



5th GENERALI WORLD MASTERS

13-15 APRIL 2000

Zappion Megaron - Athens Greece



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Bulletin No.1

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Let the Games Begin



Playing Room

Today's Programme

1st session Women	14.15
2nd session Men	14.15
1st session Juniors	14.15
2nd session Women	20.30
3rd session Men	20.30
2nd session Juniors	20.30

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The Fifth Generali World Masters was launched in splendid fashion yesterday, the Opening ceremony, featuring welcome speeches by George Karlaftis, the President of the Hellenic Bridge Federation, Aldo Castellani representing The Generali Group, and Jose Damiani, the President of the World Bridge Federation, being followed by a typically lavish Greek buffet.

The Zappion Megaron, according to reliable sources around 100 years old, offers first class facilities for players, spectators and officials. There was a terrific crowd in the VuGraph - the last time bridge players in Athens had a chance to see the stars in action was almost ten years ago when the EC Championships were staged in Greek capital.

The four previous winners met with contrasting fortunes on the opening day. Piotr Gawrys and Jon Bal-dursson are sitting at the top of the table, but Paul Chemla and Geir Helgemo are both below average. The Women and the Juniors were able to relax yesterday, but now it is down to business for everyone.

**Jose Damiani***President of the World Bridge Federation*

Mr. Prime Minister
 Dear Mr. President
 Ladies and Gentlemen
 Dear Friends

If by chance you may wonder why we are now here in Athens in Greece, I am quite sure that you may find the obvious answer.

For the fifth edition of the **Generali World Masters**, we had to clearly mark our gratitude to **Generali**, the insurer without frontiers, and to the Olympic Committee, which grants the *World Bridge Federation* the recognition of an International Sports Federation.

Then there was no better choice than Athens, the birthplace of the Olympic movement.

Both the President of the Hellenic Bridge Federation, and its President, George Karlaftis and our Vice President, Panos Gerontopoulos offered Athens as a venue.

Thanks to this combination I sincerely believe that we will be able to offer to you the players an unforgettable event with for the first time a youth competition.

Thank you very much again, **Aldo Castellani** and **Generali**.

Thank you very much George and the Greek Federation, as well as the Greek authorities.

Thank you all for attending this fifth Generali Masters.

Enjoy the game, enjoy Athens.

Good luck to you all.

Results after Mens' 1st Session

1	Gawrys	Pol	378.0
2	Baldursson	Ice	368.0
3	Abecassis	Fra	368.0
4	De Falco	Ita	356.0
5	Gromov	Rus	341.0
6	Helness	Nor	337.0
7	Martens	Pol	330.0
8	Hamaoui	Ven	329.0
9	Lindkvist	Swe	328.0
10	Hackett Justin	Eng	327.6
11	Westerhof	Nth	326.6
12	Kokish	Can	325.0
13	Mouiel	Fra	320.0
14	Multon	Fra	313.0
15	Levy	Fra	311.0
16	Brogeland	Nor	301.0
17	Kowalski	Pol	297.0
18	Duboin	Ita	294.0
19	Westra	Nth	293.0
20	Sementa	Ita	292.0
21	Freeman	USA	291.0
22	Eidi	Leb	286.0
23	Forrester	Eng	280.6
24	Kapayianidis	Gre	280.0
25	Mittelman	Can	278.0
25	Versace	Ita	278.0
25	Zotos	Gre	278.0
28	Mahmood	USA	277.0
28	Donath	URU	277.0
30	Bompis	Fra	276.0
31	Szwarc	Fra	274.0
31	Bianchedi	Arg	274.0
33	Fredin	Swe	272.0
34	Chemla	Fra	270.0
35	Yang	Chn	269.0
36	De Boer	Nth	268.0
37	Szymanowski	Pol	265.0
37	Gitelman	Can	265.0
37	Romanski	Pol	265.0
40	Helgemo	Nor	263.0
41	Bocchi	Ita	262.6
42	Panelewen	Ind	260.0
43	Auken	Den	259.0
43	Thomson	Aus	259.0
45	Convery	Zaf	245.0
46	Hackett Jason	Eng	244.0
46	Ferraro	Ita	244.0
48	Quantin	Fra	240.0
49	Kwiecien	Pol	239.0
50	Poddar	Ind	234.0
51	Pszczola	Pol	231.0
52	Robson	Eng	224.6

Generali Preview

London, England, 28 February 2000 - 17.30

After a long day working on a new Edition of an old classic, *Improve your Bridge*, there is just time to check the email before mixing a gin & tonic and selecting a good Bordeaux to go with the steak au poivre I am planning to cook.

An assortment of routine messages is interspersed with one from Christine Francin at WBF headquarters in Paris. Would you be able to come to Athens to take care of the Daily Bulletin? Obviously I will need to think about it carefully. It takes several seconds to send back a message indicating I will arrive on Wednesday afternoon.

I recall that two years ago Patrick Jourdain had to play and write the Bulletin, so I am hoping everyone turns up, or am I? Near the end of the event, Patrick had to partner the eventual winner, Paul Chemla, on VuGraph. Having been told by Paul to 'play down the middle' he over-called an opening bid of One Diamond with One Heart on these cards: ♠32 ♥Q1086 ♦J2 ♣AQJ97.

This somewhat dubious effort led to an over average result - and Paul won by only three matchpoints!

No, best not to play. If you do well it will be put down to luck, and the skill of your partners, and if you do badly your boss may have second thoughts about who should be editing the bulletins!

We are staying in the Hotel Royal Olympic – how appropriate in the Country that gave birth to the Games that our sport is edging ever nearer to becoming a part of.

There is a new event for juniors, and I am worried about how I will manage to be in three places at once.

Who is going to win?

This is a bit like trying to predict the winner of the recently completed Masters golf tournament. In fields where every player is a champion, how can you possibly say who will finish on top? Still, Andrew Robson was annoyed that at the recently completed Cap Gemini event in Holland I said that he and Zia would finish no higher than ninth, so to redress the balance, and doubtless ruin his chances, I will tip him for the Men's title.

The women's event is no easier to call, but I will go for one of the players who are currently at the top of the Women's World Grandmaster Rankings, Sandra Landy.

No hint of English bias in either case!

The junior event is even harder to call, but I will go for Bernado Biondo from Italy.



If I been playing Polish club...

Generali Masters

Money Prizes

(all in US\$)

	Men	Women
1	10,000	6,000
2	6,000	4,000
3	4,000	3,000
4	2,000	2,000
5	2,000	1,000
6-10	1,000	800
11-14	800	500
15	800	
16-26	500	

Special prizes of \$500 per session men and women. Prizes for best session session results from the second half of the field (non-cumulative).

Wanted

If you are going to get plenty to read over breakfast, I need your stories, and both brilliancies and blunders will do. If you can't find me, then pass the information on to Tony Gordon. The world wants to know what is happening, and I need some good hands for a new book, so don't be shy!

Get Connected

E-mail facilities for the players are located just outside the Daily Bulletin office.

The two computers are on line 24 hours a day, so you can use them to send and receive messages as long as we are working – which figures to be just about 25 hours a day.

Boards of the day

Board 2. Dealer East. North-South Game

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



West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Ferraro	Eidi	Mahmood
Dble Pass	Redble 3NT	Pass 1♠	1♥ INT

A typically aggressive double from Geir Helgemo, by the way, watch out for a new book about the great man, Helgemo's World of Bridge, coming in the summer, but it was no real problem for North-South to reach 3NT.

Helgemo led the king of spades, just in case there was a singleton queen, and Zia won and knocked out the ace of hearts. The club break gave him eleven tricks. That was rather more than one unfortunate declarer made. He decided to finesse in clubs and finished up four down! Guess how many match points that was worth?

Board 4. Dealer West. Game All

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



Six Diamonds is not much of a contract on the North-South cards, but I heard that at least one pair reached it. West led a club, and declarer ran it to his queen, eventually collecting a not unlucky +1370, but with open cards the contract can always be made. If West leads a trump, declarer wins, draws a second round, and plays ace and queen of spades to endplay West.



Paul Chemla, France

Board 6. Dealer East. East-West Game

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



West	North	East	South
Szymanowski	Bocchi	Chemla	Brogeland
3♣	3♦	1♣	2NT
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♥	Dble	6♠	5♦
			All Pass

The commentators were having some fun here, suggesting that East-West might be in trouble after Chemla's Four Hearts. However, they found their spade fit easily enough. South led the ten of hearts to the queen and ace, and declarer ruffed. He cashed two top spades and the ace of clubs, claiming his contract shortly thereafter to record +1430. Brogeland was the early leader, but this board did not aid his cause much, earning only 3/24.

Eric Kokish, perhaps the World's leading expert on systems, amused everyone by forgetting the one he was using on this

board. He overcalled the opening bid of One Club with Two Diamonds, showing the majors! There was no way to reach Six Spades now.

The next round was exciting for the audience, as the Greek players were on VuGraph.

Board 7. Dealer South. Game All

	♠ 7 5							
	♥ A 9 4 3							
	♦ J 8 6 5 2							
	♣ 4 3							
♠ Q J 10 8 4 2	<table border="1"><tr><td>N</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>S</td></tr></table>	N		E	W		S	♠ A K 9 6 3
N		E						
W		S						
♥ 8 2		♥ Q J 10 6						
♦ 7 4		♦ 3						
♣ 10 8 7		♣ A K 5						
	♠ —							
	♥ K 7 5							
	♦ A K Q 10 9							
	♣ Q J 9 6 2							

West	North	East	South
Baldursson	Zotos	Westra	Kapayanidis
2♠	Dble	4♦	5♣
Pass	5♦	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

John Baldursson showed no signs of strain after a heart bypass, and has clearly lost none of his aggressive instincts, judging by his weak jump overcall. North's double made it easy for South to bid Five Clubs, and Berry Westra, who by the way, usually sits West – for obvious reasons – made the normal looking decision to bid on.

Five Diamonds is defeated by a heart lead, but give West a heart honour, and Five Spades will be a heavy favourite to make.

When Zotos doubled, the crowd showed their approval, much to the amusement of the players, who could clearly hear



Boye Brogeland, Norway



Lucas Zotos, Greece

the applause. He led a club, ensuring a two trick defeat and +500. That collected the lion's share of the match points for the Greek pair. Timeo danaos et dona ferentes – I fear the Greeks, even when bearing gifts. (You knew I was going to use that sometime during the event!)

Board 12. Dealer West. North-South Game

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

N

W

E

S

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	3♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

The rock crusher of a preempt paid off handsomely when North reopened. South was delighted to pass, but rather less pleased with the – 470 he entered on his scorecard!

Civilization

Apart from Alice in Wonderland, bridge is the Anglo-Saxon's greatest contribution to world civilization.

Jan Hein Donner, the celebrated Chess Grandmaster from the Netherlands writing in his brilliant book, *The King*.

Board 15. Dealer South. North-South Game

				♠ K 8 7 4									
				♥ A 2									
				♦ 10 9 5 4 2									
				♣ 10 5									
♠ 10 9 6 2	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center; width: 60px;">N W E S</div>	♠ Q 3											
♥ 9 6		♥ K Q 8 5 4 3											
♦ K Q 7 6		♦ J											
♣ A J 8		♣ Q 7 4 3											
		♠ A J 5											
		♥ J 10 7											
		♦ A 8 3											
		♣ K 9 6 2											
West	North	East	South										
<i>Auken</i>	<i>Mouiel</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Levy</i>										
			1♣										
Pass	1♠	3♥	All Pass										

Mouiel did his best to cut out the heart suit by responding One Spade rather than One Diamond, but to no avail. With a hand where no lead is attractive, Levy tried the jack of hearts, Mouiel winning with the ace and switching to a spade. Levy took the jack and ace of spades, and then the ace of diamonds before playing a third spade. Declarer could now claim without having to bother with the club finesse that he knew was right anyway. +140 was a little above average for East-West.

Board 17. Dealer North. North-South Game

	♠ J 10 6		
	♥ 10 7 2		
	♦ 10 8 7		
	♣ J 5 3 2		
	<div>♠ N</div> <div>W E</div> <div>S</div>		
♠ K 4 3		♠ 9 8 7 5	
♥ K 9 6 5 4 3		♥ Q	
♦ 9		♦ A Q J 6 5 4 3	
♣ K 7 6		♣ 9	
	♠ A Q 2		
	♥ A J 8		
	♦ K 2		
	♣ A Q 10 8 4		
West	North	East	South
<i>Szymanowski</i>	<i>De Falco</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Fredin</i>
	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Did anyone open the East hand?

Justin Hackett, surely as aggressive as anyone in the field, didn't, but he was quick to get back into the auction on the next round. South was close to finding a winning lead, as he went for a black ace. Unfortunately, he chose the wrong one, the ace of clubs setting up dummy's king. If he switches to a spade now, declarer can get rid of his losing heart, and if he cashes the ace of hearts, he sets up two discards, so declarer will only lose one spade.

South actually continued with the queen of clubs, and declarer discarded a spade on the king of clubs and played a heart to



Giorgio Duboin, Italy

the queen and South's ace. He could not be prevented from scoring three kings and six diamond tricks. +110 was well above average for the best placed British player. Can you think of a compelling reason for South to lead the ace of spades? Me neither.

The last board of the day saw two of the leading contenders, both former winners, in opposition.

Board 24. Dealer West. Love All

	♠ K Q 9 2		
	♥ K 7 2		
	♦ 8 6 3		
	♣ A 8 2		
♠ A 3	<div>W<div>N</div>E<div>S</div></div>	♠ J 10 8	
♥ A Q 9		♥ 10 8 5 3	
♦ A K Q 9 5 2		♦ 7	
♣ J 4		♣ K Q 10 7 5	
	♠ 7 6 5 4		
	♥ J 6 4		
	♦ J 10 4		
	♣ 9 6 3		
West	North	East	South
<i>Robson</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Baldursson</i>
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Gawrys led the queen of spades, and Robson won with the ace. Assuming the diamonds behaved, the contract was not in doubt, so it was all about overtricks. Declarer played a club to the king and a club to the jack, hoping the defenders would slip up. No chance! Gawrys took the ace of clubs, cashed the king of spades and exited with a diamond. Now declarer was endplayed, and in the three-card ending, he got the hearts wrong to emerge with only nine tricks. This result was enough to leave the 1992 Champion at the top of the tree at the end of the first session.