

Poland: New European Champion

Sweden won Women's title



POLAND had no difficulty to win the European crown by finishing ahead of 30 nations who took part in the 41st *GENERALI* European Championships, splendidly organized in Menton, France, 12-26 June 1993. The other medals went to Denmark and Norway, while the Netherlands ended up in fourth place. SWEDEN topped the rankings in the Women's series, followed by France, Italy and Germany. These 8 teams will represent Europe in the 1993 *Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup*.

Netherlands capture *GENERALI* Trophy

The 1993 *GENERALI* Trophy was won by the Netherlands who collected 404 points in all European Championships (Open, Women, Juniors, Seniors - Teams & Pairs) played since *Killarney '91*.

France came second with 396 p., followed by Sweden (385), Poland (352), Italy (348) and Denmark (268).



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Editorial

It appears that European Bridge is in excellent shape. This issue of EBL Review contains the evidence.

This year started with two very important **courses** organized by the EBL in Amsterdam. One was on tournament direction: by creating competent people for running our events we improve conditions at our competitions - and bridge becomes better. The other one was on bridge promotion: by training people how to obtain sponsorship, cultivate public relations and teach bridge to beginners we work for the expansion of the game - and bridge becomes bigger.

In March, the **PHILIP MORRIS European Pairs Championships** were a record success with hundreds of players participating from 30 member countries! The excellent organization provided by our sponsor ensured that these people will come back again together with their friends.

In June came the **GENERALI European Championships** in Menton which will go on record as one of the most enjoyable tournaments ever held. Again, participation in the Ladies Pairs and Open Teams reached unprecedented levels - and so was the organization and hospitality offered.

Our achievements should be a source of strength for further development. As Victor Mollo once said, it is not strange that there are so many millions of people who play bridge - the strange thing is that there are many who do not...

Panos Gerontopoulos

JOHANSSON - BEINEIX JOIN THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



New forces in the EBL

Helgi Johannsson of Iceland and Jean-Claude Beineix of France are the two new members of the Executive Committee of the European Bridge League. Johannsson and Beineix were elected by the EBL Congress at Menton, which also re-elected Panos Gerontopoulos of Greece - all for 4-year terms.

The President of the *Icelandic Bridge Union* **Helgi Johannsson** was born in 1951 and graduated in 1976 with a degree in economics. He is the managing director of Iceland's largest travel company *Samunn Travel*, and as such he served as Chairman of the *Association of Icelandic Travel Bureaus* during the past three years. He is married to Hjordis Bjarnason, and they have three sons.

Over the last decade, Mr Johannsson has been one of the main promoters of bridge in Iceland, as well as one of the country's leading players. He has won the Icelandic national teams, the Icelandic Cup, and the well known international teams event *Icelandair Open*.

Mr Johannsson's company has supported bridge in many ways and helped the game to gain popularity and public recognition in Iceland. During his presidency, he put fresh ideas into effect, greatly contributing to Iceland's victory at the 1991 World Championship.

As a member of the EBL Executive, his main objective is **bridge promotion**. He believes that bridge has no limits; it is a sport one cannot afford to miss, as it lasts for a lifetime. He likes to think of himself as the representative of the 'less known member countries', and maintains that to be respected has nothing to do with the size of the country or the Federation you come from.

The President of the *French Bridge Federation* (FFB) **Jean-Claude Beineix** is 52 years old and a teacher of Mathematics by profession.

Mr Beineix is by no means a newcomer in the world of bridge. He has been a member of the French Bridge Federation Executive Committee since 1974, and served as Chairman of FFB's Tournament and Selection Committees, as well as Vice Chairman of the Rules & Regulations Committee, before being elected President in 1989.

His international record is equally impressive. Mr Beineix was involved in the organization of the 1982 World Championships in Biarritz, the 1985 European Community Championships in Bordeaux, the 1987 European Pairs in Paris, the 1990 European Mixed and World Championships in Bordeaux and Geneva, the 1992 European Individual and Junior European in Paris, and, of course, this year's European Championships in Menton.

From his new position on the EBL Executive, Mr Beineix is ready to work in the field of **tournament organization** in order to improve conditions to the benefit of players, spectators and bridge as a whole. To this end, he is armed with his personal vast experience, as well as with FFB's resources which can be put at the disposal of the EBL.

Juniors ready for Pairs Championship & Camp

The **2nd European Junior Pairs Championship** and the **10th European Junior Camp** are about to take place in *Oberreifenberg*, Germany, 16-25 July 1993 - and the Juniors are getting ready for them!

The **Pairs Championship** is the second of the series which started two years ago. 208 young players from 19

countries participated in *Fiesch '91*, but attendance is expected to go up this year. The tournament is a 4-session event played without qualifiers over a weekend. Transnational pairs are allowed to compete, as the main objective of the event is to bring the Juniors closer together.

1991 winners, Seidel-Wodniansky of Austria, will be

missing this time as they have now passed the age limit for Juniors. Nevertheless, the struggle for the prestigious title is expected to be quite tough.

The week-long **Junior Camp** will start immediately after the Championship.

Bridge Camps are unique events, in the sense that they are organized not for the young expert but for the lesser mortal. They aim at helping Juniors to make new friends and strengthen the ties already developed between older friends, under the umbrella of their common hobby.

The daily Camp programme includes lectures, sports and bridge tournaments in which the mixing-up of nationalities is systematically

encouraged. There are also outings to places of interest and plenty of free time.

Oberreifenberg, the venue of the 1993 European Junior events, is a picturesque resort on the slopes of *Große Feldberg* in *Taunus, Hessen* - 30 km north of Frankfurt. It is surrounded by a national park - Hessen's oldest falconers' station.



Fiesch '91: whether on the mountains or around the table, a Junior Camp promotes friendship through bridge



Festival for Juniors

The **2nd BUCKLER International Junior Bridge Festival** will be held in *'s Hertogenbosch*, The Netherlands, 13-16 January 1994.

7 countries competed in the first Festival, held in February. The programme included Teams and Pairs competitions, as well as a *minibrige* tournament for children and a pupils' event.

Denmark hosts World Junior Championship

Everything is ready in Århus, Denmark for the **4th World Junior Team Championship** which is to take place there, 3-12 August 1993.

16 teams representing all WBF zones have declared their participation: Italy, Germany, Norway, Denmark, USA 1, USA 2, Canada, Argentina, India, Pakistan, Central America 1, Central America 2, China, Chinese Taipei, Australia and New Zealand.

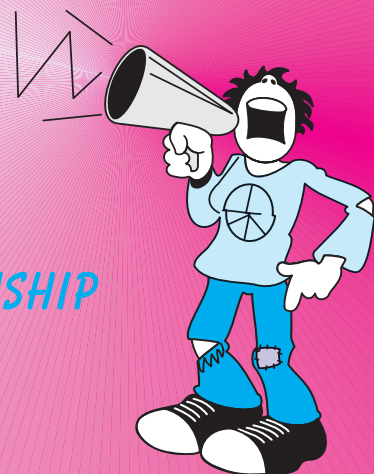
The tournament is expected to be a tough battle between European and North American teams for the title.

1st EUROPEAN SCHOOLS
BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

&

14th EUROPEAN JUNIOR BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

15-24 July 1994
Arnhem, The Netherlands





EUROPEAN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS
PHILIP MORRIS

- ✓ 30 countries
- ✓ 860 players
- ✓ 346 Open Pairs (original entry)
 - × 140 pairs qualified to the Final
 - × 202 pairs played in the Consolation
- ✓ 84 Senior Pairs

BIELEFELD, GERMANY • 19-21 MARCH 1993

France triumphant

- Switzerland wins Senior Pairs
- Germany takes Consolation

When the smoke cleared at the end of the 7th PHILIP MORRIS European Pairs Championships, held in Bielefeld, Germany, 19-21 March 1993, France were the clear winners. Not only they managed to retain the title through the second victory in a row of Michel Abecassis and Jean-Christophe Quantin, but they also took the second place thanks to 1987 Champion Jean-Paul Meyer, this time playing with François Stretz. The third place went to Carol von Oppen and Max Rebattu of the Netherlands.

The 7th PHILIP MORRIS European Pairs Championships were a record success. 346 pairs from 30 countries took part in the Open series which was played in two stages over five sessions. After the first two, 140 pairs advanced to the final, while from the rest, only 4 pairs dropped out of the Consolation tournament won decisively by the German 1990 World Champions Georg Nippen and Roland Rohowsky.

The 3-session Seniors series, open to players over 50 years old (and totalling at least 110 years per pair) attracted an entry of 84 pairs from 16 countries. The eventual winners were Gerry Link and Max Saesseli of Switzerland; they pipped at the post Hans-Olof Hallén and Alvar Stenberg of Sweden who had been leading from the very beginning. The third place went to J. Nowak and W. Tarnowsky of Poland.

The 1993 European Pairs Championships were a great success also from the organizational point of view. Stadhalle Bielefeld provided an excellent venue for such a big field, while the usual generous support of PHILIP MORRIS left nothing to be desired.



(above) Michel Abecassis & Jean-Christophe Quantin of France: winners of the European Pairs for a second time in a row; (below left) Jean-Paul Meyer won the silver medal together with François Stretz of France, while the bronze went (below right) to Carol von Oppen & Max Rebattu of the Netherlands.



(left) Gerry Link & Max Saesseli of Switzerland, winners of the Senior Pairs; (right) well consoled Georg Nippen & Roland Rohowsky of Germany



EUROPEAN BRIDGE LEAGUE OFFICIAL SPONSOR

PHILIP MORRIS

Triumphs in European Open Pairs



Official Results

Open Pairs: Final

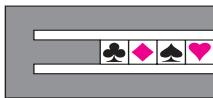
1	Abecassis - Quantin	FRA	59.62
2	Meyer - Stretz	FRA	58.13
3	van Oppen - Rebattu	NLD	57.15
4	Arnarsson - Jonsson	ICE	56.89
5	Aagaard - Jepsen	DEN	56.83
6	van der Pas - Schippers	NLD	56.23
7	Gwis - Polec	POL	56.20
8	Hoyland - Hoyland	NOR	56.12
9	Madsen - Madsen	DEN	55.81
10	Farahat - Renouard	FRA	55.35
11	Adad - Aujaleu	FRA	55.31
12	Szymanowski - Zaremba	POL	55.00
13	Lesniewski - Martens	POL	54.97
14	Balicki - Zmudzinski	POL	54.91
15	Covo - Paladino	FRA	54.79
16	Eysteinson - Jorgensen	ICE	54.74
17	Rasmussen - Sveindal	NOR	54.67
18	Dall - Hemberg	DEN	54.35
19	de Boer - Muller	NLD	54.34
20	Czech - Macior	POL	54.23
21	Caspersen - Clemmensen	DEN	54.15
22	Aa - Helgemo	NOR	54.01

Senior Pairs

1	Link - Saesseli	SWI	61.18
2	Hallén - Stenberg	SWE	59.59
3	Nowak - Tarnowski	POL	59.05
4	Kamras - Troberg	SWE	58.67
5	Persson - Wahlgren	SWE	57.03
6	de Haan - Kokkes	NLD	56.52
7	Kaiser - Kaiser	NLD	56.12
8	Bardach - Boekhorst	ISR/NLD	55.72
9	Biganzoli - Gavino	ITA	55.38
10	Spinn - Widengren	AUT	55.23

Open Pairs: Consolation

1	Nippgen - Rohowsky	GER	60.46
2	di Maio - Pietri	ITA	58.34
3	Bausback - Dueball	GER	56.16
4	Mohr - Werge	DEN	56.04
5	Kirchhoff - Maas	NLD	55.88
6	Kurka - Svoboda	CZE	55.76
7	Ghestem - Uszynski	FRA	55.31
8	Johnsen - Stokkeland	NOR	55.21
9	Bondarewicz - Golebiowski	POL	54.87
10	Aubry - Catzeflis	SWI	54.41



Letter from the President



Building on the present

This issue of *EBL Review* contains all the reports about our last Championships. Thanks to *PHILIP MORRIS* and the German Bridge Federation, Bielefeld was a great success. Thanks to *GENERALI* Insurance and the French Bridge Federation, Menton was unforgettable.

However, although both these events had record entries, this caused a problem for the organization, and we are obliged to reconsider the format of these competitions. We are, of course, prepared to do that for the benefit of bridge and the players.

We have also clarified our relationship with all the member Federations of our League. Each NCBO is conscious of its duties, and there is no doubt that in the future they will also do their best to ensure that participation in these events is settled well in advance.

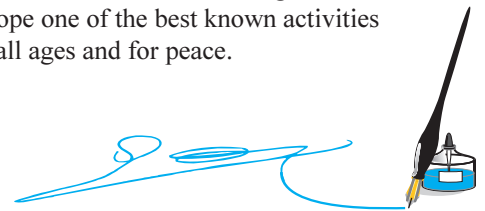
We now have 40 countries in the EBL with 360,000 registered players. This is more than half of players in the World Bridge Federation. We can only manage this high figure if each organization takes the

responsibility for its administration; indeed, we will even develop much further if the administrators take advantage of all that we did in Amsterdam on the occasion of the Promotion Week and the Tournament Directors' Course.

Participation in international events is important, but the promotion of bridge in each country is even more essential.

The Italians achieved great success by introducing bridge to their Olympic Committee, the Danes are about to gain national recognition within Junior bridge with the World Junior Championship, the French are teaching bridge in schools with the *BP Bridge Pilote Educatif* programme.

These are excellent examples to follow so that we can make Bridge in Europe one of the best known activities for all ages and for peace.



José Damiani

EUROPEANS END UP SECOND AND AMERICANS THIRD AS

Chinese win 8th EPSON World Simultaneous Contest

China was the great victor of this year's *EPSON Worldwide Simultaneous Contest* played in two sessions in clubs all over the world, 4-5 June.

Chinese players won the first prize in both sessions and captured three of the first five places in the general classification. Italy came second overall, and the USA third.

The victorious Chinese pair was engineer **Zhaobaoqi** and lecturer **Wangzuolei** who topped the rankings scoring an impressive 78.16% at the Hebei Club. They were followed by **Castagna-Sinigaglia** of Italy (75.79%) and **Brunet-Kassabian** of USA (75.75%). The next two places went also to Chinese pairs: **Nixiaoting-Mingjian** (75.67%) and **Gongguoping-Sunjiangguo** (73.96%). Nixiaoting is a government official and Mingjian a 20-year old student.

These two pairs were the winners of the second session, where Holmgaard-Thaarup of Denmark came third. The first session was won by yet another Chinese pair, **Whaobaoqi-Wangzuolei**, who were followed by **Apisai-Kittichai** of Thailand and **Castagna-Sinigaglia** of Italy.

Record attendance

The 8th *EPSON* was a great success. Preliminary figures received at the Paris headquarters indicated that the symbolic mark of 100,000 participating players will be exceeded. The *EPSON* contest is listed in the *Guinness Book of Records* as the world's largest tournament.

This year, most participants came from America where 30,500 people played the event. Europe followed closely behind, while Asia registered some 14,000 play-

ers, with 11,500 coming from China alone. In the Pacific zone, the tournament was also well attended.

Summit match

The *EPSON* contest once again enjoyed the cooperation of the *Association of the World's Highest Towers*. Special 'summit' heats were held in Paris, Montreal, Moscow, Tashkent, Singapore and London with resounding success.

At the same time, a **long-distance match** was organized, via computer and modem, between the *Eiffel Tower* in Paris and the *British Telecom Tower* in London. Playing in Paris, French champions **Hervé Mouiel** and **Alain Levy** 'faced' British masters **Tony Forrester** and **Andy Robson** who competed from London. The match ended with victory of the French.

Arnolds-Vriend win European Ladies Pairs

With a spectacular finish, Carla Arnolds and Bep Vriend of the Netherlands became the new *GENERALI* European Ladies Pairs champions, while Caesar-Mögel of Germany and Eythorsdottir-Baldursdottir of Iceland did also very well winning the other medals of this record-entry tournament, held in Menton, France, 12-15 June.

The 5th *GENERALI* European Ladies Pairs started with the qualifying stage which was played over 3 sessions with 128 pairs taking part. The leading 28 pairs advanced to the 2-session final, while the rest had the possibility of competing in a consolation event.

Baco-Sicard of France were the first to qualify, followed by Fischer-Weigkricht of Austria and Caesar-Mögel. However, when the final went under way, only Caesar-Mögel kept their position. After the first session, the new leaders were **Barbe-Thompson** of Switzerland.

The situation changed completely in the final session. **Arnolds-Vriend** scored 64% and rose from 13th place right to the top, while 12th ranked **Baldursdottir-Eythorsdottir** did also well to end up third.

There were moments of joy at the prize-giving where the winners received gifts offered by *Didier Lamarthe*.



1993 *GENERALI* European Ladies Pairs winners: Mögel-Ceasar, Vriend-Arnolds, Baldursdottir-Eythorsdottir

Ladies activities

The 5th *GENERALI* Ladies Pairs European Championship was a great success, with 128 pairs competing from 22 countries. We were delighted with the atmosphere prevailing both during the event and afterwards at the prize-giving.

Next year we will organize the **Jamboree** in Capri. This event, which is for the lower and medium ranked lady players, will be held during May or June 1994. We do hope that it will be as successful as the first one in Hungary.

In Menton we held a **Meeting of the Ladies Delegates**, which was attended by 19 of the countries. After explaining the next Jamboree,

we insisted on the importance of effective communication, especially with the Eastern countries which now have so many problems with the organization of bridge in their new Federations.

Seeing the enormity of the task, we asked *Nevena Deleva*, the talented and dynamic young Bulgarian player, to join us on the Committee to help us with the Southern part of the Eastern Countries.

It was a very interesting and fruitful meeting and we hope to achieve something for the best of Bridge.



Anna Maria Torlontano

Top Finalists

1 Arnolds - Vriend	NLD	55.25
2 Caesar - Mögel	GER	53.74
3 Baldursdottir - Eythorsdottir	ICE	52.76
4 Baco - Sicard	FRA	52.59
5 Feichtinger - Terraneo	AUT	52.37
6 Krogulska - Skopinska	POL	52.12
7 Karrstrand - Mellström	SWE	51.94
8 Orabona - Serf	FRA	51.88
9 Porat - Zur	ISR	51.83
10 Barbe - Thompson	SWI	51.59

● The annual **Bridge Festival of Israel** will take place in Tel Aviv, 10-19 February 1994.

The Festival programme contains a great variety of competitions including Open & Mixed Pairs, Teams, Butler Pairs, etc. Total prize money is \$20,000.

A special invitational pairs event - the *Rixi Markus Cup* - will be

held, 19-20 February, in memory of the great champion who helped in the development of the Festival.

For information, contact *David Birman* (☎ 972-3-605 8355, 📠 972-3-546 5582) or *Israel's Bridge Federation* (☎ 972-4-336 343).

Tournament round-up

● Brazilian champions **Marcelo Branco** and **Gabriel Chagas** are the winners of the 7th *Cap Gemini World Top Tournament 1993*, an invitational Pairs event held in the Netherlands, 14-17 January. 16 pairs competed.

● **Bobby Levin** and **Gaylor Kasle** of USA finished comfortably ahead of the 16-pair world-class field from 11 countries that took part in the 1993 *Sunday Times-Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship*. Meckstroth-Rodwell (USA) came second and Levy-Mouiel (France) third.



41st GEN
European Bridge

Poland sweeps Open title whi

OPEN SERIES

1	POLAND	613.5
2	Denmark	573
3	Norway	563
4	Netherlands	545
5	Sweden	539.5
6	Iceland	535
7	France	534
8	Turkey	527.5
9	Great Britain	526.5
10	Italy	520
11	Spain	507
12	Germany	496
13	Hungary	489
14	Portugal	481
15	Finland	481
16	Israel	479
17	Ireland	476
18	Greece	460
19	Austria	455
20	Czech Republic	432.5
21	Belgium	429
22	Croatia	425
23	Switzerland	418.5
24	Romania	409.5
25	Monaco	386
26	Latvia	381
27	Slovenia	356
28	Byelorussia	337
29	San Marino	287
30	Lithuania	286

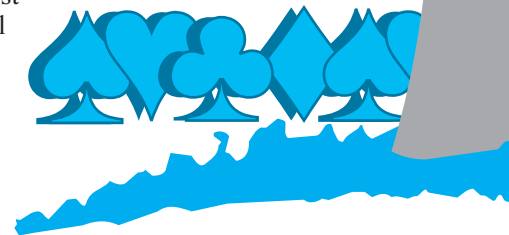
Poland had an easy run in this year's European Open Team Championships. Not only they managed to win the title, but they did so comfortably by building up an early lead and retaining it until the end. In this way, the general interest shifted to the other medal positions, as well as the fourth place which was also worth a ticket to the *Bermuda Bowl*.

From the beginning, **Denmark** appeared to be a strong contender for a medal, and so it proved when they finished second. Besides them, at least half a dozen teams gave a tough battle to earn a qualifying place. 1992 gold Olympic medalists, France, were the first to show signs of fatigue, but Iceland, the reigning World champions, seemed to be in excellent form. Norway, the Netherlands and Sweden had their ups and downs which kept interest very much alive until the last rounds. At the end, **Norway** and the **Netherlands** had the better run and qualified to represent Europe in the 1993 World Championship, together with the winners and runners-up.

Following *Birmingham '81* and *Turku '89*, this is the third time that Poland wins the European Open title. The new champions are: **Cezary Balicki**, **Piotr Gawrys**, **Krzysztof Lasocki**, **Marcin Lesniewski**, **Krzysztof Martens**, **Adam Zmudzinski** and non-playing captain **Andrej Simon**. *Krzysztof Martens* is the only player who has been on all three winning teams, while *Cezary Balicki* and *Adam Zmudzinski* also played in *Turku*.

The **41st GENERALI European Championships** will go on record as one of the best tournaments ever held. Menton, a wonderful town, offered great local support, including a splendid venue in the shape of *Palais de l'Europe*. Under Jean-Claude Beineix, the *Fédération Française de Bridge* provided an outstanding organization. And our sponsor, *GENERALI*, represented by many officials, was always there to ensure that nothing spoils the picture.

Menton



12-26 June 1



'93

993



Sweden prevails in Women

Sweden came from behind, overtaking many strong contenders, to finish at the right place at the right moment: the top of the Women's series rankings as the 1993 European Championships were coming close to the end.

This was a most spectacular result that Swedish Ladies had been expecting for 26 years, i.e. since last winning the title in 1967 in Dublin. At the same time, this was rather disappointing for **Italy** who had led the field for most of the tournament, dropping, in the last quarter, to second place and ending up with the bronze medal. **France** and **Germany** had an unstable course passing from most high ranking positions before qualifying for the *Venice Cup*. At the end, the host country finished second, while Germany kept Finland away from Santiago by a narrow margin.

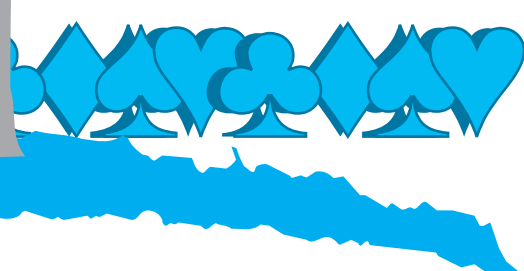
Sweden had also won the European Women's title in 1962 in Beirut. This year's champions are **Lisbeth Åström**, **Pytsi Flodqvist**, **Linda Långström**, **Katarina Midskog**, **Britt-Marie Odlund** and non-playing captain **Mari Ryman**. They played well in the tournament and sung well at the prize-giving ceremony!

WBF President visits Europe

World Bridge Federation officials headed by President **Bobby Wolff** of USA paid a much appreciated visit to the European zone at Menton. The delegation included former President **Ernesto d'Orsi** of Brazil and WBF Counsel **Jeff Polisner** who had talks with EBL officers on various issues of mutual interest, including the President's plans for improving ethics at the bridge table.

WOMEN'S SERIES

1	SWEDEN	411
2	France	388
3	Italy	385.5
4	Germany	360
5	Finland	358
6	Great Britain	350
7	Netherlands	341
8	Israel	338
9	Austria	335
10	Bulgaria	326
11	Ireland	325
12	Iceland	317
13	Spain	317
14	Portugal	281
15	Denmark	266
16	Greece	264
17	Croatia	261.5
18	Monaco	257
19	San Marino	253
20	Turkey	252
21	Belgium	245



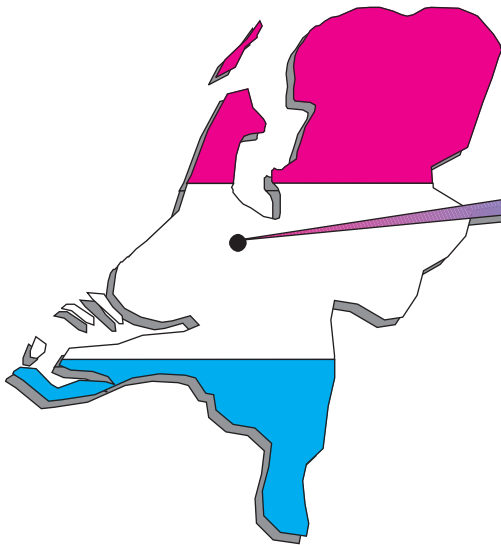
300 Caps for Danish Peter Schaltz

When Peter Schaltz sat down to play San Marino in Menton, he celebrated an unusual jubilee. He played his 300th match in the Danish Open Team.

Schaltz is only the fourth Dane sportsman to obtain his 300th cap.

The other three are bridge players Stig Werdelin and Steen Møller, and tennis champion Claus Pedersen.

Schaltz' first appearance in the Open was in Brighton '75. He also played in Lausanne and Seattle.



Nederlandse Bridge Bond

- Founded 1930 - 92,000 members
- 963 affiliated clubs in 28 districts
- Headquarters in Utrecht with 15 fulltime staff

The Dutch show the way forward

We know that the Netherlands has one of the highest proportions of registered bridge players in the world, but how did it come about?

The explosion started in 1973 when the Federation decided to change from a principally amateur organization to one which would pay and promote bridge teaching of a standard nature throughout the Netherlands. The NBB negotiated with the Minister of Education for a teaching diploma to be recognized officially, course material was made available, and nationwide promotion began. All beginners learned the same system, and felt on familiar ground when they arrived at the bridge clubs.

In 1983 a television series by *Ton Schipperheyn* and *Cees Sint* of short programmes introduced each lesson of a beginners' course which viewers were expected to follow at home with a pack provided by the Federation. This extended the number of players further, and attracted the newspapers all of whom now have a weekly column.

We now have 800 authorized teachers who earn about 1,000 guilders for each course of 11 lessons of the standard text.

What is the history of the NBB?

It was founded in 1930, and the first European Championships were held in Scheveningen in 1932. We had about 3,000 members by the start of the war, but the NBB suffered badly then, of course. After the war the NBB recovered quickly, but then grew slowly until 1973.

In 1955 we held the Europeans again, in Amsterdam. Amsterdam was also the

venue for the World Pairs in 1966 where the late *Bobby Slavenburg* and the much-alive *Hans Kreyms*, were the first, and, so far, only, Open world bridge champions from the Netherlands.

Interview with



André Boekhorst
President of
Nederlandse Bridge Bond
by Patrick Jourdain

In 1968 our renowned and much-loved *Herman Filarski* and I organized the *1st Junior European Championship* in Prague. The event finished on a Saturday, and Herman and I stayed on until Monday to tidy up. This was poor timing, as Prague was invaded the following day, but we were allowed home.

In 1972 the Junior European was held

in Delft, and in 1980 the Olympiad came to Valkenburg. We have had three Community championships in the Netherlands. In 1987 the *1st World Junior Championship* was held in Amsterdam and the home team proved worthy winners. Several members of that team, *Leufkens* and *Westra, de Boer* and *Nooijen*, have played for the Netherlands in the Open team.

What is the structure of the NBB?

All members of our clubs must register with the NBB. The districts elect a Council of which I am President. Our 15 full time staff work at the HQ in Utrecht which cost us 4 million guilders. In addition to the offices, it has playing space for 80 tables, a shop, and restaurant. The *Chef de Bureau* is Just van der Kamp, and Jan Louwerse is the Director of the Federation. The Dutch Government classifies bridge (with Chess and Go) as a sport and this attracts grants of 500,000 guilders per year. Of 93 sports federations bridge is in the top ten, so the government cannot risk saying goodbye to us!

And to finish, something about yourself, please.

I am a school-teacher. I have served on the Executive of the European Bridge League since 1973, and have been First Vice President since 1983. I launched the *1st European Junior Camp* in 1975 which is now an established part of our calendar.

Thank you for your time.

GREAT SUCCESS OF THE EBL COURSES

Making bridge bigger & better

The two EBL courses - one on *bridge promotion* and the other on *tournament directing* - held in Amsterdam, 17-22 January 1993, are certain to contribute to the expansion of the game in many countries and the improvement of bridge competitions in Europe.

Four years after the first successful attempt, the **2nd EBL Promotion Week** was organized last January, following the request of many member countries.

The focus was once again on *bridge education*, but other important aspects, as *sponsorship*, *public relations* and *technical organization*, were covered in depth by international experts. During the week, round table discussions and group meetings were held, in which participants played an active part.

Education - the cornerstone of bridge promotion - was analyzed by French and

Dutch experts who have developed highly successful methods over the last decades and are considered to be the leaders in the field. Bridge teaching and promotion among young people received a special emphasis, as Junior bridge is an investment into the future.

José Damiani addressed the issue of how to obtain and retain sponsorship, while Italian Bridge Federation officials spoke on public relations and government recognition on the occasion of bridge having been accepted as a sport by the Italian Olympic Committee.



José Damiani and André Boekhorst chairing a round table discussion during the Promotion Week

At the same time, the **4th EBL Tournament Directors'** course took place. More than 60 Tournament Directors of national status were trained intensively by Europe's leading experts in the field, aiming at achieving uniformity of handling disputes, ruling and Law interpretation. There were many lectures and practice session, and the course ended with an examination and the diploma-giving ceremony.

The 1993 EBL courses were once again splendidly organized by **André Boekhorst** and the Dutch Bridge Federation.

The Promotion Week Book

All the wealth of material presented by international experts in the Amsterdam seminar - from sponsorship and public relations to bridge education and organization - have been published in a handy 96 A4 pages volume.

The *Proceedings of the 2nd EBL Promotion Week* are available at SFr 40 per copy (incl. postage & packing) from the Editor of *EBL Review* (see address on page 15).

EBL 1993 Tournament Directors' Course Results

Grade A+

Showing qualities of particular merit to become Senior Tournament Directors in EBL events



Otto van Schravendijk (NLD), Christian Bernsherer (AUT), Mark van Beijsterveldt (NLD), Harald Skjæran (NOR), Hans van Staveren (NLD)

Grade A

Showing the qualities needed to become Tournament Directors in international (EBL) events

Jean Audebert	FRA
Dimitris Ballas	GRE
Jorg Fritsche	GER
Karl Hermans	BEL
Rui Marques	POR
Juhani Leikola	FIN
Frans Lejeune	NLD
Oyvind Ludvigsen	NOR
Jean Louis Pennec	FRA
Borje Rudenståhl	SWE
Valery Yanév	BUL
Herman de Wael	BEL
Michael Wieseler	GER
Jeanne Zwamborn	NLD

Grade B

Showing the qualities needed to become leading Tournament Directors in national events

I.Axelsen	G.Lievens
R.Bley	M.Maitre
J.Boets	J.Montador
A.Concalves	J.Moraes
A.Deutz	J.Olsson
P.Eidt	C.Ragnarsson
D.Falconer	P.Rubies
C.Farwig	G. Sallstedt
G.Fronti	I. Shezifi
I.Harder	K. van Soest
K.Hauksson	L.Sundqvist
B.Jungerfelt	J. Torres
K.Koistinen	R. Vernier
G.Lambeaux	H. Visser

Meet...



FACTFILE

- Born 1955. Lives in Warsaw.
- Married to Joanna; two sons aged 7 and 12.
- Occupation: Professional bridge player and distributor of *Lavazza* coffee machines.
- World Olympiad gold medallist 1984.
- European Individual champion 1992.

Piotr Gawrys

Patrick Jourdain interviews
Europe's first Individual champion

Piotr, last year, you became the first GENERALI European Individual Champion, but first please, tell us about your family life.

I was brought up in Warsaw. My father was a designer, and I have one brother who was very talented in Physics and Mathematics. I played family bridge from the age of nine.

When did you first play tournament bridge?

At the age of 15 I played at the local bridge club. It was all duplicate bridge, as rubber bridge was considered gambling, and not approved. I went to Warsaw Polytechnic to study architecture, and, unlike many of the bridge players there I finished my course and graduated. In 1976 I represented Poland in the Junior team which played in Lund, Sweden, and we came fourth. The same year I won the Junior European Pairs in Cannes in partnership with *Krzysztof Moszczyński*.

What happened after you left college?

I became a professional bridge player. In 1982 I played in the Biarritz Pairs Olympiad with *Marcin Lesniewski* who is in the same team, here in Menton. It was the first time we ever partnered each other. We came 7th and could have won the gold medal but for two disasters in the final session.

I represented Poland in the open team

for the first time in 1984 when we played in the Seattle Olympiad and became world champions. I partnered *Henrik Wolny*. Bridge did very well in Poland after that, and received support from the government.

What were your main achievements in bridge after that?

The next year I played in the Europeans in Salsomaggiore but Poland did not do well. I partnered *Lesniewski* for a few years, Poland's next medal was the bronze in Killarney in 1991 by which time I had formed a partnership with *Krzysztof Lasocki*. We went to Yokohama and won the silver medal in the Bermuda Bowl.

What did you think of the first GENERALI Individual in Paris?

Well, of course, I enjoyed it! But I think it was particularly good for bridge because the players came first. There has been a trend in bridge for the teams, and for the officials to become more important, and for the players as people to be forgotten. The public is only really interested in individuals, and if the authorities want to create extra interest in bridge they must build up the public's knowledge of particular players.

If you had a magic wand, and could change something about bridge, what would it be?

I would have the strongest players possi-

ble on Appeals Committees. I can only respect the judgment of very good players when deciding what a player would or should have done.

What is your opinion about systems? Your teammates play the highly artificial Strong Pass.

I prefer playing a natural system because it allows me more freedom to exercise my judgment. I have played *Strong Pass* and believe it is a superior method, but it has not really been allowed to develop. It did not really start until 1965, and after 10 years the administrators gave it so many restrictions that development stopped.

How is bridge in Poland?

It did very well between 1984 and a couple of years ago, but now, mainly due to the new economic situation, is going down again. Public interest is low.

You travel the world playing bridge. How do the countries differ?

I always found bridge in Italy the most pleasant because they treated the players so well. The ACBL Nationals provide the most interesting bridge, and I like the Invitation events there like the *Cavendish* because of the high standard.

Good luck in Menton Piotr, and thank you for your time.



GENERALI and EBL: a fruitful alliance

ALDO CASTELLANI of GENERALI attended part of the 41st European Championships in Menton and was interviewed by the *Daily Bulletin*. This interview which reveals how our sponsors look at us, is reprinted here due to its general interest.



Mr Castellani, would you introduce yourself to our readers, the top bridge players from so many European countries?

I work at GENERALI's head office in Trieste. I am in charge there of advertising and sponsorship, primarily for Italy, but also for the international events for which the Trieste head office is responsible. I am not a bridge player myself, my hobbies being cycling (not in competition) and breeding dogs, especially the Kur Zahar medium-sized hunting dogs. However, our company employs many good bridge players, among them Enrico Randone, our Past President, Antoine Bernheim, our Vice President, as well as Luigi Molinari, our General Manager for Italy. From this, it can easily be deduced that at boardroom level, there is keen interest in bridge. Still, GENERALI conducted a big research operation throughout all the working companies to discover how they all felt about sponsoring the EBL.

Could you tell us about GENERALI's objectives in sponsorship?

Sponsoring is a modern way of communication. In the current theory of business management, a great deal of attention is paid to the intangible values connected with the equity of a company. We try to improve our image along two different lines: (1) *advertising* - the commercially oriented way; and (2) *public relations*, which includes *sponsorship*.

Obviously, in advertising our commercial budget plays the central role, but when public relations and sponsorship enter the picture, the objective changes. We feel it is also important that the name GENERALI acquires and maintains a positive connotation. Getting more 'general' is not our only interest. When we thought about what we were aiming at, we reached the conclusion that the EBL touches almost all our European markets, and therefore looked a very good partner.

Does it make any difference to you that we are playing in Menton, in the South of France, now?

Yes, we consider Menton to be very much a 'home' venue. We expect and hope to see many of our Italian friends

coming to Menton, particularly those from Piemonte, Lombardy and Liguria.

Can you inform us about GENERALI's latest business results and prospects?

The GENERALI group results over 1992 were satisfactory, and did not differ a great deal from the 1991 results. The prospects for the future also look quite good.

Could you reveal to us how the cooperation between GENERALI and the EBL started?

We are cooperating on a five-year agreement, signed in 1989. So far, we have been present at three Europeans (Turku, Killarney and Menton) and the Paris 1992 Individual as well as the Salsomaggiore Olympiad. We are very satisfied with the cooperation shown by José Damiani and the entire EBL organization.

Thank you very much, Mr Castellani, for this interview. We hope you will enjoy the remainder of your stay here in Menton.



- **SHARPEN YOUR BRIDGE TECHNIQUE**
by Hugh Kelsey

This is a reprint of Kelsey's highly successful *Bridge: the Mind of the Expert*, originally published in 1981.

How good is your card sense and table presence? Can you induce your opponents to commit an error? Kelsey gives you the whole story in style.

Published by VICTOR GOLLANZCZ (160 pages, paperback, £6.99).

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If you like bridge and literature you will find this book a wonderful combination, probably because - as the author notes - parody is the sincerest form of flattery. Entertaining games and classic stories - whichever you prefer, you will enjoy this exceptional book written by an Oxford graduate.

Published by CADOGAN BRIDGE (198 pages, paperback, £9.99).



Understanding Master Points



❖ *Paul Maris of the Netherlands is the EMP Secretary.*

The *European Master Points* (EMP) are a reflection of a player's lifetime performance at the bridge table.

The EMP system was introduced in the '70s, and revised in 1984; since then the rankings are strongly influenced by the results of the most recent decade.

EMPs may be won in:

- *EBL Championships*
- *WBF Championships*
WBF Master Points are automatically converted to EMPs.
- *National events*

Each NCBO is allowed a number of EMPs for distribution to their players. The size of this *national quota* depends on the NCBO's membership and their results in the Open and Ladies Teams of the three most recent European Championships.

The lists below were correct on 31 May 1993

Top Scorers			
MEN			
1	CHEMLA Paul	FRA	839 GM
2	PERRON Michel	FRA	781 GM
3	MARTENS Krzysztof	POL	712 GM
4	GAWRYS Piotr	POL	706 GM
5	SUNDELIN Per Olof	SWE	670 GM
6	LEBEL Michel	FRA	645 GM
7	GÖTHE Hans	SWE	612 GM
8	FUCIK Jan	AUT	611 GM
9	GULLBERG Tommy	SWE	587 GM
10	MEINL Wolfgang	AUT	572 GM

Top Scorers			
WOMEN			
1	VRIEND Bep	NLD	556 LM
2	LANDY Sandra	GBR	533 GM
3	PAS Marijke van der	NLD	523 GM
4	SCHIPPERS Elly	NLD	510 GM
5	SMITH Nicola	GBR	471 GM
6	HORTON Sally	GBR	466 GM
7	ERHART Maria	AUT	429 GM
8	ANDREA Marisa d'	ITA	403 GM
9	WILLARD Sylvie	FRA	370 GM
-	DAVIES Pat	GBR	370 GM

♂		Leading National Scorers		♀		
8	FUCIK Jan	611 GM	AUSTRIA	7	ERHART Maria	429 GM
93	COENRAETS Philippe	241 M	BELGIUM	63	POLET Valérie	113
	BONEV Ilko & TANEV Ivan	50	BULGARIA	61	DELEVA Nevena	115
	BRKLJACIC Miljenko	43	CROATIA		SVER Nikica	26
	SVOBODA Otakar	64	CZECH REPUBLIC		POKORNÁ Jana	26
17	AUKEN Jens	528 LM	DENMARK	17	NORRIS Judy	269 LM
	LEVENKO Vasily	67	ESTONIA		BÄCKSTRÖM Susanne	36
	KOISTINEN Kauko	138	FINLAND		WILLARD Sylvie	370 GM
1	CHEMLA Paul	839 GM	FRANCE	9	VOGT Waltraud	249 LM
31	HÄUSLER Helmut	410 LM	GERMANY	20	LANDY Sandra	533 GM
21	FORRESTER Tony	467 LM	GREAT BRITAIN	2	VLACHAKI Maria	60
49	KARLAFTIS George	366 M	GREECE		WELKER Katalin	29
	LINCZMAYER Lajos	194	HUNGARY		JAKOBSDOTTIR Esther	62
57	BALDURSSON Jon	330 LM	ICELAND		O' KEEFE Aileen	86
	FITZGIBBON Nick	211 M	IRELAND	88	LORER Matilda	93
32	BIRMAN David	398 LM	ISRAEL	78	ANDREA Marisa d'	403 GM
33	GAROZZO Benito	394 LM	ITALY	8	VRIEND Bep	556 LM
12	MAAS Anton	560 LM	NETHERLANDS	1	HELLEMAN Anne Lill	19
34	HELNESS Tor	392 LM	NORWAY		HARASIMOWICZ Ewa	102
3	MARTENS Krzysztof	712 GM	POLAND	72	TADEU Ana Isabel	24
	SANTOS Jorge	79	PORTUGAL			
	VALEANU Vladimir	24	ROMANIA			
	GROMOV Andrej	26	RUSSIA			
	NOVAK Janez & VALENTIC Zoran	16	SLOVENIA			
	FERNÁNDEZ SANCHIZ Carlos	136	SPAIN	77	MORATALLA Sol de	96
5	SUNDELIN Per Olof	670 GM	SWEDEN	47	ANDERSSON Pia	154 M
	BIGAT Halit	179	SWITZERLAND	60	BIGAT Ginette	116
	ÖZDIL Melih	48	TURKEY		TANER Aysen & ZORLU Sevda	14

Competition Calendar

July

12-25 20th World Bridge Festival
Deauville, France

16-18 2nd European Junior Pairs Championship
Oberreifenberg, Germany

19-25 10th European Junior Camp
Oberreifenberg, Germany

August

1-7 Loiben Bridge Week
Loiben, Austria

3-12 4th World Junior Team Championship
Århus, Denmark

20-29 EBU Brighton Summer Congress
Brighton, Great Britain

22-29 21st Grand Prix of Warsaw
Warsaw, Poland

29 7th VGNN-Vlinder Team Tournament
Emmen, The Netherlands

28-5/9 40th Bridge Festival
Le Tourquet, France

29-10/9 31st NEC Bermuda Bowl
9th NEC Venice Cup
Santiago, Chile

September

3-14 International Bridge Festival
Mamaia, Romania

17-19 26th Intern. 'Ginger-Bread' Tournament
Pardubice, Czech Republic

October

3-9 4th International Bridge Festival
Minsk, Byelorussia

7-10 26th International Tournament
Rogaška, Slovenia

20-29 30th International Tournament
Las Palmas, Spain

November

4-7 Vilnius Cup
Vilnius, Lithuania

11-14 International Festival of Bordeaux
Bordeaux Lac, France

19 19th PHILIP MORRIS Simultaneous Pairs

December

27-30 EBU Year End Congress
London, Great Britain

1994 EBL Competition Calendar

Every year the EBL produces and distributes free of charge a booklet containing details of local, national and international tournaments scheduled to take place in Europe.

If you wish to have your tournament included in the *Calendar* please provide the Editor of *EBL Review* with the following information:

1. Date of start and finish, 2. Title of the event, 3. Venue, 4. Typical accommodation cost (double room per night), 5. Main tournaments and number of sessions, 6. Average entry fee per player and session, 7. Prizes, 8. Contact address for information and entries.

The deadline for the 1994 edition of the *Calendar* is **31 October 1993**.

EBL Review

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