

# 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 7

Thursday, 19 July 2007

# IT'S A BLUE DAY



*Does this remind you of your partner?*

Wednesday belonged to the Blues in the Junior Series. Italy, The Azzuri, strengthened their position at the top of the rankings with 60 VP on the day, despite losing 10-20 to Czech Republic in Round 14. Meanwhile France, Les Bleus, had a perfect day, 75 VPs out of 75, to move up from tenth to sixth in the standings. Italy now leads with 295 VPs from Netherlands 285.5, Poland 270, Germany and Norway 268 and France 260.

In the Schools Championship, Poland scored 58 VPs from three matches against other teams in the top half of the field: 25-4 against Bulgaria, 16-14 against Germany, and 17-13 against England. The biggest total for the day, however, was achieved by Latvia, who took 25 against both Sweden and Wales plus 15 against Italy to score 65 and move up four places in the overall rankings. Poland leads with 147 VPs from England 132, Sweden 127, Bulgaria 118.5, Denmark 116 and Israel 114.

### 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:

Netherlands	12.40	Schools
Hungary	12.40	Schools
Turkey	13.45	Schools
Wales	13.45	Schools

**Maria Ploumbi**

*EBL Photographer*



#### VUGRAPH MATCHES

Netherlands - France (Juniors)	10.00
Norway - Italy (Juniors)	14.00
Germany - Bulgaria (Schools)	17.30



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



# JUNIOR TEAMS



## RESULTS



## TODAY'S PROGRAM

### ROUND 13

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	GREECE AUSTRIA	53 - 54	15 - 15
2	SCOTLAND NORWAY	42 - 36	16 - 14
3	LATVIA FRANCE	7 - 55	5 - 25
4	TURKEY NETHERLANDS	47 - 62	12 - 18
5	CROATIA PORTUGAL	40 - 53	12 - 18
6	SLOVAKIA ITALY	17 - 78	3 - 25
7	SWEDEN GERMANY	19 - 86	2 - 25
8	ROMANIA RUSSIA	34 - 77	6 - 24
9	CZECH REPUBLIC DENMARK	34 - 48	12 - 18
10	BELGIUM HUNGARY	51 - 23	21 - 9
11	ENGLAND POLAND	34 - 33	15 - 15

### ROUND 16

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

### ROUND 14

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	HUNGARY GREECE	49 - 49	15 - 15
2	DENMARK POLAND	44 - 42	15 - 15
3	RUSSIA ENGLAND	35 - 38	14 - 16
4	GERMANY BELGIUM	45 - 55	13 - 17
5	ITALY CZECH REPUBLIC	24 - 50	10 - 20
6	PORTUGAL ROMANIA	32 - 59	9 - 21
7	NETHERLANDS SWEDEN	51 - 17	22 - 8
8	FRANCE SLOVAKIA	78 - 15	25 - 3
9	NORWAY CROATIA	41 - 30	17 - 13
10	AUSTRIA TURKEY	17 - 65	5 - 25
11	SCOTLAND LATVIA	31 - 64	8 - 22

### ROUND 17

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

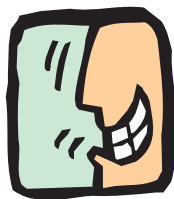
### ROUND 15

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	GREECE SCOTLAND	56 - 36	19 - 11
2	LATVIA AUSTRIA	98 - 16	25 - 0
3	TURKEY NORWAY	68 - 57	17 - 13
4	CROATIA FRANCE	35 - 84	5 - 25
5	SLOVAKIA NETHERLANDS	23 - 113	0 - 25
6	SWEDEN PORTUGAL	53 - 75	10 - 20
7	ROMANIA ITALY	16 - 136	0 - 25
8	CZECH REPUBLIC GERMANY	43 - 92	5 - 25
9	BELGIUM RUSSIA	83 - 63	19 - 11
10	ENGLAND DENMARK	32 - 68	8 - 22
11	POLAND HUNGARY	80 - 14	25 - 2

### ROUND 18

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

## SCHOOLS TEAMS



## RESULTS



## ROUND 5

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	LATVIA SWEDEN	83 - 34	25 - 5
2	DENMARK HUNGARY	26 - 38	13 - 17
3	NETHERLANDS CZECH REPUBLIC	42 - 28	18 - 12
4	TURKEY FRANCE	31 - 65	8 - 22
5	ENGLAND ISRAEL	11 - 49	7 - 23
6	ITALY NORWAY	34 - 73	7 - 23
7	POLAND BULGARIA	82 - 27	25 - 4
8	WALES GERMANY	7 - 100	0 - 25

## ROUND 6

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	WALES LATVIA	13 - 110	0 - 25
2	GERMANY POLAND	46 - 51	14 - 16
3	BULGARIA ITALY	60 - 26	22 - 8
4	NORWAY ENGLAND	27 - 65	7 - 23
5	ISRAEL TURKEY	53 - 17	22 - 8
6	FRANCE NETHERLANDS	40 - 49	13 - 17
7	CZECH REPUBLIC DENMARK	34 - 62	8 - 21
8	HUNGARY SWEDEN	37 - 37	15 - 15

## ROUND 7

	Match	IMP's	VP's
1	LATVIA ITALY	38 - 38	15 - 13
2	POLAND ENGLAND	62 - 51	17 - 13
3	WALES TURKEY	22 - 107	0 - 25
4	GERMANY NETHERLANDS	70 - 65	16 - 14
5	BULGARIA DENMARK	59 - 79	11 - 19
6	NORWAY SWEDEN	42 - 63	11 - 19
7	ISRAEL HUNGARY	34 - 65	9 - 21
8	FRANCE CZECH REPUBLIC	57 - 49	16 - 14

## Today's Schedule

- 10.00 Schools Teams, Round 8
- 10.00 Junior Teams, Round 16
- 14.00 Schools Teams, Round 9
- 14.00 Junior Teams, Round 17
- 17.30 Schools Teams, Round 10
- 17.30 Junior Teams, Round 18



## TODAY'S PROGRAM

## ROUND 8

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

## ROUND 9

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

## ROUND 10

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

## SAVE WATER!



A lot of half-full water bottles are left lying around the playing area each day. This is a terrible waste and our supplies will run out if it continues. Please, you are very welcome to take water, but take it with you and finish it, don't waste it.

## JUNIOR TEAMS

### RANKING AFTER ROUND 15

1	ITALY	295
2	NETHERLANDS	285,5
3	POLAND	270
4	GERMANY	268
	NORWAY	268
6	FRANCE	260
7	RUSSIA	247,5
8	DENMARK	241
9	LATVIA	232
10	ENGLAND	230
11	SWEDEN	225,5
12	TURKEY	216,5
13	BELGIUM	213
14	CZECH REPUBLIC	211,5
15	CROATIA	209
16	HUNGARY	200
17	GREECE	196
18	SCOTLAND	189
19	PORTUGAL	184
20	ROMANIA	170
21	SLOVAKIA	144
22	AUSTRIA	139,5

## SCHOOLS TEAMS

### RANKING AFTER ROUND 7

1	POLAND	147
2	ENGLAND	132
3	SWEDEN	127
4	BULGARIA	118,5
5	DENMARK	116
6	ISRAEL	114
7	GERMANY	113,5
8	LATVIA	112
9	FRANCE	105
10	NORWAY	102
11	ITALY	91
12	TURKEY	85,5
13	CZECH REPUBLIC	85
14	HUNGARY	82
15	NETHERLANDS	78
16	WALES	2

## Insufficient Bid Laws

David Burn, many-time English international player and coach, sent this regarding the article in yesterday's bulletin about new ways to lose IMPs.

Just read an article in the bulletin from Jesolo, which you will find on page 17 of Bulletin 6.

This was part of the auction:

West	North	East	South
1♦	2♠	Dble	2NT
3♦	4♠	4♥	

The article says that, if South had not accepted this bid and 4♠ had been passed out, East would have led a diamond, won by West. Declarer could then have required West to lead a heart.

The Laws say this:

### 27B. Insufficient Bid Not Accepted

2. Conventional, or Corrected by Any Other Sufficient Bid or Pass.

If either the insufficient bid or the lowest sufficient bid in the same denomination may have been conventional or if the bid is corrected by any other sufficient bid or by a pass, (penalty) the offender's partner must pass whenever it is his turn to call (apply Law 10C1 and see Law 23 when the pass damages the non-offending side; and the lead penalties of Law 26 may apply).

### 26A. Call Related to Specific Suit

If the withdrawn call related to a specified suit or suits and

1. Suit Specified

if that suit was specified by the same player, there is no lead penalty, but see Law 16C.

2. Suit Not Specified

if that suit was not specified in the legal auction by the same player, then declarer may (penalty) either require the offender's partner to lead the specified suit (or one particular specified suit) at his first turn to lead, including the opening lead, or prohibit offender's partner from leading the specified suit (or one particular specified suit) at his first turn to lead, including the opening lead, such prohibition to continue for as long as offender's partner retains the lead.

"In what circumstances does East's double of 2♠ (a take-out double) 'specify' hearts? If it promises at least four of them? If he 'normally has at least four of them'? If West will always bid them with four?"

*I am not an expert on the intent behind the law, however, my opinion is that even if the double promised four hearts it does not specify hearts in the sense that I would intend or understand by the meaning of the word specify. The disallowed 4♥ bid showed a clear preference for hearts and gave a definite message about that suit, while the double was merely a general take-out call and gave little more information about hearts than would have, say, a 1NT opening bid (after which the lead penalties would certainly have applied). It did not specify a distinct preference for hearts so gave hugely different information about that suit to the 4♥ bid, and so the full weight of the law on lead-penalties should apply.*

What do you think? (Ed.)



## Another story

by GeO Tislevoll

This interesting board was shown on BBO, but a mistake that arose because of a lost connection for some seconds gave the impression that something else had happened than the real story. For once the commentators were a bit too quick when they praised South for his defence.

Round 9. Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Ivar Berg (East) and Tor Ove Reistad for Norway bid to Four Hearts without the opponents entering the bidding. A club lead would beat the game if North takes the first trump and gives South a club ruff. Also, a diamond lead to the ace and club switch will result in the Norwegians going down. But after a diamond lead to the ace, North continued diamonds, ruffed by West. A trump was led, and North took the ace and played a club, a little too late. On BBO we



Ivar Berg

could see East putting up the club king, and South played low! Now the commentators (one of them myself) became enthusiastic, because they could see North would be squeezed in the black suits if South took the king of clubs with the ace. Now declarer probably would go down, the commentators said, because he would play a club to the queen. So the defence was good, most of the commentators agreed, but that is not entirely true. After winning the trick with the club king declarer could play like this: three rounds of spades, and a fourth round of spades ruffed by East. Then the diamond jack is ruffed, leaving this position:

<p>♠ – ♥ – ♦ 10 ♣ 10 9 6</p>	<table 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>♠ – ♥ K 9 ♦ – ♣ Q 8</p>	<p>♠ – ♥ – ♦ K 8 7 ♣ A</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

From here on, it doesn't matter if declarer plays a club to the queen or if he plays low from his hand. If he goes up with the queen South can take it with the ace, but then he has to play a card to give a ruff and discard, and East's last club disappears.

But the fact was that actually the operator had made one of her very rare mistakes because she lost connection, and South had actually taken the club king with the ace. What then happened was this: South played another club after the ace, taken by East's queen. Then he ruffed the last diamond and continued with the remaining trumps. Before the last one this was the position:

<p>♠ K 9 8 7 ♥ – ♦ – ♣ 7</p>	<table 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 4 ♥ 8 ♦ – ♣ 8</p>	<p>♠ J 2 ♥ – ♦ K 8 7 ♣ –</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

On the eight of hearts, North had to give up a spade, or throw his club jack, and declarer had his contract either way.

# Milan is not an Italian City

by Patrick Jourdain

Ine Gielkens, the former Dutch international player who is in Jesolo as npc of the Czech Republic Junior team, reported this deal from their Round 12 match against Russia.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Michal Kopecky opened a weak no trump, doubled by South, and eventually Milan Macura found himself in Four Spades doubled.

North led a heart, taken by the ace as declarer threw a club. Next came the jack of diamonds covered by the queen and ace. Declarer returned to dummy with a trump to the king felling South's queen. Next came a diamond taken by South's king. A second heart was ruffed by declarer. Macura cashed the ♦10 all following, and then played a small club to the queen which held. This was followed by a third heart ruffed in hand. The last diamond was ruffed by North and over-ruffed in dummy. A spade to the jack was followed by the last trump, ending play North into leading a club up to declarer's king. Plus 590 was worth 10 IMPs to the Czech Republic when at the other table Russia made nine tricks in a spade partscore.

A couple of boards earlier Macura and Kopecky had shown their bidding skills:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Macura</i>	<i>Osipov</i>	<i>Kopecky</i>	<i>Dobrin</i>
		INT*	Dble
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♥
4♣	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

\* 11-14

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Macura</i>		<i>Kopecky</i>	
INT(i)	Pass	2♥(ii)	Dble
Pass(iii)	3♥	4♦	4♥
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

- (i) 11-14 (1♦ is prepared in 'Chinese' Club!)
- (ii) Transfer
- (iii) Pass = less than three spades

The Grand slam earned the Czech Republic 16 IMPs (against Six Hearts doubled down four), for a match win of 18-12 VPs.



Milan Macura



# 2006 Bridge Awards in China

by Fu Tsiang

## 2006 Shen Hua Declarer Play Award

**Parallel Winner 1:** Dong Yong Ling

**From:** Women Round Robin of National Championship,  
27th March

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

West	North	East	South <i>Dong Yong Ling</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

How would you play Four Spades on the lead of the club seven? One heart loser can go on one of dummy's club honours. You can afford to lose two trump tricks. Do you choose to ruff a heart then draw trumps?

Dong Yong Ling, a long-time player on the Beijing Women's Team, won the club ace in dummy and played the heart king. West ducked this trick, although if she'd taken her ace at once and played another heart, declarer would have faced a difficult guess.

Dong continued with the heart queen, taking note of the appearance of the ten from East. West won the heart ace and exited with the eight. Dummy ruffed and East's jack dropped, establishing the nine in declarer's hand.

Dong decided to cross to hand with the ace of diamonds before leading trumps, to test whether West held a singleton ace. The spade king won the trick and East's jack forced Dong to think for a long time. She finally pulled the diamond king and ruffed a diamond back to hand, East following with the jack. If there had been no falsecard from East, West's red-suit holdings should be 4-4. Because West didn't continue with another club after winning the heart ace, it was probable she held a singleton there.

Dong now carefully played the heart nine, ruffing in dummy with the four of spades. She safely ruffed a diamond back to hand and threw out the club queen to wait for the tenth trick with the queen-nine of trumps.

This was the full deal:

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

♠ J  
♥ J 10 3  
♦ J 9 3  
♣ J 9 6 4 3 2

Dong's play avoided the potential danger successfully. After six tricks this was the position:

♠ 4  
♥ –  
♦ K 6 5  
♣ K 10 8

♠ A 10 7  
♥ 7  
♦ Q 10 8  
♣ –

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 9 8 6  
♥ 9  
♦ 4  
♣ Q

♠ –  
♥ –  
♦ J 9  
♣ J 9 6 4 3

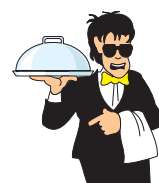
Deep Finesse pointed out that there was just one card that could lead the contract home at each of the next tricks. At the table, Dong Yong Ling selected the only correct card at each trick.

## Championship Souvenirs

There are a number of souvenirs of these championships on sale at the reception desk. What better way to remember a wonderful experience than to take one or more home with you?

The range includes good quality shirts in a range of colours, with the championship logo actually sewn in not just stuck on, two types of bag and also keyrings.

## Closing Ceremony



Full details of the program for Saturday evening will be given later but, for now, please note that the Closing Ceremony will be held at 1900, 7-00 pm, and not as shown in the official program. The venue remains the theatre across the road where the Opening Ceremonies were held.

## Dutch Round-Up

The future of international junior bridge is under threat, with the WBF, amongst other options, discussing the possibility of switching to a four- instead of the current two-year cycle. An interesting point about the future of Youth Championships was made by Brian Senior, the bulletin editor. He stated that in fact the threat of organising not even one youth event in any year is really endangering the development of bridge for young people. Suppose you are 23 or 24 and succeed in qualifying in your own country for an international championship. That is something every junior is looking forward to. You feel good until the EBL and/or WBF decide that there will be no tournament that year. It was your last chance because in two years time you will exceed the age limit for juniors. Maybe half the players who only qualify to play in one junior championship would find that they missed out altogether if the frequency of events was halved. This will probably decrease the enthusiasm of young people. So the hard work of many years will disappear and young boys and girls will not be inclined to take up bridge as a competitive sport. As Brian stated, an international youth event every year is what we are looking forward to.

Also, Erik Rohrberg of Denmark expressed his anxiety about the diminishing interest in junior bridge. Krister Andersson of Sweden is convinced that we must do everything to keep the big junior championships. Hartmu Kondoch of Germany already suggested that he could arrange a venue for the junior pairs in 2008. Let us all do our best and put our heads together. Maybe the closing ceremony on Saturday will provide the opportunity to put one and one together.

At last the championship really got underway with rounds 11 and 12 on Tuesday. Wednesday, with three matches, was important for all the teams in contention for the title, the

medals and the qualifying places for the world teams (that is something every junior wants to reach).

Just some impressions from the rounds 7-11.

Juniors Round 7. Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Vincent de Pagter opened vulnerable in first seat with a pre-emptive 3♥. Jacco Hop raised to game, which was easy even with the trump king offside. The commentator in the vugraph thought this a lucky one. But a classic 3♥ pre-empt promises seven tricks. So with two aces that makes nine and then the try for the vulnerable game looks all right.

Marion Michielsen and Meike Wortel did well against Italy to hold the Dutch loss to 10-20 in Round 8 of the Junior Championship.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Somehow, I feel for 4♠ by South (like the Dutch did) but North went for a penalty. The spade ace did not harm declarer who could ruff two spades and dispose of a club on the diamond king



Vincent de Pagter



Against Hungary in Round 9, Hop/de Pagter ran into an unlucky distribution after a surprise lead:

Board 13. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

With the expected lead in hearts, declarer finds out about the club distribution and uses the two aces in dummy to pick up the clubs in North, making six tricks in clubs via two finesses. Unfortunately for the Netherlands the Hungarian South chose a small spade to lead. Declarer, not being clairvoyant, now went down one.

In the match against Poland in Round 10, Bob Drijver had a tough problem where a lot of courage was needed.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Not an easy one. Personally, I would probably have bid 3NT after 3♣, but 4♣ gave North the push to go to slam even when he found out about only one ace. Bob explained that South, with ♠Axx, probably would have bid 3♠ after 3♣ and

that 4♣ should be a really slam interested hand. Right he was. After ♦A and a spade, ruffed, declarer ruffed three diamonds in dummy for +1090 and a gain of 5 IMPs when Poland reached and made 6♣ undoubled.

Against Germany in Round 11 it was what the player himself called an undisciplined action that created the 19-11 win for the Netherlands.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Jacco Hop knows that you cannot punish partner if he balances. But somehow the North hand seemed an exception. East/West could take three minor-suit tricks (for a push because the Dutch East/West pair bid and made 2♠) but East selected a small spade which made ten tricks and +590 possible.



Jacco Hop

# JUNIORS TEAMS

# ROUND 12



**ITALY**

**v**

**SWEDEN**



Italy were the leaders in the Junior event when they met Sweden, also challenging for a qualifying spot, so a very important match. The action mostly came in the bidding.

We will draw a veil over Board 2, where Rimstedt/Sivelind bid as though they had never met before to reach a ridiculous slam and present 11 IMPs to Italy, and the next big swing also was in favour of our hosts.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A J 7 6 ♥ A 10 ♦ J 8 2 ♣ 10 8 6 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 80px; height: 80px; 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	♠ Q 8 2 ♥ J 9 8 7 5 4 ♦ 9 7 ♣ 7 2
N					
W     E					
S					
♠ K ♥ K Q 3 2 ♦ A Q 10 3 ♣ K Q 4 3					
♠ 10 9 5 4 3 ♥ 6 ♦ K 6 5 4 ♣ A J 9					



Arrigo Franchi

West <i>Sivelind</i>	North <i>Sangiorgio</i>	East <i>Rimstedt</i>	South <i>Baroni</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
Pass	3♠	All Pass	1♠
West <i>Montanari</i>	North <i>Thalen</i>	East <i>Franchi</i>	South <i>Asplund</i>
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		Pass

Sara Sivelind opened a strong club and Cecilia Rimstedt responded 1♦, negative. When Irene Baroni overcalled, Sivelind passed and now Alberto Sangiorgio's pre-emptive raise did its job. Sivelind could have guessed to double for take-out, and no doubt would have done so with the same shape and point-count without a wasted king, but there was no security at all at the four level facing a weak hand so she passed and the cold heart game was missed.

Sivelind led the king of hearts to dummy's ace and Baroni ruffed the ♥10 and led a spade to the king and ace and a second spade. Rimstedt won the queen of spades and switched to a diamond. Three rounds of those gave her a ruff and there was still a club to come; down one for -100.

Matteo Montanari opened 2NT, one of my pet hates with a singleton, but it worked just fine this time as Arrigo Franchi transferred to hearts, Montanari broke the transfer, Franchi retransferred and Montanari duly played 4♥. There were three aces to lose but the king of diamonds was where it had to be so that was +620 and 11 IMPs to Italy, who led at this point by 34-1.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 10 7 6 5 2 ♥ A Q 10 8 ♦ 8 ♣ J 4 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 80px; height: 80px; 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	♠ J 8 4 ♥ K J 4 2 ♦ A 10 9 4 ♣ 8 7
N					
W     E					
S					
♠ Q 3 ♥ - ♦ K Q J 7 5 ♣ A K 10 9 5 2					
♠ A K 9 ♥ 9 7 6 5 3 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ Q 6					

West	North	East	South
<i>Sivelind</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Baroni</i>
		Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♦	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Montanari</i>	<i>Thalen</i>	<i>Franchi</i>	<i>Asplund</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Sivelind opened 2NT to show both minors, either weak or game-forcing – a slight stretch but we all love to use our pet bids whenever we can. Rimstedt gave preference to diamonds and Sivelind showed the game-force with short hearts, just in case. Switch East’s majors around and slam is huge, but with the wasted heart values Rimstedt signed off in 5♦. There was nothing to the play after Baroni had cashed the top spades; +600.

Montanari showed his six-five shape then admitted to a bit of something in spades. Unless there is something I don’t know about their methods, he seems to have described his hand perfectly and it looks like a clear misjudgement on Franchi’s part to not play in the nine-card diamond fit. Three rounds of spades were played. Montanari won the third round, cashed one diamond winner then led a club to the ten and jack. Bjorn Thalen cashed out for two down; -200 and 13 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

N  
W E  
S

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sivelind</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Baroni</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♥
3♦	5♥	5NT	6♥
Pass	Pass	7♦	Pass
Pass	7♥	Dble	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Montanari</i>	<i>Thalen</i>	<i>Franchi</i>	<i>Asplund</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	2♥
Pass	4♥	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

Montanari opened the West hand and this put his side in a good position in the subsequent auction. Franchi showed his spades but, when the Swedes bid up to 4♥, was willing to take control and drive to slam. N/S went quietly and 6♦ made 13 tricks without any difficulty for +1390.

Sivelind passed as dealer rather than open a loose diamond. I don’t really see what harm opening 1♦ will come to, but perhaps this is partnership style. This led to a very different auction. Rimstedt opened a strong club and Baroni overcalled 1♥ (why not 2♥?). Sivelind showed her positive hand with long diamonds and Sangiorgio put it to his opponents with a leap to 5♥. The precise meaning of Rimstedt’s 5NT is unclear but, when Baroni saved in 6♥, Sivelind’s forcing pass surely had to include club controls as she was missing so much elsewhere, and now Rimstedt felt able to bid the grand slam. Seven Diamonds went around to Sangiorgio and time stood still as he decided whether to save or to gamble that the pressure had made his opponents misjudge. Eventually, he got it right, swinging 20 IMPs by going on to 7♥, which went for 1100. That meant 7 IMPs to Italy instead of 13 to Sweden. Well done Sangiorgio!

Board 17. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

N  
W E  
S

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sivelind</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Baroni</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	2♣	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♣	3♥	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Montanari</i>	<i>Thalen</i>	<i>Franchi</i>	<i>Asplund</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1NT	Dble	2♦
2♠	3♦	3♠	3NT
Dble	4♣	Pass	4♦
Dble	All Pass		

It is hardly obligatory to double with the West hand but the vulnerability is in favour of doing so and the Swedish E/W pair competed up to 3♠, which is fair enough. Baroni got the defence spot on. She led the queen of clubs which held the trick, then switched to a low heart. Rimstedt won that in hand to play a spade up and Baroni took the ace to play ace and another heart. Sangiorgio ruffed the heart and played ace and another club for his partner to ruff; down two for -100.

Montabari did not come in with the West cards but Franchi did so as East once his right-hand-opponent was unable to respond in a major. Everything was going quite normally up to the point where Karl Asplund tried 3NT, which looks a little optimistic, and now the doubling started. Thalen rescued the partnership into 4♣, and Asplund converted that to 4♦, which Montanari doubled.

It looks as though 4♦ doubled is doomed to fail by a trick but something went wrong in the defence. Rather than lead the partnership suit - remember that declarer had suggested playing in 3NT - Montanari tried the safer-looking lead of the queen of hearts, and that was all the help that Asplund required. He ducked and Montanari switched to the queen of diamonds. Franchi won the bare ace and switched to a spade but Asplund could win the ace, run the queen of clubs and play ace and ruff a heart to get to dummy. Asplund ruffed a club back to hand then led his fourth heart and Montanari was powerless; +510 and 9 IMPs to Sweden.



Karl Asplund

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sivelind</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Baroni</i>
			1♣
1♥	Pass	1♠	2♣
Pass	Pass	4♣	All Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>Montanari</i>	<i>Thalen</i>	<i>Franchi</i>	<i>Asplund</i>
			1♣
1♦	Pass	2♣	3♣
Pass	Pass	3NT	Dble
All Pass			

Everything was very straightforward at our first table, where Rimstedt made 4♠ for +620. At the other table Montanari made a transfer overcall, Franchi cuebid, then

bid 3NT without ever showing his spades, and Asplund doubled. That proved to be an expensive misjudgement. Asplund led the king of clubs and, to guard the hearts, he came down to bare ♦A and ♣Q as Franchi ran the spades. Not wishing to risk his contract, Franchi did not bother with the almost-marked heart finesse. Instead, he cashed the top hearts then exited with dummy's low diamond, and Asplund had to give a trick to dummy's ♥J at the end; ten tricks for +950 and 8 IMPs to Italy.

The Italians won the match by 53-30 IMPs, 20-10 VPs, and consolidated their position at the top of the rankings.

### Today in History



On July 19th 1799 the Rosetta Stone was found. During Napoleon Bonaparte's Egyptian campaign, a group of his soldiers discover a black basalt slab inscribed with ancient writing near the town of Rosetta. Ancient Greek script on the stone told archaeologists that it was inscribed in the second century B.C. The Rosetta Stone was studied

for two decades before French Egyptologist Jean François Champollion made a startling discovery: The two Egyptian scripts on the stone--hieroglyphic and demotic--belonged to the same spoken language. The artifact thus held the key to solving the riddle of hieroglyphics, a written language that had been dead for nearly two millennia. With his knowledge of demotic, Champollion was able to decipher the hieroglyphics, and the language and culture of ancient Egypt was suddenly open to scientists as never before.



# JUNIORS TEAMS

# ROUND 13



## LATVIA

## v

## FRANCE



## Marchons, Marchons Les Bleus!

by Peter Ventura

France, with Thomas Bessis, Open Teams gold medallist in Antalya, was trailing in the rankings after 12 rounds. From their tenth position they needed to get some air under their wings and start climbing in the rankings. In their way was Latvia, lying in eleventh position before this match.

After three boards we had the soccer score of 1-0 to France. Then this came along:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ 6 4 ♥ K Q 5 ♦ A 9 8 6 4 2 ♣ A 7</p>	<p>♠ A 10 5 2 ♥ 10 8 7 4 2 ♦ 10 7 5 ♣ K</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> <span>S</span> </div>	<p>♠ K Q 7 ♥ A 3 ♦ J 3 ♣ 10 9 6 5 4 3</p>	<p>♠ J 9 8 3 ♥ J 9 6 ♦ K Q ♣ Q J 8 2</p>
--	---	---	---	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>T. Bessis</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>O. Bessis</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kuldkepp</i>	<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Balasovs</i>	<i>Seguineau</i>
1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	2♥	3♣	All Pass

In the Closed Room, Adrien Vinay's thin 2♥ overcall put the brakes on the Lettish bidding, which reasonably enough stopped in 3♣. On the heart lead declarer ran three rounds of hearts and ditched a losing diamond from hand. The defence took two trump tricks and a trick in each major suit; N/S -110.

Despite the poor diamond suit, Thomas Bessis took a shot at game when his brother, Olivier, was able to bid over 2♦. South led a spade to the ace and back came another spade to declarer's king. Both the diamond and the spade suits split nicely for Olivier, thus he eventually could claim

nine tricks; N/S +600 and 10 IMPs to France.

Did you spot the killing lead? Yes, a low club to the king. From here on declarer cannot succeed so long as North switches to a spade.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

<p>♠ K Q 5 ♥ A J 10 6 5 ♦ K 5 ♣ 9 5 3</p>	<p>♠ J 6 3 ♥ 9 8 ♦ Q 10 9 3 ♣ K J 6 2</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> <span>S</span> </div>	<p>♠ 8 7 4 2 ♥ K Q 4 2 ♦ J 8 6 ♣ Q 7</p>
<p>♠ A 10 9 ♥ 7 3 ♦ A 7 4 2 ♣ A 10 8 4</p>			

In the Closed Room Meelis Kuldkepp was declarer in 2♥. North led the ten of diamonds and declarer lost one spade and three minor-suit tricks; N/S -140.



Olivier Bessis

A little more was at stake at the other table, as Olivier Bessis pre-empted 3♥ over his brother's five-card One Heart opening. North led a heart, won in dummy. Declarer played a spade up and the king held the trick. Now declarer crossed to dummy in trumps and played another spade up. Martins Lorencs hopped up with the ace and played a low diamond in tempo. All of a sudden Thomas had a losing option in the diamond suit, which would not have been the case if South had exited with either of the black suits. Bessis misguessed the situation and played low. Now North could win the queen and the defence had to have another diamond trick and their two club tricks for one down. Very nicely defended by Lorencs! That defence was worth 5 IMPs to Latvia. Unfortunately for them, these IMPs were their last (in this match).

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>T. Bessis</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>O. Bessis</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	3♣
4♥	All Pass	Dble	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kuldkepp</i>	<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Balasovs</i>	<i>Seguineau</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣*	2♣
3♥	3♣	Pass	Pass
	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Thomas Bessis saw the defence cash two club tricks then switch to a diamond. He won the trick in dummy and then played the trump ace. Now he was down due to the nasty trump split.

Declarer in the Closed Room didn't succeed either, so no swing here.

In the vugraph match, South's overcall showed four spades and any minor suit. Not even here declarer found the winning line. With this information from the auction, I think declarer should consider running the ten of hearts. It is not likely that he will find South with all the hearts, so the only position you need to protect against is North holding all four.

At half-time France was leading by 25-7 IMPs and with

three boards to go the French lead had increased to 43-7 IMPs. This was the last large swing in the match.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>T. Bessis</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>O. Bessis</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
4♦*	4♠	Pass	2♦*
		Dble	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kuldkepp</i>	<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Balasovs</i>	<i>Seguineau</i>
2♥*	Pass	Pass	Pass
4♦	Dble	3♥	3♠
All Pass		4♥	Dble

Over the multi, Thomas found a useful weapon: 4♦, showing the red suits. Janis Bethers believed his side could make game, but Olivier expressed a different opinion by doubling 4♠.

East led the heart ace and then continued with another heart, won by dummy's king. Declarer played a spade to the ace and a spade towards dummy. East hopped up with the king and switched to a diamond, which was ruffed in dummy. Then declarer played the trump queen and, since West held a void in spades, it would be sensible to play for the club length to be in his hand, Bethers thought this, so he finessed through West. East could win the queen and there was a trump trick to come – one down; N/S –200. Did declarer misplay the hand by finessing through West? You be the judge!

Kuldkepp's opening of 2♥ showed hearts and a minor suit. North led a trump and declarer had to lose a trump and four tricks in the minor suits, thus he was two down; N/S +300, and that was worth 11 IMPs to France.

That gave us the final score of 55-7 IMPs converted to 25-5 VPs.

Perhaps this was the turning point France so badly needed. This match was definitely a sign of improvement, so had 'Les Bleus' begun their race to the top? Yes, it seems that the top teams have to be beware – as the French followed up this victory by defeating Slovakia by 25-3 VPs and Croatia 25-5 VPs. 'Allons enfant de la patrie... marchons, marchons!'

# GLI ITALIANI NON AMANO LE QUADRI

by Furio Meneghini

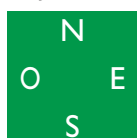


Che le ♣ siano defunte e le ♦ godano di pessima salute è noto da un pezzo, ma gli italiani sembrano aver preso fin troppo alla lettera la notizia, e aver perso pratica e confidenza nel maneggiare i minori. Nel turno finale di martedì gli School hanno superato 17-13 l'Olanda,

ma dei 44 IMP messi a referto dagli avversari ben 28 sono stati concessi in soli due boards dove il numero di prese richieste a ♦ è risultato inadeguato e non di poco.

Board n.10 – Dealer E – Vuln. All

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



Sala chiusa:

O	N	E	S
1♦	pass	1♥	pass
3♣	pass	3♦	fine

Il 3♦ di Est è stato immediatamente allertato dallo stesso come “stavo pensando ad altro”: ovviamente il compagno protetto dal sipario gli ha “fatto” le stesse carte con il 2 di ♠ al posto dell’A di ♦ ed è passato. Meno 15, perchè dall’altra parte gli orange sono saliti fino al piccolo infischiansendosi delle due perdenti immediate a ♠ e obbligando telepaticamente N ad attaccare ♥A, unica carta che mette il contratto sul vassoio.

Board n.16 – Dealer W – Vuln. E/W

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



Sala chiusa:

O	N	E	S
1♦	pass	1♠	pass
2♦	pass	3♣	pass
3♦	pass	3♠	pass
4♠	pass	5♦	fine

Alla prova dei fatti sembrerebbe che l’assoluta inattività dei verticali (che a quasi tutti gli altri tavoli hanno imbastito feroci azioni di disturbo con le♥) abbia finito per impedire ad Est di valutare a pieno la potenza del suo vuoto. Però il compagno ha aperto con al massimo 4 p.o. fra ♠ e ♦ e non ha dichiarato 3NT quando ne ha avuto la possibilità, dunque non dovrebbero esserci dubbi sulla copertura a ♣; né si può sperare che quello possa prendere iniziative mancante di A-K-Q in atout. “Solo” 13 in emorragia perchè il grande è stato mancato anche nell’altra sala.

Per completezza di cronaca va aggiunto che alla mano successiva si perde di guadagnare ancora sui minori, quando gli olandesi si fermano all’infattibile 3♣ nella 6-1, mentre di là:

Board n.17 – Dealer N – Vuln. None

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



Sala aperta:

O	N	E	S
3♠	4♣	2♥	3♦
fine		pass	5♦

Di Franco in N intende proporre un’alternativa contro il fit nobile avversario, ma Mistretta non ha torto ad attendersi qualcosa di più (si accetta tutto, prese di testa, un singolo nobile, ♦ onorate) dal compagno passato di mano e chiama la manche che proprio non si può fare, anche evitando l’attacco a ♠.

Abbiamo sì o no una scuola, un italian way of bidding? Dunque ogni tanto bisogna dimostrarlo, e puntualmente i fratelli maggiori, pur vittoriosi 20-10 sulla quotata Svezia, lasciano 22 IMP sui 30 concessi in due delle tre smazzate

sopracitate, e ne guadagnano 7 nella terza dopo aver rischiato di perderne 13.

Board n.10 – Dealer E – Vuln.All

(vedi diagramma sopra)

Sala chiusa:

O	N	E	S
		pass	pass
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
2♦	pass	2♠	pass
3♦	pass	3♠	pass
3NT	fine		

È vero che negli accordi di coppia 3♦ non mostra obbligatoriamente la 6-5 (e qui c'è materia per rinfocolare la mai spenta discussione su come trattare le 6-5 ascendenti, ma si aprirebbe un capitolo senza poter prevederne la chiusura), e che successivamente diventava obbligatorio scambiarsi il mezzo fermo, ma forse 3♦ da Est al secondo giro avrebbe funzionato meglio. Fatto sta che 3NT-1 in sicurezza (vale a dire senza tentare il perdente doppio sorpasso a ♣) non compensa certo la manche a ♦ richiesta senza troppe esitazioni nell'altra sala.

Board n.16 – Dealer W – Vuln. E/W

(vedi diagramma sopra)

Sala chiusa:

O	N	E	S
1♦	pass	1♠	2♥
pass	4♥	4NT	pass
5♣	pass	5♦	pass
6♦	fine		

Sala aperta:

O	N	E	S
Pass(!!!)	pass	1♠	2♥
3♦	5♥	5NT	6♥
pass	pass	7♦	pass
pass	7♥	double	fine

In chiusa il 4NT era del tipo "let's go on" e 5♣ mostrava valori, ma il 5♦ di Est non ha raccolto le simpatie dei commentatori di Rama: Montanari ha però valutato che il compagno non aveva subito chiuso a manche, e con una buona dose di coraggio ha rialzato, il che poteva apparire al momento solo una riduzione del danno nel caso in cui nell'altra sala avessero chiamato il grande. La dichiarazione in aperta è stata pirotecnica (o psichedelica?): W ha esordito con un Passo molto oscuro, e N-S hanno poi sbarrato fin troppo, comunicando agli avversari di non vedersi fra le mani prese difensive. Non abbiamo ricevuto conferme se il 5NT di E fosse una Blackwood ad esclusione, e di conseguenza quale fosse il significato del Passo di W; fatto sta che E ha ritenuto di avere elementi per andare a 7, e Sangiorgio si è visto recapitare una decisione che spostava 20 IMP(!): il Passo valeva -13, il 7♥ prodotto dopo lunga sof-



Matteo Montanari

ferenza ("colpa nostra, ce li abbiamo portati noi, ma 6♥ era senza dubbio un'ottima difesa, pago 300 in più e sottoscrivo l'assicurazione" arguiamo sia stato il suo pensiero) ne ha prodotti 7 positivi.

Board n.17 – Dealer N – Vuln. None  
(vedi diagramma sopra)

Sala chiusa:

O	N	E	S
	pass	pass	1♦
pass	1NT	double	2♦
2♠	3♦	3♠	3NT
double	4♣	pass	4♦
double	fine		

La licita è stata sanguigna, e W ha avuto problemi a gestire l'adrenalina. Poi non ha trovato l'attacco ♠ e 510 punti dopo si è trovato solo con gli spettri ululanti "i parziali non si contrano mai...quando hai fatto scappare gli avversari da 3NT hai già fatto il tuo...".






# A CINQUE BOARD DALLA FINE

by Furio Meneghini

Dopo il board 15 del turno mattutino gli "anziani" conducevano 40-17 e i "piccoletti" erano avanti 33-30, ma da quel momento in poi le loro strade si sono drammaticamente separate.


## Board 16 – W – E/W

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

Botta-DelleCave fanno un velleitario tentativo di slam, si arrestano a 5, ma sull'attacco ♦W prende, gioca A-K di ♠ e taglia una ♦, poi fa girare ♣K; N gioca ♠ ancora tagliata e Q-J di ♣ per lo scarto di due ♦, N taglia e giocando l'ultima ♠ promuove al surtaglio la Q del compagno. Linea di gioco poco ispirata, ma l'errore che costa 12 IMP è soprattutto quello dichiarativo.


In questo board gli junior marcano 2 per aver scelto manche a colore invece che a Senza.

## Board 17 – N – None

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

Lo slam non è dei peggiori, però si realizza solo ricavando quattro prese dalle ♠. Il norvegese fa girare il J (linea superiore) e vince, lo slovacco gioca Q in caduta e perde: poichè quando tocca a noi ci fermiamo a manche, gli junior guadagnano 11, e gli school ne perdono altrettanti.


## Board 18 – E – N/S

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

Gli school giocano entrambi la manche a ♠ in NS, sdovinano a ♣ e vanno down, ma i nordici guadagnano 3 via Contro. Gli junior giocano a ♥ in EO, ma i nostri ne giocano 4 lisce e fanno 8 prese, gli altri 5 contrate e perdono anche una presa in più, vale a dire 700 (12 IMP) di differenza.

Dopo un board pari (ma in realtà è l'unico in cui Italia-S riesce a sbiancare lo score con un punticino di surlevee) si chiude con un altro slam.

## Board 20 – W – All

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

6♠ sembra contratto di routine, ma gli slovacchi si fermano -non ho capito perchè- a cinque, e consentono ai nostri di chiudere con altri 13 incamerati, per un parziale di 38-0 in 5 board che porta all'en plein nel risultato finale. Invece DiFranco-Mistretta pongono la ciliegina sulla torta...degli avversari facendo un uso discutibile della Turbo e approdando al grande poco sportivamente contratto da Est: 17 sanguinosissimi IMP che portano il parziale a 43-1 confezionando uno scoraggiante 23-7 in VP.

E io che me ne ero andato lasciando due incontri incerti...

## JUNIOR TEAMS BUTLER

Name	Butl	Brd	Country	34 DAMASO Nuno	PRATAS Pedro	-0,03	200	Portugal
1 EIDE Petter	LIVGARD Allan	1,41	199 Norway	35 SOFIOS Michalis	DARKADAKIS A.	-0,03	120	Greece
2 BOLDRINI Andrea	MANNO Andrea	1,11	200 Italy	36 DONDIVIC Luka	GRACIN Tomislav	-0,05	180	Croatia
3 PAGTER Vincent de	HOP Jacco	0,88	200 Netherlands	37 MARTINOVIC Slavica	STANICIC Ognjen	-0,06	180	Croatia
4 NOWOSADZKI M.	WIANKOWSKI Piotr	0,87	260 Poland	38 BALASOVJS Jurijs	LOPER Oliver	-0,09	100	Latvia
5 SANGIORGIO A.	BARONI Irene	0,85	220 Italy	39 NISTOR Radu	STAFIE Diana Mihaela	-0,12	280	Romania
6 WORTEL Meike	MICHELSEN Marion	0,74	200 Netherlands	40 NEKRASOVA Ksenia	VOLOZHENIN Ivan	-0,13	160	Russia
7 KATERBAU Janko	REHDER Martin	0,69	219 Germany	41 MORGAN Frazer	MORRISON Philip	-0,13	180	Scotland
8 OSIPOV Anton	VOLOZHENIN Ivan	0,64	140 Russia	42 CHAUVELOT Nicolas	ROBERT Quentin	-0,13	160	France
9 BESSIS Olivier	BESSIS Thomas	0,60	240 France	43 GULA Artur	TACZEWSKI Mikolaj	-0,15	119	Poland
10 HAPPER Duncan	GREEN Ben	0,56	260 England	44 KULDKEPP Meelis	BALASOVJS Jurijs	-0,19	180	Latvia
11 VINAY Adrien	SEGUINEAU Paul	0,54	200 France	45 VANPARIJS Jef	GUIOT Benoit	-0,21	180	Belgium
12 NIELSEN Lars K.	HOUMOLLER Jonas	0,44	240 Denmark	46 SAKIRLER M.	AKAY Veysi	-0,25	240	Turkey
13 MACURA Milan	KOPECKY Michal	0,41	280 Czech Rep.	47 SINCLAIR Andrew	WILKINSON A.	-0,26	220	Scotland
14 MONTANARI Matteo	FRANCHI Arrigo	0,39	179 Italy	48 IVANCIC Matej	ZEPIC Vjekoslav	-0,32	240	Croatia
15 THALEN Bjorn	ASPLUND Karl	0,38	240 Sweden	49 TOMCANI Jan	LUKOTKA Robert	-0,34	299	Slovakia
16 DRIJVER Bob	GROENENBOOM M.	0,38	199 Netherlands	50 DOBBELS Tine	DE HERTOG Dirk	-0,37	180	Belgium
17 LINDQVIST Espen	BERG Erik	0,30	199 Norway	51 KISS Gabor	TORMA Robert	-0,40	180	Hungary
18 KEPEKCI Mehmet F.	CEREK Muharrem	0,30	220 Turkey	52 VLACHOVA Karolina	BERAN Vladimir	-0,40	160	Czech Rep.
19 SIKORA Jan	NAWROCKI Piotr	0,27	219 Poland	53 BARBOSA Joao	PALMA Antonio	-0,48	240	Portugal
20 WUERMSEER Maria	GOTTANKA Daniel	0,26	160 Germany	54 DARKADAKIS A.	LATOUSAKIS Michalis	-0,53	120	Greece
21 BETHERS Janis	LORENCS Martins	0,22	300 Latvia	55 ELLISON Myles	ELLISON Gyles	-0,56	200	Scotland
22 DOBRIN Denis	OSIPOV Anton	0,18	80 Russia	56 BRAGA Rafael	BRAGA Ricardo	-0,56	160	Portugal
23 SIVELIND Sara	RIMSTEDT Cecilia	0,15	220 Sweden	57 MARJAI Gabor	RETTEGHY Orsolya	-0,58	180	Hungary
24 VAN MECHELEN R.	DE VISSCHERE Willem	0,13	240 Belgium	58 HODEROVA Pavla	JANKOVA Jana	-0,66	160	Czech Rep.
25 DOXIADIS K.	KONTOMITROS K.	0,12	300 Greece	59 HARING Stuart	COPE Simon	-0,66	200	England
26 MOLLER PEDERSEN	SORENSEN Lars M.	0,11	160 Denmark	60 SCHULZ Dieter	BINA Richard	-0,66	180	Austria
27 SMIRNOV Alexander	GOTARD Thomas	0,10	220 Germany	61 ARVIDSSON Eric	BECH Simon	-0,76	140	Sweden
28 MINARIK Gabor	HONYEK Andras	0,09	240 Hungary	62 EGLSEER Werner	GOGOMAN Adele	-0,83	240	Austria
29 IMAMOGLU Levent	GUNDOGDU M.	0,06	140 Turkey	63 ISLAM Jefri	STIGLEITNER Philipp	-0,87	180	Austria
30 STOCKDALE Susan	CROPPER David	0,05	140 England	64 KIANICA Lubos	SIDOR Lukas	-1,09	300	Slovakia
31 MOCHALOVA Julia	DOBRIN Denis	0,05	220 Russia	65 AGICA Marius	DOBRESCU Raluca	-1,26	240	Romania
32 BERG Ivar	REISTAD Tor Ove	-0,01	200 Norway	66 SOFIOS Michalis	VATSOLAKI Eleni	-2,13	60	Greece
33 SCHALTZ Martin	BROENDUM Kristian	-0,02	200 Denmark					

## SCHOOLS TEAMS BUTLER

Name	Butl	Brd	Country	24 ERCAN Sehmus	ILGIN Irfan	0,00	40	Turkey
1 KRAWCZYK Joanna	TUCZYNSKI Piotr	2,25	59 Poland	25 DELLE CAVE G.	CATTABIANI A.	-0,03	60	Italy
2 FRANCESCHETTI P.	KILANI Alexandre	1,29	80 France	26 ROHRBERG Matias	TOFTE Lars	-0,13	100	Denmark
3 JONES Edward	MYERS Robert	1,17	140 England	27 GRUDE Tor Eivind	HEGGE Kristoffer	-0,19	80	Norway
4 JASSEM Pawel	ZATORSKI Piotr	1,17	100 Poland	28 LORENZINI Cedric	CANONNE Marion	-0,21	100	France
5 MORTENSEN M.	EGE Niclas Raulund	1,11	80 Denmark	29 YILMAZ Ovunc	ERCAN Sehmus	-0,28	60	Turkey
6 RIMSTEDT Sandra	GRONKVIST Ida	1,01	140 Sweden	30 CIMINS Janis	OLTE Karlis	-0,33	60	Latvia
7 BOZZAI Bence	LAZAR Kornel	0,98	40 Hungary	31 EIDE Harald	SKJETNE Erlend	-0,38	100	Norway
8 LAZAR Alon	MEYUCHAS Moshe	0,96	120 Israel	32 LHUISSIER Nicolas	LEBATTEUX Aymeric	-0,45	100	France
9 ORMAY Krisztina	LAZAR Kornel	0,77	60 Hungary	33 PASKE Thomas	PASKE Benjamin	-0,45	120	England
10 EGGELING Marie	ZIMMERMANN Felix	0,77	60 Germany	34 BARNET Lukas	DUDKOVA Marketa	-0,49	100	Czech Rep.
11 BILDE Dennis	JEPSEN Emil	0,68	100 Denmark	35 GOKSU Cihan	ILGIN Irfan	-0,56	80	Turkey
12 EGGELING Marie	GIAMPIETRO Cristina	0,67	60 Germany	36 WACKWITZ JR. E.	VERBEEK Erik	-0,72	100	Netherlands
13 BETHERS Peteris	IMSA Adrians	0,64	140 Latvia	37 HELMICH Aarnout	HOP Gerbrand	-0,74	120	Netherlands
14 IGLA Bartlomiej	MACHNO Artur	0,63	120 Poland	38 SPANGENBERG J.	SPANGENBERG S.	-0,78	40	Netherlands
15 SIDEROV Zhivko	SYUSYUKIN Ivan	0,56	140 Bulgaria	39 RATNIEKS Janis	OLTE Karlis	-0,92	60	Latvia
16 BOGEN Haakon	JOHANSEN Lars A.	0,55	100 Norway	40 BOTTA Giorgia	DELLE CAVE G.	-0,98	60	Italy
17 SKORCHEV Stefan	SPASOV Dean	0,49	139 Bulgaria	41 PETRASEK Matej	FRANK Vaclav	-1,14	80	Czech Rep.
18 ZYLKA Kamil	TEICHMANN Lukas	0,33	100 Czech Rep.	42 SINKOVICZ Peter	HOFFMANN Tamas	-1,24	140	Hungary
19 DAMTY Oshri	EREZ Eyal	0,31	100 Israel	43 GERSTNER Gal	SCHWARTZ Ziv	-1,45	60	Israel
20 MISTRETTA Eugenio	DI FRANCO M.	0,31	140 Italy	44 HARRIS James	RICHARDS Jonathan	-1,54	100	Wales
21 FRYKLUND Erik	GRONKVIST Mikael	0,29	140 Sweden	45 BOZZAI Bence	ORMAY Krisztina	-1,55	40	Hungary
22 ORTH Paul	GUBA Gerrit	0,16	140 Germany	46 EVANS Claire	WATKINS Rebecca	-3,28	120	Wales
23 UCAR Ali	GULCU Koray	0,02	100 Turkey					