

Round Robin 3: Italy V Germany

Board 1

North Deals ♠ J 8 5 4 3 2
 None Vul ♥ K J 9
 ♦ J 7
 ♣ 7 2

♠ A Q 9 7 ♥ 5 ♦ A 9 2 ♣ A J 9 8 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 6 ♥ Q 6 3 ♦ Q 10 8 6 4 ♣ Q 6 5 3	♠ K 10 ♥ A 10 8 7 4 2 ♦ K 5 3 ♣ K 10
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
2 NT	All pass		

2 NT by West, Lead: ♥ K, Down 2 — EW -100

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
Dbl	2 ♦ ¹	3 ♦	4 ♥
Dbl	All pass		

¹ constructive with support

4 ♥× by South, Lead: ♥ 5 Down 2 — NS -300

Italy didn't open with the North cards, while the same action is totally in line with Germany's style (and many others too). You might discuss the best way to reopen with West's cards, (indeed many might choose not to reopen at all, and considering that partner definitely won't be very long in spades, as manifested, it certainly isn't a radical decision), but 2♠ was made almost everywhere. In reality, if the defence doesn't attack diamonds (the more popular choice however), it is possible double dummy, but the path to success is narrow.

The real damage, at least from the result, came from the other room where the 2♦ bid by Bianchedi, if I understood correctly (constructive with support), seems rather optimistic, or at least not in line with their agreements, given Madala's action. The defence could have set it by three tricks, and began impeccably by leading trumps (one of only two cards for best defence, the other one being the ♠A). Madala then won the lead and played the 10♠ to the table, West taking it with the queen and continuing with a small spade. At that point, it was however necessary, for East to get West off lead by ruffing and returning a trump, but Jokish continued a club. The first IMPs of the match went to Germany, 9IMP

Neither of the EW pairs succeeded on the deal, but it wasn't easy to reach the best spot of 5♣. You try it.

Board 2

East Deals ♠ K 2
 N-S Vul ♥ 10 8 5 4 3
 ♦ A K 9 7
 ♣ J 9

♠ J 8
 ♥ A K J 7
 ♦ J 10 8 5 3
 ♣ 8 4



♠ A Q 9 6
 ♥ Q 6
 ♦ 6 2
 ♣ K Q 10 6 2

♠ 10 7 5 4 3
 ♥ 9 2
 ♦ Q 4
 ♣ A 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
		1♣! ¹	Pass
1♦! ²	Pass	1♠! ³	Pass
1 NT	All pass		

1 NT by West Lead: ♥ 4 Made 2 — EW +120

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
		1♣	Pass
1♥! ⁴	Pass	1♠	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

¹ Balanced hands open 1♣, including 5♦332

² 4+ ♥

³ natural, less than 3 clubs

⁴ Walsh: bypass minors with a weak hand

3 NT by West Lead: ♥ 5 Down 2 — EW -100

The Italian immediately recovered a good part of the spilled milk of Board 1, thanks firstly to a overbid by EW in the closed room. But to beat the contract it is necessary to stick with hearts, and luckily for him Bianchedi did. The reason for this is anything but trivial. In short - the complete analysis is complex - with a diamond lead (what happens with the clubs and spades is easy to see), West has the tempo and communication to eliminate the red suits from the South hand without damage, to overtake spades starting with the jack, forcing North to cover, and then putting South in with a club, to lead into the Q9 of spades. With a heart continuation instead, North's nine of diamonds impedes the suits being eliminated without damage.

Board 3 ♠ A 10 8
 South Deals ♥ 10 9
 E-W Vul ♦ 10 6 4
 ♣ A 10 7 3 2

♠ J 9 6 5 ♥ A Q J 5 ♦ J 9 7 3 ♣ K	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 4 ♥ K 8 7 4 2 ♦ K 8 5 ♣ Q 6 5	
	N											
W		E										
	S											

♠ K 7 3 2
 ♥ 6 3
 ♦ A Q 2
 ♣ J 9 8 4

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
			1 ♣
Dbl	1 ♠	3 ♥	All pass

3 ♥ by East

Lead: ♣ 8

Down 1 — EW -100

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
			Pass
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	3 ♣	3 ♥	All pass

3 ♥ by East

Lead: ♣ 8

Down 1 — EW -100

The third hand was not very exciting: both EW pairs bid the normal 3♥ contract, and both quietly went the inevitable one off.

Board 4 ♠ K 5 4
 West Deals ♥ J 10 9 5 4 3
 Both Vul ♦ 9 4
 ♣ A 10

♠ Q 9 ♥ A 8 2 ♦ J 10 8 ♣ Q J 5 4 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A J 10 7 6 3 ♥ Q 6 ♦ Q 7 3 2 ♣ 2	
N						
W E						
S						

♠ 8 2
 ♥ K 7
 ♦ A K 6 5
 ♣ K 9 8 7 6

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
Pass	2 ♥	2 ♠	3 ♥
Dbl	Pass	3 ♠	All pass

3 ♠ by East

Lead: ♦ A

Down 1 — EW -100

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
Pass	2 ♥! ¹	Pass	4 ♥
All pass			

4 ♥ by North

Lead: ♣ 2

Down 1 — NS -100

¹Constructive weak two

Playing very undisciplined openings, it's normal for Auken-Welland to guess, and so they did, and this time with success, because 4 ♥, already not a good contract, was a not feasible as the cards lay. 6 IMPs to Germany, leading 15 to 7.

Board 5

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K Q J 6 4

♥ 4 3

♦ 8 7 6

♣ Q 9 8

♠ A 9
♥ K 6 2
♦ Q 4 2
♣ A K 10 7 5

W N
 E
 S

♠ 10 5 3
♥ A J 8 5
♦ K J 10 5 3
♣ 4

♠ 8 7 2
♥ Q 10 9 7
♦ A 9
♣ J 6 3 2

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2♦! ¹	Pass
2♠ ²	Pass	3♣! ³	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥! ⁴	Pass
3 NT	All pass		

3 NT by West

Lead: ♠ K

Down 1 — EW -50

- ¹4+♥ potential canapé
- ²maximum three cards support
- ³canapé
- ⁴clubs shortness

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣!	1♠	Dbl	2♠
Dbl	3♠	Pass	Pass
3 NT	All pass		

3 NT by West

Lead: ♠ K

Down 1 — EW -50

Another hand without a story: 3NT was as inevitable as its failure.

Board 6	♠ Q 7 6	
East Deals	♥ K	
E-W Vul	♦ A 6 5 2	
	♣ A 9 8 3 2	
♠ J 10	N	♠ K 8 5 3
♥ Q 9 4 2	W E	♥ J 8 7 6 5 3
♦ Q 10 9 7	S	♦ 3
♣ Q J 10		♣ K 7
	♠ A 9 4 2	
	♥ A 10	
	♦ K J 8 4	
	♣ 6 5 4	

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
		Pass	1 ♣!
Pass	2 ♣!	Pass	2 ♦!
Pass	2 ♠!	Pass	3 ♣!
All pass			

3 ♣ by South

Lead: ♣ Q

Made 3 — NS +110

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
		Pass	1 ♣
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	All pass	

3 NT by South

Lead: ♦ 9

Made 3 — NS +400

I confess I understood nothing about Auken-Welland's auction, but what is certain is that the two Germans (well, Welland being German is a little improbable: I believe he knows how to say "thank you", "good morning" and little else) stopped in a part score with a combined 25 count and a five card suit, doing well, indeed very well, in theory : 3NT is automatically beaten on a heart lead, and in fact can only make on a diamond lead. But Kasimir selected a diamond and Italy closed the gap to 1 IMP.

And took the lead immediately after:

Board 7
 South Deals
 Both Vul

♠ 9 6 5 4 ♥ 10 8 5 3 ♦ A 10 9 6 ♣ 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A 10 3 ♥ K 4 ♦ K 8 7 ♣ A 10 9 7 3	♠ Q J 8 7 2 ♥ 7 6 2 ♦ Q 4 3 ♣ 6 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

	♠ K ♥ A Q J 9 ♦ J 5 2 ♣ K Q J 8 5		
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West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
			1 ♣!
Pass	2 NT!	Pass	3 ♣!
Pass	3 NT	Pass	4 NT!
Pass	5 ♣	All pass	

5 ♣ by South

Lead: ♠ 5

Made 6 — NS +620

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
			1 ♣!
Pass	2 ♣!	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 ♠	Dbl	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	6 ♣
All pass			

6 ♣ by South

Lead: ♠ 5

Made 6 — NS +1370

Once again, NS's bidding sequence escapes me (but I intend to seek enlightenment), but what is certain is that it was not that great, given that slam is not too bad: it untroubled without a diamond lead, and one can always hope that is what would be led. Should Welland have been the player on lead, I'm ready to bet he'd have put a small diamond on the table, but Kasimir was more prosaic: he chose a spade and Madala gained 13 IMP for Italy, thanks to a more effective bidding sequence.

Board 8
 West Deals
 None Vul

♠ Q J 3 ♥ K Q J 7 5 ♦ Q 7 4 ♣ J 5	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A K 10 9 6 5 ♥ 6 2 ♦ A K J 9 8 ♣ —	♠ 7 4 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ 6 5 3 ♣ A Q 10 9 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

♠ 8 2
 ♥ 10 9 3
 ♦ 10 2
 ♣ K 8 7 6 4 2

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
1 ♥	2 ♥!	2 ♠!	Pass
3 ♥	3 ♠	All pass	

3 ♠ by North

Lead: ♥ A

Made 3 — NS +140

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
1 NT	2 ♦!	3 ♣	Pass
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Dbl	4 ♠	All pass	

4 ♠ by North

Lead: ♥ A

Made 4 — NS +420

Certainly more incisive, and more effective card views by the two Argentinians on the next board. 4 ♠ is a bad contract (it takes spades breaking, with a 4-1 break and a singleton honour declarer could have serious problems, and needs to not lose the queen of diamonds) but unbeatable. Once more, Auken-Welland did the right thing in theory, but in practice another 7 IMPs away.

Board 9
 North Deals
 E-W Vul

♠ 8 7
 ♥ J 10 6 5
 ♦ J 9 2
 ♣ A 5 4 3

♠ A K 10 5
 ♥ K 7 4 2
 ♦ 10 7 3
 ♣ 10 9

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 9 2
 ♥ A 8
 ♦ A 5 4
 ♣ K 8 7
 6 2

♠ J 6 4 3
 ♥ Q 9 3
 ♦ K Q 8 6
 ♣ Q J

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
	Pass	1 ♣	1 ♦
2 ♦ ¹	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	All pass		

3 NT by East

Lead: ♥ Q

Down 2 — EW -200

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
	Pass	1 NT	All pass

1 NT by East

Lead: ♠ 4

Made 4 — EW +180

¹ At least 4♥ and 4♠

This time Italy were exceedingly optimistic, so much so as to end up in a 3NT which without the lead, and a diamond return might have had a chance, but only after divine inspiration in clubs. Duboin did not have enough, an Germany recovered what they had just lost, with interest.

Board 10
 East Deals
 Both Vul

♠	A Q 7 5 2
♥	K 10 5 2
♦	K 10 7
♣	9

♠	K J 8 3
♥	J 8 6 4
♦	A Q J 5
♣	10

♠	9 4
♥	A Q 7
♦	8 3 2
♣	A Q J 7 6

♠	10 6
♥	9 3
♦	9 6 4
♣	K 8 5 4 3 2



West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
		1 ♣	Pass
2 ♣!	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Rdbl	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♥	All pass		

4 ♥ by West

Lead: ♣ 9

Down 1 — EW -100

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
		1 NT	Pass
2 ♣!	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 NT	All pass

3 NT by East

Lead: ♣ 3

Down 1 — EW -100

Donati-Duboin had a serious misunderstanding - Donati thought that it was a "system on" situation, while Duboin believed the opposite - but they landed on their feet. In fact, if it is true that 3NT is unbeatable double dummy, in practice it requires looking through a crystal ball, and Jokish didn't have one at his disposal. The German won the club lead in dummy, and started by finessing a heart and then playing a diamond, remaining in dummy (seeing the end position that develops from this point, it seems that North should take it, but it was an optical illusion as we shall see). Now a heart to the ace. At this point, in order to achieve nine tricks East must play the ♣A, and continue with a diamond to the ace! In fact, the continuation of a diamond puts North on lead for the first time, and whatever he does to get off lead, he is trapped again later. If North takes the first round of diamonds this cannot happen, but then East, having all the necessary communication still

available, can play the ♥J from dummy and the seven becomes good later. Total: a lucky hand for the Italian pair, given that you cannot do better than one trick short in four hearts.

After a sequence of hands with complicated analysis finally a distribution arrived that wasn't really flat but at least the solution was simple and univocal... Unfortunately the bidding sequence from the open room is completely missing on BBO, but it is not relevant (I don't think it was very different to the closed room).

Board 11
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠	J 9 7 6 3		♠	2
♥	J 9 8	N	♥	6 5 2
♦	3	W E	♦	K J 8 6 4 2
♣	K 10 5 3	S	♣	A 8 2

♠	Q 10 8 4	♠	A K 5
♥	7 3	♥	A K Q 10 4
♦	Q 10 7	♦	A 9 5
♣	Q 7 6 4	♣	J 9

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
			Pass
Pass	Pass	Not recorded	

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
			2 NT
Pass	3 ♥ ¹	Pass	4 ♣ ²
Pass	4 ♥ ³	Pass	4 ♠
All pass			

4 ♠ by South

Lead: ♦ 7

Made 4 — NS +420

- ¹ ♠
- ² ♠ fit
- ³ transfer

The next board was the same, and in the same way, but to call it “flat” does not seem right.

Board 12

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 8 4 2
♥ A K Q 8 3 2
♦ 4 2
♣ 9 8

♠ A 9	N	♠ J 10 5 3
♥ J 10 9 5	W	♥ —
♦ K 6	E	♦ A 10 9 8 7
♣ A Q J 6 5	S	♣ K 10 7 2

♠ K Q 7 6
♥ 7 6 4
♦ Q J 5 3
♣ 4 3

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 NT	All pass

3 NT by West

Lead: ♥ 2

Made 3 — EW +400

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
1 ♣	1 ♥	Dbl	2 ♦!
Dbl	2 ♥	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT	All pass		

3 NT by West

Lead: ♥ Q

Made 3 — EW +400

In practice both North's led a small heart, (Auken on lead, and Bianchedi at the second trick, after having started with the ♥Q), and both West's were quick to claim nine tricks. But think a moment to the lead, if North plays a club. For a legitimate chance declarer needs to play a spade from dummy, or even run the ♦10. Not really trivial plays to make. The ♦AK is more likely, but there is no recovery from that.

Board 13

North Deals
Both Vul

♠ K 7 3 2
♥ A 3 2
♦ Q 8 2
♣ Q J 8

♠ J 10 6
♥ K 10 8 6
♦ A K 6
♣ A 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 9 5
♥ J 5 4
♦ 7 4
♣ 10 9 7 6 2

♠ Q 8 4
♥ Q 9 7
♦ J 10 9 5 3
♣ K 5

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
	1 ♣	Pass	1 NT
Dbl	Pass	2 ♣! ¹	Pass
2 ♥	All pass		

2 ♥ by West

Lead: ♥ 2

Made 3 — EW +140

¹ pick a major

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠! ¹
1 NT! ²	Pass	2 ♣ ³	Pass
2 ♥	All pass		

2 ♥ by West

Lead: ♥ 2

Made 2 — EW +110

¹ no major

² like a takeout double

³ pick a major

The game was hard work at both tables, but in the end Giovanni Donati managed one trick more and that was 1 IMP.

The score was 33 – 23 to Italy, and the next two hands increased the margin.

Board 14East Deals
None Vul♠ K Q
♥ A Q
♦ A 9 8 4 3 2
♣ Q 5 3♠ A 8
♥ J 8 7 3
♦ K J 10 7 5
♣ J 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 10 9 6 4
♥ K 9 5 4
♦ Q
♣ K 8 7 2♠ J 7 5 3 2
♥ 10 6 2
♦ 6
♣ A 10 9 4

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦ ¹	1 NT	All pass	

1 NT by North

Lead: ♠ 6

Down 3 — NS -150

¹Natural, but unbalanced

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1 NT	2♣ ¹	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	2♠
All pass			

2♠ by South

Lead: ♣ J

Made 4 — NS +170

¹ majors

To begin, Welland opted for a strange "Pass" after his partner's 1NT, but the same could be said about the even less successful play of dummy, with nothing correctly guessed. Duboin led a spade, which Donati took and played the ♦J, East winning the queen. Another spade to North's king, and from there the nine of diamonds to Donati's ten. Heart switch, and the defence played two rounds. Auken now led a club to the ten, but Giovannino took it, cashed the ♥J and played a heart to his partner's nine. Now Giorgino led the ten of spades, and declarer could have gotten out for down two by taking and returning the suit, but she played the ♣A and finished down three.

Madala extracted a big bid of two spades from the box (two hearts is feasible), and put together ten tricks, helped somewhat, and certainly in no small part by the unfortunate lead of the ♣J by Kasimir. Queen, king and ace, and a spade. Ace from West and another club. Madala played the diamond ace, and ruffed a diamond, played a spade to the king and ruffed another diamond. After the jack of spades and two rounds of clubs East had to return into the heart fork in dummy. 7 IMPs in Italy's favour.

Board 15 decided the match.

Board 15	♠ 8 6 2										
South Deals	♥ K 10 9 8 3										
N-S Vul	♦ K										
	♣ K Q 8 2										
♠ A 5 3	<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 9
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ Q J		♥ A 7 6 5 4									
♦ J 10 8 5 2		♦ Q 9 6									
♣ A J 3		♣ 6 5 4									
	♠ Q J 10 7 4										
	♥ 2										
	♦ A 7 4 3										
	♣ 10 9 7										

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
			Pass
1 ♠! ¹	1 ♥	1 ♠! ²	Dbl
2 ♦! ³	All pass		

1. ♥

2 ♦ by West

Lead: ♠ 2

Made 4 — EW +130

¹ all balanced hands 1 ♣

² like a takeout double, but without 4 spades

³ 5 card suit

West	North	East	South
<i>KASIMIR</i>	<i>BIANCHEDI</i>	<i>JOKISCH</i>	<i>MADALA</i>
			Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	2 ♠
All pass			

2 ♠ by South

Lead: ♥ Q

Made 3 — NS +140

Welland must have thought he had exhausted his hand, as he abandoned the auction early, but I cannot tell you who was correct. Donati's contract was beatable : by sticking to hearts, or even a club honour, but Sabine Auken led a spade, and now declarer had the tempo to gain the advantage. Donati played three rounds of the suit ruffing in dummy, then played the queen of diamonds. Nord tried with the ♣K, and then continued the suit when West ducked smoothly. A fine ten tricks.

The defence conceded a trick more for three spades, and Italy gained 8 IMPs, thus establishing a score of 48-23 (the last hand was flat and fairly trivial).

Board 16		
West Deals	♠ A J 9	
E-W Vul	♥ 10 9	
	♦ 9 7 6 3	
	♣ Q 10 9 5	
	N	♠ K 5 2
♠ Q 10 7 6	W E	♥ 6
♥ A K Q 8 5 3	S	♦ A Q J 8
♦ K 4		♣ K J 7 4 3
♣ 6		
	♠ 8 4 3	
	♥ J 7 4 2	
	♦ 10 5 2	
	♣ A 8 2	

West	North	East	South
<i>DONATI</i>	<i>AUKEN</i>	<i>DUBOIN</i>	<i>WELLAND</i>
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 NT	All pass

3 NT by East

Lead: ♦ 5

Made 3 — EW +600