

23rd EUROPEAN YOUTH BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

13rd - 23rd July 2011

Albena, Bulgaria

Daily Bulletin



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Israel (J) and Poland (Y) Still Lead the Way



Where would you find flamingos in Albena? Outside the Flamingo Grand Hotel, of course.

Israel lost for the second time in the Juniors Championship, but only 13-17 to France and, scoring 51 VPs on the day, actually gained 4 VPs on closest rivals, Italy. Israel leads on 326 VPs, with Italy second on 308, followed by Denmark 294, France 286, Norway 280 and Croatia 272. Meanwhile, hosts, Bulgaria, have crept quietly into contention for a World Championship place in ninth. There are five rounds to play, spread over three days, so that any team which feels the need could play the same foursome throughout.

Poland leads the Youngsters Championship on 192.5, ahead of England on 188. They are followed by France 175, Netherlands 173.5, Sweden 171 and Israel 170. The Youngsters have two three-match days today and tomorrow, before having one last round on Saturday. Unlike the Juniors, they may need to spread the load and all three pairs play a part (at least, for those teams which have more than two pairs).

Today's BBO Matches

10.00	Norway v Denmark (Juniors)
10.00	Italy v France (Juniors)
10.00	Israel v Netherlands (Juniors)
10.00	France v England (Youngsters)
14.00	Sweden v Norway (Juniors)
14.00	France v Poland (Juniors)
14.00	Israel v Italy (Juniors)
14.00	Hungary v Poland (Youngsters)
17.30	Latvia v Scotland (Youngsters)
17.30	Sweden v Hungary (Youngsters)
17.30	Poland v Turkey (Youngsters)
17.30	Israel v England (Youngsters)

JUNIORS TEAMS



RESULTS



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND 14

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	ENGLAND BULGARIA	39 - 52	12 - 18
2	ROMANIA GERMANY	17 - 57	7 - 23
3	IRELAND AUSTRIA	24 - 57	8 - 22
4	CROATIA GREECE	86 - 1	25 - -1
5	NETHERLANDS TURKEY	41 - 19	20 - 10
6	SERBIA NORWAY	7 - 63	4 - 25
7	SCOTLAND BELGIUM	55 - 64	13 - 17
8	HUNGARY POLAND	54 - 40	18 - 12
9	DENMARK ITALY	62 - 53	17 - 13
10	SWEDEN ISRAEL	48 - 60	13 - 17
11	FINLAND FRANCE	18 - 63	6 - 24

ROUND 17

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

ROUND 15

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	BULGARIA ROMANIA	35 - 42	14 - 16
2	GERMANY IRELAND	78 - 28	25 - 5
3	AUSTRIA CROATIA	47 - 38	17 - 13
4	GREECE TURKEY	58 - 20	23 - 7
5	ENGLAND SERBIA	75 - 20	25 - 4
6	NORWAY SCOTLAND	51 - 40	17 - 13
7	BELGIUM HUNGARY	21 - 36	12 - 18
8	POLAND DENMARK	38 - 58	11 - 19
9	ITALY SWEDEN	49 - 38	17 - 13
10	ISRAEL FINLAND	43 - 13	21 - 9
11	FRANCE NETHERLANDS	37 - 38	15 - 15

ROUND 18

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

ROUND 16

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	IRELAND BULGARIA	21 - 59	7 - 23
2	CROATIA GERMANY	30 - 42	13 - 17
3	TURKEY AUSTRIA	39 - 42	14 - 16
4	NETHERLANDS GREECE	38 - 58	11 - 19
5	SERBIA ROMANIA	45 - 73	9 - 21
6	SCOTLAND ENGLAND	56 - 37	19 - 11
7	HUNGARY NORWAY	69 - 59	17 - 13
8	DENMARK BELGIUM	46 - 7	23 - 7
9	SWEDEN POLAND	37 - 45	14 - 16
10	FINLAND ITALY	50 - 60	13 - 17
11	FRANCE ISRAEL	45 - 36	17 - 13



Today's Schedule

- 10.00** Juniors Teams (17th Round)
- 10.00** Youngsters Teams (11th Round)
- 14.00** Juniors Teams (18th Round)
- 14.00** Youngsters Teams (12th Round)
- 17.30** Youngsters Teams (13th Round)

YOUNGSTERS TEAMS



RESULTS



TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND 8

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	GERMANY BULGARIA	39 - 44	14 - 16
2	NETHERLANDS CZECH REP.	62 - 26	22 - 8
3	POLAND LATVIA	61 - 13	25 - 5
4	SWEDEN SCOTLAND	64 - 14	25 - 5
5	NORWAY ITALY	30 - 62	8 - 22
6	ENGLAND DENMARK	79 - 30	25 - 5
7	RUSSIA ISRAEL	37 - 55	11 - 19
8	HUNGARY FRANCE	66 - 27	23 - 7
9	TURKEY AUSTRIA	69 - 28	23 - 7

ROUND 11

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

ROUND 9

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	BULGARIA NETHERLANDS	35 - 80	6 - 24
2	CZECH REP. POLAND	59 - 74	12 - 18
3	LATVIA SWEDEN	48 - 59	13 - 17
4	SCOTLAND NORWAY	30 - 23	16 - 14
5	ITALY DENMARK	41 - 56	12 - 18
6	GERMANY RUSSIA	46 - 52	14 - 16
7	ISRAEL HUNGARY	51 - 71	11 - 19
8	FRANCE TURKEY	72 - 21	25 - 5
9	AUSTRIA ENGLAND	14 - 140	0 - 25

ROUND 12

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

ROUND 10

Match		IMP's	VP's
1	POLAND BULGARIA	54 - 32	20 - 10
2	SWEDEN CZECH REP.	47 - 59	13 - 17
3	NORWAY LATVIA	61 - 29	22 - 8
4	DENMARK SCOTLAND	72 - 26	24 - 6
5	ENGLAND ITALY	56 - 46	17 - 13
6	RUSSIA NETHERLANDS	12 - 102	0 - 25
7	HUNGARY GERMANY	75 - 24	25 - 5
8	TURKEY ISRAEL	33 - 74	7 - 23
9	AUSTRIA FRANCE	15 - 82	2 - 25

ROUND 13

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

JUNIORS TEAMS

RANKING AFTER ROUND 16

1	ISRAEL	326
2	ITALY	308
3	DENMARK	294
4	FRANCE	286
5	NORWAY	280
6	CROATIA	272
7	NETHERLANDS	264
8	BULGARIA	262
9	SWEDEN	261
10	POLAND	260
11	GERMANY	255
12	ENGLAND	240
13	TURKEY	231
14	HUNGARY	228.5
15	SCOTLAND	221
16	FINLAND	213
17	GREECE	209
18	ROMANIA	198
19	AUSTRIA	171
20	BELGIUM	165
21	SERBIA	139.5
22	IRELAND	138

YOUNGSTERS TEAMS

RANKING AFTER ROUND 10

1	POLAND	192.5
2	ENGLAND	188
3	FRANCE	175
4	NETHERLANDS	173.5
5	SWEDEN	171
6	ISRAEL	170
7	HUNGARY	164
8	LATVIA	153
9	ITALY	149
10	NORWAY	147
	TURKEY	147
12	DENMARK	139
13	SCOTLAND	138
14	BULGARIA	135
15	CZECH REPUBLIC	133
16	GERMANY	128
17	RUSSIA	99
18	AUSTRIA	51

Today in History - July 21st

356 BC: The Temple of Artemis in Ephesus, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, is destroyed by arson.

365: On this day in the year 365, a powerful earthquake off the coast of Greece causes a tsunami that devastates the city of Alexandria, Egypt. Although there were no measuring tools at the time, scientists now estimate that the quake was actually two tremors in succession, the largest of which is thought to have had a magnitude of 8.0.

1620: Jean-Felix Picard, a French astronomer and priest born in La Flèche, was born this day. He was the first person to measure the size of the Earth to a reasonable degree of accuracy in a survey conducted in 1669–70, for which he is honored with a pyramid at Juvisy-sur-Orge. His measurements produced a result of 110.46 km for one degree of latitude, which gives a corresponding terrestrial radius of 6328.9 km. The polar radius has now been measured at just over 6357 km.

1925: Schoolteacher John T. Scopes is convicted of violating Tennessee's law against teaching evolution in public schools. The case debated in the so-called "Trial of the Century" was never really in doubt; the jury only conferred for a few moments in the hallway before returning to the courtroom with a guilty verdict. Nevertheless, the supporters of evolution won the public relations battle that was really at stake.

Despite popular perceptions of the case, fueled in part by the Broadway play and movie *Inherit the Wind*, the Scopes trial was never more than a show trial.

1954: First Indochina War: The Geneva Conference partitions Vietnam into North Vietnam and South Vietnam.

1970: After 11 years of construction, the Aswan High Dam across the Nile River in Egypt is completed on July 21, 1970. More than two miles long at its crest, the massive \$1 billion dam ended the cycle of flood and drought in the Nile River region, and exploited a tremendous source of renewable energy, but had a controversial environmental impact.

1983: The world's lowest ever temperature is recorded at Vostok Station, Antarctica at -89.2°C (-128.6°F).

Problem Corner

by Micke Melander

France was hunting leaders Israel and second-placed Italy in the Juniors in Round 13. And for sure they needed to score a big win to be able to close the gap that slowly had started to increase. They were to play Sweden, who had lost ground and were fighting to get back into the battle for World Championship places. One should know that these matches between Sweden and France usually tend to be draws, especially when the 'real' Open teams play each other.

1. What do you bid (none vulnerable) with:

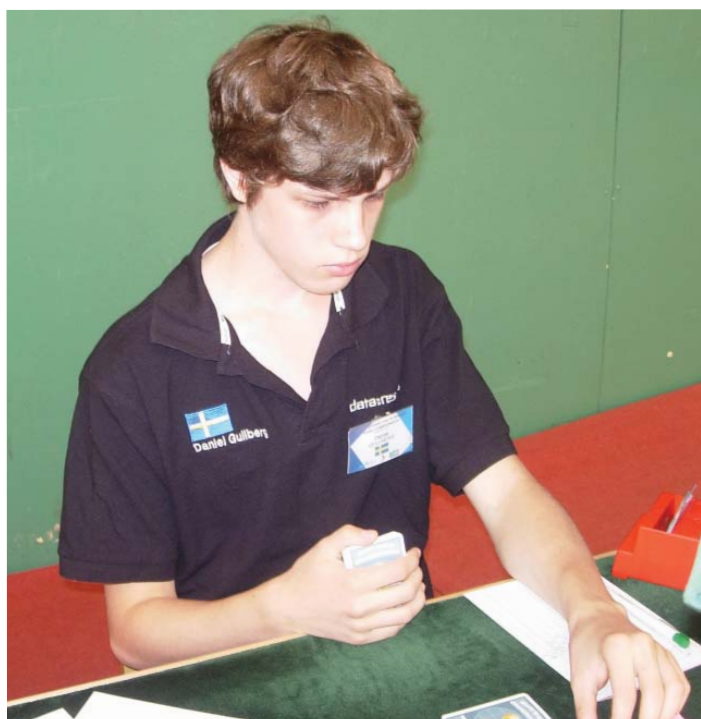
♠ 9 7 5
♥ A K Q J 9 8 6 5 4
♦ –
♣ 8

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Coudert</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Robert</i>
–	Pass	1♣	1♦
Dble	5♦	Pass	Pass
?			

2. Any actions?

♠ Q 10 8 5
♥ K 9 6 2
♦ J 9 6 2
♣ 2

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Coudert</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Robert</i>
INT	Pass	?	



Johan Karlsson, Sweden

3. To bid or not to bid?

♠ K Q 10 6
♥ 5
♦ 10 9 8 7 5 4 2
♣ 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Karlsson</i>	<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>Gullberg</i>
3NT*	Pass	Pass	?

4. What now in this Stayman sequence?

West	North	East	South
<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Karlsson</i>	<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>Gullberg</i>
INT	Pass	2♣*	2♠
?			

♠ K J 4
♥ Q 4 2
♦ Q 2
♣ A Q 7 6 4

5. Huge hand, are you driving on towards higher levels?

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Coudert</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Robert</i>
1♥	Pass	INT*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
?			

You hold:

♠ A K J 2
♥ A K Q 9 8
♦ A J 8 2
♣ –

6. Plan your play in 4♠, when East leads the ace of clubs (you have a 15-17 NT to your left).

♠ K J 6
♥ J 10 9 8
♦ Q J 9 5 4 3
♣ –



♠ A 10 9 8 5
♥ 3
♦ K 10
♣ J 10 9 8 6

You ruff the trick and play a diamond to the king that wins the trick. But what then, are there any chances to lure the defense?

7. Another 4♠, the two of hearts is led.

♠ 9 7 5 3
 ♥ A 9 4
 ♦ K J 10 8
 ♣ A 7

N
W E
S

♠ A 10 8 4
 ♥ 6 5
 ♦ A 5 2
 ♣ K J 8 2

Problem 1.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ Q 4
 ♥ 2
 ♦ A 10 8 7 5 4
 ♣ Q J 9 5

♠ 9 7 5
 ♥ A K Q J 9 8 6 5
 ♦ –
 ♣ 8

N
W E
S

♠ K 10 8 6
 3
 ♦ 6 2
 ♣ A K 10 6 3 2

♠ A J 3 2
 ♥ 10 7
 ♦ K Q J 9 3
 ♣ 7 4

Erik Fryklund simply jumped to slam. The defense 'naturally' didn't find to lead spades, but still there was no chance to make the contract when the ace of spades was wrong or that the clubs could provide some extra tricks. That was 11 IMPs to France when they stopped in 4♥ at the other table scoring the same tricks.

Problem 2.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A 9 3
 ♥ 10 5
 ♦ A K 8 7 5 4
 ♣ J 6

♠ J 7 6
 ♥ Q 3
 ♦ Q 3
 ♣ A K Q 8 7 5

N
W E
S

♠ Q 10 8 5
 ♥ K 9 6 2
 ♦ J 9 6 2
 ♣ 2

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

West	North	East	South
Fryklund	Coudert	S. Rimstedt	Robert
INT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	All Pass		

Sandra Rimstedt decided to 'escape' from the INT, aiming on playing in any suit partner would bid. Unluckily her partner was 3-2-2-6 so there was no fit at all in a suit contract. Coudert in North probably wondered if they had gone completely mad when looking at an ace and ace-king-six times of trumps as defender. Fryklund got five tricks, going three down. That was 3 IMPs more to France when the Swedish pair were doubled playing 2♦ in the other direction and managed to make it.

Problem 3.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A 8 5 2
 ♥ Q J 8 6
 ♦ A J
 ♣ 10 9 6

♠ 4
 ♥ 9 3 2
 ♦ 6 3
 ♣ A K Q J 8 5 2

N
W E
S

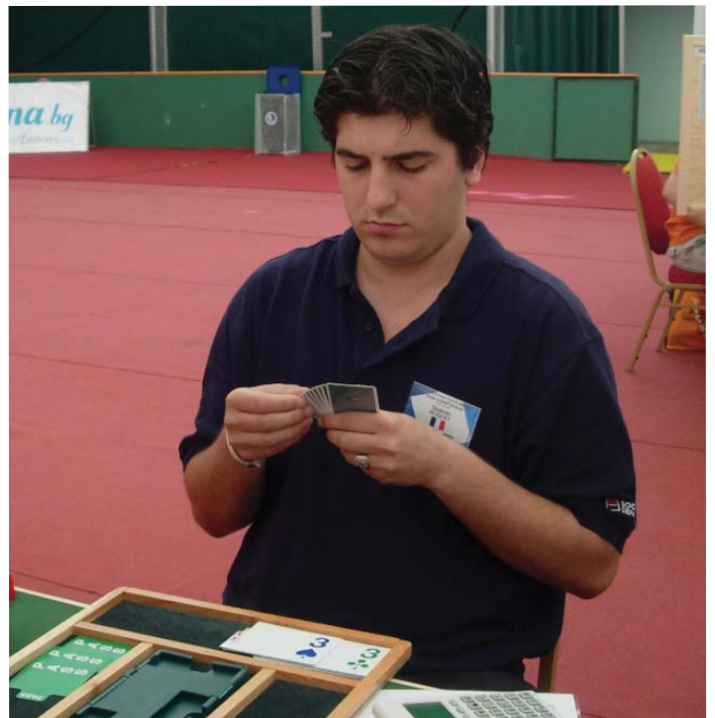
♠ J 9 7 3
 ♥ A K 10 7 4
 ♦ K Q
 ♣ 7 4

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

West	North	East	South
Lhuissier	Karlsson	Franceschetti	Gullberg
3NT*	Pass	Pass	4♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Daniel Gullberg had an easy make, but the question remains, how many have the guts to bid in that position? It probably requires a junior for that action.

In the other room, there was a lot of bidding going on.



Quentin Robert, France

West <i>Fryklund</i>	North <i>Coudert</i>	East <i>S.Rimstedt</i>	South <i>Robert</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1♣	Dble	Rdbl	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♥	3♠
4♣	4♠	Dble	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

It was a wise move to remove the contract from 4♠ to 5♦ since 4♠ probably will go two down, still it was one down in this contract and a new swing, this time to Sweden with 14 IMPs.

Problem 4.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West <i>Lhuissier</i>	North <i>Karlsson</i>	East <i>Franceschetti</i>	South <i>Gullberg</i>
INT	Pass	2♣*	2♠
2NT!	Pass	3NT	All Pass

One might wonder why Franceschetti chose to go via a Stayman sequence instead of transferring to hearts and then bid game or make an invitation to it. Daniel Gullberg came in with 2♠, giving Lhuissier the possibility to show no hearts but a solid stopper in spades.

Unfortunately, Karlsson did what many others do nowadays – they tend to lead something else than partner's suit, this time diamonds, which was a jackpot when the defense could collect the first eight tricks bringing the contract down four. In the other room the Swedish East/West pair played in 4♥ going one off when the king of trumps was located with South.

Problem 5.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West <i>Fryklund</i>	North <i>Coudert</i>	East <i>S.Rimstedt</i>	South <i>Robert</i>
1♥	Pass	INT*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

When Fryklund got no control in diamonds from partner he simply gave up and resigned in 4♥.

Probably he gave it another shot later on when trying to sleep, being wiser.

West <i>Lhuissier</i>	North <i>Karlsson</i>	East <i>Franceschetti</i>	South <i>Gullberg</i>
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♣!	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♠!	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Lhuissier almost was in the same situation at the other table, but he made a new attempt for slam and got his 5♦. He wasn't satisfied there, so he also managed to squeeze in a grand slam try, but Franceschetti with really no extras stopped in 6♥. Very nice (and natural) bidding from the French Juniors resulting in some fresh 11 IMPs.

Problem 6.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West <i>Lhuissier</i>	North <i>Karlsson</i>	East <i>Franceschetti</i>	South <i>Gullberg</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	1♠
INT	4♠	Dble	All Pass

Daniel Gullberg ruffed in dummy, played a diamond to the king that won the trick. He then continued with the ten of diamonds, won by West with the ace, who now continued with the king of clubs (a low one would have been much better for the defense keeping control), forcing declarer to ruff in dummy. Gullberg then lead the queen of diamonds, ruffed by East and over-ruffed in hand. A spade to dummy's king followed, pulling East last trump. Then followed a diamond, on which declarer neatly could park his losing heart, when the defense hadn't managed to collect that trick earlier on. That was a loser on a loser for the extra trick need-

ed, since West had to ruff away his trick in spades. Declarer conceded a trick in clubs later on, losing a trump, a heart and a club.

Problem 7.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ 2 ♥ K 3 2 ♦ Q 9 7 6 4 3 ♣ 10 9 3					
♠ A 10 8 4 ♥ 6 5 ♦ A 5 2 ♣ K J 8 2	<table style="border: 2px solid green; 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	♠ 9 7 5 3 ♥ A 9 4 ♦ K J 10 8 ♣ A 7	
N						
W E						
S						
	♠ K Q J 6 ♥ Q J 10 8 7 ♦ – ♣ Q 6 5 4					
West	North	East	South			
Fryklund	Coudert	S.Rimstedt	Robert			
1♣*	Pass	1♥*	Dble			
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass			

Erik Fryklund got the two of hearts led, and won it in dummy with the ace. A low trump was then led to the eight and that held the trick! Fryklund exited with a heart which North won with the king to play a third round of the suit, ruffed by declarer.

He then played the ace of diamonds which South ruffed, but it was already game over; two trumps and one heart to the defense. If North didn't manage to lead a diamond, South had to split his trumps at trick two to be able to defeat the contract. That sleepy defense cost 13 IMPs.

With three boards remaining the score was 42-43. But the Swedish team managed to get 24 IMPs on the last winning the match by 20-10 VPs.

Greek TD walks on water in Albena

The temperatures here in Albena hit as much as 40 degrees Celcius. These circumstances seem to have quite an impact on the players. Brilliances and blunders often go hand in hand. The same applies to the staff members of the European Bridge League. Have a look at www.bridgetopics.com how a Greek Chief Tournament Director (EBL and WBF) had this idea that walking on water nowadays is not a problem. As you will notice at the end of the video, the water astronaut experienced some anxious moments. The video was produced by Micke Melander (Vice-chairman Championship Committee and EBL Executive) and directed by Eitan Levy (Chief Tournament Director) with Dimitri Ballas (Scoring Manager and TD) as leading actor.

Bilde's Big Board

by Jan van Cleeff

It seldom happens that Agustin Madala goes down in a contract made at the other table. Italy v Denmark (Juniors, Round 14) was an exception.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

After West had shown a two-suiter in the majors, Madala as South played 3NT. When West led the eight of spades, declarer overtook East's nine with the queen. Coming in with the ace of diamonds, East played through South's spades and the contract went down one. Of course, declarer had pinned his hopes on West having the diamond ace. Not so.

The Closed Room saw this bidding:

West	North	East	South
–	<i>Bilde</i>		<i>Jepsen</i>
2♦(i)	–	Pass	1♣
Pass	Dble(ii)	2♥	Dble(iii)
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

- (i) Both majors
- (ii) Points
- (iii) Take-out

When East kicked off with the nine of spades, declarer decided to play low from dummy! West overtook the ten and switched to his stiff diamond. East won the ace and returned a heart to the king. Dennis Bilde played a spade himself to cut communications in defence. West took the king and played a heart back to dummy's ace. Declarer took the club finesse, played king and another diamond, and claimed the balance for nine tricks. Cool.

Post Mortem

1. The double of 3NT disclosed the all important position of the diamond ace, which explains Bilde's unusual duck at trick one.

2. Double-dummy defence could prevail by leading or switching to clubs.

3. Denmark won by 17-13 which may be of interest in the race for medals.

4. The name Bilde is big in Danish bridge. Dennis's sister Majka is here as a player in the Youngsters section and father Morten, a former member of the Danish Open team, is the coach of the Danish Juniors.

Hoots!

by Liz McGowan

Scots are famed for parsimony, which means 'being careful with money'. In bridge terms you might expect this to translate into 'careful with IMPs' but in the Scottish Juniors it manifests itself as a deep reluctance to part with high cards. This example comes from Round 5.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Our South reached 4♠ in a non-competitive auction. West led a heart, East cashed his two winners and switched to ace and another diamond. Declarer ruffed in dummy, discarded two diamonds on the top clubs and played a spade to the ace, conceding one down when the bad split appeared. In the Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♥	3♦
4♥(!)	Dble	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♠	All Pass	



Philip Stephens, Scotland

West also led a low heart to the queen. East 'knew' that the ace could not possibly stand up, so he switched to a 'safe' trump: how could anybody run that on the first round? Desperate for an entry, declarer ran the spade to dummy's ten, discarded a heart and a diamond on the ace-king of clubs, and led a diamond. Even in a state of shock, East refused to spend his ace. Declarer gave the four of diamonds a look, but played the ten, losing to the jack. West played a heart for him to ruff, and now poor declarer advanced the king of diamonds to pin East's queen. This time our hero had no choice but to win his ace. He played another small spade, and when declarer tried to ruff a diamond in dummy he over-ruffed for two down; a parsimonious 2 IMPs.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
–	–	–	3♦
Pass	3NT	Dble	Pass
Pass	4♦	4♠	5♦
All Pass			

This exhibit (surely written up elsewhere, but worth another look...) comes from Round 12. Our South felt that a simple weak 2♦ did not adequately describe his hand, so he opened 3♦. North tested the waters with 3NT but, when East doubled, he retreated to 4♦. When East emerged with 4♠ South broke all the rules about preempting and bid 5♦ – to make, he claims.

West led a heart, and things looked quite promising till East ruffed. He returned a cunning six of spades, ruffed with an economical two of diamonds. West over-ruffed and led a second heart for partner to ruff. South remembered to ruff the next spade high, drew the last trump and conceded a trick to the ace of clubs for a careful two down.

West	North	East	South
–	–	–	1♦
2♥	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Dble	4♦
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

The Italian South opened 1♦ and our West made a weak

jump to 2♥. North's 2♠ seemed to confuse not only East, who thought that 4♠ should be to play but was unsure whether partner would agree; but also South, who apparently thought it was some sort of Fit Non-jump. When North bid 3NT on the second round East risked a red card. Here, surprisingly, it was South who pulled to 4♦, and West who doubled the final game contract. He led a heart, ruffed, and East played the ace of spades as a suit preference signal for another heart. South also ruffed with an inadequate two of diamonds – and our West, who had already detached a low heart as a suit preference signal for clubs, did not waste either of his trumps by over-ruffing. A bemused declarer led a club, and West took the ace and gave partner another heart ruff. The next spade was again ruffed low, but this time West gritted his teeth and over-ruffed for two down and 5 IMPs.

Alas, parsimony does not always pay, as on this example from Round 13.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

South failed to lead partner's suit for an easy one down: he led a club. North bravely won and got off lead with a trump. Declarer drew trumps and led a heart towards dummy. South must win the king now to lead a diamond, but old habits die hard. When he saved his king declarer had time to establish hearts for two diamond discards; –13 IMPs.

From the same match:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
–	–	–	Pass
2♦	Dble	Pass	2NT(i)
3♦	3♥	4♦	4♥
5♦	6♥	All Pass	

(i) Transfer to clubs

East opened a Multi, and his side found their diamond fit, but North was not deflected. 7♦ is a save, but it would not make much difference because, in the Open Room.....

West	North	East	South
2♠	Dble	Pass	3♣
Pass	4NT	All Pass	

Screen-mates South and West were in total agreement that 4NT was a natural invitation to slam. North and East were equally sure that it was RKCB for clubs. East led an uncharacteristic ace of diamonds and West contributed a careful four, arguing that if North had a natural 4NT partner might have found an exceedingly clever lead from ace-doubleton. East eventually decided to save his other big diamond and led the two. When West produced the ten East gave a despairing sigh – followed by some unrepeatable muttering when the situation finally dawned. Plus 17 IMPs – but at what cost in partnership harmony?

The Junior Team of AUSTRIA

I want to introduce a definitely most inexperienced Junior Team at this event.

Doris Mair: 23 years old, studies communications in Salzburg and plays Bridge for only 15 months. Before that she was member of the National Luge Team.

Gernot Stinglmayr: 22 years old, studies geography and maths in Salzburg and plays Bridge for one and a half years. In his free time he plays in a Soccer League.

Thomas Kofler: 24 years old, studies communications in Salzburg and plays also Bridge for one and a half years. He is a commentator of the first Austrian Soccer League.

Florian Kronschräger: 24 years old, studies sports in Salzburg and plays Bridge for two years. He is a Judo Fighter and was already seventh in the Judo Junior World Championship.

Simon Weinberger: 22 years old, studies physics and geography in Graz and he plays Bridge for three years. He also likes to play chess and tennis.

Raffael Wadl: is our 'child' at 21 years old and studies in Vienna. He already plays tournaments for four years.

At the end I (**Eduard Schnöll**) am the NPC of this Team. In my 'normal' life I am the chief of the Salzburg Fire Brigade. So I am used to managing difficult situations in my work. To be captain of this is a new experience for me. Not to finish in the 22nd place is our target and it will be hard work for the whole team.

I see how all the members of the team improve during this Championship and we all enjoy the days here in Albena.

Belgian Juniors Bid Slams (And Sometimes Even Make Them!)

by Jean-Francois Jourdain

As always, the Belgian captain had shaped some rules for preventing his young people from doing stupidities. So writing down -470, -1100, or going down either in a grand with an ace missing, or in a small slam with two aces off, means a drink to be paid to the whole team. But this seems rather to work as an excitement to my players, as they played already were in no fewer than six of these silly slams. I of course will not tell you about all of them - it is as uninteresting as well as silly. But some of the deals are funny. Let's kick off with a missed attempt against Norway in Round 3:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bahbout</i>	<i>Eide</i>	<i>V.Overmeire</i>	<i>Ellingsen</i>
-	Pass	1♠	3♥
Dble	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♦	Dble	Pass	Pass
7♣	Dble	All Pass	

Facing a passed hand (and knowing that the Norwegians are eager to open everything that looks like half an opening bid), Kristian Ellingsen found the excellent tactical bid of Three Hearts, removing a lot of bidding space from his opponents. Sam Bahbout looked (too) enthusiastically at his hand and produced a double, asking for a heart stopper. When Jens Van Overmeire bid his clubs (not too unexpected from West's point of view) he now introduced his diamonds. After that, the auction seemed like a run to 'the first to bid the grand will win the board'. After three rounds of that genuine game, Harald Eide decided it was time to double. Bahbout suddenly realised that his partner could have bid the same way with a 6-6 shape, so went finally back to clubs, falling from Charybdis to Scylla. That meant four down and a drink to the whole team.

Against Germany, Bert Geens found an interesting 'pre-emptive slam'. First look at the Closed Room auction:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

♠ 9 6 4 2 ♥ A 10 9 4 ♦ 8 7 ♣ 10 8 7	West <i>Braun</i> - 1♠ 3 NT	North <i>V.Mechelen</i> Pass Pass All Pass	East <i>Rusch</i> 1♦ INT	South <i>Lietaert</i> Pass Pass
--	---	--	-----------------------------------	--

With his 17-count West saw no reason to do something else than bid game. Pieter Lietaert led the ten of hearts and declarer was facing the very uncommon problem of guessing right at trick one to avoid going down despite his 31 HCP count! He failed by trying the jack and was soon down one. Now the Open Room:



Sam Bahbout, Belgium

West	North	East	South
V.d.Hove	Ellerbeck	Geens	Gruenke
–	Pass	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

For some reason, Bert opened this shaky hand with a strong NT (15-17). This was enough for Wouter Van den Hove to bid six after a Stayman. Should you underlead the ace of hearts now? Of course you won't, South started with a small spade. Geens won in dummy, played a club to the queen and, when that held, he had no reason to play South for 10-7 in clubs, so he dropped the king and scored 12 tricks. This gave the Belgians a very useful lead of 14 IMPs, which they were able to hold until the very end of the match, when the Germans finally forced a losing draw.

And here comes the game against Greece, the best Belgian result up to now (Round 9):

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
V.Overmeire	Oikonomopoulos	Bahbout	Roussos
–	–	–	Pass
1♠	2♠	3♦	4♥
4♠	Pass	4 NT	5♥
Pass	Pass	7♦	All Pass

Two Spades showed a two-suiter with hearts and clubs. Sam Bahbout enquired about the aces, not playing Exclusion Blackwood and, when Jens Van Overmeire passed, showing an odd number of key cards, Sam Bahbout went for the grand, hoping to find partner with the predictable ace-king- sixth in spades and the ace of clubs. This was not to be the case, but when South produced the uninspired lead of the queen of hearts – clearly what declarer was expecting from him - Sam Bahbout collected 13 easy tricks for +2140 and the Greeks failed to see the beauty of the Belgian auction.

We all were confronted in our lives with deals where the right decision is either to bid seven, or to stay at the five level because, after the expected start, all will rely on a finesse. If she works, you wrap up all the tricks and, if she

doesn't, you still go down in six. Now, this was an extreme example of 'bid the grand or stay out of the game' because a club start defeats already even Five Diamonds! Notice that the proper contract is 6NT (or even Six Diamonds after a transfer) from the West hand, but I guess few of the pairs will have found it. Six Spades, however, is doomed after a diamond start (or even a diamond switch after the ace of clubs), as it kills the entry to dummy before the trumps are drawn.

As Six Diamonds was also let through in the other room, the result was 'only' 13 IMPs to Belgium, but it could have been a huge 20 IMPs if the lead had been different at the other table. At least, a pretty surprise to our team-mates who feared to have lost 17!

University Bridge Pairs and FISU on BBO



Dear Friends,

As we think that the internet is a very good way to connect bridge students, we inform you about some running events on internet:

1. University Bridge Pairs on BBO

Every 2nd Sunday of the month, the 'University Bridge Pairs' are held on BBO at 7 PM (Paris time). This event is for free and attracts between 200 and 300 pairs. Everybody may participate.

2. FISU (International University sports Association) and WBF "World University Teams Championships" on BBO

In January 2011, FISU and WBF started the second "World University Teams Championships" on BBO. Only students from universities and high schools may participate. It is a competition for university teams that have registered and it is a knock-out competition. The first edition was won in 2010 by Italy.

The second edition was attended by 34 university bridge teams from four continents, and we are now running the semi-finals.

A third edition will be launched in October 2011; you may enter teams to: geert.magerman@telenet.be.

All information is available on the facebook account "Uni bridge".

Best Regards,

Geert Magerman

Chairman Technical Committee EUSA and FISU
(International University Sports Association)

Kees for the Defense

by Kees Tammens

Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Partner, South leads the ten of clubs. You take the queen and have to consider your plan. What do you play, as North, to the second trick?

The Bear (Berend van den Bos) enjoyed himself declaring this 3NT against Finland.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

<p>♠ 7 ♥ J 5 2 ♦ 7 6 5 4 ♣ A Q J 7 5</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 9 8 6 5 ♥ 9 3 ♦ J 10 8 2 ♣ 6 2</p>	<p>♠ K 10 2 ♥ A 6 4 ♦ A Q 9 ♣ K 9 4 3</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>West <i>Van Lankveld</i> — 3NT</p>	<p>North <i>Aimala</i> — All Pass</p>	<p>East <i>Bear</i> INT</p>	<p>South <i>Maki</i> Pass</p>									

South led king of hearts for East's ace. The Bear played back a heart. South ducked so the jack in dummy won the trick. Five rounds of clubs followed. North discarded a spade and two diamonds, while South disposed of three spades. Now declarer still had to choose between the finesse for the diamond king and playing a spade from dummy. He did the latter and the spade went to the six, ten and queen. South could take three tricks in hearts but had to concede the last two by leading into the ace-queen of diamonds of declarer.

The solution of the defensive problem

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

It will be almost impossible to defeat Four Spades when declarer has the king of hearts. But you have to be quick in developing your diamond trick. The best chance is to find partner with the heart king. So when you play a small heart at trick two partner will take the king and, without any doubt, switch to a diamond for down one.



Berend van den Bos, Netherlands

Dilemma

by Jan van Cleeff

At favourable vulnerability you, North, have this hand:

♠ Q 9 8 6
♥ Q 5
♦ K 10 9 3 2
♣ 8 7

West	North	East	South
	You		
–	–	–	Pass
1♣	1♦	1♠(i)	2♣(ii)
2♠(iii)	Pass	4♣	All Pass

- (i) Four or five spades
- (ii) Fit, invitational
- (iii) Four-card spades

Partner leads the seven of diamonds and dummy comes down:

♠ Q 9 8 6
♥ Q 5
♦ K 10 9 3 2
♣ 8 7

♠ 7 5 4 3
♥ A J 9 2
♦ Q 8
♥ K Q 6



The first trick runs via the queen and king to declarer's ace, and he cashes the trump king. Partner follows with the deuce. Declarer advances the eight of hearts, which rides to your queen. Which card to return?

It looks as though partner must have the ace of clubs and the diamond jack to make life difficult for declarer. On the other hand, the seven of diamonds very much denies an honour in the suit.

In the match Israel v Denmark (Juniors), Alon Birman put a lot of pressure on declarer by returning an unexpected heart.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 9 8 6
♥ Q 5
♦ K 10 9 3 2
♣ 8 7

♠ 7 5 4 3
♥ A J 9 2
♦ Q 8
♣ K Q 6



♠ A K J 10
♥ 10 8 3
♦ A J
♣ 9 4 3 2

♠ 2
♥ K 7 6 4
♦ 7 6 5 4
♣ A J 10 5

When East played the ten of hearts he was allowed to hold the trick. Declarer, afraid of a heart ruff, continued with another top spade, as with spades 3-2 he would be home. With this lay-out, however, the contract was doomed due to the unavoidable ruff.

With all cards in view one sees that finessing the trump queen is obligatory to reach ten tricks. Still, well done Alon Birman to create a dilemma for declarer, who was afraid of course that North would ruff the third round of hearts from an original holding of three small spades.

Had North switched to a spade instead, declarer would have been obliged to finesse the suit. Not much of a problem for declarer, who now has all the time in the world.

EUSA and FISA



Dear Bridge Friends,

I work for years now to organise and promote university bridge all around the world. I am responsible for university bridge for EUSA (European University Sports Association) and FISU (International University Sports Federation). We organise a lot of events, also on internet and have the facebook account "Uni bridge".

Are you interested to help me:

- to organise internet competitions on BBO
- to organise events from EUSA and FISU
- to set up a university bridge club in your country
- to develop university bridge in your country
- to update facebook "Uni bridge" with the latest information or be a webmaster
- to be a director at BBO events
- or anything else ...

Do you have idea for new events? I am also very interested in your ideas and what we should do for you to make it better for the future!

Please take the initiative and contact me on geert.magerman@telenet.be: We will make something nice together!!

Geert Magerman

Chairman Technical Committee EUSA and FISU
(International University Sports Association)

Presentation of the Swedish(?) Players and Captains

The squad that is representing Sweden here in Albena is, just like always, a mixture of different ages as well as personalities. What is sort of special this time around is that every single one of us seems to have a different mother country than the one that is actually the case. Apart from Sweden, our players could just as well come from:

Germany – **Cecilia Rimstedt (22)** is the player the keeps track of everything, everyone and everywhere. She wakes up at 8.30 sharp to make sure that all her team-mates are awake, even when she has got a sleep-in! German discipline is a well-know expression all over the world. In the U26-team it is called Cecilian discipline...

Spain – **Mikael Grönkvist (18)** is the obvious Spanish guy; he has cravings for attention and actually enjoys strutting around in tight tricots.

The rhythm of life suits him as well; a few hours of siesta in the afternoon to sleep and then an impressive amount of tapas. You see, if the dishes are small no one can blame you for eating many!

Italy – **Erik Fryklund (24)** is known as the most hot-tempered player in the squad. After going down in a game you can see him wave his hands in the air while explaining to everyone around him that he was very unlucky that

the fourth finesse he took on the deal did not succeed. We should perhaps also add that he loves pasta and pizza.

Thailand – **Sandra Rimstedt (24)** is exotic in a Swedish way. She does not bring beaches and coconut drinks to the bridge table but instead long blonde hair and a shining smile. Thailand is most tourists' dream; is Sandra what most bridge-players think about in their sleep?

Norway – **Johan Karlsson (21)** loves Mother Nature and enjoys the peaceful part of life. He is indeed seen with a fishing rod just as often as he forgets his transfer system. Just like the population of our western neighbour he also loves hiking and therefore spends several weeks every year wandering the mountains.

Japan – **Daniel Gullberg (19)** is obviously pale enough to be a citizen of modern Tokyo. Add that he adores technical gadgets and solutions, mix it with his general politeness and humbleness and you have the recipe for an ordinary Japanese guy, or a member of the Swedish U26-team.

Czech Republic – **Irma Petersen (15)**...

...and Slovakia - **Moa Petersen (18)** Once upon a time they were inseparable – most often at the same place at the same time. In modern times, however, they have slowly grown

apart into two different, very fine countries... Oh, we mean people.

Switzerland – **Catrin Wahlestedt (24)** is a new acquaintance for most of us. Just like the country in central Europe she is likeable and nice – therefore she is also a friend of everybody. This reminds us of Swiss foreign politics and if we did not know that Catrin's father is a bridge player from the south of Sweden, we would think that he was a watchmaker.

France – You have probably seen **Ida Grönkvist (16)** walk around the playing area wearing a beret and a striped shirt with a baguette under her arm. She has a preference for smelly cheeses but luckily (according to her brother), she is yet not old enough to drink wine.

Mongolia – **Simon Hult (16)** was probably born in a far-away, somewhat isolated country, since he is not very accustomed to foreign cultures and languages. The best thing that his room mate could wish for is that he moved back to his home country since then, the extremely loud snoring that is interrupting his sleep, would stop.

Brazil - **Simon Ekenberg (19)** is strolling around the playa of Albena in his sunglasses and swimming trunks just like it was the legendary Copacabana. It is no secret that he is a big fan of 'samba' foot-

ball and his own skills are almost equal to those of a true Brazilian.

North Korea – **Mikael Rimstedt... (15)**

...and South Korea – **Ola Rimstedt (15)** Always arguing about something, yet forced to live and co-operate very closely. Mikael is the nerdier one who wants to be in control while Ola can not live life without his cool technical equipment. The most important thing he brought to Albena was his straightener; something that his twin brother would never dream of.

USA – Per Leandersson (**captain**) (**31**) is the guy running the whole show, and he is aware of it. He tries to make all his inferiors work as hard as possible, yet trying to keep peace in between very different personalities. He has noticed, however, that such a thing is not as easy as you could imagine.

Greece – **PO Sundelin (coach) (73)**, the oracle of Delphi. The last time he was wrong about something was in October 1738. The observant reader would notice that he, according to his age, was not born back then, and that explains his mistake. Just like the ancient Greeks he has invented a lot of stuff, used by many people daily, not only at the bridge table.



Four Missed Chances

by Jean-Francois Jourdain

The Belgian Junior pair, Bert Geens and Wouter Van den Hove, might be a strong candidate for the record amount of missed chances to defeat a contract in one single deal, when facing Croatia during their seventh round match.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
V.d.Hove	Ruso	Geens	Postic
—	—	Pass	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Dble
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Four Clubs by Van den Hove meant eight tricks in hearts but not too much defensive strength. Having a passed hand,



Bert Geens, Belgium

Ivan Postic could now easily introduce a double which led to the pretty normal Four Spades. As you already saw, this contract is doomed by the diamond ruff when three aces are already outside. But this is what happened :

Bert Geens, knowing his partner held at most one defensive trick and that obviously not more than one heart was going to be scored by the defense, if any, tried to develop a diamond ruff and started with his six of diamonds. Had simply led his partner's suit, the diamond switch would have meant 20 seconds of play and a quick undertrick. This was the first opportunity missed by the defense, but nothing wrong happened up to now as the diamond ruff was duly established.

Lara Ruso saw it all coming and went up with dummy's king, dropping her jack in an attempt to falsecard the defense. Then she played a spade to her king and Geens went into a tangle, while ducking smoothly very probably should have resulted in the declarer misguessing trumps and going down even without a diamond ruff. This was the second missed chance.

From Geens's point of view now, it seemed like partner had to ruff something to take the contract down. If the jack of diamonds was sincere, then probably his partner began with a 3-7-3-0 shape and it was time to give him a club ruff. But would that be a Four Club opening? I have my doubts about it. Anyway, if your partner is telling you what to do, the technical thing is to cash the jack of hearts and wait for a suit-preference signal. If your partner plays low, give him a club ruff. If his signal is, let's say, the ten, then you will be delighted to see that your opening lead indeed created a ruff in his hand.

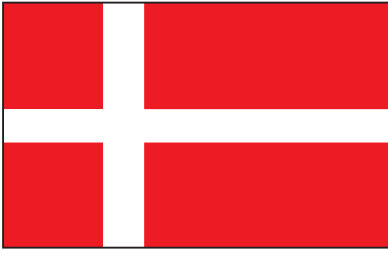
Bert missed this third opportunity and returned the eight of clubs. Van den Hove won the ace and now missed not only the last possibility to defeat the contract, but also to come into the Daily Bulletin as the Super Hero, by underleading AKQ of hearts and finally get the ruff he was hoping for since the very first trick. Unwilling to look silly by giving away the fourth defensive trick if (but only if) his partner started with ace-ten in trumps, he duly cashed the ace of hearts and exited with a club. After all that thought, Geens was certainly not marked with ace-jack bare, so Ruso finessed the jack and wrote 620 in her column. End of the story and 12 IMPS to Croatia, who trashed the Belgians by 25-3.

Oops!

Never rush things – you want to go for dinner, the guys doing the photocopying are waiting for the Bulletin – and you don't check what you have written properly.

While the front page text yesterday morning was correct, the caption under the photograph was incorrect. Apologies to the Dutch Girls who, of course, were Silver medalists, not Bronze.

Team Profile – Danish Juniors



Morten Bilde (Captain)

Morten is 47 years old, happily married with three kids.

Two of them, Dennis and Majka are playing here in Albena.

When not playing or coaching bridge, Morten works in his software business.

He has been a strong influence for the team. Telling us what's right and wrong for many years – both in bridge and in life. His saying goes: "Do as I say – don't do as I do!"

Quote: "I think it's time for another round of "official captain's business" – let's meet at the Sky Bar"

Lea Troels Møller Pedersen (Coach)

26 Years old, Lea has just finished her junior career. Of course she can't live without Junior bridge, so here she is again – as a coach.

Lea is an IT developer, working for the largest bank in Denmark – a nice person to know.

If you see Lea in the bar – watch out. She specializes in drinking with our next opponents, and doesn't mind working all night on the task.

Today she has a Swedish boyfriend, a result of one of her working nights.

Quote: "It's nice to be a coach, I can have a beer anytime I like!"

Emil Jepsen

Emil is 22 years old and has played bridge with Dennis since he was 12 years old.

He studies Chemistry at the university in Aarhus.

Emil is the team member with the least amount of embarrassing stories.

There are stories too obscene to be written here. If you're still curious ask Lea at the bar.

Emil was a Junior World Champion when only 19 years old (2008 in Beijing), and he is the "Rock" on the team. We can always count on Emil.

Quote: "I wonder if Dennis will be here on time?"

Dennis Bilde

Dennis is 21 years old, and when he comes home will be starting an education as electrician.

Back in China 2008 Dennis was the unfortunate loser of a bet, and later we read about him in a police report in Beijing 2008. Luckily we got him back on the team, and they proceeded to win.

He won a gold medal there, but lost it after a "less than sober" evening. He now thinks he lent it to an Australian player, and thus looks forward to playing a tournament in Australia some time.

He is the reigning Individual Junior World Champion,

which just proves that he must have had a very good partner.

Quote: "I wish I was a coach!"

Quote Dennis's mom: "You're too much like your dad!"

Niclas Raulund Ege

21 years old, Niclas is now entering the Junior Team.

When not playing, Niclas is studying economics.

He has played with (almost) every member on the team in the Schools series, and Lars Tofte is his last chance in the Juniors.

Niclas is a very nice guy, and is very unhappy that the girls will not be with him at the banquet.

Niclas lives with Lars back in Denmark, but here he shares a room with Matias. Rumors are that he is moving back to Lars very soon. Sharing a 1½ person bed with Matias has been too much of a challenge for him.

Quote: "Why do the girls always leave early?"

Matias Rohrberg

"Tias" is 23 years old. He is by far our player with the most impressive chest hair – and proud of it. We are sure everyone at the pool is jealous!

Matias is studying medicine, please feel free to ask him for medical advice.

Other than that he enjoys luring Lars and Dennis into multiple strange dares. It turns out that climbing the stairs from the lobby to sky bar and back can be done in under 3min 15sec. He won a fair amount of beers on that wager.

Quote: "Sleeping naked is perfectly natural!"

Lars Tofte

Lars is 23 years old, and until now his diet has consisted of Faxe Kondi (Danish soft drink like sprite) and ... well Faxe Kondi. And he usually shaves once every two months.

But today Lars is a completely different guy. He has been first at the breakfast table every day, and we have already seen him trim his beard twice.

Lars is studying law at the moment, but might take up something else in the coming year.

Lars is the perfect gambling type. Even at the bridge table you can hear him offering the opponents odds on the contract they are playing right now.

Quote: "I'll give you odds 2-1 on..."

Maria Dam Mortensen

Maria is 22 years old and is studying to become a buildings engineer.

Has previously played with Niclas, but has now teamed up with Matias. As the only girl on the team she tries desperately to introduce some proper manners to the boys – unsuccessfully some would say!

Quote: "I have no idea where they are! Probably out gambling somewhere..."

Card Reading and Technical Play

by Micke Melander

Many important IMPs and later on VPs are given away in this Championship due to the fact that players are playing too quickly or don't use all the information they get – though you might be lucky and make the correct guesses to survive anyway. Let's have a look at three quite instructive boards that occurred in Round 14 of the juniors.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Karlsson</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Gullberg</i>
–	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♦*	Pass	4♣	All Pass

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>C.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Fisher</i>
–	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

You know that you most probably will lose one trick in each of the red suits. Trumps are most probably solid so the question is how to play the clubs to avoid two losers there?

Birman, in the Open Room, got the three of hearts lead and that went to North's king and declarer's ace. He then played a club to the king – well guessed we should say!

Rimstedt, in the Closed Room, got the five of hearts lead, and that went to North's jack and declarer's ace. Before making a guess in clubs she now played the nine of hearts, on which South went up with the queen, clarifying how the honours were distributed, since South most probably never would have led a low heart from king-queen-ten. Fisher continued with a low diamond, finessed to North's king, who exited with a low trump. A second round of trumps by declarer told her that North also had the jack of spades.

Now – adding all that up, Cecilia Rimstedt knew that if North had the ace of clubs he would have opened the bidding (most probably at least) so there was no guess any longer. Well played.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Karlsson</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Gullberg</i>
–	–	–	1♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>C.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Fisher</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♥	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Karlsson got the five of hearts (fourth best) lead and that went to the two, king and ace. The ten of diamonds fol-



Cecilia Rimstedt, Sweden

lowed, covered with the king and ace, West following suit. The queen and jack of diamonds were then played from dummy, revealing the fact that diamonds weren't 3-3. It isn't obvious where the ace of spades is located but, for unknown reasons, Karlsson left the diamonds and ran the ten of clubs to East's king, and East now had an easy job returning a heart, killing the contract. If the king of clubs had been onside, declarer might have had four tricks in that suit and then nine tricks.

In the Closed Room, Schwartz got the three of hearts lead (third and fifth). He tried the nine from dummy and that was covered with the king and ace. Again declarer played the contract the same way as in the Open Room. Three round of diamonds and the losing finesse in clubs allowed East to clear the hearts to beat the contract.

The question is; shouldn't East be marked more or less with the ace of spades for making that overcall of 1♥. And with hearts 5-1 what is West going to return that might harm you if you continue with your diamonds (especially if you are prepared to take that club finesse of your own free will)? Alas, a fourth round of diamonds should have been played at trick five for some nice IMPs, which was easier to do in the Closed than in the Open Room.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

World University Bridge Championships 2012

Dear Bridge Friends,

From 9/7/2012 till 15/7/2012, FISU (International University Sports Federation) will organise the 6th World University Bridge Championships in Reims, France. It is a team competition.

And country may send two national teams, and students from universities and high schools between 18 till 28 may participate and must have the nationality from the country they represent.

All information is available on www.fisu.net and facebook "uni bridge". We hope to see a lot of teams.

Contact the sports department from your university or high school to see if they want to cover the costs, 60 Euro/day/person full entries and accommodation included.

Geert Magerman

*Chairman Technical Committee EUSA and FISU
(International University Sports Association)*

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Karlsson</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Gullberg</i>
–	–	Pass	1♣
2♦	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>M. Grönkvist</i>	<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Fisher</i>
–	–	Pass	1♦
2♦	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

In the Open Room, Birman lead the nine of spades. That was covered with the queen from dummy by Karlsson, Padon brilliantly played low, allowing declarer to win the trick and also keeping the defensive communications open in the suit.

Declarer knows about the two-suiter with West and, has good odds to also succeed in finding the diamonds where he wants them to be, so he can make his contract.

Karlsson continued with a heart to the king and the jack of diamonds. East jumped up with the ace and continued the attack in spades, beating the contract.

In the Closed Room, Fisher had the same knowledge from the bidding and got a spade to the nine lead, ducked by declarer! The defense continued with a second round of spades to the jack and king. West now exited with a heart, won in dummy. Fisher continued with a diamond to the king and the nine of diamonds throwing East in. Rimstedt cashed the ace and exited with her last heart. Declarer won the trick in his hand, entered dummy in hearts to cash his diamonds, and finally had to decide to finesse or not in clubs. Fisher read the situation correctly and took the finesse to make his contract. Well deserved IMPs for Israel.



Alon Birman, Israel

JUNIORS TEAMS ROUND 14



DENMARK

v

ITALY



by Ram Soffer

Round 13 saw the Danish Juniors inflict the first defeat of the tournament on the leading Israeli team. As a result, Italy moved closer the top, but they had to meet the Danes in the next round. This was a battle between potential medal winners. The start was all Italy.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

The normal contract of Four Spades by East was reached at both tables. In the Closed Room Madala (South) led a heart to the jack and ace. Tofte (East) played a club immediately. He was hoping to persuade South to rise the ace (in case he had it), fearing a singleton club at declarer's hand. However, the experienced Madala ducked smoothly and Tofte misguessed, playing dummy's jack and losing to North's queen. The Italians cashed their heart trick, and later won a club and a diamond for down one.

In the Open Room Di Franco (East) won the heart lead and played two rounds of diamonds. Later he guessed it right playing a club to the king. He also managed to ruff two diamonds, making his contract. That was +420 and 10-0 to Italy. More trouble for Denmark followed.

West	North	East	South
Ege	Delle Cave	Tofte	Madala
–	–	Pass	INT
Dble	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Rubino	Bilde	Di Franco	Jepsen
–	–	Pass	INT
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Dble	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, West doubled the INT opening and East made a disciplined, though risky, pass. It's a popular agreement that responder's Pass requires the opener to redouble, but the Italians played it simple. West had to find a lead against INT doubled. The ♥Q seemed normal, but Ege tried out the ♠A. Tofte encouraged with the ♠2 (after all, partner led his strongest suit) and Ege wrongly expected the ♠Q from his partner, playing two more rounds of the suit with ugly consequences.

The bidding indicated that the minor-suit queens were probably with West, but Madala finessed in clubs as a safety play to guarantee seven tricks. Ege was on lead once again, and this time he tried the ♥Q. Now declarer was assured of nine tricks, and an unnecessary diamond discard by East gave him the tenth. Plus 780 was a huge result for Italy.

At the other table Rubino bid 2♣, showing majors, and ended up in a very poor contract of 3♥. However, Denmark failed to double and the cost was just two non-vulnerable undertricks; 12 IMPs and 22-0 to Italy.

The Italians added 3 more IMPs on Board 3, but then Denmark struck back forcefully. First they made 4♠ on Board 6 with the same contract down two at the other table. Then their E/W pair outbid the Italians.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ege	Delle Cave	Tofte	Madala
1♦	2♣	Dble	3♣
Dbl	4♣	4♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Rubino	Bilde	Di Franco	Jepsen
1♦	2♣	Dble	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Ege/Tofte reached a reasonable 4♥ with 21 HCP. All finesses were onside, and declarer could make 11 tricks. The key call was West's double on the second round, a kind of responsive double showing both majors, after East's negative double promised at least one major. Declarer discovered at an early stage the favorable lie of the major suits, and later refrained from the diamond finesse in order to avoid any possible ruffs, making exactly four.

At the other table East's double was apparently more ambiguous and didn't necessarily promise a major suit. Rubino must have expected a better hand with a diamond fit for bidding 3NT. He successfully tried all finesses, but eight tricks were still the limit. Denmark picked up 10 IMPs, and in the very next board they took over the lead.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

At both tables North opened 1NT and reached 4♥ after a simple Stayman sequence. Di Franco, the Italian East, led the natural looking ♦Q. Declarer ducked, won the diamond continuation and immediately ruffed a diamond in dummy. Later he gave up a spade and a heart, making ten tricks despite the awkward trump break.

Tofte did better by leading the ♣9. In fact, the lead from a doubleton is usually recommended when the leader possesses a high trump honour, since in those cases it's harder for declarer to draw trumps and the opening leader's chances of scoring his ruff increase markedly. Delle Cave won the lead in dummy and played a heart to the jack and queen, ducked. The diamond ruff was necessary to make the contract, so at the next trick declarer gave up a diamond. Tofte led another club. Delle Cave could have made his contract by continuing diamonds, but instead he ran the ♥8. Tofte took his king, returned a trump, and declarer was

suddenly lost. He got his diamond ruff, but afterwards he was stuck in dummy, unable to prevent a club ruff or a trump promotion; 10 more IMPs and 33-25 to Denmark.

The Danish lead increased when imperfect declarer play justified a reckless penalty double.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ege	Delle Cave	Tofte	Madala
1♥	Pass	2♥	Dble
2NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Rubino	Bilde	Di Franco	Jepsen
1♥	Pass	2♥	Dble
Pass	2NT	Dble	3♣
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥	Dble	All Pass	

In the Open Room it appeared to be a partscore battle until West made a belated 3♦ bid and East tried 3NT.



Niclas Ege, Denmark

Bilde doubled 4♥ and led the ♠8. Rubino adopted a straightforward line of play: winning the first trick, club to the ace, diamond finesse, diamond ruff, club ruff and another diamond ruff with the ♥9, South unable to over-ruff. All well up to now, but when he played the ♥K, North won and led a second spade. South won two spade tricks, and his last spade promoted his partner's ♥10 for the setting trick. Instead of playing the ♥K at trick eight, ruffing another club would lead to making the doubled contract.

In the Closed Room West initiated a short-suit trial bid with 2NT, and East accepted the game try immediately. After the same ♠8 lead, Ege ducked, won the second trick, and continued exactly as above, until the second diamond ruff in dummy. Following his careful play at trick one, both ♥K and a club were winning plays at this point. The Danish declarer chose the latter and his team gained 11 IMPs to lead 44-30. However, the next doubled contract in the Open Room was a disaster for the Danes:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ege	Delle Cave	Tofte	Madala
–	1♣	3♦	Dble
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Rubino	Bilde	Di Franco	Jepsen
–	1♣	4♦	Dble
All Pass			

Passing negative doubles with a balanced hand at the four-level may win points in the long run, but this time Bilde regretted his choice (he could bid 4♥). Jepsen led the ♣3, won by North's king. Bilde switched to a trump. Di Franco played it accurately, running the trick to dummy's eight, discarding a club on the ♥A and playing a club towards his queen. Later he made the right guess in spades, gaining the necessary entry to repeat the diamond finesse; Plus 710 for Italy.

At the other table Denmark pre-empted one level lower, and Italy reached a normal contract of 4♥, which failed due to the 4-0 trump split. Still they gained 12 IMPs, and after another pick-up of 3 IMPs due to extra undertricks on

Board 15 the Italians regained the lead; 45-44.

On the next board a nice play by Madala gave Italy hopes of victory.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ege	Delle Cave	Tofte	Madala
1♣	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	2♦	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

One would not expect a five-card major after a balancing call of INT (when 1♥ was available), but Madala repeated the suit after North's Stayman was followed by a cuebid, and Delle Cave raised him to the heart game.

Ege led the ♦A, hoping to find a quick entry to his partner's hand in order to play a club through declarer, but it turned out to be a grave error. Madala won the ♦K, played a small spade to the jack and drew trumps in three rounds. Next he played the king and ace of spades, but the suit failed to divide 3-3. The key play was ducking the fourth spade to West, while discarded a club from his hand. As declarer had hoped, Ege had no more diamonds, and the loser-on-loser endplay worked. West was forced to lead a club for declarer's tenth trick.

At the other table the Italian E/W overbid to 4♦, but luckily Di Franco was not doubled. He ended up down two, and making a game at the other room gained 6 IMPs for Italy.

Nevertheless, two bad results in the Open Room followed. On Board 17 Rubino/Di Franco grossly overbid to 6♥, down three. This cost only 3 IMPs as Ege/Tofte did only a little better, down one in 5♠. Board 18 swung the match back in Denmark's favour, as they made a doubled vulnerable game which went down one in the other room. The final score was 62-53 IMPs (17-13 VPs) to Denmark.

Despite the commendable achievement of defeating both leading teams in succession, the Danes moved down to fourth place. They were overtaken by France, who beat Finland 24-6. As for the Italians, they were trailing Israel by 18 VP following the Israelis' 17-13 win over Sweden, but the battle is definitely not over yet. The highly anticipated showdown between the two best teams is coming up on Thursday.