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Tuczynski</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
—	—	Pass	3}
4]	Pass	4[*	Pass
6]	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brink</i>	<i>Pi Jassem</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Pa Jassem</i>
—	—	Pass	3}
4{	Pass	4]	All Pass

When East could produce a cuebid over West's jump to 4], slam was reached quickly. This time, it looks as if just one of two finesses has to be right for declarer, so the slam is an excellent contract anyway. What is more: if you take the spade finesse by leading to dummy's [Q and it loses to the king, there still is the chance of a squeeze later on, against North's pointed suits. With South already known to have many clubs, the chances are that North will have

Over the 4{ transfer, East had to guess what to do with his two nice aces and chose the safe route. When South led a low spade, declarer ran it to his [10 and later played another spade to his [Q. When South thus won his [K after all, declarer had to lose a diamond later on as well, making just one overtrick. This was still worth 13 IMPs to Zimmermann, due to Klukowski's magnificent defence next door!



In the other match, there also was a slam swing:

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>	<i>Deheeger</i>	<i>Kolata</i>
—	—	Pass	3}
4]	All Pass		


In the other room, East did make a further move and thus, the Turkish pair quickly arrived in slam...

West	North	East	South
<i>Üzüm</i>	<i>J.Rombaut</i>	<i>Kizilok</i>	<i>L.Rombaut</i>
—	—	Pass	3}
4]	Pass	4[*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5]	Pass
6]	All Pass		

Another push board (4j) came next but on board 12, we saw a variety of strange results on what looked like a routine heart game to me.

[8 6 5 4
] 10 8 6 4
{ K 10 7 5
} 7

[10 9 7 2] J 9 7
{ Q } AK 9 6 4



[A Q J
] A K Q 5 2
{ J 9
} Q 8 5

[K 3
] 3
{ A 8 6 4 3 2
} J 10 3 2

West	North	East	South
<i>KJassem</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Tuczynski</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
Pass	Pass	1}	1{
1] 4}	3{	Dble*	Pas
5}	Pass	4]	s
	All Pass		Pas
			s

West's 1] showed spades, of course. Over North's diamond raise, East first of all showed his strength by doubling but when West next showed his clubs, East decided to raise to game in the suit, thus suppressing his hearts. With the clubs 4-1, 5] was not the place to be. One down, Zimmermann +50.

West	North	East	South
<i>Brink</i>	<i>Pi Jassem</i>	<i>SDrijver</i>	<i>Pa Jassem</i>
1NT	Pass	2{	Pass
2[4}	Pass	3]	Pass
	Pass	4]	All Pass



Jacek KALITA



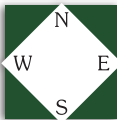
Piotr JASSEM and Bas DRIJVER

No such problems in the other room. When South led the ♠J, declarer soon had even 12 tricks for +480 and 11 more IMPs to Zimmermann.

In the other match, both Easts opened a natural 2NT and the two pairs then quickly settled for 3NT – not the place to be either. Down two but no swing.

The final deal of this very interesting set also produced a swing in one of our matches.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

	[8 6		
	] 7		
	{ Q 9 8 7 6 5		
	} A 10 9 6		
[J 10 5 4] A K		[K 9 3	
Q J 9 3 { 10 3 }		] 8 5	
8		{ A K J 4	
		} Q 4 3 2	
	[A Q 7 2		
	] 10 6 4 2		
	{ 2		
	} K J 7 5		

In the France Green v Jeo Hidro match, both E/W pairs reached 4] and were quickly one down on a spade lead by North which resulted in a 3rd round ruff.

In the other match, however:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jassem	Kalita	Tuczynski	Klukowski
—	—	1}	Pas
1]*	Pass	1NT	s
4]	All Pass		Pas
			s

West's 1] transfer response apparently kept North away from the lethal spade lead. His diamond lead was enough to give declarer an easy ride to +420 to Naukabrydzapl.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brink	Pi Jassem	Drijver	Pa Jassem
—	—	1NT	2]*
3NT	All Pass		

On this slightly unorthodox looking auction, South did very well to find a club lead so the defence took their five tricks when North won the ♠A and continued the ten. The clubs are divided in such a way that the defence cannot take two spade tricks as well. One down another +50 and 10 IMPs to Naukabrydzapl to finish the set.

The scores with 14 boards to go:

Zimmermann v Naukabrydzapl: 41-35 for the set, 149-95 overall

Jeo Hidro v France Green: 29-23 for the set, 94-88 overall.

We might well get a close finish in the latter of our two semifinals.



Pierre BEDOUE

Ismail KANDEMIR

Colin DEHEEGER

Suleyman KOLATA

OPEN

Zimmermann v. Jeo Hidro

David Bird

Assigning a full seven days to both the Mixed and Open championships has been a great success. It created two serious and meaningful events, both of which attracted a large, high-quality field. Many thanks to the organisers, the top-class Polish VG operators, and all at the location!

No-one can dispute that Zimmermann and Jeo Hidro fully deserve their places in today's final. Jeo Hidro's Turkish team has impressed me in previous matches, and I'm expecting a close encounter.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kolata</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	1[	2[*
3}	3[*	Dble	Rdb
Pass	4{	Pass	l 5{
All Pass			

It seems that East's double of 3[served little purpose and was helpful to the opponents, allowing South's strength- showing redouble. N/S reached the excellent contract of 5{. Bas Drijver ruffed the club lead in dummy, crossed to the {K and led a heart to the king. After drawing trumps, he crossed to the [A, led another heart to the queen, and claimed +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zimmermann</i>	<i>Kizilok</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Üzüm</i>
—	—	1[	3[*
Dble	3NT	All Pass	

Nowosadzki led the [K, Zimmermann unblocking the jack. Ömer Kizilok won the third round of spades and cashed the diamond suit, conceding two down for -200. It was a well-deserved 13 IMPs to the Zimmermann team.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

[A 9 8		[K Q 10 5 3 2
] 7 5		] A 10 3 2
{ K 8 7		{ J 10
} K 10 7 5 2		} 9
[J 7		
] 9 4		
{ 9 3		
} A Q J 8 6 4 3		
[6 4		
] K Q J 8 6		
{ A Q 6 5 4 2		
} —		

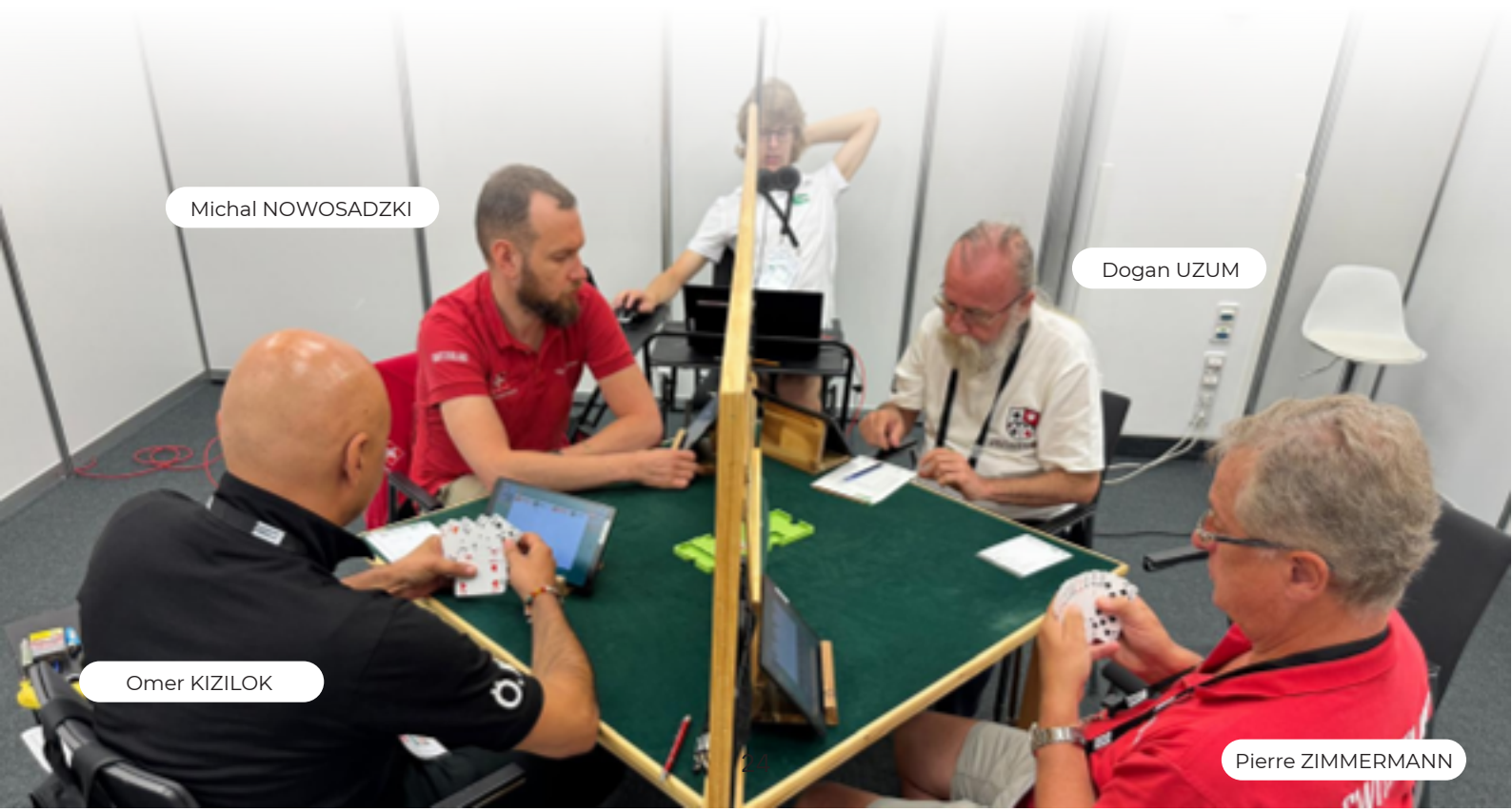


Michał NOWOSADZKI

Dogan UZUM

Omer KIZILOK

Pierre ZIMMERMANN



Board4.Dealer West. All Vul.

[J 8 3		[K Q 10 9 4
] 8		] 5 4 2
{ J 9 4 3		{ A Q 2
} K J 9 4 3		} Q 10
[765]AJ7		[A 2
{1076		] K Q 10 9 6 3
}8762		{ K 8 5
		} A 5



After a spade to the king and ace, Üzümlü led the J to West's ace. A spade trick and the A were soon joined by West's J. That was -100 and 5 IMPs away.

Board7.Dealer South. All Vul.

[A 8 3		[Q 6
] K J 10		] A Q 9 8
{ K 7 5 4		{ A Q 10 8
} Q 8 6		} K J 3
[10742		[K J 9 5
]76543 {6		] 2
}A75		{ J 9 3 2
		} K J 3



OpenRoom

West	North	East	South
Kolata	Drijver	Kandemir	Brink
—	—	1[	2]
All Pass			

E/W allowed South to play in a comfortable 2], and +110 was scored after the [5 lead.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zimmermann	Kizilok	Nowosadzki	Üzümlü
Pass	Pass	1[	Dbl
2]*	2NT	Pass	e 3]
Pass	3[	Pass	4]
All Pass			

Most players nowadays overcall 2] on those South cards. Why not? To double and then bid 3] shows a much stronger hand, which might be needed at that level. North seems to have expected more, and a very moderate game was reached.

OpenRoom

West	North	East	South
Kolata	Drijver	Kandemir	Brink
—	—	—	Pas
Pass	1}	Dble	s
1] 4]	Pass	3]	Pas
All Pass			
Pas			

Would you overcall 1NT on those East cards? The commentators in the Closed Room were divided on the matter. Bidding 1NT on this deal would probably result in a missed game. I don't mind bidding 1NT on 18 HCP occasionally. Here, though, all of East's tenaces lie over the opening bidder. Ismail Kandemir quite rightly started with a double. When he jump-raised the hearts, Süleyman Kolata knew what to do, and. +620 was duly made. What would happen in the Closed Room?



Suleyman KOLATA

Bas DRIJVER

Sjoert BRINK

Ismail KANDEMİR

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zimmermann	Kizilok	Nowosadzki	Üzüm
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1{	Dble	1[
2]	Dble*	4]	All Pass

Pierre Zimmermann knows the value of a 5-card major and entered with 2]. It was a push board in +620, and we had expected no less in the final of this top-class event.

At half-time the score was 22-1 in Zimmermann's favour. The boards had not been that wonderful, and I gave the Great Dealer only a 40% assessment. Does He realize this is the final?

Board12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	[10 9 8		
	] 3		
	{ K 3 2		
	} K 10 8 7 4 3		
[AJ7 3 2		[4	
]A65	{4	] K Q J 10 4	
]A65 2		{ Q J 10 7 6 5	
		} 9	
	[K Q 6 5		
	] 9 8 7 2		
	{ A 9 8		
	} Q J		

OpenRoom

West	North	East	South
Kolata	Drijver	Kandemir	Brink
1[	Pass	1NT	Pass
2}*	Dble	2{*	Pass
2[	Pass	3}	All Pass

I can't understand West's 2[bid, rather than a Pass. How was that safe on such a modest suit? East bid 3} and that was passed out for five down and -250!

After North has made a penalty double of West's 2}, surely 3} by East cannot be natural? As I interpreted it, along with Marc Smith, it was an intelligent effort to get partner to choose a red suit. Ah, well.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zimmermann	Kizilok	Nowosadzki	Üzüm
1[	Pass	1NT	Pass
2}*	Dble	2{*	All Pass

Nowosadzki made +130, but a very playable 4] had been missed at both tables. With two plus scores in the bank, it was 9 IMPs to Zimmermann.

Board14. Dealer East. None Vul.

	[A 8 2		
	] 8 2		
	{ A 10 9		
	} A K 7 5 4		
[Q9754]965		[K J 10	
{Q8752 }—		] A 7 4 3	
		{ 6 4	
		} Q 10 8 6	
	[6 3		
	] K Q J 10		
	{ K J 3		
	} J 9 3 2		

OpenRoom

West	North	East	South
Kolata	Drijver	Kandemir	Brink
—	—	Pass	Pass
2[*	2NT	3[*	Dble*
All Pass			

After prolonged thought, Drijver opted to pass out the competitive double. This looks a reasonable decision, facing a passed hand.

Kolata won the trump lead with dummy's [10 and played a diamond, won with North's {9. Ace and another trump left declarer staring at a large penalty unless the diamonds broke 3-3. A second diamond went to the jack, queen and ace. Kolata ruffed the }K switch, held his breath and... yes, the diamonds were 3-3! He escaped for -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zimmermann	Kizilok	Nowosadzki	Üzüm
—	—	Pass	1}
1{	2{*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3}	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Spades were led and Üzüm won the third round in dummy. The }A delivered bad news but, when a heart to the king won, this improved matters. Nowosadzki won the third round of hearts and exited safely with his last heart. Kizilok now had eight top tricks and a finesse of the {10 brought in +400. The Turkish team had expended quite a lot of good luck on that board, gaining just 3 IMPs!

The session ended with Zimmermann 33-6 ahead. I'm sure all you kibitzers have enjoyed this superbly run championship as much as I have. Where would be without Bridge Base Online to enjoy such a feast? I have made so much use of their superb facilities for saving boards, too.


Bye for now!

Last Gasp

Barnet Shenkin

The New Clyde Bridge Center in Glasgow presented the Semi final and Final of the Open Teams to its members who braved a typical Glasgow windy and rainy day to watch the semi-finals. A projector was used to display the action, bringing the cards to life on a wide wall of the club's spacious facility.

Board 28. Dealer West. All Vul.

[A K Q J 5] A Q 5 3 { 4 } A Q 6		[9 3] 10 { A K Q J 7 6 } 9 7 5 2	
[1062]K872 {98532 }10			
[8 7 4] J 9 6 4 { 10 } K J 8 4 3			

With 1 deal to go, Jao Hidro led France Green by 14 IMPs.

When his father bid 4{ and South doubled Leo felt there was a slam for sure for NS and dropped in a psyche with 4[. Having doubled 4{ to show some values, Perhaps pass may have been more inviting than doubling 5{.

South led the]6 and North won with the]Q, cashed the [J and [Q and the }A and then tried the]A, two down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Uzum</i>	<i>Deheeger</i>	<i>Kizilok</i>	<i>Bedouet</i>
Pass	1{	4{	Pass
5{	Dble	All Pass	

Here South passed after East's preempt. Had he doubled there is a strong possibility North would have gone on to 6[and won the match for France by a single IMP. Nice try Leo.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>L Rombaut</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>	<i>J Rombaut</i>	<i>Kolata</i>
Pass	2}	4{	Dbl
4[Dble	5{	e
All Pass			Dbl
			e



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OPEN TEAMS Final, SET 2

OPEN

Zimmermann v. Jeo Hidro

Marc Smith

Zimmermann began this event as #1 seeds and the bookies' favourites, so it is no great surprise to find them playing today. For Jeo Hidro (Turkiye), who finished 49th in the qualifying stage at the start of the week, it is fantastic performance to have reached the final. And, they have beaten some serious opposition on their journey including, in the semi-final, a French team that included two world champions, a European champion and a world junior champion. Whatever happens today, congratulations to the Turkish team on a magnificent achievement. Now it's on to the action, and we enter the second stanza of this match with Zimmermann leading 34-6. Just one problem today. With neither side vulnerable, you are East holding:

[9 8 6 5
] J 10
{ 5
} A J 6 5 4 3

West	North	East	South
—	1{	?	

What action, if any, do you take?

Many of the kibitzers watching live were still getting their coffee when the action kicked off with a bidding test for N/S. Could either pair bid their combined 23-count to the good 6{?

Board15.Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	[7 6] A 10 8 7 3 { Q J 9 7 3 } A	
[1083]Q642 {76]Q1064		[K Q J 9 5 2] K J 9 5 { K 10 } 3
		[A 4] — { A 8 4 2 } K J 9 8 7 5 2

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Kolata</i>
—	—	— 1[3[	1{
Pass	1]	All	2}
Pass	3{	Pass	4[*
Pass	5{		

Michal KLUKOWSKI

Ismail KANDEMIR

Suleyman KOLATA

Jacek KALITA

I'm not sure that I understand Ismail Kandemir's jump to 3{. For most pairs, 2{ would be forcing here, so 3{ would be a splinter agreeing clubs. Kandemir clearly did not intend it as that, but is this hand really worth what looks like a game-forcing bid when there is no certainty of a fit? Suleyman Kolata was sufficiently encouraged to cue bid but, when his partner could do not more than retreat to 5{, he did not think he had enough to raise.

Kandemir won the spade lead with dummy's ace, crossed to the }A, and pitched dummy's remaining spade on the }A. The {Q was run and a second round of the suit split the trumps. Two club ruffs then set up dummy. N/S +640 did not look like a positive start for the Turks, but you never can tell...

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Üzüm	Nowosadzki	Kizilok	Zimmermann
— Pass	—	—	1{
Pass	1{*	1{	2{
All	2{	2{	3{
Pass			

Michal Nowosadzki's 1{ response showed hearts, and he continued with what looks like a normal 2{ at his second turn. Quite why Pierre Zimmermann thought he should rebid his clubs again, having already shown a six-card suit, rather than raise his partner's diamonds, I cannot say. The result, though, was that Nowosadzki understandably saw no reason to bid again on what was looking like a misfit.

There were two trumps to lose in a club contract. N/S +150 and a much-needed 10 IMPs to Jeo Hidro.

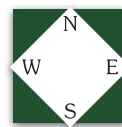
Board 17 was something of a curiosity. E/W are cold for game in 5{, assuming that declarer guesses the KJ combination in spades. However, in both rooms, N/S bid unopposed to a game that was fortunate not to attract a

double. Both East players had to answer today's problem...

Board 17. Dealer North, None Vul.

[A 7] Q 9 { A K Q
J 8 3 2 } Q 8

[KJ
] AK2
{ 10 9 6 4
} K 10 9 7



[9 8 6 5
] J 10
{ 5
} AJ 6 5 4 3

[Q 10 4 3 2] 8
7 6 5 4 3 { 7 } 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Üzüm	Nowosadzki	Kizilok	Zimmermann
—	1{	Pass	1{
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Neither East thought his hand worthy of a club bid. (Not everyone may have a natural jump to 3{ available – we've seen that bid used to show a two-suited hand by some pairs during this championship.) There would be no second chance to get into the auction.

Kizilok led the }5 to his partner's king, and Üzüm returned the }10, covered by queen and ace. To score six club tricks, Kizilok now needs to continue with a low club. When instead he cashed the }J, the suit was blocked. The fourth trick was won by Üzüm's }9. Fortunately for the Turks, West had a couple of heart winners to take, so the contract still went two down. The loss was only a couple of 50s. N/S -100.



Dogan UZUM

Michal NOWOSADZKI

Pierre ZIMMERMANN

Omer KIZILOK


Closed Room

West <i>Klukowski</i>	North <i>Kandemir</i>	East <i>Kalita</i>	South <i>Kolata</i>
—	1{	Pass	1[
Pass	2NT	Pass	4{*
Pass	4[	All Pass	

Long gone are the days when players passed their partner's opening bid if they did not have 6 HCP. Both South players here started with a 1[response.

I am guessing that Kolata's alerted 4{ bid showed both majors, but it was hard for Kandemir to guess that he should prefer hearts after his partner's original 1[response. Spades was not the optimum major-suit contract, and Klukowski found the best opening lead, a club, meaning that declarer was forced at trick two. Declarer played a heart next, Klukowski taking his two winners in the suit before giving declarer a ruff and discard with a third round of clubs. Kolata ended up with six tricks: N/S -200 and a rather strange 3 IMPs to Zimmermann.

Board19.Dealer South. E/W Vul.

[Q 7 5] 9 3 2 { K Q 6 3 2 } 5 4		[K J 4] A J 10 9 7 6 5 { — } Q 9 6 2
[A 10 9 2 { A J 10 5 4 } J 8 3	[8 6 3] K 8 4 { 9 8 7 } A K 10 7	

Closed Room

West <i>Klukowski</i>	North <i>Kandemir</i>	East <i>Kalita</i>	South <i>Kolata</i>
—	— Pass	—	Pas
1{	Pass	1]	s
1[	All	3]	Pas
4]	Pass		s Pas

There is an oft-repeated quote from Marty Bergen used to justify optimistic views in the bidding. Perhaps the modernized Klukowski version should be, "Partscores are for Children." Jacek Kalita's 3] was invitational but Klukowski needs a very strong reason not to accept a game invitation, particularly vulnerable. Here, with two aces and an honour in partner's suit, there was really no question of passing 3].

The defence started with two high clubs and a club ruff. defenders a path to six tricks. When Kalita opted for the Kandemir exited with a trump at trick four and, needing {3, declarer had his eighth trick. N/S +120. North to have started with]K-x-x, Kalita took the finesse.

Kolata won with the]K and continued with a fourth round of clubs, allowing Kandemir to score a second ruff to put the contract two down. E/W -200.


Open Room

West <i>Üzüm</i>	North <i>Nowosadzki</i>	East <i>Kizilok</i>	South <i>Zimmermann</i>
— 1{	—	—	Pass
1[	Pass	1]	Pass
2{*	Pass	2}{*	Pass
	Pass	3]	All Pass

Kizilok made the same invitational 3] bid via an XYZ auction. Üzüm is clearly from an older school, as he saw a minimum opening bid with no particular redeeming feature started the same way. However, needing only nine tricks, Kizilok could afford to lose trick to the trump king, so he won with the]A at trick four. He continued with the]J and Zimmermann won with the]K but, when he played a fourth round of clubs, Nowosadzki was out of trumps. E/W +140 and 8 IMPs to Jeo Hidro.

As we went into the second half of a stanza that had not so far produced a double-digit swing, the Turks had certainly enjoyed the best of the trench warfare. Having started this session with a 28-IMP deficit, the margin was now down to only 4 IMPs.

Board23.Dealer South. All Vul.

[A 6] A 7 { A K 9 5 } K Q 10 9 8		[9 3 2] Q J 10 { Q J 4 2 } J 5 3
[K Q 7 5] K 9 4 { 8 7 } A 7 4 2		[J 10 8 4] 8 6 5 3 2 { 10 6 2 } 6

Closed Room

West <i>Klukowski</i>	North <i>Kandemir</i>	East <i>Kalita</i>	South <i>Kolata</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1}{*	Dble	Pass	1]
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

Kandemir apparently had to jump to 2NT to show this good a hand. That gave the defenders a sporting chance. Leading either major or a diamond honour would give the

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Üzüm	Nowosadzki	Kizilok	Zimmermann
— 1} 1[	—	— 1{	Pas
Pass	Dble	Pass	s
All	1NT	Pass	Pas
Pass	2[*		s 2]
			3]

Here we saw a small chink in the armour of the Bermuda Bowl champions. Zimmermann clearly thought that 2] was natural after this delayed 1NT, whereas Nowosadzki assumed that 2] was a transfer, even though West had bid spades. Are you sure that you and your regular partner would be on the same wavelength in this situation? Declarer could scramble only seven tricks in this contract, so the cost of the misunderstanding was only an extra undertrick. However, N/S -200 meant another 8 IMPs to Jeo Hidro, moving them into a 4-IMP lead approaching the midway point of the match. There was just time for one more swing...

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

[A Q 8 4		
] Q J 8 6		
{ A 6 4		
} J 5		
[—] K 5 4 3 2		[K 10 9 7 6 2
{ 10 3 2 } 10 9		] A 10 9 7
8 7 3		{ 7
		} A 6
[J 5 3		
]		
{ K Q J 9 8 5		
} K Q 4 2		



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Kandemir	Kalita	Kolata
—	1{	1[	2[*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3}
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Kolata started by showing diamond support via a 2[cue-bid, and then showed his clubs in an attempt to help his partner judge which game to play. Kandemir chose no-trumps, and Kalita led the]10, which ran around to declarer's queen. Declarer's next move was a low club from his hand. Kalita went in with the ace and played the] A and a heart to his partner's king, but that was it for the defence. N/S +430.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Üzüm	Nowosadzki	Kizilok	Zimmermann
— 4]	1NT	2]*	2[*
Pass	Pass 5{	Pass	4NT*
Dble	All	Pass	Pass
	Pass		

Nowosadzki's decision to upgrade the North hand to a 15-17 1NT allowed the Turkish pair to make life much more difficult for their opponents. Kizilok overcall 2}, showing majors, and Zimmermann advanced with 2[, showing diamonds. What should Nowosadzki do when Üzüm jumps to 4]?

The winning choice looks to be to double, although maybe North would need to lead a trump. Not so clear from that holding. When Nowosadzki passed 4] around to Zimmermann, he what looks like a clear 4NT bid, offering a choice of minor-suit games. Nowosadzki chose diamonds and Üzüm doubled on the way out. Taking his partner's double as asking for a non-heart lead, Kizilok accurately opened with the [6. Üzüm ruffed, crossed back to his partner's hand with the }A, and received a second spade ruff to put the contract one down. N/S +100 and another 11 IMPs to Jeo Hidro.

Jeo Hidro won the second stanza 47-18, so they lead the Bermuda Bowl winners by 2 IMPs (53-51) at the midway point of the match. All still to play for!



Pierre ZIMMERMANN and Dogan UZUM



OPEN TEAMS Final, SET 4

OPEN

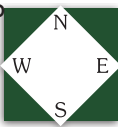
Zimmermann v. Jeo Hidro

Jos Jacobs

At halftime, the score in the final was 53-51 to Jeo Hidro. This meant that the tight finish the kibitzers were hoping for, was very much in prospect.

Immediately on the opening board, N/S were confronted with a defensive problem.

Board1.Dealer North. None Vul.

	[Q J 10 8 4		
	] 7 5		
	{ Q J 4		
	} K J 8		
[K6]K9 {AK1076		[72	
3 2		]QJ10643	
		{8	
}76		}A1042	
	[A 9 5 3		
	] A 8 2		
	{ 9 5		
	} O 9 5 3		

OpenRoom

West	North	East	South
Üzüm	Kalita	Kizilok	Klukowski
—	Pass	3]	Pass
4]	All		
	Pass		

Game in hearts was easily reached, and Klukowski led the {5 (low from doubleton, the Polish practice). The problem for declarer is that he has got too many losers, even if the [K is well placed for him, as it in fact is. Two major suit aces and three small clubs are staring him in the face.

If he ducks a club, the defence will play a low trump and if he plays trumps himself, the defence will play spades to remove the entry to the (not yet established) diamonds. Either way, declarer will not come to ten tricks.

At the table, declarer ducked a club and South, taking the }10 with his queen, returned a low trump. Dummy's]K won and two more rounds of clubs followed, dummy ruffing the 3rd round of clubs. Declarer's last club then went on the {K but now, declarer had to come back to his hand to draw trumps. He tried a diamond but when

North produced the {Q, declarer had to ruff high. He could now continue the]J to South's ace but when Klukowski continued [A and another, declarer was again locked in dummy. South's]8 would become the

setting trick. A fine +50 to Zimmermann.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brink	Kandemir	Drijver	Kolata
—	Pass	3]	Pass
4]	All Pass		

In the replay, we saw a slight defensive mistake. The same 4] contract was reached but here, South immediately led a low club. North inserted the }K which held the trick but rather than shifting to a trump, North tried the [Q, attacking dummy's side entry to the diamonds.

On a trump shift, the defence should come to four tricks: the]A, [A and another club trick, assuming South wins the]A and plays another trump. On the [Q however, South took his ace and exited with another club but now, declarer won his }A, ruffed a club with dummy's]K, cashed the [K and shed his last club on

the {K before playing the]9. With the danger of being locked in dummy gone, declarer could easily enough come to ten tricks from here. Zimmermann another +420 and 10 IMPs to them. They were back into the lead by 8.



Michał KLUKOWSKI

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Ismail KANDEMİR and Bas DRIJVE

When West showed only one of his suits over South's Precision 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ opening, 3NT was quickly reached and became the final contract in peace. East, unable to lead partner's suit, tried his most promising alternative of a diamond. When this hit the jackpot, E/W had no trouble in putting this contract down three. Jeo Hidro +300.

In the Closed Room, however, N/S got into much deeper trouble.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brink</i>	<i>Kandemir</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Kolata</i>
—	—	Pass	1} 4[
2NT*	Dble	4{	All
Dble	5}	Dble	Pass

South, not knowing that partner would be able to double any red suit shown by West with his 2NT, tried for a vulnerable game his way but soon discovered that he had chosen the wrong moment. Down four, +1100 to Zimmermann and 13 more IMPs to them.

On the first two boards of the set, the Swiss had thus managed to turn around the match from -2 to +21. They were looking well on their way now to yet another European title.

OPEN TEAMS Final, SET 4

OPEN

Dramatic Deal Decides

Mark Horton

With deals running out the final of the Open Teams was poised on a knife-edge.

Board 25. Dealer East. All Vul.

[A 9 8 5 2
] J
{ A Q 9 7
} A Q 8

[74
] K Q 9 7 4
{ J 10 8 3 2
} 10



[K Q 3
] A 8 5 3 2
{ 4
} K 9 5 4

[J 10 6
] 10 6
{ K 6 5
} J 7 6 3 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Üzümlü	Drijver	Kizilok	Brink
— Pass	1[2[*	Pass	2[*
Pass	4[*	Pass	3[*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	4]
Pass	5NT*	Pass	5[*
Pass	6]*	Pass	6]
All		Pass	6]
Pass			

- 2} Game forcing relay
- 2[Maximum, 5+[, 4+{
- 4{ Control
- 4] Shortage/Last Train
- 4NT RKCB
- 5[2 keycards +[Q
- 5NT Grand Slam interest
- 6} }K
- 6] Shortage (?)

When South bid 3[Al Hollander noted he had not seen them break out of the relays before.

When East attacked with the {5 declarer won with the {Q, ruffed a diamond, unblocked the spades, cashed the [A, ruffed a heart cashed the [A and took the }AQ, claiming the rest, +1010.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Kandemir	Kalita	Kolata
— Pass	1[3{	Pass	2]
Pass	4]*	Pass	3[
All		Pass	4[
Pass			

East led the }3 and declarer won with the }A, played a spade on the king and a diamond to the queen, East winning and returning the }6. West ruffed and declarer finished with only 10 tricks, +420 and 11 IMPs that proved to be more than enough to make Zimmerman the champions.

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