



5th GENERALI WORLD MASTERS

13-15 APRIL 2000

Zappion Megaron - Athens Greece



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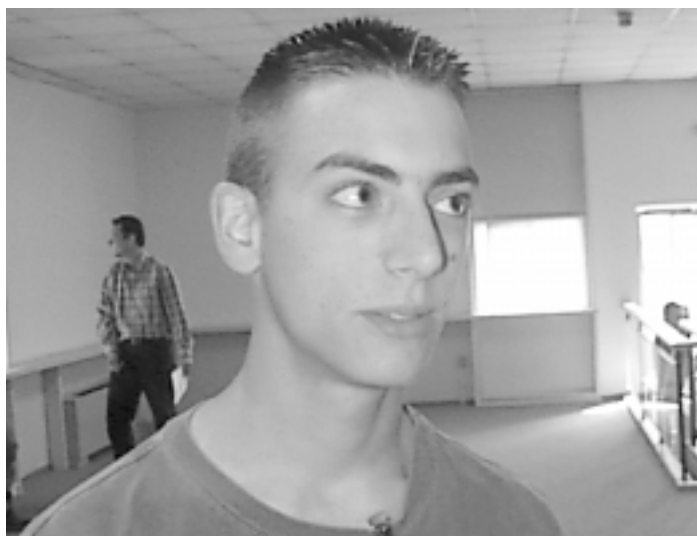
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Saturday (evening), 15 May 2000

On top of the World



Antonio Semanta, Italy, winner of the Mens' event



Miltos Karamanlis, Greece, winner of the Juniors' event



Benedicte Cronier, France, winner of the Womens' event

MEN

Antonio Sementa is the pride of Italy after winning the Men's Generali World Masters. He gradually pulled away during the final session, to become the first Italian to capture the title.

WOMEN

Congratulations to France's **Benedicte Cronier**, the winner of the Women's Generali World Masters. She put her victory down to the fact that she played at a steady tempo, thereby putting all her partners at ease, enabling them to play their best.

JUNIORS

They will be dancing in the streets of Athens, as Greek fans celebrate the triumph of **Miltos Karamanlis** in the first Junior edition of the Generali World Masters. He was never headed during today's final session.

Final Womens' Results

1	CRONIER	FRA	55.25
2	MEYERS	USA	54.53
3	VERBEEK	NTH	54.12
4	DELOR	FRA	52.37
5	HARASIMOWICZ	POL	52.06
6	MCGOWAN	GBR	51.85
7	SIMONS	NTH	51.54
8	BILDE	DEN	51.23
9	VLAHAKI	GRE	51.21
10	SMITH	GBR	51.13
11	MONTIN	USA	51.03
12	SUN	CHN	50.93
13	LEVIT-PORAT	ISR	50.82
14	LISE	FRA	50.51
15	AUKEN	GER	50.41
16	GAVIARD	FRA	50.31
17	BESSIS	FRA	49.28
18	ERHART	AUT	48.97
19	STEEN MOLLER	DEN	48.87
20	VRIEND	NTH	48.77
21	VON ARNIM	GER	48.25
22	DHONDY	GBR	48.15
23	ZUR-CAMPANIL	ISR	48.13
24	GORDON	CAN	47.84
25	D'OVIDIO	FRA	47.53
26	VAN DER PAS	NTH	46.30
27	LANDY	GBR	45.88
28	SHUGART	USA	42.49

Final Juniors' Results

1	KARAMANLIS	GRE	56.09
2	GLOYER	AUT	53.95
3	KIT LAI	HKG	53.62
3	ROBB	AUS	53.62
5	CHEN	CHN	52.80
6	LUTOSTANSKI	POL	52.63
7	HELLER	CAN	52.30
8	BIONDO	ITA	51.81
9	OCHOA	COL	51.09
10	KRASNOSSELSK	RUS	49.38
11	MIGNOCCHI	USA	48.85
12	KITCES	USA	48.72
13	WINKLER	HUN	48.52
14	CHARLSEN	NOR	48.36
15	RAVENNA	ARG	48.03
16	WOOLBRIDGE	USA	47.89
17	CASTILLO	COL	47.20
18	KHAN	PAK	46.38
19	CEGLIA	BRA	44.90
20	SAMIR	EGY	43.09

Final Mens' Results

1	SEMENTA	ITA	57.15
2	GAWRYS	POL	55.51
3	GROMOV	RUS	54.45
4	ABECASSIS	FRA	54.21
5	MAHMOOD	USA	54.13
6	ROMANSKI	POL	53.88
7	LINDKVIST	SWE	53.59
8	HELNESS	NOR	53.55
9	HELGEMO	NOR	53.19
10	WESTRA	NTH	52.12
11	MARTENS	POL	51.92
12	KOWALSKI	POL	51.88
13	FREDIN	SWE	51.82
14	BALDURSSON	ICE	51.80
15	BIANCHEDI	ARG	51.31
16	DE FALCO	ITA	51.21
17	ZOTOS	GRE	51.14
18	YANG	CHN	50.98
19	BROGELAND	NOR	50.90
20	MULTON	FRA	50.82
20	MOUIEL	FRA	50.82
22	DUBOIN	ITA	50.78
23	ROBSON	GBR	50.68
23	VERSACE	ITA	50.68
25	FREEMAN	USA	50.53
26	HACKETT Justin	GBR	50.23
27	HAMAOU	VEN	50.20
28	AUKEN	DEN	50.12
29	GITELMAN	CAN	50.00
30	HACKETT Jason	GBR	49.90
31	LEVY	FRA	49.88
31	BOMPIS	FRA	49.88
33	KOKISH	CAN	49.86
34	DE BOER	NTH	49.49
35	QUANTIN	FRA	49.47
36	KAPAYIANIDIS	GRE	49.43
37	BOCCHI	ITA	48.84
38	EIDI	LEB	48.59
39	PANELEWEN	IDN	48.08
40	SZYMANOWSKY	POL	47.79
41	FORRESTER	GBR	47.61
42	WESTERHOF	NTH	47.33
43	CHEMLA	FRA	47.30
43	FERRARO	ITA	47.30
45	PSZCZOLA	POL	46.65
46	SZWARC	FRA	46.36
47	PODDAR	IND	45.51
48	THOMSON	AUS	45.38
49	DONATH	URU	45.06
50	KWIECIEN	POL	44.44
51	CONVERY	ZAF	43.87
52	MITTELMAN	CAN	41.08

Achilles Heel

It took Apolinary around one second to earn his side a complete top! Bravo!



Apolinary Kolwalski

MEN**Bits & Pieces**

Time trouble is rearing its ugly head, as we try to get information about just some of the deals that have caught the eye during the last three days. Must learn to type faster!

Board 24. Dealer West. Love All

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

West	North	East	South
Yang	Ferraro	Kapayiannidis	De Falco
3♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

North intended his double to be for penalties, but South did not see it that way. Of course, you will always expect to encounter problems of this kind in an individual, but not when you are playing with your regular partner!

West led his heart, and South ruffed. He played a sneaky nine of diamonds, and when West played low, discarded a club from dummy, allowing East to ruff. Back came a heart, and declarer ruffed low and was overruffed. A club to the ace and another heart promoted West's king of spades.



Torr Helness, Norway



Krzysztof Martens, Poland

Sometimes you just wish the ground would open up and swallow you.

Board 2. Dealer East. North-South Game

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

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Zia	Martens	Helness
2♥	Pass	Pass	1♠
		4♥	All Pass

North led his singleton spade, and declarer won with the ace, cashed the king of hearts, and played a heart to the ace. Now came a club to the king, a club to the jack, and the ace of clubs. Had Zia false-carded in clubs? Helness did not ruff, and now declarer was able to play the ten of clubs and get rid of a losing spade.

Faced with a similar situation, Tony Forrester made no mistake, taking his queen of hearts, two spades and the ace of diamonds.

WOMEN

Night Moves

After enjoying a splendid supper, the contestants settled down to what might prove to be the decisive session in the Women's Generali World Masters.

Board 3. Dealer South. East-West Game

	♠ A 10 9 6		
	♥ A 6 5		
	♦ Q 8		
	♣ K 9 6 4		
♠ 7 2	<div>W<div>N</div>E<div>S</div></div>	♠ Q 8 5 4	
♥ Q J 10 9 7 2		♥ 8 3	
♦ 10 6 4		♦ A J 5 3	
♣ 7 3		♣ A J 10	
	♠ K J 3		
	♥ K 4		
	♦ K 9 7 2		
	♣ Q 8 5 2		
West	North	East	South
<i>Meyers</i>	<i>Vlachaki</i>	<i>McGowan</i>	<i>Harasimowicz</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	INT

West led the queen of hearts, taken by declarer's king. Ewa Harasimowicz played a club to the king and ace, and East returned her remaining heart. If declarer was certain the hearts were 6-2 she should win this trick, and can then get home in a variety of ways. However, she ducked when West overtook it, and when Jill Meyers switched to the four of diamonds declarer was in trouble. She put up dummy's queen, but East produced the ace, and returned the suit, ducked to West's ten. At this point a club or a diamond ensures the defeat of the contract, but that was not easy to see, and West played the seven of spades.

Declarer was quick to seize her chance. She put up the ten, and when it held, cashed the ace of hearts, squeezing East in three suits. McGowan parted with a spade, but now three rounds of that suit was more than she could stand.

This was the only table that the contract was made at, so you can probably work out the match point scores.

Board 10. Dealer East. Game All

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

West	North	East	South
Meyers	Harasimowicz	Delor	Landy
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

West led a heart, and declarer won cheaply with the jack. A diamond to the king was followed by the jack of diamonds. West took the ace, and switched to the queen of clubs. When declarer failed to cover, Meyers was quick to go back to diamonds. Realising that if the spades were 3-3 she was doomed to a poor score, Sandra came to hand and played a club towards the king. She had her nine tricks, but the defenders had four, and +600 was worthless.

Board 27. Dealer South. Love All

	♠ A 10 2		
	♥ 7 2		
	♦ 10 9 3		
	♣ J 10 8 4 2		
	<div>♠ N</div> <div>W ♠ E</div> <div>♠ S</div>		
	♠ K 8 6 3		♠ Q J 5 4
	♥ K 10 6 5		♥ A Q J 8
	♦ A Q 7		♦ K 8 6 2
	♣ 9 5		♣ Q
West	North	East	South
<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Gaviard</i>	<i>Vriend</i>	<i>Verbeek</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
All Pass			2♠

The leaders met on the final round of session two. The boards were not exciting, but this caught the eye, not least because Daniele Gaviard responded to her partner's bid. Remind me to ask her if she has read the Editor's Bols Bridge Tip – 'Don't be afraid to respond'. Bep Vriend led the queen of clubs and switched to the ace and then the queen of hearts. Declarer won with the king, and played dummy's remaining club. West won with the king, and played her last heart. Declarer ruffed, took a winning diamond finesse, and cashed the ace of diamonds before playing the ten of hearts. West ruffed, declarer overruffed and played a club. She was assured of eight tricks, and +110 was a little over average.



Martine Verbeek, The Netherlands

MEN**Final Count Down**

Faced with the situation of trying to cover three events all playing different boards, our first visit was to the VuGraph, to check if the first few deals would see anyone break clear, thereby allowing us time to concentrate on the other two events.

Board 1. Dealer North. Love All

♠ J 10 ♥ J 5 3 ♦ K 10 9 7 5 ♣ 9 8 4			
♠ A Q ♥ A K 8 6 ♦ 6 4 3 ♣ 10 7 3 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 9 8 7 3 2 ♥ 10 9 2 ♦ 8 ♣ K Q 6 5	♠ K 6 5 4 ♥ Q 7 4 ♦ A Q J 2 ♣ A J	
West	North	East	South
Duboin	Abecassis	Martens	Versace
	Pass	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

*Andrey Gromov, Russia*

This looked as if it was all about the opening lead. Versace selected the queen of clubs, and essentially the hand was over. Declarer won, crossed to the ace of spades and took the diamond finesse. When it held, he crossed to the ace of hearts, and repeated the diamond finesse. He then played the jack of clubs to establish his twelfth trick.

+490 was obviously okay, but 12 tricks can be recorded against any lead! Say South leads a spade. Declarer wins, takes the diamond finesse, crosses to a heart and repeats the diamond finesse. He now cashes his red suit winners, effecting a pretty criss cross squeeze without the count against South. Six declarers made twelve tricks, but they only got 17/24, as one declarer made all thirteen - he must have got a small club lead.

Board 2. Dealer East. North/South Game

♠ A 8 5 ♥ 10 4 3 2 ♦ A Q 7 5 ♣ K 5			
♠ Q J 6 3 2 ♥ K Q ♦ 10 6 ♣ Q 8 7 6	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 10 ♥ A 9 7 5 ♦ J 9 4 3 ♣ A 9 4 2	♠ K 9 7 4 ♥ J 8 6 ♦ K 8 2 ♣ J 10 3	
West	North	East	South
Duboin	Abecassis	Martens	Versace
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Dble	2♠	Dble
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Martens got very close to bidding Three Spades over Three Diamonds, and it would have been interesting to see if North-South could then have reached the heart game. East might have 'followed the law' at his first turn, possibly again making life difficult, but North might also have preferred Three Hearts to Three Diamonds.

This might well have been a testing hand, even playing with a regular partner, so North-South did well to get to Four Hearts. It earned them 19/24 match points.

Board 7. Dealer South. Game All

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



Jacek Pszyczola, Poland

West	North	East	South
Bompis	Bianchedi	Levy	Justin
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Bompis made an excellent start when he selected the three of hearts for his opening lead. Declarer won with dummy's king, and tried the jack of spades. That might have had a happy outcome at the local club, but not here! West won with the ace, and having no way to know that his partner had trump control, switched to the two of diamonds. Justin put up the queen, and Levy won with the ace and played back his remaining heart. Declarer won and knocked out the king of spades. Bompis discarded the three of clubs, and Levy played back a diamond, Bompis winning with the king and completing a first class defence by giving his partner a heart ruff.

+200 collected 21/24 match points.

There was a heavyweight clash just before the mid session break, when three of the leading pairs met on VuGraph.

Board 11. Dealer South. Love All

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

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Lindkvist	Kokish	Gromov
Pass	1♦	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	INT

Gawrys led the jack of spades, and when everyone ducked, he switched to a heart. Declarer won, and cashed the ace and king of diamonds and played a club to the queen and West's ace. When Gawry's failed to go back to spades, playing a diamond, Kokish was in trouble. He did not want to be endplayed in clubs, so he blanked the king of spades, but Gromov was not fooled, playing the ace of spades and drawing a round of applause from the audience.

+400 earned him 18/24, keeping him well in the hunt.

Board 12. Dealer West. North/South Game

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

West	North	East	South
Gawrys	Lindkvist	Kokish	Gromov
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the three of spades, and soon afterwards declarer claimed eleven tricks. That looked normal enough, but several



Alain Levy, France

North-South pairs went for big numbers, including two -1400's, so it was worth only seven matchpoints.

Board 15. Dealer South. North/South Game

<p> ♠ A 9 2 ♥ A 10 8 2 ♦ A K 10 2 ♣ 4 3 </p>			
<p> ♠ Q J 8 5 3 ♥ J 6 5 ♦ 8 7 ♣ 10 9 6 </p>	<p> N W E S </p>	<p> ♠ 6 ♥ K Q 4 3 ♦ 6 4 3 ♣ Q 8 7 5 2 </p>	
<p> ♠ K 10 7 4 ♥ 9 7 ♦ Q J 9 5 ♣ A K J </p>			
West	North	East	South
Abecassis	Donath	Pszczola	Kowalski
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT

West led the ten of clubs, and it was clear to the audience, and the commentators, that declarer could make eleven tricks by either playing on hearts, or getting the spades right. Kowalski won with the jack of clubs, and hoping to get a clue, cashed four rounds of diamonds. West discarded first a heart and then a spade. Was that why declarer now played a spade to the ace?

Ten tricks were now the limit, and at this stage every trick was potentially worth a lot of drachmas!

+630 scored only 6/24.

Board 16. Dealer West. East/West Game

<p> ♠ — ♥ K Q J 9 6 ♦ A J ♣ K Q 9 8 7 3 </p>			
<p> ♠ A J 8 4 3 2 ♥ 8 ♦ Q 3 ♣ A 6 5 2 </p>	<p> N W E S </p>	<p> ♠ K 9 6 5 ♥ A 7 5 4 ♦ K 10 4 2 ♣ 10 </p>	
<p> ♠ Q 10 7 ♥ 10 3 2 ♦ 9 8 7 6 5 ♣ J 4 </p>			
West	North	East	South
Abecassis	Donath	Pszczola	Kowalski
1♠	2♠	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♣	Dble	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

East did not take a winning view on this wild deal. West led his heart, and East won and switched to a spade. Declarer ruffed, and played a club to the jack, which held. Abecassis ducked the next club as well, and East ruffed. He played another spade, but declarer could ruff, and play a club, discarding his last spade. He was down two, -300, only five match points for East/West.

Final Moments

Board 11. Dealer South. Love All

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

This is a defensive problem that is very hard to solve. South leads her singleton heart, and North wins and returns the suit for South to ruff. Should South underlead her diamond honours? If North returns the two of hearts, then I think the answer is no, as partner cannot possibly want what she is apparently asking for. If the three comes back, the situation is more difficult, because the two of hearts is missing. A declarer at the top of their form might have falsecarded, but I think it is more likely that partner has the key card. Whatever, no East-West pair went plus on this deal.

The middle of the round saw the two players who had broken clear of the field in opposition. Our reporter informed the Editor that it had been a rout. Pressure of time has forced us down to just one hand. Would it be unlucky for someone?

Board 13. Dealer North. Game All

<p> ♠ A K 10 9 8 5 ♥ A Q 3 2 ♦ 2 ♣ A J </p>			
<p> ♠ 3 2 ♥ 10 9 8 5 ♦ A K Q 9 5 4 ♣ 2 </p>	<p> N W E S </p>	<p> ♠ 4 ♥ K J 7 6 4 ♦ J 7 6 ♣ 8 7 5 4 </p>	
<p> ♠ Q J 7 6 ♥ — ♦ 10 8 3 ♣ K Q 10 9 6 3 </p>			
West	North	East	South
Cronier	Meyers	Von Arnim	Moller
	1♠	Pass	2♣
2♦	2♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

East led a diamond, and moment later declarer had claimed twelve tricks. As three declarers made an overtrick, North South scored only 3/12 match points, as opposed to the ten the other North-South pairs collected.

Cronier's eventual winning margin? Seven match points!