



# 5<sup>th</sup> GENERALI WORLD MASTERS

13-15 APRIL 2000

Zappion Megaron - Athens Greece



Editor: **Mark Horton** - Layout Editor: **Stelios Hatzidakis**

Bulletin No.2

Saturday, 15 May 2000

# The Gods will Decide



*A pigeon was an interested spectator at last night's session!*

## Today's Programme

3rd session Women	14.15
4th session Men	14.15
3rd session Juniors	14.15
Prize giving	20.30
Closing banquet	21.00

## Table of Contents

Results .....	2
In the lap of the Gods .....	3
The Big Red One .....	4
The Next Generation .....	5
The Longest Day .....	6
Enter the Amazons .....	8
Night of the Long Knives .....	10

As we approach the climax of the Fifth **Generali World Masters**, the destination of each title hangs in the balance. In the Men's event, **Piotr Gawrys** is still on top, but **Baldursson**, **Sementa**, **Lindkvist** and **Gromov** have also passed the 1000 match point milestone, and the pack are not that far behind these five.

The race for the **Women's** title is also likely to be a close run thing. **Benedicte Cronier** is leading, but only eight ahead of **Jill Meyers**.

The **Junior** event is the one that is giving the home crowd the most to cheer about, because the leader is **Miltos Karamanlis**.

## Will you please welcome!

There are many distinguished guests attending these Championships. They include the *President of the European Bridge League*, **Gianarrigo Rona**, the *Honorary President*, **Bill Pencharz**, and **Ernesto d'Orsi**, former *President of the World Bridge Federation*.

**Results after Womens' 2nd Session**

1	CRONIER	FRA	58.49
2	MEYERS	USA	57.25
3	VERBEEK	NTH	56.33
4	MCGOWAN	GBR	54.94
5	DELOR	FRA	52.62
6	SIMONS	NTH	52.47
7	SMITH	GBR	51.54
7	STEEN MOLLER	DEN	51.54
9	VON ARNIM	GER	50.77
10	LEVIT-PORAT	ISR	50.31
10	AUKEN	GER	50.31
10	BILDE	DEN	50.31
13	VLAHAKI	GRE	50.15
14	LISE	FRA	49.69
15	HARASIMOWICZ	POL	49.54
15	SUN	CHN	49.54
17	D'OVIDIO	FRA	49.38
18	MONTIN	USA	49.23
19	VAN DER PAS	NTH	48.15
20	VRIEND	NTH	47.69
21	BESSIS	FRA	47.53
22	ZUR-CAMPANIL	ISR	47.38
22	ERHART	AUT	47.38
24	DHONDY	GBR	46.91
24	GAVIARD	FRA	46.91
26	GORDON	CAN	46.60
27	LANDY	GBR	44.75

**Results after Juniors' 2nd Session**

1	KARAMANLIS	GRE	59.38
2	LUTOSTANSKI	POL	56.49
3	GLOVER	AUT	55.77
4	BIONDO	ITA	54.81
5	HELLER	CAN	54.33
6	OCHOA	COL	53.99
7	CHEN	CHN	52.88
8	KIT LAI	HKG	50.96
9	KRASNOSSELSK	RUS	50.77
10	RAVENNA	ARG	50.24
10	ROBB	AUS	50.24
12	WOOLBRIDGE	USA	48.85
13	KITCES	USA	48.13
14	SAMIR	EGY	47.60
15	WINKLER	HUN	47.12
16	CASTILLO	COL	46.39
17	CHARLSEN	NOR	44.95
18	KHAN	PAK	43.99
19	MIGNOCCHI	USA	42.07
20	CEGLIA	BRA	39.90

**Results after Mens' 3rd Session**

1	GAWRYS	POL	56.63
2	BALDURSSON	ICE	55.59
3	SEMENTA	ITA	55.43
4	LINDKVIST	SWE	55.26
5	GROMOV	RUS	55.15
6	ABECASSIS	FRA	54.28
7	BIANCHEDI	ARG	53.84
8	BROGELAND	NOR	53.62
9	HELNESS	NOR	53.56
10	MARTENS	POL	53.51
11	MAHMOOD	USA	53.34
12	FREDIN	SWE	53.27
13	WESTRA	NTH	52.80
14	KOWALSKI	POL	52.47
15	DE FALCO	ITA	52.19
16	MOUIEL	FRA	51.97
17	YANG	CHN	51.86
18	ROMANSKI	POL	51.59
19	MULTON	FRA	51.37
20	LEVY	FRA	50.88
21	HELGEMO	NOR	50.77
22	KOKISH	CAN	50.53
23	ZOTOS	GRE	50.33
24	VERSACE	ITA	50.05
25	WESTERHOF	NTH	50.03
26	BOCCHI	ITA	49.98
26	DE BOER	NTH	49.98
28	KAPAYIANIDIS	GRE	49.89
29	HACKETT Justin	GBR	49.87
30	FORRESTER	GBR	49.76
31	FREEMAN	USA	49.51
32	ROBSON	GBR	49.38
33	DUBOIN	ITA	48.96
34	PANELEWEN	IDN	48.85
35	HACKETT Jason	GBR	48.50
36	GITELMAN	CAN	48.46
37	FERRARO	ITA	48.25
38	EIDI	LEB	48.22
39	HAMAOU	VEN	47.86
40	QUANTIN	FRA	47.70
40	BOMPIS	FRA	47.70
42	DONATH	URU	47.37
43	SZYMANOWSKY	POL	47.31
44	AUKEN	DEN	47.26
45	PSZCZOLA	POL	46.49
46	SZWARC	FRA	46.00
47	CHEMLA	FRA	44.90
48	THOMSON	AUS	44.46
49	KWIECIEN	POL	43.53
49	CONVERY	ZAF	43.53
51	PODDAR	IND	42.98
52	MITTELMAN	CAN	41.54

## In the lap of the Gods



**W**e are not quite in the shadow of Olympus, but we can be reasonably certain that the Greek Gods and Heroes played a mean game of bridge. Zeus preferred the mixed events, and was usually prepared to play with anyone except his wife! Aphrodite was never short of invitations, both at and away from the table! Hermes played the dummy at lightning pace.

Will any of these Gods and Goddesses make an appearance at this event?

**Apollo** God of the Sun, he is clearly in great form at the moment. Can he hang on until Sunday, when many of us hope to go and see the sights?

**Athena** Goddess of Education, who is surely capturing the attention of the spectators, as they watch the experts.

**Morpheus** The God of dreams, and who will not be hoping to wear the victor's crown several hours from now?

**Hermes** God of Speed, who will not be found at some of the tables!

**Hecate** The Goddess of magic, and surely there will be more than one brilliant piece of play before this event is over.

**Nike** The Goddess of Victory, who is looking forward to appearing later today.

**Eris** The Goddess of discord, but we will be surprised if she makes an appearance.

**Nemesis** The Goddess of revenge, so if someone doubles on the first board, watch out for action on the next one!

**Hypnos** The God of sleep, not always easy when you have just played a tough session of bridge.

**Eros** The God of Love, perhaps the perfect role for Zia?

**Dionysos** The God of wine. Plans multiple appearances tonight.

## Lucky Lady



*Maria Erhart, Austria*

You will have to wait until today's final Bulletin to catch the rest of our report on the second session of the Women's Generali Masters, but here is something to wet your appetites.

*Board 22. Dealer East. East-West Game*

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Lise</i>	<i>Vriend</i>	<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Erhart</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♣
		Pass	6♦

This board posed problems at several tables, but it helped the overnight leader, Benedicte Cronier, on her way.

When Bep Vriend showed a heart suit, Maria Erhart splintered, and then offered her partner a choice of contracts. Bep didn't quite see it like that, and Six Diamonds became the final resting place. When you luck is in, this is the type of hand where the queen of diamonds drops and the hearts come in, and when Maria is playing that seems to happen rather often. However, it has not been the 1992 Champion's tournament so far, and she had to go one down.

Sandra Landy opened the South hand Five Diamonds, a good practical approach, but it got a poor reward, as the other tables played in hearts, and they score more than diamonds.

**MEN****The Big Red One**

There is one card in the bidding box that frequently leads to more trouble than all the rest put together, especially when the name of the game is match points. No, not the one calling for the tournament director, the card I am talking about is the one with a rosy hue.

The first session of the Generali World Masters saw it being waved on many occasions, with varying degrees of success. This is a board we looked at yesterday:

*Board 7. Dealer South. Game All*

<p>♠ 7 5 ♥ A 9 4 3 ♦ J 8 6 5 2 ♣ 4 3</p>		<p>♠ A K 9 6 3 ♥ Q J 10 6 ♦ 3 ♣ A K 5</p>	
<p>♠ Q J 10 8 4 2 ♥ 8 2 ♦ 7 4 ♣ 10 8 7</p>		<p>♠ — ♥ K 7 5 ♦ A K Q 10 9 ♣ Q J 9 6 2</p>	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Mittelman	Gitelman	Forrester	Helgemo
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♣
3♠	4♦	4♠	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

With little to guide him, George Mittelman did not find the heart lead, but perhaps you should. After all, partner is hardly likely to be doubling on the strength of tricks in spades after this auction. Helgemo quickly wrapped up eleven tricks and -750 did not trouble the scorers – at least as far as East/West were concerned.



Michel Abecassis, France

*Board 9. Dealer North. East/West Game*

<p>♠ 9 8 2 ♥ J 8 5 3 2 ♦ 9 5 2 ♣ 5 4</p>		<p>♠ A Q 7 4 ♥ 9 6 4 ♦ Q J 10 8 4 ♣ 8</p>	
<p>♠ K J 10 6 5 3 ♥ K Q 10 ♦ — ♣ Q J 9 7</p>		<p>♠ — ♥ A 7 ♦ A K 7 6 3 ♣ A K 10 6 3 2</p>	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Abecassis	Robson	Eidi	Helgemo
	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	Pass	4♠	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass
5♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

It was not unusual for North-South to go for 800 in Five Clubs doubled, but Abecassis found a way to get a better score. By passing over 4NT and then bidding on, he persuaded South to double. There was nothing to the play, declarer losing only a club and a heart to record +850.

*Board 10. Dealer East. Game All*

<p>♠ K ♥ J 10 8 7 ♦ A 5 3 ♣ Q J 10 3</p>		<p>♠ A 10 4 ♥ Q 6 5 ♦ Q J 9 2 ♣ A K 7</p>	
<p>♠ Q 8 6 5 3 ♥ 9 4 3 ♦ 10 6 ♣ 9 6 2</p>		<p>♠ J 9 7 2 ♥ A K 2 ♦ K 8 7 4 ♣ 8 5</p>	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Abecassis	Robson	Eidi	Helgemo
		INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Robson did well to reopen, although he did not find any support for his action from Zia, who thought the king of spades was a dubious value. If Helgemo could have taken a look at his partner's hand, he would have passed in sleep, but when he decided not to convert the double, East was quick to pounce. This time the red card paid off, and declarer finished two down, -500.

**JUNIORS****The Next Generation**

**T**he stars of the future are surely amongst the players taking part in the Generali World Masters Junior event. Many of them have already made their mark on the world stage, both in Junior Championships and Camps. Canada's Josh Heller has already made his presence felt here, by turning up to play without a biro, thereby reducing your Editor to just one, and if that runs out of ink...

There was just time in the mad dash between the playing rooms and the VuGraph to catch the first set of boards.

**Board 1. Dealer North. Love All**

♠ J 7 5	♠ Q 8 4 2	♠ K 10 9 6
♥ 10 8 6 5 2	♥ Q J 7 3	♥ —
♦ J 7 4	♦ A K 9 5 2	♦ 10 6 3
♣ K 3	♣ —	♣ Q J 10 5 4 2
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           N W       E S         </div>	
	♠ A 3	
	♥ A K 9 4	
	♦ Q 8	
	♣ A 9 8 7 6	

West	North	East	South
Karamanlis	Biondo	Glover	Ravenna
Pass	1♦	2♣	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣
All Pass	4♥	Pass	6♥



Bernado Biondo, Italy

Your ace tipster was relying on his Italian selection to get him out of jail, but Jean-Paul Meyer has already torn up all his betting slips! The first board of the event was a bidding test for North-South, and was easily passed by the Italian-Argentinean pairing. Biondo preferred Three Clubs to a reopening double, and when his partner returned the compliment they were playing hearts from the safest side.

East led the queen of clubs, and declarer won, discarding a spade, and cashed the queen of diamonds. If he now cashes the ace of spades and then takes the top diamonds to discard a spade from dummy he can cross ruff his way to thirteen tricks, but he slightly mistimed things by cashing the diamonds first, so now twelve tricks were the limit. +980 was not quite a top, as one pair recorded +1330.

**Board 4. Dealer West. Game All**

♠ A 5 2	♠ K 9 8 6 4
♥ Q 10 9 4 2	♥ J 7
♦ Q	♦ 7 5 4 2
♣ K 10 5 3	♣ 9 6
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           N W       E S         </div>
♠ Q J 10 7	♠ 3
♥ 8	♥ A K 6 5 3
♦ A K 9 8	♦ J 10 6 3
♣ A J 8 4	♣ Q 7 2

West	North	East	South
Karamanlis	Biondo	Glover	Ravenna
1♦	1♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

This was not especially exciting, declarer losing just a club and a diamond, but full marks to the East-West pair that found their way to Four Spades. Declarer can be held to eight tricks if South starts with a low diamond, but that is never going to happen. In the event, the defenders lost their way and allowed declarer to arrive at ten tricks, but they were getting a zero whatever they did.

The Editor's nap selection had made a solid start, and he soon moved into the lead.

As it happens, Karamanlis, Glover and Biondo went on to occupy three of the top four places by the end of the second session.

**Time marches on**

Our reliable source quoted yesterday, now informs us that the Zappion Megaron is 110 years old. Presumably by Sunday it will have aged even more.

**MEN****The Longest Day**

**T**wo long sessions of twenty-six boards would test the stamina of even these great players, as the Men's section of the Generali World Masters got under way.

I can recall one expert telling me that if he could be granted just one wish, it would be to always make the best lead. He was certainly onto something if this hand is anything to go by.

*Board 5. Dealer North. North-South Game*

	♠ K Q 8		
	♥ Q 9 6		
	♦ 9 6 3		
	♣ K 6 3 2		
♠ 5	<div>W<div>N</div>E<div>S</div></div>	♠ A 9 4 3 2	
♥ J 5 3 2		♥ A K	
♦ 7 5		♦ A Q J 10 2	
♣ A Q J 10 8 7		♣ 9	
	♠ J 10 7 6		
	♥ 10 8 7 4		
	♦ K 8 4		
	♣ 5 4		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Ferraro</i>	<i>Chemla</i>	<i>Martens</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led a club, and that was that. Forrester won in hand, cashed the ace of clubs and played on diamonds to record the same nine tricks that were made at all the tables but one. The unlucky declarer who only made seven tricks did not get a club lead, and you cannot make the contract without one.

*Board 6. Dealer East. East-West Game*

	♠ A 6 4 3		
	♥ A 10 9		
	♦ A J 8 7 6		
	♣ Q		
♠ 5	<div>W<div>N</div>E<div>S</div></div>	♠ K Q 10 9 2	
♥ K 7 2		♥ J 6 4 3	
♦ 10 9 3		♦ 4	
♣ A J 9 6 4 2		♣ 10 5 3	
	♠ J 8 7		
	♥ Q 8 5		
	♦ K Q 5 2		
	♣ K 8 7		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Ferraro</i>	<i>Chemla</i>	<i>Martens</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Dble	1♠	INT
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Forrester led the threatening club, but Martens was not hard pressed to run the nine of hearts at trick two. When that fetched the king, the play was over very quickly, declarer claiming nine tricks.

*Board 7. Dealer South. Game All*

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

This was a good hand to be certain of the methods in use! According to the convention card, Two Clubs was game forcing, Two Diamonds a one round force. As ten tricks are easy thanks to the trump break and the location of the king of spades, the pairs who reached game generally scored well. Here, declarer made ten tricks, but +170 only collected 9/24, another good result for Gawrys.

*Board 8. Dealer West. Love All*

	♠ 9		
	♥ A K Q 10 5 2		
	♦ J 7 6		
	♣ A J 4		
♠ K 3	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ Q J 10 6 4 2	
♥ 7 6		♥ J 9 8 3	
♦ A K 8 5		♦ 4	
♣ 9 7 6 5 2		♣ K 8	
	♠ A 8 7 5		
	♥ 4		
	♦ Q 10 9 3 2		
	♣ Q 10 3		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Westra</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Forrester</i>
Pass	1♥	2♠	Pass
3♠	4♥	All Pass	

Richard Freeman, reigning Bermuda Bowl Champion, resisted the temptation for a scientific bid of Three Diamonds, preferring to let his partner know he would be happy with a spade lead

against a possible 3NT. Westra, perhaps with the previous board on his mind, was not going to be denied, and he tried for the ten trick game. No luck, the hearts did not break, and the club finesse was wrong. Down one, -50 but a slightly surprising 16/24 for North-South. That was enough to drop Gawrys below Baldursson, by just six points.

*Board 12. Dealer West. North/South Game*

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

West	North	East	South
Westerhof	Versace	Multon	Fredin
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♣
3♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Fredin hit upon the devilish lead of the five of spades. Declarer put up dummy's nine, and when North produced the two, he overtook it with the ten and played the queen of hearts. When South discarded a club, Multon ran the trick to North's king. If North plays a trump back, declarer can get home by winning, and playing to ruff two diamonds in the dummy. Ace of diamonds, ruff a diamond, ace of clubs, ruff a club, ruff a diamond, and play a spade.

North preferred a diamond, and although it should have been plain sailing from here, declarer lost his way and went one down. It was an expensive lapse.

*Board 13. Dealer North. Game All*

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

West	North	East	South
Pszczola	Donath	Justin	Baldursson
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		



*Justin Hackett, England*

South led the jack of spades, and declarer won in hand and played the three of diamonds to the king and ace. North switched to the eight of clubs, and declarer was faced with a typical match point problem. He finessed, and South won and returned the ten of clubs for North to ruff. One down, and another solid result for the leader.

*Board 14. Dealer East. Love All*

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

West	North	East	South
Pszczola	Donath	Justin	Baldursson
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Dble	Redble	1♠
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

North led the king of spades, but the commentators had quickly noticed that North was bound to come under pressure in the ending, and so it proved.

Declarer ducked the first spade, won the second, and played on trumps. South took the third round and exited with a spade. North won and switched to a diamond, but declarer won in hand, and ran his trumps, cashing the ace of clubs along the way. There was nothing North could do. Only three declarer's recorded +420, so it was worth 22/24.

## WOMEN

## Enter the Amazons

The Women's part of the Generali World Masters got under way yesterday, with what our man on the inside, Tony Gordon, described as a quiet set of boards. I wonder if the players felt the same way? Take a look for yourselves.

## Board 5. Dealer North. North/South Game

	♠ 2		
	♥ K Q 4		
	♦ A 8 6 5		
	♣ 9 6 4 3 2		
♠ Q 10	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center; width: 40px;"> N W     E S </div>	♠ A K 8 7 6 5 4 3	
♥ 10 8 7 3		♥ 6	
♦ K J 3		♦ 9 7 4	
♣ K J 10 7		♣ Q	
	♠ J 9		
	♥ A J 9 5 2		
	♦ Q 10 2		
	♣ A 8 5		

West	North	East	South
Smith	D'Ovideo	Erhart	Verbeek
	Pass	4♠	All Pass

With an awkward lead, South went for the two of diamonds. Declarer elected to play dummy's jack and North won with the ace and switched to the king of hearts. At first glance, South could overtake and play the queen of diamonds, but suppose North started with ♥K4?

South decided to follow with the two of hearts showing count, but now North had to decide on who had what in the red suits. If South had five diamonds, then a heart would be right, and that is what North did. -420 did not look promising, but the game was made at several tables.

## Board 10. Dealer East. Game All

	♠ K J 2		
	♥ A J 10 9		
	♦ 6		
	♣ K J 8 7 5		
♠ 10 9 8 7 5 4	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center; width: 40px;"> N W     E S </div>	♠ A Q	
♥ 7 6		♥ 5 4 3	
♦ 7 5		♦ 10 8 3 2	
♣ A 6 4		♣ Q 10 3 2	
	♠ 6 3		
	♥ K Q 8 2		
	♦ A K Q J 9 4		
	♣ 9		

West	North	East	South
Auken	Landy	Meyers	Lise
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♥	All Pass	



Sabine Auken, Germany

If I had time, I'd ask Eric Kokish to comment on the auction. There are certainly alternatives to Four Hearts. A Four Club splinter is one possibility, and for some players, Four Diamonds would show a good suit and agree hearts. Sandra Landy's 4NT proved to be unsound because her partner's response, showing two aces and the queen of trumps, carried the partnership beyond the limit of their cards. Still, I think North was entitled to expect South to have a better hand.

The spotlight was now on Jill Meyers, the world's number one ranked player. It would be asking a lot to lead the ace of spades, but there was certainly a case for a club. No, she led a trump, and declarer drew three rounds and got rid of her spades on the diamond suit. She only needed a winning guess in clubs, and when East, imagining that declarer had the ace and king of clubs, discarded the ace of spades on the last diamond, the position of the ace of clubs became a racing certainty. After all, East would hardly have led a trump looking at both black aces.

Sabine Auken had been the early leader, but this was one of several miserable results that gradually pushed her down the field.

## Board 22. Dealer East. East/West Game

	♠ K 9 2		
	♥ J 10 5		
	♦ 9 7 5 4		
	♣ 9 7 3		
♠ A J 10 6	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center; width: 40px;"> N W     E S </div>	♠ Q 5 4	
♥ Q 6 2		♥ 9 4	
♦ K 10 8 2		♦ A J 6 3	
♣ J 4		♣ Q 8 6 5	
	♠ 8 7 3		
	♥ A K 8 7 3		
	♦ Q		
	♣ A K 10 2		





World No 1, Jill Meyers, USA

West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Sun Ming	Auken	Meyers
		Pass	1♥
Dble	2♥	Dble	3♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
4♦	All Pass		

If I have the time, I'll ask Daniela what she was going to do if Sabine responded to her take out double in clubs, but no pain no gain is the pairs players motto.

If West had been brave enough to pass her partner's second double and avoid a club or trump lead, then Three Hearts would have been defeated, but it was only at the end of the session that Dani decided that was the right thing to do. Four Diamonds was two down, and as usual, -200 was a poor result.

## Board 24. Dealer West. Love All

♠ A 6 5 2 ♥ Q 10 4 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ 9 7 5		♠ J 10 4 ♥ 9 8 7 6 2 ♦ 3 ♣ 10 4 3 2	
♠ K 3 ♥ K 5 ♦ Q J 8 7 6 5 ♣ A K J		♠ Q 9 8 7 ♥ A J 3 ♦ K 10 9 ♣ Q 8 6	
West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Sun Ming	Auken	Meyers
1♦	Dble	Pass	2♦
Dble	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT

You can contrast North's double on this board, with East's on number 22. Here it led to a very poor contract, but the defence went wrong. West led the ace of clubs, and East withheld the two. Now West has to switch to either a diamond or a spade to defeat the contract, but she carried on with the king and jack of clubs, and declarer was in control. She won with the queen, and

played ace and a spade, ducked to the king. West was endplayed. -400, and another zero for a pair who would have been hoping to rack up the points when they played together.

## Board 25. Dealer North. East-West Game

♠ A Q 5 4 ♥ K Q 10 5 ♦ A 5 ♣ 8 6 5		♠ K J 3 2 ♥ 9 ♦ K J 7 4 3 ♣ K J 7	
♠ 10 6 ♥ A 8 6 4 3 2 ♦ Q 10 9 ♣ 4 2		♠ 9 8 7 ♥ J 7 ♦ 8 6 2 ♣ A Q 10 9 3	
West	North	East	South
Erhart	Meyers	Auken	Simons
	INT	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Would you protect with the West hand? This was not the right moment, as South, who had considered bidding over One No-Trump, made a take out double. North knew what to do with that, and the contract was two down, -500.

## Board 27. Dealer South. Love All

♠ A Q 6 ♥ J 10 3 ♦ 10 6 5 4 ♣ A 9 4		♠ 5 4 2 ♥ 9 8 7 6 ♦ K Q 9 2 ♣ 3 2	
♠ 10 8 3 ♥ K Q 5 ♦ A J 8 ♣ Q 8 7 6		♠ K J 9 7 ♥ A 4 2 ♦ 7 3 ♣ K J 10 5	
West	North	East	South
Erhart	Meyers	Auken	Simons
Pass	1♦		1♣
Pass	2NT	All Pass	1♠

East led the eight of heart to the two, queen, and three, and West switched to the eight of diamonds. Declarer followed with the four, and Sabine had a problem. If she overtakes with the nine, and plays a heart, declarer, assuming she started with four hearts, will rise with the ace and fell West's king. It was also difficult to imagine that West had started with ♦A J 8. She eventually played the two of diamonds, and West switched to the king of hearts. Declarer, who would almost certainly have made her contract in any event, was now in a position to make a lot of tricks, but she played East for the queen of clubs, and had to settle for eight.

**MEN****Night of the Long Knives**

**W**ould the leaders break away? Could someone mount a charge? Those were just two of the questions to be answered as the players settled down for the third session of the Men's Generali World Masters.

*Board 9. Dealer North. East-West Game*

	♠ A		
	♥ A J 4 3		
	♦ K J 2		
	♣ A 9 5 4 2		
♠ 9 5 3	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W      E S </div>	♠ K J 4 2	
♥ 9 6 5 2		♥ Q 8 7	
♦ Q 10 6		♦ A 9 7 5 3	
♣ K 8 7		♣ Q	
	♠ Q 10 8 7 6		
	♥ K 10		
	♦ 8 4		
	♣ J 10 6 3		

West	North	East	South
Kapayianidis	Sementa	Gawrys	Pszczola
	1♣	Dble	2♠

All Pass

West led the eight of hearts, solving any problem in that suit, and Pszczola made nine tricks, finessing the jack of diamonds at trick two, and then simply playing to ruff as many times in hand as possible. However, with other contracts scoring more, notably clubs and no-trumps, it was worth only 5/24.

*Board 10. Dealer East. Game All*

	♠ J 8 3		
	♥ K Q 10 9 6 4		
	♦ 8 6		
	♣ A 4		
♠ Q 7 2	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W      E S </div>	♠ A K 9 5	
♥ A 5		♥ 8 7	
♦ A K Q 10		♦ 9 3 2	
♣ K 9 7 2		♣ 10 8 6 3	
	♠ 10 6 4		
	♥ J 3 2		
	♦ J 7 5 4		
	♣ Q J 5		

West	North	East	South
Kapayianidis	Sementa	Gawrys	Pszczola
1♣	2♥	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	Dble	Pass
		4♣	All Pass

Four Clubs was easy enough, when after winning the opening lead of the king of hearts, declarer crossed to the king of spades and ran the six of clubs. However, given the bidding, both Three No-Trumps and Four Spades are likely to be made, and +130 collected only 6 match points.

*Piotr Gawrys, Poland*

The auction offered alternatives to both players. West's Three Hearts was as suggested by the VuGraph commentators, but 3NT must be a plausible alternative, despite the lack of a second stopper in hearts.

It was suggested that Gawrys should reply Three Spades, but why should he give partner the same information twice. It looks more sensible to show the club support, leaving partner to decide what to do next. West appeared to give a lot of thought to bidding Four Spades before he passed.

*Board 17. Dealer North. Love All*

	♠ J		
	♥ A J 9		
	♦ 10 8 7 3 2		
	♣ K 10 6 4		
♠ 9 6 4 3	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W      E S </div>	♠ A K Q 8 5	
♥ K 10 8 3		♥ Q 7 4	
♦ 9 6 4		♦ K Q 5	
♣ 8 5		♣ 9 2	
	♠ 10 7 2		
	♥ 6 5 2		
	♦ A J		
	♣ A Q J 7 3		
West	North	East	South
Quantin	Fredin	Sementa	Gitelman
	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♦	Pass
3♠	4♣	All Pass	

Sementa had taken the lead during this session, but then enjoyed one of those runs where without really doing anything terrible, the points just dribbled away. This board was typical. Three Diamonds was a perfectly reasonable bid, but it persuaded West to lead the suit against Four Clubs, and that was enough for declarer to make eleven tricks. Of course, he would probably have done that in any event, as it would be very hard for East to switch to a heart after an initial spade lead. Losing 150 was worth only two of the available match points. At the end of this round, Gawrys was back on top.