

Development of Bridge through the Universities

by Paolo Clair

< When a person proclaims an obvious concept, in Italy we use to say:
“He has discovered hot water” >

With this participation I would not want, therefore, to rediscover hot water asserting that the future of bridge is in young people.

Many are the European Federations that already have been activated for the involvement of young people in federal structure. The initiatives for the insertion of Bridge in the school are, in fact, proceeding from years in more Countries, with various modalities in relation to the type of the relationships established with the scholastic organizations and, even if with various form, all these initiatives are joined by the same objective: to promote bridge near young people.

Between the primary objectives of a Federation there is, in fact, the requirement to create the “breeding ground” of their own national juvenile ones and so making, it carries out also that generational action of reciprocation of their own registered members - that, except some rare exception, it is remarkably aging - let alone increase of the technical level of their own players.

But the activity of Bridge at School must be understood from the Federation like an apt advertising initiative to the spreading and the improvement of the image of Bridge rather than an operation for the substantial increment of practicing.

The boy of the primary and secondary schools crosses an age in which the dependency from family is still very high, enjoys a limited autonomy, “is distracted” to other cultural interests and sports, it is discovering the other sex but, above all, he does not still arrange all, except rare exceptions, of the logical abilities that bridge demands.

The university student, instead, beyond to having almost absolute independence, has already full faculties of own competences and ability, has reached a remarkable psychophysics balance, has a good degree of control of own emotions and expects maximum autonomy for his own choices of life.

The university student has developed through his increase and acculturation process the abstraction ability, possesses mathematical logic, has acquaintances of statistics and of probabilities, he knows to carry out weighted and rational chosen.

It is, therefore, to the university students who the Bridge Federation must turn its primary and priority attention.

It is in the comparisons of the University that the Federation must strive for the development of our wonderful sport.

But what’s the channel for being able to reach and to interact with the target of the university students?

It is certain that the operation is not of simple feasibility, infinite are, in fact, the initiatives and the plans that the society proposes and pours on the University, removing space also to Bridge.

All the Athenaeums arrange of sport facilities, or are tightened in sport correlation with organizations, and to activate advertising initiatives in these within is certainly opportune

and not particularly complex but I consider that the “direct involvement” of the teacher and of the university institutions is the more correct and more rewarding way.

To obtain the officialization of own initiatives, relations, lessons or course, from the University, favours the advertising and returns the involvement easier on a considerable wrap of students.

To succeed to insert Bridge courses in the study plan is, obviously, the attending maximum but also to obtain the allocation of “scholastic credits” to or the attribution of “most deserving scholarships” to or, still, rewarding the producers of graduation theses inherent to bridge are the undoubtedly better ways.

All supported , obviously, from an effective, modern and winning publicity and putting to the guide of the plan the best and better prepared, also culturally, instructors on hand.

..... “I have heated the water” for you, now is up to you to tuck the handle.

Paolo Clair: rialc1@fastwebnet.it