



**PROKOM SOFTWARE  
10<sup>th</sup> OPEN and 5<sup>th</sup> SENIORS  
EUROPEAN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS  
Warsaw Poland  
15-20 March 1999**

5 February 1999

**PRESS RELEASE**

In The Hague in 1997 **800** Bridge Players participated in the **Open** and **Seniors** Pairs Championships. The event was a success both in terms of the numbers, as well as the quality of those players.

In the **Open Pairs**,  
**Roman Kiernowski & Krzysziot Lukaszewicz of Poland** took the Gold Medal, with **Michel Abecassis & Jean-Christophe guantin of France** taking the Silver, followed by **Peter Fredin & Magnus Lindkvist of Sweden** taking the Bronze.

In the **Seniors Pairs**,  
**Nadine Cohen & Marie-France Renoux of France** took the Gold Medal, with **Homburg & Mattsson of Germany** taking the Silver, and **Riise & Salterod of Norway** taking the Bronze.

This year the **1999 PROKON SOFTWARE European Pairs Championships** will be taking place from **15th to 20th March** in **Warsaw, Poland**. The Championships will be played in Warsaw Palace of Culture and Science, a city landmark providing a stunning Venue for this event.

The Total Prize money exceeds **120,000 Swiss Francs** making this the most valuable Championship in the Bridge World.

The Schedule of six days allows a good balance between the Qualifying, Semi Finals and the Finals.

There are two events

- **The European Open Pairs Championship**
- **The European Seniors Pairs Championship**

### **The European Pairs Championship**

More than **800** players **from the 42 Federations of the EBL**, will sit down at the start of play on Monday 17th March, competing for Prize Money of over **100,000 Swiss Francs**. The event will be played in nine sessions, three qualifying, three semi-final and three finals.

European Grand Masters playing together will be exempt from the three Qualifying sessions. The participation of the cream of European Bridge will ensure the quality and tension that is the hallmark of this Championship. We expect to have a very large entry from all the Federations in Eastern Europe and of course the pressure for a third win in succession in the **Open** by Poland will add to the competition.

For those eliminated after the qualifying and semi-final sessions there are **Consolation Events** with attractive prize money.

### **The European Seniors Pairs Championship**

This prestigious Championship is open to players aged 55 or over at the time of the event. The event will be as hard fought as ever for Prize Money of **20,000 Swiss Francs**.

The event will be played over six sessions – three qualifying and three final. Again there will be a **Consolation Event** for those who do not qualify for the Final, with attractive prize money.

### **VENUE**

Every effort is being made to provide Email and Internet service. At this time it is not sure to what extent it will be available.

Local Internet connection is through Polish Telecommunication. The Press room computers will be IBM servers AS400, Paentium II with Laser Printers.

We look forward to welcoming you to **Warsaw** for this the **10th EUROPEAN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP AND 5th SENIORS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP**

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**EUROPEAN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS – HONOURS LIST****OPEN**

The European Open Pairs was first played in Cannes in 1976 the event has been played every two years since 1985.

**1987 PARIS**

1. MEYER-LE ROYER (FRANCE)
2. CRONIER-LEBEL (FRANCE)
3. LONGINOTTI-DI MAIO (ITALY)

**1989 SALSOMAGGIORE**

1. LESNIEWSKI-PRZYBORA (POLAND)
2. ASTORE-LANZAROTTI (ITALY)
3. ENGEL-BUCHLEV (GERMANY)

**1991 MONTECATINI**

1. ABECASSIS-QUANTIN (FRANCE)
2. SJOERDS-WINTERNANS (NETHERLANDS)
3. LEVY-MOUIEL (FRANCE)

**1993 BIELEFELD**

1. ABECASSIS-QUANTIN (FRANCE)
2. MEYER-STRETZ (FRANCE)
3. VAN OPPEN-REBATTU (NETHERLANDS)

**1995 ROME**

1. LASOCKI-GAWRYS (POLAND)
2. WATERLOW-HACKETT (GREAT BRITAIN)
3. PATTACINI-SEMANTA (ITALY)

**1997 THE HAGUE**

1. KIERZNOWSKI-LUKASZEWICZ (POLAND)
2. QUANTIN-ABECASSIS (FRANCE)
3. FREDIN-LINDKVIST (SWEDEN)

**SENIORS**

The European Seniors pairs was first played in 1989 in Salsomaggiore.

**1991 MONTECATINI**

1. BIGANZOLI-GAVINO (ITALY)
2. HUMBURG-GROMOELLER (GERMANY)
3. BARATTA-ROHAN (AUSTRIA)

**1993 BIELEFELD**

1. LINK-SAISSELI (SWITZERLAND)
2. HALLEN-STENBERG (SWEDEN)
3. NOWAK-TARNOWSKI (POLAND)

**1995 ROME**

1. NOWAK-STOBIEKI
2. BAHNIK-PICMAUS (CZECH REPUBLIC)
3. ROHAN-BARATTA (AUSTRIA)

**1997 THE HAGUE**

1. COHEN-RENOUX (FRANCE)
2. HUMBURG-MATTSON (GERMANY)
3. RIISE-SALTEROD (NORWAY)