

# 23<sup>rd</sup> EUROPEAN YOUTH BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

13<sup>rd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011

Albena, Bulgaria

# Daily Bulletin



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# Welcome to Albena



*EBL Executive members and players enjoy the Welcome Ceremony for the Youngsters*

Yesterday evening saw the Welcoming Ceremony for the Youngsters Teams. They have a hard week of bridge ahead, with five full days out of the next six – nothing like the soft schedule for those lucky underworked Juniors.

Yesterday was a one-match day for the Juniors. That match saw 20+ VP wins for Israel, France and the Netherlands, while Italy lost 13-17 to Turkey, and Finland 14-16 to Germany. The big result of the day, however, was Croatia's 22-8 victory over Poland. Croatia may lie only tenth at the moment, but all six matches have been against teams who are currently ahead of them in the standings. If they can perform as well against the lesser teams as against the big ones, they have to have a real chance of a medal.

The top teams all had big wins in the one completed Girls round of the day, with the exception of Italy, who lost 14-16 to Turkey, the Turks getting the performance of the day award. That leaves the Netherlands in first on 98 from four matches ahead of Poland on 88, Italy 81, France 75, then a big gap to Sweden on 59.

## Today's BBO Matches

10.00	Denmark v Scotland (Juniors)
10.00	Hungary v Netherlands (Juniors)
10.00	Italy v Netherlands (Girls)
10.00	Poland v Netherlands (Youngsters)
14.00	Israel v Germany (Juniors)
14.00	Poland v Greece (Juniors)
14.00	Italy v Poland (Girls)
14.00	Russia v Bulgaria (Youngsters)
17.30	Germany v Italy (Juniors)
17.30	France v Serbia (Juniors)
17.30	to be decided
17.30	Italy v Israel (Youngsters)

## JUNIORS TEAMS



### RESULTS



### TODAY'S PROGRAM

#### ROUND 6

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	SWEDEN BULGARIA	40 - 59	11 - 19
2	FINLAND GERMANY	34 - 38	14 - 16
3	FRANCE AUSTRIA	58 - 26	22 - 8
4	ISRAEL GREECE	59 - 29	21 - 9
5	ITALY TURKEY	20 - 31	13 - 17
6	POLAND CROATIA	29 - 61	8 - 22
7	BELGIUM IRELAND	19 - 42	10 - 20
8	NORWAY ROMANIA	32 - 31	15 - 15
9	NETHERLANDS ENGLAND	83 - 21	25 - 3
10	SERBIA DENMARK	32 - 32	15 - 15
11	SCOTLAND HUNGARY	33 - 37	14 - 16

#### ROUND 7

1	BULGARIA	FINLAND
2	GERMANY	FRANCE
3	AUSTRIA	ISRAEL
4	GREECE	ITALY
5	TURKEY	POLAND
6	CROATIA	BELGIUM
7	IRELAND	NORWAY
8	ROMANIA	ENGLAND
9	SWEDEN	SERBIA
10	DENMARK	SCOTLAND
11	HUNGARY	NETHERLANDS

### Calling All Opera Lovers

There will be a performance of the opera, Madame Butterfly on Wednesday July 20th. Anyone who wishes to attend should book their ticket on Monday morning.

There will be someone at the Excursions Desk in the lobby of the Flamingo Grand Hotel on Monday morning, July 18th from 10.00 to 11.00 to take reservations and payment.

The price, including transportation, is 29 Euros.

Departure from Albena will be at 1945 on Wednesday evening, July 20th, from the Flamingo Grand.

#### ROUND 8

1	FRANCE	BULGARIA
2	ISRAEL	GERMANY
3	ITALY	AUSTRIA
4	POLAND	GREECE
5	BELGIUM	TURKEY
6	NORWAY	CROATIA
7	ENGLAND	IRELAND
8	NETHERLANDS	ROMANIA
9	SERBIA	FINLAND
10	SCOTLAND	SWEDEN
11	HUNGARY	DENMARK



### Today's Schedule

10.00	Juniors Teams (7th Round)
10.00	Girls Teams (5th Round, 2nd half)
10.00	Youngsters Teams (1st Round)
14.00	Juniors Teams (8th Round)
14.00	Girls Teams (6th Round, 1st half)
14.00	Youngsters Teams (2nd Round)
17.30	Juniors Teams (9th Round)
17.30	Youngsters Teams (3rd Round)

#### ROUND 9

1	BULGARIA	ISRAEL
2	GERMANY	ITALY
3	AUSTRIA	POLAND
4	GREECE	BELGIUM
5	TURKEY	NORWAY
6	CROATIA	ENGLAND
7	IRELAND	ROMANIA
8	FRANCE	SERBIA
9	FINLAND	SCOTLAND
10	SWEDEN	HUNGARY
11	DENMARK	NETHERLANDS

## GIRLS TEAMS



### RESULTS



### TODAY'S PROGRAM

#### ROUND 4

Match	IMP's	VP's
1 NETHERLANDS BULGARIA	128 - 43	25 - 2
2 POLAND GERMANY	113 - 17	25 - 1
3 SWEDEN CZECH REP.	120 - 53	25 - 4
4 FRANCE TURKEY	95 - 2	25 - 1
5 HUNGARY ITALY	60 - 64	14 - 16

#### ROUND 5

1 BULGARIA	POLAND
2 GERMANY	SWEDEN
3 CZECH REPUBLIC	TURKEY
4 ITALY	NETHERLANDS
5 FRANCE	HUNGARY

#### ROUND 5 - 1st half

Match	IMP's
1 BULGARIA POLAND	23 - 59
2 GERMANY SWEDEN	29 - 59
3 CZECH REP. TURKEY	43 - 19
4 ITALY NETHERLANDS	24 - 54
5 FRANCE HUNGARY	35 - 51

#### ROUND 6

1 SWEDEN	BULGARIA
2 TURKEY	GERMANY
3 FRANCE	CZECH REPUBLIC
4 ITALY	POLAND
5 HUNGARY	NETHERLANDS

## Today in History - July 17th



**1945:** The final "Big Three" meeting between the United States, the Soviet Union, and Great Britain takes place towards the end of World War II. The decisions reached at the conference ostensibly settled many of the pressing issues between the three wartime allies, but the meeting was also marked by growing suspicion and tension between the United States and the Soviet Union.

**1955:** Disneyland, Walt Disney's metropolis of nostalgia, fantasy, and futurism, opens on July 17, 1955. The \$17 million theme park was built on 160 acres of former orange groves in Anaheim, California, and soon brought in staggering profits. Today, Disneyland hosts more than 14 million visitors a year, who spend close to \$3 billion.

**1793:** Assassin Charlotte Corday is executed by guillotine in Paris, France. The 25-year-old woman had killed leading French politician Jean Paul Marat four days earlier in his home. Blaming him for the revolutionary war that was breaking out in France, Corday confessed to the murder.



**1975:** As part of a mission aimed at developing space rescue capability, the U.S. spacecraft Apollo 18 and the Soviet spacecraft Soyuz 19 rendezvous and dock 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 between the two Cold War adversaries in space. Back on Earth, United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim congratulated the two superpowers for the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project and praised their unprecedented spirit of cooperation and peace in planning and executing the mission.

**1917:** On this day in 1917, a three-day stretch of fighting in the streets peaks in Petrograd after the provisional government falls temporarily amid anger and frustration within and outside the army due to the continuing hardships caused by Russia's participation in World War I.

**1994:** Brazil beats Italy in a shoot out, for their 4th soccer world cup.

**1988:** 4 Billion tv-viewers watch Mandela's 70th Birthday Tribute.

**YOUNGSTERS TEAMS****TODAY'S PROGRAM****ROUND 1**

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

**ROUND 2**

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

**ROUND 3**

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

**JUNIORS TEAMS****RANKING AFTER ROUND 6**

1	ISRAEL	126
2	FRANCE	120
3	ITALY	114
4	NETHERLANDS	109
5	POLAND	108
6	FINLAND	106
7	DENMARK	100
8	NORWAY	99
	SWEDEN	99
10	CROATIA	96
11	SCOTLAND	92
12	HUNGARY	91.5
13	BULGARIA	90
	GERMANY	90
15	GREECE	88
16	TURKEY	81
17	ENGLAND	71
18	SERBIA	65.5
19	ROMANIA	61
20	AUSTRIA	50
21	IRELAND	49
22	BELGIUM	42

**GIRLS TEAMS****RANKING AFTER ROUND 4**

1	NETHERLANDS	98
2	POLAND	88
3	ITALY	81
4	FRANCE	75
5	SWEDEN	59
6	HUNGARY	56
7	CZECH REPUBLIC	42
8	GERMANY	41
9	TURKEY	29
10	BULGARIA	9

# JUNIORS TEAMS

# ROUND 5


**TURKEY**
**v**
**ISRAEL**

*by Ram Soffer*

Israel won the World Junior Championship in Philadelphia 2010, but it has yet to win a European gold. The Israeli team started very well (70 out of 75 VPs) to reach second place after three rounds, 1 VP behind Italy. In the fourth round they tied 15-15 with Croatia. The next match against Turkey was quite important regarding Israel's title aspirations. However, it was Turkey who made a strong start, gaining 18 IMPs on the first two boards:

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Ucar</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Koclar</i>
–	1♦	1♠	Dble
Pass	INT	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

The problem hand was West. It seems pretty obvious to mention such a club suit, either by a natural non-forcing 2♣ or (depending on system) by a INT transfer. Even after passing on the first round, 3♣ is still available over 2♥. Dror Padon (West) chose none of the above, selling out to 2♥. The contract made quite easily: the defense started with ♠AK and a ruff, but could not achieve another ruff before declarer drew trumps and claimed eight tricks. In the Closed Room, Sarper Uslupehlivan, the Turkish West, did mention his clubs and the final contract was 3♣, also an easy make; 6-0 to Turkey.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Ucar</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Koclar</i>
–	–	Pass	1♣
Pass	INT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	




Dror Padon, Israel

A few boards later (see below) Alon Birman opened a similar 11-point hand despite being vulnerable, but here he chose to pass throughout. The next important decision was the lead. The traditional fourth-best ♥5 was not a success, as declarer won with the ♥J and was soon claiming 10 tricks. The slightly unconventional ♥K (or ♥Q) lead would have beaten it as long as West keeps his deuce to prevent a blockage. At the other table Lotan Fisher (South) went one down in 4♣ for a 12-IMP loss. Making it would have saved only 1 IMP.

The next five boards saw no significant swings, but Turkey added 4 more IMPs due to overtricks (and undertricks). After seven boards they had a commanding 22-0 lead, which was about to increase:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.


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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Ucar</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Koclar</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Once again a six-card club suit was causing Padon trouble. Many experts would approve of a non-vulnerable 3♣ opening (which would have bought the contract, making comfortably on the actual layout). Dror preferred a pass and faced an awkward problem on the next round. 2♣ doesn't look quite right, but the alternative 1NT was even less appealing. Anyway, Alon Birman probably expected a much better hand, as he jumped directly to game. An invitational 2NT would have allowed his partner to sign off in 3♣, reaching the par contract (which happened at the other table). The final contract of 3NT was hopeless from the start as the clubs could not be developed. Alon played on hearts to limit his losses to down two and 5 more IMPs to Turkey.

27-0 looked rather promising, but those leads tend to vanish quickly when you are up against the world champions...

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Ucar</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Koclar</i>
-	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♥	5♦	5♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Uslupehlivan</i>	<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>Kurgan</i>	<i>Fisher</i>
-	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♥	3♦	4♦	4♠
4NT	6♦	6♥	Dble
All Pass			


I liked Ali Ucar's 5♦ bid at the Open Room. It applied maximal pressure at the first opportunity. 5♥ was East's only sensible bid but West was left in the dark. Dror Padon knew his partner had a big hand but could only guess how big. After some thought he passed. North led a spade, ducked by South. Declarer drew trumps and played clubs from the top, soon claiming 13 tricks.

At the other table Ron Schwartz (North) bid 3♦ which looks quite an underbid. Was he afraid that 5♦ would push his opponents to a making slam?! The 3♦ bid allowed E/W to exchange more information. Sarp Kurgan (East) cuebid 4♦, showing a very strong hand with a heart fit, Fisher bid 4♠ (probably for the lead) and Uslupehlivan asked for key cards. Schwartz bid 6♦ hindering a normal response, but Kurgan bid the slam anyway.

Naturally South doubled with his two aces, but the sight of dummy was not too pleasing for him. His ♣QJ remained the last hope, and indeed after the ♣A dropped an honour, declarer played for 'restricted choice'. He was also expecting a more shapely hand for the 4♠ bid, and fewer diamonds in the North hand which bid 'only' 3♦.

The losing club finesse cost Turkey 14 IMPs, while making the doubled slam would have gained 14 IMPs. The next board reminded us that disasters often come in pairs.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Ucar</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Koclar</i>
-	-	1♠	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Uslupehlivan</i>	<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>Kurgan</i>	<i>Fisher</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

In the Closed Room East passed as dealer and a routine 3NT was reached. The spade lead was a bit scary for declarer but he could not go wrong, as both minor suit queens were dropping. Schwartz made 12 easy tricks for +690. The surprising part was that he was rewarded by 10 IMPs for his efforts. How did this happen?

In the Open Room Birman opened his 11-count and Padon bravely pre-empted to 3♠. Ucar couldn't find a bid with his 20-count! 3NT looked dangerous, and double risked an unwanted 4♥ bid from partner. Ucar's agonized Pass insured a plus score (+200), but hardly compensated for the missed lay-down game.

So 27-0 became 27-24 almost in a flash, and two boards later Israel took over the lead:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Ucar</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Koclar</i>
1♦	1♥	2♥	2♠
3♦	All Pass		

A slight competitive misjudgement by the Turkish pair. In my opinion 2♥ was called for with the North cards, when South is going to compete to 3♥, either making or pushing E/W to 4♦-1.

Actually North bid only 1♥. Birman's 2♥ showed a diamond fit, invitational or better, and Padon's 3♦ bought the contract. North led the ♥AK and switched to a spade. Declarer drew trumps in three rounds, ruffed a heart, eliminated the spades ending in his hand and led a club, ensuring his contract due to an endplay. In the Closed Room his West counterpart played one level higher at 4♦ and had to go one down; 4 IMPs and 28-27 to Israel.

On the next board the Turkish East/West chose to play 3NT with an eight-card heart fit, going down two while 4♥ was only down one at the other table. Israel's lead increased slightly, but Turkey was still fighting.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Ucar</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Koclar</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1♦	1♥	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	6♦	All Pass

In my opinion, with a 6-5 shape the Michaels cuebid should be preferred regardless of vulnerability or suit quality. Ucar thought otherwise and bid his stronger suit. Birman was never going to bid less than a small slam. His partner's cuebidding sequence clearly showed that the ♥A was missing, thus East bid 6♦ and West claimed it soon after the ♥A lead. This result was duplicated at the other table.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Ucar</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Koclar</i>
Pass	1♦	1♥	Dble
4♥	All Pass		

South would have liked to show his clubs, but Padon's 4♥ bid put a lot of pressure on him. Koclar made the right decision to pass. A double would be more profitable, but it doesn't seem justified. After the ♦10 lead Birman could not avoid losing two spades, two diamonds and a club. +200 proved to be an adequate score, since in the Closed Room Israel bid on to 5♣ and ended up a trick short – East won the first trick and quickly shifted to a spade before dummy's diamonds could be used for discards.

Thus Turkey regained the lead: 33-31, but a second pair of disasters awaited them just around the corner...

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

At both tables East became declarer at 3NT. The Turkish defense in the Open Room was rather feeble: Koclar led the ♠7 from the longer unbid suit. Ucar thought that declarer had all the honours and ducked. Alon Birman cashed the ♥A and played a club to the jack, ducked again. This allowed him to cash his remaining hearts, and when he continued clubs the defense could win no more than two black aces.

In the Closed Room Ron Schwartz (North) did much better, playing the ♠10 to the first trick and forcing out the ♠Q. When the ♥A was played Lotan Fisher (South) realized that declarer was looking for an entry to his good hearts. Therefore he took the ♣J with his ace and returned a club, locking declarer in dummy! Declarer would still succeed had he exited with a spade. Instead he tried a diamond, and when Lotan won the ♦K and led another diamond it was all over. An inspired defense, even if somewhat assisted by inaccurate play.

Israel regained the lead 42-33, this time for good.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Padon	Ucar	Birman	Koclar
—	—	—	2♦
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	5♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

Here Dror Padon demonstrated immaculate bidding judgement, leading to a well-deserved 13 IMP gain which capped a brilliant comeback by the Israeli team. South opened an annoying five-card multi 2♦, and West bid 4♦, showing a strong two-suiter with diamonds and an unknown major. North passed, as he couldn't tell at this stage who held the spades. Alon Birman bid 4♥. It was tempting to continue with the West hand, but Padon did well to pass (indeed, even 5♥ is going down on the actual layout).

On becoming aware that his partner's suit was spades, North took the obvious save, but an unpleasant surprise was in store for him. Birman bid again to show the diamond fit, and Padon reassessed the situation. His partner must have something in clubs to warrant a voluntary bid at the five-level. Also the diamond fit should be better than the heart fit (else why not 5♥?). The logical conclusion was to bid 6♦. It made easily when the trumps divided 2-2. Later declarer ruffed out the hearts and still had a trump in dummy to take care of his third club.

At the other table Fisher opened 2♥, showing at least 4-4 in the majors according to the Ekren convention. Bidding the slam proved too difficult for the Turkish E/W, and they ended up in 5♦.

This was 13 IMPs to Israel, and after a push on Board 20 the final score became 55-33 IMPs or 20-10 VPs. There was more good news for Israel when their main rivals Italy lost 14-16 to Croatia (who troubled Israel earlier in the day).

Thus, after two days of play Israel took the overall lead but, with most of the top teams to meet each other in the final rounds, the fight for the gold medal is still wide open.



Sarper Uslupehlivan, Turkey



# The Bear and the Opinion

by Kees Tammens

Berend van den Bos, better known as 'The Bear', is a Dutch junior who less than two years ago started a junior partnership with Joris van Lankveld. Both are tall, skinny and eat incredibly amounts of desserts, without gaining an ounce!

After the defeat against the strong playing squad of Scotland at Friday, Berend was eager to regain some VPs at the expense of England in Round Six. So a good moment to kibitz.

After a cold 3NT and a cautious 3♠, even this contract depended on the ace of hearts being onside. 'The Bear' looked a little annoyed with himself.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ – ♥ A 9 4 3 ♦ 8 2 ♣ A Q 8 7 5 3 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           N W     E S         </div>	♠ A Q 9 8 7 6 5 3 ♥ 8 7 ♦ 7 4 ♣ 10	
	♠ J 10 2 ♥ Q 10 5 2 ♦ J 10 9 3 ♣ K J		
West Mcintosh	North van den Bos	East Kaye	South van Lankveld
– 1♣	– 1♦	– 4♠	Pass All Pass

## Discount Food and Drink

Most team captains or coaches will have received a pink card: International Bridge Festival 'Albena' – ENTRY CARD, along with a list of restaurants in Albena resort offering discounts for food and/or drink.

To take advantage of this offer you will need to present the card at the restaurant. If you would like a card and do not yet have one, please come and ask at the main office in the congress centre.

The following restaurants are offering the discounts listed:

- Restaurant 'Staria Dub' – 50% discount
- Restaurant 'Natasha' – 30% discount
- Restaurant 'Margo's House' – 30% discount
- Restaurant 'Arabela' – 30% discount
- Restaurant 'Moby Dick' – 30% discount

South led the jack of diamonds and North overtook with the queen and continued with the ace, South dropping the three. As The Bear later explained, he now knew partner had four diamonds so he should have shifted to ♥K. But he played another diamond. Declarer, Alice Kaye, ruffed, took ♠A and finessed the club queen and disposed of a heart on the club ace. Now ♥A and a heart ruffed followed by a small spade to North's king. Bad luck for declarer that, as now North could play the last club, so promoting the spade jack in South's hand for down one. Leaving The Bear however unhappy with his own defense. "Of course I had to play a heart after two rounds of diamonds!" he explained to the kibitzer.

When opponents tried to make 3NT with ♥J-x opposite a stiff king on Board 5, and The Bear and partner took the first six tricks in heart, it looked rather routine.

On Board 6, however:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ 10 4 3 ♥ 10 8 5 4 3 ♦ Q 6 4 ♣ J 8	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           N W     E S         </div>	♠ J 5 2 ♥ – ♦ K J 9 8 2 ♣ K Q 6 5 2	♠ A K 7 6 ♥ Q J 7 2 ♦ 10 5 ♣ A 10 7
		♠ Q 9 8 ♥ A K 9 6 ♦ A 7 3 ♣ 9 4 3	
West Mcintosh	North Bear	East Kaye	South van Lankveld
– Pass	– ?	1♣	Dble

What would you bid with:

♠ J 7 2
♥ –
♦ K J 9 7 3
♣ K Q 6 5 3

Opposite as little as ♠AQ82 and ♦A1054 it might be an easy 5♦, and even 6♦ is not unlikely. But The Bear chose 2♦, ending the auction. OK, 3NT is not an ice-cold game, but we have all been in worse. The Bear, however seemed not to worry about his +110 (although England bid and made 3NT at the other table).

It went better for the Netherlands when Joris van Lankveld (aka 'The Opinion') made a difficult 4♠ on Board 8 but The Bear looked unhappy about a couple of poor results in partscores.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠ K 5 4 2										
	♥ J 10 4										
	♦ 10 6										
	♣ K Q 9 4										
♠ 7 6	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 80px; height: 60px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 10 3
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ A Q 9 7 2	♥ K 8 6 5 3										
♦ K 9 8 7 2	♦ J 5 3										
♣ 8		♣ J 2									
	♠ A J 9 8										
	♥ -										
	♦ A Q 4										
	♣ A 10 7 6 5 3										
West	North	East	South								
Mcintosh	Bear	Kaye	van Lankveld								
-	-	Pass	1♣								
1♥	Dble	3♥	4♥								
Pass	?										

It took a while before The Bear got loose in this match but when he had to find a bid after 4♥ his time had come: 6♣ was his final bid, an excellent contract. Declarer, Joris van Lankveld, ruffed the opening heart lead, used the king and queen of clubs to ruff out the hearts and played the king of spades followed by a spade to the jack, assuring the contract with the spade queen onside or doubleton with West. With queen-third with West there is still the finesse for the king of diamonds.

The Bear fears nothing and no one as he illustrated here:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ K J 10 9 6										
	♥ 10 7 2										
	♦ A K 6										
	♣ 3 2										
♠ 7 3 2	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 80px; height: 60px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 8
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ Q 8 6	♥ A K J 4 3										
♦ 4	♦ Q 10 7										
♣ A K J 10 8 5		♣ Q 7 6 4									
	♠ A Q 5 4										
	♥ 9 5										
	♦ J 9 8 5 3 2										
	♣ 9										
West	North	East	South								
Mcintosh	Bear	Kaye	van Lankveld								
-	-	1♥	Pass								
2♣	2♠	Pass	4♠								
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass								

After the two-over-one-game-forcing bid of 2♣, red versus green, not many players will bid 2♠. For The Bear this was an obvious move and he did not even complain when the excellent 4♠ went down one because of the unwilling diamond queen.

With Dutch juniors, Bob Drijver/Ernst Wackwitz having an excellent set against Graeme Robertson and Ed Jones of England, the Netherlands could celebrate a big win and re-

gain some of the lost ground of the previous day. As for The Bear: "In the beginning of the match we were not very smooth but later on I enjoyed myself". We will certainly hear more from this happy junior and his illustrious partner.

## Belgium v Netherlands - Juniors Round Two

by Jean-Francois Jourdain

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

	♠ A Q										
	♥ A J 9 4										
	♦ A Q J 7										
	♣ J 4 2										
♠ J 6	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 80px; height: 60px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 10 9 8 4 3 2
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ K 10 6	♥ 7 5 2										
♦ K 10 9 8 4 3	♦ -										
♣ K 7		♣ 10 8 6 5									
	♠ K 7 5										
	♥ Q 8 3										
	♦ 6 5 2										
	♣ A Q 9 3										
West	North	East	South								
Bahbout	v. Lankveld	V. Overmeire	v. den Bos								
-	-	-	Pass								
2♦	3NT	All Pass									

Facing a passed hand, Behrend van den Bos found no reason to dream about slam and settled for the obvious 3 NT. Jens Van Overmeire led the ♠10 which went for the queen. Declarer played the jack of clubs, which was ducked smoothly by Sam Bahbout. This of course should not succeed against Deep Finesse, but here declarer repeated the finesse and, when that lost to the king and Bahbout exited with the jack of spades, the lack of entries in dummy for taking all the finesses meant that North was held to 11 tricks. So far, so good; Netherlands +460.

Bert Geens looked differently at his cards, upgrading his diamond holding and looking lovingly at his nine of hearts. Consequently, he produced a quantitative 4NT which Wouter Van den Hove was happy to accept to leap to slam.

The same lead occurred but Geens first unblocked his ace of spades before taking the club finesse. West took his king (it's much more difficult to duck it against a slam, indeed!) and fired back the ten of diamonds. Geens took the obvious finesse and finessed the ten of clubs the other way round. Never two without three he thought, and back came the queen of hearts, covered by the king and the ace. Now he advanced the jack of hearts, played a club to the table, cashed his remaining spade and, when he produced the last club off dummy, West was caught in a show-up squeeze. Hoping to find the nine of hearts with his partner, he let go the ten and Geens chalked up 12 tricks. Well done and 11 IMPs to the Belgians, holding the Belgian loss to an acceptable 12-18 VPs.

## Worth A Bit More Thought?

by Brian Senior

Whatever else I am doing, I always have a BBO match running in the background while I am working. I have just found time to take a quick look at the Poland v Czech Republic match in Round Three of the Girls competition and found this deal worthy of a second look.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kalalova	Zmuda	Ticha	Kazmucha
–	INT	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Holeksa	Vlachova	Taczewska	Dudkova
–	INT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

At our first table, Justyna Zmuda opened INT and Kateřina Ticha, for Czech republic, came in with 2♠, spades and a minor. Danuta Kazmucha could not double at this point as it would have been for take-out, so she passed and Anna Kalalova responded 3♣, pass or correct. Ticha duly corrected and now Kazmucha doubled, take-out but implying spade length. There was no temptation for Zmuda to do anything other than pass at this vulnerability.

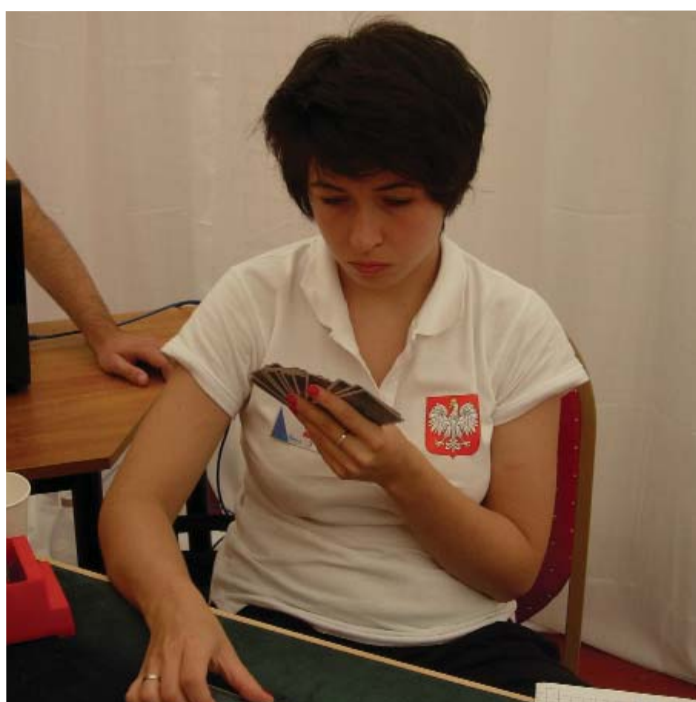
Kazmucha knew that declarer would want to take spade ruffs in the dummy so kicked off with a trump which went to the nine and jack. Ticha played the queen of spades to Zmuda's ace and back came a second diamond dummy's seven. Ticha led a heart to her king and could have taken a spade ruff now but instead led her club. Kazmucha hopped up with the king and led a third round of diamonds and declarer had only four diamonds and one heart trick; down four for –800.

For Poland, Joanna Taczewska did not fancy competing over the INT opening. The vulnerability was wrong and she lacked intermediates in her suits. She passed and must have been delighted with that decision when she heard Marketa Dudkova transfer to spades then jump to 3NT.

Taczewska led the two of diamonds to Magdalena Holeksa's king and back came a diamond. Taczewska cashed out the four diamond tricks, Karolina Vlachova pitching a spade from dummy. Holeksa threw a slightly curious three of clubs when a heart might seem more natural, and declarer a heart. Now Taczewska switched to her singleton club, the nine being covered by the ten, jack and queen. Vlachova crossed to the king of clubs and ran the queen of hearts, going one down when the finesse failed; –50 and 13 IMPs to Poland.

Declarer might easily go wrong even if she gave the hand more thought, but I don't think that I would want to take the heart finesse quite so quickly. East has led from ace-jack-to-four – not a holding that is particularly high on my list of preferred options, and has shown up with a singleton club. She is marked with either 4-4-4-1 distribution, when (ignoring for the moment the fact that she might have considered bidding with that shape if holding all the major-suit honours, depending on the options she had over INT) she is four-to-three to hold the king of hearts, making a squeeze the percentage play, or East has five spades – she would surely have led a five-card heart suit. In the latter case, West will hold a bare honour one-third of the time.

So, at the point where declarer took the heart finesse, I would prefer to play a spade to the ace then start cashing the clubs. On the third club, East can discard either a spade or a heart, and dummy a heart. On the fourth club, East is still OK and dummy throws a spade. Now I have the options of cashing the fifth club and watching East's discard or cashing the ace of hearts and playing for the positional squeeze against East. In the former case, after I see the discard I can decide whether to play for the heart finesse or judge that the squeeze has operated.



Joanna Taczewska, Poland

# Fine Team Effort

by Brian Senior

The French Juniors combined well as a team on this deal from their Round Five match against Greece.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K 3 ♥ K Q 8 5 4 2 ♦ Q J ♣ 8 6 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</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ J 5 2 ♥ A J 7 6 ♦ – ♣ A K 10 9 7 3
N						
W						
E						
S						
♠ 10 9 8 4 ♥ 3 ♦ 10 8 7 4 3 2 ♣ 5 2		♠ A Q 7 6 ♥ 10 9 ♦ A K 9 6 5 ♣ Q J				

West	North	East	South
<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>Vroustis</i>	<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Doxiadis</i>
–	Pass	1♣	1♦
Dble	5♦	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Roussos</i>	<i>Grosset</i>	<i>Sofios</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>
–	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♥	4♦	4♥	4♠
5♥	5♠	6♥	Pass
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

At our first table, Pierre Franceschetti's double of the 1♦ overcall showed hearts. Vassilis Vroustis made the full-blooded leap to 5♦, expecting that his opponents were about to bid a vulnerable game which rated to be cold given the number of diamonds his own side held between them. Nicolas Lhuissier was not to be shut out of the auction when holding a shapely hand with four-card heart sup-

port and a diamond void, and Franceschetti guessed to raise to slam.

Konstantinos Doxiadis led the ace of diamonds, ruffed. Lhuissier cashed the ace and jack of hearts, drawing trumps, and now had to decide how to play the clubs. Doxiadis dropped the queen under the ace but Lhuissier got it right, continuing with the king rather than crossing to dummy with his last heart to follow restricted choice in the club suit. Well done for +1460.

In the other room, Petros Roussos bid his hearts directly and Christophe Grosset pre-empted only to 4♦. Michalis Sofios bid 4♥ and now Cedric Lorenzini introduced his spades. Knowing of the double fit, Grosset first saved in 5♠ over 5♥, then took the push to 6♠, which was doubled.

Roussos led the king of hearts, on which Sofios dropped a suit-preference jack. Roussos continued with the jack of diamonds for Sofios to ruff and Sofios played three rounds of clubs. Lorenzini ruffed in dummy while throwing a diamond from hand. Now he ran the ten of spades to the king and suffered a second diamond ruff so was five down for –1100. That gave the French 8 valuable IMPs.

Lorenzini could have saved a trick by playing ace and another spade, while 7♦ would also have been only –800, but the team had combined well to earn its swing nonetheless.



Nicolas Lhuissier, France

## Lunch Arrangements

As some teams have found that the lunch break is not sufficiently long to allow them to get to their hotels and back before the afternoon match, the EBL has made an arrangement with the Hotel Dobrudja to allow them to eat here.

Any team wishing to have lunch at the Hotel Dobrudja instead of their own hotel should come to the Hospitality/Registration Desk to make arrangements to do so.

# A Lot Of Hard Work to Lose an IMP

by Brian Senior

Round Four of the Juniors Championship featured possibly the best piece of card play yet seen here in Albena. It came from Lars Arthur Johansen of Norway in his team's match against the Netherlands and despite his brilliant card-reading Norway still lost an IMP on the board.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ J 9 6 ♥ 8 6 ♦ 10 6 5 2 ♣ Q 10 5 3</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <span>N</span> <span>E</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <span>W</span> <span>S</span> </div> </div>	<p>♠ 7 3 ♥ Q 10 5 2 ♦ 4 3 ♣ A J 9 7 2</p>	<p>♠ A Q 10 4 2 ♥ K J 9 ♦ A Q 8 ♣ K 8</p>
--	---	---	---

West	North	East	South
Skjetne	Drijver	Simonsen	Wackwitz
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Hop	Johansen	Helmich	Bogen
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

For the Netherlands, Bob Drijver opened 1♠ and the Dutch pair bid smoothly to 6♠. After a heart lead round to the nine, Drijver drew trumps then cashed the diamonds, squeezing Simonsen in hearts and clubs for the overtrick; +1460.

For Norway, Lars Johansen opened 2♦, Multi. His 2NT

rebid showed 20-21 balanced and now Hakon Bogen asked about majors and, on finding Johansen with five spades, cuebid 4♦. The 4♥ cuebid also promised a club control as Bogen had denied one, and now Bogen simply jumped to the small slam.

East showed a great deal of interest in the bidding, and in particular about the implications of the auction regarding the club control. Finally, he led the four of diamonds to the seven, ten and ace. Johansen drew trumps in three rounds, East pitching the two of clubs, then continued with a fourth trump. Both defenders threw clubs while Johansen pitched a heart from dummy. Next came a heart to the ace followed by a diamond to hand and the fifth trump. This collected hearts from East and dummy and a diamond from West.

Johansen played a diamond, East pitching the nine of clubs, then the last diamond, on which West threw the eight of hearts. This was the point at which Johansen had to commit himself to one suit or the other and he did so, throwing his low club. East had no choice but to throw the jack of clubs and now Johansen had to decide whether to take the heart finesse or play for the strip-squeeze to have worked, exiting with a club to the hoped-for bare ace with East, who would then be forced to lead into the heart tenace.

Everything pointed to the actual position – not only the pattern of discards but also the passive opening lead, when a club would have been the natural choice from many holdings without the ace, plus East's questions about the auction. Johansen duly played a club and made his slam for +1430. A fine piece of card-reading but a lot of hard work to lose an IMP.



Lars Arthur Johansen, Norway

## Appeals

The normal expectation is that all appeals will be held after the end of the day's play. If this is ever not the case, the tournament director will tell those involved what is the actual timing.

# To Bid Or Not To Bid

by Brian Senior

Second-in-hand at favourable vulnerability you pick up:

- ♠ 6
- ♥ A 10 5
- ♦ Q 8 5 2
- ♣ A 10 9 8 7

The dealer opens 1♠ and it is your call – do you Pass, Double or overcall 2♣?

What happens quite often is that you are playing in a congress and someone comes up to you to ask you the same question – except that they load the information they give you to suit the answer they are hoping to get. If their partner has bid on the hand and it has worked out badly, you will be told that the hand was 'singleton, ace to three, queen to four, ace to five. You may not be told about the favourable vulnerability unless you remember to ask. Of course, you say that you would have passed and they go away and tell partner what an idiot he was to bid and that fine player (yourself) agrees. If partner has passed with the hand and that has worked badly you are told that you hold 'singleton, ace-ten-other, queen-to-four, ace-ten-nine-eight-seven. Now you may be convinced by all those intermediate cards that you would have doubled or overcalled and, once again, you have given the answer that your interrogator was looking for and he goes away happily and shouts at partner.

You have to be careful because, as often as not, the partner comes along later on and wants to argue with you. You soon learn to be very careful about getting all the facts before expressing your opinion in these situations.

Anyway, the decision occurred at many tables during Round Four of the Juniors Championship. I was watching the match between Finland and Greece. This was the full deal:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

	♠ 6		
	♥ A 10 5		
	♦ Q 8 5 2		
	♣ A 10 9 8 7		
West	North	East	South
Doxiadis	Aimala	Vroustis	Maki
–	–	1♠	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Fagerlund	Oikonomopoulos	Granstrom	Roussos
–	–	1♠	2♣
Pass	2♥	Dble	3♥
All Pass			

For Finland, Sami Maki did not bid with the South cards. He led the two of diamonds against 1♠, which did Vassilis Vroustis no harm at all. Dummy's jack won the first trick and Vroustis ran the nine of spades, repeated the spade finesse, then played ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond. Antti Aimala over-ruffed and returned the queen of hearts to the king and ace. Maki played a second heart so Vroustis ruffed and cashed the ace of spades. He next claimed ten tricks, which seems a trifle greedy as he has already lost two tricks and has to play clubs from hand but, that is what he is credited with so +170 to Greece.

At the other table, Petros Roussos did come in with the South hand, choosing a 2♣ overcall. Ioannis Oikonomopoulos responded 2♥ as North and Juho Granstrom doubled. Roussos raised to 3♥ and that bought the contract.

Granstrom kicked off with three rounds of diamonds, Vesa Fagerlund pitching a club on the third round as Oikonomopoulos played low from dummy and ruffed in hand. Declarer led a low spade from hand and Granstrom won the ten and played a fourth diamond. This time declarer had to play the queen so Fagerlund ruffed to prevent a club discard from the North hand. His eight was over-ruffed with the jack and declarer ruffed a spade low then played ace and another club to the king. Granstrom now played the fifth diamond, which looks best, and declarer threw a club from dummy. Now Fagerlund erred, pitching his last spade – after all, he cannot over-ruff dummy so this will achieve nothing.

Oikonomopoulos ruffed the diamond in hand and played the seven of hearts to the king and ace. Now he could cash a winning club then play another club, ruffed and over-ruffed, and dummy's ten of hearts won the last trick for +140 and 7 IMPs to Greece.

Had West thrown his last club on the fifth diamond, there would have been no club to cash at trick eleven. He would have been able to ruff and, though declarer would still have made his two high trumps separately, West would have won the last trick with his long trump for one down.



Konstantinos Doxiadis, Greece

**BUTLER - JUNIORS TEAMS after 6 Rounds**

		Country	Butler	Boards
1 MEYUCHAS Moshe	GERSTNER Gal	Israel	2,20	20
2 LHUISSIER Nicolas	FRANCESCHETTI Pierre	France	1,89	80
3 LORENZINI Cedric	GROSSET Christophe	France	1,20	80
4 SAKOWSKA Natalia	BUTRYN Piotr	Poland	1,18	80
5 SOFIOS Michalis	ROUSSOS Petros	Greece	1,10	20
6 AIMALA Antti	MAKI Sami	Finland	1,05	60
7 BIRMAN Alon	PADON Dror	Israel	1,02	120
8 DRIJVER Bob	WACKWITZ Ernst	Netherlands	0,96	80
9 RIMSTEDT Sandra	FRYKLUND Erik	Sweden	0,93	80
10 LANKVELD Joris van	BOS Berend van den	Netherlands	0,85	80
11 MADALA Agustin	DELLE CAVE Giuseppe	Italy	0,84	120
12 TOFTE Lars	EGE Niclas Raulund	Denmark	0,74	80
13 BILDE Dennis	JEPSEN Emil	Denmark	0,68	100
14 FISHER Lotan	SCHWARTZ Ron	Israel	0,58	100
15 DE LEO Francesco	LOCATELLI Riccardo	Italy	0,52	60
16 TORMA Robert	HOFFMANN Tamas	Hungary	0,50	100
17 GULLBERG Daniel	KARLSSON Johan	Sweden	0,46	80
18 EIDE Harald	ELLINGSEN Kristian	Norway	0,36	80
19 DI FRANCO Massimiliano	RUBINO Riccardo	Italy	0,33	60
20 WILKINSON Alexander William	STEPHENS Philip	Scotland	0,27	120
21 BOGEN Haakon	JOHANSEN Lars Arthur	Norway	0,26	80
22 ROBERT Quentin	COUDERT Thibault	France	0,25	80
23 IGLA Bartlomiej	ZATORSKI Piotr	Poland	0,25	40
24 BRAUN Raffael	RUSCH Michael	Germany	0,24	80
25 DONDIVIC Luka	STANKOVIC Andrea	Croatia	0,23	100
26 RUSO Lara	POSTIC Ivan	Croatia	0,18	100
27 SIMONSEN Steffen Fredrik	SKJETNE Erlend	Norway	0,18	80
28 SKORCHEV Stefan	SPASOV Dean	Bulgaria	0,14	100
29 FAGERLUND Vesa	GRANSTROM Juh	Finland	0,14	100
30 ORTH Paul	ZIMMERMANN Felix	Germany	0,14	80
31 USLUPEHLIVAN Sarper	KURGAN Sarp	Turkey	0,13	60
32 OIKONOMOPOULOS Ioannis	ROUSSOS Petros	Greece	0,13	100
33 HELMICH Aarnout	HOP Gerbrand	Netherlands	0,13	80
34 TUCZYNSKI Piotr	JASSEM Pawel	Poland	0,13	120
35 ROHRBERG Matias	MORTENSEN Maria Dam	Denmark	0,08	60
36 MORGAN Frazer	MORRISON Philip Michael	Scotland	0,02	120
37 ERCAN Sehmus	CELIK Taner	Turkey	-0,02	60
38 SIDEROV Zhivko	VASILEV Nikolai	Bulgaria	-0,05	80
39 VALLIVAARA Visa	KYTOMAA Karri	Finland	-0,11	80
40 MARINKOVIC Jovana	JELIC Filip	Serbia	-0,15	100
41 JONES Edward	ROBERTSON Graeme	England	-0,15	120
42 KISS Gabor	LAZAR Kornel	Hungary	-0,20	120
43 SYUSYUKIN Ivan	IVANOV Peter	Bulgaria	-0,27	60
44 PETROVIC Milan	DJOROVIC Fedor	Serbia	-0,31	80
45 VROUSTIS Vassilis	DOXIADIS Konstantinos	Greece	-0,33	120
46 ELLERBECK Max	GRUENKE Paul	Germany	-0,41	80
47 KOCLAR Akin	UCAR Ali	Turkey	-0,43	120
48 NISTOR Radu	PAVEL Jacqueline	Romania	-0,48	100
49 DUHI Laszlo	SZOMBATI Tamas	Hungary	-0,50	20
50 BAHBOUT Sam	VAN OVERMEIRE Jens	Belgium	-0,60	80
51 GEORGESCU Horia	GHEORGHE Razvan Andrei	Romania	-0,61	100
52 GUMZEJ Rudolf	KESIC Luka	Croatia	-0,73	40
53 BOYD Richard	GORMALLY Hugh	Ireland	-0,75	80
54 KAYE Alice	MCINTOSH Daniel	England	-0,76	100
55 RIMSTEDT Cecilia	GRONKVIST Mikael	Sweden	-0,78	80
56 KOFLER Thomas	KRONSCHLAEGER Florian	Austria	-0,78	100
57 VAN MECHELEN Joram	LIETAERT Pieter	Belgium	-0,95	60
58 JONES Ian W B	SOMERVILLE Wayne	Ireland	-1,00	100
59 WADL Raffael Daniel	WEINBERGER Simon	Austria	-1,14	100
60 WILLIAMS David	RAINFORTH Thomas	England	-1,15	20
61 GEENS Bert	VAN DEN HOVE Wouter	Belgium	-1,56	100
62 EPURE Ionut-Constantin	BACALU Iancu	Romania	-1,63	40
63 ETINSKI Nikola	JOVANOVIC Dusan	Serbia	-1,67	60
64 MAIR Doris	STINGLMAYR Gernot	Austria	-1,70	40
65 SYNNOTT David	O'CONNOR Kelan	Ireland	-2,05	60

## BUTLER - GIRLS TEAMS after 4 Rounds

		Country	Butler
1 SPANGENBERG Sigrid	TICHA Magdalena	Netherlands	1,31
2 BARENDREGT Rosaline	NAB Judith	Netherlands	1,19
3 HOLEKSA Magdalena	TACZEWSKA Joanna	Poland	1,06
4 SPANGENBERG Jamilla	BEUGER Marleen	Netherlands	1,05
5 KAZMUCHA Danuta	ZMUDA Justyna	Poland	0,97
6 BOTTA Giorgia	COSTA Margherita	Italy	0,83
7 MORINA Stefania	BURGIO Caterina	Italy	0,76
8 CANONNE Marion	THIZY Aurelie	France	0,61
9 CARBONNEAUX Jessie	FAVARD Laure	France	0,60
10 FISCHER Andrea	VEGH Mariann	Hungary	0,43
11 PUILLET Carole	CHAUGNY Claire	France	0,28
12 CHAVARRIA Margherita	LANZUISI Flavia	Italy	0,26
13 ORMAY Krisztina	FISCHER Brigitta	Hungary	0,17
14 GRONKVIST Ida	PETERSEN Irma	Sweden	0,10
15 PETERSEN Moa	WAHLESTEDT Catrin	Sweden	-0,09
16 JAROSZ Aleksandra	WEINHOLD Izabela	Poland	-0,31
17 EREN Zeynep Seda	AYDIN Selin	Turkey	-0,44
18 VLACHOVA Karolina	DUDKOVA Marketa	Czech Republic	-0,46
19 GIAMPIETRO Cristina	KAEPEL Katharina	Germany	-0,49
20 FISCHER Andrea	GABOR Hanna	Hungary	-0,50
21 TICHA Katerina	KALALOVA Anna	Czech Republic	-0,51
22 HAJKOVA Sona	SCHULZOVA Kristyna	Czech Republic	-0,56
23 EGGELING Marie	BRINCK Katharina	Germany	-0,59
24 SUCU Seda	SARIGOZ Sinem	Turkey	-0,92
25 GABOR Hanna	VEGH Mariann	Hungary	-1,06
26 RADOSLAVOVA Ina	BONEVA Simona	Bulgaria	-1,14
27 USKUP Burcu	KAYA Deniz	Turkey	-1,16
28 ANGELOVA Greta	MALAKOVA Desislava	Bulgaria	-1,21
29 SADONKOVA Vanda	TZANKOVA Antonina	Bulgaria	-1,96

### Meet the Belgian Juniors

Belgium arrived in Albena with few ambitions, having a very young and inexperienced team to present. But we did certainly not want to make the same mistake as in Vienna in 1998, where our country did not send any team, fearing it would be too weak.

Our only player with some experience, playing in the national home competition, is **Bert Geens (25)** from Antwerp. He also played two years ago in Brasov, partnering Jorrit Schaefer, who could not be present here because he is writing his thesis at the moment. Bert is a graduate in physics, achieving a doctorate nowadays. Well, it was his doctorate promoter who brought him to bridge. He also likes playing tennis. His partner is **Wouter Van den Hove (21)** from Leuven, who studied informatics. You would not guess it while seeing him in his XXL t-shirt, but he likes to play volleyball. Wouter likes to play very quickly because he is afraid of losing points by running over time. Unfortunately, this also costs points, and sometimes much more than that half VP which he is so afraid for.

Another player who was already present in Brasov, is **Joram Van Mechelen (21)**, also from Leuven. Joram comes from a complete bridge family, his older brother Rutger being already a top Belgian player. He is currently studying history of arts. His favourite business is to take a bike and run for hours on long distances. He is a great admirer of the Israeli team. You certainly noticed him already, thanks to his gorgeous dreadlocks. His partner is another player from Leuven, **Pieter Lietaert (22)**. He is studying for civil engineer and is a good friend of Wouter; they met during their

school time. As he asked me to write down as little as possible about him, I will respect his wish.

Our third pair is certainly the youngest in the Junior field. **Sam Bahbout (17)** from Antwerp, and **Jens Van Overmeire (18)** from Sint-Niklaas, somewhere between Antwerp and Ghent, could have played in the Youngsters category, if only there were two other players from that age available to build a team with them. Sam is probably the biggest talent I have coached since Steven De Donder. He is playing bridge all the day long, including on BBO, except when he seems to study for commercial engineer, but he seems by far less interested in that. Even during the night he is dreaming about bridge. Well, it has to be said that his nights are a little shortened since he discovered the discotheque here in Albena. Jens is more of a sportsman, playing football very well and studying electromechanics in Ghent. He also played chess for some years. Both those youngsters are already playing together for almost three years, so they are a real pair.

Finally, the npc is always the same since 2000 in Antalya, **Jean-Francois Jourdain (49)** from Brussels. Everybody calls me 'Pitch' but don't ask why! Usually I am a journalist, writing about a lot of things, one of them being field hockey. This will be my eighth European Youth championships, one as player, five as npc and two as coach. If you add Ostend in 2010, where I was the npc of the Open team, my counter reaches nine. Always happy to be there and enjoy the wonderful atmosphere of this competition. I should really like to buy a drink to my team if we win one single match, so please be kind to us!