

# bridge club "dr.jurica tomljenović"



**Date:** 13.09.2006.  
**To:** all welcome  
**From:** tihana@pilar.hr  
**No:** 03 – PULA 2006

## goodmorning bridge

Hello everyone!

Another two tournaments, another two records, we are becoming spoiled. Of course my predictions about not beating the record in mini teams didn't come true, we had unbelievable 88 teams. In mixed pairs 144 pairs played, and 90 in men's event. So I really wonder what will happen today, shall we reach 100 teams (best so far was 99)... this success on mini-teams suggests we will, but many will play the Open teams in 6, while Mini teams they played in 4.

The mini teams winners were a Norway-Romania combination:

**RKKG.**  
**Tislewoll O.Berset R.Kristiansen A.Gavricivc**

The winners of the mixed pairs the best were:  
**Ewa Miszewska - Apolinary Kowalski**

And in the men's pairs triumphed, unsurprisingly,  
**Georgi Matushko & Yuri Khokhlov.**

Coongratulations to all!

The Mini-teams was broadcast on BBO, and so will be the Open teams. Thank you BBO people ☺ !

I spent my day in the highly intellectual job of printing a few hundred envelopes. It is almost 4 p.m. and I still don't have a partner for the mixed. This happens if you are too choosy... men just ignore you and play together in this perverted men's pairs event. They don't even try to find a lady partner... so our conception of men's pairs is falling apart... it was supposed to be a tourney for the unwanted, a place of refuge for men abused by their wives, no-one was

expected to play there voluntarily... and now two great and pretty much masculine looking players come together and say they want to play together. Where the world is going?

There will be one more issue of Goodmorning bridge this year. Please feel free to come to Press room at any time and write an article... if not this year we will publish it next.

On Saturday night after victory ceremony we will have a party, and more about that you can find in the next issue, or at Registration desk.

Around the World.

The Americans have praised the Syrians for the defence of the American embassy in Damskus after it was attacked by terrorists.

Earthquake rattles Argentina.

The US trade deficit has hit a new record high.

Israel makes progress in retreat from Lebanon.

For you people that football is a religion here are some scores from the champions league.

Sporting	1	Inter	0
Roma	4	Donetsk	0
PSV	0	Liverpool	0
Olympiacos	2	Valencia	4
Galatasary	0	Bordeaux	0
Chelsea	2	Bremen	0
Bayern	4	S. Moscow	0
Barca	5	Sofia	0

If you have nothing to do on Friday morning before the start of open pairs, feel free to join me in Press room. I will be printing envelopes, of course.

It seems there will be some rain on Thursday and Friday so it is probably a good decision to play teams event instead of trying to get sun-tan on the beach!

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## RESULTS

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### Mini teams – TOP 25/88

- 1 **Team RKK** G.Tislewoll O.Berset R.Kristiansen  
A.Gavricivc
- 2 **Pacific** Taciuc Buras Pilch Narkiewicz
- 3 **Garry** J.Michalek B.Gierulski J.Stwozewicz J.Sukow
- 4 **JulsJ**.Stefanov I.Nanev V.Mihov R.Gunev
- 5 **Kyiv** Kovalchuk V.Danyiliuk T.Danyiliuk Koladenko
- 6 **BBEP**.Marjai C.Szabo F.Zold G.Marjai
- 7 **Mooo** S.Kulović-Probst R.Probst A.Hydes  
T.Townsend S.Martinović
- 8 **Makinen** J.Makinen S.Niemi J.Tamminen V.Leskela
- 9 **Praha** Bahnik Bahnikova Svoboda Svobodova
- 10 **Russian's Bears** D.Prokhorov I.Semenov  
V.Rekunov E.Solntsev
- 11 **Milady** A.Smilgazs V.Gonca M.Matisons Alfejeva
- 12 **Wegner** Laskowski Kazmierczak Wegner Bajek  
Szafraniec Szyszkowski
- 13 **Cernato** Cernat Feber G.Mihai R.Mihai
- 14 **Ana Marija** A.Juhas S.Ruso D.Parežanin B.Đuričić
- 15 **Van Helsing** R.Hansen J.Stomatov A.Babsch  
V.Kovachev
- 16 **Russia 2** G.Matushko E.Shanurin V.Tatarkin  
Y.Khohlov
- 17 **Rom** Est D.Voinescu C.Mindruta J.Aava  
M.Maastik
- 18 **Vivatoll** H.Vivat B.Treschmitzer E.Pichler M.Knoll
- 19 **Garp** E.Harasimowicz A.Kusion R.Szczepanski  
P.Turowski
- 20 **Fenix** Tchervenialov Marinovski Zahariev  
Karakolev
- 21 **mELAnZ** M.Machalinska J.Ostrowski  
M.Nowosadski P.Wiankowski
- 22 **Tići** Z.Šimec O.Staničić K.Sentić A.Stanković  
Z.Kokot L.Hegedus
- 23 **Zajac** W.Klapper M.Jaworsut K.Zajaczkowski  
Z.Piwowski
24. **Pedro** M.Ivančić S.Havliček I.Tomljanović  
R.Muller
- 25 **Wroclaw** W.Gawel L.Rolek P.Ilicz T.Klukowski

### Mixed pairs 25/144

- 1 Ewa Miszewska Apolinary Kowalski
  - 2 Vera Gudac Pero Gudac
  - 3 Izvorka Petrovic Bato Protega
  - 4 Jovanka Smeredevac Paesold
  - 5 Agnes Zalai Gal Hegedus
  - 6 Anna Sarniak Leszek Sztyrak
  - 7 Katarzyna Pakszys Tomasz Pilch
  - 8 Svobodova Svoboda
  - 9 Marina Pilipovic Julian Stefanov
- 

- 10 Sanja Zagajsek Nenad Caklovic
- 11 Sanja Mikic Franz Terraneo
- 12 T Danyliuk V Danyliuk
- 13 Orban S Szabo
- 14 Elle Koeman Reginald Brown
- 15 Ewa Krzeszowska Swiatloslaw Krzeszowski
- 16 Ewa Kozyra Lech Ohrysko
- 17 Nikica Sver Jerry Stamatov
- 18 Lisbeth Grove Ib Chr Bank
- 19 Marina Sergo Goran Grguric
- 20 Barbara Lesiecka Jacek Baka
- 21 Halina Swiech lapper
- 22 Agnes Suranyi Borje Brag
- 23 Sandra Ruso Branislav Duricic
- 24 Ksenya Lybova Vjekoslav Zepic
- 25 Jasna Bozicevic Ivo Urli
- 26 Laszlo Honti Katalina Mezei
- 27 Sandra Havlicek Dominik Mokni
- 28 Marta Machalinska Jaroslaw Ostrowski
- 29 Alessandra Zecchini Martini
- 30 Spil Nardonk

### Mens Pairs 25/90

- 1 Georgi Matushko Yuri Khokhlov
- 2 Maksim Zukovskij Dainius Minelga
- 3 Lucjan Taciuc Grzegorz Narkiewicz
- 4 George Karakolev Harry Zahariev
- 5 Ivan Nanev Rosen
- 6 Andrei Prodan Dragos Barbu
- 7 Zean Asok Martin Jentsch
- 8 Moraru Dan Sandor Balint
- 9 Laszlo Harangozo Csaba Czimer
- 10 Miklos Dumbovich Gotthard
- 11 Peter Gal Zoltan Zsak
- 12 Tadeusz Ralko Waldemar Szelka
- 13 Esad Kulovic Igor Tomljanovic
- 14 Ferenc Zold Laszlo Hegedus
- 15 Aleksandar Vucic Boris Altman
- 16 Jozsef Harsanyi Mate Mraz
- 17 Kazimierz Cios Marek Pieczka
- 18 Ivar Bull Svein Erik
- 19 Ole Berset Terje Lyngbo
- 20 Wojciech Gawel Lukasz Rolek
- 21 Slobodan Babic Pajo Pavicic
- 22 Evgeniy Shanurin X Tatarkin
- 23 Balazs Balint Peter Wellner
- 24 Milorad Radojevic Danijel Likar
- 25 Roy Kare Kristiansen Ognjen Stanicic
- 26 Marek Nowowiejski Piotr Tuszynski
- 27 Andrzej Kazmierczak Ryszard Laskowski
- 28 Adam Hintertan Zdzislaw Pleskot
- 29 Zdzislaw Szyszkowski Bogumil Wegner
- 30 Claus D Barnowski Janusz Bachrach

## UPCOMING EVENTS

By Sandra Ruso

### OPEN TEAM

We had two exciting days with mini team and mixed pairs and now we are facing the first of two main events on the Festival – open team. I hope you are ready. I have to notice that we are growing year by year and it is privilege to attend an event of such size and strength.

It is not very immodest to predict more then 100 teams. Any other predictions about winners or favorites are impossible with such number of excellent players. We can only ask you for your help and assistance. **Please register on time.** If you need an assistance to find your perfect wining team just come to the enrollment desk and we shall try to help you, but please come on time. I know that I am repeating myself but it is really essential for being at least less late then yesterday.



Last year winners & me.

Here is orientation timetable to help you with your plans.

Wednesday, 14.9.

15:00 – 16:05	1st round (Round Robin)
16:20 – 17:25	2nd round (RR)
17:40 – 18:45	3rd round (RR)
21:00 – 22:05	4th round «A» i «B» section (Danish)
22:20 – 23:25	5th round (D)
23:40 – 00:45	6th round (D)

Thursday 15.9.

15:00 – 16:05	7th round «A» i «B» section (D)
16:20 – 17:25	8th round (D)
17:40 – 18:45	9th round (D)

21:00 – 22:05	10th round A», «B» & n consolidation sections* (D)
22:20 – 23:25	11th round (D)
23:40 – 00:45	12th round (D)

\* number of consolidation sections depends on number of teams and we have prizes for every section, so until the end of the tournament you can still win a prize.

The only change in the rules and regulations is that in the first three sessions of the Round Robin the maximum score is 10:0 (instead of 12:0).

The home team must register the result, signed by the both captains and solely on the official card, five minutes after the expiration of playing time at the latest. Visiting team is obligated to check the result. Match played on the same lines will be registered 4:4 (each team will be punished by 2VP)

Let me introduce you winners from the past four years:

### 2005

**Tesla** Tesla Tomić Borevković V.Zorić  
**Batman** Stefanov Batov Popova Gunev  
**Pacyfic** Kowalski Taciuc Narkiewicz Pilch

### 2004

**Kamel** Pasternak Araskiewicz Zurakowski Cichocki  
**Opty** Gierulski Narkiewicz Szyrak Pilch  
**Terraneo** Terraneo C. Terraneo F. Umshaus Lindermann Weigkricht

### 2003

**Witas** Kowalski Vainikonis Miszewska Rawislak Olanski Krzeminski  
**Astra** Ivanov Jochev Trendafilov Karaivanov  
**Royston** Hajdu Hegedus Kelen Kemeny

### 2002

**BBE Horn**Toth, Bartis, Aczel, Varga  
**Vitas** Vainikonis, Kowalski, Araszkiwicz, Pasternak, Olanski  
**Ivica VI** Diklić, Miladin, Szabo, Szilagyi

### 2001

**MODOFOKA'S** Chmurski, Jurek, Grzejdzia, Kielichowski  
**VIT** Roussev, Trendafilov, Soloukov, Karaivanov  
**BLACKSEA** Nanev, Borisov, Mihov, Teonchev

### 2000

**CTHULHU** Bieder, Unger, Babsch, Umshaus  
**KROWA** Buze, Laszczak, Gorzynski, Milaszewski, Kowalczyk, Witek  
**SI-MI** Minarik, Marclona, Kasa, Kasa

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## INTERVIEW

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### Lazslo Szilagy

Walking down the corridors of hotel Histria in Pula, and searching for a new victim for my next interview, I have stumbled upon a familiar face from Hungary, Lazslo Szilagy. He had a few minuets for me, and we have started our conversation with to all of you well known question...

**Interviewer:** For how long have you been playing bridge?

**Szilagy:** I have been playing tournament bridge for 35 years now.

**Interviewer:** So you had previous encounters with bridge before your firs tournament bridge?

**Szilagy:** Yes, I got acquainted with bridge through my parents. My mother knew the game, and had thought my father, and they used to play home bridge with some friends. Most of the times children weren't allowed in the room, but on some rare occasions me and my brother were allowed to watch them. I got interested in bridge, but my brother didn't. He did actually learn the rules, and played some home bridge with me against our parents, those were interesting evenings. Some times we played against each other, with one of our parents as a partner, but we liked children against parents games more.

**Interviewer:** When did you get serious about bridge?

**Szilagy:** It was after I had finished the bridge course, and got acquainted with recent club tournaments, and championship bridge. I got to know some good bridge players, played some with them, and had developed pretty quickly. I soon outgrew my partners from the course. I had started to play with Karoly KELEN, who was some years older than me, he was considered a very good player among juniors. Fe had formed my first partnership. Before Kelen I had played in 4<sup>th</sup> class in Hungary (out of 5), and I couldn't improve with my previous partners. When we started playing together, we had started from 1B, and soon

transferred to A class. We wished to play in Junior European Championship together, but the Hungarian Bridge association considered me too young to participate. You see, at that time, when you were a junior in Hungary till you were 35, teenagers weren't considered serious enough to play in big tournaments. So Kelen went to that championship without me. We later played together in two Junior competitions, our 1<sup>st</sup> time was pretty unsuccessful. We played in 1976 in Lund (Sweden) and we had a really strong team, we were fighting for good places all the time, and we have finished 6<sup>th</sup>, in Stirling (Scotland) we had a much weaker team, and we had a bad result.

**Interviewer:** With whom did you have your serious partnerships?

**Szilagy:** Of course first one was with Karoly KELEN, I will number just the ones I played with in big championships for national team, then Peter MAGYAR, Lajos LINCYMAYER, Gabor MACSKASY, Gal HEGEDÜS, Peter GÁL, Layslo HONTI and Gyorgy SZALAY. Oh, I hope I haven't missed anyone. I have had a partnership with Gabor MACSKASY for a long time.

**Interviewer:** With whom do you play now?

**Szilagy:** Now I play with some other partners, and I some times play with students.

**Interviewer:** What big championships have you ever played?

**Szilagy:** I have played in European Championships (Open) and Olympics approximately 12 times, and have played in two Open World Championships in Verona and Biarritz.

**Interviewer:** What was the best result of Huingarian open team?

**Szilagy:** It is this years 9<sup>th</sup> place (out of 33 teams), and in the last years Olympics we had reached the 8<sup>th</sup> place.

**Interviewer:** How many times have you been in Pula?

**Szilagy:** Oh, I cant possibly count them.

**Interviewer:** Then it's an useless question to ask you about your opinion about Pula Bridge festival.

**Szilagy:** Ha-ha ☺

**Interviewer:** Can you remember your first visit to Pula Bridge Festival?

**Szilagy:** No I can't; I remember that the year I was married (1983.) I have been here with my wife and one child, but I don't remember how many times I have been here before that.

**Interviewer:** Do you play all of the tournaments here?

**Szilagy:** No I don't, I don't like BAM, but some times I play it.

**Interviewer:** Have you ever won in Pula?

**Szilagy:** Yes, I have won Open Pairs tournament about 6 years ago, it was an interesting tournament for me because I became ill, and have spent whole day in bed, but I have arranged to play with Peter HAJDU, and couldn't cancel, and that one we won. I have also won once Open Teams tournament with SYALAY, and Croatian pair DIKLIC – MILADIN. I really like to form international teams, it promotes friendship of nations, and I also played this year with three different partners from Croatia.

**Interviewer:** What do you think about the quality of Croatian bridge?

**Szilagy:** Well, I think it is similar to Hungarian bridge, there are very few good players, as in Hungary one good 6 players team can be made, but you can't make the second one. There are not enough player, the first line is thin...

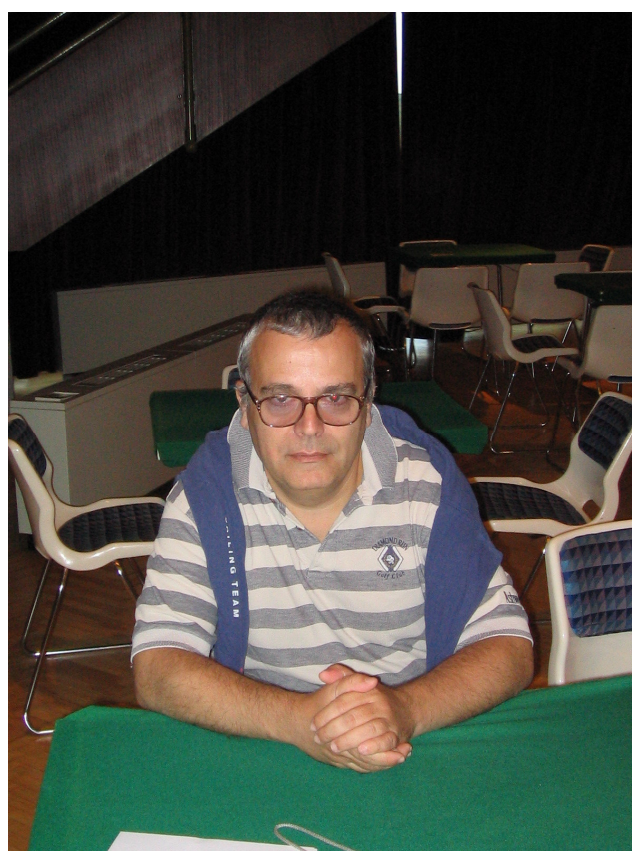
**Interviewer:** How do you manage both family and bridge?

**Szilagy:** My wife has never complained, the time we have met I played bridge eight days a week, so she knew from the start how important bridge was to me. She never learned to play it, I tried to teach her, I was even very persistent, but she didn't want to learn it. She sometimes entered a room in which the course was held. The interesting thing is that I can talk to my wife about bridge any time I want, she understands everything (in theory she knows about finesse, table presence,..., but doesn't know how to use it). One of my daughters, Kinga, plays bridge, the other one knows social bridge, and doesn't have time to do more about it, and the third doesn't play bridge at all.

**Interviewer:** Thank you very much for the pleasant conversation, and can you please give some important advice to young bridge players?

**Szilagy:** The players have to be aware of the fact that most partnerships brake because of intolerance, and one of my important beliefs is that couples (of any kind) shouldn't play together at all, never!!!

Our what was supposed to be a few minute interview has turned up to be an hour long. We could have talked some more, but our bulletin doesn't have enough pages, and by the way Mixed pairs are starting soon, and I have to get ready for that, after all I haven't met my partner yet, so I have to make a good impression.



**REGISTER NOW  
FOR  
OPEN PAIRS  
TOURNAMENT !**



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## BRIDGE IS FUN

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*From Eddie Kantar's web page*

Don Krauss and Roger Bates wind up in 7NT after bidding hearts. Bates forgets and thinks he is in 7H. At one point he lead a low diamond and asks Don to ruff. Don says, "I'd love to".

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Ivan Erdos and Kelsy Petterson have a really terrible game in the finals of a K.O championship. They go back to the home table to compare and which point one of their teammates says, "How do you dare come back here with this game?" Kelsey replies, "It wasn't my idea to come back."

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John Crawford playing with a weak player for high stakes. His partner leads the SK (king from ace-king) and John has the S 1098. He knows that if he plays the 8 his partner will think it is a high card and will continue which John knows will be awful. Instead as he goes to play the S8 he purposely drops it under the table and spends a long time trying to fish it out. Finally his partner asks him what it is. John replies; Oh nothing, just a low spade."

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Hal Sims who along with Culbertson was one of the brightest lights of American bridge in the 30's and was reputed never to have misguessed a queen. Once when playing against two ladies he had a two way finesse for a queen and announced to the table that neither one of them could have it. Sure enough it was on the floor.

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Oswald Jacoby was missing a queen in a two-way finesse suit. He counted the hand and discovered that West started with five cards in the suit and East only two. Just as he was about to finesse West for the queen, East dropped the queen face up on the table. At this point Ozzie announced that he was revising his count.

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## TD's CORNER

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### The Shetland revoke and worse

By Herman De Wael

Aspiring TD's might do good in keeping this article, as the first ruling I had to make on Monday may well appear in an exam question some time in the future:

Deal 1 (N/none)

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

I was called at the table and saw North as dummy, and defenders having the 3 and 2 of hearts on the table. "I have revoked", says East. South was playing 1NT doubled, and West had led the SQ for declarer's King. Back in, West had cashed his heart tricks, but East had not followed suit to the third and fourth of these. When West played the H2, East had suddenly discovered the H3 among her diamonds.

This is one of those cases where the revoke is punished with 2 penalty tricks. East has made a trick with the H3, a card she could have played to the trick she revoked in. Yet it is rare among those, in that the revoker did not actually win a trick by revoking. So the revoke cost them two tricks, for a rather unfortunate +280 in stead of -200. Luckily this was board-a-match, so a bad score could not get any worse.

Incidentally, this case also involves one other trap for the TD taking his exam: East has revoked twice, but as we all know, that second revoke is not punished separately. East might even have done better in revoking a third time, as they would make all the same tricks, but the penalty would be only one trick.

In most cases where the penalty is two tricks, the revoker has first won a trick he should not have. That trick counts for his side, and when 2 penalty tricks are subtracted, they are left one trick short of normal. A ruling in which a player has to suffer 2 penalty tricks without first gaining a trick is rather rare, but not so in the board-a-match in Pula, as I was about to notice.

In the afternoon I was called to table one of all places. Declarer, in a spade contract, had SK85 and CK as his last four cards. He knew the kings were high, and that there was one trump remaining. But rather than claiming, he ruffed, cashed the SK, and then showed the two others. Unfortunately for him, his opponent had returned a club. So we had to rule that he had revoked, and that there were even two reasons for rewarding a second penalty trick: revoker had won the revoke trick AND a subsequent trick in the suit he revoked in. That does not add to 3 penalty tricks, but 2 is a lot already.

And it was not yet over. Barely fifteen minutes later, I was called to a table where the declarer had revoked in trumps, while still holding four of them,

including the ace. Again two penalty tricks, and again revoker had not first "gained" a trick. She actually told me that she would have made a trick more if she had simply played the trump ace to the revoke trick, so she was actually three short.

In case you are wondering why I want to call the first case the "Shetland revoke", it is because the lady in question was happy to tell me that she had come all the way from the Shetlands. If there is no prize for the furthest player, then there may well be one for the most interesting revoke!

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### THANKS TO SPONSORS

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Our special thanks to Mr. Miroslaw Dabrowski of **Renault Poland** and **Mr. Tomasz Mroz of Renault Kiljanczyk Group** for providing a Renault Megane, which brought us safely and comfortably to the 45<sup>th</sup> International Bridge Festival in Pula, Croatia. It was an award for winning the Renault Bridge Tour Tournament in Warsaw and the Final in Paris in December last year.

Irena Chodorowska  
Jan Chodorowski



## TIME IS ON MY SIDE

By SchTsch

As far back as I can remember playing bridge I have always been annoyed with the endless thinking process some people are frequently presenting at the bridge table in various simple situations. I wonder what they are thinking about? Their jobs? Their wives/husbands and children? Sport results? Some hot meat they would like to get laid with? Are they thinking at all or are they just posing as the Rodin's Thinker? Aside the aesthetics of the scene with four people trying to outsmart each other in the wicked mind games, this tends to become a serious problem. It seems that it is a sin to confess that you play bridge automatically most of the time, you might get expelled from the high thinking time class society in bridge. You'll get marked as cattle with a beautiful "Nonthinker" mark on your forehead. It might force you into a change of your beloved hairstyle. So people, think! Think even in the simplest situations, because if you don't think it is like admitting that you are dumb! And not only dumb. As Descartes once said cogito ergo sum, and people accepted it as the great philosophic truth, there is a possibility that I will cease to exist if I stop thinking, even if I have nothing to think about. And the problem is not the thinking time. After all this is a mind game so there should be enough time to think and try to give your best effort to the game. The problem is that the quality of your game is often not proportional with the thinking time you consume. I've often witnessed long thinking comas that finish with the stupidest solution available. This is a complete waste of time for everyone at the table. Not to mention thinking comas where you think about everything but the game. That can be pretty frustrating for other players at the table. Of course, you can ask TD for time protection but that is often done when it is already too late and the most of the time has already been used, usually by a single player or pair. These time issues are also very hard to prove, so when the time is running out and TD is summoned to handle the situation, each player is under pressure, not just the time consumer. And that cannot be described as the fair approach. So what can we, the dumb nonthinkers, do to counter this new rising fashion of meaningless time consumption? The solution can be sought for in chess. Chess is also a mind game but time is limited per player. Why does bridge limit total time, and not separate for each pair? Why should I suffer from the lack of time at the end of a bridge match if I didn't spend it at all? So, why don't we limit the time per pair, dividing the current time

restriction into two even parts? Simply give each pair a clock, the same amount of time and the problem is solved. This brings new aspects into the game of bridge. One of the greatest if not the greatest chess artists of all time, Mikhail Tal, based a lot of his victories on the fact that his opponent's time is limited leading a game to very complicated situations where Tal consumed a lot less time than his opponent. Of course, some might say that limited thinking time kills the beauty of a bridge game. Then I always remember home analysis problems where people spend even days to find the right solutions. So maybe we should play one bridge match, let's say, for a month? Should that be enough to exploit the beauty of every board in the match? Of course not, THAT would kill the game. So there is no real difference in approach from now. Home analysis will still be home analysis, and actions at the table will still be actions at the table. I've often heard the sentence "Yeah, that is the best but I think I would never do it at the table". So it is not the change in approach, just a modification. Take, for example, an 8 board match. In the current setup it is usually limited to 1 hour which gives us 7.5 minutes per board. If we give each pair half an hour (we might give NS 1 minute extra as they are in charge for the boards) players can still choose when they want to spend that time. Simple situations will be handled very fast to leave enough time for possible complications afterwards. Managing your thinking time during the game will have more effect on the game, but at least it would give us fair fight. Why would declarer against the fast defense have advantage with more thinking time than his opponent at the other table against slow defense? Nonsense, give each of them their time, and let them use it the best way they can. That would be a fair fight. Another good thing is that if you finish your part of the match in 5 minutes, the match cannot last more than 35 minutes and it isn't the case now because if you finish your part in 5 minutes you just gave your opponent another 25 minutes to contemplate about a practice finesse, a beefsteak with mushrooms, Pamela's silicon valley, or whatever he normally thinks about whilst taking a long shit. So, with many reasons for it, and none that I noted against it, what are we waiting for? When we do it, we can even shorten the time of the play up to the bullet chess style and enjoy the lightning bridge instead of Rodin's masterpieces at the table. Perhaps it is the next step in the bridge evolution?



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## European Championship 2006 in Warsaw: Statistics

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By Fritz Babsch

There were 33 teams in the Open, 22 teams in the Women and 16 teams in the Seniors.

**OPEN:** Italy played bridge from another star. You can compare the performance with a runner who runs 100 meters in 9.50 seconds. They held the first position from the start, losing only against Ireland, Poland, Iceland and Hungary. Their average against the last ten teams was 23 VP. The second place of Ireland was a sensation, the Scandinavians were strong (Norway 3., Sweden 4., Iceland 7.).

**WOMEN:** France, one of the favourites, had a strong finish, they had never been in first position during the tournament. The Dutch girls who led the field most of the time lost the title on the last day. To find England and Germany in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> position is normal but the Danish team (5<sup>th</sup>) and the Croatians (6<sup>th</sup>) were a surprise.

**SENIORS:** Germany won comfortably, Sweden won silver, France bronze. Without taking any credits from the winners, I found out through analysis of the slams that the quality of the bidding was weaker than the bidding in the other groups.

### Some Details:

**OPEN:** The average of the winner was 20.1 VP, the second had almost exactly 18 VP. To qualify for the Bermuda Bowl a team needed an average of 17.5 VP. Italians. Bocchi/Duboin were 1<sup>st</sup> with +0.95 IMPs per board, Fantoni/Nunes 2<sup>nd</sup> with +0.91 and Lauria/Versace 5<sup>th</sup> with 0.64. There was no anchor pair; the pairs played practically the same number of rounds.

The Irish team had an anchor pair, Hanlon/McGunn (8<sup>th</sup> with +0.5). They played 26 out of 33 rounds. The team had no weak spot, the other pairs produced +0.49 (Fitzgibbon/Mesbur) and +0.34 (Carroll/Garvey).

The Norwegians had two good pairs: Helgemo/Helness (3<sup>rd</sup> with +0.74) played 26 rounds, Brogeland Saelensminde (19<sup>th</sup> with +0.34) played 24 rounds. Ekren/Tundal were clearly weaker (36<sup>th</sup> with +0.17).

The Swedish team had an anchor pair: Efraimsson/Morath played 25 rounds, (6<sup>th</sup> with 0.57). The team apparently suffered from the loss of Peter Fredin who did not play any more after round 20. You can find the reasons on Fredin's homepage.

Netherlands had a very compact team. The pairs played the same number of rounds and reached

positions 9 (Bakkeren/Bertens, +0.5), 17 (De Wijs/Muller, +0.4) and 18 (Ramondt/Westra, +0.36). The Polish team had one very good pair (Chmurski/Gawrys, 4<sup>th</sup> with +0.73, played 28 rounds).

Some other pairs also played well: Elinescu/Wladow (Germany) +0.53, Einarsson/Haraldsson (Iceland), Goran Radisic (Serbia) and Chemla/Cronier (France) +0.45. If you have 3 pairs who are able to make 0.40 IMPs constantly, you have a big chance to qualify for the Bermuda Bowl.

**WOMEN:** The winners average was almost 19 VP but the runners-up had 18.6 VP and 18.3 VP respectively. For the Venice Cup one needed 16.7 VP. The Butler scoring shows 132 players but the great results of the two leading Italian pairs were not reached.

The French ladies occupied the positions 1 (D/Ovidio/Gaviard with 0.77 IMPs per board, 16 rounds), 4 (Cronier/Willard with +0.63, 15 rounds) and 19 (Fishpool/Pigeaud with 0.27, 11 rounds).

The Dutch ladies were marginally weaker. They had positions 2 (Pasma/Simons with +0.75), 5 (Michielsen/Wortel with +0.62) and 22 (Arnolds/Vriend with 0.24). The pairs played the same number of rounds. Dutch philosophy?

England had an anchor pair, Dhondy/Smith (3<sup>rd</sup> with 0.72 played 18 rounds). The other two pairs had also a good tournament (Brunner/Goldenfield +0.38 and Jagger/Teshome +0.36).

Germany had an anchor pair, of course. Daniela von Arnim/Sabine Auken played all the rounds, 420 boards! Their result is magnificent (9<sup>th</sup> with +0.52). The other pairs played only half as much and had only +0.27 and +0.26.

The results of the Danish girls was a surprise, but they had two very good and one weak pair. Farholt/Rahelt were 7<sup>th</sup> with +0.54, Krefeld/Kirstan were 11<sup>th</sup> with +0.46. The third pair was the only pair with negative IMPs (-0.18) among the pairs in the teams that finished 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>.

Croatia was another surprise. The good position was the merit of the anchor pair Marina Pilipovic/Nikica Sver who played 21 rounds with an average of +0.34. The other pairs were also above average.

Some pairs had a very good performance but apparently rather weak companions: Remen/Thoresen (Norway) played +0.60, Paoluzi/Saccavina (Italy) +0.53, Harasimovicz/Pasternak (Poland) +0.49 and Andersson/Rimstedt (Sweden) +0.46.

To qualify for the Venice Cup you need 3 pairs who are able to play an average of 0.25 IMPs per board, perhaps even only 0.23 IMPs.

## From the table

### The revenge og an unlucky guy

by GeO Tislevoll, Norway

In the last bulletin you were told about the unlucky guy, Alec Gavriciuc from Germany (born in Romania) when he was playing in the butler teams. The revenge came in the BAM-tournament.

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

Playing in the BAM Gavriciuc was steady all the time, and was no longer so unlucky! He received the first place as a reward, together with three Norwegians. The rumor says Gavriciuc had nothing to do with all the penalties they received for not signing the result sheet and such.... But fortunately, in spite these penalty-points caused by tired Norwegians Team RKK (the team of Roy Kristiansen, by far the most colourful player of the team....) won the tournament after 12-0 in the last match! On this board the unlucky man, now actually quite a bit more lucky, wisely shut his mouth in the bidding, and got a nice result after good defending and not so lucky declaring by south. Only north and south bid and south ended up as declarer in 2 hearts. Two rounds of diamonds was led, the last one ruffed by south. Then a heart to dummy was taken by east who continued with diamonds. South felt the pressure by being shortened in trumps and erringly discarded a club. West took the trick and played his last diamond which south ruffed. A spade to dummies jack was followed by club to the jack and Wests king. Gavriciuc now played a spade to dummies queen.

Declarer took the heart finesse with his ten, but the roof then fell in on him! West took the trick and this was what was left

	North	
	♠ A	
	♥ ---	
	♦ ---	
	♣ Q 5 4	
West		East
♠ 7		♠ 10 8
♥ ---		♥ 6 5
♦ ---		♦ ---
♣ 10 9 2		♣ ---
	South	
	♠ K	
	♥ A	
	♦ ---	
	♣ A 8	

Another spade from west went to the ace. On a small club from dummy East could ruff and force declarers trump-ace with the spade 10, and the six of hearts was established. That meant four (!) trump tricks to the defence, and a total of two down (200), a nice and not at all unlucky result....

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