

Bulletin 2

Friday 18th July 2008

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The leaders of the pack



Thomas Bessis



Frédéric Volcker

This morning, Bessis-Volcker from France have taken over the lead from Guła-Stefanów who are second now. Who will appear on the front page tonight? Good luck to all of you!

The Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony of the 9th European Junior Pairs Championships will take place tonight at 20.00 hrs. at the venue (playing area). It will be followed by a grill buffet and disco party.

The Organizing Commitee



























Dear bridge friends,

We are pleased to invite all bridge enthusiasts to the 4th World University Bridge Championship which will take place from 3rd to 8th September in Lodz, Poland.

The university teams from all around the world are welcome. The teams are to be composed of students are from 18 to 28 years of age. Despite the fact that we're after the deadline for access applications presentation, it is still possible to participate in the game. The access forms are available on the web site: www.bridge2008.net – please get in touch with University Sport Federation in your country.

We can guarantee an unforgettable atmosphere of the game and many attractions in Lodz.

We wish good luck to all the Participants of the **9th European Youth Bridge Pairs Championship**, and we invite you all to Poland in September.



University Sports

The people who will provide you with all the information on place are Łukasz Janczar (+48 507 024 745, info@bridge2008.net) and Sławek Latala.

Organizing Committee

4th World University Bridge Championship

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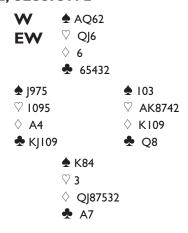
Polish Girl Power By Peter Ventura

In Lido di Jesolo last year, Joanna Krawczyk was in the winning Polish squad both in the Girls and in the Schools Team. In these championships Joanna is playing with Natalia Sakowska, who also was a member of the winning Girls team last year. Will they be fortunate also here on their home ground? We sat down to see them act in session 2 in the Girls.



Kamila Wesolowska, Poland.

BOARD 12, SESSION 2

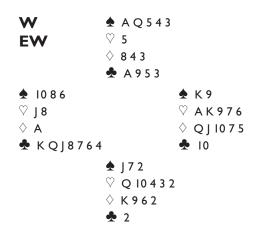


West	North	East	South
Sakowska	Zmuda	Krawczyk	Wesolowska
Pass	Pass	ΙÖ	3 ♦
3 ♡	All Pass		

South led a diamond to dummy's ace. Declarer can easily take nine tricks, losing two spades, one club and a trump trick. However, Krawczyk upped the stake as she wanted to have more. She drew only one round

of trumps. At this point South fumbled with her cards and discarded a diamond instead of following trumps. She immediately discovered her mistake, so she played a trump and the diamond had to be a penalty card on the table. Declarer wanted to establish clubs — the plan was to discard as many spades from hand as she was allowed — so at trick three she played a club, ducked by South, and another club to South's ace. Now Kamila Wesolowska as South was forced to play her penalty card, and it turned out pretty well as her partner could ruff the diamond, cash the ace of spades, play a spade to the king and ruff another diamond. That was down one and a 97%-board for North/South.

On this board Krawczyk/Sakowska met the winners of the qualifying round, Magdalena Ticha and Sona Heroutova of the Czech Republic.



West	North	East	South
Sakowska	Heroutova	Krawczyk	Ticha
2 ♣*	Pass	2 ◊*	Pass
3 🚓	Pass	3 ♡	Pass
4 💠	All Pass		

Two Clubs was Precision style. The Poles managed to stop in time, making eleven tricks when declarer was allowed to take a spade ruff in dummy. +150 was worth 70% for the Poles.



Joanna Krawczyk, Poland.

BOARD 17, SESSION 2

N none	♠ 9♡ Q 9 7 5 3◇ K 6♠ A 10 9 8 7	,
♣ QJ853♡ 84♦ 105♣ KQJ5		★ K 4 ♡ A I0 6 ◇ A J 9 8 7 3 2 ♣ 3
	♠ A 10 7 6 2♡ K J 2◇ Q 4♠ 6 4 2	

West	North	East	South
Sakowska	Puczynska	Krawczyk	Moszczynska
	2 ♡*	3 ◊	3 ♡
3 🏚	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

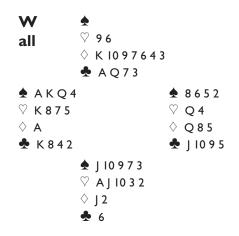


Natalia Sakowska, Poland.

North/South can make 3% but East/West felt this was their board, thus they reached a very poor

game in spades. On a beautiful day, when the trump suit split 3-3 and all the other suits behave, 4♠ might be made, but this was not the day. However, two down was not disastrous for East/West as they scored 47%.

BOARD 20, SESSION 2



West	North	East	South
Sakowska	Tomic	Krawczyk	Marinkovic
♣*	$I \diamondsuit$	Pass	ΙΫ́
Dble	2 ♦	2 🖈	All Pass

* Polish club

At many tables East/West had reached game, but our Polish pair again stopped in time. South led the jack of diamonds, won by the ace in dummy. Next came a heart to the queen and ace and South returned a club. North won the queen and switched to a heart. Dummy's king won the trick. At this point declarer was able to take two heart ruffs in hand and a diamond ruff in dummy and along with the top tricks in trumps declarer emerged with eight tricks which was worth 87%.

After 50 played boards in the qualifications Krawczyk/Sakowska finished in 18^{th} place out of 33 pairs. Were we impressed? No – at least not so far.

Semifinal First Mini-Session

By Patrick Jourdain (Wales)

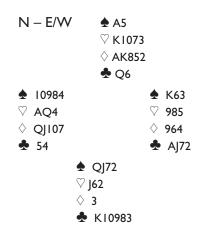
Thomas Bessis, 24, of France must have more international medals to his credit than any other bridge player of his age. Just two weeks ago he was non-playing captain of the French Womens team that retained the gold medal in the European Championships, and last year in the World Transnationals in Shanghai, partnering his father Michel, he took gold as a player. In Wroclaw he partners Frédéric Volcker, also 24.

In the Qualifier they only just scraped into the "A" Group, so your reporter decided to see if they had better luck in the Semifinal. They began with Board 9 and were playing against the Latvia pair Adrians Imsa & Lauris Lauks. The Latvian Bridge Federation has about 300 members and less than 50 juniors, so it is very impressive that the country had three pairs in the Under 26, all of whom made it into Semifinal "A".



Frédéric Volcker, France

Board 9



West	North	East	South
lmsa	Volcker	Lauks	Bessis
	INT	All Pass	

Volcker opened a somewhat off-shape strong notrump to conclude the auction. East led a fourth-highest club won by dummy's ten, and declarer led a low heart off the dummy. Imsa leapt in with the ace to switch to the diamond queen. Volcker ducked and East decided to signal with the nine. West now continued with the jack, taken by declarer's ace.

The queen of clubs was taken by the ace and East confidently continued with diamonds, only to find that declarer's holding in the suit was now good. Volcker cashed three diamonds leaving himself with three hearts and two spades.

If declarer reads the ending he can make nine tricks by keeping in dummy three spades, the winning club and a low heart. Then exiting with ace and another spade endplays East. But West's hasty rise with the ace of hearts perhaps led declarer to misread the position. When he exited instead with king and another heart, West won and led a spade, so declarer was back to the eight tricks he rightfully had at the start.

At many other tables, however, they were playing in hearts and many Easts led a trump which in fact is favourable to declarer. Nevertheless, from 7 to 10 tricks were made on this lead by our various declarers.

Bethers as North opened $I \lozenge$, got a $I \clubsuit$ response and rebid a reverse $2 \heartsuit$ which became the final contract. The same auction was recorded by Bahnik (N) and Dudkova, the Czech pair. Guła opened INT, slightly offshape but when partner launched Stayman, he also ended up in $2 \heartsuit$.

All these declarers, as well as our anonymous one, got a trump lead but already at trick I the paths diverged.

Bethers won the $\heartsuit 10$ and went on to play $\diamondsuit A$ and a \diamondsuit ruff. The $\clubsuit Q$ was taken by the king and a trump came back, West winning the ace and returning the queen. Declarer cashed the $\clubsuit A$ and advanced the $\clubsuit Q$ which was won immediately with the ace. East returned a spade to dummy's jack and the last spade was ruffed in hand. Declarer now went on to cash the $\diamondsuit K$ and take the flying club finesse, emerging with two overtricks for +170 and all the matchpoints.

Guła might have made ten tricks too but he misread the ending. Against him, Galązka won the $\heartsuit A$ and returned the suit, dummy's jack winning. Next came the $\diamondsuit A$ and a \diamondsuit ruff, followed by a low club to queen and ace. A diamond cae back to declarer's king and he conceded the last diamond to West who returned the $\clubsuit 10$ after some consideration. Now if declarer goes up with the ace and plays his last two trumps, East is caught in a show-up squeeze but when Guła played low instead, he even went on to lose another trick as he played West for both the remaining trumps.

+110 was worth 44%.

Bahnik won the \heartsuit J at trick 2 and proceeded to cash the \diamondsuit AK and ruff a diamond. Then, he took the losing \clubsuit finesse. When East returned a spade to his ace, he continued the \heartsuit Q to East's ace. A club came back to dummy's king and the two diamonds went on the \clubsuit J and the \clubsuit 10. East could ruff the latter but declarer had his nine tricks and 78%.

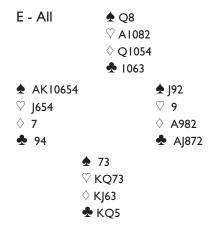
Going down was quite an achievement, even for our anonymous declarer. H9 to the jack and ace and a low heart back to the seven and East's eight. East exited with a trump, declarer winning and next came the $\clubsuit Q$ which held and a club, taken by East. The $\lozenge 9$ was

returned, declarer casing his AK and conceding a diamond to West who cashed his last diamond as well before exiting with a spade. When the finesse lost, the defenders had managed to score six tricks for a score of 75%.



Thomas Bessis, France

Board 10



West	North	East	South
lmsa	Volcker	Lauks	Bessis
		Pass	I ♦
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Against West's Four Spades North led a diamond won by dummy's ace.

There is an interesting route now for declarer to make II tricks: duck a club! That gives the defence a dilemma they cannot solve. They can choose to remove dummy's entry to the clubs by playing two rounds of hearts but only at the expense of allowing declarer to ruff all his losing hearts. If the defence play, instead, a trump then declarer can draw trumps, ruff out the clubs, and reach the two winners with a heart ruff.

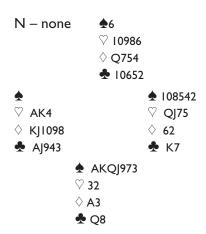
This line of play depends on the suits behaving kindly, so one can understand why Imsa led a heart at trick two. Bessis won with the king and switched to a trump. Declarer won this, ruffed a heart, ruffed a diamond, ruffed another heart, cashed the ace of clubs, and tried a third diamond, throwing a club from hand.

This was actually slightly risky as if South had held five diamonds he might have been able to continue the suit for a trump promotion. However, no harm was done, and declarer lost only another heart for ten tricks and a normal score.

A fracas at the adjacent table led to the late arrival of the next pair, Emre Kaya & Muharrem Cerek of Turkey, so the players quickly took their cards from the board without looking at the opponents' system. Whether this put the French pair at a disadvantage I do not know but after Volcker had passed at love all, Bessis saw on his right a Two Heart opener promising both majors, weak, and he was looking at:

The French pair actually handled this surprise well. Bessis doubled, the next hand redoubled, partner removed to Three Clubs, and Bessis bid Three Spades to end the auction. This was the layout:

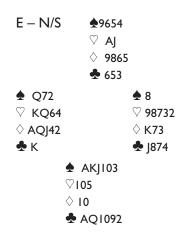
Board I



The defence began with three rounds of hearts allowing Bessis to make one of his small trumps. The first round of trumps revealed the break so Bessis exited with the queen of clubs.

The defence now erred by forcing declarer again with two more rounds of clubs. That allowed Bessis to exit with ace and another diamond and claim all seven of his trumps for one down. If the defence find a diamond switch earlier, then they can cash their five outside tricks and leave South on lead to concede a trump trick to East.

Board 2

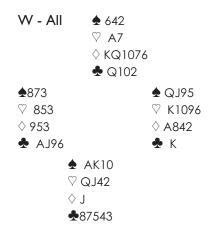


West	North	East	South
Kaya	Volcker	Cerek	Bessis
		Pass	I 🏚
2◊	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West led the king of hearts against South's spade game. Double dummy declarer can succeed by dropping the bare king of clubs offside but naturally enough declarer won in dummy and led a club to the ten. West won cashed his two red winners and waited for his trump trick for one off.

The next pair to arrive was Alberto Sangiorgio & Irene Baroni of Italy. The French pair bid to the standard Four Spades making with an overtrick when the missing trumps broke 2-2. The next board had more in it:

Board 4



West	North	East	South
Sangiorgio	Volcker	Baroni	Bessis
Pass	I♦	Pass	I¥
Pass	INT	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

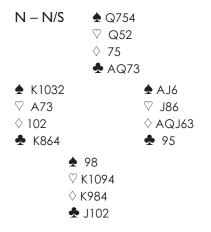
Against North's Two Notrumps East led the queen of spades, which drew some laughter when dummy went down with AK10.

Declarer won and led the jack of diamonds which East correctly allowed to hold. Now Volcker led a club but when West played low he rather surprisingly chose to play the queen from hand. This idea was not a success. East won and continued spades. Declarer made the ten but the next club was won by West, who could safely cash a third club before clearing the spades. Declarer could play a heart to the ace but East now had three winners to cash so the contract went one light.

Had declarer taken the more normal line of playing a club to the ten initially then the queen later provides not only a trick but also the extra entry to set up and enjoy the diamonds.

Karol Galazka & Piotr Kruszewski of Poland arrived next. None of the players noticed the boards were placed wrongly on the table so the positions were rotated:

Board 5



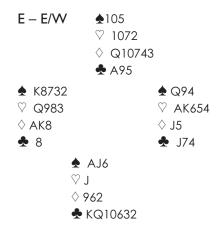
West	North	East	South
Kruszewski	Bessis	Galazka	Volcker
	Pass	I♦	Pass
I♠	Pass	INT	All Pass

This must have been a popular auction to INT by East. Volcker led the $\heartsuit 10$ to partner's queen and declarer won the ace on the third round. He then ran the ten of diamonds, which held, and then a diamond to the jack which lost. South cashed the fourth heart.

On this trick declarer took the unwise gamble of releasing a club from both hands so the defence were able to cash four clubs to put the partscore two light. Had declarer hung on his clubs and instead thrown spades then the defence can be held to three clubs thanks to the protection provided by dummy's eight.

With the correct line-up re-established by an observant passing TD this was the interesting next board

Board 6



West	North	East	South
Kalazka	Volcker	Kruszewski	Bessis
		Pass	I ♣
I 🏚	Pass	2♣	Pass
2◊	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♡	Pass	4 ♡	All Pass

2♣ showed spade support and game interest.

 $2\Diamond$ was announced as 12-14 points and the rest was natural.

Bessis led the king of clubs and switched to a low diamond.

The contract looks a relatively simple matter of losing two spades and a club. Maybe declarer had his eye on an overtrick if Bessis had led away from the queen and thought it would cost nothing if he played low from dummy (even if this loses declarer can ditch a spade later).

This play actually proved fatal in an unexpected way. North won and returned a diamond. Declarer drew two rounds of trumps with the queen and ace, ruffed a club, cashed the diamond throwing a spade and then led the king of spades from dummy. Bessis gave this a short look but then allowed it to hold. Declarer could only play another spade. Bessis won and played the third spade with Volcker spectacularly discarding his ace of clubs. When declarer ruffed his last club Volcker was able to over-ruff with the ten.

This was one down and excellent defence by the French.

For the last round of the set the East-West seats were taken by Eugenio Mistretta & Andrea Manno of Italy:

Board 7

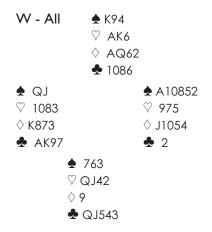


West	North	East	South
Mistretta	Volcker	Manno	Bessis
			INT
Pass	2♣	Dble	Redbl
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East's double showed clubs and South's redouble was described as "to play", but West still led his third highest club to the ten and king. Bessis now made the brilliantly deceptive play of a spade!

The defence fell for this ploy when West won and continued clubs. The moment South won his second club trick he claimed nine red winners for 11 tricks and a near top. Well done indeed!

Board 8



West	North	East	South
Mistretta	Volcker	Manno	Bessis
♣	Dble	1♡	Pass
I 🏚	Pass	Pass	2♡
Pass	Pass	2♠	All Pass

East's I♥ response showed spades, though it was not described as showing five. Such transfer responses to One Club are popular these days but the I♠ rebid would normally promise exactly three.

The defence began with three rounds of hearts followed by a switch to the singleton diamond. North took two diamonds and gave South a ruff. Bessis exited

with the thirteenth heart hoping for something good to happen. It did. At this point declarer should make the rest. He can ruff in dummy, come to hand with a club, take two finesses in trumps and get back to dummy with a club ruff to draw the last trump.

But after ruffing in dummy declarer led a low spade! North won and gave South a second diamond ruff for an unexpected two down and another near top for the French.

At another table, they found a proper defence to set $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{=}$ by two tricks:

West	North	East	South
Sangiorgio	Guła	Baroni	Stefanów
INT	Pass	2♡	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

North led the $\heartsuit A$ and South followed with the queen. Now, North immediately led a low heart to his partner's jack. A diamond came back and South ruffed the third round. next, he was able to reach his partner again in hearts to ruff the fourth round as well! Down two.

Declarer might even have gone three off, had he played for the drop of the $\bigstar K$ when North did not cover the $\bigstar Q$. He gave it a good thought but finally let the queen run.

At an anonymous table, South was on lead against I♠ doubled. The auction had been:

West	North	East	South
♣	Dble	I 🛇	Dble
Pass	Pass	I♠	Pass
Pass	Dble (!)	All Pass	

 I^{\heartsuit} showed spades, of course.

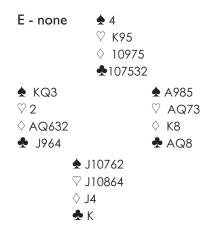
With south on lead, obtaining two diamond ruffs was easy enough but after that, paying only $l \triangleq$, declarer realised that one down for -100, his fate with the \pm K right, would be a bad mp score. So he played for the drop, only to go tow donw in $l \diamondsuit$ for -300 and very, very few matchpoints.

Semifinal U26, second session

by Jos Jacobs

The winners of the first day's qualification had not made a very convincing start yesterday morning, scoring just about average over their first 10 boards. In the second session, they fared little better but at least, we saw some spectacular results.

This was board 14:



West	North	East	South
Nowosadzki	Stefanów	Wiankowski	Guła
		I ♣	2◊
Dble	2♡	Dble	All Pass

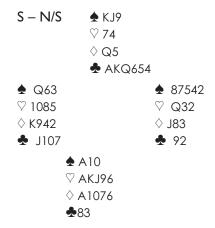
This request for majors backfired when East could double for penalties immediately. He also made the lest lead: the $\heartsuit 3$. When this ran to the 2, 4 and 5, according to Polish traditions the waiter has to be called. This happens whenever you win a trick with the five. Stefanów continued with his spade, carefully

following suit in dummy with the two when East produced the five. West was happy to follow suit with the three so under tremendous laughter, the waiter had to be called again...

East next cleared the trumps and declarer had nowhere to go, making no more than his three trump tricks for down five, -1100 and no matchpoints at all.

On the next board, Artur and Michal scored nearly all the matchpoints on a Vienna Coup followed by a squeeze that was not on:

BOARD 15



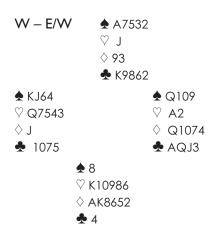
West	North	East	South
Bahnik	Guła	Dudkova	Stefanów
			I♡
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3◊
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4 ♡
Pass	4NT	Pass	5◊
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

2♣ was ambiguous (Polish Club) but 3♣ confirmed the suit and 4♣ of course was slam-going.

When West led a spade, one problem was solved. Declarer proceeded to cash the $\lozenge A$ and $\clubsuit A$ before putting his money on the clubs being 3-2. On the run of the clubs, West was not squeezed as he did not hold both the $\lozenge K$ and $\image Q$ but as East had discarded one of her small hearts, the $\image Q$ made her appearance under the king anyway. Thirteen tricks and 97% instead of the 89% you would get for +1440.

The mixed Czechs got their revenge on the next board:

BOARD 16



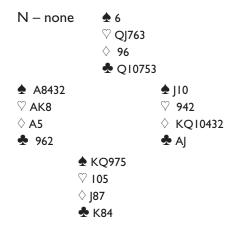
West	North	East	South
Bahnik	Guła	Dudkova	Stefanów
Pass	2♠	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

On a heart lead, West might have been struggling to get to nine tricks, but even the favourable club lead did not make his life really easy. he ran it to the ten, played a club to the jack and advanced the \$9 followed by the ten which he overtook in his hand. When too was allowed to win he could play one more round of clubs before exiting with the \$Q\$ to North's ace. A diamond came back, South winning the king and

returning the suit to dummy's ten. However, Bahnik made no mistake and went on to cash the ♣A followed by ♡A and another, endplaying South to give dummy the last trick in diamonds. Nicely done, +600 and a 84% score.

The next board can be a candidate for the best played hand in Wrocław but only if anyone found it, Kees Tammens told me when we were discussing session 2:

BOARD 17

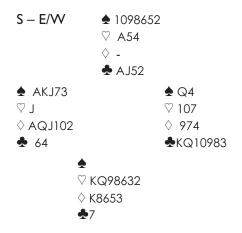


Say, west plays 3NT and North leads a club. South wins the king and, instead of continuing the suit, decides to switch to the \pm K. If declarer wins this, the timing is wrong. If declarer ducks and South reverts to clubs, the squeeze is gone. However, if the \pm K wins and South continues the suit, declarer has the rest. he wins the ace and cashes six diamonds, coming down to the last diamond, three hearts and the bare \pm A in dummy opposite ∇ AKx and \pm xx in his hand. He discards a heart and North has to find a discard from ∇ QJx and \pm Q10. Impossible.

Anyone who found this play, please register with us to be a serious candidate for the best played hand in this event!

Convincing bidding is all you need at the bridge table. Look at this board:

BOARD 19



West	North	East	South
Nistor	Guła	Dobrescu	Stefanów
			4♡
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

It took Guła considerable time to double this; no doubt he was considering the opponents' chances in a diamond contract. Undue worries, as you can see ©

Nistor duly went three off for -800 and about a 35% score...top on the board going to a NS pair that scored +1200 in (guess for yourself, it's not so difficult).

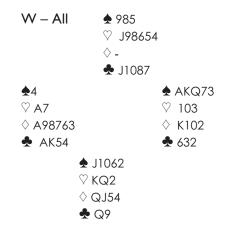
In the girls section, Marion Michielsen bid diamonds with the South hand:

West	North	East	South
	Dekkers		Michielsen
			4♡
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	5◊
Pass	5♡	All Pass	

An amusing auction for a good score. Why? North refrained from doubling $4 \triangleq$ but West elected to lead the $\lozenge A$ against $5 \triangleq ...$

On the next board, his convincing style earned Nistor a very good score:

BOARD 20



West	North	East	South
Nistor	Guła	Dobrescu	Stefanów
I♦	Pass	I ♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♡	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

 2° was 4th suit and 3NT showed a maximum. It was bid in such a convincing style that nobody expected a heart lead any longer... What is more, J98xxx without an entry did not look very promising to Guła so he put a spade on to the table. Wrong...-660 instead of +100 and a swing of 62.5 % (75 or 12.5).

How to proceed?

By Peter Ventura

Take this hand:

♠ A K J 10 3

♡ 105

♦ 10

♣ A Q 1092

West	North	East	South
		Pass	I ♠
2 ♦	2 ♠*	Pass	?



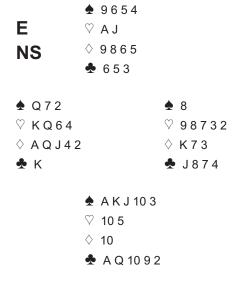
Raluca Dobrescu, Romania.

You are sitting South, red against green. How would you proceed in the bidding, when it has started like this?

If you choose a straight-forward 4♠ you can be sure that partner has some useless middle honors in the red suits. Normally it is wise to bid together with your partner and not all by yourself, but what kind of invitational bid is useful in this situation? A 3♦ negative invitational bid might be useful but would partner bid game with the matching cards. Perhaps a positive invite like 3♠ will lead to the goal? You'll be the judge!

The situation above appeared in the first session of the semis, where Raluca Dobrescu of Romania made a positive invitational bid when she and her partner Radu Nistor met the Bulgarian pair of Nikolay Vasiley/Stefan Skorchey.

BOARD 2, SEMI SESSION I



West	North	East	South
Vasilev	Nistor	Skorchev	Dobrescu
		Pass	♠
2 ♦	2 🏚	Pass	3 💠
Pass	3 🏚	All Pass	

With a rather bad hand North this time simply bid 3♠ over 3♠, thus Dobrescu felt she was forced to pass.

In theory you can make game on a heart lead, if you drop the bare club king, but in practice declarer will lose a club trick.

Vasilev led the king of hearts, won by dummy's ace. Lacking entries to dummy, declarer played a club to the nine at trick two. West won his bare king, and then cashed a heart trick. If Vasilev ventures to play a *low* diamond at this point, East can win the trick with the king and play a club for West to ruff. That would be a play enjoyed by the audience, but it doesn't really matter since West must have a trump trick anyway. N/S +140 and that was a 78%-board for the Romanians.

At another table, where Alexandre Kilani/Pierre Franceschetti and Peteris Bethers/Jurijs Balasovs from France and Latvia respectively met, this happened:



Nikolay Vasilev, Bulgaria.

West	North	East	South
Kilani	Balasovs	Franceschetti	Bethers
		Pass	♠
Dble	2 🛊	3 ♡	Dble
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	Pass
4 ♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Peteris Bethers of Latvia did well in both bidding and play. Firstly he avoided the temptation of bidding a game of his own and secondly he defended very well. Bethers led the ace of spades, and then switched to his singleton diamond. Franceschetti won in hand and played a trump to the queen and Balasovs' ace. On the diamond return Bethers was able to ruff and he rapidly cashed the club ace for +100 and a 59%-board for the Latvians.



Cedric Margot and Jerome Amiguet of Switzerland.

The Swiss Pair By Peter Ventura

Switzerland is famous for its chocolate, Swiss knifes, banks and downhill skiing. What about bridge? According to the EBL website there are almost 4.000 members in the Swiss Bridge Federation.

Six of these players, i.e. three pairs, have climbed down from the Swiss Alpes to come here. Two of the pairs are playing in the Under 21 category and the third pair is playing in the Under 26 category.

The bulletin had a chat with that third pair, Cedric Margot (21) and Jerome Amiguet (23). They are both French speaking, students and are living in Lausanne in the western part of Switzerland.

Editor: What are your expectations in these

Championships?

Swisses: Mainly, to see and learn more about bridge.

And to have fun, of course! **Editor:** Are you doing well?

Swisses: We are in the B semifinal, so can we please

talk about something else?

Editor: OK. Do you enjoy playing Junior events more

than Open ditto? **Swisses:** Definitely! **Editor:** Why?

Swisses: Young bridge players are fairer and there is

always a nice atmosphere at the table.

Editor: Have you participated in other Junior events?

Cedric: In the camp in Slovakia 2006. **Jerome:** For me this is the first time.

Editor: Do you have many bridge clubs in your home

city of Lausanne?

Swisses: Well, we have five, but most of them – and that include the players as well – are more dead than

alive.

Editor: What do you know about Poland?

Swisses: Vodka and beer! But please don't write that down, since our mothers might read this interview.

Editor: No I won't. I promise.

Cedric: In fact I know a lot about Poland. Two years ago I was in Warsaw working as a recorder at the

European Championships.

Editor: What do you do in the evenings after the

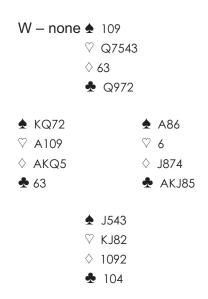
bridge is finished?

Swisses: Trying to kill each other after another day on which we poorly performed at the bridge table. But so far no one has succeeded, as we both are skilled at killing defence...

Grand Slam Auctions

In yesterday's Bulletin, we invited you to report your auctions to 70 on board 8 of the 1st session on Wednesday. One Czech pair responded, so here is their auction.

BOARD 8



(Wednesday – 1st session)

West	East
Macura	Kopecky
I ♣	2♣
2NT	3◊
4 ♦	4♡
4NT	5♡
5NT	6♣
7 ♦	

The explanation: $I - \Phi$ was natural or any strong hand and $2 - \Phi$ was GF with clubs. 2NT showed any

strong hand, 3\(\rightarrow\) and 4\(\rightarrow\) were natural. 4\(\rightarrow\) was cue and after RKCB 5NT asked for extras which Michal duly showed with 6\(\rightarrow\), his source of tricks. Another good way to reach a perfect contract.

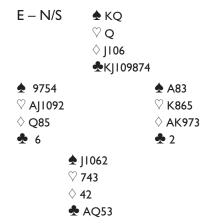
The Semifinal, session 5

by Jos Jacobs

A well-known theme in declarer play is endplaying a defender who holds Hx in a suit. This will work whenever you play the ace and he forgets to throw his honour but there are also many situations in which there is no effective defence. Another varioation occurs when the defender holds only high cards which he can only get rid of when other suits are being played first.

Now look at board 18 from session 5 of the semis:

BOARD 18



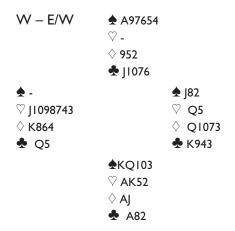
Apart from the happy few who were given the opportunity to collect 500 when their opponents saved in $5\clubsuit$, all other EW pairs were in $4\heartsuit$. This also applies for the pair whose result was scored as making 12 tricks in $4\spadesuit$; we simply refuse to believe this is true.

In 4% the only problem is how many tricks you can make. On a club lead and spade shift, the stratagem mentioned above of winning $\triangle A$ and exiting later in spades works after drawing trumps and playing three rounds of diamonds as long as North is kind enough not to dispose of his $\triangle Q$ in the second or third round of trumps.

When South has not supported clubs, leading this suit becomes less attractive so many Norths led the ♠K. Now, North definitely has to get rid of his ♠Q because declarer will make 12 tricks if he does not. A club goes on the 4th diamond, the last club is ruffed and then comes the spade. At least one declarer even cashed his 5th diamond before ruffing a club and exiting in spades, thus offering North a fourth chance to get rid of the fatal Pique Dame. To no avail, 12 tricks he made and he thus scored the same 68.75 %.

This unblocking issue also turned up on board 16 but here, the position was much more delicate:

BOARD 16



West	North	East	South
Lorencs	Guła	Berthers	Stefanów
2◊	Pass	2♡	Dble
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

West led the $\heartsuit Q$ and now, Artur had to show his skill. If you throw two diamonds on the top hearts and manage to eliminate the red suits, drawing trumps in order to get the necessary entries to dummy, you can then finish off your good work by playing $\triangle A$ and another. Whoever defender holds Hx originally, will be

endplayed; there is no (unblocking) defence.

However, when trumps proved 3-0 declarer had to adjust his plan. He had started off by throwing his two diamonds on the ♥AK, cashing the ♦A and ruff the last diamond. A trump now went to dummy's ten and the 3-0 break come to light. This saw Plan B come into action: heart ruff, two more spades and a low club away from the ace. If West hops up with the queen, the ♣K will be finessable. When West ducked, East won the king and returned the suit. After considerable thought, and with the TD's calling the change, Guła went up with the ace to drop the queen and land his slam. This was good for +980, all the matchpoints and an obvious nomination for the best played hand of the tournament. Very well done indeed!





Tournament Program

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T.B. Pairs
National Simultaneous
IMP Pairs
Open Pairs
Teams

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For Further Information And Registration:

The Organizing Committe: David Birman 50 Pinkas St. Tel Aviv, Israel Tel. 972-3-6058355, Fax: 972-3-5465582, E-mail: birmand@inter.net.il

A PRIZE WORTH PLAYING FOR

David Birman, organizer of the Red Sea Festival in Eilat, Israel, has very generously offered a splendid prize to the winners of the Under 26 Pairs - free accommodation and participation at the Red Sea Festival this year.

The festival, which takes place from 13-23 November 2008, consists of three major events, IMP pairs, Open Pairs and Teams, with prize money in excess of €18.000.

FINAL RESULTS semifinal A

place	nr			C-O %	session %	total %	#
1	26	T Bessis F Volcker	FRA	55.26	57.40	55.97	
2	31	A Guła M Stefanów	POL	54.32	57.29	55.31	
3	21	P Piotrowski A Wasiak	POL	53.53	58.33	55.13	
4	78	R Dobrescu R Nistor	ROM	53.68	56.60	54.65	
5	11	W Gaweł P Zatorski	POL	53.07	57.23	54.45	
6	16	M Nowosadzki P Wiankowski	POL	54.03	55.15	54.40	
7	28	D Stuurman F Visser	NED	54.03	55.10	54.39	
8	43	S Skorchev N Vasilev	BUL	54.33	54.17	54.27	
9	13	P Bethers J Balasovs	LAT	50.40	60.00	53.60	
10	17	M Kopecky M Macura	CZE	53.25	53.79	53.43	
11	59	M Cerek E Kaya	TRK	52.82	54.52	53.39	
12	37	B Drijver M Groenenboom	NED	52.62	54.06	53.10	
13	46	I Baroni A Sangiorgio	ITA	53.91	51.29	53.04	
14	71	A Manno E Mistretta	ITA	53.37	51.60	52.78	
15	33	D Molenaar T Verbeek	NED	54.59	48.38	52.52	
16	63	M Gackowski M Pielaszkiewicz	POL	52.97	50.35	52.10	

		N Lhuissier				
17	74	A Lebatteux	FRA	52.90	49.79	51.87
18	66	A Franchi M Montanari	ITA	54.43	46.46	51.77
19	36	P Nawrocki J Sikora	POL	52.33	48.96	51.21
20	42	L Lauks A Imsa	LAT	49.72	53.27	50.90
21	57	K Gałązka P Kruszewski	POL	54.12	43.90	50.71
22	12	J Hop V de Pagter	NED	52.28	45.94	50.17
23	18	O Stanicic V Zepic	CRO	50.76	48.54	50.02
24	62	J Bethers M Lorencs	LAT	55.14	39.58	49.96
25	56	M Di Franco A Paparo	ITA	48.85	51.35	49.69
26	35	M Dudkova O Bahnik	CZE	48.06	52.75	49.62
27	77	C Grosset T Malarme	FRA	48.11	52.50	49.57
28	40	Q Levoy L Andrea	FRA	52.55	42.92	49.34
29	27	A Kilani P Franceschetti	FRA	53.37	40.77	49.17
30	52	K Doxiadis K Kontomitros	GRE	49.29	46.40	48.32
31	38	M Würmseer R Braun	GER	52.16	40.63	48.32
32	44	A Helmich G Hop	NED	44.22	50.98	46.47
33	41	J Betley M Sikora	POL	46.02	46.77	46.27
34	75	P Butryn P Szymaszczyk	POL	44.94	47.08	45.65

35	25	P Kautny R Bina	AUT	47.46	36.15	43.69
36	99			0.00	0.00	0.00

FINAL RESULTS semifinal B

place	nr			c-o %	session %	total %
1	5	J Katerbau M Rehder	GER	55.25	52.85	54.45
2	2	G Delle Cave R Fellus	ITA	49.07	64.17	54.10
3	7 6	P Jassem P Małecki	POL	51.70	57.65	53.68
4	5 1	E Jones T Paske	ENG	50.86	59.06	53.59
5	6 5	R Pendrigh A Pamelard	FRA	53.10	51.46	52.55
6	5 8	V Vidalat S Poulat	FRA	50.88	55.46	52.41
7	3	A Bernatowicz M Wosik	POL	54.57	47.92	52.35
8	3 9	Ş Ercan G Gűndoğdu	TRK	52.57	51.29	52.14
9	1 5	E Davis R Boyd	IRE	54.71	45.94	51.79
10	6	P Jaworski R Rychlicki	POL	50.83	51.71	51.13
11	6 7	B Igła A Machno	POL	52.45	47.92	50.94
12	2 4	B Agica C Daday	ROM	49.23	54.27	50.91
13	7	G F Kristinsson J Sigurdurson	ICE	48.12	53.48	49.91
14	1	A Honyek	HUN	47.19	55.10	49.83

	4	G Szentandrási				
15	3 4	E Ahlgren S Granath	SWE	46.86	55.46	49.73
16	7	A Bakalarz M Majak	POL	47.69	52.85	49.41
17	8	A Berge T Boekhorst	FRA	53.95	40.00	49.30
18	6 9	R Torma K Lazar	HUN	48.48	50.31	49.09
19	9	T Gracin L Dondivic	CRO	51.29	43.02	48.53
20	4 9	A Michalak M Jarosz	POL	44.64	55.46	48.24
21	5	K Nekrasova I Volozhenin	RUS	47.29	49.90	48.16
22	4 7	A Gogoman J Islam	AUT	46.40	51.60	48.13
23	4 5	C Margot J Amiguet	SUI	50.74	41.67	47.72
24	6 8	D Schulz P Owczarek	AUT	49.73	43.69	47.71
25	7	E Dłutowska J Grzeszczak	POL	47.63	47.71	47.66
26	5 4	B Bozzai L Kaderják	HUN	46.02	48.75	46.93
27	6	D Dobrin A Osipov	RUS	44.53	51.67	46.91
28	1 9	A Sechelea L Constantin	ROM	41.06	58.06	46.72
29	3 2	F Zimmermann T Gotard	GER	49.53	40.77	46.61
30	5 5	L Fruscoloni G Trimarchi	ITA	46.34	43.33	45.34
31	0	V Vitkauskas R Blazevicius	LIT	41.80	51.56	45.05
32		D Ćwirko M Bielawski	POL	43.93	45.42	44.43

3	33	4 8	I Angus J Clacey	ENG	42.78	47.60	44.39
3	34	7	M Magdoń M Osmański	POL	41.82	47.65	43.76
3	35	6 4	J Kasprzyk G Krawczyk	POL	41.92	45.25	41.92
3	36	9			0.00	0.00	0.00

FINAL RESULTS Girls semifinal A

plac e	nr			q1+q 2 %	sessio n %	total %
1	3 7	M Canonne L Favard	FRA	58.19	60.52	59.35
2	4	M Ticha S Heroutova	CZE	59.61	55.51	57.56
3	2	M Maj K Szczepańska	POL	57.39	56.47	56.93
4	3	A Dykier E Grabowska	POL	53.99	57.61	55.80
5	2 5	K Górniak U Kędzierska	POL	55.12	56.44	55.53
6	3 4	P Jatczak K Tyszkiewicz	POL	55.66	55.33	55.49
7	3 2	S Stockdale F Brown	EN G	55.60	54.22	54.91
8	2 6	J Krawczyk N Sakowska	POL	50.48	58.93	54.70
9	1	K Wesołowska J Żmuda	POL	51.88	56.96	54.42
10	2 7	R Barendregt M van Gelder	NE D	59.08	47.65	53.37
11	2 8	A Rowold A Heim	GE R	52.28	54.34	53.31

12	3 6	P Hoderova J Jankova	CZE	51.59	54.32	52.95
13	2 4	M Chavarria Kaifmann G Botta	ITA	53.12	50.72	51.92
14	1 6	A Sztyber M Zadrożna	POL	50.94	52.28	51.61
15	3 8	K Dufrat A Ferrer-Lopez	POL	51.12	51.02	51.07
16	3 5	S B Thomsen A C R Ege	DE N	53.46	45.73	49.60
17	1 7	E Jurkiewicz J Przytycka	POL	48.34	52.29	49.32
18	1 8	N Banaś A Marek	POL	47.81	50.87	49.09
19	3	L Dekkers M Michielsen	NE D	44.66	53.68	48.92
20	2	D Kazmucha J Małecka	POL	50.09	47.55	48.82
21	2 2	L Matthias M Eggeling	GE R	46.46	50.56	48.51
22	2	C Puillet J Carbonneaux	FRA	47.73	49.21	48.47
23	1 4	M Beuger L Sanders	NE D	54.48	41.00	47.74
24	3	C Beccarini E Iacopini	ITA	47.48	47.98	47.73
25	1 9	L Leufkens J Wackwitz	NE D	46.74	48.59	47.66
26	4	E Maksymiuk M Maksymiuk	POL	51.34	43.99	47.41
27	4 0	A Thizy C Chaugny	FRA	45.72	47.14	46.43
28	4 2	K Bąk A Kamińska	POL	45.59	46.30	45.94
29	2	S Bird J Marvin	EN G	45.20	45.37	45.29
30	1	K Ticha	CZE	48.48	40.95	44.71

	2	H Novotna				
31	3 9	D Cimoka I Erķena	LAT	41.99	45.90	43.95
32	1	J Tomić J Marinković	SE R	37.14	50.00	43.57
33	1 5	Z Moszczyńska A Puczyńska	POL	41.21	31.35	36.28
34	4 4			0.00	0.00	0.00

FINAL RESULTS U 21 semifinal A

place	nr			c-o %	session %	total %
1	26	P Jassem P Tuczyński	POL	58.88	57.43	57.58
2	59	J Paul G Robertson	ENG	55.23	56.57	56.12
3	31	M Mroczkowski A Śmieszkoł	POL	54.37	56.57	55.84
4	62	A Cohen O Cohen	FRA	54.33	55.86	55.35
5	40	G Zanasi R Rubino	ITA	56.64	54.43	55.16
6	21	E Verbeek E Wackwitz	NED	55.78	54.64	55.02
7	42	I Szpuntow K Wilczak	POL	50.95	57.14	54.74
8	56	M Kania A Krych	POL	55.29	54.21	54.57
9	64	Ł Gaweł M Maj	POL	52.96	54.14	53.75

10	58	M Gulczyński J Pędziński	POL	52.78	54.00	53.59
11	61	T Jochymski W Kaźmierczak	POL	54.52	52.76	53.35
12	23	T Hoffmann P Sinkovicz	HUN	50.71	54.21	53.05
13	49	Ł Golder T Kapera	POL	51.76	53.45	52.89
14	24	J Thrower S Shah	ENG	57.73	50.43	52.86
15	11	S Niajko J Wojcieszek	POL	52.36	52.43	52.41
16	57	L Teichmann K Zylka	CZE	59.35	48.79	52.31
17	16	I Łosiewicz Ł Witkowski	POL	56.91	49.86	52.21
18	27	V Broersen J van Lankveld	NED	50.73	50.64	50.67
19	37	W Racz M Wieteska	POL	56.19	47.43	50.35
20	68	J Nab V Nab	NED	52.90	47.79	49.49
21	41	R Myers B Paske	ENG	58.89	44.71	49.44
22	36	J Spangenberg S Spangenberg	NED	51.79	47.50	48.93
23	67	O Damty E Erez	ISR	54.00	46.07	48.71
24	63	V Frank M Petrasek	CZE	54.33	45.86	48.68
25	17	S Karbanovich J Szpuntov	BLR	55.56	44.07	47.90
26	55	J Tarnawski B Okopiński	POL	52.22	45.50	47.74
27	13	K Mielnik B Stępień	POL	54.78	41.71	46.07
28	20	K Gajda Ł Chrzanowski	POL	50.96	41.50	44.65

29	33	A Waszkiewicz J Kwiecień	POL	51.18	41.21	44.54	
30	34	F Ghielmetti M Flury	SWI	52.35	39.07	43.50	

FINAL RESULTS U 21 semifinal B

place	nr			c-o %	session %	total %
1	46	A Terszak R Pałuba	POL	48.14	61.11	56.79
2	52	M Wojciechowski M Zimniewicz	POL	44.62	59.73	54.69
3	43	M Meyuchas A Lazar	ISR	48.62	56.70	54.01
4	66	R Parkitny P Kaleta	POL	46.49	56.01	52.84
5	38	G Gerstner L Rosenthal	ISR	47.76	55.19	52.71
6	39	M Igła A Janeczko	POL	49.12	54.93	52.66
7	14	C Thizy T Coudert	FRA	47.80	53.61	51.67
8	54	T Hoffmeister A Rudolph	GER	48.39	52.86	51.37
9	48	T Rainforth P Railing	ENG	46.71	54.05	51.27
10	69	M Dąbrowski A Majcher	POL	49.49	51.96	51.14
11	60	D Hersfang D Hersfang	ISR	48.82	52.16	51.05
12	29	L Jones D Faria	ENG	47.05	52.22	50.50

13	47	K Król P Witaszek	POL	50.28	48.96	49.40
14	32	R Philipsen T Verbeek	NED	45.42	50.91	49.08
15	51	F Charignon G Lafont	FRA	48.78	48.59	48.65
16	19	L Della Ca U Eberhard	SWI	43.50	51.03	48.52
17	28	D Kaeppel M Ellerbeck	GER	41.81	51.75	48.43
18	22	M Klukowski T Trzewik	POL	43.78	50.64	48.35
19	65	A Górska M Andrzejewski	POL	39.80	52.97	48.24
20	18	Z Siderov D Spasov	BUL	49.86	47.56	47.99
21	44	N Ertel K Kaeppel	GER	47.84	46.54	46.97
22	12	D Karman K Streekstra	NED	46.19	46.96	46.71
23	30	F De Leo S Balestra	ITA	44.04	47.08	46.07
24	53	G Jarząbek P Podolski	POL	48.33	44.26	45.61
25	15	G Garkaje E Cizevskis	LAT	44.99	45.12	45.07
26	25	R Grigoraitis J Ceponkus	LIT	46.39	43.53	44.48
27	50	G Maruzzella F Palermo	ITA	42.50	44.99	43.83
28	45	J Harris J Richards	WAL	40.04	45.23	43.50
29	35	C Evans R Watkins	WAL	35.79	34.20	34.73
30	70			0.00	0.00	0.00
-			-			

