

# Daily Bulletin

## 21<sup>st</sup> European Youth Team Championships



Jesolo - Italy  
11<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> July 2007



**Editor:** Brian Senior - **Co-Editor:** Peter Ventura - **Italian Pages:** Furio Meneghini  
**Layout Editor:** George Hatzidakis - **Photographer:** Maria Ploumbi

Bulletin 5

Tuesday, 17 July 2007

# GOLD FOR POLAND



*The New European Girls Teams Champions - Poland*

Congratulations to Poland (Joanna Krawczyk, Marta Maj, Natalia Sakowska, Kamila Szczepanska, Kamila Wesolowska, Justyna Zmuda, npc Roman Krzemian), winners of the third European Girls Championship. The silver medallists are Netherlands ( Rosaline Barendregt, Astrid Dekker, Marleen van Gelder, Jamilla and Sigrid Spangenberg, npc Monique van de Sande, coach Maarten Schollaardt), while the bronze medal goes to Sweden (Emma Sjoberg, Sandra Rimstedt, Freja Andersson, Kristin Nedlich, coach Pia Andersson, npc Tobias Tornqvist).

Meanwhile, the Schools Championship got under way yesterday evening and the Juniors are about at the half-way point. In the Schools, Italy and Sweden began with 25-1 victories over Wales and France respectively. In the Juniors, Norway seem back on song, demolishing Belgium 25-1, while a 24-6 win over Denmark put Italy firmly in second ahead of Netherlands, Sweden, Poland and Russia.

### TEAM

#### PHOTOGRAPHS



Today it is the turn of the following teams to have their photographs taken for the EBL database. Would the captains please ensure that **all players** of the team plus the **npc** are present outside the

front door of the Palace as follows:

#### Junior Teams

Sweden	13.30
Portugal	13.30
Romania	13.30
Hungary	13.30
Italy	17.00
Latvia	17.00
Netherland	17.00
Norway	17.00
England	17.00

**Maria Ploumbi**

*EBL Photographer*



#### VUGRAPH MATCHES

Italy - Poland (Schools)	10.00
Russia - France (Juniors)	14.00
Italy - Sweden (Juniors)	17.30



APT  
AGENZIA DI PROMOZIONE  
TURISTICA DELLA  
PROVINCIA DI VENEZIA  
Ambito Turistico Jesolo Eraclea



## JUNIOR TEAMS



### RESULTS



### TODAY'S PROGRAM

#### ROUND 10

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	CROATIA GREECE	36 - 48	13 - 17
2	SLOVAKIA TURKEY	48 - 42	16 - 14
3	SWEDEN LATVIA	47 - 26	19 - 11
4	ROMANIA SCOTLAND	57 - 80	10 - 20
5	CZECH REPUBLIC AUSTRIA	45 - 15	21 - 9
6	BELGIUM NORWAY	6 - 82	1 - 25
7	ENGLAND FRANCE	31 - 33	15 - 15
8	POLAND NETHERLANDS	24 - 16	16 - 14
9	HUNGARY PORTUGAL	54 - 22	22 - 7
10	DENMARK ITALY	10 - 57	6 - 24
11	RUSSIA GERMANY	43 - 37	16 - 14

#### ROUND 11

1	GREECE	SWEDEN
2	ROMANIA	SLOVAKIA
3	CZECH REPUBLIC	CROATIA
4	BELGIUM	TURKEY
5	ENGLAND	LATVIA
6	POLAND	SCOTLAND
7	HUNGARY	AUSTRIA
8	DENMARK	NORWAY
9	RUSSIA	FRANCE
10	GERMANY	NETHERLANDS
11	ITALY	PORTUGAL

#### RANKING AFTER ROUND 10

1	NORWAY	202
2	ITALY	192
3	NETHERLANDS	185,5
4	SWEDEN	182,5
5	POLAND	178
6	RUSSIA	174,5
7	GERMANY	174
8	FRANCE	154
9	DENMARK	150
	ENGLAND	150
	LATVIA	150
12	CROATIA	146
	HUNGARY	146
14	CZECH REPUBLIC	145,5
15	TURKEY	136,5
16	SCOTLAND	131
17	SLOVAKIA	123
18	BELGIUM	122
19	GREECE	116
20	PORTUGAL	110
21	ROMANIA	108
22	AUSTRIA	93,5

#### ROUND 12

1	POLAND	GREECE
2	HUNGARY	ENGLAND
3	DENMARK	BELGIUM
4	RUSSIA	CZECH REPUBLIC
5	GERMANY	ROMANIA
6	ITALY	SWEDEN
7	PORTUGAL	SLOVAKIA
8	NETHERLANDS	CROATIA
9	FRANCE	TURKEY
10	NORWAY	LATVIA
11	AUSTRIA	SCOTLAND

#### The Youngest Player

by Patrick Jourdain

We have been joined by the Schools players and believe that Elin Barratt, 11, of Wales is the youngest competitor in the championship.

Elin partners her brother Benjamin, 15. The two started learning bridge with their father, Mark, in January this year by taking lessons at the Cardiff School of Bridge. They are very much the least experienced pair on the Welsh Schools team and mainly here to cover for tiredness or illhealth of the lead four.

Benjamin was the instigator of the three family members learning bridge. A year ago a minibridge course was held at his school, Cardiff High, and as a result the School Library received a copy of a Beginner's book on bridge. Benjamin, the School librarian, began reading the book and was inspired to take up bridge.

Earlier this year Elin was a finalist in BBC's television quiz for 11-year olds.

## GIRLS TEAMS



### RESULTS



#### ROUND 11

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	POLAND LATVIA	91 - 29	25 - 3
2	ESTONIA NORWAY	14 - 89	1 - 25
3	ENGLAND NETHERLANDS	27 - 47	11 - 19
4	ITALY ISRAEL	45 - 71	10 - 20
5	TURKEY DENMARK	46 - 66	11 - 19
6	GERMANY SWEDEN	28 - 44	12 - 18

#### FINAL RANKING

1	POLAND	225,5
2	NETHERLANDS	210
3	SWEDEN	204
4	ISRAEL	197,5
5	GERMANY	174
6	NORWAY	163
7	ITALY	154
8	ENGLAND	152
9	ESTONIA	134,5
10	DENMARK	120,5
11	LATVIA	109,5
12	TURKEY	102,5

#### Today's Schedule

- 10.00 Schools Teams, Round 2
- 14.00 Schools Teams, Round 3
- 14.00 Junior Teams, Round 11
- 17.30 Schools Teams, Round 4
- 17.30 Junior Teams, Round 12

## SCHOOLS TEAMS



### RESULTS



#### ROUND 1

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	LATVIA POLAND	31 - 60	9 - 21
2	WALES ITALY	10 - 87	1 - 25
3	GERMANY ENGLAND	15 - 33	11 - 19
4	BULGARIA TURKEY	34 - 42	14 - 16
5	NORWAY NETHERLANDS	50 - 56	14 - 16
6	ISRAEL DENMARK	50 - 32	19 - 11
7	FRANCE SWEDEN	9 - 88	1 - 25
8	CZECH REPUBLIC HUNGARY	41 - 45	14 - 16



### TODAY'S PROGRAM

#### ROUND 2

1	CZECH REPUBLIC	LATVIA
2	HUNGARY	FRANCE
3	SWEDEN	ISRAEL
4	DENMARK	NORWAY
5	NETHERLANDS	BULGARIA
6	TURKEY	GERMANY
7	ENGLAND	WALES
8	ITALY	POLAND

#### ROUND 3

1	LATVIA	ENGLAND
2	ITALY	TURKEY
3	POLAND	NETHERLANDS
4	WALES	DENMARK
5	GERMANY	SWEDEN
6	BULGARIA	HUNGARY
7	NORWAY	CZECH REPUBLIC
8	ISRAEL	FRANCE

#### ROUND 4

1	ISRAEL	LATVIA
2	FRANCE	NORWAY
3	CZECH REPUBLIC	BULGARIA
4	HUNGARY	GERMANY
5	SWEDEN	WALES
6	DENMARK	POLAND
7	NETHERLANDS	ITALY
8	TURKEY	ENGLAND

# Disaster Corner

by Jean-Francois Jourdain (Belgium)

It could not be very long before Belgium entered the Disaster Corner. Sunday was a huge deception for the Belgian team, as they met Slovakia, Croatia and Austria but were unable to score more than 16 VPs in any match. They were 53-0 IMPs ahead from Austria after 12 boards, but managed to lose the last six boards by a resounding 0-43. No less than 6 of the 9 lost VPs could have been saved on this single deal:

Round 9. Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A Q 9 7 5 3 ♥ 10 8 5 4 ♦ 10 8 ♣ 2	♠ 8 6 ♥ – ♦ A K Q 9 7 3 2 ♣ K 10 7 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K J 10 ♥ A Q J 6 2 ♦ J 5 ♣ Q 8 5
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ 4 2 ♥ K 9 7 3 ♦ 6 4 ♣ A J 9 6 3											

Where in the Open Room the lack of a spade stopper did not prevent N/S from playing in 3NT, in the Closed Room the lack of spade control did not prevent the same hands from bidding 6♣, a better contract anyway, since it can be only defeated by two tricks and scores more points if it makes. And that was nearly the case when Stigleitner made the very uninspired opening lead of the ace of hearts. Vanparijs ruffed and drew trumps. Knowing the diamonds to be 2-2 and the hearts 5-4, he had to decide about the spade layout. If they were 3-6 he had to finesse the ♣Q immediately, risking two undertricks. If they were divided 4-5, which looked more likely since they remained unbid, then he had to play for the drop. That's what he finally decided. He played a club to the ace, threw a spade from his hand on the king of hearts, and when West showed out on the second club he had scored a disappointing -100 instead of a joyful ♣1190. So, having been able to score 1340 points in total for ♣16 IMPs, the Belgians instead conceded 620 total points and lost 12 IMPS on this deal. If that is not a disaster, I don't know what is.

In the Open Room things went very badly:

West	North	East	South
De Visschere	Gogoman	Van Mechelen	Eglseer
	1♦	1♥	INT
3♥	3NT	All Pass	

"Never bid spades as it could frighten the opponents," thought Wim De Visschere. That U-Boot tactic allowed the opponents to bid this silly 3 NT which can easily be defeated by three tricks. De Visschere not only hid his spades, but also did not lead them. No harm was done, however, when he led the ♥5. But Rutger Van Mechelen, who had already played 56 deals the same day, fell curiously asleep. Looking at seven tricks in dummy and knowing quite certainly the ♥K and a black ace must be in the closed hand, his only chance to defeat the contract was to switch to a spade. But instead of that he put in the ♥J, a card which cost seven tricks all on its own. When South ran all the diamonds, East let go a club and declarer soon collected all 13 tricks for + 520 instead of -150.

Events in the Closed Room were even more spectacular:

West	North	East	South
Islam	Vanparijs	Stigleitner	Guiot
	1♦	1♥	INT
3♦	4♣	4♥	5♣
5♥	6♣	Dble	All Pass

## SCHOOLS TEAMS

### RANKING AFTER ROUND 1

1 ITALY	25
SWEDEN	25
3 POLAND	21
4 ENGLAND	19
ISRAEL	19
6 HUNGARY	16
NETHERLANDS	16
TURKEY	16
9 BULGARIA	14
CZECH REPUBLIC	14
NORWAY	14
12 DENMARK	11
GERMANY	11
14 LATVIA	9
15 FRANCE	1
WALES	1

# JUNIOR TEAMS

# ROUND 8



## FRANCE

## V

## GERMANY



Going into their eighth round clash in the Junior Series, France and Germany were both lying just outside the qualifying places. Although we are still quite early in the tournament, this was still an important match for both teams.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ K 3 ♥ A 10 9 8 5 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ 7 5 3</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <span>W</span> <span style="margin: 0 10px;">E</span> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <span>S</span> </div>	<p>♠ J 10 2 ♥ Q 6 2 ♦ K 10 2 ♣ K Q 10 9</p>	<p>♠ A Q 9 6 ♥ K 3 ♦ Q J 6 4 ♣ J 8 6</p>
<p>♠ 8 7 5 4 ♥ J 7 4 ♦ A 9 3 ♣ A 4 2</p>			

West	North	East	South
Smirnov	O. Bessis	Gotard	T. Bessis
1♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		



Adrien Vinay

In the other room, the German N/S pair managed to beat 3NT by East after a spade lead when South worked out to switch to hearts; +100 to Germany. Here, Thomas Bessis also led the ♠7, ducked to Olivier's king. Olivier switched to the seven of clubs to declarer's nine. Thomas ducked that and also ducked Thomas Gotard's play of a diamond towards dummy. The ♦J won and a diamond was returned to the king and ace and now Thomas cashed the ace of clubs, dropping the king from declarer. He was committed now and continued with his remaining club; nine tricks, +400 and 11 IMPs to Germany.

The 2NT response to a Polish 1♣ opening frequently includes club support and very rarely includes a four-card major. After South has seen two rounds of diamonds he should know the count in that suit and it becomes most unlikely that declarer is short in clubs. It looks as though South should be able to read the ♣7 switch as being from a weak holding and therefore find the heart switch when he wins the ♦A.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ A K Q 4 ♥ Q 9 8 7 6 5 ♦ 2 ♣ K 5</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <span>W</span> <span style="margin: 0 10px;">E</span> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <span>S</span> </div>	<p>♠ 5 3 ♥ A 4 2 ♦ Q 9 7 5 ♣ Q 10 8 6</p>	<p>♠ 10 7 6 ♥ K J 10 3 ♦ A J 10 8 ♣ 9 3</p>
<p>♠ J 9 8 2 ♥ – ♦ K 6 4 3 ♣ A J 7 4 2</p>			

West	North	East	South
Smirnov	O. Bessis	Gotard	T. Bessis
Seguineau	Katerbau	Vinay	Rehder
Pass	1♥	Pass	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Both N/S pairs had normal auctions to the normal contract. Paul Seguineau led the nine of clubs to the queen and ace and Martin Rehder crossed to the king of clubs then ruffed a heart and played the jack of clubs. When Seguineau ruffed in, Rehder pitched dummy's diamond loser. Seguineau didn't see the danger of a crossruff and returned

a cunning jack of diamonds, but Rehder could now make all his trumps separately in a red-suit crossruff and that meant ten tricks for +420.

Alexander Smirnov led the ♣3, the systemic card from a small doubleton, and that too went to the queen and ace. Thomas played a club to the king then a diamond to the king and ace. Now Smirnov switched to a trump, which ran to the eight. Thomas tried the ♣J but that was ruffed and over-ruffed and now he just crossruffed his way to nine tricks; down one for -50 and 10 IMPs to Germany.

Declarer has a problem with entries to his hand. It looks as though the way to make the contract is to win dummy's ♣K at trick one, planning to finesse the jack later. This is relatively easier to find on the lead of the nine than the three, as the latter could be from Qxxx.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K Q 9 8 ♥ K 10 9 7 6 5 ♦ Q ♣ A 8	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; 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		♠ A 6 4 2 ♥ A Q 3 ♦ J 9 6 5 ♣ Q 10	♠ J 10 7 5 ♥ - ♦ A 10 7 4 3 ♣ K 9 7 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Smirnov</i>	<i>O. Bessis</i>	<i>Gotard</i>	<i>T. Bessis</i>
1♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♥	All Pass
<hr/>			
West	North	East	South
<i>Seguineau</i>	<i>Katerbau</i>	<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Rehder</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

Having perhaps deservedly lost game swings on the previous two deals, the French were desperately unlucky not to get a slam swing back on this one as Paul Seguineau/Adrien Vinay reached the excellent spade slam while Smirnov/Gotard reached the dreadful heart slam.

The natural French auction coped well with the deal, while Gotard's 2♠ response, showing either an invitational raise with four hearts or game values with three-card support, seemed to tie the partnership into hearts too early and, as is so often the case, the four-four fit proved to be much superior.

The bad breaks meant that 6♠ had no more hope of success than 6♥ and both contracts ended up down two for a push board. However on the lead of the ♦A, at double-dummy Olivier Bessis had to play a spade to set the slam, which he duly did.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 9 3 ♥ A 10 8 6 2 ♦ J 7 ♣ A J 2	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; 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		♠ J 10 8 5 ♥ K 9 7 ♦ 8 5 3 2 ♣ 9 3	♠ K 6 2 ♥ J 4 3 ♦ 6 4 ♣ K Q 7 6 4
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Smirnov</i>	<i>O. Bessis</i>	<i>Gotard</i>	<i>T. Bessis</i>
<i>Seguineau</i>	<i>Katerbau</i>	<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Rehder</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
	3NT	All Pass	

Both Wests led the six of hearts, Vinay putting in the seven, Gotard the nine. Both declarers led a club at trick two. Smirnov ducked and Thomas ran for home with nine



Janko Katerbau

tricks for +400. Segueineau rose with the ace of clubs and continued with a low heart to the king. The heart return gave the defence five tricks; down one for -50 and 10 IMPs to France.

Did Segueineau just guess very well – after all, he had no way of knowing that declarer had five diamond tricks and partner’s high card could have been the ace of spades, when there might be no entry to the long clubs?

The ♠9 is an automatic play from East at trick one, and I am sure I would have made it without thought, but if partner has led fourth best declarer has exactly one card higher than the six. Unless that is the eight, the seven will do just as well as the nine. Perhaps it is correct to play the nine from 9-7 doubleton, but the seven from K-9-7. It follows that the seven is either singleton, 7-5 doubleton, or from the actual holding, and the play of the nine denies the king. Mind you, declarer will be VERY impressed if he makes a trick with 8-5 doubleton!

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Smirnov</i>	<i>O. Bessis</i>	<i>Gotard</i>	<i>T. Bessis</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Segueineau</i>	<i>Katerbau</i>	<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Rehder</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

After identical starts to the auction, Olivier took an aggressive view when he went on to 3NT over the 3♦ raise while Janko Katerbau settled for the partscore.

Against 3♦, the lead was a heart to the queen and ace. Katerbau played the ♣Q to Segueineau’s ace and he returned a heart to the jack and king. Declarer won the heart continuation in dummy and played king of clubs then ruffed a club with the ten. That was over-ruffed and a trump returned but Katerbau could just draw trumps, cash the clubs and concede a spade; +110.

The lead against 3NT was also a heart, Thomas putting in dummy’s jack and losing to the king. Back came a heart to

the nine and queen so he won the ace and played the ♦10 to his king then a club to the nine! Now Bessis was home. He played the ♣Q, ducked, but could come to hand with the ♦Q to knock out the ace of clubs and still had the ♥10 as an entry to hand; nine tricks for +600 and 10 IMPs to France.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Smirnov</i>	<i>O. Bessis</i>	<i>Gotard</i>	<i>T. Bessis</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣
Dble	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Segueineau</i>	<i>Katerbau</i>	<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Rehder</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Rehder simply transferred to spades then passed the response. Katerbau made nine tricks without too much difficulty for a painless +140.

Thomas followed a sequence which showed five spades and was mildly invitational. With excellent playing strength for a hand which had denied four spades, Olivier in turn invited game, and Thomas could not resist going on to 4♠.

Smirnov led the king of clubs to the bare ace and Gotard switched to a heart. Thomas won and played a spade to the jack and queen and back came a second heart, which he won. Now he played a spade to the ace and followed with four rounds of diamonds, throwing two club losers then ruffing. He ruffed his heart and played the established diamond and Gotard lost the plot for a moment and discarded. The last club loser went away and the lead was still in dummy to lead through East’s ♠K9; ten tricks for +620 and 10 IMPs to France, giving them a final winning margin of 45-32 IMPs, 18-12 VPs.



# Question Marks All Around

by Kees Tammens

The first part of the championship already had a free day after six rounds on Saturday 14 July (probably France will have been happy to celebrate their national day). And on Monday 16 again only one match (at 20.30, so again most of the day off). Not the best situation for juniors who are anxious to play on. This situation was caused by the low number of countries that are participating in Jesolo. In previous years there have been about 25-26 countries. The first question: maybe a good solution would have been to reduce the Junior championship to eight days with seven full competition days of three matches. In the heat of Saturday, some Dutch juniors took their coach for a visit to Venice, always a nice experience.

Talking to some coaches and captains I got the sad information that the World Junior Pairs 2008 and also the youth camp which always follows the tournament have been cancelled. It would be a pity if this wonderful three-day event will not take place. And the camp, with all its daily tournaments and lots of transnational pairings is a favourite for many juniors. The second question: who can fill me in more clearly about this? And what can we do about it?

And, of course, many of the bids and plays here in Jesolo have created more current interesting questions:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

One Spade showed both black or both red suits and 3♥ was weak.

West's lead was the ♠K and declarer, Merijn Groenboom, had a difficult decision: did East have the red or black suits? If the latter, the ♠K was from a doubleton, so he took ♠A at trick one. A heart from dummy, East ducked, and the king from South. Now declarer realised that East also could have the red suits, but he was home. A club to the queen then the ♣A to dispose of a spade. A club ruffed, diamond to the ace and a second club ruff made the thirteenth club in dummy available for a second discard. All declarer lost

were three trump tricks to East who, in fact, could have defeated the contract by hopping up with ♥A at the first trick and playing spades. But that was difficult to see. Who did find this defensive play?

In the sixth round, the Netherlands played against Scotland, who had created the first big upset of this championship by battering England in the opening round.

The Scots are enthusiastic and optimistic bidders. But they sometimes overbid:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♠	Pass	INT	2♥
3♠	4♥	5♥	Pass
5♠	All Pass		



Bob Drijver



The INT response was caused by the fact that 2♠ would promise four-card support (E/W play four-card majors). But is the East hand nonetheless not a 2♠ response?

De Pagter/Hop did well to bid 4♥, which caused a problem for East, who saw a slam after the 3♠ rebid by West. Five Hearts seemed logical but got declarer a little high. After the lead of ♠9 declarer had some ways to make eleven tricks but after a finesse into the ♦Q one down was inevitable.

In Round Seven the East players had a nice choice of bids after a pre-emptive bid by partner first in hand. Not vulnerable against vulnerable, who does not like that position?

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ Q 9 8 7 6 ♥ J 10 6 5 ♦ K Q 5 ♣ 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	♠ 4 3 ♥ K 9 4 ♦ A 9 7 4 3 ♣ A J 4	♠ A K J ♥ A Q 7 3 2 ♦ J 6 2 ♣ 8 5
N						
W     E						
S						

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
3♣	Pass	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

Bob Drijver for the Netherlands took the obvious save in clubs right away. OK but a little dull. At the other table Jacco Hop had to be brave after the more tactical raise

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
3♣	Pass	4♣	4♥
All Pass			

East obvious thought he had done enough, or that partner should save, but he let South, who had the courage to bid on his not very impressive suit, play for eleven tricks and an 8 IMP pick-up.

What happened at the tables where East put more pressure on South with:

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
3♣	Pass	3NT	?

Did South bid after this sequence, and which East/West pairs were allowed to play 3NT and/or even make it?

In Round 8, the Netherlands versus Italy was the match between second and third in the rankings. The Italians played well and outgunned the Dutch for a 21-9 win to take second place. When you play well you often are lucky, as any bridgeplayer will confirm. Do you want to be in four or six on this next hand?



Marion Michielsen

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ J 10 7 5 ♥ - ♦ A 10 7 4 3 ♣ K 9 7 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	♠ A 6 4 2 ♥ A Q 3 ♦ J 9 6 5 ♣ Q 10	♠ K Q 9 8 ♥ K 10 9 7 6 5 ♦ Q ♣ A 8
N						
W     E						
S						

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

Marion Michielsen had a good hand for 3♣ and showed her singleton diamond after the relay of 3NT. East, Meike Wortel, showed interest in slam with the cuebid of 4♥. West knew she had a lot extra and went on with Blackwood. The slam needed a 3-2 break in trumps but the girls were unlucky when Italy rested in game.

So, after a lot of questions needing answers, the last one was easy. Like the famous Bob Hamman always tells you: you want to be in this slam if it makes.

## Meet the Belgian Juniors

As we mentioned before, Belgium came to Jesolo with a new team. We picked up three juniors from previous championships and added them to three rookies. They are going to be presented to you here.

Probably our best player, surely the one who plays at the highest level in domestic competition, is **Rutger Van Mechelen (23)**. Despite his name, he does not come from that small city between Brussels and Antwerp, but – like two-thirds of the team – from the well known university town of Leuven. He plays bridge since 1999 and is a member of the local club, 't Begijntje, who managed to stay for the first time in its history in the Belgian Honour Division, so next season he wants to blitz as well the captain as the coach from the bridge table. He studies applied economics. Surprisingly enough, this is his first (and also last) selection, as he will turn 24 this year.

His partner is **Willem De Visschere (23)**, also a newcomer, who lives in Wingene, a village not far from beautiful Bruges. He studies to become a dentist and hopes to finish in September. He plays bridge since 1997 and has just been transferred from Bruges to Ghent, where he will play in the Belgian First Division. With a small deformation his name means 'The Fisher' in Dutch, but he doesn't fish, he plays golf instead. No surprise that he proved to be by far the best mini-golf player in our team. With his 189 cms he is an perfect successor to Steven De Donder.

**Dirk De Hertog (24)** works as a computer programmer. He has played the game for only four years, which makes him the most inexperienced player of the group. He has a degree in Germanic languages. In Dutch his name means 'The Duke', but he is not. He was effectively born in Mechelen but lives in Leuven, where he also plays bridge at the other important club of the town, Pieterman. You were able to admire his skill as a squeezer earlier in these bulletins. He partners **Tine Dobbels (23)**, as also in his everyday life for approximately 18 months. Tine represented Belgium already in the Girls team that played in Prague, 2004, where she appeared to be the quickest girl in the tournament – if not the best. She is a civil engineer in the construction industry, so she is likely to build bridges in the near future. She plays since 1998. Her favourite quote is "I can't understand how bridge can be played so slowly".

**Jef Vanparijs (24)** is the most ancient player of the team, as he represented Belgium in the Juniors already in Torquay, 2002. Only a few of you can say the same, I think, Martin Schaltz from Denmark and the Hungarian duo, Marjai and Minarik, also the Bessis brothers. He likes to eat a lot,

which earned him the nickname of T-Rex. From his name you could deduce that he was born in Paris but, once again, you would be mistaken. He has been studying a lot, marketing, communication and social sciences, giving up the game between 2003 and 2005, but is working at his comeback. He plays also football in the powerful club of VK Holsbeek. He has had the same girl friend for 6.5 years and is going to be engaged to her next year. He plays for the same club as Rutger, but in the second team.

**Benoit Guiot (24)** is well known to the readers of the Daily Bulletin since Riccione 2005 with his nickname (Benguigui) and his constant willingness to enter the Disaster Column. His favourite quote is "I never missed a slam". In

fact he detests four scores: 480 and 680 when playing in majors, 420 and 620 when playing in the minors. He comes from Liege, which means that he is the only French-speaking player of the team. With him, Rutger and Dirk, we have no less than three left-handed players in the team. Who says this is better? Benguigui got an engineering degree with nuclear speciality, something that will be very useful to him when he decides to join Al Qaeda.

He has already let his beard grow for that but, unfortunately for him, and happily for the rest of the world – his beard is not of the right colour.

**Alon Amsel (27)** certainly has a chance of being the youngest captain in the field. He captured eighth place with the Belgian juniors in Prague 2004, which was their second best result of all time, and made numerous appearances in the University competition. He is developing interest rate models for a bank and is driving the hotel's staff crazy because of his vegetarian habits. So the only solution they found was to let him eat a Caprese every day. I think when he comes back to Antwerp Alon will not be able to see mozzarella for some years.

20 years ago I was a junior player (in Valkenburg 1987 when the Belgian juniors defeated Bocchi/Versace and Fantoni/Golfarelli by 25-2, when will be the next time?), and since Antalya 2000 I have been the captain, now I have been promoted to coach (probably they find me wiser since I won the Belgian Pairs in 2005, but I have my doubts) and I'm still writing in the Bulletin as my profession is to be a journalist: **Jean-Francois Jourdain (45)** from Brussels. Formerly I was a chess player too, like our NJO Eric Debus, also present here in Jesolo, but my principal utility is to buy champagne for the team when they score 25 or beat a top opponent. Up to now I paid only one bottle, when we beat Poland, so I'm very disappointed. Feel free to help me!



# JUNIOR TEAMS

# ROUND 9



## PORTUGAL

## V

## DENMARK



by Peter Ventura

The Danish Junior team certainly has the potential of qualifying for the World Championships, but so far the Danish dynamite has misfired. Would Portugal be an easy target to hit?

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

In the Closed Room, Martin Schaltz and Kristian Broendum stopped in the normal contract of 3NT, recording N/S +490, while the Portuguese auction in the Open Room was a very different kind of animal:



Lars Moller-Sorensen

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Moller-Pedersen</i>	<i>Ra. Braga</i>	<i>Moller-Sorensen</i>	<i>Ri. Braga</i>
	INT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

INT was 15-17 and 3♣ showed a hand with clubs and slam interest. Despite the balanced hand, Rafael Braga, liked the honours, thus he took a shot at slam. 6♣ was doomed to go down and that was 11 IMPs to Denmark and a flying start for them.

After five boards Denmark was in the lead by 26 to 7.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Moller-Pedersen</i>	<i>Ra. Braga</i>	<i>Moller-Sorensen</i>	<i>Ri. Braga</i>
		1♥	Dble
Rdbl 4♥	1♠ All Pass	3♥	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Schaltz</i>	<i>Palma</i>	<i>Broendum</i>
		1♥	Dble
2♥	2♠	3♥	All Pass

Antonio Palma was declarer in 3♥ and managed to take eleven tricks after the king of spades was led. At the other table Lars Moller-Sorensen jumped to 3♥ over 1♠, giving Lea Troels Moller-Pedersen the help needed to find game.

South led the king of spades, which North overtook with the ace and then shifted to a heart. It went to the king and ace and South continued in hearts, which gave declarer the

trick with the nine. A spade was ruffed with dummy's last trump, and then declarer crossed to hand with the diamond ace. When all the trumps and the diamond king were cashed South could have held one top spade and three clubs and hoped for the best, but in practice he let both spades go. Therefore Declarer's spade ten became a winner, thus he cashed it and played the clubs from the top to secure ten tricks; N/S -620 and that was another 9 IMPs to Denmark.

At half-time Portugal still had with only 7 IMPs while the Danish dynamite had been efficient, scoring 50 IMPs.

On Board 11 it was the other Portuguese pair of Barbosa/Palma bidding a slam that went down, this time due to a failing finesse. That was worth 11 IMPs for Denmark, but then Portugal struck back.

On Board 12 South had a bidding problem. Red against green, would you bid or pass holding this hand?

♠ 4  
♥ A Q 10 8 5  
♦ 10 9 5 4 3  
♣ J 10

Open Room

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
4♠	Dble	Pass	?

The two Souths took different views, as Ricardo Braga let West play in 4♠ while Broendum bid 5♥. What was right and what was wrong? This was the whole deal:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ K J 6  
♥ K J 7 6  
♦ A Q 7  
♣ Q 4 2

♠ A Q 10 8 7 5 3 2	<table border="1" style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ 9
N						
W						
E						
S						
♥ 4	♥ 9 3 2					
♦ J 2	♦ K 8 6					
♣ 6 3	♣ A K 9 8 7 5					

♠ 4  
♥ A Q 10 8 5  
♦ 10 9 5 4 3  
♣ J 10

Open Room

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Moller-Pedersen</i>	<i>Ra. Braga</i>	<i>Moller-Sorensen</i>	<i>Ri. Braga</i>
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

Closed Room

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Schaltz</i>	<i>Palma</i>	<i>Broendum</i>
4♠	Dble	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

For some reason the Danish declarer lost five tricks in 5♥ for -800. Not that it would have helped on the actual deal but, once South decides to bid, isn't 4NT, two places to

play, then convert 5♣ to 5♦, better than the unilateral 5♥ actually chosen?

In the Open Room, Moller-Pedersen must have been disappointed to go down in 4♠, since the trump suit split badly. That was 14 IMPs to Portugal and the largest swing in the match.

The Danes were leading 61-32 when this came along:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

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

<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%;"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S
	N			
	W			
	E			
S				

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

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Moller-Pedersen</i>	<i>Ra. Braga</i>	<i>Moller-Sorensen</i>	<i>Ri. Braga</i>
<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Schaltz</i>	<i>Palma</i>	<i>Broendum</i>
Pass	1♠	INT	4♥
All Pass			

The queen of spades was led at both tables and in the Open Room declarer covered with the king and ace. Soon thereafter Ricardo Braga claimed twelve tricks for +480, since East switched to a heart after the spade ace.

Kristian Broendum, who was declarer in the Closed



Ricardo Braga

Room, was afraid that the spade queen might be a singleton. He visualised going down as East could win the ace, giving partner a spade ruff, followed by a club switch and another spade ruff. To avoid hearing the Ping Pong Song (by Enrique Iglesias) ringing in his ears, he played low from dummy and advanced the jack from hand when East played low. Well, NOW declarer was down as three at this point was the possibility for West to play another spade to the ace and get a ruff. Barbosa could not work the position out and therefore shifted to a heart... so the game was made. What a missed opportunity for the Portuguese to come closer. Nonetheless that was 2 IMPs to them.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A Q 9 7 5 3 ♥ 10 8 5 4 ♦ 10 8 ♣ 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ K J 10 ♥ A Q J 6 2 ♦ J 5 ♣ Q 8 5	♠ 8 6 ♥ – ♦ A K Q 9 7 3 2 ♣ K 10 7 4
N							
W							
E							
S							
♠ 4 2 ♥ K 9 7 3 ♦ 6 4 ♣ A J 9 6 3							

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Moller-Pedersen</i>	<i>Ra. Braga</i>	<i>Moller-Sorensen</i>	<i>Ri. Braga</i>
1♦	1♥	INT	INT
2♦*	2♥*	3♥	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Schaltz</i>	<i>Palma</i>	<i>Broendum</i>
3♦	3♥*	4♥*	Double
All Pass			

If declarer could guess the club position, N/S can make game in either minor. The Braga brothers found out that South was able to stop an attack on the heart suit, so they chose to play in 3NT even though they got doubled. West led the five of hearts and when the dummy came down the first impression must have been horrifying for East. Unless South had psyched there was no reason for East to continue in hearts, so a spade shift must be the only possibility to beat the doubled game, thus East returned the spade king and was highly rewarded as partner turned up with some number of spades. Minus 500 when you might make game was not the best result for Portugal.

In the other room Broendum doubled 4♥ and here the defence took the four obvious tricks for N/S +100. That was another 12 IMPs to Denmark and there was no hope left for a Portuguese recovery.

The final score was 91-39 IMPs, or 25-5 VPs, and the Danish dynamite still showed itself to be powerful.

## The Craftsman

by Kare Beyer Kristiansen

Ivar Berg of Norway is a craftsman with many tools in his bag. He tried to fool North on the following board, and it turned out even better than he hoped for. The board is from Round 1, when Norway met Romania.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ A 9 5 ♥ A 9 8 ♦ A Q 10 8 ♣ J 10 4	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ Q 10 3 ♥ K Q J 10 3 ♦ J 7 ♣ 9 3 2	♠ 8 2 ♥ 6 5 4 2 ♦ K ♣ A K Q 7 6 5
N							
W							
E							
S							
♠ K J 7 6 4 ♥ 7 ♦ 9 6 5 4 3 2 ♣ 8							

West	North	East	South
<i>Reistad</i>	<i>Stafie</i>	<i>Berg</i>	<i>Nistor</i>
1♦	2♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

South led his singleton club and North cashed three club tricks, and then shifted to the eight of spades. Declarer played low and won the trick with dummy's ace over South's jack. Berg's plan was to play the diamond ace and another diamond up, to give the impression he held a singleton diamond, thus he played the ace – and was more than happy to see the king drop. Actually, he was so happy that he forgot to unblock the jack in hand. Doing so, after drawing trumps he could simply play the diamond seven towards dummy and claim ten tricks. However, now Berg had to bring another tool out of his bag – the squeeze. As you can see, South has to hold three diamonds and the king of spades in the three-card ending. That was a mission impossible for South, thus the contract was made.

Berg declared in a brilliant fashion, far beyond anything he could dream about!



## Sports News



### Football

Brazil won the Copa America, beating Argentina 3-0 in the final. Mexico took third place, defeating Uruguay 3-1 in the third-place play-off.

*Under 20 World Cup – Quarter-finals*

Argentina 1-0 Mexico;  
Chile 4-0 Nigeria (aet)

*UEFA Under-19 Championship - Group Stage*

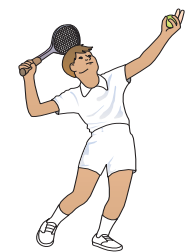
Greece 1-0 Portugal  
Austria 0-2 Spain  
France 5-2 Serbia  
Germany 3-2 Russia



### Golf

Seve Ballesteros has announced his retirement from golf. The 50-year-old Spaniard, who won three Open and two Masters titles, said: "This has been the most difficult decision of my life." Ballesteros played in four successful European

Ryder Cup sides and captained the team to victory in 1997. He has suffered with back and knee problems in recent years, and missed the cut at this year's Masters after finishing on 22 over par.



### Tennis

Both Federation Cup (Women's Teams) semi-finals went to the deciding doubles match. Russia came through 3-2 against USA, while defending champions Italy defeated France 3-2 in a tie that was a personal triumph for Francesca Schiavone, who won all her three matches,

involving playing two three-set matches in quick succession on Sunday.

Fabrice Santoro won his all-French final battle with Nicolas Mahut at the Hall of Fame Tennis Championships to win his first ATP title in five years. Santoro won his first title since Dubai 2002 with a straight sets 6-4 6-4 victory in Rhode Island, Newport, on Sunday.

## Today in History



On July 17, 1975, as part of a project aimed at developing space rescue capability, the U.S. spacecraft Apollo and the Soviet spacecraft Soyuz 19 rendezvous and docked in space. As the hatch was opened between the two vessels, commanders Thomas P. Safford and Aleksei Leonov shook hands and exchanged gifts in celebration of the first such meeting in space between the two Cold War adversaries.

During the 44-hour Apollo-Soyuz embrace, the astronauts and cosmonauts conducted experiments, shared meals, and held a joint news conference.

## GIRLS TEAMS FINAL BUTLER

Name	Butl	Brd	Country	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34																																																																
EGE Anna Christa	BILDE Majka C.	-0,14	80	Denmark	SARV Pihel	ORAS Maarja	-0,18	220	Estonia	APRILE Manuela	TANI Giorgia	-0,20	160	Italy	SPANGENBERG J.	SPANGENBERG S.	-0,22	99	Netherlands	RUSCALLA Elena	SACCOMANNO S.	-0,39	159	Italy	ANDERSONE Ilze	CIMOKA Dace	-0,40	220	Latvia	GOLDBERG Niva	SKAGIN Elizabeth	-0,42	219	Israel	EGE Anna Christa	KOCH-PALMUND A.	-0,47	60	Denmark	ERGIN Ekin	ENGIN Gizem	-0,49	199	Turkey	VIIILUP Triinu	LIIVAK Jane	-0,60	220	Estonia	KOCH-PALMUND A.	BILDE Majka C.	-0,80	80	Denmark	EGE Anna Christa	BUUS THOMSEN S.	-0,80	80	Denmark	ROBERTS Elizabeth	MARVIN Jennifer	-0,88	140	England	SEYHAN Burcu	SARIOZ Pinar	-1,11	200	Turkey	ERKENA Ildze	VALESKALNE Ilze	-1,14	219	Latvia	AYAZ Hacer	TEKIN Ozge	-1,38	40	Turkey	BUUS THOMSEN S.	BILDE Majka C.	-2,20	60	Denmark
1 SJOBERG Emma	RIMSTEDT Sandra	1,50	219	Sweden	2 SZCZEPANSKA K.	MAJ Marta	1,44	160	Poland	3 GELDER Marleen van	SPANGENBERG Sigrid	1,38	60	Netherlands	4 GELDER Marleen van	SPANGENBERG J.	1,25	60	Netherlands	5 LEVY Hila	ASOLIN Adi	1,13	220	Israel	6 WESOLOWSKA K.	ZMUDA Justyna	1,08	140	Poland	7 DEKKER Astrid	BARENDREGT R.	0,77	218	Netherlands	8 EGGELING Marie	GIAMPIETRO Cristina	0,45	220	Germany	9 KOCH-PALMUND A.	BUUS THOMSEN S.	0,35	80	Denmark	10 CHAVARRIA M.	LANZANO Chiara	0,31	120	Italy	11 BROWN Fiona	MACDOUGALL N.	0,22	160	England	12 CHEDIAK Virginia	GRAN Katrine S.	0,16	220	Norway	13 GRUDE Liv Marit	HANSEN Reidun	0,10	220	Norway	14 MACDOUGALL L.	KAYE Alice	0,07	140	England	15 KRAWCZYK Joanna	SAKOWSKA Natalia	-0,04	140	Poland	16 ROWOLD A.-M.	HEIM Anne	-0,05	220	Germany	17 NEDLICH Kristin	ANDERSSON Freja	-0,11	220	Sweden

## SEMISERIA INTERVISTA AGLI ITALICI CAPATAZ JUNIOR E SCHOOL

by Furio Meneghini

Bernardo Biondo conosce questi palcoscenici per averli calpestati con successo da giocatore neanche tanti anni fa, e adesso è chiamato a far da CHIOCH (il coach con propensione al ruolo di chioccia) all'italico School Team, ai profani più familiare come Nazionale Cadetti.

Lo intervisto subdolamente allo scadere del suo compleanno (mezzanotte passata da un tot), disturbandolo mentre –novello Beautiful Mind- addita a gentile duplicatrice fantasiose costellazioni: “là vedi l'Ip-pogrifo Minore, quello è il Piripicchio dell'Est, se mi segui con attenzione riuscirai a scorgere anche la Sempia Barbuta”. Arguisco che il livello di Caipirinha/Caipiroscka è quello giusto per una ponderata disamina tecnica e parto con la batteria “Oscar della Banalità” su caratteristiche dei componenti, speranze, aspettative realistiche.

“I giovani sono imprevedibili per definizione, tanto più imprevedibili quanto più sono giovani, e questi sono giovanissimi, ergo totalmente impronosticabili. Premesso questo, penso di presentare una squadra che può aspirare alle prime quattro piazze, e ovviamente faremmo volentieri a meno della medaglia di legno. DiFranco-Mistretta sono una coppia che in questo consesso può recitare un ruolo da primattore, Delle Cave è il più giovane del gruppo ma è già pronto per cimentarsi superiori, a Cattabiani e Trimarchi chiederò di supportarlo al meglio, e se Giorgia Botta riuscirà a tenere a freno gli eccessi temperamentali...Insomma nessun traguardo ci è precluso a priori, ma torniamo sempre al discorso di partenza: come tu sai meglio di me (grazie, Berna', per il riconoscimento professionale) la componente psicologica qui ha un peso specifico maggiore di quella meramente tecnica, non sai mai quale reazione può venir fuori da un inizio sfortunato, da un brutto incontro, dai misunderstandings di coppia, da Dio-solo-sa-cosa. Secondo me i ragazzi si sono preparati seriamente, non saprei cos'altro aggiungere, e poi scusami, ma a destra di Venere dovrebbe esserci il Babbuino, e non sono ancora riuscito a vederlo”.

In bocca al lupo, School Team, il vostro Chioch è una garanzia assoluta!

\* \* \*

Giagio Rinaldi ha un diavolo per capello per una decisione dell'Appeal Committee che gli ha peggiorato(!) una decisione arbitrale contro la quale aveva fatto ricorso, ma in fondo non può nascondere la soddisfazione per la giornata molto positiva dei suoi: tre vit-

torie, di cui due belle nette, contro tre quadre di vertice, e un terzo posto in classifica con marcata riduzione del gap dai capintesta norvegesi che dopo la partenza siderale sono tornati sulla terra rimediando un paio di sonore sconfitte.

“Certo, sono più ottimista riguardo alla qualificazione, ma questa squadra non mi lascia dormire sonni tranquilli, perchè è capace di tutto e del contrario di tutto. Abbiamo incontrato sei delle prime dieci, e abbiamo sempre vinto più o meno agevolmente; in compenso abbiamo pareggiato con l'Ungheria –che comunque rimane una buona squadra- e perso con due formazioni di retroguardia; se non eliminiamo queste flessioni di rendimento, hai un bel dire che adesso il calendario ci sorride!

Ho una coppia che gioca insieme da una vita, e altre due un po' meno rodiate ma composte per tre quarti da giocatori di buona esperienza a questi livelli. Non ci sono fenomeni in questa squadra, ma non ci sono fenomeni neanche nel resto del lotto, anche se all'inizio del campionato avrei posto Francia, Norvegia e Polonia un paio di gradini al di sopra della mischia: insomma sulla carta possiamo giocarcela con chiunque senza partire battuti in partenza, ma tutto dipende dal nostro approccio alla gara. I ragazzi devono capire che anche le squadre meno forti schierano comunque giocatori con un buon bagaglio tecnico di base, contro i quali non si possono “scippare” contratti e prese come sono abituati a fare nei tornei locali; possiamo contare su un background di cultura bridgistica di prim'ordine, se sappiamo sfruttare quello non abbiamo bisogno di forzature, la regolarità paga sempre i dividendi più alti, e io più che ripeterlo fino allo sfinimento non so che posso fare. Sì, ma poi tutti questi discorsi potremmo anche risparmiarceli: ho perso campionati alla guida di squadre davvero fortissime, e vinto con squadre sulla carta molto più deboli di questa, sono più facili le previsioni sui numeri del lotto”.





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**For Further Information And Registration:** The Organizing Committee: David Birman  
50 Pinkas St. Tel Aviv, Israel, Tel: 972-3-6058355, Fax: 972-3-5465582, E-mail: birm and @inter.net.il