



18th European Youth Team Championships

Riviera Centre, Torquay, England • 7-17 July 2002



DAILY BULLETIN



Bulletin 3

Wednesday, 10 July 2002

Editor: Brian Senior - Co-editor: Peter Gill - Layout Editor: George Hatzidakis

FRANCE HIT FRONT

By defeating Germany 21-9 and Greece 25-4, France moved to the top of the standings yesterday. Second are defending champions Norway, who followed up a 22-8 afternoon win over Finland by beating The Netherlands 17-13 in an important match in the evening. Previous leaders England were well beaten, 7-23 by Czech Republic in the afternoon and have dropped to sixth. The Czechs also beat Austria by 25-4 to post the best total on the day, 48 VPs.



VUGRAPH MATCHES

Czech Rep. - Belgium	10.00
Germany - Israel	14.30
Croatia - Denmark	19.30

ATTENTION SCHOOLS CAPTAINS and PLAYERS

Schools Captains Meeting	1700
Schools Welcome Ceremony	1900

Thursday 11th July
The Carlton Suite at the Riviera Centre

SCHEDULE WEDNESDAY 10th July

10.00	Juniors, Round 7
14.30	Juniors, Round 8
19.30	Juniors, Round 9



National Junior Officials Congress

Thursday 11th July 2002, 10am
Churchill Room Grand Hotel (first floor)

All National Delegates are urged to attend this very important meeting. The EBL Youth Committee will report on the status of Junior Bridge in Europe and the National Delegates will be invited to report on the situation in their own countries. It is extremely important that all Delegates attend this meeting, as there will be a vote to reconfirm the EBL Youth Programme. If the NJO is not present, then the team captain or other official should attend the meeting in their place.

Panos Gerontopoulos Chairman, EBL Youth Committee

JUNIOR TEAMS



RESULTS



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 5

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	bye SPAIN	0 0	0 18
2	BELGIUM NETHERLANDS	30 71	7 23
3	CZECH REP. ENGLAND	56 19	23 7
4	SWEDEN AUSTRIA	20 32	13 17
5	POLAND TURKEY	93 30	25 3
6	FRANCE GERMANY	53 25	21 9
7	ESTONIA GREECE	70 25	24 6
8	SCOTLAND HUNGARY	11 117	0 25
9	ITALY CROATIA	68 22	24 6
10	DENMARK bye	0 0	18 0
11	RUSSIA ISRAEL	48 24	20 10
12	NORWAY FINLAND	62 27	22 8

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 7

1	CROATIA	bye
2	bye	HUNGARY
3	CZECH REP.	BELGIUM
4	SWEDEN	NORWAY
5	POLAND	RUSSIA
6	SPAIN	DENMARK
7	TURKEY	ITALY
8	AUSTRIA	SCOTLAND
9	ENGLAND	ESTONIA
10	NETHERLANDS	FRANCE
11	FINLAND	GERMANY
12	ISRAEL	GREECE

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 6

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	GERMANY bye	0 0	18 0
2	CROATIA SCOTLAND	68 32	22 8
3	HUNGARY ESTONIA	51 39	17 13
4	GREECE FRANCE	15 69	4 25
5	bye ITALY	0 0	0 18
6	SPAIN POLAND	40 64	10 20
7	TURKEY SWEDEN	45 31	18 12
8	AUSTRIA CZECH REP.	25 84	4 25
9	ENGLAND BELGIUM	35 26	17 13
10	NETHERLANDS NORWAY	51 60	13 17
11	FINLAND RUSSIA	39 39	15 15
12	ISRAEL DENMARK	43 32	17 13

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 8

1	bye	CZECH REP.
2	BELGIUM	SWEDEN
3	HUNGARY	CROATIA
4	GREECE	bye
5	GERMANY	ISRAEL
6	FRANCE	FINLAND
7	ESTONIA	NETHERLANDS
8	SCOTLAND	ENGLAND
9	ITALY	AUSTRIA
10	DENMARK	TURKEY
11	RUSSIA	SPAIN
12	NORWAY	POLAND

TEAM PROFILES



In today's Bulletin we have the first of the team profiles, featuring the German Juniors. We would like to publish profiles of as many teams as possible so please get something organised for us. The more humorous the better, but nothing that will

see either the Daily Bulletin or the writer in a court case. OK?

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 9

1	FRANCE	bye
2	CROATIA	DENMARK
3	HUNGARY	ITALY
4	GREECE	SCOTLAND
5	GERMANY	ESTONIA
6	bye	RUSSIA
7	TURKEY	SPAIN
8	AUSTRIA	POLAND
9	ENGLAND	SWEDEN
10	NETHERLANDS	CZECH REP.
11	FINLAND	BELGIUM
12	ISRAEL	NORWAY

RANKING AFTER SESSION 6

1	FRANCE	117
2	NORWAY	116.5
3	ITALY	114
4	ESTONIA	110
5	RUSSIA	107.5
6	CROATIA	105
7	ENGLAND	102
8	POLAND	102
9	HUNGARY	98.5
10	CZECH REP.	37
11	ISRAEL	96.5
12	NETHERLANDS	96
13	DENMARK	90
14	FINLAND	90
15	SWEDEN	84.5
16	BELGIUM	80.5
17	GERMANY	79
18	AUSTRIA	78
19	TURKEY	69
20	SPAIN	66
21	SCOTLAND	45
22	GREECE	42

IOANNA MYLONA



Can you think of a better reason to play bridge?

Sport News



Cycling

Robbie McEwen powered his way to only the second victory of his Tour de France career as he held off the threat of Erik Zabel in another sprint finish. McEwen, whose only other stage victory came on the Champs Elysees in 1999, pulled out of the slipstream of his leading contenders in the final metres. Closely followed by Zabel, he sprinted to the line to successfully hold off the threat of the German in second place. The result, though, was enough to move Zabel into the yellow jersey, having taken a series of time bonuses throughout the stage.



Football

Birmingham City, newly promoted to the English Premiership, have finally secured the services of Paris St Germain midfielder Aliou Cisse in a £4.5m deal. The Senegal captain is Birmingham's second summer signing following the capture of Wales international Robbie Savage from Leicester.

Liverpool have signed French midfielder Alou Diarra on a free transfer from Bayern Munich. The former France Under-20 international has agreed a five-year contract at Anfield and becomes the club's first summer signing. Diarra joined Bayern Munich two seasons ago from French Second Division outfit Louhans-Cuiseaux and was a member of the France squad that competed in the 2001 World Youth Cup.

David Moyes has made his first signing for Everton by clinching the £5m capture of Nigerian World Cup defender Joseph Yobo from Marseille. And Moyes looks ready to swoop again, with Derby goalkeeper Mart Poom set to follow him to Goodison Park in the near future.

Keith Cooper has been sacked as Director of Communications of world football's governing body, Fifa. Cooper is the second high-profile casualty of Fifa president Sepp Blatter's reorganisation following the departure of Michel Zen-Ruffinen as General Secretary prior to the World Cup.



Snowboarding

The International Snowboard Federation has folded after running into financial difficulties. The cancellation of a number of events and the withdrawal of sponsors has been blamed for ISF's downfall. Snowboarders will continue to enjoy extreme competitions as before but these will now be organised by national associations. The International Ski Federation will also continue to stage World Cup board events. ISF, set up a decade ago, was widely regarded as the body which allowed snowboarding competitions to grow on a world-wide scale.



Cricket

England's last match in the qualifying stage of their triangular series with India and Sri Lanka started four hours late and was reduced to 32 overs a side. England were put into bat and scored 229-8. In reply, India were always struggling and were bowled out for 165. Man of the match, Ronni Irani scored 53 runs and took 5 for 26 in his seven overs.

JUNIOR TEAMS **SESSION 3**



ITALY

V

NETHERLANDS



The clash between the early leaders and the pre-tournament favourites is featured, with secondary coverage of the vugraph match between Russia and Austria. Italy's Francesco Mazzadi and Fabio lo Presti came 3rd in the World Junior Pairs Championship in Stargard last year, and the only other medallist from that event who qualified this year for Torquay is Netherland's Bas Drijver, 2nd in Stargard and now partnered by Maarten Schollaardt.

On Board 2, 1999 World Champion Stelio di Bello for Italy held ♠Q6543 ♥J ♦A107 ♣K1082. He passed as dealer, LHO opened 1♥, Double from partner, 3♥ by RHO. He called 4♥ to show a strong 4♠ bid. This was a case of being too well-prepared, as it put a singleton club on lead, dooming 4♥. At the other table, and at both tables in the vugraph match after similar auctions, the normal 4♠ bid avoided the club lead so the contract was made; 10-0 to the Dutch.

Last time I played bridge, my partner and I agreed that every single 2NT call was always forcing. Sure enough, I forgot, and the di Bello brothers (my apologies to Bjorg Houmoller of Denmark for referring to her as a brother in yesterday's Bulletin) did likewise on Board 4, playing in a 29-point 2NT contract; 21-0 to Netherlands.

Board 6. Dealer East. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Lo Presti	Drijver	Mazzadi
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Dbl	4♣	Pass
4NT	5♣	Pass	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

None of the four Norths was willing to bypass 3NT by preempting 4♣ or 5♣ at their first turn to call. Three East/West pairs therefore had enough space to discover that 6♥ is a reasonable contract, and all three had to go down as the cards lay. Maarten Schollaardt ruffed the ♣A lead, cashed ♥A then ♦A, ruffed a diamond with ♥8, ruffed a club, ruffed another diamond with ♥J, cashed ♥K, and ruffed another club. Francesco Mazzadi over-ruffed and played his last trump, killing dummy. Schollaardt exited a club, end-playing North to escape for two off, and a flat board

when the bidding and play at the other table followed similar lines.

The Russian pair stopped in 5♥, which, as we have just seen, is far from routine to make. The lead of ♣8 was ruffed by declarer, Leonid Romanovitch, who wisely finessed ♠Q to make maximum use of the limited entries to the East hand. North won and forced declarer (East) with another club, the best defence. ♦A was cashed, a diamond ruffed, ♠A cashed, a spade ruffed, then ♦K, a diamond ruff, a spade ruff, another diamond ruff, plus ♥K making a total of 11 tricks.

The far-sighted play of the early spade finesse had allowed declarer to set up a cross-ruff without the danger of clubs being over-ruffed. This was the best way to play 5♥, and gained 14 IMPs when the Austrian declarer failed by three tricks in 6♥.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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



Francesco Mazzadi

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Lo Presti	Drijver	Mazzadi
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	Pass	Dbl	INT
			All Pass

Once upon time, players used to pass the South hand - a scattered 12-count with no pips, vulnerable. That would be sacrilege nowadays. The influence of the world's leading bridge coach, Eric Kokish has made 'responding on weak hands' quite common. The Dutch pair had the methods to penalise the Italians: passing on the first round with a hand like Drijver's is often a good approach.

The delayed double asks for the lead of dummy's first bid suit, so Maarten Schollaardt led ♠3. Bas Drijver (whose profession is not what his name sounds like) won ♠K and stopped to think. He tried ♦Q. This fetched the two from declarer and the eight (reverse attitude, thus discouraging) from partner. Bas stopped for more thought. The Italians play a Strong Club system, so 1♦ was either 11-16 natural or canapé with clubs, or 11-13 balanced. The canapé possibility understandably put him off the winning club switch, so he decided on ♥6 which went to the king. Unable to attack clubs from his side, Schollaardt tried ♠2, ducked to declarer who attacked hearts.

Now that declarer had been shown to have three spades, four hearts and presumably four diamonds as West had discouraged them, the club switch stood out. West knows that East has ♠A, ♠K, ♥A, ♦Q and surely ♦A, and thus cannot have much more if South has the points for an opening bid. Thus, from West's point of view, ♣7 would have been a helpful card for East to switch to. However, East made the more traditional play of ♣9 to deny an honour. Perhaps West too can inferentially count out the shape of the entire hand and deduce to continue clubs, but he exited a heart to remove the entry to dummy's spades. Mazzadi won in dummy, played ♦J which won, and cashed out his winners to escape for a penalty of 500, and a 3 IMP gain when his team-mates made 3NT for 600.

If that analysis seemed long, you should have seen how long it took the normally quite fast players to play that hand. Unaware that one slow hand was the problem, the director came up afterwards to tell them that they were two boards behind. Not long afterwards, they were a board ahead!

On vugraph, Mikhail Krasnosselski (who played on Russia's Open Team at the recent European Open Championships in Salsomaggiore) was playing the Polish Club system so he responded 1♦, showing various weak or strong hands, to South's 1♣. West doubled, South bid 1♥, West tried 2♣, 2NT by East, passed by West who thought she had done enough by voluntarily bidding 2♣. The alternative argument is that vulnerable at IMPs scoring, one bids game whenever possible. Perhaps it is East who could have jumped to 3NT. Anyway, 600 in the other room meant only 9 (not 10) IMPs to Russia, because declarer did well to make 10 tricks in 2NT. Whenever you have missed a vulnerable game or any slam, the IMP scale is such that you save one IMP if you can make one more trick than the player in your seat at the other table, assuming that the other table has bid higher than you.

After eight boards, Italy had crept back to trail by 8-21 and on vugraph, Russia led Austria 32-9. On Board 9, many Norths opened 1♥. At the tables where the bidding began 1♥ - (1♠) - Dble - (Pass), North has a tough rebid problem. The English NPC, Jason Hackett thinks 2♠ is best now, although at the table some players tried 4♣. In either case, reaching 7♣ was too hard for everyone except Denmark and Italy.

Board 9. Dealer North. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Lo Presti	Drijver	Mazzadi
Pass	3♦	3♠	Pass
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	7♣	All Pass	

The bidding is not a misprint. The Italian pair's opening bids of 2NT through 3♥ are either transfer pre-empts or strong 6/5 shapes. Their convention card says that 4NT by the opener in general is a cue-bid. This is an interesting treatment that fits into their strong club methods which limit the opener's strength. Perhaps some of you might decide to play these bidding methods, as 7♣ was not reached at the other three tables. This hand is also described elsewhere in today's Bulletin.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Lo Presti	Drijver	Mazzadi
INT	Dble	Pass	1♦
2♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2♦

South opened 1♦ at both tables, leading to a comfortable 3NT, which made easily for a flat board. The INT overcall showed 8-15 points, a 5+ minor and four of the other major; Polish style. The interest lies in the bidding in the vugraph match. In

the Closed Room, South passed and Vladimir Andreev opened 3♣ in third seat, silencing North/South. The defence was good, but would 400 be enough? The Austrian East/West pair on vu-graph butted in, causing problems for their opponents:

West	North	East	South
Kummel	Krasnosselski	Grumm	Malinovski
Pass	1♣	1♥	Dble
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

2♣ doubled would not have been pleasant. Monika Kummel's 1♥ overcall, combined with Iris Grumm's 2♣ call, seems to have prevented North/South from establishing that their flat hands belong in no-trumps. Whenever the weak side bids two suits, it is difficult to call 3NT because there are two suits for which stoppers need to be found.

Board 12 was a gain for Netherlands and Austria when their North/South opponents bid too high on a misfit. Then came a remarkable difference in evaluation by two of the Souths:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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



Monika Kummel

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Lo Presti	Drijver	Mazzadi
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

The Italians bid accurately to the best contract. 2♣ was Precision style, 2♦ and 2♠ enquired, 2♥ being either natural or 'monomax' which presumably means one-suited. 3♠ showed the spade shortage, and South set diamonds before the cue-bids. South realised that his sixth diamond was golden and that the perfect fit more than compensated for the low point count.

There is some danger of promoting ♦J in the play. After ♣A was led, Mazzadi won the second club, played ♠A and ruffed a spade, followed by ♦K, then ♦A on which East's heart discard looked suspiciously like being from a five card holding. Declarer therefore ruffed a club, eventually pitching his third spades on dummy's fifth club for plus 1370 and 12 IMPs in.

It is worth observing the planning involved in winning the second diamond in dummy.

The Russian South took a different view by passing his partner's 2♣ opening bid. This contract failed by a trick, after a spade lead by Monika Grumm and forcing defence. Austria gained 12 IMPs by bidding when Stephan Winkler and Gernot Steiner bid and made 3NT at the other table.

The next few boards were quiet in the Italy-Netherlands match until:

Board 19. Dealer South. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Lo Presti	Drijver	Mazzadi
Pass	1NT	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

2♦ was an artificial enquiry. ♣3 was led to the nine. Lo Presti now played a club to the ace, a vital play of refusing the finesse

that was known to be working! This enabled him to collect four club tricks, and five others, taking the diamond finesse eventually. Well played!

At the other table, South opened 1NT, raised to 3NT. The heart lead was won in dummy and ♣10 won. Another club to the jack resulted in doom, and Italy had gained 10 IMPs.

Had declarer played ♣Q on the second round of clubs, he could have prevailed due to the friendly diamond break.

On vugraph, Mikhail Krasnosselski sitting North demonstrated another stylish way to handle this club suit. He won the heart lead, and pulled ♣Q from his hand towards dummy, to tempt a cover. When it wasn't covered, he unblocked ♣J, played a club to the ace and another club. Later the contract made with the assistance of the diamond finesse, a 7 IMP gain as Austria stopped in 2NT.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A K 10 ♥ A K 7 3 2 ♦ Q 7 4 ♣ Q 4	♠ Q 7 6 3 2 ♥ Q J ♦ 8 5 ♣ A 6 3 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		♠ 9 8 ♥ 9 6 5 ♦ J 10 9 2 ♣ K 10 9 7
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ J 5 4 ♥ 10 8 4 ♦ A K 6 3 ♣ J 8 5											



Fabio lo Presti

West	North	East	South
Schollaardt	Lo Presti	Drijver	Mazzadi
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Mercifully, neither North nor South had anything resembling a penalty double. Perhaps 2NT would not have been natural over 2♥, as it seems like an obvious call, to right-side the club holding while retaining the possibility of staying at the two level. ♥J was led to the ace, and ♣10 finessed. The roof fell in, diamond ruff included.

At the other table, ♥J lead again proved irresistible, but declarer in 3♥ cashed ♥A, ♥K, ruffed a spade and established a diamond, making nine tricks for a significant gain to Italy, contributing to their 22-8 victory.

On vugraph, Krasnosselski found the diamond lead to defeat 3♥, gaining 6 IMPs. ♥Q was the lead against 1♥ at the other table, so Russia gained 6 IMPs to salvage a 15-15 draw.

'Easy' Grand

There was a grand slam available to the North/South pairs in the Junior Round 3 match, but very few pairs got there. England defeated Denmark but it was the Danes who picked up 11 IMPs on this deal by having a nice smooth auction to the excellent grand, England stopping in six at the other table.

Board 9. Dealer North. East/West Vul.

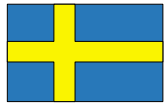
♠ 8 3 ♥ J 5 ♦ K J 9 7 3 2 ♣ 7 5 4	♠ 5 ♥ A K 9 8 6 4 3 ♦ - ♣ A Q 8 6 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q J 10 9 4 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ A 8 5 ♣ J
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ A 7 6 2 ♥ 10 ♦ Q 10 6 4 ♣ K 10 9 2											

West	North	East	South
	Marquardsen		Schaltz
Pass	1♥	1♠	Dble
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	7♣	All Pass	

Martin Schaltz's negative double promised both minors and Andreas Marquardsen's jump to 4♣, setting clubs as trumps in a forcing situation without having to waste space by cuebidding spades, was the key to the successful auction. When Schaltz could cuebid 4♠, Marquardsen asked for key cards and knew that the second one was the ♣K as South had bypassed diamonds for his cuebid. It was easy to bid the grand slam now.

The ace of diamonds lead was ruffed and Marquardsen cashed the ace of clubs then played ace of hearts and ruffed a heart with the ♣9. When the hearts behaved it was a simple matter to draw trumps and claim.

JUNIOR TEAMS **SESSION 4**



SWEDEN

V

CZECH REP.



The highlight of this match was that, although it was originally scored as a 16-14 win to the Czech Republic, on the following day the Swedish team told the Czechs that Board 15 had been scored wrongly, and that the score for the match should be corrected to a 17-13 win to Czech Republic. This good sportsmanship by the Swedish team is typical of junior events, and bodes well for the future of bridge.

At the table, however, the match was fiercely contested, as befits a serious sport. The first auction is from the Closed Room:

Board 3. Dealer South. East/West Vul.

♠ J 10 9 3 2 ♥ 10 5 ♦ K 10 7 6 ♣ 8 4	♠ A Q ♥ A K 7 6 4 ♦ Q 9 3 ♣ Q J 10 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W S E </div> ♠ K 6 ♥ Q J ♦ A J 8 5 4 ♣ A 7 6 5	♠ 8 7 5 4 ♥ 9 8 3 2 ♦ 2 ♣ K 9 3 2
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West	North	East	South
<i>Upmark</i>	<i>Martynek</i>	<i>Cullin</i>	<i>Jelinek</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	4♠
Pass	6♦	All Pass	5♥

Although it failed to reach 6NT, this was one of the better auctions. Anyone can bid to 6NT when opener has 12 points and responder has 21 points, but 18 opposite 15 is difficult for standard bidding systems. The final contracts at the 20 tables were: 6NT making 10 times, 6♥-1 once, 6♦-1 three times, 6♦-2 four times, 6♦-4 (not played perfectly) once and 3NT once.

Seven of the ten matches produced major swings. Although every East/West pair was silent, the North/South pairs managed to produce twenty different auctions! The English made life easy for themselves by responding 2♥ on the South cards to the 1♦ opening. Very few of the other pairs here play strong jump shifts in the 21st Century, but they do have their benefits, such as creating the space to find 6NT instead of 6♦ on this particular hand. Burgess and Birdsall's auction for England was: 1♦ - 2♥ - 3♥ - 3NT - 4NT - 5♣ - 6NT.

Several South players decided to open the South hand INT, protecting their doubleton honours. In particular, the spade holding is one which wants to be in declarer's hand.

The South hand does seem better suited to no-trumps than minor suits, having many points in the doubletons and a lack of texture (e.g. tens and nines) in the minor suits. This factor turns out to be crucial on the actual hand.

Most weak no-trump players decided to re-bid 2♣ instead of INT. On the other hand, the INT rebid both protects ♠K and defines the strength of the hand accurately.

In the Czech auction above, perhaps North could have chosen 6NT, because the jump to 3NT means that the assets are adequate, the club QJ10 look good for no-trumps and the lack of the diamond J10 is a risk in 6♦. I once read an article that gave a detailed explanation of the choice between no-trumps and a suit contract. It said in part to choose the suit contract if you have most of the QJ10 of the suit, and to choose no-trumps if you lack those cards (and to a lesser extent the nine and the king). Similarly, if you're unsure whether to overcall your five-card suit or not, do overcall if you have most of the QJ10, and don't overcall if you lack them. I have found it to be good advice.

Successful auctions, omitting the 6NT bashers, included:

AUSTRIA

West	North	East	South
	<i>Anna Gogoman</i>		<i>Adele Gogoman</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	5♠



Per-Ola Cullin

Playing Polish Club, 1♦ was limited to a maximum of 16 HCP; 2♣ was an artificial relay with many possible hand types; 2♥ was any maximum; 3♥ and 3NT were natural; 4NT asked and 5♠ showed two aces and one king. Responder thus obtained the information necessary to place the contract accurately.

FRANCE

West	North	East	South
	<i>De Tessieres</i>		<i>Bessis</i>
			INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Simple. Check for heart support, then play 6NT with a minimum of 33 HCP and no suit worth playing in.

DENMARK

West	North	East	South
	<i>Henriksen</i>		<i>Gjaldbaek</i>
			1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♦
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

2♦ was an artificial enquiry, the rest basically natural and sensible. Those who rebid 2♣ over 1♥ generally ended up in 6♦.

Returning to the Open Room:

Board 6. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Pulkrab</i>	<i>Sivelind</i>	<i>Vozabal</i>	<i>Ericsson</i>
		2♥	2♠
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

2♥ showed 3-8 HCP and a five-card suit. ♥A was ruffed, and declarer finessed a spade towards dummy at trick two, losing to



Petr Pulkrab

the jack. A diamond ruff meant only nine tricks for declarer. West had taken a while to double, so the inference that he must have a trump trick was probably unsound, and there were serious control problems if West had four spades anyway. That was 12 IMPs to Czech Republic, when the Czech declarer drew trumps in the same contact at the other table.

Nine of the ten matches turned over 5 or more IMPs on Board 6. On vugraph, the Spanish South opened 2♠, West doubled, North bid 3♠, 4♥ by East and 5♠ (!) by South, down one doubled. At the other table, Ronny Joerstad (whose name is spelt correctly today) passed, West opened 1♣, East responded 1♥ and Ronny came to life with 4♦. 4♥ by West, 5♦ by North, doubled by West. South ruffed the heart lead and led a club to the king, West ducking as he hardly expected South to have both a void and a singleton. 550 was worth 12 IMPs to Norway.

South for Sweden was promptly dealt a series of difficult hands, not exactly what one would like after having an unfortunate result on Board 6. Board 7 involved stopping delicately in 5♣ which made five, and Board 8 was a bidding puzzle:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South	West	North	East	South
Pulkrab	Sivelind	Vozabal	Ericsson	Upmark	Martynek	Cullin	Jelinek
Pass	INT	Dble	Rdbl	Pass	1♦	Dble	Pass
2♣	Pass	Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass		
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣				
5♦	Pass	6♠	All Pass				

INT showed 14-16 HCP. Many good players deduct a point for featureless 4333 shapes. Double showed a one-suiter, playing DONT. Watching Kjell Ericsson, I thought he did well when the bidding tray emerged from the other side of the screen after 4♥, not with the routine pass from partner, but with 4♠. What could it be? A cuebid, agreeing hearts? How could partner make a slam try when he has no top heart honours? Could 4♠ be natural? INT was allowed to have a five-card major. Could partner perhaps have six spades? Kjell bided his time with a 5♣ cuebid, then boldly jumped to 6♠ after partner's cooperative 5♦ cuebid. There was some delay on the other side of the screen; presumably North, having cuebid 4♠, was somewhat surprised by the turn of events where he seems to have intended 4♠ as a cuebid but happened to have good spades, and he may have had some difficulty explaining the auction to his screen-mate East.

Daniel Sivelind ruffed ♣A lead, crossed to ♦A, ruffed a club, then ♦K, a third club ruffed high, three rounds of trumps then hearts, making six when hearts didn't break. 11 IMPs to Sweden, making up for Board 6.

I did report that this match was competitive. East, whose screen-mate had earlier called the director about a hesitation, called the director to check whether everything was OK. After all, had he led a heart, then after ruffing the three club losers in dummy declarer has to exit a diamond in order to get back to hand to draw trumps, allowing West to ruff the third round of diamonds in order to give East a heart ruff, so 6♠ might fail on a different lead amongst other things. As in the previous director call, the directors determined that there was no problem.

In another match, the English declarer in the same contract elected to ruff only two clubs, surviving if spades are 4-1 or if hearts are 4-1 onside. When this failed, his Italian opponents scrambled 6VPs from a match which would have been very one-sided had 6♠ made.

Norway gained 11 IMPs on vugraph when they made 4♥ and Spain failed in 6♥.

Returning to the Closed Room:

Board 12. Dealer West. North/South Vul.

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

I know many players who with the West cards would jump in hearts without noticing that the suitable vulnerability and good diamond pips make defending 1♦ Doubled very attractive. Johan Upmark and Per-Ola Cullin for Sweden came 10th and 14th respectively out of 220 pairs in last year's World Junior Pairs Championship, so their bridge must be respected.

The textbook lead in this situation is a trump, and Per-Ola Cullin duly obliged. Declarer won ♦A, lost a spade to the ace, won the spade return, lost a spade ruff and a couple of hearts, and emerged with six tricks for minus 200.

At the other table, North opened INT, and East used the DONT convention, an American invention that in this case led to the 4-2 fit of 2♠ which went down one on a trump lead. 6 IMPs to Sweden, who lost 14 -16 (later changed to 13-17; see first paragraph of this article) to Czech Republic.

On vugraph, both East/West pairs don't play DONT. The Spanish East passed over INT. South for Norway replied 2♣ to INT, 2♦ from West, a greedy double by North, rescued to 2♥ by South (making 4♥ unreachable for East/West), converted to 2♠ by North, down one.

The Spanish North at the other table opened 1♦, East doubled, South called 1♠ and West 4♥. Stian Sundklakk for Norway ducked ♠K lead, won the spade continuation in dummy and led a diamond to the king and ace. He ruffed the next spade, and played a heart to the jack followed by ♥A felling the king. When a diamond was led from dummy, South fell from grace by ruffing, allowing declarer to make 4♥ easily. Had South discarded, Barry Rigal points out that West would have won ♦Q and drawn the last trump. North must retain all his diamonds, so must pitch a club. Now a club to the ace and a club ruff reduces North to just diamonds. The ♦3 exit completes the endplay, so 4♥ will make anyway.



David Vozabal

A troublesome start for the Netherlands

by Kees Tammens

Working with Dutch juniors since the European Championships in Palaiseau in 1992, the first days of a tournament are always very exciting for the coach. How will the pairs cope with the conditions? Will the discussions about the bidding system have any positive results? Will all players be able to concentrate?

Mysterious forces in sport seem to influence sportsmen in unpredictable ways. Form is a fascinating phenomenon. As for the Dutch juniors, in the first four matches there seemed to happen nothing in favour of the Dutch; the cards had syrup on the backs and clouds flew through the minds.

The problems were often too hard to handle. What would you bid as East with:

- ♠ Q 2
- ♥ A 5
- ♦ A Q J 9 2
- ♣ A 10 9 2

Vulnerable, after a tedious start by the German opponents in Round 1?

Board 19. Dealer South. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♥	???	2♦

Double with only doubleton in spades? Or 3NT as the obvious move? Bas Drijver chose 3NT and now the ball was in the corner of West, Maarten Schollaardt. Did partner hold a heart stopper and seven solid diamonds or was he strong and balanced. West gambled on the first - wrong he was. 3NT was one down with 5♣ or 4♣ cold, and 12 IMPs away against 5♣ at the other table.

The Dutch recovered on the last board of the match:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 8 6 2 ♥ 5 ♦ A Q 4 3 ♣ A J 8 7 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A J 9 7 ♥ A Q J 9 ♦ 5 ♣ Q 6 5 3	♠ K 10 3 ♥ 10 8 7 3 ♦ 8 7 2 ♣ K 10 9
N						
W E						
S						
	♠ Q 5 4 ♥ K 6 4 2 ♦ K J 10 9 6 ♣ 4					
West Pass Pass Pass Dble	North 1♣ 1♥ 4♥ All Pass	East Pass Pass Pass Pass	South 1♦ 3♥ Pass Pass			

An uncharacteristic pass by West, first in hand, and a very speculative double started and ended the bidding. East led a diamond for the jack and queen and West returned a spade, ducked to ♠K and the ♠10 came back. Declarer took with the ♠J and played two rounds of trumps with ♥Q and ♥K. The ♦K was covered with the ace and ruffed with ♥J, followed by the ♥A, then two rounds of spades, East discarding his last diamond. A club was ruffed and the ♦10 ruffed by East, who played ♣K and a club to the ace for down two and +500 for a 9 IMP gain against the 100 (4♥ undoubled down one) at the other table, good for a small win (16-14).

Look what could have happened if declarer takes ♠Q at trick three and plays ♦K to the ♦A and ♥9. One round of trumps is drawn with the ♥A (did not the double reveal a four-one break?). Two rounds of spades are played and East may not ruff as declarer then throws a club from dummy and dummy is high. So East discards his diamond and dummy's club goes anyway. A club is ruffed, followed by a good diamond, North discarding a club. East can ruff and play a trump back but dummy



Bas Drijver

is again high, while a club return is ruffed in dummy and declarer crossruffs the last three tricks with ♠QJ and ♠K, East under-ruffing!!

Match two against the Greek on vugraph.

Proverbially, you expect some Greek gifts but the Greeks juniors decided to give nothing away for free.

On Board 5 The Netherlands 'struck' for the first time, bidding and making 4♠ doubled with two overtricks, beating the 5♠ doubled and just made by the Greeks at the other table. The Greek juniors decided not to weaken and played a tough game. A lucky twitch gave the Dutch a non-vulnerable game.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	All Pass	



Maarten Schollaardt

The Greeks stopped in a partscore with 3NT only depending on ♥A. Drijver/Schollaardt certainly would bid on to game and with ♣QJ1096 on lead 3NT would be defeated in due time.

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

North, Bas Drijver, is a fervent adversary of bidding NT on ace-doubleton in the suit the opponents are likely to lead. So he answered 2♠ to his partner's fourth suit, to express a good hand with five diamonds and four spades (with five spades North opens 1♠) and with six diamonds and five spades North bids 3♠ after 2♠.

Now West was on lead. A club from the not very promising four-card suit? No, ♠K looked more aggressive. Declarer won the ♠A and played a spade back for nine tricks and an 18-12 win.

The Netherlands started well against the Italians in the next round but lost their advantage on Board 9 where a peculiar convention had a good result.

Board 9. Dealer North. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Lo Presti</i>	3♦	<i>Mazzadi</i>	Pass
Pass	4♣	3♠	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	7♣	All Pass	

3♦ showed either a pre-empt in hearts or a game-forcing heart/club two-suiter. South showed the ♠A with 4♠ and again with 5♠. North tried for seven with 5NT and surprisingly bid it himself when South signed off in 6♣. Nobody knows why, but the result satisfied the Italians.

Both Dutch pairs made some minor mistakes until another Italian slam decided the match.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Lo Presti</i>		<i>Mazzadi</i>
	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

The juniors have inherited some Italian magic in slam bidding. The club ace lay friendly and there were no other bad breaks so Italy scored 1370 and the Dutch had to swallow a nasty defeat (8-22).

The Dutch team makes no secret of its desire to compete for the prizes but after this start everybody was rather quiet. Time for npc, Schelte Wijma, assisted by the coach, to boost the confidence before the match in the fourth round against Scotland.

The Scottish juniors maybe are inexperienced but they gave the Dutch a fierce battle. And again Board 20 decided the final margin.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	2♥	2NT	All Pass

Two Hearts by North on the second round of bidding! An exotic psychic the elderly coach never saw before (and would advise his players not to do). In these days of take-out doubles East could not double 2♥ for penalties so 2NT became the final contract, making eight tricks while the Scottish East/West pair bid 4♥ and scrambled home ten tricks for a nice 620. Netherlands booked a modest win (18-12) but still remains hidden in the middle of the rankings.



German Team Profile (Juniors)

Jenny Ewald (21) studies technical biology in Stuttgart and is the only lady on the team. She has placed well in many German championships and was on the Schools team representing Germany in Antalya two years ago together with her long-time partner, who is:

Martin Stoszek (22). Martin studies psychology in Frankfurt and managed to check in at Frankfurt airport on Saturday but never boarded the plane. While the rest of the team was having dinner at a bar in Torquay and was still wondering whether he would arrive in time for play he suddenly showed up, having taken a bus from London.

Matthias "Sancho" Schueller (24) was on the Schools team that took the gold medal in Cardiff 1996. He successfully plays in Germany's 1st division and is a certified tournament director. He is playing with:

Andreas "Bonzai" Sauter (24), who is making his first appearance on the international stage. Also being a player in Germany's 1st division and having achieved good results on the national level he is forming a strong first time partnership with Matthias.

Andreas "Corny" Kornek (24) is playing his 3rd European Championship and is a regular participant in the German 2nd division. He was on the team that took the bronze medal in the European Universities Championship last year. He is playing with:

Nils Bokholt (25), who also plays in Germany's 2nd division. Nils is studying computer science in Giessen and also was on the bronze team from Rotterdam.

The team's npc is **Claus Daehr**, who is a bridge professional from Cologne.



EBU Chairman's Dinner

The EBU Chairman's Dinner for National Junior Officers will be held on Friday 12th July.

Please reply to your invitations by 13.00 on Thursday 11th July at the latest.



Israeli Inspiration



Israel has a good tradition in Junior bridge and ended day two within 10 VPs of the lead in eighth place. Will Israel qualify for the World Championships again and have the opportunity to improve on last year's silver medal? It is too early to say, but they are certainly doing some good things at these Championships, as witness these three deals from Monday's matches.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

We have seen this deal before, of course. In the Closed Room of Israel's Round 2 match against Croatia, the Croatians bid the North/South cards to 3NT - North opened 1♠ and rebid 3NT over the INT response. Ophir Reshef led a low club to dummy's bare ace and declarer cashed a top spade then crossed to the ♥Q to play a spade up. When Eldad Ginossar won the fourth spade, he led a low club and declarer misguessed, putting in the ten, and the contract was defeated.

West	North Hoffman	East	South Lellouche
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♣	Pass	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♦
All Pass		Pass	5♦

The deal suited the Israeli methods nicely. Ron Hoffman's 2♣ rebid was artificial, showing any 17+, and Dror Lellouche showed 5-7 with his 2♦ bid. Now 2♥ set up a game-force and the rest of the auction was essentially natural. There was, of course, no problem in making 5♦, and Israel had a well-earned double-figure swing.

In Round 3, Israel met Estonia who, like Croatia, were having a good day and ended it near the top of the table. Ophir Reshef had to play well to flatten this deal for Israel.

Board 2. Dealer East. North/South Vul.

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

In the Closed Room, the Estonian East opened 2♠, showing a weak hand with at least five-four in spades and a minor, and West responded 3♥, invitational in spades. East accepted, of course and South led a heart. Declarer had no problems, being able to play ace and another trump and losing just one spade, one club and one diamond for +420.

The Israelis do not play the weak two-suited openers so in the Open Room South got to open 1♥. When North made a preemptive raise to 3♥, Ginossar doubled for take-out and Reshef jumped to 4♠ in response.

Here, the lead was the much more challenging club singleton. South won the ace and returned a club for North to ruff. A heart switch went to the jack, king and ace and Reshef led the ♦J to dummy's ace. On this trick, South hesitated before following with the eight, giving declarer a crucial clue. Surely, thought Reshef, the hesitation indicated that South had considered unblocking from honour-doubleton. The bidding marked South with precisely five hearts and the early play with four clubs. He was then 2-5-2-4 and North was down to a singleton spade. As South had most of the defensive high cards, he was likely to hold the ♠K. Accordingly, Reshef led the ♠Q and scooped the missing honours to make his game.



Ophir Reshef

Israel had a tough schedule and their final match of the day was against France. They were just pipped by 14-16 VPs, but gained a game swing on the following deal:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

The French North/South pair bid to the perfectly reasonable heart game which failed on the bad breaks. For Israel, Hoffman and Lellouche did rather better. After the French East had opened 1♣, Lellouche overcalled 1♥ and Hoffman responded 2♣, an artificial force. When Lellouche rebid 2♦, Hoffman took him to not only have diamonds but also an above minimum hand. He jumped to 3NT and that contract proved to be unbeatable. East tried an imaginative ♣J in hope of pinning a bare ten and Hoffman won the king and returned the ♣Q to the ace. East switched to his singleton heart in response to West's discouraging diamond discard, and that went to the nine, ten and king. Hoffman took the heart play at face value and crossed to a top diamond to lead a heart to his seven, picking up the suit without loss. From here he had twelve tricks - five hearts, five diamonds and two clubs. Nicely played!

In case you are wondering why we have so many Israeli hands in the Bulletin, it is because they come and tell us about their successes, which we greatly appreciate, not because we spend all our time watching them. We would love to include hands from every team in the Championships, so please bring your good stories to the Bulletin Room and you too can have your 15 minutes of fame.



IBPA Lunch

The IBPA Lunch will be at 1.00 pm on Thursday July 11th. The venue is Orestone Manor, Rockhouse Lane, Maidencombe, Torquay. A map is available at the Hospitality Desk.

If anyone intends to go to this lunch and has not yet put their name down, please do so as soon as possible to the Pressroom Manager or the Hospitality Desk.

Good Judgement

Many pairs had problems in getting to a making game on Board 19 of the Sunday evening match. One pair who showed how it could be done was Israel's Eldad Ginossar and Ophir Reshef.

Board 19. Dealer South. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Reshef		Ginossar	
Pass	3♥	3NT	2♥
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
			All Pass

The 2♥ opening was weak and the Hungarian North made a pre-emptive raise to 3♥. Ginossar had to do something with his 17-count and could hardly double when holding only a doubleton spade. He bid 3NT and the spotlight turned to his partner. Reshef did very well to judge to transfer to spades, perhaps imagining that the heart raise on his left marked his partner with something like ♥Kx or ♥Ax. Four Spades was always going to be comfortable as the cards lay, but the diamond opening lead made life still easier and Ginossar did not have to lose a heart trick. With Hungary playing 3NT down one at the other table, Israel picked up a very useful 13 IMP swing on the way to their 24.5-1.5 VP win.



Eldad Ginossar

The 2001 World Junior Teams Final

Set - Three and Four



Israel went into the third session 79 IMPs adrift with USA 1 leading by 106-27, but they soon picked up 10 IMPs, when their Closed Room pair scored an unmakeable game:

Board 34. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ K Q 6										
	♥ 9 8 7 5 3										
	♦ 6										
	♣ J 8 5 2										
♠ 10 7 5 4 2	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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 8
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ J 10	♥ A 6 4 2										
♦ 7	♦ A K 9 8 4										
♣ A Q 9 6 4		♣ K 10									
	♠ J 9 3										
	♥ K Q										
	♦ Q J 10 5 3 2										
	♣ 7 3										

West	North	East	South
<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Schneider</i>
		1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Schneider listened carefully to the auction and finally led the nine of spades, as it was possible that East might even have had a singleton spade on this auction. Roll covered the ten with the queen and Wooldridge won with the ace to cash three rounds of clubs and two top diamonds.

When Wooldridge then tried a small heart from his hand, Schneider won, cashed all his diamonds and played another spade for North to cash out for three down and +150 to Israel.

West	North	East	South
<i>Liran</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Warszawski</i>	<i>Mignocchi</i>
		1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the Closed Room Israel played in 3NT by West and got the lead of the king of spades. Declarer took the spade lead with dummy's ace and ducked a small diamond to South's ten. Mignocchi then cashed the jack of spades and switched to a club.

When North erred and inserted the jack, all declarer had to

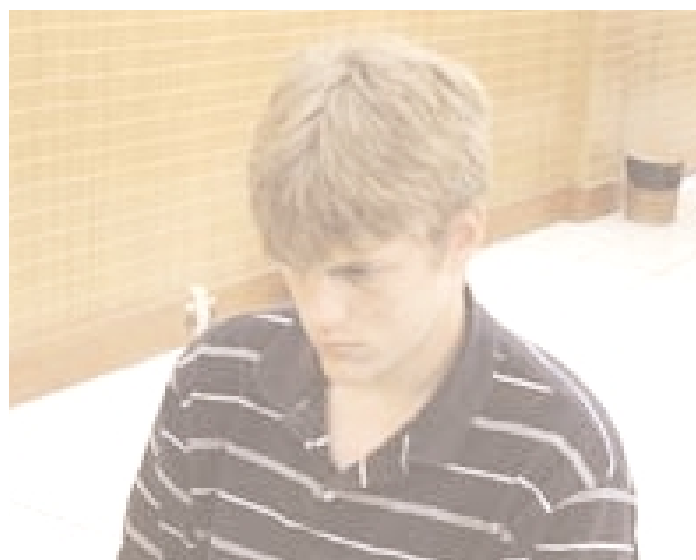
do was put up the king and sail home with five clubs, two diamonds and two major aces; Israel +400 and 11 badly needed IMPs.

Only a few boards later, Israel had the chance to score again, when their North/South pair turned in an excellent result by reaching a difficult slam:

Board 37. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ 10 9 3 2										
	♥ Q										
	♦ 10 7										
	♣ A K Q 10 6 3										
♠ 8 7 6 5	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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		♠ -
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ 9 7 2	♥ A K 10 8 4										
♦ K 8 5 4 3	♦ Q J 9 6 2										
♣ 9		♣ J 5 4									
	♠ A K Q J 4										
	♥ J 6 5 3										
	♦ A										
	♣ 8 7 2										

West	North	East	South
<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Schneider</i>
		1♣	3♥
5♦	5♠	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass



John Kranyak

West	North	East	South
<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Schneider</i>
2♠	Dble	Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾
Pass	3♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♠ ⁽³⁾
Dble	3NT ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	4♥ ⁽⁵⁾
All Pass			

- (1) Lebensohl, showing a weak hand
- (2) Too strong to bid the Lebensohl 3♣
- (3) Cuebid, spade control and a maximum for the 2NT bid
- (4) Serious 3NT
- (5) Nothing more to show

I think we would all give the artistic impression marks to the second auction but, sadly for Israel, there is no such thing in bridge and they had to settle for a flat board when the more straightforward American auction proved to be equally effective in getting to the best spot.

USA I kept up their strong performance to win the third set and increase their overall lead to 144-40.

The fourth session of the final was not played on vugraph and the only information that appears to have been recorded was for the bidding in the Closed Room, making it impossible to give proper coverage here.

In the fourth session Israel, trailing by 40-144 at the half-way point in the final and needing points fast, came out firing on all cylinders and racked up 32 IMPs without reply on the first six deals. This was their most spectacular gain:

Board 50. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

	N	
W	N W E S	E
	S	

♠ K Q J 9 7 4
♥ 10
♦ A K J 5
♣ 10 5

West	North	East	South
<i>Amit</i>	<i>Grue</i>	<i>Vax</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
2♥	3♦	Pass	1♠
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♦	All Pass	4♠

When North decided his club control was of no interest to South, USAI stopped in game, certainly reasonable but it cost 12 IMPs, as Roll and Schneider bid 6♦ in the other room for +1370.

Board 59. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

	N	
W	N W E S	E
	S	

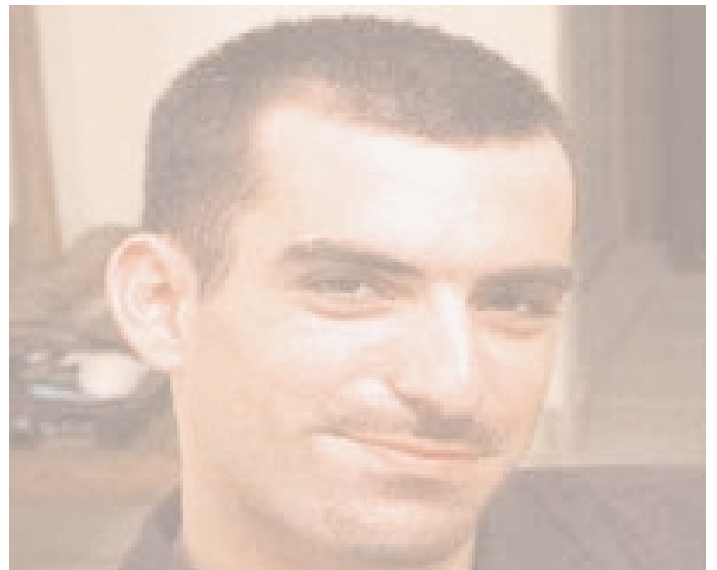
♠ Q
♥ K J 10 6
♦ A J 10 5 3
♣ 10 8 5

West	North	East	South
<i>Amit</i>	<i>Grue</i>	<i>Vax</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

This was a reasonable proposition but when declarer failed to divine the location of the queen of hearts the slam had to go one down.

Israel stopped in game at the other table and made eleven tricks to pick up 11 IMPs.

After 12 boards Israel were leading by 53-14 IMPs on the set and appeared to be making the inroads they needed into the American lead. However, USAI scored 5, 6 & 5 IMPs on three of the last four boards to maintain a healthy lead of 174-93 with just 32 boards to play.



Yossi Roll



The All-Time Bridge Greats

3. P. Hal Sims

Phillip Hal Sims (1886-1949) was one of the very best American Whist players and later a member of the highest ranked team, the Knickerbocker Whist Club team, at Auction Bridge. That team included some other great names of the time: Sydney Lenz, Winfield S. Liggett, George Reith and Ralph Leibenderfer.

Born in Selma, Alabama, Sims represented American banks in various foreign countries from 1906-1916, then, in 1917, while a member of the US Army Air Corps, he met Dorothy Rice, whom he married. Dorothy was also to be one of his major bridge partners in years to come.

After World War One, Sims devoted most of his energies to sports and to bridge. As well as being a champion at all forms of bridge, he was an all-around games enthusiast and very talented at a variety of athletic pursuits. He won many medals for trap-shooting and held a national record, posted consistent scores in the mid-seventies on the golf course, was a mean billiards player, and had won many tennis trophies in his younger, and slimmer, days.

By the advent of Contract, Sims was a giant of a man, both intellectually and physically. Standing at six feet four inches and weighing around 300 pounds, his sheer presence could cow the more faint-hearted of his opposition before a card was played.

His favourite intimidatory pose was to rock backwards and forwards in his chair a couple of times, take a mouthful of iced liquid from a tall glass, and then look challengingly at each opponent in turn, all the while his teeth audibly crunching the ice. If the above picture makes Sims sound a rather daunting personality, it should be added that he was actually a very popular man, a great raconteur and possessed of enormous personal charm.

And while he was not averse to taking what psychological advantage he could, Sims was also a very fine technical player and, as we have seen with Culbertson, such table manners were not frowned upon as might be the case today. He was an expert on percentages and the laws of chance and had a prodigious memory and sharp eye. He was noted for being able to spot any marked deck of cards used against him very quickly and on one occasion while playing in a tournament he reeled off his opponents' cards exactly. Then he called the tournament director and explained that he had recognised the deal as one which had been played some days before and which had not been redealt.

Along with Willard Karn, David Burnstine and Oswald Jacoby, Sims formed a team which came to be known as the Four Horsemen. From 1931-33 they dominated the tournament scene, winning many of the major domestic events.

When the Four Horsemen split up, Sims began to play more and more of his bridge in partnership with his wife. Despite the self-publicising efforts of Ely Culbertson, the Sims System still had the largest following among the expert community up to 1935. Then Hal and Dorothy played a big challenge match against the Culbertsons.

The 150-rubber match resulted in a convincing win for Ely and Jo by a margin of 16,310 aggregate points and the Sims System soon faded out of use among experts and the masses alike.

Hal and Dorothy made a contrasting pair at the bridge

table. Hal was a fine declarer and extremely accurate defender and took few chances, preferring to utilise his familiarity with the percentages of a situation.

In contrast, Dorothy was only a moderate card player and liked to 'bid them up'. Her greatest strength was probably her knack of steering the auction so that her stronger partner tended to become declarer.

Dorothy is also credited with introducing the psychic bid to the game. For a few years, psyching was very much in vogue and could be very effective when well timed. Of course, the bridge authorities did not police psyching situations in the way that they do today. It was quite acceptable to make allowances for the possibility of partner's having psyched in a way which would not be permitted now. So, the odds in favour of psyching were considerably better than they are today.

Sims himself was not averse to psyching but he had the discipline to live with whatever situation his psych put him in and see it through. Take this hand where he partnered the formidable Waldemar Von Zedtwit

Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 10 9 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td style="background-color: black;"></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 4 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ Q 10 8		♥ J 6									
♦ K Q 10 7		♦ A J 9 5									
♣ 10 5 4		♣ J 8 7 2									
	♠ K J 8 7 5										
	♥ 4										
	♦ 6 4 3 2										
	♣ K 9 3										

North	South
Von Zedtwit	Sims
3♥	1♠
4♣	3♠
6♠	4♠
	Pass

When you psych your hope is that the hand belongs to your opponents and that you will disrupt their bidding. You do NOT want to hear a strong response from partner. Here, Sims opened the South hand with 1♠ as dealer and Von Zedtwit responded 3♥, game-forcing and showing slam interest. Sims rebid his spades and bid them a third time when Von Zedtwit bid 4♣. Finally, he was raised to 6♠. Sims' discipline in keeping the bidding open earned him a rich slam bonus.

West led king and a second diamond, forcing dummy to ruff. Sims cashed the other spade honor, played a club to his king and drew the outstanding trumps, then ruffed out the hearts and got back to dummy with ♣A to cash them - no problem.

After the Culbertson match, Sims played tournament bridge only occasionally, concentrating on his golf. He died of a heart attack while playing bridge at the Havana Country Club, where he and Dorothy used to spend their winters after the end of World War Two.

JUNIOR TEAMS

BUTLER AFTER SESSION 5

1	ENG	Gold - Hydes	60	1.97
2	FRA	O. Bessis - de Tessieres	60	1.68
3	EST	Matisons - Rubins	100	1.43
4	ITA	Mazzadi - Io Presti	80	1.34
5	RUS	Rudakov - Zaitsev	80	1.28
6	POL	Araskiewicz - Wittenbeck	40	1.25
7	DEN	Gjaldbaek - Henriksen	40	1.18
8	CRO	Brguljan - Zoric	80	1.05
9	NOR	Harr - Sundklakk	80	1.03
10	HUN	Mraz - Szegedi	60	0.93
11	NOR	Hakkebo - Harr	20	0.90
12	RUS	Andreev - Romanovitch	60	0.80
13	NED	Bruggeman - De Groot	60	0.77
14	ISR	Hoffman - Lellouche	80	0.71
15	ITA	Guariglia - Uccello	40	0.70
16	NOR	Ellestad - Joerstad	100	0.59
17	SWE	Cullin - Upmark	80	0.50
18	CRO	Kulovic - Scepanovic	40	0.40
19	CZE	Pulkrab - Vozabal	80	0.38
20	FIN	Airaksinen - Heikkinen	100	0.31
21	HUN	Minarik - Suranyi	20	0.25
22	GER	Sauter - Schueller	60	0.22
23	EST	Naber - Tihane	100	0.21
24	ISR	Ginossar - Reshef	100	0.19
25	NED	Brink - Kuivenhoven	60	0.18
26	AUS	Steiner - Winkler	60	0.17
27	AUS	Grumm - Kummel	80	0.16
28	HUN	Hegedus - Marjai	80	0.15
29	POL	Kotorowicz - Kotorowicz	100	0.11
30	BEL	P.Van Parijs - Vandeveld	40	0.03
31	ENG	Birdsall - Burgess	80	-0.06
32	CZE	Macura - Vrkoc	40	-0.08
33	FRA	T. Bessis - Gaviard	40	-0.08
34	NED	Drijver - Schollaardt	80	-0.09
35	DEN	Marquardsen - Schalz	60	-0.15
36	TUR	Sakrak - Suicmez	100	-0.17
37	FRA	Grenthe - Grenthe	60	-0.22
38	POL	Baranowski - Skalski	60	-0.25
39	FIN	Ahonen - Nurmi	100	-0.32
40	BEL	Cornelis - Peeters	60	-0.38
41	ESP	Goded Merino - Masia	60	-0.45
42	CZE	Jellinek - Martinek	80	-0.46
43	AUS	Gogoman - Gogoman	60	-0.47
44	SCO	Bergson - McCrossan	60	-0.48
45	RUS	Krasnosselski - Malinovski	60	-0.52
46	ITA	di Bello - di Bello	80	-0.58
47	BEL	J.Van Parijs - W.Van Parijs	60	-0.63
48	GRE	Dialynas - Dialynas	60	-0.72
49	GER	Ewald - Stoszek	40	-0.73
50	ISR	Tal - Tal	20	-0.75
51	GRE	Labrou - Mylona	60	-0.77
52	ENG	Handley-Prichard - Probst	60	-0.82
53	ESP	Mansilla - Perez Calisteo	60	-0.83
54	SWE	Eriksson - Sivelind	60	-0.83
55	GER	Bokholt - Kornek	60	-1.03
56	DEN	Houmoller - Houmoller	60	-1.05
57	ESP	Malagrida - Masia	20	-1.05
58	SCO	Gaffin - Sinclair	60	-1.07
59	CRO	Kazalicki - Praljak	40	-1.08
60	ESP	Goded Merino - Perez Calisteo	20	-1.15
61	TUR	Basaran - Kesikbas	100	-1.52
62	GRE	Karapangiotis - Katsaris	80	-1.54
63	SWE	Larsson - Linerudt	20	-1.65
64	SCO	Bateman - Coyle	80	-1.88

A Taste of Turkey

I am sure that many of us remember with pleasure the Junior European Championships of two years ago which were held in Antalya, Turkey - none of this English weather for a start. The Turkish team has started slowly in Torquay but they had a 17-13 win over Norway in Round 3, perhaps suggesting better things to come. Erke Suicmez enjoyed himself as declarer on this deal:

Board 16. Dealer West. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sakrak	Harr	Suicmez	Hakkebo
INT	Pass	2♣	4♦
Dble	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Stig Roar Hakkebo led the ♦3, suit preference for a club return, and Suicmez put in dummy's queen. He led the ♠6 off the table and Gunnar Harr correctly played low, permitting his partner to win the jack. The ♦K was covered by the ace and ruffed low. Suicmez over-ruffed, cashed the ♠A and ruffed dummy's last diamond to get to hand. Next, he ruffed a spade low then played the ♣J to the queen, king and ruff. Hakkebo exited with his remaining heart. Harr did not cover the jack but it did not matter. Suicmez overtook with the ♥Q and cashed the ace, drawing the last trump. He continued by cashing the ♥7 and exiting with the ♠10. Harr won the spade but had to lead a club at trick twelve and that meant no club loser for Suicmez and, more importantly, ten winners.



Ozgure Sakrak