

# 20th European Youth Team Championships

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## Daily Bulletin

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Bulletin 3

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# COMPETITION HOTS UP



After a day of few surprise results, England still leads the Junior series but only just, as Italy scored 67 out of 75 on the day to close to only 0.5 VP behind. England lead with 125 to Italy's 124.5, and they are followed by France and Netherlands on 118, Poland 109 and Norway 108. Israel moved from bottom to fifteenth on the day with 59 VPs out of 75, but still have a mountain to climb if they are to get into contention for the medals

Netherlands have taken the lead in the Girls Championship, scoring 65 VPs on the day, including a 25-0 blitz of the host nation. The other performance of the day goes to Denmark, who defeated defending champions Austria by 18-12 VPs. Netherlands lead on 118, closely followed by Russia on 115, Austria 109 and Sweden 104.

### Bulletin Stories

To everyone, whether player, captain, coach or spectator: We would like to make the Daily Bulletins as good as they can be but we are only two people and will inevitably be in the wrong place much of the time so, please, if you have a well bid, played or defended hand, an enormous disaster, an amusing story - anything of interest - tell us about it. If you don't see either Peter Ventura or Brian Senior, you can find us down in the basement.

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**JUNIOR TEAMS RESULTS****ROUND 4**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS	27 - 53	10 - 20
2 ITALY	BELGIUM	93 - 19	25 - 1
3 LATVIA	ROMANIA	67 - 54	18 - 12
4 DENMARK	FRANCE	37 - 76	7 - 23
5 CROATIA	POLAND	39 - 84	6 - 24
6 ISRAEL	PORTUGAL	69 - 42	21 - 9
7 NORWAY	ENGLAND	32 - 57	10 - 20
8 SPAIN	GREECE	61 - 26	22 - 8
9 CZECH REP.	AUSTRIA	42 - 91	5 - 25
10 HUNGARY	TURKEY	49 - 42	16 - 14
11 LITHUANIA	SCOTLAND	48 - 33	18 - 12

**ROUND 5**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 NETHERLANDS	SPAIN	61 - 25	22 - 8
2 CZECH REP.	NORWAY	37 - 56	11 - 19
3 HUNGARY	ISRAEL	35 - 55	12 - 19
4 LITHUANIA	CROATIA	31 - 57	10 - 20
5 SCOTLAND	DENMARK	38 - 56	11 - 19
6 TURKEY	LATVIA	60 - 29	21 - 9
7 AUSTRIA	ITALY	25 - 62	7 - 23
8 GREECE	SWEDEN	45 - 63	11 - 19
9 ENGLAND	BELGIUM	37 - 58	11 - 19
10 PORTUGAL	ROMANIA	60 - 40	19 - 11
11 POLAND	FRANCE	60 - 32	21 - 9

**ROUND 6**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 POLAND	NETHERLANDS	27 - 32	14 - 16
2 FRANCE	PORTUGAL	64 - 15	25 - 5
3 ROMANIA	ENGLAND	19 - 54	8 - 22
4 BELGIUM	GREECE	39 - 37	15 - 15
5 SWEDEN	AUSTRIA	57 - 37	19 - 11
6 ITALY	TURKEY	60 - 40	19 - 11
7 LATVIA	SCOTLAND	63 - 5	25 - 4
8 DENMARK	LITHUANIA	90 - 33	25 - 4
9 CROATIA	HUNGARY	27 - 65	7 - 23
10 ISRAEL	CZECH REP.	63 - 41	20 - 10
11 NORWAY	SPAIN	83 - 29	25 - 4

**GIRLS TEAMS****RANKING AFTER SESSION 6**

1 NETHERLANDS	118
2 RUSSIA	115
3 AUSTRIA	109
4 SWEDEN	104
5 POLAND	96
6 GERMANY	95
7 DENMARK	80
8 ENGLAND	70
9 ITALY	63
10 IRELAND	34

**GIRLS TEAMS RESULTS****ROUND 4**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 GERMANY	AUSTRIA	57 - 79	10 - 20
2 POLAND	ITALY	75 - 38	23 - 7
3 RUSSIA	NETHERLANDS	43 - 58	11 - 18
4 DENMARK	IRELAND	86 - 23	25 - 3
5 ENGLAND	SWEDEN	34 - 38	14 - 16

**ROUND 5**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 AUSTRIA	DENMARK	45 - 58	12 - 18
2 ENGLAND	RUSSIA	30 - 81	5 - 25
3 SWEDEN	POLAND	44 - 27	19 - 11
4 IRELAND	GERMANY	21 - 80	4 - 25
5 NETHERLANDS	ITALY	81 - 0	25 - 0

**ROUND 6**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 ENGLAND	AUSTRIA	44 - 64	11 - 19
2 SWEDEN	DENMARK	70 - 34	22 - 8
3 IRELAND	RUSSIA	26 - 58	8 - 22
4 NETHERLANDS	POLAND	57 - 24	22 - 8
5 ITALY	GERMANY	42 - 68	10 - 20

**JUNIORS TEAMS****RANKING AFTER SESSION 6**

1 ENGLAND	125
2 ITALY	124.5
3 FRANCE	118
—NETHERLANDS	118
5 POLAND	109
6 NORWAY	108
7 HUNGARY	102.5
8 DENMARK	93
9 LATVIA	92
10 BELGIUM	90
—SWEDEN	90
12 TURKEY	83
13 GREECE	82
14 ROMANIA	80
15 ISRAEL	77
16 PORTUGAL	76.5
17 AUSTRIA	76
18 CROATIA	70.5
19 CZECH REPUBLIC	69
20 LITHUANIA	61
21 SPAIN	57
22 SCOTLAND	54

## Meet the Belgians

The Belgian team is expected to finish in the middle of the table, but despite a heavy program managed to get a place in the top five after the two first days. So let me introduce you to these sympathetic fellows.

The best known of our guys is Steven De Donder (25) from Lokeren. He plays for the third time in a European championship, after Antalya (2000) and Prague (2004), and made numerous appearances on the junior and university circuit. He plays in the Belgian honour division and is considered as our best hope for the future of the Belgian bridge. He just achieved a licence in informatics. After having won the award of the best played hand some years ago in Maastricht, he intends to do the same in Rotterdam, because he would like to play a tournament with Zia! His height is 191 cm, precisely 20 more than his partner Steve De Roos (24), from a best known bridge family. His two brothers and his parents, and even his former girl friend all play the game! He is about to end a marketing degree and plays for Squeeze Antwerp, his home town. This is our star pair.

Alexandre Hubert (25) and Benoit Guiot (22) are both from Liege. Since 1986 it is the first time that we bring a pair from the Southern part of the country. Alex just finished a business high school with a degree and plays bridge since exactly three years. Ben started four years ago and studies for becoming an engineer in Liege. Both play for Perron, the principal bridge club of this town. Although he is a goy, his nickname is Benguigui. This is our heavy pair: together they approach 200 kg.

Pieter Vanparijs (23) also comes from a great bridge family. His last visit to the junior team was three years ago in Torquay, when he played with his two brothers. He will start his last year as industrial engineer in Leuven, his native town, where he plays in the local club 't Begijntje. He partners Els Toutenel (21), who was the youngest lady in the field in Antalya, when she was selected when being just 16! To the heavy smart of the French school, Romain Tembouret, she wasn't selected any more since then, even if she only missed our girls team in Prague for studies problems. She also comes from Antwerp. This is our old timers pair.

And I'm here to be the captain of all these people: Jean-Francois Jourdain (43) from Brussels. This is my fifth European junior championship, my fourth as captain. Sometimes I play bridge myself, what allowed me to capture the Belgian open pairs this year, partnering Daniel Kurgan. When I don't play bridge I'm a journalist, also for the IBPA. My principal utility here is to buy bottles of champagne to my team when they score 25 or beat a top opponent, but they are very kind with me up to now: my bottle count is only one by now, after defeating Israel. Since they must buy me a beer every time they go for -1100, -470 or go down in a grand slam, I hope I won't get drunk until the end of the tournament, but my liver fears for the worst. So please be kind too!



## The Art of Flattening the Boards

Here is an additional board from the match between Belgium and Norway in the first round, which didn't fit in the match report in yesterday's bulletin.

Sometimes you need a certain talent to flatten a board. The Belgian top player Steven De Donder once again displayed his skills on the last board of the opening game against Norway.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ K 4 2 ♥ 9 6 4 2 ♦ A 10 9 3 ♣ Q J</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ 10 8 5 ♥ J 10 ♦ Q 8 6 2 ♣ 10 9 6 5</p>	<p>♠ A J 3 ♥ A K Q 3 ♦ K 5 ♣ A K 3 2</p> <p>♠ Q 9 7 6 ♥ 8 7 5 ♦ J 7 4 ♣ 8 7 4</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

The auction went pretty identically in both rooms: North's opening showed 24+ HCP, South enquired about a possible spade fit via Romex Stayman and the final contract was obviously 3 NT.

For Belgium in the Closed Room, Benoit Guiot led the six of diamonds. Alex Hubert took the ace and returned the ten for declarer's king. Jorn Ringseth played the jack of spades at trick three and West erred now by taking his king. Now the defence had two more diamonds to cash, but that was it. Norway +600.

In the Open Room, Petter Eide elected to start the ♣9, which went to the jack and ace. Steven De Donder advanced the same ♠J, but was faced with a much tougher problem when Allan Livgard gave that a look but correctly refused to win the trick.

Declarer now decided to cash two top hearts, getting J-10 from East and 4-2 from West. Since the Norwegians showed their count all the match long, the odds were that the suit broke four-two. His next move was to cash the ♣K, dropping the queen. Then he exited with the three of clubs won by East's nine, West discarding a diamond. Now East made the decisive mistake to cash his last club, putting his partner under pressure. Since he had to hold a heart and could not bare his ♠K, he had to discard the ♦9 — his exit card. Now East switched to the ♦6, but it was too late. Livgard won the trick and exited with the ♥9, but De Donder correctly read the position, cashed his ♦K and exited with the ♥3, endplaying West. Nine 'easy' tricks for a flat board.

# Poland v Italy - Girls Round 4

Going into their Round 3 clash, Poland were handily placed in fourth while Italy had dropped to sixth after their beating at the hands of Russia in the previous round and were in need of a quick recovery.

Poland took an early lead when Marta Maj found a much more challenging lead against 3NT than did Eleonora Savoca at the other table. Savoca led a heart and Ewa Grabowska could duck that and, with the ♠10 coming down, had ten easy tricks for +430.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ K J 6 ♥ K 8 3 2 ♦ A Q 9 8 2 ♣ 5	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	♠ A 8 5 ♥ J ♦ 10 7 5 3 ♣ A K 9 6 2
N					
W     E					
S					
♠ Q 9 ♥ A Q 9 6 4 ♦ K 6 ♣ Q J 8 3		♠ 10 7 4 3 2 ♥ 10 7 5 ♦ J 4 ♣ 10 7 4			

West <i>Baroni</i>	North <i>Szczepanska</i>	East <i>Ricciarelli</i>	South <i>Maj</i>
	1♣		Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass
West <i>Jurkiewicz</i>	North <i>Marinelli</i>	East <i>Grabowska</i>	South <i>Savoca</i>
		1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		



Eleonora Savoca Corona, Italy

Maj led the ♠7 to queen and king, ducked. Kamila Szczepanska continued with the ♠J then her remaining spade to the ace, dummy pitching a heart. Lisa Ricciarelli ran the jack of hearts next and Szczepanska found the necessary defence when she ducked, else three heart tricks give declarer her contract. Now there is a winning line — to cross to a honour and play ace then queen of hearts — but it is not clear to play this way. Declarer cashed her clubs and played for the ♦A to be onside, hoping also for an even spade break, and that meant one down for -50 and 10 IMPs to Poland.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ Q J 5 4 3 ♥ 3 ♦ 10 8 ♣ K Q 5 3 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	♠ A 10 9 ♥ J 7 6 4 ♦ K J 7 5 2 ♣ 10
N					
W     E					
S					
♠ K 8 7 2 ♥ Q 9 ♦ Q 9 6 4 3 ♣ 9 7		♠ 6 ♥ A K 10 8 5 2 ♦ A ♣ A J 8 6 4			

West <i>Baroni</i>	North <i>Szczepanska</i>	East <i>Ricciarelli</i>	South <i>Maj</i>
			1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			
West <i>Jurkiewicz</i>	North <i>Marinelli</i>	East <i>Grabowska</i>	South <i>Savoca</i>
			1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Savoca's 2NT rebid showed a good two-suiter and her next call confirmed that the second suit was clubs. Having already shown a powerful hand, she did not feel able to go on to slam when Stefania Marinelli could only jump to 5♣; +420.

Maj upgraded her hand to strong club status — 1♣ was Polish, strong, weak not rump, or 15+ with clubs in this particular version — and 2♥ confirmed the strong variety. Szczepanska showed the fifth spade then supported clubs — suggesting good support as she was prepared to go past 3NT facing a potential four-card

suit. Though she signed off at her next turn, Maj trusted her to have good trumps because she had been unable to cuebid, and so bid the slam; +920 and 11 IMPs to Poland, ahead by 21-0.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ J 10 6 5 4 3 ♥ 8 6 3 ♦ 7 6 3 2 ♣ —</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ Q 8 ♥ Q J 4 ♦ A J 10 9 4 ♣ 10 9 5</p>	<p>♠ A K 7 ♥ 10 9 5 2 ♦ K ♣ A K 8 7 3</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West <i>Baroni</i>	North <i>Szczepanska</i>	East <i>Ricciarelli</i>	South <i>Maj</i>
Pass	3♠	Pass	1♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

West <i>Jurkiewicz</i>	North <i>Marinelli</i>	East <i>Grabowska</i>	South <i>Savoca</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Dble	3♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	3♠

This match featured a series of close slam decisions and once again it was the Polish pair who bid to six, however, this time with less success.

Six Clubs was made at a couple of tables, East having a genuine problem in the defence if she does not know South's distribution — give South the same high cards but 3-3-2-5 shape and you will see that it becomes necessary to duck when a low diamond is led off the table.

Against 6♣, Irene Baroni led the ♥6 to dummy's ace. Maj drew three rounds of trumps, Baroni pitching ♠6, ♠3, ♦2, where the primary signal is odd card to encourage, even to discourage and the secondary signal standard count. When Maj next tried the low diamond, Ricciarelli instantly went in with her ace and the slam was down one for -50 and 10 IMPs to Italy.



Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

<p>♠ A Q 10 9 5 4 2 ♥ Q 7 ♦ K 10 4 3 ♣ —</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ K 7 ♥ A J 10 4 2 ♦ A 8 5 ♣ 10 6 5</p>	<p>♠ 6 3 ♥ K 5 3 ♦ Q 7 6 2 ♣ K J 8 2</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West <i>Baroni</i>	North <i>Szczepanska</i>	East <i>Ricciarelli</i>	South <i>Maj</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♦	Pass	6♠	All Pass

West <i>Jurkiewicz</i>	North <i>Marinelli</i>	East <i>Grabowska</i>	South <i>Savoca</i>
1♠	2♣	Dble	3♣
4♠	All Pass		

This looks to be a deal on which opposition bidding might actually be helpful, yet it was the pair who were given a free run who reached the cold slam. Baroni's 3♠ rebid was well judged, as she rightly put more emphasis on her great playing strength than on the low point-count. Ricciarelli cuebid then bid diamonds again in hope of hearing a heart cuebid. When one was not forthcoming she settled for the small slam. Szczepanska found the most challenging lead, a heart, but Baroni decided that the simple line of finessing at trick one was the best and a few seconds later she had twelve tricks; +1430.

Marinelli's 2♣ overcall allowed her partner to raise and now Edyta Jurkiewicz jumped to 4♠. I find Grabowska's pass a little surprising as she has very good cards facing a self-supporting spade suit and short clubs; +680 but 13 IMPs to Italy, 23-21.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

<p>♠ Q 7 5 3 2 ♥ — ♦ A J 9 8 5 ♣ Q 7 6</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ K J 10 9 6 ♥ — ♦ K 7 6 2 ♣ K 8 4 3</p>	<p>♠ 8 4 ♥ A K J 9 8 5 ♦ Q 4 ♣ J 10 5</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

<p>♠ A ♥ Q 10 7 6 4 3 2 ♦ 10 3 ♣ A 9 2</p>	
--	--

West <i>Baroni</i>	North <i>Szczepanska</i>	East <i>Ricciarelli</i>	South <i>Maj</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	All Pass

West <i>Jurkiewicz</i>	North <i>Marinelli</i>	East <i>Grabowska</i>	South <i>Savoca</i>
2♣	Pass	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Maj must have had difficulty in believing the auction as hearts were bid no less than three times on her right. She did not double as E/W could have had a better spot available, but you could say that she was not too displeased to be defending 3♥. The ♦10 went to the king and declarer overtook her queen on the diamond return to play another winning diamond for a spade pitch. Maj ruffed and cashed the ace of spades then played ace and another club to partner's king. The ♠K was ruffed low and over-ruffed and Maj got out with a club. Declarer could make three trump tricks from here for down four and -200.

Jurkiewicz could open 2♣ to show spades and a minor and when that came round to Savoca she jumped to 4♥ — a bit wild in my view with such a broken suit and limited values. Grabowska doubled 4♥ and beat it three after a spade lead; -500 and 12 IMPs to Poland.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West <i>Baroni</i>	North <i>Szczepanska</i>	East <i>Ricciarelli</i>	South <i>Maj</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	3♠
All Pass			4NT

West <i>Jurkiewicz</i>	North <i>Marinelli</i>	East <i>Grabowska</i>	South <i>Savoca</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♣

Italy gained an IMP for an extra overtrick but the board was much more interesting at other tables where 6♣ was reached.

On a diamond lead, declarer will win, cash the ♣J and try to come to hand to draw the remaining trumps. If her choice is to ruff a diamond, she will be over-ruffed.

Say that East now switches to a heart; declarer still needs to get to hand. She can succeed by winning the heart and playing a spade to the king, relying on four heart winners, or indeed by ruffing a diamond high then playing on hearts, but it is tempting to play a spade to the jack, as that only requires a later heart finesse rather than both finesse and break — and down you go when the finesse loses.

On a spade lead, declarer's spade loser disappears but there is still a problem after unblocking the club. Ace and another diamond gets over-ruffed and now a spade ruff sets the contract. Declarer is still alive if he leads a spade after the ♣J. It gets ruffed, of course, but how does he now play if West switches to a diamond? To succeed he has to ruff a diamond high, and will he have sufficient reason to play for diamonds to be six-one?

The match was level with five boards to play, a fair reflection of the play perhaps. But now Poland took control.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West <i>Baroni</i>	North <i>Szczepanska</i>	East <i>Ricciarelli</i>	South <i>Maj</i>
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♥	3♠
All Pass			

West <i>Jurkiewicz</i>	North <i>Marinelli</i>	East <i>Grabowska</i>	South <i>Savoca</i>
1♥	Dble	1NT(i)	2♠
3♥	All Pass		
(i)	Good heart raise		

Three Hearts is not a great spot but it has the merit of making as the cards lie - which for many people is the definition of a good contract; +140.

Curiously, where N/S had been willing to sell out to 3♥ at the table where North made an immediate take-out double, they pressed on to 3♠ at the table where North only balanced, Maj loving her three low hearts. Baroni cashed two top hearts then switched to a diamond, giving the overtrick; +170 and 7 IMPs to Poland.

Italy picked up 2 IMPs on the next board for an extra under-trick, then:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Baroni	Szczepanska	Ricciarelli	Maj
		INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Jurkiewicz	Marinelli	Grabowska	Savoca
		INT	2♦(i)
3NT	All Pass		

(i) One major

Neither game is particularly attractive but it is normal to reach game and many pairs played the five-three spade fit. Against 4♠, Szczepanska led her heart to dummy's ace and Baroni passed the jack of spades to the queen. Szczepanska switched to a diamond, won in hand to play a spade to the ten and ace. A heart ruff and the ace of clubs meant one down for -50.

In the other room it looks to be a bit of a gamble to jump to 3NT with only jack-doubleton in the suit which is surely held on



Kamila Szczepanska, Poland

your right, but it worked out fine for Jurkiewicz. Soft defence meant that Grabowska emerged with no less than eleven tricks; +460 and 11 IMPs to Poland.

Board 19. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Baroni	Szczepanska	Ricciarelli	Maj
			1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♦	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
Jurkiewicz	Marinelli	Grabowska	Savoca
			1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Six Diamonds is an excellent contract and 6♣ also very good. Maybe the Poles could have got there had Szczepanska bid 4♦ over 3♠ — I am assuming that 4♦ would be forcing — as South has an easy 4♥ cuebid. Anyway, bidding the diamond game proved to be all that was required to pick up a game swing as the Italians had a disaster in the other room. I do not understand the final 3NT bid as surely South has shown decent spades by repeating that suit rather than bidding 3♥ over 3♦ and there is no reason to imagine that the hearts are not wide open. 3NT was down two for -100, going with +420 in 5♦ to give Poland another 11 IMPs.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

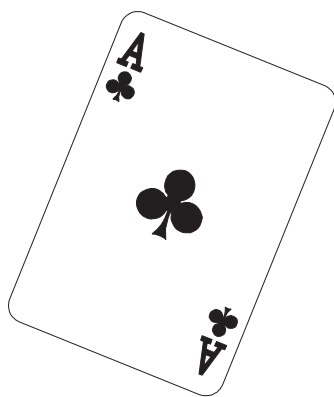
West	North	East	South
Baroni	Szczepanska	Ricciarelli	Maj
1♥	Dble	2♥	2♠
4♥	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Jurkiewicz	Marinelli	Grabowska	Savoca
1♥	Dble	INT(i)	2♠
3♥	3♠	All Pass	

(i) Good heart raise

Poland closed out the match by bidding another thin game not reached in the other room. While I understand where it came from, I think Baroni's 4♥ call was the problem — had she settled for 3♥ I suspect that Szczepanska would have bid only 3♠ and that might have ended the auction. Four Hearts gave North two ways in which a 4♠ bid might work out well — if either game was making — and from West's perspective it was not likely that 4♥ would succeed. Anyway, both declarers made ten tricks without much pain; +170 to Italy but +620 to Poland an 10 more Polish IMPs.

Their late surge gave Poland a 75-38 IMP win, converting to 23-7 VPs.



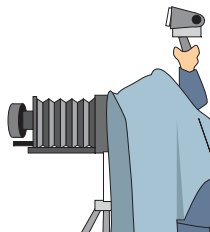
**Teams and Players' Photos Schedule — Sunday July 17th**

**GIRLS**

- 13.40 Italy
- 13.45 Netherlands
- 13.50 Poland

**JUNIORS**

- 17.10 Russia
- 17.15 Austria
- 17.20 Belgium
- 17.25 Czech Republic



All the above teams (including the captain and the coach) are kindly requested to be present at the specific time outside of the building.

**Please make sure that you wear your badge and national uniform.**

Maria Plubi  
EBL Photographer

**Intra-esting!**

By Patrick Jourdain (Wales)

The England Junior team, with three experienced pairs, is off to a fast start. To back your judgment even when it appears marginally against the odds marks out a confident player, and Michael Byrne could not resist the intra-finesse on this deal from their third round match against Spain:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

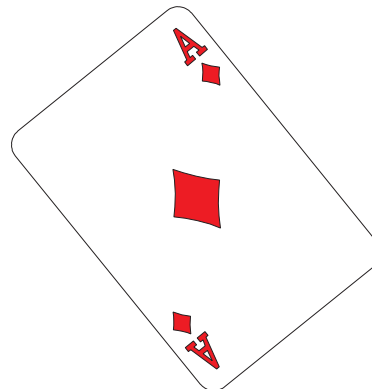
♠ 8 4 2		♠ A K									
♥ A 6 2		♥ K Q 4									
♦ Q 8 5 3		♦ K J 10									
♣ K 10 3		♣ A 9 8 7 2									
♠ J 10 6 3											
♥ J 10											
♦ A 7 4 2											
♣ Q 6 4											
	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 60px; height: 60px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <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										
		♠ Q 9 7 5									
		♥ 9 8 7 6 3									
		♦ 9 6									
		♣ J 5									

West	North	East	South
Morris	Spain	Byrne	Spain
	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the eight of hearts to East's ace, and the five was returned to the king. Byrne at once led the two of clubs and South played low without a flicker, allowing Byrne to judge he did not hold Kx. To put up the queen would be a losing line when South held ♣Jxx, but necessary if South held any three cards with the king. Byrne put in the six and North won the ten and cleared the hearts. Still ruling out Kx with South, Byrne backed his judgment by crossing to the ace of diamonds and leading the queen of clubs. When this pinned South's jack he had ten tricks.

Byrne's line also gains when South's club is a singleton. If you cash the ace first, or lead first to the queen, and then cash the ace to guard against South gaining the lead with Jx or 10x, you will have to pick up the diamonds to make your game.

At the other table after the same lead and continuation, declarer played ace and another club to the queen. The hearts were cleared but North held the third club, so nine tricks were made for 1 IMP to England.





# Austria v Sweden — Girls Round 3

The reigning champions in the Girls Championship, Austria, faced last year's runners-up, Sweden, in the third round. With only one player exchanged from last year, Austria is the favourite to win another title. Sweden is expected to be one of the main challengers, with three of the silver medallists from Prague present here. The Swedish pair, Cecilia Rimstedt/Sara Sivelind, was one of two pairs that as recently Monday this week won the Nordic Junior Championship played in Vingsted, Denmark. Five countries were participating with the following result:

1. Sweden 203
2. Denmark (1) 182
3. Norway 171
4. Denmark (2) 140
5. Finland 115
6. Iceland 69

Daniel Salomonsson/Per-Erik Malmstrom, one of the Swedish pairs playing in the Juniors here in Riccione, was the other pair in the winning team.

Well, now over to this catfight. One could expect a lot of flat boards in this match but that was not the case — an average of more than 5 IMPs would be exchanged per board. Austria was first out of the starting blocks.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>♠ 4 ♥ K Q 10 6 4 3 2 ♦ 10 ♣ K 9 7 2</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ 8 7 5 ♥ 9 ♦ A Q J 9 7 ♣ A Q 5 3</p>
	N										
W		E									
	S										
<p>♠ Q J 10 6 ♥ A 8 7 5 ♦ K 6 ♣ 8 6 4</p>	<p>♠ A K 9 3 2 ♥ J ♦ 8 5 4 3 2 ♣ J 10</p>										

West	North	East	South
Sjoberg	Grumm	S. Rimstedt	Ad. Gogoman
	4♥	All Pass	
Assmann	Sivelind	An. Gogoman	C. Rimstedt
	3♥	4♦	Pass
	5♦	All Pass	

If North opens 4♥, as Iris Grumm did, it is likely that it will be the final contract. That was what happened in the Open Room. After a trump lead declarer collected nine tricks for -50. This time Grumm had the bad luck to find too good cards in dummy, since one trick is missing in a minor-suit game by E/W.

In the Closed Room the Austrian girls had the chance to reach a successful game in no trump, but when Anna Gogoman over-

called 4♦ she was raised to a diamond game by her partner, a contract likely to go at least down one. The Swedes were on the right track by leading the king of spades but then the dummy's spade combination frightened South and she now switched to the jack of hearts. Dummy won the ace then cashed two rounds of trumps to discover the bad break. Next came a spade to South's ace. A spade will now break the communication for declarer, but back came a diamond, so declarer could draw all the trumps and cross to dummy in spades to reach this ending:

<p>♠ — ♥ K ♦ — ♣ K 9 7</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ — ♥ — ♦ — ♣ A Q 5 3</p>
	N										
W		E									
	S										
<p>♠ Q ♥ 8 ♦ — ♣ 8 6</p>	<p>♠ 3 2 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ J 10</p>										

West is to play. On the queen of spades North has to throw in the towel. If she discards her heart, dummy's well preserved heart will win the next trick and a finesse in clubs will finish the job. A club pitch is not much better since a club finesse will give declarer the last trick on the five of clubs; +400 and 8 IMPs to Austria — what a shocking start for Sweden.

Austria felt even more comfortable after two boards were played.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ K Q J 8 2 ♥ J 10 6 2 ♦ J 8 ♣ 10 6</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ 6 4 ♥ 5 3 ♦ A Q 5 4 2 ♣ 8 7 3 2</p>
	N										
W		E									
	S										
<p>♠ 5 3 ♥ K Q 8 4 ♦ K 9 7 6 3 ♣ J 9</p>	<p>♠ A 10 9 7 ♥ A 9 7 ♦ 10 ♣ A K Q 5 4</p>										

West	North	East	South
Sjoberg	Grumm	S. Rimstedt	Ad. Gogoman
		Pass	1♣*
1♥	Dble	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West Assmann	North Sivelind	East An. Gogoman	South C. Rimstedt
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♦*
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

In the Open Room the double showed 7+ HCPs but less than three controls, so Adele Gogoman stopped in game; +650. At the other table 3♦ was a splinter and Sara Sivelind accepted the invite by bidding 4♠. Cecilia Rimstedt liked her hand and asked for aces then the trump queen. The auction had not allowed any cue-bids, so Rimstedt could just hope for some high heart honour(s). When they didn't appear in dummy she had to rely on the clubs to be split 3-3. This was not the day and that was -100 and 13 IMPs to Austria, now in the lead by 21-0.

Next came a push. Sweden then struck back when Sandra Rimstedt declared 1NT nicely for 9 IMPs. 7 IMPs were gained by Austria when this swing came:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West Sjoberg	North Grumm	East S. Rimstedt	South Ad. Gogoman
			Pass
Pass	1♦	Dble	1♥
2♣	2♥	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West Assmann	North Sivelind	East An. Gogoman	South C. Rimstedt
			Pass
Pass	1♦	1♠	2♦
Pass	3♦	3♥	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

How often do you see all four players more or less make a mistake on the very same board? Not very often, I suppose. Emma Sjoberg was not shy in this auction. To be fair, Sjoberg didn't err in a sense, but two unforced calls from her with West's hand might be one too many. Her partner, Sandra Rimstedt, bid game, a sensible choice from her point of view — but a losing one. The lead was a diamond to the ace. If the defence continues to play diamonds every time they have a chance, declarer will run out of trumps. However, Grumm erred by playing a spade at trick two — and now the contract is cold. On the spade declarer played the

four and South won the trick with the jack. Next came the ace of spades and next in line to err was Rimstedt, by too quickly playing the six. The entry to dummy had blown away — but only if Adele Gogoman now exits with her last spade. As you can understand, she did not. When she continued with a heart she was the ultimate person at the table to err. Now declarer could win in hand, ruff a heart, play a club to the nine and draw the last trump out and claim for a remarkable +620. At the other table Austria scored +140 but 10 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West Sjoberg	North Grumm	East S. Rimstedt	South Ad. Gogoman
1NT*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠*	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

West Assmann	North Sivelind	East An. Gogoman	South C. Rimstedt
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass



Sandra Rimstedt, Sweden

In both rooms E/W were one level too high. Cecilia Rimstedt led a diamond in the Closed Room and after she had won the third trump trick with the jack she could tell there was no future in diamonds, so there was no other option than to play the ace of clubs and continue the suit. Sivelind gave her partner a well-deserved ruff and that was down one; -50.

In the Open Room Adele Gogoman started with a spade and when she had won a trick with the jack of hearts she had to choose which minor suit to continue. With no clues from the auction she played a diamond. Declarer could win, draw the last trump and count to ten tricks and another 10 IMPs to Sweden.

Three flat boards followed and that gave us the score Austria 30 Sweden 29, with nine boards to go. The score had moved on to 50 to 35 in favour of Sweden when this came along:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A K ♥ 10 8 6 5 2 ♦ 10 3 ♣ Q J 9 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		♠ 9 8 7 4 ♥ Q J ♦ Q 4 2 ♣ A 8 7 4	♠ 10 6 3 2 ♥ A 3 ♦ J 9 8 7 6 ♣ 6 5
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Sjoberg</i>	<i>Grumm</i>	<i>S. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Ad. Gogoman</i>

2♦*	Pass	INT*	Pass
3NT	All Pass	2♣	Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Assmann</i>	<i>Sivelind</i>	<i>An. Gogoman</i>	<i>C. Rimstedt</i>

INT	Pass	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

As the cards lie 3NT can always be made by West while a club lead will beat the game with East as declarer. In the Open Room the Swedes reached 3NT, but due to a weak no trump opening East had to declare. The lead was a diamond won in dummy. When she now played the king of clubs there were only losing options left. The defence now had five tricks to win: two clubs, two spades and one heart. In the Closed Room North led the queen of clubs and Assman was able to win nine tricks for +150 to Austria and 6 important IMPs.

Sweden missed a cold game on the penultimate board and that was another 10 IMPs to Austria. On the last board Sweden scored 1 IMP and that left us with a draw, 51-51 IMPs. The final score was changed to 15-14 to Sweden due to late arrival by one of the Austrian players.

## Heart-Break!

By Patrick Jourdain (Wales)

When a team contracts to make nineteen tricks in one denomination on one deal you expect them to fail, and so it proved in the Round 4 match between Norway and England in the Juniors:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K J 10 9 6 ♥ - ♦ K 7 6 2 ♣ K 8 4 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		♠ 8 4 ♥ A K J 9 8 5 ♦ Q 4 ♣ J 10 5	♠ Q 7 5 3 2 ♥ - ♦ A J 9 8 5 ♣ Q 7 6
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
	<i>Burgess</i>		<i>Woocock</i>
Pass	1♠	3♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
<i>Happer</i>		<i>Green</i>	

2♣(i)	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

It is not every day you pass a take-out double at the three level with seven trumps, so Andrew Woodcock was pleased to take the chance. He led the singleton ace of spades, on which Ollie Burgess contributed a suit preference jack, and so switched to a diamond to North's king. North cashed the king of spades on which South threw his last diamond, and followed with a diamond, ruffed by South. The defence now played three rounds of clubs, the third being won in dummy, leaving East and South with nothing but trumps.

A spade was ruffed with the eight of trumps. South over-ruffed and exited with the seven to the nine. Declarer now erred by cashing the two top trumps, leaving South with queen-six over the jack-five. If declarer had exited with a low trump a round earlier he would have saved a trick. The penalty for five off was 1100.

At the other table Norway reached Four Hearts by the South hand. It was friendly of East not to double but this had little effect on the score. England gained 15 IMPs and won the match 20-10.

## Sports News

### Golf

Tiger Woods leads the British Open Golf Championship after two rounds. Leading scores: T Woods US -11, C Montgomerie Sco -7, Immelman SA -6, V Singh Fij -6, B Faxon US -6, P Lonard Aus -6, J Olazabal Sp -6, R Allenby Aus -6, S Verplank US -6, S Garcia Sp -5, F Couples US -5, B Van Pelt US -5.

### Football

After nine years at Arsenal, Patrick Viera completed his transfer to Juventus yesterday for a fee of 20 Million Euros.

### Cycling

Robbie McEwen won a bunched sprint finish to take victory in the 13th stage of the Tour de France. The Australian, who also won stages five and seven, pipped compatriot Stuart O'Grady after the peloton caught the leaders inside the final 500m. Race leader Lance Armstrong retained his overall lead of 38 seconds over Dane Michael Rasmussen. But Alejandro Valverde, fifth in the standings, was forced to pull out with tendonitis in his knee.



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