

Finals: session 2/3

After the first set Poland had a small lead of 22 – 6 IMPs. Players did not change position and neither team had a 3rd pair, so the line up was the same as in the first session with Niajko – Marks against Grönkvist – Mikael Rimstedt and Chodacki – Nowak against Ola Rimstedt – Säfsten.

Grönkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
Pas	1♥	2♥	3♥
3♠	Pas	Pas	Pas

The Swedish stayed low enough here. Niajko led an imaginative ♥ King, catering against a singleton Queen in dummy. South overtook with the Ace to lead a diamond through. North played a 2nd and 3rd round of those, but declarer could now ruff high and give up the Ace of spades with her diamonds good. Declarer lost a spade, two diamonds and a heart. NS -140.

Chodacki	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfsten
Pas	1♥	2♥	Pas
3♠	Pas	4♠	Pas
Pas	Pas		

Säfsten only doubled 2♥ instead of bidding 3♥. Chodacki now jumped to 3♠ as 2♠ could also have been a very negative bid with just 2 spades and showing preference. With genuine support and some playing strength he felt he was worth the jump. Nowak also liked his playing strength with his good club suit and raised to game. Ola Rimstedt led a low heart and Säfsten won to push a diamond through. 1 down, NS +50 and 5 IMPs to Sweden, behind at 11 – 22 now.

16

Niajko
 ♠ J1094
 ♥ 5
 ♦ K86
 ♣ QJ865

Gronkvist
 ♠ K
 ♥ 1062
 ♦ 9743
 ♣ 109743

M Rimstedt
 ♠ AQ7653
 ♥ KQJ8
 ♦ 2
 ♣ A2

Marks
 ♠ 82
 ♥ A9743
 ♦ AQJ105
 ♣ K

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Gronkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
Pas	Pas	1 ♠	2 ♥
Pas	Pas	Pas	

What would you overcall with that South hand? Wouldn't you prefer to make a 2-suited overcall. Marks began with 2♥, probably expecting to be able to bid 3♦ later, but he was left to play there. He went 2 off, NS -100.

Chodack	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfssten
Pas	Pas	1 ♠	3 ♣
Pas	3 ♦	Dbl	Pas
4 ♣	Dbl	Pas	Pas
Pas			

Things got out of hand for Poland at the other table. 3♣ showed the red suits and Rimstedt gave preference with 3♦. Nowak doubled to show extras, probably hoping partner could pass this. But Chodacki could not pass and bid his 5-card suit, a suit he could be expected to bid. North doubled. He led his singleton heart and got two ruffs there. He then made a mistake by exiting with the Queen of clubs to the Ace. Declarer won and crossed to ♠ King to ruff a diamond. Two high spades took care of the other diamonds. The fourth spade was ruffed and declarer only lost one more trump. NS +500 and 12 IMPs to Sweden, overtaking the lead 23 – 22.

Board 17 was interesting.

Board 17

Niajko
 ♠ AKJ6
 ♥ QJ98
 ♦ Q42
 ♣ 32

Grönkvist
 ♠ 8532
 ♥ AK2
 ♦ A987
 ♣ A6

M Rimstedt
 ♠ 10
 ♥ 63
 ♦ K10653
 ♣ QJ1094

Marks
 ♠ Q974
 ♥ 10754
 ♦ J
 ♣ K875

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Grönkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
2SA	1♣	2♣	Pas
	Pas	Pas	Pas

It looked like Rimstedt and Grönkvist had a little misunderstanding here, as the BBO-operator explained 2♣ as either clubs or ♦ + ♥. So it looks like this was West's explanation about East's overcall. From the looks of it Grönkvist tried to find out more about partner's hand by bidding 2NT, but she was left to play there. Niajko led ♠ King and switched to a top heart. Grönkvist now got the diamonds wrong by playing Ace and King, but now it was likely ♣ King was in the South hand, as North did not open 1NT. In the end she finessed ♣ King and made 8 tricks, NS -120.

Not a great result as EW can even make 6♦ by getting everything right. Slam is bit too high, but reaching 5♦ would be OK. The other table did reach diamonds, but just a little low.

Chodack	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfsten
	1♦	2SA	Pas
4♦	Pas	Pas	Pas

NS play a strong club system, so 1♦ shows either an 11-13 NT or minimum opening hands with a 4-card Major. 2NT was minors and Chodacki jumped to 4♦, intended as forcing. He had no cuebid available, since North-South had not shown a suit. So it looks best to play 4minor as forcing now. Maybe 4minor should be forcing in almost all situations some would argue.

On a spade lead and continuation Chodacki got the diamonds right, but played Ace and small club to the King. Dummy otherwise could have lacked an entry for the clubs. NS -150, 1 IMP to Poland.

18

Rimstedt
 ♠ QJ85
 ♥ 54
 ♦ AQJ874
 ♣ 9

Chodacki
 ♠ AK103
 ♥ Q9
 ♦ K10652
 ♣ K8

Nowak
 ♠ 4
 ♥ AK72
 ♦ 93
 ♣ AQ10742

Säfsten
 ♠ 9762
 ♥ J10863
 ♦
 ♣ J653

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Chodacki	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfsten
		1 ♣	Pas
1 ♠	2 ♦	3 ♣	Pas
3SA	Pas	Pas	Pas

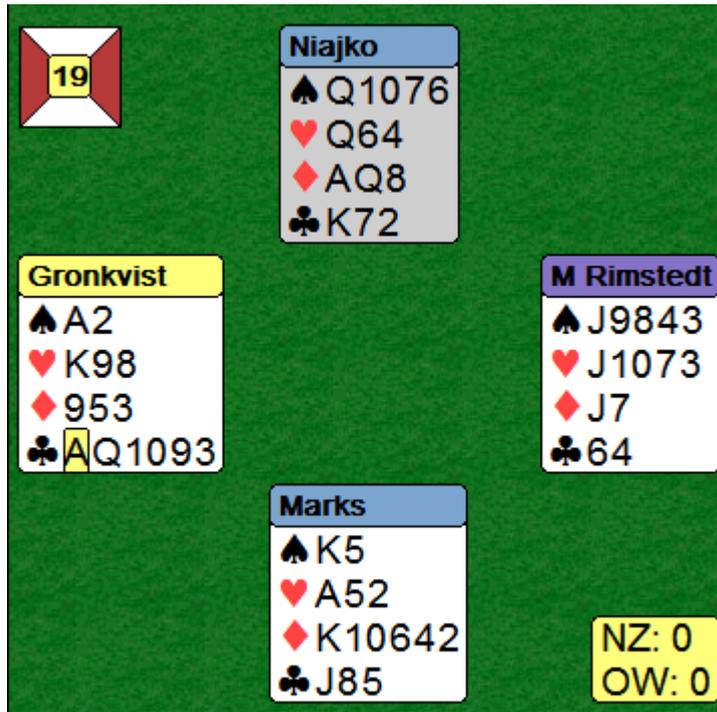
Gronkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
		1 ♣	Pas
1SA	Pas	2 ♣	Pas
2 ♦	Dbl	2 ♠	Pas
2SA	Pas	3 ♣	Pas
3 ♦	Dbl	3 ♠	Pas
3SA	Pas	Pas	Pas

6♣ isn't a bad contract looking at the East-West hands only. But after North's overcall it's worse. Rimstedt and Grönkvist had a relay auction with 1NT being the GF relay. She heard a minimum with 1426, but gave up on slam, as North had doubled 2♦ and 3♦ along the way. So she could expect a diamond lead against 6♣. Both tables 3NT +2, no score. On board 19 Grönkvist faced a lead problem.

	Gronkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
♠ A2				1 ♦
♥ K98	Pas	1 ♠	Pas	1SA
♦ 953	Pas	3SA	Pas	Pas
♣ AQ1093	Pas			

What club would you lead against 3NT? Ace, Queen or 10 (9)?

She chose the Ace, hoping to find either opponent with ♣ Jx or North with ♣ Kx as she could not expect partner to win the lead often. The complete board was:



Played in the South hand 3NT could not be beaten, so it did not really matter now. NS +400.

Would you have overcalled 2♣? Vulnerable against not, with 5332, though very good clubs. At the other table Chodacki did:

Chodacki	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfte
			1♦
2♣	Dbf	Pas	2♦
Pas	3♣	Pas	3♦
Pas	3SA	Pas	Pas

Rimstedt tried to let Säfte bid 3NT, but he did not with just ♣ Jxx, so North became declarer. East led a club and the contract was doomed as Chodacki could easily let go a spade and a heart on the diamonds. 3NT -1, NS -50 and 10 IMPs to Poland, making it 34 – 23.

Board 20 was a push in 5♥ just making.

Board 21 was an exciting deal, even though only 2 IMPs were won by Poland.

21

Niajko
 ♠ Q
 ♥ A109872
 ♦ QJ984
 ♣ 10

Gronkvist
 ♠ 10865
 ♥ J65
 ♦ K1063
 ♣ 87

M Rimstedt
 ♠ K974
 ♥
 ♦ A7
 ♣ AQJ9542

Marks
 ♠ AJ32
 ♥ KQ43
 ♦ 52
 ♣ K63

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Gronkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
	2♥	Dbl	4♥
Pas	Pas	5♣	Dbl
Pas	Pas	Pas	

Niajko opened 2♥, weak with hearts and another suit. Rimstedt doubled first and when 4♥ came round he bid 5♣, safely in his 7-cards suit. East might DBL again as 4♠ could be better, but it is also a lot worse at some times when partner bids it. South doubled and the defense scored 2 spades and a club for 1 down, NS +100.

Chodacki	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfte
	3♥	Dbl	4♥
4♠	Pas	5♥	Pas
5♠	Pas	Pas	Pas

Ola Rimstedt 3♥, expecting the 6-5 to compensate for the lack of a good heart suit. Questionable when vulnerable against not. Partner will expect better hearts and the North hand is excellent for diamonds, a suit that is buried forever. Nowak also doubled and South raised. Chodacki now volunteered 4♠, but as the Polish coach already explained that's not good (he learned this from Balicki). Because when 4♠ is just right, partner will make another move. He will bid over 4♠ so you get too high and he also would not pass out 4♥, so you get another chance to bid 4♠ if you belong there. Nowak made the move here, resulting in 5♠. No one doubled. North led a diamond won in hand to play a spade. Queen-King-Ace. South attacked dummy with a heart. Chodacki now tried the effect of ♣ Queen and Säfte ducked. Declarer ruffed his clubs high now. ♦ King and declarer started playing clubs, but South could ruff each time and scored the last two tricks in the end. One down, NS +50 and 2 IMPs to Poland.

On board 22 Poland took 2 more IMPs for 1NT -1 against 2♦ +1. Board 23 also pushed.

Board 24 was more interesting:

Board 24

Niajko
 ♠ KJ103
 ♥ 7532
 ♦ J87
 ♣ K3

Gronkvist
 ♠ Q52
 ♥ 6
 ♦ K95432
 ♣ AQ6

M Rimstedt
 ♠ A9
 ♥ KJ1094
 ♦ Q10
 ♣ J1095

Marks
 ♠ 8764
 ♥ AQ8
 ♦ A6
 ♣ 8742

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Gronkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
1♦	Pas	1SA	Pas
2♣	2♦	Pas	2♠
Pas	Pas	Dbl	Pas
2SA	Pas	3SA	Pas

1NT was a GF relay, usually balanced and 2♣ showed a minimum with some shortness.

Niajko now entered the bidding with 2♦, showing the Majors and Marks chose 2♠, which would probably make. Rimstedt doubled for take-out and Grönkvist showed her stop and was raised to game. Marks led a club to the King and Niajko returned a club. Declarer played a diamond to Queen and Ace and back came a third club. North bid Majors, remember? Heart to Jack and Queen followed and now South finally led a spade, low, ten, ace. Rimstedt cashed his club (North a spade) and exited with the King of hearts. South played a second spade and North could only cash two of those and declarer had the rest (diamonds in dummy or hearts in hand) for two down, NS +100.

Chodack	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfsten
1♦	Pas	1♥	Pas
2♦	Pas	2♠	Pas
2SA	Pas	3SA	Pas
Pas	Pas		

North led a spade to the Queen and a diamond to Queen and Ace followed. Back came a spade and declarer took the diamond finesse, so North won his Jack to cash 2 spades and 2 hearts for 2 down. NS +100 and a push.

Board 25 proved a disaster for Poland.

25

Niajko
 ♠ A10974
 ♥ K96
 ♦ QJ5
 ♣ 104

Gronkvist
 ♠ J2
 ♥ 107542
 ♦ A974
 ♣ Q5

M Rimstedt
 ♠ KQ863
 ♥ AQ
 ♦ K32
 ♣ A63

Marks
 ♠ 5
 ♥ J83
 ♦ 1086
 ♣ KJ9872

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Gronkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
	Pas	1♠	3♣
Pas	Pas	3SA	Pas
Pas	Dbl	Pas	Pas
Pas			

Marks overcalled 3♣, weak with only 6♣ and a 6-3-2-2 shape, but his partner was a passed hand, so it looked like East-West were up to game or slam so taking up some bidding space could be effective. Niajko doubled 3NT as he felt it could not be made while he stopped the spades. South led a heart to King and Ace. Declarer played a spade to Jack and Ace and North attacked the clubs, South winning the King. South in turn switched to a diamond 8 – 9 – Jack – King. Rimstedt now cashed ♥ Ace and went to the ♣ Queen. He gave up a heart and claimed 10 tricks, NS -950.

Chodack	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfsten
	Pas	1♠	Pas
1SA	Pas	3SA	Pas
Pas	Pas		

No overcall here and West got to play 3NT. Ola Rimstedt led ♦ Jack which ran to the Ace. Declarer finessed in hearts and played a spade to Jack and Ace. North continued diamonds. Chodacki won and returned the suit himself to set up a winner. At the end declarer could not score all his tricks, going one down. NS +100 and 14 IMPs to Sweden.

26

Rimstedt
 ♠ K3
 ♥ KJ5
 ♦ KJ852
 ♣ Q85

Chodacki
 ♠ A
 ♥ AQ9764
 ♦ A4
 ♣ A1074

Nowak
 ♠ J109765
 ♥ 102
 ♦ 6
 ♣ J632

Säfssten
 ♠ Q842
 ♥ 83
 ♦ Q10973
 ♣ K9

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Chodacki	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfssten
		Pas	Pas
1 ♥	Pas	Pas	Dbf
Rdbl	2 ♦	2 ♠	Pas
3 ♥	Pas	Pas	Pas

Rimstedt led the King of spades to the Ace. Declarer took his diamond ruff and ran the ♥ 10 to the Jack. North exited with a spade and declarer had to lose a heart and 2 clubs. 3♥ just making, NS -140.

West	Noord	Oost	Zuid
		Pas	Pas
1 ♥	2 ♦	Pas	3 ♦
4 ♣	Pas	5 ♣	Pas
Pas	Pas		

Stakes were higher at the other table. North led a diamond and Grönkvist tried a low club towards the Jack. North did well to duck, so South won the King. South returned a spade. Declarer ruffed a diamond and played a heart to the Queen and King. Back came a spade, ruffed and declarer tried to ruff a heart but South could overruff and North scored his trump trick in the end. Two down, NS +200. 8 IMPs to Poland.

Board 27 was an interesting hand if East-West could reach 3NT. You need to get clubs right and the luck of the diamond finesse.

27

Niajko
 ♠ 76
 ♥ A653
 ♦ K543
 ♣ 1098

Gronkvist
 ♠ A95
 ♥ 10974
 ♦ AQ108
 ♣ 54

M Rimstedt
 ♠ 1082
 ♥ KQ
 ♦ 92
 ♣ AKJ632

Marks
 ♠ KQJ43
 ♥ J82
 ♦ J76
 ♣ Q7

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Gronkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
			Pas
Pas	Pas	1 ♣	1 ♠
Dbl	Pas	2 ♣	Pas
2 ♠	Pas	3 ♣	Pas

Grönkvist made a game try, but gave up when partner could not produce more than a 3♣ rebid in the third round. Rimstedt won the second spade, gave up a heart, then the King of diamonds and eventually got the clubs right for +1. NS -130.

Chodack	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfssten
			Pas
Pas	Pas	1 ♣	1 ♠
Dbl	Pas	2 ♣	Pas
2SA	Pas	3SA	Pas

Chodacki tried for game using 2NT instead of 2♠ and Nowak accepted with his good club suit. Spade lead ducked once and then Chodacki tried club to the Jack, losing to the Queen. South could cash his spades and played a diamond through so North made a diamond and heart for 3 down. NS +150. 7 IMPs to Sweden.

28

Niajko
 ♠ K6
 ♥ 75
 ♦ KJ972
 ♣ A942

Gronkvist
 ♠ J9842
 ♥ QJ843
 ♦
 ♣ Q103

M Rimstedt
 ♠ 75
 ♥ A1062
 ♦ A654
 ♣ J65

Marks
 ♠ AQ103
 ♥ K9
 ♦ Q1083
 ♣ K87

NZ: 0
 OW: 0

Gronkvist	Niajko	M Rimstedt	Marks
Pas	1 ♦	Pas	1 ♠
2 ♥	Pas	Pas	3SA
Pas	Pas	Pas	

This was a quick one down on a heart lead as declarer needed to give up the ace of diamonds and the defense cashed their hearts. NS -100.

Chodack	Rimstedt	Nowak	Säfssten
2 ♥	Pas	4 ♥	Pas
Pas	Pas		

Chodacki could open 2♥, weak with hearts and another suit and Nowak raised to game. Rimstedt led ♣ Ace and continued the suit. The defense also got their two spades and a heart trick for 2 down. NS +100 and 5 IMPs to Sweden.

This meant at the end of the set the score was:

Poland – Sweden 46 – 49

In the play-off for third place Turkey White beat Israel in a quick match. The score is yet unknown to us.