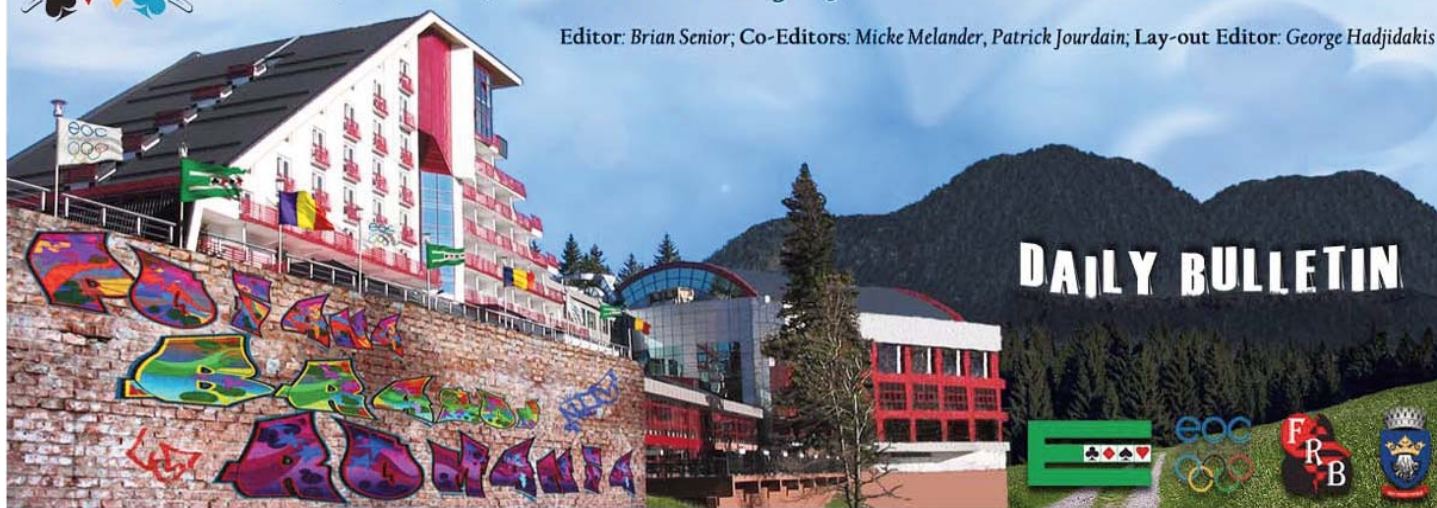


22nd EUROPEAN YOUTH BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



Poiana, Brasov, Romania 8-18 July 2009

Editor: Brian Senior; Co-Editors: Micke Melander, Patrick Jourdain; Lay-out Editor: George Hadjidakis



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Thursday, 9 July 2009

Bine ati venit la Poiana Brasov



*EBL President Gianarrigo Rona declaring the
22nd European Youth Team Championships open*

Last evening saw the opening ceremony of the 22nd European Youth Teams Championships. After two brief speeches, the teams were presented to the audience to rounds of enthusiastic applause. While the national anthems were being played a brief photo presentation of their country was shown on the screen at the front of the auditorium. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a buffet before retiring to prepare for this morning's early start.

Good luck to you all and, if you cannot win, then at least play well and have a good time.

Today's Vugraph Matches (also on BBO)

- 10.00 Austria v Netherlands (Open)
- 14.00 France v Romania (Open)
- 17.30 Italy v Denmark (Open)

Additional BBO Matches

- 10.00 Poland v Czech Republic (Open)
- 14.00 Netherlands v Israel (Open)
- 17.30 England v Greece (Open)



UNDER 26 OPEN TEAMS



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND 1

1	ISRAEL	BYE
2	AUSTRIA	NETHERLANDS
3	ITALY	GERMANY
4	HUNGARY	BULGARIA
5	RUSSIA	DENMARK
6	ROMANIA	BELGIUM
7	LATVIA	FRANCE
8	ENGLAND	CROATIA
9	POLAND	CZECH REP.
10	NORWAY	GREECE
11	SWEDEN	FINLAND
12	TURKEY	IRELAND

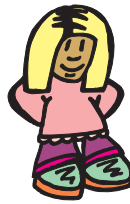
ROUND 2

1	NETHERLANDS	ISRAEL
2	GERMANY	AUSTRIA
3	BULGARIA	ITALY
4	DENMARK	HUNGARY
5	BELGIUM	RUSSIA
6	FRANCE	ROMANIA
7	CROATIA	LATVIA
8	CZECH REP.	ENGLAND
9	GREECE	POLAND
10	FINLAND	NORWAY
11	IRELAND	SWEDEN
12	TURKEY	BYE

ROUND 3

1	ISRAEL	GERMANY
2	AUSTRIA	BULGARIA
3	ITALY	DENMARK
4	HUNGARY	BELGIUM
5	RUSSIA	FRANCE
6	ROMANIA	CROATIA
7	LATVIA	CZECH REP.
8	ENGLAND	GREECE
9	POLAND	FINLAND
10	NORWAY	IRELAND
11	SWEDEN	TURKEY
12	NETHERLANDS	BYE

UNDER 26 GIRL TEAMS



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND 1

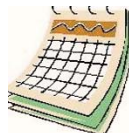
1	GERMANY	ROMANIA
2	HUNGARY	ITALY
3	ENGLAND	TURKEY
4	CZECH REP.	POLAND
5	SWEDEN	DENMARK
6	NORWAY	FRANCE
7	NETHERLANDS	ESTONIA

ROUND 2

1	ESTONIA	HUNGARY
2	GERMANY	ENGLAND
3	ROMANIA	CZECH REP.
4	ITALY	SWEDEN
5	TURKEY	NORWAY
6	POLAND	NETHERLANDS
7	DENMARK	FRANCE

ROUND 3

1	ESTONIA	GERMANY
2	ROMANIA	HUNGARY
3	ITALY	ENGLAND
4	TURKEY	CZECH REP.
5	POLAND	SWEDEN
6	DENMARK	NORWAY
7	FRANCE	NETHERLANDS



Today's Schedule

- 10.00** Under 26 Open & Girls (1st Round)
- 14.00** Under 26 Open & Girls (2nd Round)
- 17.30** Under 26 Open & Girls (3rd Round)

Welcome Message from the EBL President



Mr. Mayor of Brasov, George Scripcaru, Mr. President of the Romanian Bridge Federation, Ludovic Orban, Ata Aydin, Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee, Panos Gerontopoulos, Chairman Emeritus of the WBF Youth Committee, Authorities, EBL Colleagues, Dear Friends, Dear Young Friends, Both personally and on behalf of the EBL Executive and Youth Committee, I am very pleased to welcome you, players, captains, coaches, officers, journalists and guests to Poiana Brasov to celebrate the 22nd European Youth Bridge Teams Championship.

This is the first time Romania has hosted an official European event and the Romanian Bridge Federation, with its President Lodovic Orban, and the Organizing Committee led by my great friend Marius Georgescu, has made every effort to create the basis for a great tournament, starting with their choice of Piatra Mare as Venue and Main Hotel. I believe that, with Talya Hotel in Antalya 2000, Piatra Mare is the best combination Venue-Main Hotel in the history of the Youth Championships. Of course I cannot forget the magnificent Kurhaus in Wien 1998.

I want to thank the Romanian Bridge Federation, the City of Brasov, Piatra Mare Hotel and all our sponsor friends who have enabled us to raise the curtain on this, the 22nd Youth Bridge Championships.

The Youth Committee worked very hard together with the Organizing Committee, and today everything is ready to start. With 51 participating teams, representing 24 countries, we are very close to the record number of 52 teams attending the Championships in Prague 2004, but I am very pleased to underline that, with 14 girls teams, we achieved a new record. I hope that starting from the next edition in 2011, this girls event may also become the qualification to the 1st World Girls Teams Championship under the auspices of the World Bridge Federation. The girls represent a huge part of bridge development and they deserve to achieve this goal.

Now the stage is set for you, the players, the true protagonists. I am sure that once again you, through your behaviour, will be proud to show the values of fair play, friendship, harmony and solidarity, rejecting any discrimination as we have come to expect within sport in general and bridge in particular. I am certain that once again you will be able to show that our discipline is a true and great sport.

Thank you, all of you: enjoy your play and your stay in Poiana Brasov.

I am proud to declare officially open the 22nd edition of the European Youth Bridge Teams Championship.

Gianarrigo Rona

He Who Doesn't Hesitate May Also Be Lost

by Eitan Levy

Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1♣	3♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♠	All Pass

The English proverb 'He who hesitates is lost' means that if you react too slowly to situations, and don't act decisively, there will be negative consequences, like missing a good opportunity.

The proverb may not apply to the thinking (and hesitating) bridge player, but it certainly applies to his partner – a break in tempo, such as a hesitation, may often put partner in a losing situation.

We are all familiar with the restrictions on partner when a player hesitates or thinks too long, but the law refers to 'break of tempo' and bidding without thinking or hesitating can sometimes give as much potential information as hesitating or huddling.

This deal is from the qualifying rounds of the European Junior Pairs Championships in Wroclaw, Poland last year, and was not played with screens.

West opened a natural 1♣, North placed the stop card in position and pre-empted with 3♦. East ignored the STOP warning and passed almost immediately. The final contract of 3♠ by East went one down for a score of 100 to North/South.

N/S called the director after the play and claimed that the quick pass may have influenced West's decision not to bid 4♣ after partner's 3♠ bid.

To consider adjusting in a case like this the TD has to answer three questions positively:

1. Was there a break in tempo? Yes, there was no disputing the quick pass over 3♦.

2. Is there a logical alternative to the pass over 3♠? The TD consulted other players. All thought that West had a close decision between passing and bidding 4♣, and some said they would bid 4♣. So a bid of 4♣ is definitely a logical alternative.

3. Did the quick pass suggest that the pass of 3♠ might be more successful than a bid of 4♣. The TD thought so, and adjusted the score to 4♣ doubled –2; 500 to North/South.

East/West appealed, but the appeal committee unanimously upheld the director's decision.

With screens there is, of course, no STOP requirement. Nevertheless, both screenmates should avoid passing the tray too quickly in competitive situations.



1st World Youth Bridge Championships

Yeditepe University
Istanbul – Turkey / 15-23 August 2009

Swiss-KO teams
15-19 August

Board-a-match teams
18-19 August

Entry fee:
500€/team

MP Pairs
20-23 August

IMP Pairs
22-23 August

Entry fee:
200€/pair

NBO's are not restricted with any quotas.
Transnational teams and /or pairs are also allowed.
National anthems will be played, and national flags will be raised for only teams or pairs with all players of the same nationality.

Eligibility: born on or after January 01, 1984

In case of sufficient participation in U20 teams and/or pairs,
the Championship will be played in both U25 and U20 categories.

Full board accommodation in double rooms: 45€ per person per day
Registrations will be made through WBF site:

www.worldbridge.org



The 2009 European Open Championships

It is just ten days since the fourth edition of the European Open Championships ended in San Remo, Italy. As always, the Championships featured the full range of plays, bids and defences, from brilliancy to insanity. Here is a taste of the best of Sanremo.

Germany's Tomek Gotard was the hero of this first hand from the Mixed Teams.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West <i>T. Gotard</i>	North	East <i>B. Gotard</i>	South
	Pass	Pass	1♣
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the other room, the German North/South pair had played in INT and, aided by some friendly defence, managed to make seven tricks for +90. At first sight, Gotard

was going to require similar help if he was to make his thin game.

The opening lead was the jack of spades to the queen, Gotard ducking. He also ducked the spade continuation and won the third round. The ten of clubs ran to North's queen and he cashed the thirteenth spade, dummy and South pitching hearts, declarer a club. A heart switch went to the eight, ten and ace. Gotard cashed the ace of diamonds then led the diamond jack, North covering. The fall of the eight meant that Gotard could cash two more diamonds and the last one squeezed South. Forced to keep the king of hearts, South had to come down to two clubs and now a finesse gave Gotard three club tricks and his contract for +600 and 12 IMPs.

The opening lead decides the fate of many contracts but sometimes declarer has to be alive to the possibilities offered by a second-best choice.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West <i>Callaghan</i>	North <i>Sandqvist</i>	East <i>Duckworth</i>	South <i>Senior</i>
Pass	1♥	2♦	2♥
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
West <i>Malinowski</i>	North <i>Stern</i>	East <i>De Botton</i>	South <i>Fawcett</i>
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Looking at the East/West hands, we can see that 5♦ is much the best contract, but both Wests declared 3NT on this deal from the Mixed Teams.

Nick Sandqvist led the ace of hearts then a low one to the ten and queen. Brian Callaghan had no reason to do other than try the odds play in diamonds, running the queen. When that lost to the king, Nevena Senior returned her remaining heart and that was one down.

In the other room, David Stern led a low heart to dummy's jack. Artur Malinowski could see that he could



Nevena Senior, England

afford a diamond loser, but only if it was North who won the trick. He took advantage of the inferior opening lead by playing for the small extra chance that the diamond king would be singleton offside. When the ace dropped the king, Malinowski had all thirteen tricks – there is a double squeeze for the fourth overtrick.

The De Botton team gained another game swing on this next one from their losing semi-final against Hauge.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Malinowski</i>	<i>Saelensminde</i>	<i>De Botton</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>
<i>Gunev</i>	<i>Sandqvist</i>	<i>Popova</i>	<i>Senior</i>
			INT
Pass	Pass	4♠	All Pass

A minor sub-plot in this match was the fact that Artur Malinowski, now a London resident, was playing against his ex-wife, Anna – still resident in Norway.

Against De Botton, Anna cashed the ace of clubs, collecting the four, eight (standard count) and nine. She switched to the three of spades for the queen and ace. Declarer could now have run all the trumps and South would have been squeezed down to ♥Q105 ♦A ♣K. Exiting with either minor would now endplay South to lead away from the hearts and concede the contract. However, after drawing trumps declarer tried a diamond. South won the ace, North following with the three, and South showed that she was not on top of this

board at all when she switched to a heart; +620.

Nevena Senior cashed the king of clubs, Sandqvist playing the two, reverse count. Senior cashed the ace of clubs and ace of diamonds, again getting a count card, then exited with the jack of clubs. She had to come to the queen of hearts at the end for down one; +100 and 12 IMPs.

The 2007 winners of the Mixed Teams did not make it into the knock-out stages this time around, but Lilo Poplilov still had time to show his quality on this deal:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Poplilov declared 5♦ doubled as North after a revealing auction in which East had opened 2♦ to show a weak hand with both majors and had doubled the final contract before leading the ten of clubs. It did not take a genius to read the lead as a singleton but, what to do about it as West surely had an entry, presumably in spades?

Poplilov found the answer. He won the queen of clubs and played three rounds of hearts, throwing his spade on the heart two. East had not unblocked two heart honours so was forced to win the heart trick and there was no longer a spade entry to the West hand so no ruff – a classic scissors coup, even if a more alert East could have thwarted declarer's plan. Plus 750 was worth only 4 IMPs as the same contract had been allowed to make undoubled at the other table.

Incidentally, there is a certain symmetry to this deal – 5♦ is beaten by a club ruff, 5♣ by a diamond ruff, 4♠ by a heart ruff, and one way to beat 4♥ is via a spade ruff.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Today in History - July 9th



2006: In his last game of professional football Zinedine Zidane is sent off for headbutting Italian defender Marco Materazzi as France go on to lose to Italy 5-3 on penalties in the World Cup final.

1922: 18-year old American swimmer Johnny Weismuller becomes the first person to cover 100 metres in less than a minute in a new world record time of 58.6 seconds.

1877: The first Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championship takes place in England.

West	North	East	South
	Bertens		Van Zwol
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♣	2♥	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

This comes from the semi-final of the Mixed Pairs. Huub Bertens is one of the top Dutch players. His 2♣ response was three-card Drury and Wietske Van Zwol's 3♥ simply showed a strong hand with no certainty as to the best contract. Despite the known five-four spade fit, Bertens judged to play in 3NT, against which the lead was a low club to the ten and queen.

Bertens played a small heart towards the queen. Had that been ducked, it would have been a simple matter to establish a ninth trick so East did well to go in with her king. She switched to a diamond. Bertens put up the king and West missed the last chance to beat the contract when he won the ace and returned the suit. Bertens won the queen of diamonds and cashed the spades. On the fifth spade, he threw a club from hand. East was squeezed – forced to keep three hearts to prevent declarer overtaking the queen to cash three tricks there, she had to bare the ace of clubs.

Bertens had a choice of winning lines now. He could have cashed the queen of hearts then led a club to East's ace, and would have then been put in hand to cash the other two heart winners – a stepping stone squeeze. However, Bertens preferred to simply play a low club off the table. That lost to the ace but he could win the heart return with the queen and had two club winners to cash.

My own contribution comes from the Open Teams qualifying stage.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Senior		Mizel	
	1♥	Pass	4♥
4♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

South's raise to game put the pressure on and now the traditional approach with the West hand is to overcall 4♠ and, if the double comes very quickly and with confidence, consider running to the longer diamond suit. Now Jack Mizel's raise to slam was based on the faulty assumption

that 4♠ was bid to make. Yes, of course West hopes to make his contract, but 4♠ is often a two-way shot, hoping that one or other game is making and that, should 4♠ fail, it will cost less than conceding 4♥.

6♦ makes whenever the diamonds are two-two and the three spades are with the king of clubs – declarer eliminates the hearts and diamonds then plays three rounds of spades for an endplay. At first sight, 6♠ is one off, but a similar line of play actually brings it home and, as this line succeeds when diamonds are three-one as well as two-two, one might argue that it is actually the better slam.

North led a heart which Senior ruffed. He drew two rounds of trumps then ruffed dummy's second heart and started to run the diamonds. Although there was one too few diamonds to get rid of all the club losers from dummy, it didn't matter. If North ever ruffed in he would be endplayed, forced to either give a ruff and discard or lead from the king of clubs. When he refused to ruff a diamond, he was forced to bear the king of clubs. There was no possibility of misreading the ending, as North had promised five hearts with his opening bid, so declarer simply cashed the club ace, bringing down the king, and just conceded the last trick to the jack of spades.

At the other table, West doubled the 4♥ raise and East left it in. That cost 800 so 6♠ making gained 12 IMPs.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
		2♠	Dble
4♠	Pass	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

Declarer thought he had a guess on this one and went wrong, but he should have got the ending right.

South's double of the weak two bid was automatic and I would have a strong preference for a second double when 4♠ comes back around – 4NT is less flexible and here South was unwilling to play in a suit where he held AQ2. On a different deal, had North responded 5♦ to a second double, South would have held a clear pass as partner would have been known to have a long suit.

Anyway, 5♥ it was, and the contract not only had good play but should have been brought home. West led the king then queen of spades. Declarer ruffed and drew three

rounds of trumps then played three top clubs, ending in dummy. Now he played the nine of diamonds to the ten, queen and king and back came the six of diamonds. After some thought, declarer put up dummy's eight and the jack forced the ace, leaving a second diamond loser for one down.

Declarer should have played low on the diamond return, however unlikely he may have thought jack-ten doubleton to be. Playing the $\diamond 8$ is playing for West to have misdefended. The distribution is known from the bidding and play to date. Had West really held $\diamond KJxx$ he would have returned a spade, giving the ruff and discard but holding declarer to ten tricks. The only reason for the diamond return was to give declarer a losing option.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

There were plenty of East/West pairs cursing the four-zero heart split as they bid a doomed $6\heartsuit$ or $6NT$. Doomed?



Artur Malinowski, England

Well, perhaps, but not at every table as the opponents' bidding came to the rescue.

Artur Malinowski played $6NT$ as West after South had made a weak jump overcall of $3\clubsuit$. He won the club lead and cashed a few diamonds, at the end of which he thought that North rated to have the longer hearts and that queen-to-four with North was more likely than stiff queen with South. He backed his judgement by taking a first round heart finesse and earned his pair a huge number of match-points.

Andrew Robson and Alexander Allfrey got a bit lucky. They were about to play in $6\heartsuit$ when South doubled. It was easy for Allfrey, East, to realise that South was looking for a heart ruff. Allfrey converted to $6\heartsuit$ and now had no trouble in taking the first-round finesse in the trump suit.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	Pass	$1\spadesuit$	Pass
$2\clubsuit$	Pass	$2\diamond$	Pass
$3\spadesuit$	Pass	$4NT$	Pass
$5\heartsuit$	Pass	$6\spadesuit$	All Pass

Six Spades is cold on any lead but the two of spades, North winning the ace and returning the suit. That appears to beat the contract, as there can be only one diamond ruff and there are insufficient entries to both establish and cash the clubs. Only one person who played a spade contract on the two of spades lead made twelve tricks, and he was only in game. However, the slam is unbeatable even on this defence.

Declarer wins the second spade in hand and leads a diamond to the king then ruffs a club, ruffs a diamond and ruffs a second club. He does not cash the ace of clubs because he cannot afford a discard from hand. Now he runs the trumps. As he must keep guards in both minors, South has to come down to the bare queen of hearts. Declarer crosses to the ace of hearts, South's queen making an appearance, and cashes the ace of clubs. Away goes the losing diamond and, at trick twelve a heart to the nine brings home the slam. A guard squeeze with South attempting to protect all three side-suits, and not a bad way to wrap up our look at the 2009 European Open Championships.