

2010 Spingold: Cayne vs Rigal  
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## The Spingold International Competition

The quality of play in the big national events at the 3 ACBL NABCs continues to improve, largely because many of the best players in the world come to compete. After first day's play reduced the field from 65 teams to 32, 25 team rosters included foreign players.

A team of players mostly from India took out the #18 seed on the first day. The number 32 seed, anchored by 4 players from or formerly from (Kovachev) Bulgaria ousted the #1 seed on Tuesday. Five of the 6 players on the losing team won the Spingold a year ago.

I had the opportunity to watch the second half of a highly competitive match between team captains Jimmy Cayne and Barry Rigal on BBO Vugraph on Tuesday. After 3 quarters (48 board) the match score was 78 -61, less than 3imps per board. Here were the participants:

4. James Cayne, New York NY; Michael Seamon, Dania FL; Alfredo Versace - Lorenzo Lauria, Rome Italy; Antonio Sementa, Parma PR 43100 Italy; Giorgio Duboin, Torino Italy

29. (35)Barry Rigal, New York NY; Alexander Ornstein, Roslyn Heights NY; Jeff Aker, Briarcliff NY; Brady Richter, Summit NJ; Zygmunt Marcinski, Westmount QC; Bryan Maksymetz, Squamish BC

This match, in particular, highlighted how sophisticated bidding methods can make the difference in a tight match. Here are a few examples:

The last board of the third quarter:

2010 Spingold R32 - Segment 3 of 4

**D** Closed Room Board 48

**W** Versace  
 ♠ KQ10754  
 ♥ AK84  
 ♦ 1096  
 ♣

**N** Ornstein  
 ♠ 8  
 ♥ 53  
 ♦ Q75432  
 ♣ AJ63

**S** Rigal  
 ♠ A62  
 ♥ Q109  
 ♦ K  
 ♣ Q109542

**E** Lauria  
 ♠ J93  
 ♥ J762  
 ♦ AJ8  
 ♣ K87

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Cayne: 70 IMPs  
 Rigal: 61 IMPs  
 Open Room: 5♣x S -2 -300

4♥ West | NS 0 EW 0

Note the Italian's spade raise's preemptive value. Here was the auction at the other table:

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	2♠	3♣
3♥	3♠	Pass	3NT
4♠	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

When Marcinski for the Rigal team raised to 2S, the Italian Duboin was able, at favorable vulnerability to get a 3C call in. The result: 8 imps to Cayne.

On Board 54 the Italians on the Cayne team employed the Gazzilli convention to bid a non vulnerable game missed at the other table. The artificial 2C call promised a stronger than average opener, 2D was also artificial promising at least 8+hcp:

Open Room Board 54 **D**

**W Richter**  
 ♠ Q75  
 ♥ 52  
 ♦ K8743  
 ♣ 974  
 Cayne: 85 IMPs  
 Rigal: 76 IMPs

**N Sementa**  
 ♠ AJ108  
 ♥ 106  
 ♦ 109  
 ♣ KJ653

**S Duboin**  
 ♠ 96  
 ♥ KQJ87  
 ♦ AQJ5  
 ♣ Q10

**E Aker**  
 ♠ K432  
 ♥ A943  
 ♦ 62  
 ♣ A82

Richter Sement Aker Duboin  
 Pass Pass 1♥  
 Pass 2♣  
 Pass 2♦ Pass 3♦  
 Pass 3NT Pass Pass  
 Pass

3NT Sementa NS 0 EW 0

The auction at the other table

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Would you and your regular partner have done anything different?

The Rigal squad had an opportunity to pick up 14 imps on the following deal. You hear this auction:

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♦	1NT	Dbl	3♣
Dbl	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1N promised at least 5 clubs and a 4 card major. You hold this hand and have to find a lead:

Make your choice before looking at the next page.....

**S Marcinski**  
 ♠ J96  
 ♥ 73  
 ♦ K1054  
 ♣ 9532

The full hand:

2010 Spingold R32 - Segment 4 of 4

Open Room Board 59

W Richter

♠ A5  
♥ AJ85  
♦ AQJ763  
♣ 10

N Sementa

♠ K1084  
♥ 64  
♦ 92  
♣ AQJ64

S Duboin

♠ J96  
♥ 73  
♦ K1054  
♣ 9532

E Aker

♠ Q732  
♥ KQ1092  
♦ 8  
♣ K87

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Cayne: 102 IMPs  
Rigal: 76 IMPs  
Closed Room: 6♥ E = +980

6♥ East NS 0 EW 0

If you found the spade lead, one which I think the bidding might have indicated, you will pick up 14 imps. Your LHO must be prepared for a club lead.

The board was a push in 6H when neither South found the killing lead. The auction at the other table was

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

much less revealing. 4S was Kickback 1430 RKC. Credit to the Rigal team for not daisy picking cue bids that could have led to an informative lead-directing double.

You hold:

S Marcinski

♠ AK632  
♥ Q3  
♦ J72  
♣ KQ4

With everyone vulnerable you hear:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	3♥	?

What is your call?

If you take you trot out a 3S call you will be rewarded with 13 imps. This was a pickup for Marcinski and the Rigal squad.

BBO will be broadcasting Spingold competition all week long.