



18th European Youth Team Championships

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DAILY BULLETIN



Bulletin 11

Wednesday Evening, 17 July 2002

Editor: Brian Senior - **Co-editor:** Peter Gill - **Layout Editor:** George Hatzidakis

CONGRATULATIONS!!!



Italy won the Junior European Team Championship today. Early in their final match against Norway the Italians trailed by 25 IMPs but they held their collective nerve to come back to win by 41-32 IMPs, 17-13 VPs, to assure the gold medal, irrespec-

tive of results in other matches.

In a dramatic finish, Denmark snatched the silver medal thanks to a 23-7 victory over Russia, with Norway taking the bronze. France lost their last match 11-19 against Sweden to finish just half-a-VP behind Norway. If a fifth European team gets a place in next year's World Championships in Beijing, it will be Poland, who took fourth place ahead of England.



In the Schools, Israel's morning maximum against England put them in a strong position going into the final round. Though they trailed Poland by 5 VPs, Israel had to play near-bottom-placed Scotland in the final round, while Poland faced third-

placed Netherlands. Sure enough, Netherlands held the Poles, losing only by 13-17, and Israel's 25-4 win over Scotland earned them the Schools European Team Championship and the gold medal. Norway took the bronze, overtaking Netherlands thanks to a 24-6 last round victory over Germany. Scotland's 4 VPs against Israel just held off Wales so that the Welsh had to take last place.



JUNIOR TEAMS



RESULTS - FINAL RANKING



ROUND ROBIN SESSION 22

Match		IMP's		VP's	
1	CROATIA TURKEY	52	61	13	17
2	HUNGARY SPAIN	52	69	11	19
3	GREECE POLAND	52	68	12	18
4	GERMANY SWEDEN	66	41	20	10
5	FRANCE CZECH REP.	37	43	14	16
6	ESTONIA BELGIUM	97	29	25	2
7	SCOTLAND NORWAY	37	61	10	20
8	ITALY RUSSIA	56	44	17	13
9	bye AUSTRIA	0	0	0	18
10	FINLAND NETHERLANDS	23	73	5	25
11	ISRAEL ENGLAND	57	46	17	13
12	DENMARK bye	0	0	18	0

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 23

Match		IMP's		VP's	
1	BELGIUM SCOTLAND	51	35	18	12
2	CZECH REP. ESTONIA	69	29	23	7
3	SWEDEN FRANCE	50	29	19	11
4	POLAND GERMANY	46	71	10	20
5	SPAIN GREECE	46	62	12	18
6	TURKEY HUNGARY	37	32	16	14
7	AUSTRIA CROATIA	32	59	9	21
8	ENGLAND bye	0	0	18	0
9	NETHERLANDS ISRAEL	40	47	14	16
10	RUSSIA DENMARK	46	84	7	23
11	NORWAY ITALY	32	41	13	17
12	bye FINLAND	0	0	0	18

FINAL RANKING

1	ITALY	430
2	DENMARK	414
3	NORWAY	410.5
4	FRANCE	410
5	POLAND	401
6	ENGLAND	392
7	ISRAEL	388.5
8	NETHERLANDS	380
9	SWEDEN	378.5
10	RUSSIA	376.5
11	ESTONIA	373
12	CZECH REP.	367
13	CROATIA	336
14	GERMANY	332.5
15	TURKEY	323
16	AUSTRIA	309
17	HUNGARY	304.5
18	BELGIUM	300.5
19	FINLAND	297
20	GREECE	281
21	SPAIN	242.5
22	SCOTLAND	217



Editor - Brian Senior



Co-Editor - Peter Gill

SCHOOLS TEAMS



RESULTS - FINAL RANKING



ROUND ROBIN SESSION 14

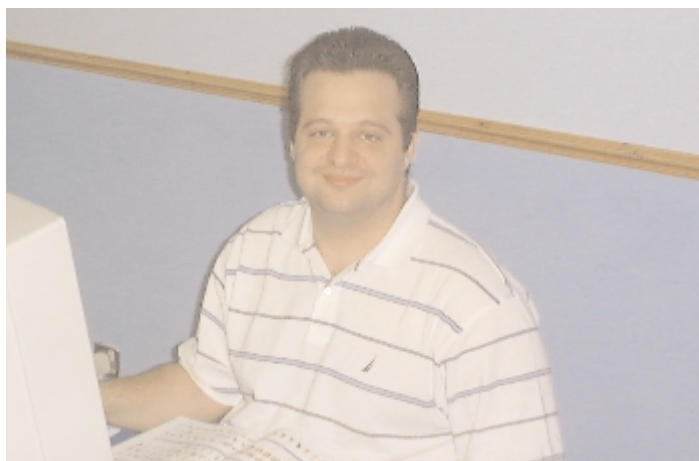
Match		IMP's		VP's	
13 DENMARK	NETHERLANDS	27	84	4	25
14 NORWAY	AUSTRIA	80	30	25	5
15 IRELAND	ITALY	53	46	16	14
16 POLAND	SCOTLAND	109	13	25	0
17 ENGLAND	ISRAEL	17	147	0	25
18 CZECH REP.	GERMANY	27	82	4	25
19 WALES	SWEDEN	19	72	5	25
20 bye	FRANCE	0	0	0	18

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 15

Match		IMP's		VP's	
13 ITALY	FRANCE	28	63	8	22
14 AUSTRIA	ENGLAND	80	27	25	3
15 NETHERLANDS	POLAND	36	48	13	17
16 SWEDEN	IRELAND	73	35	23	7
17 GERMANY	NORWAY	27	72	6	24
18 CZECH REP.	DENMARK	4	55	5	25
19 SCOTLAND	ISRAEL	37	94	4	25
20 WALES	bye	0	0	18	0

FINAL RANKING

1 ISRAEL	311
2 POLAND	308
3 NORWAY	289
4 NETHERLANDS	284
5 SWEDEN	270
6 GERMANY	251
7 DENMARK	250
8 FRANCE	232
8 ITALY	214
10 AUSTRIA	211
11 ENGLAND	210
12 CZECH REP.	165
13 IRELAND	150
14 SCOTLAND	90
15 WALES	88



Layout Editor - George Hatzidakis



Internet Editor - George Georgopoulos

Closing Speech

by the Chairman of the EBL Youth Committee

Mr Mayor
Mr President of the World Bridge Federation
Ladies and Gentlemen
Dear Friends

Thank you very much for attending this ceremony which comes at the end of a wonderful tournament. We are here to honour the winners of the 18th European Youth Team Championships, and at the same time to celebrate one of the great moments of Junior bridge. The presence of so many distinguished authorities tonight speaks for itself. We are especially happy to welcome the President of the World Bridge Federation José Damiani, as we did a few days ago with Gianarrigo Rona, the President of the European Bridge League. They are both great friends and dedicated supporters of Junior bridge - and we thank them wholeheartedly for that.

The Youth Team Championships is the primary event of the European Youth Programme. Indeed, this programme was launched when the Team Championship took off the ground, a third of a century ago, thanks to the idealism and determination of one man, André Boekhorst. 34 years later, we are fortunate to enjoy a full-scale activity, with international events organized regularly for all categories of young players. What was once very difficult to accept even as an idea, is now regarded by our administration as a priority - indeed, an investment for the future. Together with our bid to be included in the Olympic Games, Junior bridge represents the best hope for the welfare of our sport.

As we are looking into the future and try to determine the best possible ways to further expand bridge among young people, at the same time we are careful to protect what we have achieved so far and preserve the methods that have led us to success. The tournament in Torquay will go on record as a great competition; however, it will also be remembered as the place where the European Youth programme came under the microscope of the National Juniors' Officials before being re-confirmed by the European Federations with an overwhelming majority.

We would like to say quite clearly in all directions that, with the support of our member countries, we are determined to:

- Keep offering our young players the right environment by running the Youth Teams Championships (Juniors & Schools) and the Junior Pairs Championship as completely separate events from the other categories. These events will be organized with maximum technical quality but no luxury requirements.
- Continue to stage, enhance and develop the Junior Camps as events of social competition among young players of all levels in a free environment.
- Care about all young players, not just the top ones.
- Ensure that Junior bridge will be subsidized as much as possible to be affordable, and will never be seen as a direct or indirect source of income.

Here in Torquay, we grasped the opportunity to explain that under the present structure and financial reality, the EBL Youth programme is necessarily confined to the upper age range of young players, as it addresses Juniors from 17 to 25 years old. Programmes for young teenagers - already run successfully by some countries - have requirements that can only be met at national level. We fully support these long-term programmes, and hope that they will bear fruit one day. We maintain, however, that these are no substitutes for Junior bridge, as it is the Juniors who are present in our sport today. They are the ones who make our events happen, the ones who offer bridge the sports image that is so useful for our bid to join the Olympic Games and for promoting its status among educational authorities.

Bridge is a sport of the mind. It takes statistical knowledge, personal skill, good technique and long training to become a top player. However, bridge has an additional dimension that distinguishes it from chess and other mind sports. This is the social element. The world of bridge is certainly not

for loners. Take away the team co-operation and spirit, the club atmosphere, the pair's corporate effort - and what you are left with is a dry and unappealing mathematical exercise.

Juniors are well acquainted with the social world. They are mostly the ones who look for new friends in their own environment. When a new relationship can be combined with a new interest, the situation is ideal. Bridge leads to such a direction. Bridge is not an alternative to one's studies or work, nor does it compete with physical sports. A healthy body combines with a healthy mind to make a good person.

Bridge takes care of the health of the mind, exactly as physical sports deal with the health of the body. They are both complements to a young person's education and profession. But whereas there are many physical sports to choose from, bridge is one of the very few mind sports available. That is why it is so useful to society.

If we were to restrict our interest in Junior bridge only to the top, we would be depriving the young generation of the social dimension of our sport. The great stars are always in the front run of every sport - and bridge is no exception. However, we are indeed looking forward to embracing the great mass of ordinary youngsters who have a plan for their future life and a great variety of interests albeit limited time for each one of them. We are very much interested in their general input, and can assure them that they will not feel outsiders in our world.

If the Youth Team Championships are reserved for the top young players, the Junior Pairs and Junior Camp are open to everyone, and should not be missed by anyone. They are arranged in a fast and exciting way. Participants play a lot and learn a lot. Above all, one enjoys a great environment. An environment suitable for a great variety of sports, for creating new but lasting friendships, for discovering one's own personality, for having fun - yes, lots of fun!



The next Junior Pairs Championship and Camp will be held in Hungary. The venue will be a magnificent sports centre used for the training of top Olympic athletes, near the town of Tata, some 70 km from the Hungarian capital, Budapest. Detailed information will be released in the autumn, but you can already mark in your diary that the period from the 4th to the 14th of July 2003 will be spent in Tata, Hungary, enjoying the Junior Pairs Championship and Junior Camp.

The 2003 Junior events in Tata follow the most successful European Youth Championships we had this year here in Torquay. We are particularly pleased with the record participation of 15 countries in the Schools series, and hope that a new record will be set next time. With 22 teams, attendance in the Junior series was also satisfactory, but there is certainly room for improvement. We look forward to welcoming again such regular participants of past events as Iceland, Ireland, Portugal and Switzerland, and of course to seeing other countries too.

The world of bridge attaches great importance to the young players. This is evident in a number of ways, none the least the quality of organization in the Junior tournaments. In Torquay, this reached very high levels indeed, thanks to the great effort put forward by the English Bridge Union, our host, and of course, our top international staff. We were very lucky to have enjoyed such treatment, and we can do nothing less but to express our sincere thanks to the people who made it all possible.

First and foremost is the Chairman of the English Bridge Union David Harris.

The most visible hero of the preparatory stage, the person who guided our steps to reach Torquay safely - and not only: Tournament Secretary Sandra Claridge.

The first person we met upon arrival was another great lady for whom we were all her children - so much she cared: Hospitality Supervisor Margaret Curtis.

While settling down, someone was working hard looking after every single organizational detail - however unimportant: Main Office Supervisor John Neville.

Here comes the person who has put everything together leaving nothing to chance - yet quiet and serene: Organizing Committee Chairman and On-site Organizer Tom Bradley.

Once the competition went underway, we met the team of top Tournament Directors headed by Antonio Riccardi, Marc van Beijsterveldt, Mike Amos, Jan Boets, Fearghal O'Boyle, John Pyner.

The Appeals Committee had fortunately little to do, but did it well. Thank you Chairman Steen Moeller.

They say that bridge is not a spectator sport, but Bridge Rama proves them wrong. Thank you Commentators Barry Rigal and Chris Dixon. And thank you technicians, Harvey Fox, Paul Still, Nick Doe, Christine Duckworth, Andrew Snell and Peter Baxter.

Today, we are nothing without good communication. This was taken care of in a most professional manner by our staff who kept us and the world well informed of what was going on here:

- Daily Bulletin Editors Brian Senior and Peter Gill, and Layout Editor George Hadjidakis.
- Internet Editor George Georgopoulos and Photographer Marco Marin.
- Press Room Manager Ken Richardson.

There is always a danger to disappoint someone by neglecting to acknowledge his/her contribution, and I am afraid that it is very difficult to name everyone who contributed to this success. I should not, however, forget the wonderful hospitality team, the army of caddies, the chief scorer Linda Greenland - and, of course, the duplication team under Gill Pain.

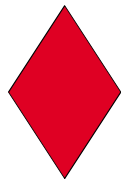
Last, but by no means least, comes the Tournament Manager Max Bavin, and the person always to blame whenever something goes wrong: Operations Director Dimitri Ballas.

I can already hear Stefan worrying, but unnecessarily so. I am most indebted to the members of the Youth Committee who are always present working hard to ensure that your events will be just the way you like them. Thank you Stefan Back, Anna Gudge and Andrea Pagani.

Finally, dear friends, it my most pleasant duty to thank most sincerely all of you, the players, the captains, the coaches, and all Federation officials who contributed, each one from his own post, to adding yet another bright page in the golden book of Junior bridge. I hope that you had a good time in Torquay and will remember this tournament for many years to come.

It only remains for me to wish you all a safe journey back home, and to renew our appointment for Tata in Hungary, in a year's time. Take care and see you soon.

Panos Gerontopoulos



**5th World Junior Pairs Championship
Tata, Hungary
4-6 July 2003**



**5th World Junior Camp
Tata, Hungary
7-14 July 2003**

Sport News



Cycling

Patrice Halgand won a fast-paced 10th stage to become the first French victor at this year's Tour de France. The Frenchman, riding for Jean Delatout, also won all three of the day's climbs and finished in just over three hours. His compatriot Jerome Pineau finished second with Ludo Dierckxens of Belgium third. Spain's Igor Gonzalez de Galdeano retained the overall leader's yellow jersey, while Robbie McEwen overtook Erik Zabel for the green jersey. But the stage was overshadowed by the death of a seven-year-old boy who was hit by one of the Tour's publicity cars. He was immediately taken to a Bordeaux hospital but failed to recover from his injuries.



Athletics

British triple jumper Jonathan Edwards out-jumped local hero Christian Olsson to record a world's best this year of 17.78 metres at the IAAF Grand Prix in Stockholm. The world record holder edged out Sweden's Olsson by 39 centimetres as he made amends for Friday's Golden League defeat by America's Walter Davis in Rome. Belarus jumper Aleksandr Glavatskiy was third with a leap of 17.09m.



Carting

This year's German 500, one of Cart's two European races, has been cancelled by promoters. The Indianapolis-based open-wheel circuit said the race scheduled for 21 September would not now take place. Cart said the organisers are not in position to host the event due to EuroSpeedway's insolvency filing earlier this month.



Tennis

Top seed Albert Costa was made to work hard before securing a place in the second round of the Energis Open in Amsterdam. The French Open champion beat Oleg Ogorodov of Uzbekistan 3-6 6-3 6-2 to claim his first victory since Roland Garros last month.

Defending champion Carlos Moya cruised to the second round of the Croatia Open ATP tournament on Tuesday. Moya came back from 3-1 down against Karol Kucera of Slovakia to win 6-3 6-1 in less than an hour.

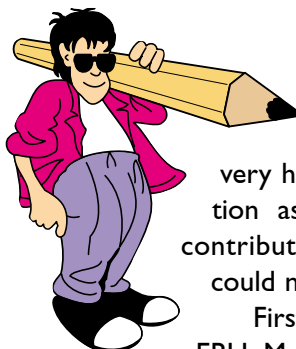
Top seed Jiri Novak finally secured a place in the second round of the Mercedes Cup in Stuttgart after his opening match was delayed for 48 hours. Heavy rain on Monday and Tuesday decimated the schedule and left organisers with a severe backlog of matches. Czech number one Novak made a sluggish start against Spain's Ruben Ramirez Hidalgo, but came back to win 3-6 6-0 6-2.



Football

Rio Ferdinand's agent has told BBC Sport Online that the Leeds defender would be "very happy" to join Manchester United. But Pinhas Zahavi also insisted Ferdinand will not put up a fight if Leeds stand by their decision to reject his transfer request. The 23-year-old's bid to quit Elland Road was instantly rejected by club chairman Peter Ridsdale. "If they say no, then he will stay. He is a loyal soldier. But he would be very happy to join Manchester United," said Zahavi.

Thank You



It is customary for the Bulletin Editor to thank various people in the final Bulletin and I am very happy to keep up the tradition as, without many people's contributions, the Daily Bulletin could not exist.

Firstly, John Neville and the EBU Main Office staff have been working away on the photocopying every evening long after we journalists have gone home. They have had to work under trying circumstances at times - is it really beyond the wit of man to create a photocopier that can last for ten days without a major breakdown? The fact that the Bulletin has always been available when you arrive each morning is a testament to their hard work.

My co-editor, Peter Gill, is not so much a disaster waiting to happen as an on-going disaster area who should have some kind of government health warning branded on his forehead. However, joking aside, it has been a pleasure to work with someone who works so hard and has such interest in and knowledge of Junior Bridge.

The two Georges, Hadzidakis the layout editor and Georgopoulos the internet editor, are nice guys who work very well together and put up with the editor's eccentricities with good humour. From what I have seen and heard over the last week or so their taste in women is infinitely better than their taste in music (an art form that does not appear to exist in Greece if what they play is anything to go by).

The Bulletin would have been much less interesting without the much-appreciated contributions made by various independent journalists, including Kees Tammen, Michael Rosenblum and Christer Andersson, not to forget the information passed on to us by vugraph commentator, Barry Rigal. Incidentally, have you considered just how tough it is to commentate on every single match throughout the tournament without taking a single round off? Well done Barry and Chris.

Finally, thank you to the many players, captains and coaches who brought us good stories, often their own disasters. Your willingness to make yourself look silly is one of the things that makes a Junior Championship such a pleasure to work at. I hope I will see many of you in Beijing next year.

Brian Senior

JUNIOR TEAMS

SESSION 20



RUSSIA

v

FRANCE



Going into their Round 20 face-off, France were in the thick of the fight for medals and qualification while Russia were still close enough to the leaders to hope to make it to Beijing if they could put a good late run together. The match started very well for the Russians.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Gaviard	Andreev	T Bessis	Romanovitch
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Zaitsev	O Bessis	Rudakov	de Tessieres
	1♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

When Olivier Bessis opened 1♦, Godefroy de Tessieres responded 3♣, showing a limit raise in diamonds. Bessis converted to 3♦ and played there. Evgeni Rudakov led his singleton club to the jack and king and Bessis returned a club, Rudakov pitching a heart as dummy took the ace. Bessis ran the ♣6, pitching a heart as Rudakov ruffed. He returned a heart to the queen, king and ace and Bessis led a spade up. Rudakov took the ace of spades and exited with a spade to the king. The next club was ruffed and over-ruffed and a heart returned. When Bessis won and laid down the ♦A, he got a pleasant surprise when the king fell and a second trump meant that he had brought home his contract despite the five-one trump split. Bessis made nine tricks for +110. The Russian North/South got to the no trump game. The lead was a diamond to the jack, king and ace and Vladimir Andreev led a low heart to dummy's queen and Gaviard's king. Back came a spade to the jack and king and Andreev played a spade back. With declarer not needing to rely on the club suit, there was no hope for the defence and Andreev came to ten tricks for +430 and 8 IMPs to Russia.

Board 2. Dealer East. North/South Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Gaviard	Andreev	T Bessis	Romanovitch
		1♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
All Pass			



Alexey Zaitsev

3♣, Rudakov's favourite suit. After the lead of the king of diamonds, Zaitsev could imagine that South held the ♣K so cashed the ace, dropping it. Later, he could finesse against the ♣J to make ten tricks for +130 and 7 IMPs to Russia. The Russian lead was up to 40-1 at the half-way point in the match, then at last France gained a significant swing.

When the French North/South pair messed up a defence to 3NT on the next deal, Russia had a further 12 IMPs and were looking very dangerous indeed. After an exchange of overtrick IMPs, the next significant swing again went the way of Russia.

♠ A J 8 7 5 3 2		♠ K 10 9
♥ K Q 2		♥ 5 3
♦ —		♦ Q 9 3
♣ 8 5 3		♣ K Q 7 4 2
	<div>North</div>	
	West	East
	<div>South</div>	
		♠ —
		♥ A J 9 7
		♦ A 10 8 6 5
		♣ A 10 9 6
		♠ Q 6 4
		♥ 10 8 6 4
		♦ K J 7 4 2
		♣ —

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

W

N

E

S

♠ A Q 10 8 3
♥ 10 7 5 2
♦ A 7 3
♣ K

West	North	East	South
<i>Zaitsev</i>	<i>O Bessis</i>	<i>Rudakov</i>	<i>de Tessieres</i>
			Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Zaitsev	O Bessis	Rudakov	de Tessieres
Pass	2♠	Dble	1♠
3♣	All Pass		Pass

Rudakov was prepared to risk the double of 2♠ and that paid off handsomely when Alexey Zaitsev's response proved to be

Given a free auction, Zaitsev was able to bid his spades three times in the other room and, when Rudakov insisted on the no trump game, he allowed him to play there. Three No Trump was

hopeless, with the defence always in control; one down for -50 and 11 IMPs to France, who needed them.

Board 12. Dealer West. North/South Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Gaviard	Andreev	T Bessis	Romanovitch
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Zaitsev	O Bessis	Rudakov	de Tessieres
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	6♥	All Pass



Julien Gaviard

Thomas Bessis might have treated his hand as strong and balanced then broken the transfer response because of his huge heart fit. That might have seen the French pair bid to slam or it might not. When Bessis opened 1♥, feeling that he was unlikely to miss anything by opening at the one level and wanting to show the five-card suit, Gaviard simply raised to game and that was that.

Zaitsev had a 2♥ opening in his methods, hearts and a minor. Rudakov asked, heard that he was facing diamonds but a non-maximum, and blasted the small slam.

The ace of diamonds was where the Russians wanted it to be and that meant twelve tricks at both tables and 11 IMPs to Russia instead of 11 to France had the ♦A been with South.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Gaviard	Andreev	T Bessis	Romanovitch
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Dble
6♦	Pass	6♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Zaitsev	O Bessis	Rudakov	de Tessieres
	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	7♥	All Pass

East/West had a second successive slam to bid and again the Russians came out on top. This time, however, Rudakov/Zaitsev bid to a cold grand slam which took no time at all to play, while the French stopped off in six, so the swing of 13 IMPs to Russia was entirely deserved.

Gaviard's slower approach to the West hand saw hearts agreed and an exchange of cuebids but, though he eventually asked for key cards, he could not count thirteen tricks. In contrast, Zaitsev's immediate splinter bid saw Rudakov take control and bid seven when he found that he was facing the three missing key cards - all very straightforward.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Gaviard</i>	<i>Andreev</i>	<i>T Bessis</i>	<i>Romanovitch</i>
1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Zaitsev</i>	<i>O Bessis</i>	<i>Rudakov</i>	<i>de Tessieres</i>
1NT	All Pass		

Zaitsev opened a heavy 16-18 no trump and was left to play there, opening nine tricks for +150. Gaviard felt that his honour combinations made the hand too good to treat as just an 18-count so opened 1♦ then showed 18-19 with his raise to 2NT. Bessis suggested that diamonds might be safer but that looked improbable from Gaviard's viewpoint and he went back to 3NT. The lead was the ♥Q, ducked, and Andreev switched to a low club. Every important card lay perfectly for Gaviard and he was able to play safely for nine tricks; +600 and 10 IMPs to France.

That was an important swing, salvaging a couple of extra VPs for the French team. Russia still won the match by 65-38 IMPs, 21-9 VPs, but France were still in a medal position and had got one of their toughest remaining matches out of the way.

What about 5♣? Double dummy, it looks to be unbeatable if played by South. The best West can do is to underlead the diamond and East switches to a spade for the ten and ace. Declarer cashes seven rounds of clubs and West has to keep three hearts and the ♠K. Declarer can either keep two of each major in dummy and lead a low spade to drop the bare king, or can keep three hearts and lead towards them. West has to split but is now thrown in with the ♠K to lead into the heart tenace at trick twelve. If declarer can read the hand, he will always succeed.

However, in practice the transfer sequence had made North declarer. It rather looks as though even one round of diamonds is too much for the defence, as the play devolves into the same line already discussed. In practice, the $\diamond K$ followed by a spade switch might prove to be good enough if declarer is less than double dummy, but cashing the clubs will put West under great strain, and he may well give the position away. A spade lead at trick one could do the trick, but who would find that with no double from partner. In practice, the defence led three rounds of diamonds and there was a simple positional squeeze against West; +400 and just 2 IMPs to France.



Thomas Bessis

JUNIOR TEAMS

SESSION 23



ITALY

V

NORWAY



With Norway needing to defeat Italy 23-7 (a winning margin of 37 or more IMPs) in order to snatch the Championship from the leaders, we report some parts of that match.

Board 2. Dealer East. North/South Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kvangraven	F Di Bello	Hakkebo	S Di Bello
2♥	4♠	1♥ All Pass	2♣

Nerves do funny things to people. After leading throughout a strenuous event, occasionally the brain does not function as it should, just as physical athletes sometimes err physically such as when a footballer passes the ball to the opposition. Italy had been through a jittery series of recent matches and had a nervous start here. A diamond was led to the ten, and a diamond returned to the king and ace. Failing to see the need to take the diamond pitch immediately, declarer played a spade to the king and ace. Two more rounds of diamonds promoted ♠10 into a trick. A surprise 12 IMPs to Norway when Gunnar Harr had no problems in 4♠ in the Open Room.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lo Presti	Harr	Mazzadi	Sundklakk
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
All Pass			

Sundklakk won ♣Q lead with the ace and played a club to the king. A diamond switch went to the king and a heart came back and eventually INT made to the applause of the vugraph audience; 90 to Norway.

West	North	East	South
Kvangraven	F Di Bello	Hakkebo	S Di Bello
1♣	1♠	Dble	Pass
INT	All Pass		

Kvangraven won the spade lead to the queen with the king, and played a heart to the jack.

Winning the next heart, North tried ♣J to the ace, and a spade came back. The spades were cleared and declarer took the jack of spades and cashed out, eventually making an overtrick. 120 plus 90 to Norway was 5 IMPs.

After 4 boards Norway led 18-0, so they needed just 19 more IMPs on the remaining 16 boards.

However, after 14 boards, Italy trailed by only 20-25 IMPs, having given little away. Great credit must go to the di Bello brothers for holding their nerve and their concentration after the accident at the start of the session. On Board 6 Harr/Sundklakk found a good 6♥ save over a making 6♦ for another 7 IMPs to Norway. On the very next board, Mazzadi/Lo Presti made 4♥ while the Norwegians went for 800 in 6♥, for 16 IMPs to Italy.

On Board 15, Norway increased their lead from 5 to 12 IMPs to move into the Silver Medal position, and on Board 16 Stelio di Bello made 520 in 3NT when ♠8 was led from ♠AK9875, declarer having ♠Q4 opposite ♠J10, to make Italy's position more comfortable again.

In the meantime, Israel and Poland were locked in a battle for the Schools Championship. With a few boards to go, they were tied on VPs. If it remained that way, Israel would win the tie break, as they won the head to head match.

A BIG, BIG THANK YOU!

On behalf of all the staff and players at the Championships to the Riviera Centre and its hard-working staff. They have looked after us all very well for the past eleven days and really tried hard to make us as happy and comfortable as possible. Thank you again.

SCHOOLS TEAMS

SESSION 13



POLAND

V

ISRAEL



These two teams have had a neck and neck tussle throughout the event, well ahead of the other teams. With the leading teams in the European Junior Championship all playing matches against lower ranked teams, this report will focus mainly on the European Schools Championship. It will also briefly cover the main swings in Sweden's upset win over Italy in the Juniors, with a little bit of Finnish wizardry and Spanish excitement too.

partner holding ♠Q986 ♥AK7 ♦J32 ♣A82. North with ♠A, ♥J10953 ♦Q1087 ♣K73 led a heart, won ♠A and found the expert switch to ♦10, misread by his partner who rose with the king, then no heart ruff explains the large number of tricks. Eran Assaraf's choice was 4♠, down two; 7 IMPs to Poland who led 22-0 after two boards.

On Board 6, Poland missed a shaky game which makes when everything is friendly; 7 IMPs to Israel, trailing 8-23.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ K Q 9 8 6 4	♠ —	♠ A J 7 3 2
♥ 10 9 6	♥ A K 8 5 4 3	♥ J
♦ J 10 8 4	♦ Q 9 5	♦ A 7 6 2
♣ —	♣ K J 9 6	♣ A 7 5
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> N W — E S </div> </div>		
	♠ 10 5	
	♥ Q 7 2	
	♦ K 3	
	♣ Q 10 8 4 3 2	

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Ofir	Sikora	O Assaraf
4♠	1♥	1♠	2♥
5♠	5♥	Pass	Pass
	All Pass		

Jan Sikora did well not to double 5♥, as that would have discouraged his partner from competing to 5♠. Sikora ruffed the second heart, drew trumps, stripped out the clubs and hearts, and played ace and another diamond; 450 to Poland.

West	North	East	South
E Assaraf	Niziol	Grunbaum	Nawrocki
4♠	1♥	1♠	2♥
	5♥	Dbl	All Pass

Grunbaum was tempted by his three aces as indeed many others were. Double game swings abounded on this hand in both Championships. 650 plus 450 was 15 IMPs to Poland.

Meanwhile in the Juniors, Sweden played diamonds differently to go down in 5♠ doubled while Italy made 5♠ for 11 IMPs to Italy. That was to be Italy's only gain of more than 4 IMPs in their 20 board match against Sweden.

On Board 2, West held ♠J10743, ♥Q842, ♦A54 ♣J. Partner opened 1♣, you bid 1♠, double on your left, 2♠ from partner. Your call, not vulnerable? Jacek Kalita passed and made ten tricks,

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ Q 10 6 4	♠ K J 9	♠ 5 3 2
♥ J 10 9	♥ A 7 4	♥ 6 5
♦ A 9 6 5	♦ J 8 4	♦ K Q 10 7 2
♣ A J	♣ 8 7 4 3	♣ 6 5 2
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> N W — E S </div> </div>		
	♠ A 8 7	
	♥ K Q 8 3 2	
	♦ 3	
	♣ K Q 10 9	

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Ofir	Sikora	O Assaraf
Dble	2♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♥

The influence of the world's top bridge coach Eric Kokish is strong in Israel, where the leading Juniors receive coaching from top Israeli players as well as from Kokish. This treatment where 2♦ shows a good raise to 2♥ made it easy to reach the best contract; 620 to Israel. Had Sikora doubled 2♦, it would not have affected the outcome. The coaches do not force conventions like this good raise down the players' throats, but having been shown all the most modern treatments by top experts, the Israeli youngsters do seem to have chosen to adopt some useful bidding devices.

West	North	East	South
E Assaraf	Niziol	Grunbaum	Nawrocki
Dble	INT	2♦	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

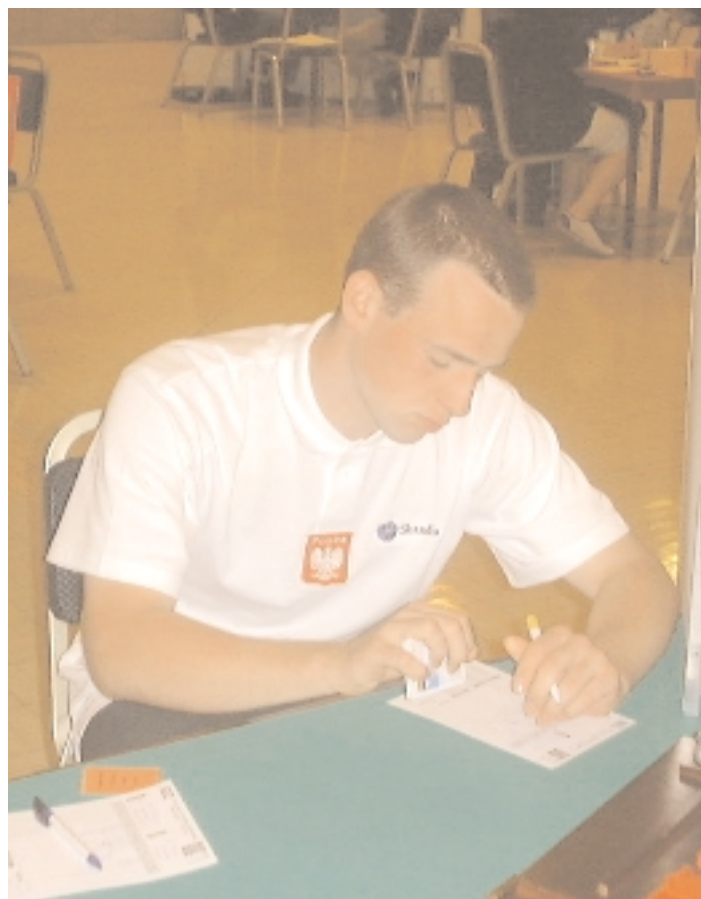
The Poles never even got close to game. It seems that their methods after the double were inferior to the Israeli bidding; +170 and 10 IMPs to Israel, now trailing 18-23.

Playing for France Schools against England, David Ancelin, who had made a long suit try in clubs, correctly deduced that with ♣Ax his LHO would duck the ace on the first round. He therefore played for ♣AJ doubleton, making 11 tricks. Most declarers made only 10 tricks.

On Board 9, an Italian Junior holding ♠10432 ♥Q652 ♦AQJ7 ♣A heard 1♥ on his left, 2NT (minors) from partner, 3♠ on his right. His 5♦ call gave his opponents an easy doubled plus score when they couldn't make anything; 9 IMPs to Sweden, trailing 15-17 IMPs.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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



Jacek Kalita

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Ofir	Sikora	O Assaraf
Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♠

The Israeli pair used Puppet Stayman, yet another useful gadget in their repertoire. 3♣ asked for five-card majors, 3♦ showed no five-card major but at least one four-card major and 3♥ showed four spades so that the strong hand declares the contract.

♦6 was led to the queen and king (most people would play the ace here, not that it matters). Gilad Ofir cashed ♣A and ♣Q, crossed to ♠A and finessed ♥J, losing to the ace. East cashed ♣J on which Gilad Ofir discarded ♥8. East was hopelessly endplayed and tried spades; 600 to Israel. Well played.

At the other table, the apparently inferior spade lead went to the queen, declarer won ♣A, ♣Q, ♠A and ♠K, finessed ♦J, cashed ♦A, exited in spades, to West's ten, misguessed hearts and had a diamond loser at the end. 100 plus 600 was 12 IMPs to Israel, leading 30-26 now.

In the Schools, nine of fourteen declarers made 3NT, and in the Open, eleven declarers made 3NT, but a few pairs reached other contracts. For example, the Croatian West opened a Multi 2♦ in third seat, and was delighted when his opponents ended up in 6♥, and even more delighted that his partner did not try to save in 6♠.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Ofir	Sikora	O Assaraf
Dble	Pass	1♦	1♠
	2♠	Dble	All Pass

Vugraph commentator Barry Rigal pointed out to the audience of about 60 people that North has a very nice hand indeed as Yarboroughs go. Gilad Ofir took a long time to bid 2♠. As 2♥ would have been a good raise to 2♠ (another useful treatment which can be credited to the Israeli coaching system), he had three choices: the youthfully exuberant pre-emptive raise of 3♠ according to the Law of Total Tricks, a mild 2♠ or pass.

Jacek Kalita took even longer to pass his partner's double. Sikora won the trump lead and cashed a second trump before realising that the lack of entries to dummy meant that the usual defence of drawing trumps against a doubled partscore was not

appropriate; 200 to Poland, who conceded a normal 660 at the other table, producing 10 IMPs to Israel, who led 40-30 now.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 8	♠ A 9 7 6	♠ Q 10 5 4 3 2
♥ K 7 5 4 2	♥ A 9	♥ Q 10 3
♦ 7 6 4	♦ A K 10 9 3	♦ Q 8 5
♣ J 10 9 2	♣ Q 7	♣ 3
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">N</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 10px;">W E</div> <div style="text-align: center;">S</div> </div>	
	♠ K J	
	♥ J 8 6	
	♦ J 2	
	♣ A K 8 6 5 4	

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Ofir	Sikora	O Assaraf
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	3♣

Gilad Ofir correctly evaluated his three aces, suitable side suit and ♣Q as golden, and simply bid to the best contract without giving West any clues about what to lead. The spotlight shone now on Jacek Kalita who selected ♦6 as his opening lead. I'm from Australia, where our bridge guru Paul Marston teaches that, especially when you hold three small in dummy's suit, an attacking lead of an ace or a suit headed by the king is a must against slams. This is the third hand in these eleven Daily Bulletins on



Idan Grunbaum

which a European has missed leading from a king to defeat a slam, so it seems that Europeans think differently.

Ory Assaraf won the diamond lead, drew three rounds of trumps pitching a spade, led another diamond on which West played the four, rose with ♦A and claimed soon afterwards. 940 less 460 (on a spade lead after 2♣-2♦-3♣-3NT) was 10 IMPs to Israel, leading 50-30.

The Belgian Juniors did well on Board 14. Kevin Peeters found ♥7 lead against 6♣; 50 to Belgium. Russia's Mikhail Krasnosselski opened 3♠ at the other table, South, Henri Van de Velde did well to find a double, which Pieter van Parijs did well to pass, collecting 1100 and a 15 IMP swing to Belgium. This helped Belgium hold Russia to a 15-15 draw, virtually eliminating Russia from the battle for medals.

Johan Upmark found the heart lead for Sweden against 6♣, and when Stelio di Bello opened 2♠ as dealer, Furio di Bello led his partner's suit against 6♣; 14 IMPs to Sweden, leading 29-23. While the spade lead may seem safest once partner has bid them, West's club and spade holdings are not ideal for setting up a trick in partner's hand, so perhaps even when partner has bid spades, the heart lead is more than a double dummy possibility.

Board 16. Dealer West. East/West Vul.

♠ K 10	♠ A 7 6 2	♠ Q 5 4
♥ A 9 8 6	♥ K J 7	♥ 4
♦ 4	♦ 7 5 3 2	♦ A K Q 10 8
♣ Q 9 7 5 4 3	♣ 8 6	♣ A K 10 2
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">N</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 10px;">W E</div> <div style="text-align: center;">S</div> </div>	
	♠ J 9 8 3	
	♥ Q 10 6 5 3	
	♦ J 9 6	
	♣ J	

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Ofir	Sikora	O Assaraf
Pass	Pass	1♦	2♥
Dble	3♥	Dble	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Grunbaum's 2♥ overall would have been fairly normal in the Juniors field but this was the Schools where the bidding seems to be a little less high pressurising. Perhaps Gilad Ofir rejected the normal 4♥ call in favour of 3♥ because, having had a good result when the opponents played for penalties with four trumps at the two level on Board 13, he hoped to be doubled again. For a few seconds it looked possible, but Kalita took no time at all to bid 3NT, and Ofir went into the tank. It would look very bad to bid 3♥ then 4♥, so he decided to hope to beat 3NT. It made 630, 1 IMP to Poland when Israel made 5♦ at the other table where North opened 2♣, making the play easy on ♣J lead.

On Board 17, Gilad Ofir picked up ♠KQ43 ♥96 ♦842 ♣832. He dealt and passed, none vulnerable. LHO opened 1♦. His partner overcalled a weak 2♠ (on a five-card suit again) and RHO negative doubled. Perhaps Ofir was affected by his bidding of Board 16, because he jumped to 4♠ this time, rather than play safe with 3♠. 4♠ doubled cost 800, 8 IMPs to Poland when 4♥ made six at the other table. 51-39 to Israel.

Board 18. Dealer East. North/South Vul.

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



♠ K J 10 4 3
♥ 10 8 3
♦ Q 2
♣ K 10 8

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Ofir	Sikora	O Assaraf
1♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
4NT	All Pass	3♦	Pass

When Sikora, having opened a Polish Club, bid 4NT, the Israeli supporters in the vugraph auditorium thought it was Roman Key Card Blackwood so they sighed, as 6♦ will make by setting up the long club. However, it was natural. North led a club to the king, which won. South switched to ♠J to the ace. Declarer ran ♦10, South won the queen and put ♠4 on the table. This went to the nine, but declarer had the rest. Had South played ♠10 instead of ♠4, declarer would have had a nasty guess.

At the other table, declarer won the second club to run ♦10. South won the queen, which might be necessary if North has lots of clubs. A flat board in that match, but

West	North	East	South
Zoric	Airaksinen	Brguljan	Heikkinen
1♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	1♦	1♠
3NT	All Pass	3♦	Pass



Filip Niziol

Croatia's Vedran Zoric told me what happened at this table. Against 3NT, Finland's Janne Airaksinen led ♠9, his partner having bid spades. Vedran won the queen and put ♦10 on the table. Quick as a flash, the ten had won the trick. Vedran Zoric played another diamond. The play had been so fast that he was sure that ♦Q was onside. Eventually he decided to forgo the second finesse, to avoid the scorn of his team-mates if he went down in 3NT with nine top tricks. Just as well. Vugraph commentator Chris Dixon described the idea of a smooth duck of ♦Q as spectacular, but the right adjective for Tatu Heikkinen's duck of ♦Q surely is 'awesome' (see Finnish Team Profile published in this Bulletin but written before Tatu's defence of this hand).

West	North	East	South
Perez Calisteo	Naber	Goded Merino	Tihane
4NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
5♠	All Pass	5♥	Pass

It is rather surprising that the whole field did not duplicate Gonzalo Goded Merino's 3♦ opening bid for Spain. Perhaps some youth players thought it was too strong to pre-empt?

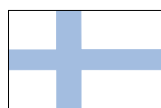
Jorge Perez Calisteo correctly evaluated his cards as being better suited to 6♦ than 3NT, and 5♥ showed two key cards (without specifying about the queen of trumps). Perez Calisteo bid 5♠ to ask for the queen of trumps, but as East would have opened 3NT with ♦AKQ, East decided that such an ask was impossible and that 5♠ was natural.

Jorge Perez Calisteo won the club lead, ruffed a club, crossed to ♥Q, ruffed another club, went to ♥K, ruffed another club with ♠8, over-ruffed. A heart came back to the ace, and ♦A and ♦K were followed by ♦J. South ruffed with the three (a high ruff is better) and Perez Calisteo was able to overruff with ♠7 and exit in clubs at trick eleven, with ♠AQ poised over the king to take the last two tricks. A thrilling 450, which would have been even more thrilling if the Spanish South had ducked ♦Q at the other table and perhaps defeated 3NT.

The above hand is a good example of maintaining one's composure at the bridge table. A lot of older bridge players would lose their cool at the sight of dummy and not concentrate fully on the best way to play the 3-3 fit.

On Board 20, both tables made 3NT which could have been defeated by precise defence.

This made the final score 51-39, converting to 17-13 to Israel, who still trailed Poland narrowly for the overall lead in the European Schools Championship. Meanwhile, Sweden found the winning defence on Board 20 to gain 12 IMPs and defeat Italy 46-24 (20-10), Sweden scoring all their 46 IMPs on just five hands.



Finland Junior Team Profile

Pia Nurmi is a very good player and excellent declarer.

Her partner **Hulda Ahonen** is a brilliant bidder and very good player.

Tatu Heikkinen is awesome in defence and a very good player.

His partner **Janne Airaksinen** is a very good player who is stunningly good at every area of bridge.

Npc Kari Makikangas is a very hardworking npc and is very proud of his fine players.

SESSION 14

partscores. There was more action in Israel v England.

At the other table Israel also reached the heart game but Susan Stockdale decided to take the save in 5♣. No doubt she was bidding with one eye on the vulnerability, but she might also have considered that even in a sacrifice you do need to take a fair number of tricks and her hand was not likely to provide all that many facing a passed partner, for all that he had promised a two-suiter. Five Clubs doubled was four down for -800 and 14 IMPs to Israel.

Board 2. Dealer East. North/South Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wallace	Sikora	Pearson	Kalita
1♦	2♥	1♣	Pass
		All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Karkowicz	Maitland	Zielinski	Aitken
3♣	3♥	2NT	Pass
		All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>E Assaraf</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Grunbaum</i>	<i>Brown</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	Pass
Pass	4♥	2NT	3♥
		All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Stockdale</i>	<i>Ofir</i>	<i>Happer</i>	<i>O Assaraf</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	Pass
4♣	4♥	2NT	3♥
5♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
		All Pass	

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

West	North	East	South
Wallace	Sikora	Pearson	Kalita
2♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Karkowicz	Maitland	Zielinski	Aitken
Dble	Pass	1♣	1♥
3♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
6NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
	All Pass		

Gordon Pearson showed an eight/nine playing trick hand based on a long strong club suit. David Wallace took the rather

pessimistic view to settle for 3NT, probably because he didn't like his small singleton club. That proved not to be a problem and after a diamond lead to the ace there were twelve tricks; +490 to Scotland.

Piotr Zielinski's Polish Club attracted a 1♥ overcall from Kirsten Aitken and a negative double from Włodzimierz Karkowicz. The 2♣ rebid showed the strong club type and eventually Karkowicz made the practical man's jump to 6NT. A heart lead meant 13 tricks for +1020 and 11 IMPs to Poland.

Israel v England

West	North	East	South
E Assaraf	Moss	Grunbaum	Brown
	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Stockdale	Ofir	Happer	O Assaraf
	Pass	1♣	1♥
2♦	2♥	2♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	6♣	Pass
7♠	Pass	7NT	Dble
All Pass			

Israel had a smooth artificial auction to 6NT for an easy 1020, but something went horribly wrong for England after Duncan Happer invented a spade suit and Stockdale took him seriously. Ory Assaraf was not too tested to double 7NT, nor to find the right opening lead; minus one for -100 and 15 IMPs to Israel.

On vugraph, the Israeli Juniors were also playing against England. There too the final contract was 7NT doubled, after South had overcalled 1♥. North was on lead knowing that dummy would have massive clubs, while declarer had bid diamonds and, indeed, tried to play in 7♦ on the basis that his partner had shown a diamond fit. The misunderstanding proved to be a very fortunate one for England as it was very tough for North to find the diamond lead. He eventually led a heart and England had a big swing for 7NT doubled making against 6♣+1 from the other table.

Board 6. Dealer East. East/West Vul.

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

Poland v Scotland

West	North	East	South
Wallace	Sikora	Pearson	Kalita
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
5♦	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Karkowicz	Maitland	Zielinski	Aitken
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♦	Dble	All Pass	

Oh for a good old-fashioned strong jump shift. Three Diamonds followed by 4♦ by West makes this one very easy. Second choice, 2♦ then 4♦, if an immediate jump shift would not be strong. The latter was the route selected by Karkowicz and he eventually played 6♦ doubled, making an overtrick for +1740. Why Emma Maitland chose to double the freely bid slam when her trump holding suggested that declarer was about to get lucky if he needed to be, is something for her to discuss with her team coach, or perhaps therapist.

Wallace's approach to the West hand was simply inadequate and +640 meant 15 IMPs to Poland.

Israel v England

West	North	East	South
E Assaraf	Moss	Grunbaum	Brown
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
7♦	All Pass		



Duncan Happer

West	North	East	South
Stockdale	Ofir	Happer	O Assaraf
		1♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

The English auction started with a strong jump shift, which should have solved the problem. Stockdale followed up with 4♦ then with 4NT. Happer may be the only person in this sector of the galaxy who doesn't think that is Blackwood - he passed and that was -200. Maybe 4NT was not the best way forward over 4♥, but it was about to get the job done.

I hate this inventing a suit, as found by Assaraf at the other table. He attracted a spade raise followed by a heart cuebid and decided to leap to 7♦ to make certain that there would be no mix-up regarding what suit was to be trumps. The friendly diamond layout meant 13 tricks and 20 IMPs to Israel.

Israel v England

West	North	East	South
E Assaraf	Moss	Grunbaum	Brown
			Pass
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Stockdale	Ofir	Happer	O Assaraf
			Pass
Pass	1♣	INT	2♣
Dble	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Grunbaum opened a strong no trump and Assaraf drove to game. The lead of the ♣9 ran to declarer's king and Grunbaum played the ♦9 to the ace then back to the ♦K. After cashing the diamond he could establish his ninth trick in hearts; +600.

Happer overcalled INT when Gilad Ofir opened the North hand. Stockdale doubled 2♣ for take-out then also doubled 2♥. Was that intended to also be for take-out, or more penalty? Whatever, it ended the auction. Happer led a heart to Stockdale's ace and she switched to the singleton club. That was ducked to the queen and Happer now tried a low spade. That ran to declarer's jack. The contract should have been two down from here but the defence slopped a trick and a minor swing had been turned into a major one; -200 but 9 IMPs to Israel.

By the half-way point, Poland were feeling pretty good, leading as they did by 57-5, already in the 25-5 bracket. The Poles would have felt less comfortable had they been aware that Israel were also up, by 81-14.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

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

Poland v Scotland

West	North	East	South
Wallace	Sikora	Pearson	Kalita
			Pass
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Karkowicz	Maitland	Zielinski	Aitken
			Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Pearson opened a 14-16 no trump and Wallace transferred then passed the response; +170.

Karkowicz opened 2♠, weak with spades and a minor, and Zielinski went for the subtle approach, responding 3NT. The lead was a low heart, run to the king, and back came a second heart to the ace. Zielinski played ♦A, unblocking the nine, then a diamond to the king. He could set up a club for his ninth trick; +600 and 10 IMPs to Poland.



Emma Maitland

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Poland v Scotland

West	North	East	South
Wallace	Sikora	Pearson	Kalita
	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Karkowicz	Maitland	Zielinski	Aitken
	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Israel v England

West	North	East	South
E Assaraf	Moss	Grunbaum	Brown
	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Stockdale	Ofir	Happer	O Assaraf
	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Four Hearts is the place to play this one and Greg Moss's 3♠ bid is truly bizarre after his partner had shown five hearts with the initial response then rebid the suit. Can Roger Brown be blamed for raising to 4♠? That contract duly failed by a trick for -100.

Everyone else in our featured matches bid to 4♥, though the hand was played in partscore in a number of other matches: 1♠ - INT - 2♣ - 2♥ - Pass, was a not uncommon auction.

You would find it difficult to imagine that 4♥ could fail as the cards lie, and it duly made ten tricks for Poland and for Israel, however...

Karkowicz led the ♦Q against Kirsten Aitken and switched to the ♥J. Aitken won dummy's king and, if the play records are to be believed, led a low spade for the jack and king. As she went

two down, we must assume that the records are accurate. Now why would you make that play?

Israel picked up 12 IMPs and Poland 13.

Board 19. Dealer South. East/West Vul.

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

Poland v Scotland

West	North	East	South
Wallace	Sikora	Pearson	Kalita
	1♠	2♦	1♥
Pass			4♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Karkowicz	Maitland	Zielinski	Aitken
	5♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	7♥
Pass			All Pass

Israel v England

West	North	East	South
E Assaraf	Moss	Grunbaum	Brown
	1♠	2♦	1♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	4NT
All Pass			5♠

West	North	East	South
Stockdale	Ofir	Happer	O Assaraf
	1♠	2♦	1♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	6♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			6♥

The auction stopped at four different levels at our four tables. For Poland, Jacek Kalita opened the South hand with 1♥ and rebid 4♥ despite Jan Sikora's response in his four-card side suit. Well, unless partner has at least five spades the hand surely does belong in hearts. A diamond lead and losing spade finesse meant only 11 tricks for Kalita; +450.

Brown also opened 1♥ but he chose to support his partner's spades at his second turn, by way of a 4♣ splinter bid. When Moss could cuebid the ♥A, Brown checked for key cards before

Aitken started with an Acol two bid, strong but not game-forcing, and Maitland jumped to 5♥. I have no idea what that was intended to show/ask about, but what it got was a jump to 7♥ from Aitken and a double from Zielinski. The club lead gave Aitken a temporary reprieve but that was all it was; down one for -100 and 11 IMPs to Poland.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Poland v Scotland

West	North	East	South
<i>Wallace</i>	<i>Sikora</i>	<i>Pearson</i>	<i>Kalita</i>
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Karkowicz</i>	<i>Maitland</i>	<i>Zielinski</i>	<i>Aitken</i>
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

It is clear that 4♠ is makable, but it is also clear that it can go down if declarer does not read the situation correctly. Poland stopped safely in 2♠ and made ten tricks for +170. The Scots were more optimistic and bid the decent game. On the nine of clubs lead, declarer played dummy's ten. That lost to the king and a club ruff was given. There was no recovery from that start; one down for -100 and 7 IMPs to Poland. Perhaps the six-one split was unlucky for declarer, but the ♣9 was very likely to be from shortage, and in that case there is no need to take the risk of running into a ruff; simply win the ace, draw trumps and lead toward the ♣Q.

Israel v England

West	North	East	South
<i>E Assaraf</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Grunbaum</i>	<i>Brown</i>
1♠	Pass	INT	3♣
Dble	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Stockdale</i>	<i>Ofir</i>	<i>Happer</i>	<i>O Assaraf</i>
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

The English pair also reached 4♠ and the same opening lead saw the same play to the first trick; the same one down for -100.

At the other table, Brown decided that it was time for a little enterprising bidding. His 3♣ weak jump overcall was doubled and this proved to be an unpleasant contract for declarer, as perhaps it deserved to be. It drifted three off for -800 and 14 IMPs to Israel.

Poland had done their job against Scotland, amassing an impressive 109 IMPs to their opponents' 13, for a 25-0 victory. However, their lead over Israel stayed at just 5 VPs, as the Israelis demolished England by 147-17, another 25-0. Incidentally, I believe that this result means that England have taken over Scotland's previous record for the highest number of IMPs conceded in a match at these Championships.



Grecian Earns Contract

Board 10. Dealer East. North/South Vul.

♠ Q 10 9 8 2
 ♥ K J 4
 ♦ K J 2
 ♣ J 8

♠ A J
 ♥ Q 7 6 5 3
 ♦ 9 7
 ♣ A 6 5 4

N
 W E
 S

♠ 7 5 4
 ♥ A 9 2
 ♦ A Q 5 3
 ♣ K Q 2

♠ K 6 3
 ♥ 10 8
 ♦ 10 8 6 4
 ♣ 10 9 7 3

West	North	East	South
<i>M Dialynas</i>		<i>A Dialynas</i>	
		INT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

On Board 10 of Round 22, Alexis Dialynas for Greece chose 4♥ rather than 3NT for the final contract, due to the spade weakness.

The lead of ♣10 went to the king, and ace and another heart to the queen lost to the king. North cashed ♥J and played ♦2. Alexis carefully ducked this to South. The timing was now just right for a squeeze. The Polish South exited with a spade to dummy's ace. Alexis cashed two trumps, discarding spades. South was forced to resign, squeezed in the minors, declarer taking the delayed diamond finesse and winning ♦5 in the ending.



The All-Time Bridge Greats

10. Giorgio Belladonna

Giorgio Belladonna (1923-1995) of Rome, Italy, was a public official and bridge professional with a long-running column in a leading Italian daily newspaper. In his youth, Belladonna was a useful footballer but it was bridge which was to be his great love and at which he was to become one of the all-time greats.

A leading theoretician, Belladonna was the principle inventor of the Roman Club system of bidding and, with Benito Garozzo, created Super Precision, a complex strong club based method. Belladonna was the number one ranked player in the world for many years according to the WBF's masterpoint scheme and for many years would also have won a sizable number of votes from his peers as being the best player in the world. Certainly, he was regarded as being the best technical player around. I can also speak from personal experience in saying that he was one of the nicest players in top class bridge.

The story of Giorgio Belladonna is really the story of a very great team, the Italian Blue Team. There have been other powerful teams in the history of bridge but the Blue Team were, without question, the finest team the world has yet seen and their achievements are without parallel.

The Blue Team consisted of eight very fine players: Eugenio Chiaradia, Guglielmo Siniscalco, Mimmo D'Alelio, Walter Avarelli, Camillo Pabis-Ticci, Giorgio Belladonna, and Pietro Forquet and Benito Garozzo, who are also to be found in this volume. As important as the players was the non-playing captain, Carlo Alberto Perroux.

An international team consists of six players, and from 1957 to 1969 six out of the above eight players won ten consecutive Bermuda Bowls, the Open Championship of the world. They also won three consecutive World Team Olympiads, in 1964, 1968 and 1972.

After the break-up of the Blue Team, some of its members continued to play internationally and three more Bermuda Bowls were won in the 1970s. Only one man was a member of every one of those sixteen Italian World Championship victories and that was Giorgio Belladonna. He also won the European Open Teams Championship on ten occasions between 1956 and 1979 and the Italian Open Teams eleven times.

Belladonna's early successes were in partnership with Walter Avarelli. He played odd championships with other partners but his other major partnership was that with Benito Garozzo, which was generally regarded to be the strongest in the world. After retiring from international competition Belladonna frequently partnered Pietro Forquet in open tournaments around Europe.

Along with other members of the Blue Team, Belladonna played in the Lancia Team, a sponsored team that toured North America in 1975 playing a series of challenge matches against local teams. They managed to win only one of the four matches; good news for their opponents as part of the sponsorship deal was that Lancia cars were to go to teams which were successful against them.

Belladonna had also been a member of the Omar Sharif Bridge Circus, a group of top professionals who toured both Eu-

rope and North America in the late sixties playing challenge matches. In 1970, the Circus made its second North American tour, winning three out of seven challenges against major city teams and also playing a marathon 840 board match against the Dallas Aces who accompanied them on the tour and played a segment of the match at each of the seven venues. The Aces won the match by 1793 to 1692 IMPs.

But the results of the matches were not as important as was the publicity generated by the tour. Though it was not a financial success, the tour significantly raised the profile of the game in the public image for a while, though it has to be admitted that Sharif was the biggest attraction to the media and the exhausting schedule included many personal appearances by him.

It was no accident that Giorgio Belladonna was involved in both the Sharif Circus and the Lancia Team. A truly great player and a fine human being, he was a great ambassador for the game wherever he went.

The hand which follows was attributed to Belladonna and certainly nobody else has ever laid claim to it, yet, when asked by another author many years ago, Giorgio swore that he had never seen the hand before and knew nothing about it! Whatever the truth of that story, it looks like a Belladonna hand and is so beautiful in its simplicity that I could find no hand more deserving of my selection as the Belladonna hand for this book.

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

West leads a low diamond against 4♠ and the problem is how to guarantee your contract against any lie of the cards, assuming no first round ruff.

Almost everyone would lead a heart to the king and, when that failed, win the spade return with the ace, cross to the ♣A and lead a heart to the jack. If either heart honor is onside or you get your heart ruff you are home. But not this time.

Giorgio Belladonna is not 'almost everybody'. He found the correct play of a club to the ace and then the ♥4 away from the king.

How could this go wrong? If East has the queen and plays it your jack and king are now equals against the ace and you can establish a heart trick; if he does not play his queen then your jack forces the ace. And if West held the ♥Q? Fine, he could beat your jack but what now? The first spade must come from East, else two rounds of trumps can only ever be drawn at the expense of the defensive trump winner, and with no trump loser declarer no longer requires a heart trick. Such a simple play, yet it looks so unnatural and so is very difficult to spot. Unless, of course, you are the great Giorgio Belladonna.



World Junior Camp (set 3)

by Peter Gill

One of the bridge events at the World Junior Bridge Camp is a two-session Swiss Teams.

Last year in Stargard it attracted 34 teams, with almost all the 140 youngsters at the Camp taking part.

After the first match of the second session, one pair in a team was unwell, and being one of the helpers I was called upon to fill in. I had to find a partner, so I went to the Internet Room where I found Mike Kruszynski from America. He had come 219th out of 220 in the World Junior Pairs, and explained that he was exhausted from all the bridge, having only learnt bridge a month or two earlier. I managed to convince him that we would have a nice friendly game, and he said: "OK, as long as the bridge is not too challenging for someone of my limited experience, I'll partner you." As we walked to the playing area, I asked Mike if he knew Stayman, Blackwood and Negative Doubles. He did, so they were the only conventions we played, with everything else natural.

We sat down to find that our opponents for an eight-board match were Mark Horton and Zdenek Frabsa. Mark was one of the bridge lecturers at the Camp, a top expert. I found out later that Mike Kruszynski had learnt bridge from Mark Horton's Mammoth Book of Bridge. There was a team of organisers playing so that there was an even number of teams, and it was that expert team that we happened to draw. Each team had a name, and luckily ours was something like No Good At Tal, which made Mike feel more relaxed.

We began by letting Zdenek make 3NT, a contract which should have gone down. Fortunately our team captain Noga Tal from Israel and her partner Gabor Winkler from Hungary (who are both here in Torquay) somehow managed to make 3NT too. Thanks to terrific results from Noga and Gabor, we were only about 6 IMPs behind with one hand to go.

I cannot remember the hand exactly. I held something like ♠K9xx, ♥AJxx ♦Qxx ♣xx. Mike was the dealer, all vulnerable. He opened 1♦. Zdenek on my right overcalled 2♣. I decided that a negative double was almost perfect. Mike responded 2♠. Would you make a game try now? My thoughts were that I didn't want to put too much pressure on Mike, and that he could hardly be expected to make as many tricks as the World Champion Klaus Reps who was in his seat at the other table. Therefore I passed.

The full hand was approximately:

Dealer South. All Vul.

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

I can't remember the card play, but I do recall Mike concentrating hard and emerging with nine tricks, justifying both his and my underbidding. He hadn't learnt yet that 2♠ after a negative double is not a reverse. I was delighted with our score of 140 and said "Well played."

As Mark Horton pointed out, 4♠ can be made with expert declarer play. Mark expected Klaus to bring 4♠ home at the other table.

However Klaus was in 6♠ at the other table. With friendly breaks it might have made, but good defence by Noga and Gabor held Klaus to nine tricks, their plus 300 and our 140 combining to produce 10 IMPs. We had defeated the experts 16-14.

Mike was over the moon. To learn bridge one month, then to go off and beat the man whose book you've learnt from, now who can beat that?

The World Junior Bridge Camps produce lots of great experiences, and if you happen to teach your friends aged 17 to 24 to play bridge during the next 12 months, perhaps at Tata they can emulate Mike's efforts.



Bulletin Prizes

As is traditional at Junior Championships, we are awarding prizes for the Best Played, Best Bid and Best Defended hands, plus the Biggest Horror Story. These prizes are only for the players, not the journalists who wrote up the stories, as there have been very few independent journalists present at these Championships. However, we are also giving a prize to the non-staff journalist who has made the greatest contribution to the Bulletins here in Torquay.

There have been many fine plays during the course of these Championships and you may well not agree with the ones chosen for these awards. Inevitably, the personal likes and dislikes of the person(s) making the decision will affect matters. If you are a technician, you might vote for a complex squeeze play, while someone else may prefer an outrageous bluff for example.

Journalist Prize: Kees Tammens

Best Bidding Sequence: Martin Schaltz and Andreas Marquardsen (Denmark) for their sequence to 7♣ as reported in Bulletin 3.

Best Declarer Play: Olivier Bessis (France) for the elimination play in 4♠ reported in Bulletin 8.

Best Defence: David Vozabal (Czech Republic) for the switch to the ♠K against 2NT reported in Bulletin 5.

Biggest Horror Story: To Guiseppe Mistretta of the Italian Schools team for his double of a Stayman bid on ♠AJx as reported in Bulletin 8.

by Christer Andersson

West lead the ♥K, Lellouche putting up the ace on the table and discarding a losing club from hand. A trump was played and declarer guessed to play the ten from hand. West won the trick with the queen and returned the six. Finding it highly unlikely that West had played a trump from the king, Lellouche followed small from the table and saw East contributing his king. Already at this stage a 3-5-0-5 distribution was likely in the West seat. To confirm his suspicion, Lellouche won the king with the ace, and followed up with another trump to the jack in dummy and a diamond to hand. East discarded a discouraging club on the last spade and West another club on the diamonds. Having confirmed his suspicion about the distribution, Lellouche took both his trump winners and continued with ace and king of diamonds, carefully noting which cards were discarded.

♠ —	♠ —	♠ —
♥ Q 8	♥ —	♥ 2
♦ —	♦ —	♦ 10 9
♣ Q 2	♣ —	♣ 4

♠ —	♠ —	♠ —
♥ —	♥ —	♥ —
♦ 8 4	♦ —	♦ —
♣ A 10	♣ —	♣ —

Over Lellouche's 1♠ opening, West showed a two-suited hand with hearts and a minor, weak (0-11 HCP) or strong (16 HCP+). East's 3♣ was a sign-off in partner's minor assuming the weaker type of hand.



In dummy, Lellouche had to decide if West had entered the bidding at unfavourable vulnerability with:

or with:

♠ Q x x
♥ K Q x x x
♦ —
♣ | x x x x

In the former case it would be correct to continue with ♣Q, forcing East to cover and transferring the stopper to West. He could then be put on lead with the club jack and be forced to give declarer his tenth trick in hearts. Declarer, however, correctly played a club to the ace and another club (although it did not matter in the actual case). The endplay was affected, and the game scored.

23



Eire You Go



Schools Round 12

Board 16. Dealer West. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Gruber</i>	<i>Davis</i>	<i>Duy</i>	<i>O'Muicheartaigh</i>
INT	Dble	2♦	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Some of the teenagers open their 11-counts just like the slightly older players do, but Ireland was not to be led astray. Emmett Davis's smell of blood dissipated when East ran to 2♦, but that did not stop the Irish from marching into the best game. Alas, the game failed by a trick after the defence began with three rounds of diamonds. Declarer ran off his trumps but West cleverly disguised the shape of his hand and declarer mispicked the ending.

There is an interesting principle here. If you have to guess West's shape, assume that any unknown suits are as evenly divided as possible. Thus West, who is marked with two clubs and three diamonds from the bidding and early play, should be assumed to be 4-4 in the majors. This makes the endgame much easier to read.

Another approach is to cash ♠A before running off all the trumps, hanging onto dummy's hearts. At the end, if ♠Q is not high, dummy's ♥AK10 will be worth three tricks. This type of squeeze is called a Vienna Coup, which would have been fitting when playing against Austria.

Can 5♣ always be made on a double dummy basis then? If it is played by North, then a spade lead seems to scupper it. Played by South after a double dummy low diamond lead to East's jack and a spade switch, we think that it makes as West has too much pressure to bear when holding on to his major-suit cards. An interesting hand which the keener readers can analyse for themselves.

At the other table, the Irish West decided to pass, which was a very fine idea given what subsequently happened. North opened 1♦, showing various hands of up to 17 points, playing a Strong Club system. South responded 3♣, and North enquired with 3♦. South's pass was not the response that North was hoping to hear. 3♦ went down three for 3 IMPs to Ireland, who later won the match on Board 19 when Austria chose a failing 5♣ as the contract but Ireland this time switched tack and successfully went for 3NT.

Schools Round 14

Board 6. Dealer East. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Davis</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>O'Muicheartaigh</i>	<i>Boldrini</i>
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

Emmeet Davis knew what he was doing, but North must have been rather surprised, holding 14 HCP including an ace. Cian O'Muicheartaigh probably regretted opening the bidding when Emmett sailed into the grand slam in a suit in which he had a void, with only 11 points to go with it. The Irish pair had a special bidding method available, as according to the information provided to the Bulletin the 5♥ response to 4NT showed an ace and a void.

There were no worries in the play, with 13 easy tricks and in fact if the bidding had skyrocketed to 11♦, then 17 tricks can be made by taking the heart finesse..

7♦ making for plus 2140 on a combined 23 HCP was, not surprisingly, worth 13 IMPs to Ireland.



Emmet Davis

JUNIOR TEAMS

FINAL BUTLER

1	ITA	Mazzadi - lo Presti	380	0.86
2	NOR	Hakkebo - Kvangraven	240	0.76
3	ENG	Gold - Hydes	380	0.72
4	FRA	O. Bessis - de Tessieres	280	0.71
5	DEN	Gjaldbaek - Henriksen	340	0.62
6	ISR	Hoffman - Lellouche	320	0.61
7	NOR	Ellestad - Joerstad	260	0.58
8	EST	Matisons - Rubins	420	0.55
9	SWE	Cullin - Upmark	380	0.54
10	TUR	Basaran - Ucan	120	0.53
11	POL	Araskiewicz - Wittenbeck	160	0.52
12	POL	Kotorowicz - Kotorowicz	400	0.46
13	RUS	Andreev - Romanovitch	260	0.44
14	FRA	T. Bessis - Gaviard	280	0.44
15	DEN	Marquardsen - Schalz	340	0.40
16	RUS	Rudakov - Zaitsev	320	0.35
17	NOR	Harr - Sundklakk	300	0.33
18	NED	Drijver - Schollaardt	340	0.32
19	ITA	di Bello - di Bello	360	0.31
20	GER	Sauter - Schueller	240	0.31
21	ISR	Ginossar - Reshef	340	0.30
22	CRO	Brguljan - Zoric	380	0.26
23	FRA	Grenthe - Grenthe	280	0.19
24	AUT	Grumm - Kummel	340	0.15
25	CZE	Pulkrab - Vozabal	260	0.14
26	CZE	Macura - Vrkoc	120	0.09
27	POL	Baranowski - Skalski	280	0.07
28	NED	Bruggeman - De Groot	320	0.06
29	SWE	Larsson - Linerudt	240	0.04
30	CRO	Kazalicki - Praljak	220	0.01
31	CZE	Jellinek - Martinek	360	0.01
32	EST	Naber - Tihane	420	-0.02
33	ENG	Birdsall - Burgess	300	-0.03
34	DEN	Houmoller - Houmoller	160	-0.05
35	ENG	Handley-Prichard - Probst	160	-0.07
36	ITA	Guariglia - Uccello	100	-0.07
37	NED	Brink - Kuivenhoven	180	-0.11
38	HUN	Mraz - Szegei	320	-0.13
39	TUR	Sakrak - Suicmez	400	-0.18
40	AUT	Gogoman - Gogoman	300	-0.18
41	GER	Ewald - Stoszek	200	-0.19
42	BEL	P. Van Parijs - Vandeveld	260	-0.21
43	FIN	Ahonen - Nurmi	420	-0.21
44	RUS	Krasnosselski - Malinovski	240	-0.22
45	ISR	Tal - Tal	180	-0.23
46	SCO	Bergson - McCrossan	380	-0.24
47	HUN	Hegedus - Marjai	320	-0.24
48	HUN	Minarik - Suranyi	200	-0.25
49	ESP	Goded Merino - Masia	340	-0.25
50	GER	Bokholt - Kornek	180	-0.28
51	BEL	Cornelis - Peeters	320	-0.29
52	GRE	Karapanagiotis - Katsaris	260	-0.38
53	BEL	J. Van Parijs - W. Van Parijs	260	-0.42
54	FIN	Airaksinen - Heikkinen	420	-0.43
55	SWE	Ericsson - Sivelind	220	-0.43
56	GRE	Labrou - Mylona	320	-0.51
57	GRE	Dialynas - Dialynas	260	-0.54
58	CRO	Kulovic - Scepanovic	240	-0.58
59	GER	Schueller - Kornek	120	-0.88
60	TUR	Basaran - Kesikbas	240	-0.89
61	AUT	Steiner - Winkler	200	-0.97
62	ESP	Mansilla - Perez Calisteo	300	-0.98
63	SCO	Gaffin - Sinclair	200	-1.06
64	ESP	Malagrida - Truchado	120	-1.35
65	SCO	Bateman - Coyle	260	-1.87

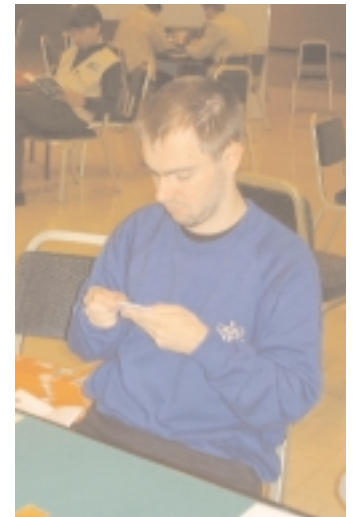
SCHOOLS TEAMS

FINAL BUTLER

1	ISR	Argelasi - Fisher	80	1.44
2	POL	Karkowicz - Zielinski	160	1.39
3	ISR	O. Assaraf - Ofir	260	1.26
4	SWE	Salomonsson - Sivelind	240	1.23
5	NED	Drijver - De Pagter	220	1.08
6	NOR	E. Eide - Lindqvist	280	0.93
7	ISR	E. Assaraf - Grunbaum	220	0.91
8	POL	Nawrocki - Niziok	160	0.82
9	NED	Molenaar - Verbeek	220	0.80
10	POL	Kalita - Sikora	240	0.76
11	GER	Kraemer - Smirnov	280	0.70
12	NOR	P. Eide - Livgerd	280	0.68
13	NED	Heeres - Hop	120	0.60
14	DEN	A.S. Houlberg - S. Houlberg	280	0.52
15	FRA	Raynaud - Moreau	180	0.32
16	GER	Katerbau - Wurmseet	280	0.22
17	ITA	Boldrini - Sangiorgio	280	0.16
18	ITA	E. Mistretta - Piasini	80	0.09
19	AUT	Duy - Gruber	280	0.09
20	DEN	Nielsen - M. Pedersen	280	0.06
21	FRA	Grias - Tembouret	220	0.01
22	SWE	Andersson - Emvall	120	-0.01
23	CZE	Janacek - Sidlova	200	-0.01
24	SWE	Ryman - Thalen	200	-0.09
26	ENG	Brown - Moss	180	-0.11
27	ITA	Piasini - Pisano	180	-0.12
28	AUT	Anzengruber - Eglseer	280	-0.15
29	FRA	Ancelin - Faure	160	-0.22
30	ENG	Atthey - Green	220	-0.37
31	ENG	Happer - Stockdale	160	-0.38
32	IRE	Davis - O'Muicheartaigh	220	-0.45
34	CZE	Hlavac - Hradil	240	-0.79
35	IRE	Chan - Scannell	160	-0.98
36	WAL	Ca. Evans - Sharp	280	-1.13
37	CZE	Falta - Vlachova	120	-1.32
38	IRE	Carrigan - Flynn	180	-1.33
39	SCO	Ellison - Hodge	200	-1.52
40	SCO	Pearson - Wallace	220	-1.61
41	SCO	Aitken - Maitland	140	-2.04
42	WAL	Cl. Evans - Reed	120	-2.30
43	WAL	Backer - Brown	120	-2.35



Francesco Mazzadi



Fabio Lo Presti

SCHOOL TEAMS	POLAND	WALES	GERMANY	SWEDEN	ISRAEL	NORWAY	AUSTRIA	NETHERLANDS	FRANCE	ENGLAND	SCOTLAND	ITALY	IRELAND	DENMARK	CZECH REP.	bye	PENALTY	TOTAL	RANK
1 POLAND	■	25	17	24	13	17	20	17	20	24	25	20	25	18	25	18		308	2
2 WALES	1	■	1	5	0	3	0	0	3	9	8	6	9	9	16	18		88	15
3 GERMANY	13	25	■	8	11	6	22	17	6	14	25	19	25	17	25	18		251	6
4 SWEDEN	6	25	22	■	10	19	23	19	25	13	25	1	23	19	22	18		270	5
5 ISRAEL	17	25	19	20	■	14	25	15	17	25	25	25	25	20	21	18		311	1
6 NORWAY	13	25	24	11	16	■	25	14	25	12	25	18	25	16	22	18		289	3
7 AUSTRIA	10	25	8	7	4	5	■	16	19	25	25	11	12	10	16	18		211	10
8 NETHERLANDS	13	25	13	11	15	16	14	■	18	16	25	25	25	25	25	18		284	4
9 FRANCE	10	25	24	2	13	5	11	12	■	21	25	22	20	9	15	18		232	8
10 ENGLAND	6	21	16	17	0	18	3	14	9	■	20	18	13	16	19	18		210	11
11 SCOTLAND	0	22	2	4	4	0	3	5	2	10	■	0	14	0	6	18		90	14
12 ITALY	10	24	11	25	5	12	19	0	8	12	25	■	14	10	21	18		214	9
13 IRELAND	5	21	2	7	0	2	18	2	10	17	16	16	■	8	8	18		150	13
14 DENMARK	12	21	13	11	10	14	20	4	21	14	25	20	22	■	25	18		250	7
15 CZECH REP.	2	14	4	8	9	8	14	2	15	11	24	9	22	5	■	18		165	12



JUNIOR TEAMS	ESTONIA	SCOTLAND	FRANCE	GERMANY	ISRAEL	GREECE	SWEDEN	ENGLAND	TURKEY	HUNGARY	CZECH REP.	RUSSIA	SPAIN	DENMARK	POLAND	BELGIUM	ITALY	CROATIA	AUSTRIA	FINLAND	NORWAY	NETHERLANDS	bye	PENALTY	TOTAL	RANK
1 ESTONIA	■	19	15	12	13	24	15	18	25	13	7	14	18	15	16	25	17	25	15	20	6	6	36	-1	373	11
2 SCOTLAND	11	■	5	24	7	11	5	14	8	0	5	6	12	2	3	12	19	8	2	5	10	12	36		217	22
3 FRANCE	15	25	■	21	16	25	11	18	22	17	14	9	21	20	13	20	7	13	19	25	22	22	36	-1	410	4
4 GERMANY	18	6	9	■	13	19	20	8	22	18	15	15	21	10	20	16	9	12	13	15	4	14	36	-0.5	332.5	14
5 ISRAEL	17	23	14	17	■	14	7	17	19	25	15	10	19	16	16	25	10	14	16	25	18	16	36	-0.5	388.5	7
6 GREECE	6	19	4	11	16	■	16	13	6	9	22	11	18	9	12	20	9	0	20	11	1	12	36		281	20
7 SWEDEN	15	25	19	10	23	14	■	16	12	15	13	14	25	15	9	16	20	12	13	20	13	24	36	-0.5	378.5	9
8 ENGLAND	12	16	12	22	13	17	14	■	25	8	7	24	25	20	14	17	24	25	16	17	14	14	36		392	6
9 TURKEY	4	22	8	8	11	24	18	4	■	16	20	5	19	14	3	19	7	17	22	19	17	10	36		323	15
10 HUNGARY	17	25	13	12	1	21	15	22	14	■	15	7	11	9	10	7	8	7	13	17	10	15	36	-0.5	304.5	17
11 CZECH REP.	23	25	16	15	15	8	17	23	10	15	■	13	15	13	5	14	6	25	25	22	14	16	36	-4	367	12
12 RUSSIA	16	24	21	15	20	19	16	6	25	23	17	■	17	7	18	15	13	11	15	15	17	12	36	-1.5	376.5	10
13 SPAIN	12	18	9	9	11	12	4	4	11	19	15	13	■	6	10	6	8	12	4	3	6	15	36	-0.5	242.5	21
14 DENMARK	15	25	10	20	14	21	15	10	16	21	17	23	24	■	20	25	22	20	14	25	12	9	36		414	2
15 POLAND	14	25	17	10	14	18	21	16	25	20	25	12	20	10	■	14	8	18	25	19	20	14	36		401	5
16 BELGIUM	2	18	10	14	4	10	14	13	11	23	16	15	24	5	16	■	6	24	14	16	3	7	36	-0.5	300.5	18
17 ITALY	13	11	23	21	20	21	10	6	23	22	24	17	22	8	22	24	■	24	22	22	17	22	36		430	1
18 CROATIA	0	22	17	18	16	25	18	5	13	23	5	19	18	10	12	6	6	■	21	12	20	14	36		336	13
19 AUSTRIA	15	25	11	17	14	10	17	14	8	17	4	15	25	16	4	16	8	9	■	10	4	14	36		309	16
20 FINLAND	10	25	4	15	5	19	10	13	11	13	8	15	25	4	11	14	8	18	20	■	8	5	36		297	19
21 NORWAY	24	20	10	25	12	25	17	16	13	20	16	13	24	18	10	25	13	10	25	22	■	17	36	-0.5	410.5	3
22 NETHERLANDS	24	18	8	16	14	18	6	16	20	15	14	19	15	21	19	23	8	16	16	25	13	■	36		380	8