



NORDIC BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Örebro ♣ May 30th – June 1st 2023



Bulletin 1 ♣ Editor: Peter Ventura



Welcome to Örebro – the Swedish 'capital' of bridge

Last time Sweden organized the Nordic Championships was back in 2011. Hence, we are very pleased and honored to once again welcome all of you Nordic friends to the Championships 2023 in the city of Örebro.

With 155,000 inhabitants, Örebro belongs to a number of Swedish cities of equal size after the four large cities. Örebro was founded in the 13th century and since the city name means 'bridge over the gravel banks' – where could be better to play bridge than here?! Hopefully not too much gravel will stuck in your bridge machinery the following days...

Many of you have probably already been here playing bridge one or more times, attending the impressive Swedish Bridge Festival, which was arranged for the first time in 1995 and is held in Örebro since 2008. You are welcome back in two months. Assemble a team for the Chairman's Cup (starts July 28th) or embrace a variety of walk in tournaments.



Örebro castle.

The Nordic countries are known to be strong and competitive bridge nations, thus we expect high level of bridge, fighting spirit as well as good camaraderie!

Enjoy the games – the 38th Championships in order – and may the Bridge God be with you!



Martin Löfgren
SBF President



Suzanne Lemborn
SBF COO



Johan Grönkvist
SBF Overall Leader



General information

Format Open and Women

The Championships will be played in two series – women and open teams. In each of the two series, a double Round Robin will be played.

All matches being played as single sessions – without half time – and over 15 boards. The allocated time is 2 hours.

The schedule of the second round robin is based on the rankings after the first round robin. The pairings are (6-4, 3-1, 5-2), (2-3, 4-5, 1-6), (4-1, 6-2, 3-5), (6-3, 5-1, 2-4), (1-2, 3-4, 5-6).

Both series being played with pre-dealt boards. Screens are in use at all tables and BridgeMate being used for the official scoring. Butler scores will be published after each session.

Format Youth

The Championships consist of two classes: under 21 open teams and under 26 open teams.

The tournament is played as a round robin between all participating teams in one group, followed by a gold/silver medal match for the 1st and 2nd placed teams in u21 and u26 and a bronze medal match for the 3rd and 4th team in u26. The two teams left play each other.

Each match consists of 15 boards. The allocated time is 2 hours.

For playoff matches, there will be a carryover calculated as follows:

1. First calculate the VP difference between the two teams in the final standings of the round robin.
2. Then multiply this number with 1,5 IMP.

The result will be the carryover for the higher placed team.

The higher placed team will be the home team.

NBU Trophy

The two series combined for each NBO, will determine the Nordic Champions by the lowest combined placing number.

In addition to awards given in each class, the NBU Trophy will be calculated as follows:

Each NBO designates one participating team. The NBU Trophy rankings are calculated from the results of the matches between the designated teams only. If an NBO does not explicitly designate a team for the NBU Trophy, by default it will be the open team under 26 or open Team under 21, in order of priority.

Theimps obtained in a playoff match are converted into VPs. In addition, teams participating in the gold/silver match are awarded a bonus of 10 VPs for NBU Trophy purposes.

BBO

One match from each rond, either open, women or youth, will be broadcast on BBO

Seating rights all classes

The home team sits North-South in the open room and East-West in the closed room throughout the match. The home team has the right to seat its players after the visiting team has done so. The visiting team is required to take its places 5 minutes before the start of each round.



Schedule

Where to be...

Tuesday May 30

	OPEN/WOMEN
17.30	Dinner
19.00-21.00	Match 1
21.15-23.15	Match 2

Wednesday May 31

	OPEN/WOMEN	U26/U21
10.00-12.00	Match 3	Match 1
12.15-14.15	Match 4	Match 2
14.15-15.00	Lunch	Lunch
15.00-17.00	Match 5	Match 3
17.30-19.30	Match 6	Match 4
19.30	Dinner	Dinner

Thursday June 1

	OPEN/WOMEN	U26/U21
10.00-12.00	Match 7	Match 5
12.15-14.15	Match 8	Match 6
14.15-15.00	Lunch	Lunch
15.00-17.00	Match 9	Match 7
17.15-19.15	Match 10	Match 8
20.00	Prize Giving	and Dinner

In the short breaks there will be free coffee and tea. Free fruit and water you will find in the playing area at all times.

The play take place in the conference rooms according to what it says below:

Conference room Harald

Second floor, to the right of the bar.

Open room:	Open
Open room:	Women
BBO Open room:	All classes
Captains meeting:	All classes

Conference room Längteby

Second floor, through the restaurant, then to the right.

Closed room:	All classes
BBO Closed room:	All classes.

Conference room Tänkeby

First floor, to the right if you come to the lobby from your room, to the left if you just have enter the front door.

Open room:	Youth
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Please, note! If a Youth team play on BBO the team sitting in the open room will be sitting in Conference room Harald.

NBU Trophy



YEAR	WINNER	YEAR	WINNER
2023	???	1996	Sweden
2022	Sweden	1994	Denmark
2019	Sweden	1992	Sweden
2017	Sweden	1990	Sweden
2015	Denmark	1988	Denmark
2013	Denmark	1986	Norway
2011	Norway	1984	Sweden
2009	Norway	1982	Sweden
2007	Denmark	1980	Sweden
2005	Norway	1978	Sweden
2003	Sweden	1975	Norway
2000	Sweden	1973	Denmark
1998	Norway		



Open



DENMARK



Peter Westrup (captain), Rico Hemberg, Andreas Plejdrup, Christian Lahrmann & Jesper Buus Thomsen.



NORWAY



Allan Livgård, Terje Aa, Tolle Stabell (captain), Tor Eivind Grude & Christian Bakke.



SWEDEN



Fredrik Nyström, Frederic Wrang, Mikael Rimstedt, Ola Rimstedt, Simon Hult, Fredrik Kronmarker (captain) & Peter Bertheau.



FAROE ISLANDS



Árni M. Dam, Arne Mikkelsen (playing captain), Bogi Simonsen & Dánjal Pauli Mohr.



FINLAND



Jouni Juuri-Oja, Clas Nyberg, Jari Salonen, Vesa Fagerlund, Hulda Nyberg (coach) & Kauko Koistinen (playing captain).



ICELAND



*Sigurbjorn Haraldsson, Adelsteinn Jörgensen, Bjarni Einarsson, Matthias Þorvaldsson, Jon Baldursson (playing captain), Birkir Jón Jónsson.
Coaches: Elin Bjarnadóttir and Einar Guðjónsson*



Women



DENMARK



Lone Bilde, Helle Rasmussen, Peter Westrup (captain), Charlotte Koch-Palmund & Trine Bilde.



NORWAY



Gunn Helness, Ida Wennevold, Jon-Egil Furunes (captain), Tove Haugen & Torild Heskje.



SWEDEN BLUE



Ann-Sophie Andersson, Tuva Nilsmark, Linnea Edlund (captain), Lena Johansson & Ylva Pyykkö.



SWEDEN YELLOW



Klara Gustafsson, Sara Asplund Sivelind, Ylva Johansson, Louise Hallqvist, Linnea Edlund (captain) & Marie Johansson.



FINLAND



Pia Erkkilä (playing captain) Raija Tuomi, Meri Korhonen, Elina Laukkanen, Mirja Mäntylä & Anni Mäkelä.



ICELAND



Anna Ivarsdóttir (playing captain), Arngunnur Jonsdóttir, Anna Heiða Baldursdóttir, Alda Guðnadóttir, & Inda Hrönn Björnsdóttir.



Youth



DENMARK U21

Clara Brun Pedersen – Leah Thrane
Christian Zeeberg – Frederik Zeeberg
Aron Tylvad – Nikolaj Hammelev
Captain: Emil Jepsen



NORWAY U21

Anders Brogeland – Are Borgar Landsvik
Erleta Plana – Maren Idland Sægvog
Captain: Lars Eide



SWEDEN U21

Harry Hjorth Warlenius – Ivar Lichtenstein
Filip Asplund Sivelind – Matteo Nordqvist
Joakim Johansson
Captain: Karl Asplund



DENMARK U26

Daniel Tylvad – Viktor Kolding
Mathias Møller Larsen – Silas Weber
Daniel Brandgaard – Andreas Rolf-Larsen
Captain: Emil Jepsen



DENMARK U26 (W)

Amalie Bune – Sophie Bune
Ella Rosthøj – Julie Sigsgaard
Captain: Emil Jepsen



FINLAND U26

Oskari Koivu – Hermanni Huhtamäki
Aarne Koivu – Aapo Nieminen
Captain: Oskari Koivu, playing captain



NORWAY U26

Marius Austad – Nikolai Heiberg Evenstad
Thea Lucia Indrebø – Ida Marie Øberg
Captain: Christian Bakke



SWEDEN U26

Castor Mann – Erik Hansson
Markus Bertheau – Erik Wiberg
Klara Gustafsson – Alexander Sandin
Captain: Johnny Östberg

SCHEDULE

Round 1 (Wednesday)

Den U 21	Den U 26
Nor U21	Nor U 26
Swe U 21	Swe U 26
Den W 26	Fin U 26

Round 2 (Wednesday)

Den U 21	Nor U 26
Nor U21	Swe U 26
Swe U 21	Fin U 26
Den W 26	Den U 26

Round 3 (Wednesday)

Swe U 26	Den U 21
Nor U21	Fin U 26
Den U 26	Swe U 21
Nor U 26	Den W 26

Round 4 (Wednesday)

Fin U 26	Den U 21
Swe U 26	Den W 26
Nor U21	Den U 26
Swe U 21	Nor U 26

Round 5 (Thursday)

Den W 26	Den U 21
Nor U21	Swe U 21
Den U 26	Fin U 26
Nor U 26	Swe U 26

Round 6 (Thursday)

Den U 21	Nor U21
Swe U 21	Den W 26
Den U 26	Nor U 26
Fin U 26	Swe U 26

Round 7 (Thursday)

Den U 21	Swe U 21
Nor U21	Den W 26
Swe U 26	Den U 26
Fin U 26	Nor U 26

Round 8 (Thursday)

Gold and bronze matches



Results

OPEN

Round 1		IMP	VP
Sweden	Iceland	34-31	10,94-9,06
Denmark	Finland	6-51	1,19-18,81
Norway	Faroe Islands	29-10	14,93-5,07

Round 2		IMP	VP
Denmark	Sweden	49-33	14,29-5,71
Faroe Islands	Iceland	10-53	1,41-18,59
Finland	Norway	21-51	3,12-16,88

Round 3 (Wednesday)

Faroe Islands	Denmark
Finland	Sweden
Norway	Iceland

Round 4 (Wednesday)

Finland	Faroe Islands
Iceland	Denmark
Sweden	Norway

Round 5 (Wednesday)

Iceland	Finland
Sweden	Faroe Islands
Norway	Denmark

RANK AFTER 2 MATCHES

Norway	31,81
Iceland	27,65
Finland	21,93
Sweden	16,65
Denmark	15,48
Faroe Islands	6,48

WOMEN

Round 1		IMP	VP
Denmark	Finland	36-28	12,36-7,64
Iceland	Norway	39-31	12,36-7,64
Sweden Yellow	Sweden Blue	38-18	15,13-4,87

Round 2		IMP	VP
Denmark	Iceland	43-17	16,23-3,77
Finland	Sweden Yellow	23-73	0,69-19,31
Sweden Blue	Norway	18-40	4,49-15,51

Round 3 (Wednesday)

Sweden Yellow	Iceland
Norway	Denmark
Finland	Sweden Blue

Round 4 (Wednesday)

Denmark	Sweden Yellow
Sweden Blue	Iceland
Norway	Finland

Round 5 (Wednesday)

Sweden Blue	Denmark
Sweden Yellow	Norway
Finland	Iceland

RANK AFTER 2 MATCHES

Sweden Yellow	34,44
Denmark	28,59
Norway	23,15
Iceland	16,13
Sweden Blue	9,36
Finland	8,33

Seen something funny, brilliant or... ?

Send a report to the bulletin!

Email: bridge@svensktbridge.se



Round 1 and 2

3	♠T973	
South	♥Q953	
E-W	♦K765	
	♣6	
♠AK852		♠QJ6
♥J4		♥62
♦Q84		♦---
♣T43		♣KQJ98752
	♠4	
	♥AKT87	
	♦AJT932	
	♣A	

After getting trump support, South with her powerful hand took a chance on slam.

The play is all about avoid giving West a trick for the trump queen. Andersson got a spade lead and when getting in duly started with the trump ace. Voilà!

After East's preempt West is in favour to hold three trumps, but when asking the pair why they found the right path and made the slam for +920 and 11 IMPs, the answer was a bit surprising:

- Female intuition!

In the Open all tables except one bid 3NT on the following:

4	♠Q98653	
West	♥K983	
All	♦9	
	♣KJ	
♠AK2		♠T7
♥5		♥AQT76
♦AK43		♦QJ5
♣AQ984		♣532
	♠J4	
	♥J42	
	♦T8762	
	♣T76	

Round 1 In the Open four tables out of six bid slam on board 3; two were in 6♥ and one in 6♦. In 6♦ avoiding a trump loser is crucial.

The Rimstedt twins doubled 6♥ played by South. The bidding had revealed East likely to be void in diamonds. Ola Rimstedt led a safe spade king then switched to a diamond. A diamond lead could have scored +300 but the twins was happy for their two tricks; one down. 11 imps to Sweden against Iceland.

Allan Livgård-Terje Aa (NO) sacrificed in 6♠ – two down for -500 – but that was 1 IMP for Faroe Islands when 5♥ with an overtrick was played at the other table.

Tuva Nilsmark–Ann-Sophie Andersson, Sweden Blue, was the only pair reaching slam in the Womens series. The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	<i>Nilsmark</i>		<i>Andersson</i>
			1♦
1♠	2♦	4♣	4♥
pass	5♦	pass	6♦
pass	pass	pass	



Ann-Sophie Andersson and Tuva Nilsmark



At the twin's table Ola opened 1♣ as West, North intervended 1♠ and Mikael bid 2♦ showing hearts. Over 2♠, forcing, Mikael came up with club support then Ola was unstoppable under slam, thus he jumped to 6♣ after some more bidding.

Ola won the spade lead, cashed the trump ace noticing the jack from North. Ruffing a spade was not an option, after North's overcall in spades, thus declarer took a winning heart finesse then played a club to the eight – a likely winning line since North should have all defence's values including the king of clubs.

Contract made; EW -1370 and 13 IMPs to Sweden.

8	♠43		
West	♥Q93		
None	♦432		
	♣KJ985		
	♠AJ962		♠K8
	♥KJ85		♥A6
	♦J95		♦AQ86
	♣6		♣AQT32
		♠QT75	
		♥T742	
		♦KT7	
		♣74	

On board 8 we could note a different approach between the two classes. In the Open five tables out of six stopped in 4NT, assumable after an invitational quantitative bid by West. That was wise since there are a maximum of eleven tricks in theory and likely less in practice. In the Women, on the other hand, only one table out of three stopped in 4NT while two tables pushed to 6NT with no success as East-West's hands didn't fit.

Round 2

In the Open Denmark beat Sweden 45-33. Here came 11 IMPs:

6	♠AJ42		
East	♥A2		
E-W	♦Q942		
	♣973		
	♠KT5		♠Q93
	♥QJ5		♥T7
	♦J86		♦AT7
	♣KJ84		♣AQT62
		♠876	
		♥K98643	
		♦K53	
		♣5	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Buus Thomsen</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Hemberg</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
		1♣	2♥
2NT	pass	3NT	pass
pass	pass		

A heart was led to the ace. North continued hearts to South's king and a third round cleared the suit. With one heart trick, five club tricks and a diamond trick, the spade suit had to generate two tricks. At the same time South, with winning heart tricks on hand, had to be left outside the play. Declarer played a club to the queen, then a spade to the king and ace. North returned a spade but Hemberg was up to the task playing low which hold the trick. That was the ninth trick; -600 for EW.

The other table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Lahrmann</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Plejdrup</i>
		1♣	1♥
1♠*	D	pass	2♥
pass	pass	pass	



Here Andreas Plejdrup stole the board by 'only' bidding 1♥. After North's double EW did not see 3NT as an option and Plejdrup could end the auction by bidding 2♥. Declarer took only seven tricks but that was, as we mentioned earlier, worth 11 IMPs.

Also Tor Grude-Christian Bakke bid and made 3NT likewise Louise Hallqvist-Klara Gustafsson in the Women.

On the next board Sweden regained lost ground.

7	♠AJ9
South	♥K8
All	♦J
	♣AQ87432
♠T765	♠84
♥AJ	♥QT7643
♦Q43	♦AK975
♣KJ96	♣---
	♠KQ32
	♥952
	♦T862
	♣T5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Lahrmann</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Plejdrup</i>
pass	1♣	2NT*	pass
3♥*	pass	4♥	pass
pass	pass		

2NT was for the red suits and 3♥ invited to game.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Buus Thomsen</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Hemberg</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
pass	1♣	1♥	pass
1NT	2♣	2♦	pass
pass	pass		

In the Open Room North led the club ace against 4♥ and then it was pretty easy to take ten tricks; EW -620.

At the other table the Danes stopped in partscore just making, and that was 11 IMPs back to Sweden.

Peter Bertheau had to find a clever bid on board 11:

♠AKQ102 ♥AJ3 ♦— ♣AK752

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Lahrmann</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Plejdrup</i>
			pass
1♠	pass	1NT*	2♦
D	3♦	pass	pass
?			

1NT could be weak support in spades. Any ideas?

Double, 4♣ or 4♦ maybe?

Peter jumped to 6♣! Unfortunately for him the contract had no play as the cards lie.

The whole deal which created only eleven tricks was:

11	♠J9
South	♥KQT5
None	♦KJ64
	♣983
♠AKQT2	♠763
♥AJ3	♥87642
♦---	♦Q92
♣AK752	♣QJ
	♠854
	♥9
	♦AT8753
	♣T64

