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Issue No.10

Sunday evening, 23 August 2009

More Gold for Czechs & Gold for the Dutch



The winners join in for a picknick in the woods

Congratulations to Marion Michielsen and Tim Verbeek of the Netherlands on winning the World Junior MP Pairs Championship by an incredible margin. Not only did they win the final session by a mile but their overall margin was 5.5 % on the runners-up so Verbeek was absolutely right when he said, shortly after the end of the match, that only one pair was entitled to win this event.

The finish of the World IMP Pairs Championship, on the other hand, was very close, due mainly to a few scoring errors that had to be corrected first before the Czechs Magdalena Ticha and Frantisek Kralik could be declared World Champions here.

Congratulations to all medal winners. The final result of the MP Pairs reminds us of Tiger Woods who once won the Masters by 12 shots – a margin comparable to Michielsen's and Verbeek's margin.

Closing Speech from the President of the WBF

Dear Gianarrigo, Dear Fahir, Dear Ata, Dear all,

Today is a happy day for me as all together and especially you, the young players, we won a new challenge. Indeed, we can consider that this first World Youth Bridge Congress was a success as it gathered people from the eight Zones of the WBF which was the purpose of the "Congress," to meet each other, to know better each other, to understand better each other to make true our motto: "Bridge for Peace."

A success also with the numbers which allowed the organisation of the Swiss with 40 teams and the Board-a-

match which followed, and the Pairs with 94 and the IMP in such a way that you practice every kind of bridge games. But the most important success is what you told me: you were enjoying very much the event. If that is the case, this is due to the dedication of some people, who take care of you through the organisation in this beautiful Yeditepe University which was put at our dis-

posal by his founder Bedrettin Dalan and its Vice-President Prof. Sedefhan Oguz whom I thank very warmly.

We all together will also thank the Turkish Bridge Federation and its President, Mr Fahir Uzümcü who welcomed us in the marvellous city of Istanbul. But nothing would have happened without the energy of my great friend Mr Ata Aydin, Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee. Thank You, Ata, thank you so much to have conducted such an orchestra with all the teams of workers and assistants among whom I will cite Maurizio Di Sacco, the General Manager, my dear Sevinç Atay, Murat Molva, Levent Ozgül, Dimitri Ballas and his team of Directors: Pierre Collaros, Eitan Levy and Rahmi lyilikçi, Terry Collier for the duplication and his machines, los lacobs and Marjo Chorus for the Bulletin with George Hatzidakis and Akis Kanaris, Manolo Eminenti for the scoring and Geronimo Duccio the IT Manager as well as all the others whose names are maybe not written here but certainly not forgotten in my heart.

If we are going to congratulate the winners and the medallists now, it's indeed all of you whom we want to applaud. I have no doubt that you are coming back home with a nice souvenir and will encourage all your friends to play bridge and participate in such an event.

Have a nice trip back and see you soon around the world!

José Damiani, WBF President

WBF Youth Committee Chairman Farewell

Dear Young Friends and Colleagues,

Now that we have reached the end of yet another successful organization, it has been a great pleasure and honor for me to have welcomed you here in this wonderful city of Istanbul.

Leaving aside the excitement at the bridge table, I do hope that you all had a great time during the Championship, and we hope we have been able to show the traditional Turkish hospitality to each and every one of you.

Although this is the introduction edition of the World Youth Congress, we were pleased to receive participation from 29 different countries of the world coming from countries as far as New Zealand, Costa Rica, Argentina, Venezuela and Japan. I have no doubt that the popularity and attendance for this won-

derful transnational event will increase in the future. We are thankful to the Yeditepe University for providing an excellent venue for the Championship, with nice accommodation and food facilities, playing halls and spacious administrative areas for the Organization Staff.

I would like to extend my warm thanks and gratitude to the WBF President losé DAMIANI, and the EBL President Gianarrigo RONA who honoured us with their presence in Istanbul.

My special thanks are due to Murat MOLVA, Member of the WBF Youth Committee and to the EBL Executive Committee Member, my colleague, Sevinc ATAY who dealt with all details of the Organization with meticulous dedication.

Many thanks to the WBF staff, who worked with great enthusiasm in the Championship, consisting of:

Maurizio DI SACCO, who conducted the Championship in true maestro fashion, taking care of each and every detail to ensure smooth running of the Championship; and his assistant The On-Site Organizer Levent ÖZGÜL, who effectively co-ordinated the links between various departments of the Championship.

The Tournament directors headed by the Chief TD Dimitris BALLAS and his crew consisting of Pierre COLLAROS, Eitan LEVY and Rahmi IYILIKÇI who worked tirelessly without even taking a day-off to sort out all problems at the table with such efficiency that there was no need for the Appeals Committee to convene ! This might well be a first in a World event.

Thanks are due to the Turkish Bridge Federation, President Fahir ÜZÜMCÜ and his crew of administrative staff, hospitality people, duplicators, BBO operators, and caddies.

But above all, I would like to thank you, my dear young friends, to have played in a friendly atmosphere with great competitive spirit, harmony and fair play. The future of the sport of bridge relies on you. I wish you all a safe journey back home, and I look forward to meeting you again in the future events.

Farewell, and "güle güle".

Ata AYDIN – WBF Youth Committee Chairman



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MP Pairs Final, fourth session by Jos Jacobs The overnight leaders, sitting EW on board 1, had no rea-With the $\Diamond K$ well placed for declarer, the contract is never in danger. The defenders can arrange a diamond ruff son to complain about what happened to them. but that only prevents the overtrick. When West led the ♣Q, ten tricks were easy for the French: +930 and all the Board: I. Dlr: North/None matchpoints. ♦ K 4 They lost part of their advantage on the next board: ♡ A K | 10 9 5 ♦ K 4 🐥 A K 4 Poard E Dir North/NS

	Board: 5.	Dir: North/N	5	
	🔶 A 7	6		
	♡ 105			
	♦ A 10)		
	📥 A Q	9543		
 ▲ 3 2 ♡ K 9 4 3 ◊ K J 2 ▲ J 10 8 6 	N ₩ \$ Q I ♡ A J 2 ◊ 9 7 ♣ K 7	E	C J 9 8 5 2 8 7 6 2 8 3	
West	North	East	South	
Lebatteux	Sofu	Lhuissier	lmamoglu	
	INT	Pass	3NT	

All pass

East leads a spade and dummy's ten (or Queen, for that matter) wins. Declarer goes after the clubs, so West wins the 4th round and returns his spade. East wins the King and clears the suit and now come the remaining clubs. West is squeezed as he has to find three discards. One heart and one diamond are easy but after that...When he chose a second heart, declarer advanced the $\heartsuit 10$. East covered with the Queen which was allowed to hold. A diamond came back but declarer won the Ace and played for the squeeze to have worked: heart to the Ace and an overtrick. Nicely done.

The leaders enjoyed a good board on this one as here is their auction;

West	North	East	South
Hollands	Verbeek	Wu	Michielsen
	۱ 🕭		INT
Pass	2 🛧	2♡	Dble
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	All pass		

With the contract in the South hand, West led a heart to

Someone managed to bid and make 7NT here but not against the leaders. Their first-round opponents also got to 7NT after North found out partner had $\diamond AQ$ but when South did not have a small diamond and the heart finesse was wrong, they had to concede one down.

N

S

▲ A Q | 9 7 6

W

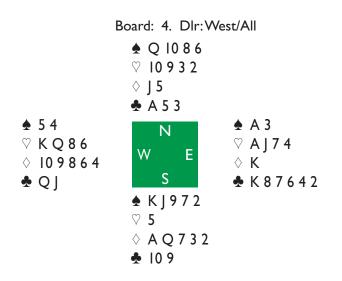
♡8 ◇AQ ♣10832 **▲** 5 2

♡ O 4 2

\Lambda Q 9 5

◊ | 9 7 5 3

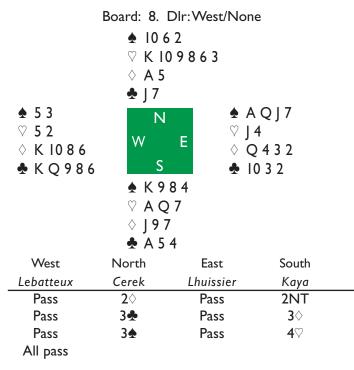
The French youngsters, ranked 3rd overnight, got $7 \pm$ bid and made against them. Not the ideal way to start the final session. Their position improved a lot, however, on board 4:



West	North	East	South	
Gardiner	Lhuissier	Etchepareborda	Lebatteux	
Pass	Pass	♣	♠	
2 ◇	2♠	3♣	Pass	
Pass	3♠	Dble	All pass	

Queen and Ace which gave declarer an extra trick. Next, Marion tested the clubs and conceded one to West who returned a spade. East won the King and played back a heart but then, declarer had the balance for a useful +950 and all the matchpoints.

A few boards later, you had to find the right lead:





Akin Koclar, Turkey

Either minor will do but Lebatteux hit upon an unlucky spade. Lhuissier won the Ace and returned the Queen but the damage had already been done. Declarer's 4th spade will develop into a parking place for a minor suit loser. Contract made for 51 mp to NS.

At another table, the runners-up from Poland were defending 3NT against the Dutchies Van Lankveld and Philipsen. The former had become declarer (South) in 3NT, an interesting variation. Justyna Zmuda led the Q and Adam Krysa contributed the two. Probably, he should have shown/unblocked his $\oiint10$ according to the partnership agreements, as Justyna, after long consideration, continued a low club. Dummy's Jack thus made a surprise trick and declarer quickly cashed out for +400. When play was over, I jokingly asked Joris van Lankveld why he had not made an overtrick by playing a spade to the King, as -430 probably would have been a complete bottom for the Polish pair...It turned out later that +400 was already worth 48 mp...

Two boards later, both Michielsen and Lebatteux made good use of a slight defensive mistake:

	Board: 10. D	lr: East/	All
	🛦 A J 10 2		
	♡ J 5		
	♦ J 6 5		
	뢒 K Q 8 4		
Q 9 8 7 6	N		4 3
♡ 6	W E		A K 10 9 8 3
A Q 9 8 3 A	S		107
♣ 96		•	1073
	♠ K 5		
	♡ Q 7 4 2		
	♦ K 4 2		
	📥 A J 5 2	_	
West	North	East	South
Koclar	Lhuissier	Ucar	Lebatteux
		2♡	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3NT

West led a diamond to dummy's Jack. As declarer cannot allow East to get the lead, making nine tricks the legitimate way is impossible. However, when declarer took a spade finesse through West and then cashed his clubs, West discarded a heart and a spade, holding on to all his diamonds. In the end, declarer thus had a choice of endplays: he could either put West in with the riangle Q to lead a diamond or, his actual choice, exit in diamonds to force a spade return into the riangle AJ. Well done, +400 to the French.

At another table, Marion Michielsen also was in 3NT and, of course, found the same endplay when West discarded a heart. She opted for the A and a spade so the K became her 9th trick.

The Polish runners-up did much better on this one:

 ▲ K 5 4 2 ♡ 10 6 ◇ Q 7 6 ▲ K 10 9 8 	Board: 17. DI	5 4 2 ► 9 8	Q 7 6
West	North	East	South
Kaplan	Krysa	Shunta	Zmuda
	Pass	\diamond	♠
INT	Pass	5◇	5♡
Pass	Pass	6�	Dble
All pass			

It was a pity the Poles were not allowed to play 5° for in that case, West would have been obliged to find the club lead to set it. Declarer even went two down when he overtook the \mathbf{AQ} to create an entry for the diamond finesse and later took a losing finesse through North against the \mathbf{AJ} . NS +300.

In the last round, the overnight nos. 2 and 3 were scheduled to meet. With only these two boards to go, they still were ranked 2 and 3 in the same order but the difference between them had been reduced to less than 0.3%. So the outcome of this round would decide about the silver and bronze, as the Dutch lead had become more and more unassailable as play went on.

This was board 27, a chance for the French:

 ▲ A 10 8 5 ♡ 10 7 5 4 ◊ 9 4 ♣ A 5 2 	Board: 27. ♠ K Q ♡ K 9 ◊ A 8 ♣ 10 9 W S ♣ 6 3 ♡ A Q ♦ K Q ♣ Q 4	2 9 8 7 3 E 2 2 3 2 J 5 3	one 9 7 4 J 8 6 I 0 7 6 2 K J 6
West	North	East	South
Lebatteux	Krysa	Lhuissier	Zmuda
Pass	3NT	All pass	I♦

A dull contract at teams but an interesting one at pairs. Can the defenders find their four tricks? The French could not so Poland scored +430 and an average score, 26 mp. Conceding -400 would have been worth 51 mp to the French

On the last board, the lost trick came back to the French:

 ▲ J 7 6 ♡ A 9 8 5 ◇ A K 6 ▲ A 10 9 	♠ Q 3	6 4 3 2 E	A K 8 4	
West	North	East	South	
Lebatteux	Krysa	Lhuissier	Zmuda	
INT	Pass	2 🙅	Pass	
2♡	Pass	3NT	All pass	

North seems to have a normal heart lead but elected to lead the $\diamond 2$. This gave the French declarer the extra tempo needed to make 11 tricks and score 37 mp instead of 20 for the more normal 10 tricks.

It thus turned out that the French had won the round but their winning margin was not big enough so they had to be content with bronze. Adam Krysa and Justyna Zmuda can be proud of their silver medal. It's very good to see, as I already mentioned earlier, that two mixed pairs take the main medals in this event. Congratulations to all prize winners!

On this last board, Marion celebrated winning the world title in a very special way, Kees Tammens reports.

West	North	East	South
	Tim		Marion
			INT
pass	2♣	pass	2♡
pass	3 NT	All Pass	

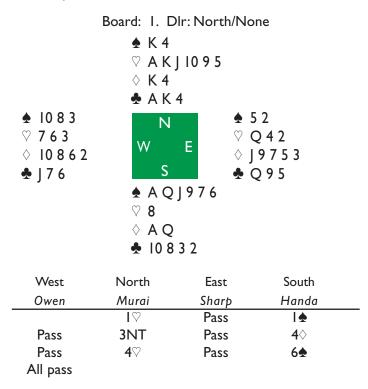
The lead was a helpful $\diamond 8$, $\diamond J$ making the trick. Now Marion announced a second diamond Tim mistakenly took $\diamond 7$ but Marion quickly pointed out $\diamond 7$ had to stay in dummy.

After $\diamond A$ and $\diamond K$, declarer played a club to $\clubsuit K$ and a spade for Jack and Queen in West who returned a heart, $\heartsuit Q$ and $\heartsuit K$, of course ducked by the Dutch girl who exactly knew what she was doing. A second heart for $\diamond A$. $\clubsuit A$. $\heartsuit A$ and $\heartsuit K$, the thirteenth spade and after 10, there still was one card left in dummy: $\diamond 7$ at the last trick which won her a beer later that night, after the bottle of champagne Mr Fahir Űzümcü, the President of the Turkish Bridge Federation, so kindly offered to the winning pair.

IMP Pairs Final, session four

by Marjo Chorus

Right on the first board, runners up Handa-Murai lost a lot of Imps:

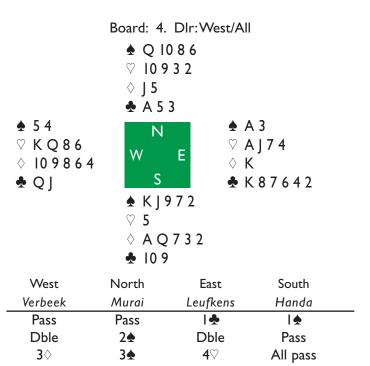




Lotte Leufkens, Netherlands

The auction proceeds in a jumping style, so the exchange of info is not very precise. Murai thinks for some time over $6 \pm$; in my opinion, he should have gone for the grand. Scoring +980 yielded -2 IMPs. When Agarwal-Bayakhchev and Kralik-Ticha, the nos. I and 3, reach the grand, they both score +10 IMPs so Kralik-Ticha have passed Handa-Murai on the first board already. The grand was bid six times.

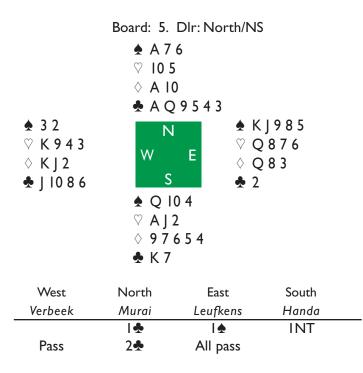
The hunters are firmly beaten by Leufkens-Verbeek:



The 3 \diamond bid by Thijs Verbeek on this beautiful suit convinces Handa that saving in 4 \clubsuit against 4 \heartsuit is not a good idea. The distribution, however, is very favourable to declarer. The spade lead is taken by the Ace. Two rounds of trumps follow, declarer getting the bad news. Next comes a club to North's Ace and he returns the \diamond J to the King and Ace. Kanda next cashes a spade trick and then hopefully tries the \diamond Q. Now, dummy's diamonds are good so declarer can ruff, cash the \heartsuit J and cross in clubs to draw the last trump and enjoy the diamonds.

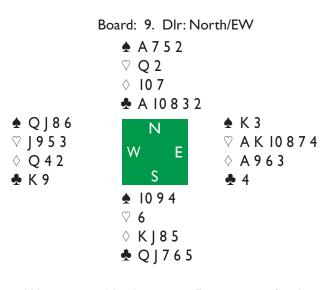
It looks like a defensive mistake but as South holds the $\clubsuit109$ bare, declarer can also ruff the spade return in dummy, cash the $\heartsuit Q$ and cross by overtaking the $\bigstar Q$. Draw the last trump and the clubs are good.

A dramatic -12 IMPs to Kanda-Murai. The save in $4\frac{1}{2}$ is one down on the diamond ruff for -5 IMPs or -7 IMPs doubled as nearly none of the EW pairs was declaring the hand and Leufkens-Verbeek were the only ones to be allowed to play 4%. On the next board, their conservative approach costs the Japanese another 9 IMPs:



Nearly every South player rebid 2NT, raised to three by North. Nine tricks are easy so playing in 2th and making two overtricks costs Murai-Handa 9 IMPs.

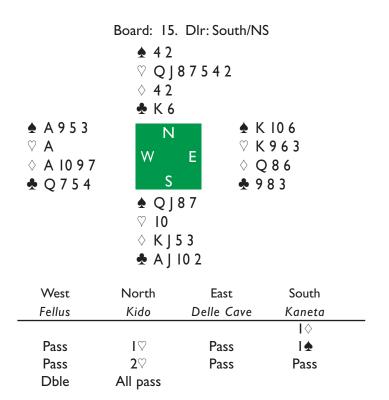
On board 9, the Greeks Giannoulis-Oikonomopoulos take the right decision against the normal 4%, bid by their Swedish opponents:



West	North	East	South
Billiet	Giannoulis	Geens	Oikonomopoulos
	Pass	\bigcirc	Pass
3♣*	Dble	3♡	4🙅
Pass	5 🛧	5♡	All pass

When North doubles the conventional $3\clubsuit$, NS quickly find the good save against the vulnerable $4\heartsuit$. Five Clubs is down only three. When Geens goes on to $5\heartsuit$, he finds out that this has no chance: one down and 11 IMPs lost.

Delle Cave-Fellus, 4th in the ranking, have a defensive slip on board 15 which proved expensive as the contract was doubled:



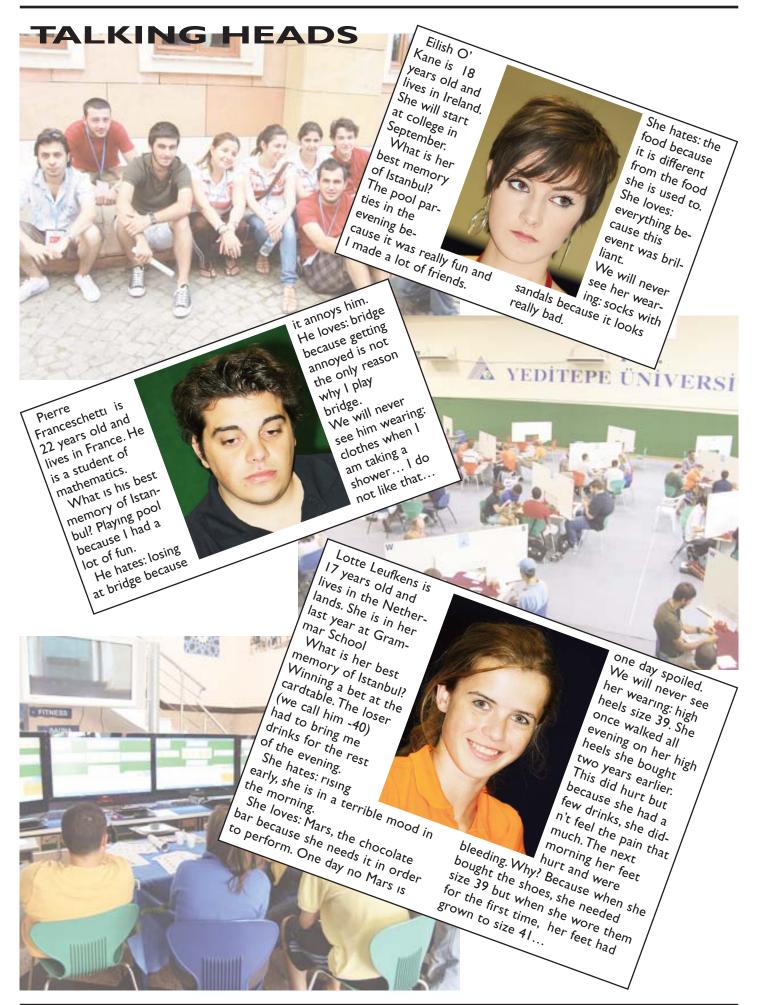
West's reopening double was converted by East for penalties and that is the right decision. But then: spade lead to the Ace, spade to the King and a club! Declarer puts in the Jack, covered by Queen and King. Over to South with the A and two diamonds go on the 10 and J. EW's diamond trick thus is lost and NS can write +670 and 13 IMPs.

The closing boards of the session did not look very exciting on paper but the final rankings were a big surprise. Antonio Borzi and Andrea Mortarotti, 12th after the 3rd session, score a tremendous +84 IMPs, more than enough to win the final session. They rise to the runner-up position. Jérôme Amiguet and Cédric Margot are second in the final session and thus rise to third place overall.

And the gold? That goes to the Czechs: Frantisek Kralık and Magdalena Ticha whose score in the final session of +36 IMPs saw them clinch the highest honour. Congratulations.



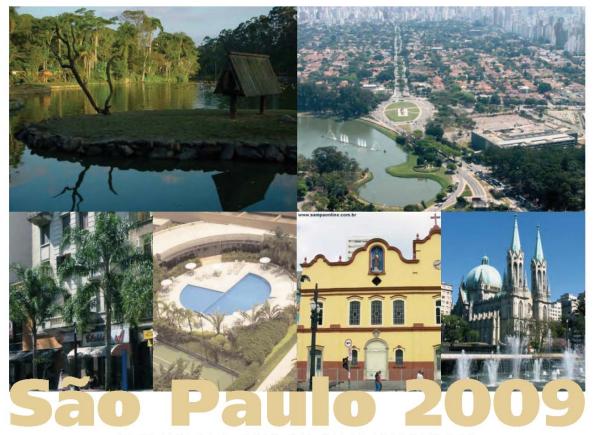
* 6-9 pnt with 4crd hearts



	MP PAIRS FINAL (final ranking)							
Ran	k Name	es Perce	ntage	28	KAPLAN Adam	SHUNTA Cameron	50.01	
Ι	MICHIELSEN Marion	VERBEEK Tim	60.62	29	HELMICH Aarnout	HOP Gerbrand	49.94	
2	KRYSA Adam	ZMUDA Justyna	55.03	30	DRIJVER Bob	MOLENAAR Danny	49.52	
3	LEBATTEUX Aymeric	LHUISSIER Nicolas	54.94	31	BRESCOLL Zachary	LIEN Owen	49.48	
4	KOCLAR Akin	UCAR Ali	54.14	32	ASULIN Adi	LEVY Hila	49.16	
5	JOCHYMSKI Tomasz M.	KAZMIERCZAK Wojciech		33	OZER Ahmet Can	SERDAR Ekrem	49.05	
6	CEREK Muharrem	KAYA Emre	53.04	34	DEKKERS Laura	NAB Judith	48.97	
7	ERCAN Sehmus	GUNDOGDU Mehmet	52.96	35	HOLEKSA Magdalena	WEINHOLD Izabela	48.81	
8	KOIKE Noriaki	MIURA Hiroaki	52.93	36	KURT Murat Ugur	USLUPEHLIVAN Sarper	48.72	
9	STUURMAN Dennis	VISSER Frank	52.82	37	HUNG Andy Pei-en	SCHAFER Jorrit	48.52	
10		LALL Justin	52.46	38	DOBRESCU Raluca Elena	NISTOR Radu	48.43	
	MISTRETTA Eugenio	MISTRETTA Giuseppe	52.33	39	NAB Vincent	WACKWITZ Ernst	48.20	
12	IGLA Bartlomiej	MACHNO Artur Marek	52.10	40	HANTOS Jonathan	ORTEGA Luz	47.68	
13	ANDREA Landry	KILANI Alexandre	52.03	41	DOXIADIS Konstantinos	KONTOMITROS K.	47.65	
14	KOPECKY Michal	MACURA Milan	52.02	42	MOHARAM Hisham	SAWIRES Mina	47.51	
15	CHIU Jason FRANCESCHETTI Pierre	FAY Kevin	52.00 51.69	43	ABIU TALEB Moustafa	ZAYTOUN Mahmoud	47.36	
16 17	HUDSON Alex	GROSSET Christophe	51.69	44	HUSSAIN Mirza Asfandiyar	MANSOOR Arslan	47.35	
17	SIDEROV Zhivko	MARRIOTT John STEPHENS Robert	51.57	45	SPANGENBERG Jamilla	SPANGENBERG Sigrid	47.23	
10	GORSKI Michal	PIOTROWSKI Przemyslaw		46	KANIA Michal	WITKOWSKI Lukasz	47.04	
20	GOGOMAN Adele	SCHULZ Dieter	51.50	47	DAMTY Oshri	EREZ Eyal	46.61	
21	JASSEM Pawel	TUCZYNSKI Piotr	51.42	48	FISHER Blair	WHIBLEY Michael	46.26	
22	BUIJTENHEK Lennie	LEEUWEN Rik van	51.36	49	IMAMOGLU Levent	SOFU Serkan	46.13	
23	DWYER Kevin	MECKSTROTH Matthew	51.00	50	SKORCHEV Stefan	YILMAZ Ovunc	45.91	
24	EDGTTON Adam	HOWARD Justin	50.95	51	ANASTASATOS Aris	SOFIOS Michalis	45.67	
25	HOLLANDS Peter	WU You	50.38	52	ALLON Yonatan	VAX Gal	45.58	
26	LANKVELD Joris van	PHILIPSEN Rens	50.26	53	SUZER Ugurcan	TASKIN Arda Can	45.54	
27	FRANCHI Arrigo	PAPARO Aldo	50.07	54	ETCHEPAREBORDA Juan	GARDINER Luke	45.18	

IMP PAIRS (final ranking)

		•			•		
Ran	k Name	S	IMPs	19	FAILLA Andrea	ZANASI Gabriele	-5.57
I.	KRALIK Frantisek	TICHA Magdalena	142.33	20	OWEN Christopher	SHARP Jonathan	-8.29
2	BORZI Antonio	MORTAROTTI Andrea	120.00	21	LEUFKENS Lotte	VERBEEK Thijs	-10.00
3	AMIGUET Jerome	MARGOT Cedric	119.67	22	HOEPFLER Markus	KAUTNY Paul	-14.00
4	AGARWAL Mohit	BAYAKHCHEV Leonid	107.57	23	GIANNOULIS Giorgos	OIKONOMOPOULOS I.	-15.00
5	CELIK Taner	OZKURT Kenan	104.00	24	SARIOZ Pinar	TEKIN Ozge	-24.00
6	HANDA Kouichi	MURAI Kentaro	92.14		KANETA Kenji	KIDO Yoshiro	-24.00
7	DELLE CAVE Giuseppe	FELLUS Robin	82.00	26	AKSUEYEK Efe	EREN Baran	-28.00
8	JANECZKO Artur	SZCZYPCZYK Agnieszka	80.00	27	CASIMIRRI Tommaso	SCHIASSI Jacopo	-72.00
9	DI FRANCO Massimiliano	MANNO Andrea	79.00	28	AKAN Efrahim	GULENC Baturalp	-73.00
10	DARKADAKIS Athanasios	ROUSSOS Petros	69.00		BILLIET Sven	GEENS Bert	-80.00
11	OZGUR Muhammet	OZTURK Erdem	55.00	30	SEKER Olgu	YILDIZ Ceyda	-95.00
12	GREENBERG Gal	URMAN Lior	49.86		0	,	
13	GRANATH Simon	OLOFSSON Sofia	46.00		VAN DEN HOVE Wouter	VAN MECHELEN Joram	-103.00
14	FLURY Marc	GHIELMETTI Fabio	42.00	32	SMYTH Brona	WOODS Aimee	-125.00
15	DE VISSCHERE Willem	DEVRIENDT Rien	37.00	33	FOTOPOULOS Evangelos	TOGIAS Stratos	-129.00
16	HERSHFANG Dan	HERSHFANG Dvir	16.00	34	MILANO Eryck	OJEDA Carlos	-146.00
17	ABDELFATTAH Ahmed	DARWISH Ahmed	9.14	35	KARPOUZELI Chrysoula	KOUGIOUMTZI A.	-153.00
18	LEANEZ Luis	SAR-SHALOM Nathalie	9.00	36	GORMALLY Niamh	O'KANE Eilish	-312.00



THE WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS São Paulo, Brazil August 29 to September 12 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Ernesto d'Orsi Seniors Bowl World Transnational Open Teams Championships

HEAD-QUARTERS AND PLAYING AREA: HOTEL TRANSAMERICA

Opening ceremony

August 29th - to be held at the "teatro alfa" (connected to the hotel); the ceremony will be followed by a musical show at the theatre and by a cocktail/dinner at the hotel.

The Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Senior Bowl

The Round Robin for all three Championships will start on Sunday 30^{th} August and finish on Saturday 12^{th} September, with the knock-out stages starting on Sunday 6^{th} .

The Quarter Finals for each of these events will end before the start of the Transnational Open Teams, thus enabling players eliminated from the main Championships to participate Transnational Championship.

The World Transnational Open Teams Championship

The 7th World Transnational Open Teams Championship is a prestigious and most enjoyable event. Being Transnational, it is open to teams composed of players coming from different countries, nominated by their National Bridge Organisation and approved by the WBF Credentials Committee.

It is a great opportunity for players to participate in a wonderful Bridge tournament while at the same time enjoying a unique opportunity to experience the atmosphere and excitement of the final stages of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and watch some of the greatest players in the world on the first class vugraph presentation. Players wishing to compete in this Championship should contact their NBO and request nomination by the end of July 2009. There is no quota, and NBOs may nominate as many teams as they wish to compete in this special tournament.

Players eliminated from the Round Robin of the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & Seniors Bowl will be able to enter the World Transnational Open Teams Championship free of charge if they enter as a complete team.

The **World Transnational Open Teams** will take place during the second week, starting in the late afternoon on Monday 7th September. The format will be Swiss Teams. It is normally played as 10-board matches (3, 4 or 5 per day) for 15 qualifying rounds (150 boards). The Quarter Final will start on Thursday late afternoon, the Semi Final will be played on Friday 11th September and the Final will end on Saturday 12th September.