



Issue 9
July 25, 1998

16th European Junior Teams Bridge Championship

DAILY BULLETIN

3rd European Schools Teams Bridge Championship



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Italy with maximum points take lead in Juniors

Junior Championship

The Italian Junior team had a record day, beating Austria 25-4, Finland 25-3, and Croatia 25-5. This put Italy 16 points clear of Russia.

Making their first appearance on VuGraph, the World Champions Denmark destroyed The Netherlands 25-3, a severe blow to the chances of the Dutch. But in the last match of the day Denmark were beaten 4-25 by Israel, pushing Denmark back down to fifth and moving Israel into third place.

In Round 15 the six leading six teams won by wide margins and started to pull clear of the field. In the second match it was very much the same story, except for Sweden who were beaten 4-25 by their Austrian hosts.

That enabled Turkey to leapfrog over them into sixth place.

In the final match of the day another key result was Sweden's win over Norway 17-13 on the Vu-Graph.

Schools Championship

Italy continued to march on to almost certain victory. The key result came in the last match of the day when Italy beat The Netherlands 24-6. The Dutch, with two good results earlier in the day, had moved into second place and looked to be the main threat. There is a tremendous battle for the remaining medals with just 6 points covering the four following teams: The Netherlands, Sweden, Poland and Norway.



The famous Riesenrad Wheel

The highlight of the Day Out was a party on the Big Wheel, made famous by the film "The Third Man" with Orson Welles. With a fourth man present on the outing, it was possible to have a bridge game whilst riding the Wheel (full report inside).

Today

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Junior

Results

Round 15

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| Yugoslavia | Croatia | 18-50 | 8-22 |
| Germany | France | 51-34 | 19-11 |
| Finland | Spain | 80-20 | 25- 3 |
| Israel | Belarus | 68-25 | 24- 6 |
| Great Britain | Turkey | 3-32 | 9-21 |
| Denmark | The Netherlands | 77-16 | 25- 3 |
| Norway | Hungary | 64-34 | 21- 9 |
| Greece | Sweden | 45-81 | 8-22 |
| Austria | Italy | 34-88 | 4-25 |
| Iceland | Czech Republic | 51-30 | 19-11 |
| Poland | Russia | 50-70 | 10-20 |

Round 16

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|-------|
| Israel | Yugoslavia | 54-21 | 22- 8 |
| Turkey | Spain | 65-15 | 25- 5 |
| Germany | Denmark | 37-47 | 13-17 |
| Hungary | Croatia | 76-28 | 25- 5 |
| France | Greece | 64- 6 | 25- 4 |
| Italy | Finland | 99-35 | 25- 3 |
| Belarus | Iceland | 66-17 | 25- 5 |
| Russia | Great Britain | 64-39 | 20-10 |
| The Netherlands | Poland | 30-37 | 14-16 |
| Czech Republic | Norway | 38-66 | 9-21 |
| Sweden | Austria | 12-67 | 4-25 |

Round 17

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| Yugoslavia | Turkey | 47-86 | 7-23 |
| Denmark | Israel | 23-82 | 4-25 |
| Spain | Hungary | 40-63 | 10-20 |
| Greece | Germany | 19-77 | 4-25 |
| Croatia | Italy | 20-70 | 5-25 |
| Iceland | France | 62-44 | 19-11 |
| Finland | Russia | 26-42 | 12-18 |
| Poland | Belarus | 68-43 | 20-10 |
| Great Britain | Czech Republic | 68-48 | 19-11 |
| Austria | The Netherlands | 43-33 | 17-13 |
| Norway | Sweden | 51-60 | 13-17 |

Program

Saturday 25, 10:30

Round 18

| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. | Germany | Yugoslavia |
| 2. | Spain | Croatia |
| 3. | France | Israel |
| 4. | Turkey | Finland |
| 5. | Belarus | Denmark |
| 6. | Hungary | Great Britain |
| 7. | The Netherlands | Greece |
| 8. | Italy | Norway |
| 9. | Sweden | Iceland |
| 10. | Russia | Austria |
| 11. | Czech Republic | Poland |

Saturday 25, 15:00

Round 19

| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
|-------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Yugoslavia | Hungary |
| 2. | Greece | Denmark |
| 3. | Turkey | Italy |
| 4. | Iceland | Israel |
| 5. | Spain | Russia |
| 6. | Poland | Germany |
| 7. | Croatia | Czech Republic |
| 8. | Austria | France |
| 9. | Finland | Sweden |
| 10. | Norway | Belarus |
| 11. | Great Britain | The Netherlands |

Saturday 25, 20:30

Round 20

| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. | Denmark | Yugoslavia |
| 2. | Hungary | Turkey |
| 3. | Israel | Greece |
| 4. | Italy | Spain |
| 5. | Germany | Iceland |
| 6. | Russia | Croatia |
| 7. | France | Poland |
| 8. | Czech Republic | Finland |
| 9. | Belarus | Austria |
| 10. | Sweden | Great Britain |
| 11. | The Netherlands | Norway |

Standings

After Round 17

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| 1. Italy | 335 | 12. Iceland | 255.5 |
| 2. Russia | 319 | 13. Hungary | 253 |
| 3. Israel | 316 | 14. Finland | 247 |
| 4. Norway | 313.5 | 15. Great Britain | 239 |
| 5. Denmark | 302 | 16. France | 226 |
| 6. Turkey | 301 | 17. Germany | 214 |
| 7. Sweden | 289.5 | 18. Croatia | 203 |
| 8. Austria | 269 | 19. Czech Rep. | 200 |
| 9. Poland | 267 | 20. Yugoslavia | 192 |
| 10. Belarus | 264 | 21. Greece | 143 |
| 11. Netherlands | 264 | 22. Spain | 128 |

Schools

Results

Round 7

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|-------|
| Yugoslavia | France | 69-42 | 20-10 |
| Poland | Russia | 90-28 | 25- 3 |
| Austria | Israel | 31-59 | 9-21 |
| Great Britain | Ireland | 93-30 | 25- 3 |
| The Netherlands | Hungary | 64-17 | 24- 6 |
| Norway | Italy | 28-67 | 7-23 |
| Germany | Sweden | 53-54 | 15-15 |

Round 8

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| Norway | Yugoslavia | 67-50 | 19-11 |
| Sweden | Hungary | 54-43 | 17-13 |
| Great Britain | Germany | 92-40 | 25- 5 |
| Italy | Israel | 57-34 | 20-10 |
| Poland | The Netherlands | 29-55 | 10-20 |
| Ireland | France | 34-94 | 3-25 |
| Russia | Austria | 68-33 | 22- 8 |

Round 9

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|-----------------|---------------|--------|-------|
| Yugoslavia | Israel | 69-49 | 19-11 |
| Great Britain | Poland | 19-110 | 0-25 |
| France | Hungary | 61-48 | 18-12 |
| Norway | Russia | 77-39 | 23- 7 |
| Austria | Sweden | 21-97 | 1-25 |
| Germany | Ireland | 120-14 | 25- 0 |
| The Netherlands | Italy | 30-75 | 6-24 |

Standings

After Round 9

| | | |
|-----|---------------|-------|
| 1. | Italy | 212 |
| 2. | Netherlands | 159 |
| 3. | Sweden | 155 |
| 4. | Poland | 155 |
| 5. | Norway | 154 |
| 6. | Hungary | 150 |
| 7. | France | 145 |
| 8. | Israel | 127 |
| 9. | Great Britain | 119 |
| 10. | Germany | 118.5 |
| 11. | Russia | 112 |
| 12. | Yugoslavia | 100.5 |
| 13. | Austria | 93 |
| 14. | Ireland | 41 |

Program

Saturday 25, 10:30

Round 10

| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
|-------|-----------|-----------------|
| 21. | Poland | Yugoslavia |
| 22. | Israel | France |
| 23. | Russia | Great Britain |
| 24. | Hungary | Austria |
| 25. | Ireland | Norway |
| 26. | Sweden | The Netherlands |
| 27. | Italy | Germany |

Saturday 25, 15:00

Round 11

| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| 21. | Yugoslavia | Sweden |
| 22. | Germany | Norway |
| 23. | Hungary | Italy |
| 24. | The Netherlands | Great Britain |
| 25. | Israel | Ireland |
| 26. | Austria | Poland |
| 27. | France | Russia |

Saturday 25, 20:30

Round 12

| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |
|-------|---------------|-----------------|
| 21. | Great Britain | Yugoslavia |
| 22. | Hungary | Israel |
| 23. | Poland | Norway |
| 24. | Sweden | France |
| 25. | Russia | Germany |
| 26. | Italy | Austria |
| 27. | Ireland | The Netherlands |

Lost and Found

The hospitality desk has a number of items that that have been handed in. They include keys, clothes and drinks. If you have mislaid something make sure you pay them a visit.

Today's Vugraph



10:30

Schools - Round 10

Israel – France

15:00

Juniors - Round 19

Turkey – Italy

20:30

Juniors - Round 20

The Netherlands – Norway

Match Of The Day

Juniors, Round 15: Denmark - The Netherlands

The Dutch were in 7th place and Denmark up to fourth when the teams met on VuGraph in Round 15.

On Board 2 there was an interesting borderline slam. As both tables stopped in game we write it up elsewhere. The next deal gave North a chance to shine in defence and Ricco van Prooijen rose to the occasion. As Thomas Charlsen of Norway found the identical defence in the match against Hungary, and the bidding was the same at all three tables, we give you the players at every table:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Game

♠ A 5 3
♥ Q 10 8 7
♦ K Q J 9
♣ A 9

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | N | |
| W | | E |
| | S | |

♠ 10 8 2
♥ J 6
♦ 10 8 7 3
♣ K 6 5 3

♠ 4
♥ A K 9 5 4 2
♦ A 6
♣ Q J 8 7

♠ K Q J 9 7 6
♥ 3
♦ 5 4 2
♣ 10 4 2

| | West | North | East | South |
|---------|------------|-------------|----------|---------------|
| VG | Wijma | Madsen | Zwerver | Brondum |
| VG-CI. | Kristensen | v. Prooijen | Nohr | de Wijs |
| Nor-Hun | Trenka | Charlsen | Winkler | Kristoffersen |
| | | | | 3♠ |
| | 4♥ | Dble | All Pass | |

All three Norths led ♦K against Four Hearts doubled. West won and led a low heart. All three Norths rose with ♥Q. Madsen then erred by switching to spades. Declarer was able to draw trumps, using a spade ruff to return, and concede only one off.

At the other two tables we describe, Van Prooijen and Charlsen both saw the advantage of playing ace and another club without cashing any of their side winners. Declarer won the second club and could cross to the jack of hearts, but he had no quick way back to hand to draw North's trumps. Whatever declarer plays next the defence can obtain a club ruff.

For Hungary, Trenka anticipated the ruff, and, instead of going over to ♥J, simply played top trumps from hand, conceding a second trump when they did not break.

After winning the second club, Kristensen crossed to ♥J and then played a third club, suffering the ruff at once. Better perhaps, is to play ♦10. Then North has to win and must underlead his ♠A to get the ruff.

Netherlands and Norway therefore both recorded a 7 IMP gain against Four Hearts doubled only one off at the other table.

The next deal supported the old adages that 'silence is golden' and 'careless talk cost lives':



Mik Kristensen - Denmark

Board 4. Dealer West. Game All

♠ 10 9 4
♥ 8
♦ A 7 6 5
♣ Q 9 6 5 3

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | N | |
| W | | E |
| | S | |

♠ A 8 3 2
♥ K 4
♦ K Q 8 3 2
♣ A 8

♠ K Q 7 6 5
♥ A 9 6
♦ 9
♣ K 10 7 2

♠ J
♥ Q J 10 7 5 3 2
♦ J 10 4
♣ J 4

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|-------|----------|---------|---------|
| Wijma | Madsen | Zwerver | Brondum |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| 3♠ | Pass | 4♣ | Pass |
| 4♦ | Pass | 4♥ | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5♠ | Pass |
| 6♠ | All Pass | | |

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|------------|-------------|------|----------|
| Kristensen | v. Prooijen | Nohr | de Wijs |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | 3♥ |
| 4♠ | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 5♥ | Pass | 6♠ | All Pass |

Both tables reached Six Spades by East, the key difference being that one South had made a weak jump overcall of Three Hearts. Both Souths led ♥Q.

At the table where there had been no interference Zwerver won the ace, and led a diamond to the king and ace. North switched to a low club, giving declarer the chance to pick up three tricks in the suit. But unaware of the danger in hearts, declarer planned to ruff a heart ♣

Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day

♣ and a club in dummy. He won the club with the king, and crossed to the heart king. North ruffed to defeat the slam.

Where South had warned of North's singleton heart, declarer, Mikkel Nohr, won the heart lead, drew trumps, and led a diamond to the king and ace. North won, and with only minor-suit cards remaining, returned a low club to the jack and ace. Now Nohr tested diamonds by ruffing one and returning to ♥K to cash ♦Q. When South's ♦J10x fell he was able to claim without risking the club finesse. This was 17 IMPs to Denmark.

Both tables on the deal below bid to the good Six Diamonds due to be defeated by the bad spade break. South led ♥A.



Denmark's Mikkel Nohr tries to 'sniff out' the answer

At one table South continued with a low heart ruffed and over-ruffed. Declarer was able to squeeze North down to one club, but South still had to make the jack of clubs to defeat the slam. However, in the Closed Room South let a club go unnecessarily, and declarer was home. This was a further 16 IMPs to Denmark. The match was effectively over, and Denmark won 64-16 or 25-5. We continue with two stories from other matches.

Board 13. Dealer North. Game All

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

In the Schools match between Sweden and Germany a slam was reached very quickly. East opened 1♦, South

overcalled 3♥ and West doubled. East bid what he hoped he could make 6♦.

South led the jack of spades and declarer immediately suspected a singleton. He won in dummy and drew trumps before exiting with a heart. South had to win and was endplayed into leading a club. He naturally selected the ♣6 and declarer was at the crossroads. If North held both club honours then it made no difference for he would inevitably be squeezed in the black suits. Perhaps the bidding should incline declarer to place the king of clubs with North, but sadly he got it wrong, calling for dummy's queen.

Better luck next time!

Board 17. Dealer North. Love All

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

Our next deal was a dull push at 3NT+2 in our featured match, but several pairs reached a slam. Six Spades, Six Diamonds and Six No-Trumps were all attempted. The former has no chance barring a defensive error, but 6♦ appears to be cold. We do not propose to embarrass the declarer who failed by asking him for details. 6NT is certain to fail if West is on lead and selects a club honour but if East is on lead it is a different matter. Double dummy the contract can always be made on a non-club lead by starting with a low spade from the South hand.

The only one to make twelve tricks was Hungary's Gábor Minarik in the Schools event. He took the opening lead of the ♦3 in dummy and crossed to the king of hearts. When he played the jack of spades East covered, so winning the ace and continuing with a spade from dummy now gave declarer twelve ♣

Bridge Magazine

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Match of the Day Match of the Day Match of the Day

☉ winners.

This board saw a nice defence by the Danish pair on VuGraph:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Game

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

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Wijma</i> | <i>Lund Madsen</i> | <i>Zwerver</i> | <i>Brondum</i> |
| 1♣ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| INT | All Pass | | |

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|
| <i>Kristensen</i> | <i>v. Prooijen</i> | <i>Nohr</i> | <i>de Wijs</i> |
| Pass | 3♥ | All Pass | 2♦ |

The "Norwegian" Two Diamonds has obviously spread contagiously to the Netherlands. It led to a successful Three Hearts by North, declarer losing only three trumps and the ace of diamonds.

On VuGraph, against West's INT, North led the six of hearts. Declarer won and played a club to the queen which North ducked. A second club went to South's king and he switched to the six of diamonds. West tried the queen, but Morten Lund Madsen won and continued with the ten of diamonds. Schelte Wijma took the ace and cleared his club trick. Freddie Brondum wisely contributed the ten of hearts to this trick and a few seconds later the jack of spades settled on the table. Now the defenders had four spade tricks, two diamonds and two clubs. Well done. ☹

Make a small Teddy Bear Happy!

A small green Teddy Bear has been found and is waiting at the Hospitality Desk to be re-united with its owner!

Team Profile

The Italian Schools Team

The **di Bello** brothers, both students in Naples, are not partners. **Stelio**, 18, partners **Stefano Uccello**, 20, also a student in Naples. **Furio**, 19, partners **Guariglia Ruggiero**, 20, a ceramist of Salerno. **Fabio Lo Presti**, 18, a student in Bologna partners **Leonardo Magrini**, 19, of Milan who already works for the Italian Bridge Federation.

Npc: **Enrico Guerra**, 46, is a manager in Naples who has won the EUBL Mixed Teams. ☹



Quiz Corner



Question

What is the name?

By Steen Møller, Denmark

In yesterday's Bulletin there was a report called "The Magnificent Three" with a board from round 18 where only two pairs managed to make 3NT:

Dealer East. NIS Game

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

First for Poland North was the declarer. "East led the two of clubs and after winning declarer simply played ace and another diamond, making nine tricks in comfort".

Now for Yugoslavia South was the declarer. "Here West led a spade and on winning with the jack declarer ran the eight of diamonds. West won and switched to the eight of hearts. East won and played back a heart, but to no avail, declarer having an easy route to nine tricks".

What is the name of the "coup" that was not found by any of the two East-players or the reporter? Valuable for the correct name.

Solution on page 11

Endgame Error

Yesterday we published an article entitled 'No Double No Trouble.'

It concerned this deal:

Dealer West. Love All

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

It featured some fine play in Six Hearts. Alas, we mis-described the ending. It should have looked like this:

These cards were left:

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|-----------------------------|
| ♠ A 8 ♥ - ♦ K ♣ - | <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 | | ♠ 6 ♥ - ♦ - ♣ Q 10 |
| | N | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | | E | | | | | | | | | |
| | S | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♠ J 10 ♥ - ♦ A ♣ - | | | | | | | | | | |

When the ♣Q was played South had no answer.

Team Profile

The Italian Junior Team

The pair who have been leading in the Butler scores are **Daniele Pagani**, 25, a sales engineer, who won the Italian Junior Teams in both 1994 and 1995, and his partner **Paolo Marino**, 24, a student. At the last European Union Championships held this year in Salsomaggiore, the Junior Pairs played in the Open field. This was good for Pagani & Marino who won overall! Their title as EUBL Open Pairs Champions will not be taken from them, because there will be no next EUBL Championship.

Bernardo Biondo, 23, and **Riccardo Intonti**, 25, both University students in Rome are the most experienced pair in the team, and have won three Italian Junior Teams titles.

Mario d'Avossa, 24, a student in Milan, and **Matteo Mallardi**, 24, a maths student in Trieste, are both keen on football.

Npc **Gianpaolo Rinaldi**, 46, of Milan.

Team Profile

The Scottish Junior Team

Liz McGowan is a Bridge journalist from Edinburgh. She seizes this chance to thank the players of all nations for the wonderful copy for her Friday Disaster column.

She made the mistake of arriving on a separate plane from her team, and was disconcerted to find that they are in fact the British Junior Table Football Squad. (We take on all comers.) Unaccustomed to hot weather, she has found the constant pressure of Line-Up Forms too much, and retreated from reality into a rare condition known as Scotcitis Extremis

Martin Jones (25) and **David Bakhshi** (23) could be described as our anchor pair, anchoring us firmly in the bottom half of the table.

Martin plays with John Collings, and so is inured to criticism. He has volunteered for all the abuse earned by the team, and sets the tone by bidding 4♠ on every hand in case it turns out to be the wrong thing to do. Martin was recently a popular visitor to Scotland as a member of the English team which lost the annual international match for the Camrose Trophy in front of an appreciative home crowd.

David has just graduated in psychology, and he is the team strategist. His views on the Role of Red and Blue Cards in Bridge are profound, but sadly misunderstood, especially by his partner. Whenever Scotland is mentioned he laughs.

Jon Green (22) and **Graham Hazel** (21) could be described as the pair with a future, which will be spent in explaining why their bubble burst, scattering nasty bits over all their scorecards.

Jon is relentless in his search for the Best Line. This would normally be easier to analyse in a more realistic contract. He is completely English and inexplicably proud of it. He does intend to visit Scotland next month to confirm how awful a place it is.

Graham likes a doze in mid-match, waking up periodically to say "I just did something completely absurd". He usually knows the Best Line, but it is rarely the one he has taken. Graham has lived all his life in Cambridge, but intends to move to Edinburgh later this year in an attempt to become Scottish.

Paula Leslie (24) and **Suzanne Cohen** (24) could be described as the Team Cheerleaders, but they have little to be cheerful about and their leading is no better than the others. They did win the prize for best attempt to concoct a team uniform which would make tall, dark, straight-haired Paula virtually indistinguishable from petite, fair, curly-haired Suzanne.

Paula is responsible for the System that makes their slam bidding legendary. Suzanne contributes her unique style of preemption which adds the spice of the 4-figure penalty to an otherwise mundane card. The girls have been a partnership since their schooldays in Dundee. They are both Scottish and will immediately set upon anyone who refers to us as the 'English' team.

Andrew McIntosh is the Team Coach. He is completely Scottish and comes from Inverness, though he has been exiled to London where he earns his living teaching Bridge. So far he has taught the team to drink beer and to win at backgammon by playing against him.

Michael Ashe was here as Team Support, a non-specific role which has had to be abandoned when he was recalled to Britain by the serious illness of his father. We would like to thank him for his assistance and wish him well.

Homepage

von Fritz Babsch

Bridge-Olympiade 1968

Vor genau 30 Jahren fand in Deauville die 3. Bridge-Olympiade statt, vorher hatte man in Turin (1960) und in New York (1964) gespielt. Die World Bridge Federation war erst kurz vor 1960 gegründet worden.

Österreich war in Turin dabeigewesen (ziemlich erfolglos), nach New York fuhr man erst gar nicht. Österreich befand sich im Wellental, der absolute Tiefpunkt war der letzte Platz bei der EM in Warschau.

Das österreichische Team bestand aus den Paaren F.Babsch/P.Manhardt, F.Kral/I.Maly und G.In der Maur/W.Rainer, Kapitän war Dr. Max Reithofer. Was wir damals gespielt haben, würde man heute teilweise als "Steinzeitbridge" bezeichnen. Wir befanden uns damit in guter Gesellschaft, nur die Italiener waren schon einen Schritt voraus.

Die Veranstaltung war glänzend organisiert und in den Abendrunden ein elegantes Gesellschaftsereignis; die Räumlichkeiten im Casino paßten gut zu den Herren im Smoking und den Damen in ihren Abendkleidern. Zum Kiebitzen gab es bei einigen Tischen Tribünen, die immer dicht besetzt waren, vor allem dann, wenn die großen Stars dort spielten. An ein Bridgerama kann ich mich nicht erinnern.

Und was es dort an großen Stars gab! Die Italiener spielten mit dem kompletten "Blue Team", also mit Avarelli/Belladonna, Forquet/Garozzo und D'Al

elio/Pabis Ticci. Die Amerikaner, die unbedingt die Vorherrschaft der Italiener brechen wollten, spielten mit Kaplan/Kay, Jordan/Robinson und Roth/Root. Viele andere Teams hatten Starpaare, etwa die Niederländer mit Kreijns/Slavenburg, die Kanadier mit Kehela/Murray, die Australier mit Cummings/Seres und die Brasilianer mit Assumpção/Chagas, einem der wenigen jungen Paare. Von der Elite fehlten nur die Briten, die wegen der Haltung der WBF gegenüber der Affäre von Buenos Aires die Olympiade boykottierten.

Es gab damals noch wenig "Newcomer" in der Szene, daher eine ziemlich klare Rangordnung unter den Teams. Im Spiel gab es wenig Sensationen, man verlor eben gegen die "Großen" und versuchte, die "Schwachen" aufzuschlitzen. Uns gelang das ganz gut, so daß wir schließlich den 13. Platz unter 37 Nationen belegten; wir betrachteten das als Erfolg. Im Finale schlugen die Italiener die USA, was ohnehin jeder erwartet hatte. Kaplan bejammerte sein Schicksal in der "Bridge World" wie schon öfter vorher, und er hatte auch in den folgenden Jahren kein Erfolgserlebnis.

Das Spielen war damals noch nicht so enorm stressig wie heute. Es gab keine Bidding Boxen und keine Screens (dafür einige Gerüchte); man konnte spielen, was man wollte, die Konventionskarten waren dürftig, die Stopregel und das Alerten wurden lückenhaft gehandhabt. Ich kann mich nicht erinnern, einen Turnierleiter am Tisch gehabt zu haben. Vor allem aber war das Spiel viel zahmer als heute, man wurde weniger gestört, es gab viel weniger Fehlkontrakte. Natürlich gab es gelegentlich die eine oder andere Katastrophe. An eine kann ich mich noch gut erinnern.

Wir spielten in der "Pit" gegen Belladonna/Avarelli und standen nach etwas 12 Partien pari. Dann kam ein Großschlemm, den wir in der falschen Farbe spielten. Es war

äußerst unglücklich, denn die bessere Farbe stand schlecht, die schlechtere Farbe gut; wir verloren 17 IMPs, statt 13 IMPs zu gewinnen. Forquet/Garozzo hatten sich mit Kleinschlemm begnügt. Das Match war damit verloren. Wie bei der Junioren-EM wurden pro Match 20 Austeilungen gespielt, man teilte allerdings am Tisch.

Die größte Sensation der Veranstaltung war jedoch ein Spieler namens Omar Sharif, jener Filmstar, der mit "Dr. Schiwago" zu Weltruhm aufgestiegen war. Kein Tisch war so umlagert wie jener, an dem Sharif spielte, hauptsächlich von Damen jeden Alters. Sharif war ein erstklassiger Spieler, am Bridgetisch immer höflich und abseits vom Spiel ein charmanter Gesellschafter. Es war auch für einen Mann interessant, mit ihm zu plaudern.

Deauville war für uns alle ein großes Erlebnis, vielleicht auch deshalb, weil wir uns gut vertragen haben. Das Bridge, das damals gespielt wurde, gibt es nicht mehr, und wenn ich ab und zu einen Blick auf den Vuegraph werfe, dann weiß ich, daß dieses Bridge auch nicht wiederkommen wird.

Interview mit den Organisatoren der EM.

Gavriel Unger und Richard Wehler-Hardt sind vielbeschäftigte Leute. Es ist mir trotzdem gelungen, sie für ein Interview zu bekommen.

Homepage: Sie haben diese EM als Alleinverantwortliche organisiert, was sicherlich nicht ohne Risiko war. Was hat Sie dazu bewogen? Haben Sie sich einen Traum erfüllt?

Unger: Ich habe immer viel mit jungen Leuten zu tun gehabt und war dreimal Kapitän des österreichischen Juniorenteams. Da regt sich irgendwann der Wunsch, auch einmal eine EM zu veranstalten.

Wehler-Hardt: Für mich war es einfach eine Herausforderung, zu beweisen, daß wir das auch können. Mit Gavi habe ich vor 25 Jahren das Champagnerturnier ins Leben gerufen; aus dieser Zeit stammt unsere Partnerschaft.

Homepage: Sind Sie mit dem Verlauf der Veranstaltung zufrieden, soweit die Räumlichkeiten und die Organisation betroffen sind?

Unger: Von der Qualität der Räumlichkeiten bin ich selbst überrascht. Es gab im Vorfeld der EM einige Probleme, wie etwa fehlenden Wasseranschluß im 1. Stock. Die Probleme sind aber rasch und unbürokratisch gelöst worden, die zuständigen Damen und Herren vom Rathaus waren immer sehr liebenswürdig und hilfsbereit. Ohne dieses umfassende Entgegenkommen hätte es keine EM in Wien gegeben.

Wehler-Hardt: Mich hat am meisten die Einsatzfreude der Mitarbeiter überrascht, vor allem jener, die gar nicht Bridge spielen. Zum Beispiel haben knapp vor Beginn der EM zwei junge Männer 36 Stunden durchgearbeitet, damit es mit der Vervielfältigung der Bulletins klappt. Jeder einzelne Helfer war für uns wertvoll, und in der Summe wurde mehr geleistet, als man erwarten konnte. Wir haben ein wunderbares Team, und es schmerzt, daß es sich in Kürze wieder auflöst.

Homepage: Eine EM ist eine recht aufwendige Veranstaltung, auch wegen der von der EBL gewünschten Auflagen. Ich zweifle nicht, daß diese Auflagen notwendig sind, es wird aber zunehmend schwierig werden, Veranstalter zu finden. Wie haben sich bei dieser EM die Kosten entwick-

elt?

Unger: Die Kosten haben sich unterschiedlich entwickelt, im Schnitt blieben sie aber im Rahmen des Voranschlags.

Wehler-Hardt: Wir können hoffen, ohne Defizit auszustiegen, obwohl unvorhergesehene Ausgaben bei einer Veranstaltung dieser Größe gleich in die Tausende von Schillingen gehen. Wir haben Kosten, von denen der Uneingeweihte keine Ahnung hat, etwa Versicherungen für die Spieler aus dem Osten, aber auch für die zahlreichen Geräte.

Homepage: Wenn die Kosten explodiert wären, wer hätte dann gehaftet?

Unger: Wir haften mit unserem privaten Geld.

Homepage: Wo viel Licht ist, gibt es auch Schatten. Was oder wer hat Sie bei der EM enttäuscht?

Unger: Über das "Wer" möchte ich nicht sprechen.. Eine andere Sache ist der Mangel an Interesse von außen. Als ich am ersten Abend in den Vuegraph-Raum kam und sah, daß dort 150 Leute versammelt waren, war das ein herrliches Gefühl. Ich hatte aber gehofft, hier mehr Interessenten zu sehen, die noch nicht Bridge spielen. Das Wetter hat uns einen Strich durch die Rechnung gemacht. Wir wollten am Mittwoch vor dem Rathaus Werbung für Bridge machen, aber die Hitze ließ das leider nicht zu.

Wehler-Hardt: Ich war in dieser Beziehung pessimistischer als Gavi und bin daher auch nicht enttäuscht. Ich hoffe, daß wir aus dieser Veranstaltung doch irgendeinen Nutzen ziehen können.

Homepage: Wie ist es Ihnen gelungen, so viele Sponsoren aufzutreiben? Normalerweise ist Bridge nicht das, was die Börsen der Firmen öffnet.

Unger: Wir haben mit unseren Freunden begonnen und auf diese Art ein kleines Netz von Sponsoren aufgezogen. Die meisten haben uns kein Geld gegeben, sie haben uns Geräte geborgt oder uns mit Dienstleistungen geholfen.

Wehler-Hardt: Der wichtigste Sponsor war letztlich die Stadt Wien, was eine Überraschung für mich war, denn vor einigen Jahren stand man im Rathaus dem Bridge noch nicht allzu freundlich gegenüber. Wir haben immer noch ein Imageproblem. Wenn wir uns vergrößern wollen, müssen wir dieses Problem lösen, indem wir Vorurteile abzubauen versuchen. Daß wir im Rathaus spielen, könnte uns bei diesem Prozeß helfen.

Homepage: Wie ist das Echo bei den Gästen? Ich habe bisher nur Lob über die Veranstaltung gehört.

Unger: Bill Pencharz, der Präsident der EBL, hat sich vor seiner Abreise sehr positiv über die Veranstaltung geäußert.

Wehler-Hardt: Die Funktionäre und Journalisten haben vor allem den Veranstaltungsort gelobt; sie würden gerne wiederkommen.

Homepage: Der Wunsch ist verständlich und erfreulich, aber ist es vorstellbar, im Rathaus wieder etwas zu veranstalten?

Unger: Sicher nicht in den nächsten zehn Jahren!

Wehler-Hardt: Einerseits kann ich mir nicht vorstellen, daß ich die Arbeit noch einmal mache, andererseits ist es auch unwahrscheinlich, daß wir all diese Sponsoren noch einmal zur Kasse bitten können.

Homepage: Ich hoffe, daß Sie von bösen Überraschungen verschont bleiben und danke Ihnen für das Gespräch.

Der zweite Mann.

Der Assistent des Oberturnierleiters ist Marc van

Beijsterveldt aus den Niederlanden. Der 38jährige Angestellte des Niederländischen Bridgeverbandes ist verheiratet, hat drei Kinder und lebt in Tilburg nahe der Grenze zu Belgien.

Marc ist im Verband für die Organisation bestimmter Turniere verantwortlich, darunter für das "Karo Bube" - Turnier, ein Simultanturnier mit 17 500 Paaren.

Marc bekam bei einem EBL-Seminar das begehrte Diplom "A +" und war seither bei allen Jugendveranstaltungen im Einsatz. Bei einigen anderen Europameisterschaften ist er für die Organisation des Rechenraumes verantwortlich.

Vor seiner Tätigkeit im Verband war Marc im Umweltschutz tätig.

Statistik der Runden 12 bis 14.

Diese Runden waren ausgesprochen "zahn", mit einem deutlichen Übergewicht bei den Viererfarben und einem kräftigen Defizit an Langfarben und den Runden 13 und 14. Bei den Kürzen ist das Bild etwas anders. Runde 12 war genau in der Norm, Runde 13 hatte überhaupt kein Chicane, Runde 14 hatte zu wenig Singletons. Entsprechend fielen auch die Resultate aus, sie waren ziemlich niedrig. In der 12. Runde wurden von den Junioren 93 IMPs pro Match umgesetzt, von den Schülern 94 IMPs. In der 13. Runde waren die entsprechenden Zahlen 98 bzw. 90, in der 14. Runde 90 bzw. 100. Das niedrigste Score in allen Matches wurde bei Norwegen-Großbritannien registriert, nämlich 26 : 23. Das ist bei dieser EM rekordverdächtig!

Der Kommentar eines Kommentators.

Der Däne Hans Werge ist Kommentator im Vuegraph. Was ist ihm bisher aufgefallen?

"Es gibt natürlich große Unterschiede in der Spielstärke zwischen Teams aus Ländern, in denen viel Jugendarbeit geleistet wurde, und den anderen. Generell wird aber vernünftiges Bridge gespielt, nicht so wild und so verrückt, wie manchmal behauptet wird. Auch bei den Schülern hat man gesehen, daß die nächste Generation gutes Bridge spielen wird; das Match Polen gegen die Niederlande hat das gezeigt. Es war überraschend, wie schnell in diesem Match gespielt wurde, ohne daß es zu schweren Fehlern kam. Ich habe am Vuegraph Spieler gesehen, die offenkundig schon große Erfahrung haben. Es besteht eine gewisse Neigung zu sehr schwachen Eröffnungen, aber sonst wird verhältnismäßig diszipliniert lizitiert."

Homepage: Wie fanden Sie die Stimmung im Vuegraphraum?

Werge: Die Stimmung war besonders gut, vor allem, wenn Österreich spielte. Die Österreicher waren sehr unternehmungslustig, was zu vielen Swings führte. Für mich als Kommentator geht es darum, daß man aus dem Vuegraph keine Beerdigung macht, was immer wieder vorkommt. Ich bevorzuge schnelle Analysen und Kommentare, auch wenn sich gelegentlich Fehler einschleichen.

Homepage: Welche Karriere im Bridge hatte Hans Werge?

Werge: Ich spiele Bridge seit 1965, habe im dänischen Team gespielt und als Damenkapitän fungiert. Für mich gibt es nur einen Grund, nicht Kapitän eines dänischen Teams zu sein, und das ist, daß ich kommentieren darf. Ich hoffe, daß in den letzten Tagen mehr Zuschauer aus Wien kommen, damit ich mein Schuldeutsch verwenden kann. Um ehrlich zu sein - Englisch ist nur meine drittbeste Fremdsprache, da ist sogar mein Französisch noch besser!



Thrills and Spills

So far as we have been able to ascertain, on Thursday's day off, a good time was had by all. For most the highlight was a visit to Vienna's famous amusement park.

Team captains and heads of department were invited to take a champagne-assisted ride on the famous Riesenrad wheel. Panos Gerontopoulos had official duties elsewhere and it seemed to us that several deputies had appointed themselves in his stead!

For some there was time for what was surely a



Champagne Party

unique experience, a game of bridge on the wheel. Patrick Jourdain was 'at the wheel' in a tricky 3NT contract and just as the car started its descent his partner, Barry Rigal pointed out that he appeared to be 'going down!'

Incidentally there was an error in yesterday's bulletin. In the Danube sighting incident Austrian television were of course referring to Patrick Jourdain of Wales.

Here is his version of events.

You know what bridge-players do wherever at least four are gathered together. So it was lucky someone had a pack of cards on the Big Wheel at the Prater. As the cabin car returned to the bottom, there seemed to be little time left for this deal:

Dealer South; No vulnerability agreed!

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

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| | <i>Closed</i> | | |
| West | North | East | South |
| <i>Koustarov</i> | <i>Sabate</i> | <i>Jourdain</i> | <i>Rigal</i> 4♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

Barry Rigal's opening Four Hearts was passed out and West led the nine of clubs. Rigal conceived the bright idea of playing low from dummy. East won the king, and then the cabin car arrived at the bottom. "We have to go," said East, so Rigal showed his cards. "Play on," came the cry, "We are going round again!" The cards were picked up again, and East kindly continued a club. Rigal was able to demonstrate his plan. On the ace of clubs he threw the ace of spades. Then came two top spades from dummy, discarding two diamonds from hand. The ten of spades was ruffed by East, but declarer lost only a club, a trump and one diamond. Of course, if East plays a trump at trick two



White water ride

the game goes two off.

After several revolutions and an equal amount of champagne we set out to try some of the other rides on offer. Our first idea was to cool down.

Having survived that ordeal our group went in search of something a little more daring. The chose ↻



"To boldly go"



"We, who are about to die!"



Another Top

ride reminded us of the Roman Gladiators who upon entering the arena saluted the Emperor with the words; 'We who are about to die salute you.'

There was time for half an hour on the dodgem cars and then it was off to dinner.

Team Profile The Hungary Schools Team

Agnes Minarik, 17, is at secondary school, partners her brother **Gabor Minarik**, 14, who has just finished elementary school.

Peter Marjai, 17, and his brother **Gabor Marjai**, 15, are both in secondary school.

Balint Keil, 16, and **Csaba Szabo**, 17, are also both at secondary school.

The team may lack experience, but it is full of enthusiasm and confidence. (Editor: And doing very well.)

Npc: **Miklos Csepeli**, 59, teaches at Budapest Technical High School. He played for Hungary in the 1973 Ostend Europeans and 1988 Venice Olympiad.

Coach: **Gyorgy Szalay**, 29, a bridge professional who played for Hungary in the 1993 Menton and 1997 Montecatini Europeans, 1996 Rhodes Olympiad and who played in three Junior Europeans (Neumunster, Paris and Arnhem). He takes the blame for any system errors.

Team Profile

The France Junior Team

Felicien Daux, 20, works at the French Lycee in Vienna. He was a member of the French team which won the first European Schools Championship in Arnhem in 1994.

Dominique Fonteneau, 24, is studying for a Diploma in Statistics. European Schools champion 1994.

Julien Geitner, 22, is studying mathematics at a University in Paris. European Schools Champion 1994. Sadly he has had to return home due to bereavement and our thoughts are with him.

Jerome Rombaut, 24, Studying a Diploma in Statistics & Information Technology. European Schools Champion 1994.

Lionel Sebbane, 24, Studying for a Diploma in Statistics and Economics.

Fabrice Willard, 21, studying a Diploma in Business & Economics. He was a European Junior Champion in 1995 of bowling.

Non-playing captain, **Hervé Mouiel**, 48. (Editors: We add Mouiel is a double Olympiad champion.)



Quiz Corner



Answer

What is the name?

Solution to the quiz from page 6

East should try to switch to the ♠K. If the hand with the ace ducks the defenders will make two tricks in hearts, two in diamonds- and one in clubs.

If the ♠A wins the defenders will set up West's heart suit before declarer can develop his ninth trick and due to the lack of communication there is no end play in the majors against West.

Whilst declarer might still succeed in the case where a spade was lead initially - he takes the ace of hearts, unblocks the ace of spades and plays on clubs - it is more than likely that he would go down.

I think that this defense should not be too difficult to find as East knows that West has only very few high cards. A switch to the ♠K would probably have meant one down at each table.

I know of no name for this type of entry creating play thus save my prize for some other day.

Barry Rigal claims it is a variation on the 'duck and no dinner' coup.

Appeal No. 4

Juniors Round 10: Israel v. Czech Rep.

Reported by Steen Møller (Denmark)

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark)

Jan Boets (Belgium)

Peter Lund (Denmark).

Board 20. Dealer West. Game All.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Zack | Krasa | Amit | Pullerab |
| INT | Pass | 3♣ | Pass |
| 3♦ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

Facts:

North led the ♠10, ducked all the way round. North then switched to hearts, and when the declarer next led a spade from dummy he was not able to make more than eight tricks. +100 N/S.

West, who said that he had been misinformed about the possible spade holdings in the North hand, called the TD to the table after the end of play. The convention card showed 3&5 leads and the 10 from 10 9 x, A J 10 x and K J 10 x. West had asked South to write the possible leads of the 10 from various combinations with other honours and South had written A J 10 and K J 10. West also said to the TD that he had asked South if there were other strong combinations and that South had denied this possibility. Only then had he ducked the opening lead and gone down in his contract. The TD found that the "risk" of ducking the ♠10 which could be a psyched lead or simply a wrong lead was too great compared with the possibility of making an overtrick if South had ♠A Q 7.

TD's decision:

The TD let the result stand.

Appellant:

East/West appealed.

The players:

West said to the Committee that he would try for an overtrick by ducking the ♠10, only if he could be sure that the ace (and the queen) was in the South hand. Wishing not to expose his spade holding he had done everything possible to ensure that the lead could not be from the actual holding. He felt sure that South had said no in reply to his question about the possibility of the 10 being from another strong holding other than the two mentioned on the convention card. South (and the Czech captain) explained that there had been some language problems at the table as South was not perfect in English. He said that he had tried to stress the fact that he and his partner played 3&5 from all suit combinations - including honour combinations.

The committee:

The committee had the opinion that South honestly tried to disclose the methods used by him and his partner, but that due to language problems he had not understood the question about the 10 from an even stronger combination. The committee felt sorry for West who had tried hard to ensure that the ♠A could not be in the North hand. The committee, however, was of the opinion that West, being aware of the language problem and without revealing his distribution, could have made further enquiries by writing more suit combinations, including the one he feared. The risk of a misunderstanding or an irregular lead was too big compared to the value of an overtrick in a 20-board team match.

The committee's decision:

The committee let the result stand. ⓘ

Team Profile

The Iceland Junior Team

Sigurbjorn Haraldsson, 19, a student, is the baby of the team. He became the youngest-ever Icelandic Open team champion in 1997. He partners..

Stefan Johannsson, 25, who has just graduated as a Pharmacist. He won this years NM Juniors in the same team as Sigurbjorn though not as partners.

Tryggvi Ingason, 25, works as a salesman. He is a current Icelandic Junior Teams champion together with his partner **Hlynur Magnusson**, 24, a student.

Aron Thorfinnsson, 25, and **Snorri Karlsson**, 25, teamed up with Tryggvi & Hlynur in Den Bosch in January this year and took fifth place. Snorri has his own company; Aron is a floor installer.

Non-playing captain **Jonas Erlingsson**, 40, a sales manager has played twice in the Icelandic Open team. ⓘ