

**Bulletin 10** 

# **Battles for Bronze**

In the matches for the gold medals, the most exciting is the Junior final, which got closer following an Israeli charge late in the third session. The Netherlands leads Israel by 126 IMPs to 110.3.

In the Youngsters, Poland leads USA1 by 145 IMPs to 100.3.

And in the Girls, Poland has a 32-IMP advantage over the Netherlands, being ahead by 150-118.

The trailing teams will be hoping for some exciting deals in the last two sessions.

Congratulations to the three bronze medal winners. In the Open, China defeated The Winners of the Transnationals: the Chinese Australia by 137 IMPs to 126.5. Their team

is Yichao Chen, Junjie Hu, Yujie Jiang, Kai Lu, Yinpei Shao and Jiangiu Shen, with Xiaofeng Wang the non-playing captain and Xueming Fu the coach.

In the Youngsters, the medals go to France: Julian Bernard, Ivan Cailliau, Fabrice Charignon, Baptiste Combescure, Gregoire Lafont and Clement Laloubeyre, with Christophe Oursel the npc. They defeated Israel by 125 IMPs to 107.

And in the Girls, Italy were third, defeating France by 127.3 IMPs to 103. The Italian team is

**Prize Giving Ceremony** Today at 16:45 at the **Playing Area (Taicang Stadium)** 



Youngsters, here called CHN RDFZ.

Giorgia Botta, Federica Butto, Margherita Chavarria, Margherita Costa, Flavia Lanzuisi and Michela Salvato, with Emanuela Capriata the npc.

The winners of the Transnational Teams were Che Shen, Hongji Wei, Jia Shen Yin and Yichen Yin, with Xiaofeng Wang as the npc and Jichao Hu the coach. They were two-thirds of the China Youngsters team, playing under the name China RDFZ.

> Victory Banquet Todav at 19:30 at the **Jinling Garden Hotel** buses will leave at 19:00 from Vienna Hotel and Hotel Jia Yue

# The Final Jaime Ortiz-Patiño Trophy Juniors

		C/O	1-16	17-32	33-48	49-64	65-80	Total
	NETHERLANDS		32	59	35			126
¢	ISRAEL	0.3	12	33	65			110.3

# The Final José Damiani Cup Youngsters

	C/O	1-16	17-32	33-48	49-64	65-80	Total
POLAND		61	33	51			145
USA1	2.3	6	44	48			100.3

# The Final Gianarrigo Rona Trophy Girls

	C/O	1-16	17-32	33-48	49-64	65-80	Total
NETHERLANDS	14	19	55	30			118
POLAND		68	49	33			150

# The Play-Off Jaime Ortiz-Patiño Trophy Juniors

		C/0	1-16	17-32	33-48	Total
	AUSTRALIA	6.5	8	72	40	126.5
*]:	CHINA		67	42	28	137

# The Play-Off José Damiani Cup Youngsters

		C/O	1-16	17-32	32-48	Total
	FRANCE	8	30	45	42	125
✡	ISRAEL		51	45	11	107

# The Play-Off Gianarrigo Rona Trophy Girls

		C/0	1-16	17-32	33-48	Total
	ITALY	2.3	31	33	61	127.3
	FRANCE		24	43	36	103

## The Transnational Teams Final Ranking

1	CHN RDFZ	113
2	CHINA GIRLS	109
3	ARGENT. 2014	107
4	ITALY 2	107
5	SINGAPORE JUNIORS	106
6	DOWN UNDER	104
7	ENGLAND	104
8	CH. TAIPEI YOUNGST.	100
9	CHINA MIXED	99
10	ITALY YOUNGSTERS	99
11	KOELESKAB	98
12	TU MEKE	96
13	NORWAY	93
14	CH. TP. & JAPAN MIX B	92
15	SINGAP. YOUNGSTERS	90

16	CANUCKS	89
17	LATVIA	89
18	FERNET	88
19	BULGARIA	88
20	SOUKUP	87
21	HERMANOS SUD	86
22	MAPLE LEAFS	86
23	PEACE	83
24	JAPAN	82
25	SWEDISH GIRLS	78
26	AUSSIE GIRLS	75
27	JAPAN & CH. TP. MIX A	73
28	ARGENT. 1810	71
29	COSTA RICA	71





### Oranje Boven

This picture appeared on the Dutch Federation Website. The evening before the start of the finals, the entire Dutch contingent was celebrating their remarkable achievement: two out of two in the finals.

The Polish Federation is more cautious, no pictures there yet, despite the fact that they too placed both their teams in the finals.

### The Transnational Teams Team Rosters

#### **ARGENT. 1810**

Tais BATTAGGIA (BRA) Paulo Vitor DA ROSA (BRA) Rafael DIAS (BRA) Lucas LICCIARDO (ARG) Tomas LICCIARDO (ARG) Marianna LINZ (USA)

#### **ARGENT. 2014**

Maximo CRUSIZIO (ARG) Juan Cruz ETCHEPAREBORDA (ARG) Rodrigo GARCIA DA ROSA (ARG) Santiago RUEDA (ARG) Gabriele ZANASI (ITA)

#### AUSSIE GIRLS

Pascale GARDINER (AUS) Laura GINNAN (AUS) Lucy HENBEST (AUS) Ella PATTISON (AUS)

#### BULGARIA

Peter IVANOV (BUL) Joakim SAETHER (NOR) Zhivko SIDEROV (BUL) Ivan SYUSYUKIN (BUL)

#### CANUCKS

Christopher CHALCRAFT (CAN) Shan HUANG (CAN) Kenan OZKURT (TUR) Tom WALSH (CAN) Gordon ZIND (CAN)

#### CH. TAIPEI YOUNGSTERS

CHIU Wei-Hsiang (TPE) HSIEH I-Ming (TPE) HUANG Kuo-Hsuan (TPE) LIN Kai-En (TPE) LIN Yen-Jung (TPE) LIU Tzu-Hao (TPE)

#### CH. TP, & JAPAN MIX, B

Sho AITA (JPN) Koichiro HASHIMOTO (JPN) Kosuke ITO (JPN) MIAO Shiuan (TPE) WANG Jui (TPE)

#### **CHINA GIRLS**

CHEN Xinyang (CHN) WANG Wei (CHN) ZHANG Xiaoxia (CHN) ZHAO Bing (CHN)

#### **CHINA MIXED**

LIU Yanjiao (CHN) SHAN Xingxing (CHN) TAN Zihan (CHN) ZENG Liwei (CHN)

#### **CHN RDFZ**

SHEN Che (CHN) WEI Hongji (CHN) YIN Jia Shen (CHN) YIN Yichen (CHN)

#### COSTA RICA

Ariel ARGAIN (ARG) Leonardo ARGUEDAS (CRC) Christopher CASTILLO (CRC) Nicolas Miguel SENGIALI (ARG)

#### **DOWN UNDER**

Daniel BRAUN (AUS) Ellena MOSKOVSKY (AUS) Shivam SHAH (ENG) Lauren TRAVIS (AUS)

#### ENGLAND

Michael ALISHAW (ENG) Christopher HUBER (ENG) Frederick ILLINGWORTH (ENG) Toby NONNENMACHER (ENG) Erika RODIN (SWE)

#### FERNET

Dennis BILDE (DEN) Niclas Raulund EGE (DEN) Ida GRONKVIST (SWE) Owen LIEN (USA)

#### HERMANOS SUD

Felipe Jose FERRO (ARG) Francisco Pablo MONTES DE OCA (ARG) Stefano TOMMASINI (BRA) Felipe VASALLO (BRA)

#### ITALY 2

Gianluca BERGAMI (ITA) Francesco DE LEO (ITA) Giovanni DONATI (ITA) Giacomo PERCARIO (ITA)

#### **ITALY YOUNGSTERS**

Alessandro CALMANOVICI (ITA) Alessandro PRUNA (ITA) Alberto RACCA (ITA) Roberto SAU (ITA)

#### JAPAN

Yuki GOMA (JPN) Takashi HASEGAWA (JPN) Tadahiro KIKUCHI (JPN) Kento MATSUDA (JPN) Yusuke NOGUCHI (JPN) Akinori TAKATSUJI (JPN)

#### JAPAN & CH. TP. MIX A

CHANG Chih Hsuan (TPE) Takashi MATSUDA (JPN) Takumi SESHIMO (JPN) Daisuke SUGIMOTO (JPN) TAO Chang Hsin (TPE) TSAO Chiung-Yueh (TPE)

#### KOELESKAB

Rhys COOPER (AUS) Emil JEPSEN (DEN) Maria Dam MORTENSEN (DEN) Lars TOFTE (DEN) LATVIA

Peteris BETHERS (JPN) Gints DREIMANIS (JPN) Gints FREIMANIS (JPN) Janis ILZINS (JPN) Aleksis ZALITIS (JPN)

#### MAPLE LEAFS

Xinyu Bob FENG (CAN) Aled IABONI (CAN) Jeffrey TSANG (CAN) Allen YU (CAN)

#### NORWAY

Christian BAKKE (NOR) Haakon BRANDSNES (NOR) Espen FLAATT (NOR) Anders GUNDERSEN (NOR) Beuce KERTESZ (HUN) XUEHAI Gu (CHN)

#### PEACE

Kirollos FADY (EGY) Wasim MAMDOUH (EGY) Kamal MORCOS (EGY) Moustafa Mohamed MOUSTAFA (EGY)

#### REDOUBLERS

Armin ASKARI (CAN) Jessie HEBBERT (CAN) Jordan HEBBERT (CAN) Spencer MAC DONALD (CAN)

#### SINGAP. YOUNGSTERS

CHAN Wei Shan Melissa (SGP) KHOR Shi-Jie (SGP) KOH Kenneth (SGP) PHANG Hong Kee (SGP) TEO Hai Wei (SGP)

#### SINGAPORE JUNIORS

OH Feng Gui Desmond (SGP) ONG Jin Xiang (SGP) TAN Wei Seng (SGP) THAM Yuan Xing Romulus (SGP)

#### SOUKUP

Hakan BERK (USA) Taylor COMPTON (USA) Arjun DHIR (USA) Murphy GREEN (USA) Ben KRISTENSEN (USA) David SOUKUP (USA) Frits VLAANDEREN (NED)

#### SWEDISH GIRLS

Sean GANNON (USA) Irma PETERSEN (SWE) Moa PETERSEN (SWE) Catrin WAHLESTEDT (SWE)

#### TU MEKE

Jenn BLACK (NZL) Andi BOUGHEY (NZL) Renee COOPER (AUS) Jamie THOMPSON (AUS)

#### **USA 1 YOUNGSTERS**

Marius AGICA (USA) Kevin DWYER (USA) Roger LEE (USA) Raghavendra RAJKUMAR (USA) Mitch TOWNER (USA)

### **Dutch Diaries - Part 7**

#### by Kees Tammens

After winning the round robin, the whole Dutch squad was in the best of moods. We did not expect the knockouts to be that easy. In the final match of the 2011 European Championship, it was only after a big victory (23-7) in the last round over direct rivals Poland that we assured participation in Taicang. So the other European qualifiers must be as strong as the Dutch. Also there are highly respected teams from China, Australia and Japan. And maybe one of the outsiders would put up a tough fight; perhaps Argentina, our opponent in the final of Opatija 2011.

First place in the round robin gave the the right to choose first their opponents in the quarterfinal. And although Singapore had put up a great fight in the round robin, that was the choice. Let's see how that match started.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ J 5 2	
♡ A 8 4 3	
♦ 9842	
♣ A 9	
🛧 A K 9 8 3	<b>•</b> 7
♡ Q J 10 9 7 5	♡62
♦ A 3	◊ Q J 10 6 5
<b>*</b> —	♣KJ1065
♠ Q 10 6 4	
⊗ K	
♦ K 7	
♣Q8743	2

Both Wests were in four hearts. What should North lead?

Yuan Xing Romulus Tham chose the ace of hearts, crashing his partner's king, and continued with a heart to give declarer absolutely no chance to make his game.

At the other table, after the eight-of-diamonds lead, Ying Dan You won with dummy's queen, played a spade to her ace, cashed the king of spades and ruffed a spade. She continued with a club ruff in her hand and another spade. North ruffed with the eight of hearts, but all the defenders could take were the king and ace of hearts; 10 IMPs to Singapore, who at once wiped away the carryover of 6 IMPs to lead by 4. After that ominous beginning for the Netherlands, the boards stayed calm, unlike the very wild distributions and slammish deals we had had to handle in the round robin. On the penultimate deal of the first session, the Netherlands struck.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

Doald 15.	Dealer Nor	III. All Vul	•
	♠Q5		
	♡ A J 4		
	♦ J 9 4		
	♣ K J 9	76	
♠ A			09864
	0		09804
♡K987	-	♡6	
♦ K Q 10	865	$\diamond A$	2
♣ A		<b>&amp;</b> Q	10432
	🔶 K J 7	32	
	♡Q 10	52	
	♦ 7 3	-	
	<b>*</b> 8 5		
	•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••		
West	North	East	South
You	Helmich	Tan	Нор
_	1•	1	Pass
$2\diamondsuit$ (a)	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♡	Pass	$4\diamond$	Pass
$5\diamond$	Pass	Pass	Pass
(a) Forcing	for one rou	ınd	

Aarnout Helmich as North, with the A-J-4 of hearts over declarer, knew exactly what to lead: a low trump. This gave declarer no chance to make the contract, and after the ace of diamonds, a heart to the king and ace, and a second trump, two down was assured. Then for some unknown reason declarer lost another trick for minus 300.

This was the auction at the other table:

West	North	East	South
v Lankveld	Tham	v d Bos	Oh
_	1•	1 🛧	Pass
$2\diamond$	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	$2 \heartsuit$	All Pass	

Here, West could bid a constructive but nonforcing two diamonds, which East was happy to pass. However, South still had something to say, and  $2 \heartsuit$  by North was not a comfortable contract, with West having five trumps. After three rounds of diamonds, the last ruffed in the dummy, the contract was too hard to handle and went three down. Another 300 for the meant a gain of 12 IMPs.

Singapore was the first to score in the second session, when on the second board they bid a six spades depending on a finesse for the queen of clubs. Right she was and 1430 and 13 IMPs to Singapore.

The remainder of the set, though, was completely orange coloured. This was the concluding severe blow:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul. ♠ Q J 5 3 2 ♡ 10 ♦ K Q J 8 ♣ J 6 4 ♠ 764 **1**0 ♡ Q J 6 2 ♡A9874 ♦ A 7 6 4  $\diamond 953$ **9**8 ♣ K Q 7 2 AK98 ♡K53 ♦ 10 2 A 10 5 3

West	North	East	South
You	Helmich	Tan	Нор
_	_	Pass	1•
Pass	1 🛧	Pass	2
Pass	3♡	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

A rather common bidding sequence (three hearts showing shortness) to a popular four spades. East-West can save for 500 in five hearts, but that is no big deal.

West	North	East	South
Wackwitz	Tham	Westerb	eek You
_	_	$2\heartsuit$	Pass
3♡	Pass	Pass	Pass

The 'Muiderberg' (a small village in the Netherlands) by East, showing five hearts and four or five in a minor, and the raise to three hearts shut out the Singapore North-South pair. Minus 50 gave the Netherlands 11 IMPs for an 81-27 lead. With all three Dutch pairs playing controlled bridge, this was a lead they were not going to give away. Australia was the next opponent. We had already met them back in 2010 when they travelled to Amsterdam for the White House Junior Internationals. And also last year in Opatija. Based on those experiences, our team anticipated a really competitive match.

Once again the deals proved to be wild and adventurous. This time the had the advantage on the first board when reached three notrump from the wrong side and they also had a 4-4 heart fit. Joris van Lankveld duly found the killing lead for two down, with four hearts cold: 11 IMPs to the Dutch.

The second session turned out to be an exciting set of boards, with the first on the winning side, but with showing themselves to be great warriors by fighting back at the end.

Board 9. Dea	aler North. E-W Vul.
	♠ J
	♡KQJ10872
	♦ Q J 2
	♣ A 10
♠ A	♠ K 7 6 4 3
♡A9853	$\heartsuit$ —
♦ 9 8 5 4 3	♦ A K 7
♣Q3	🗣 K J 9 8 5
	♠ Q 10 9 8 5 2
	$\heartsuit 4$
	◊ 10 6
	<b>♣</b> 7642

West	North	East	South
N. Edgtton	Helmich	Hung	Нор
_	$1\heartsuit$	2♡	Pass
3•	3♡	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

East-West did pretty well when they doubled three hearts and collected 300.

However, at the other table, Ernst Wackwitz booked a big profit for the Netherlands.

West	North	East	South
Wackwitz	Howard	Westerb	eekHollands
_	$1 \heartsuit$	2♡	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

North might have felt inclined to double three notrumps, but that contract proved to be unbeatable with West stopping hearts twice. Plus 600 for a nice gain of 7 IMPs for the Dutch. With two boards of the session to go, the Netherlands led by 37 IMPs.

Board 13. Dealer North.	All Vul.
♠ 8	
♡A987	
$\diamond$ 10 8 5	
♣ K Q J 1(	) 8
🛧 K Q J 7 6 5 3	<b>•</b> 10 9 4 2
$\otimes$ 2	♡106543
$\diamond Q J$	◇ K 6 4
• A 4 2	<b>•</b> 6
♠ A	
$\heartsuit$ K Q J	
♦ A 9 7 3	2
<b>*</b> 9753	

West	North	East	South
N. Edgtton	Helmich	Hung	Нор
_	Pass	Pass	$1\diamondsuit$
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

There was nothing to the play and Australia scored 790.

West	North	East	South
Wackwitz	Howard	Westerbeel	kHollands
_	Pass	Pass	1•
1 🛧	Dble	3♠	Dble
4♠	4NT	Pass	5 🗣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Bidding five clubs was already good for a big plus, and now for the play.

West, not illogically, started with his singleton heart. Declarer, Peter Hollands, took this with his king and played a trump. When West ducked, South led a second club. After winning with the ace, West returned the queen of diamonds to declarer's ace. South drew the other trump and cashed his three winners, the ace of spades and two hearts. Then declarer exited with a diamond to endplay poor West. He had to lead a spade, conceding a ruff-and-discard on which dummy's last diamond vanished.

That was plus 600 and 16 IMPs to Australia.

I have enjoyed describing all of those dinosaur deals in these championships, but I certainly did not want our opponents in the semifinal to create one.

When on the last board of the set Australia bid

and made four hearts while the Netherlands went down in two spades in the same direction, the second session went to the team from Down Under. But as the margin was only 1 IMP (42-43), the Netherlands was still leading by 32. Was it a sign that the Australians would get back in the match?

When a writer of fairy tales pens his stories, there is always a happy ending. Well, in the third session everything went in the direction of the Netherlands. Especially Berend van de Bos and Joris van Lankveld bid everything that was possible.

Board 5. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

	♠Q752	
	-	
	♡ A 8 7	
	◊ Q J 4	
	♣ K 10 2	
🔶 K J 4		♠ A 10 9 8 6 3
♡J9		♡ 10 5 3
<b>♦ 6 3</b>		♦ A 8
🗣 Q J 9 7 6	53	<b>4</b> 5 4
	<b>•</b> —	
	♡KQ642	
	♦ K 10 9 7 5	2
	♣ A 8	

West	North	East	South
Milne	v d Bos	A. Edgtton	v Lankveld
_	1•	2♠	3� (a)
4♠	Pass	Pass	6�
Pass	6♡	Dble	All Pass
(a) Hearts			

North, 'the bear', with all of those secondary values might have doubled 4. When he did not, South, Van Lankveld, got the impression that North-South had a play for a high-level red-suit contract. So he jumped to the six level.

No diamond ruff and trumps breaking 3-2 were good for 1660. A magic moment: the Netherlands outbid Australia on a slam.

### **New Record?**

OK it may have been table ten of the last round of a Junior Swiss, but this is still impressive. Teams FERNET and SOUKUP finished their open room table in 38 minutes. That's 2 minutes and 43 seconds per board.

The ultimate killer was:

Board 13. D	ealer North. A	ıll Vul.
	♠ J 9	
	♡9863	
	♦ 9	
	🗣 K J 8	
🔶 K Q 7		A 8 4 3 2
♡K 10 2		♡Q4
◊Q76		♦ J 10 5 4 2
<b>•</b> 10 6 3 2		♣ Q
	<b>•</b> 10 6 5	
	♡ A J 7 5	
	♦ A K 8 3	
	<b>*</b> 8 4	

<b>West</b> Milne	<b>North</b> v d Bos Pass	<b>East</b> A. Edgtton Pass	<b>South</b> v Lankveld 1 ◊
Pass Pass Pass	1♥ 2♠ Pass	Pass Pass Pass Pass	$2^{\circ}$ $4^{\circ}$

With three clubs going one down, there was nothing to lose and much to gain if four hearts could be made. North, Van den Bos, took an optimistic view when he invited four hearts. His partner jumped straight to game with his not so impressive 12-count.

With nothing to guide East, he led the queen of clubs. Declarer won with his king and threw a spade on dummy's second high diamond. Then came the ace of hearts and a heart ducked to East's queen. If East had now led a low spade, putting West on lead to cash his king of hearts, the contract would have been defeated, because declarer could not have got to dummy to take the club finesse. But East continued with the jack of diamonds. North ruffed, cashed two clubs, discarding a spade from dummy, ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond and threw one more spade on an established club. East-West got only the master trump and one spade trick.

With this set producing 67-7, the Dutch lead grew to 92 IMPs. And with only 14 boards to play, that was a number even Meckwell would not have washed away against these Dutch juniors playing so well.

So we are in the final against Israël. Like the Australian guys, we have also been well acquainted with the Israëli juniors in the last couple of years and we have played some eventful matches against them. After winning the White House Juniors three times in a row, in the spring of 2012 the Netherlands at last came out as winners against Israël. So what will it be in Taicang?

### **Celebrity Pairs Tournament**

Last Sunday there was a 13-table, 13-round celebrity pair event at the Jinling Garden Hotel. The results were:

#### North-South

1st: Virginia Chediak and Eva Flatt 2nd: Hui Tan and Songliu Teng 3rd: Huaicheng Xiang (President of the Chinese Contract Bridge Association) and Xiaofeng Wang (Deputy Secretary General of the CCBA)

#### East-West

1st: Wei Zhu and Puging Li 2nd: Sevinç Atay (WBF Executive Committee member) and Gianarrigo Rona (President of the World Bridge Federation)

3rd: Agnes and Wubbo de Boer

Other celebrities who played were Yves Aubry (President of the European Bridge League) and Ata Aydin (Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee). Present also was Pu Ginghong, the General Manager of the sponsor, Sanqing Medicine Corporation.



The two Winning Pairs

### Israel vs USA1 Youngsters Semifinal - Fourth Session

#### by Phillip Alder

Before diving into the deals from this match, here are a few problems to try. In each case, the deal has been rotated to make South the declarer, but in the report the layouts have been left as at the table. Apologies for the gymnastics this will require of you, the reader.

1a. With neither side vulnerable, you, West, pick up

♠ Q J 10 4 ♡ 7 ◇ A K 5 3 ♣ J 10 3 2

The bidding goes:

West	North	East	South	
_	_	$1 \heartsuit$	1NT	
Dble	2 🗣 (a)	Pass	2� (b)	
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass	
(a) Stayman (b) Fewer than four spades				

What would you lead? (As a side issue, if your double of one notrump had been passed out, what would you have led?)

2. With only your side vulnerable, you, West, hold:

♠ A J 6 2 ♡ 4 ◊ K J 9 8 7 ♣ 6 4 3

This is the auction:

West	North	East	South
_	-	-	Pass
Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	Pass	$2\diamondsuit$ (a)
Dble	2♡ (b)	3�	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
(a) Maximum pass, four-plus hearts			
(b) No game interest			

What would you lead?

1b. Back to the first hand. Suppose you lead the seven of hearts. This is what you can see:

	North ♠ 8 7 5 2 ♡ 10 8 ◊ J 7 6 2 ♣ K 8 6
West	
♠ Q J 10 4	
♡7	
♦ A K 5 3	
♣ J 10 3 2	

The first trick goes seven of hearts, eight, queen, ace. Declarer immediately returns a low heart. What are your thoughts?

3. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

🗣 A K 9 7 3
♡ A K 9 7
♦ A 7
🗣 K 9
♠84
♡QJ643
$\diamond$ 10 8
🗣 A 6 3 2

After three passes, North opens one strong club. East overcalls one spade. South responds two hearts, five-plus hearts and game-forcing values. Then you reach six hearts. West leads the two of spades. What would be your line of play? (Hearts are not 4-0.)



When the last quarter of this match started, Israel led by 30 IMPs. That margin immediately leapt higher.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

A	Q
♡ K	-
♦ 9	72
• A	10853
<b>♦</b> 974	♠ K 10 8 6 2
♡Q 10 3	$\heartsuit 4$
♦ A K 6 5 3	♦ J 10 8
🗣 J 7	♣Q942
🔶 J	53
$\heartsuit$ A	98752
$\diamond Q$	4
<b>&amp;</b> K	6

West	North	East	South	
Ginossar	Kaplan	Reiter	Brescoll	
_	1NT (a)	Pass	2� (b)	
Dble	2♡ (c)	Pass	$4 \heartsuit$	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
(a) 14-16				
(b) Transfer				
(c) At least three hearts				

West	North	East	South
Zachary G	. Levy	Adam G.	Asulin
_	1•	Pass	$1 \heartsuit$
$2\diamond$	Dble (a)	2 <b>4</b> (b)	3♡
3♠	Pass	Pass	$4 \heartsuit$
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass
(a) Three-card heart support			

(a) Three-card heart support

(b) Spades and diamonds because he did not overcall one spade on the first round

In the Open Room, Adam Reiter led the jack of diamonds. West won the trick and immediately switched to a spade, the finesse losing. East went back to diamonds, so it came down to the heart guess. Kit Woolsey, one of the Vu-Graph commentators, suggested that Adam Kaplan might play for a 3-1 break in the hope of a swing when 30 IMPs behind. But Kaplan played a heart to his king on the first round and went one down.

In the Closed Room, if Zach Grossack had passed over three hearts, that would have become the final contract. But he liked the idea of the spade-diamond double fit and thought he had good defence against four hearts. Wrong! The play started identically to the other table, but Adi Asulin cashed her ace of hearts, then played a heart to dummy's jack to land her contract.

Plus 50 and plus 590 gave Israel 12 IMPs.

Board 2. Dea	aler East. N-S	Vul.
	🔶 K 5 4	
	♡K 10	
	◊ 10 5 4 3	
	🗣 A 9 7 2	
♠ Q 8		<b>•</b> 10 9 7 3
♡QJ987		♡A6532
♦ 6 2		$\diamond AQ$
♣ K Q J 10		<b>*</b> 8 5
-	🔶 A J 6 2	
	$\heartsuit 4$	
	◇ K J 9 8 7	
	<b>♣</b> 643	

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Kaplan	Reiter	Brescoll
_	_	Pass	Pass
2♡ (a)	Pass	2NT (b)	Dble
Redble	Pass	3♡	All Pass
(.) D.1	1 1 .		-11

(a) Below one-level opening strength with five hearts and four-plus in a minor

(b) Enquiry

West	North	East	South
Zachary G.	Levy	Adam G.	Asulin
_	_	Pass	Pass
$1 \heartsuit$	Pass	2� (a)	Dble
2♡ (b)	3�	3NT	All Pass
(a) Four-plus hearts, maximum pass			

(b) No game interest

In the Open Room, I am guessing that Itamar Ginossar's redouble showed a maximum. Ginossar then played three hearts very nicely.

North led a low spade. Zach Brescoll won with his ace and returned a spade, North taking the trick and switching to a diamond. West rose with dummy's ace and led the ten of spades, discarding his remaining diamond when South played low. Then, after ruffing the queen of diamonds, declarer ran the queen of hearts to bring home ten tricks.

That was an imaginative three-notrump bid by Adam Grossack. Maybe South should have realised that declarer had two diamond stoppers and led a black suit. (A spade kills the contract, but a club is not good enough.) However, South chose the eight of diamonds.

East won with his queen and played a club, North winning and correctly switching to a spade. However, declarer's spots were good enough to hold the suit. When East won the fourth spade, he cashed dummy's club winners, discovering that South had apparently started with 4=1=5=3 distribution. Then, when he called for the queen of hearts, North covered with the king, ending that problem.

Minus 170 and plus 400 gave 6 IMPs to USA1.

For the less well travelled players, this deal would have been interesting if the spade suit had been along these lines:



When North leads the suit, he must start with his nine to unblock. This, of course, will at first look like high from a weak suit to South, but he ought to be aware of this situation. South wins with his ace and returns the two to North's king. Then the four through East's 10-6 into South's J-7 collects the four tricks so devoutly desired.

After a flat board, there was a deal in which six spades required finding the jack of diamonds. However, both teams stayed in game and USA1 gained an IMP. Then came:

Board 5. De	ealer North N-S Vul. ♠ A K 10 8 7 6 ♡ Q 10 7 5 4 ◊ K 5
	•• —
<b>•</b> 94	♠ Q 5 3 2
♡K98	♡ J 6
♦ 7632	♦ Q J 10 9
🗣 J 9 7 5	<b>4</b> 3 2
	♠ J
	♡ A 3 2
	♦ A 8 4
	♣ A K Q 10 8 6

West	North	East	South	
Ginossar	Kaplan	Reiter	Brescoll	
_	$1 \bigstar$	Pass	2 <b>%</b> (a)	
Pass	2NT (b)	Pass	3 <b>%</b> (a)	
Pass	4 <b>♠</b> (c)	Pass	6♡	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
(a) Game-forcing relay				
(b) At least 5-5 in the majors				

(c) 6=5=2=0 and at least 8 A-K-Q points (A=3, K=2, Q=1)

West	North	East	South
Zachary G	Levy	Adam G.	Asulin
_	1 🛧	Pass	2
Pass	$2\heartsuit$	Pass	3�
Pass	3♡	Pass	4NT (a)
Pass	5� (b)	Dble	5♡
Pass	Pass	Pass	
(a) Roman Key Card Blackwood			
(b) One key card			

This type of deal is why Eddie Kantar proposed 14-30 RKCB responses. If Hila Levy had responded five clubs to show one key card, Asulin could have relayed with five diamonds to ask for the queen of hearts — not that six hearts is any great shakes.

Taken in isolation, the right play for one heart loser is to cash the ace, then to play low to the ten, which gains when West has K-J-x-x. But declarer's entries are not good.

Levy took 12 tricks, guessing the hearts correctly.

There was more at stake when Brescoll was in six hearts, after an auction where the American system pre-empted them. West led the six of diamonds and East played the nine under dummy's king. Declarer led a heart to his ace and returned a heart, rising with dummy's queen. Now the contract could not be beaten.

When I asked Brescoll how he had guessed the trumps, he answered simply, "Table presence." I strongly approved.

That was worth 13 IMPs to USA1. A certain well-known BBO commentator said that if West had won the second heart and returned his last heart, he would have beaten the contract. Was he right?

While you think about that, we will move on. would have left something like this position: The next deal was flat; then:

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul. A 1083 ♥ Q 9 6 5  $\diamond OJ2$ ♣ 5 3 ♠ K 9 2 ♠ 6 4 ♡ J 10 8 7 2  $\heartsuit A 4$ ♦ A 4  $\diamond 875$ A K 2 ♣QJ9864 ♠ Q J 7 5 ♡K3 ♦ K 10 9 6 3 ♣ 10 7

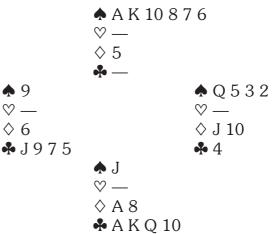
West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Kaplan	Reiter	Brescoll
-	-	_	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Zachary G	Levy	Adam G.	Asulin
-	_	_	Pass
1NT	Pass	2 <b>4</b> (a)	Pass
3 <b>♣</b> (b)	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(a) Clubs			
(b) Likes clu	ubs		

In the Open Room, Kaplan led the five of hearts. Ginossar immediately put his contract on the line by winning with dummy's ace and calling for a low spade. South played his queen, which was covered by the king and ace. North returned the three of spades, but after taking his jack, South was not sure who had the ten. He switched to the ten of diamonds. West won and ran the clubs, but had to concede the rest for one down.

In the Closed Room, Levy led the ace of spades, which ended play quickly.

Plus 100 and plus 600 gave 12 IMPs to USA1, now down by 10.

Back to the six-heart contract. If West had won the second trump and played a third, declarer might have gone down. He might have cashed one more trump, taken his top clubs and, when the jack did not drop, run the jack of spades. But if he decided that West had led second-highest from a weak suit, giving East the Q-J-10-9, maybe South would have taken both of dummy's trumps. That



Now three rounds of clubs squeeze East in spades and diamonds. He cannot keep three spades and two diamonds.

I think Brescoll probably would have found this line.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

Board 8. L	Jealer West	i. None Vul.	
	🔶 A 6 3		
	♡ A J 6		
		•	
	♦ Q 10	94	
	🗣 A 4		
🔶 K 9		<b>•</b> O	J 10 4
♡KQ94	132	♡ 7	
$\diamond 8$	102	-	K 5 3
🗣 Q 9 7 5		-	10 3 2
	🔶 8 7 5	2	
	$\heartsuit 10.8$		
	♦ J 7 6	2	
	🗣 K 8 6	)	
West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Kaplan	Reiter	Brescoll
$1 \heartsuit$	1NT	Dble	2 🗣 (a)
Pass		Dble	All Pass
	2\$ (b)	Dole	All Pass
(a) Stayma	n		
(b) Fewer t	han four sp	bades	

West	North	East	South
Zachary G.	Levy	Adam G.	Asulin
$1 \heartsuit$	1NT	Dble	Pass
2♡	Pass	Pass	Pass

Against two diamonds doubled, East led his singleton heart. North took West's queen with his ace and returned a heart to dummy's ten, East discarding a club. West switched to his trump, East playing three rounds. But declarer won in his hand, ruffed a heart, crossed to his ace of clubs, drew the last trump and claimed. He took one spade, two hearts, two diamonds, two clubs and one heart ruff.

To defeat the contract, East had to ruff the second heart and play three rounds of trumps — tough.

But surely East's opening lead should have been a high diamond. Then, when he saw the dummy, it would not have been difficult to play two more rounds of the suit, which would have left declarer with no chance.

One notrump can be beaten if East leads either black suit. But one can understand West's removing to two hearts.

North led the ten of diamonds. Declarer won in the dummy and played a spade to his king. North took her ace and now had to switch to clubs. When she led a second diamond, Zach Grossack ruffed in his hand, played a spade to dummy and discarded three clubs on a high spade, the ace of diamonds and the last spade. North ruffed but had no riposte. Declarer lost only one spade, three hearts and one club.

Plus 180 and plus 110 gave 7 IMPs to USA1.

The next board was flat. Then USA1 took the lead when Zach Grossack played carefully in four hearts to make, giving the defenders no chance. At the other table, Reiter was only in three hearts, so USA1 was going to gain 10 IMPs, but he had an accident, going one down to concede 12 IMPs.

On the next board, both teams bid to six clubs, which needed either a spade lead or the ace of hearts onside. Neither was forthcoming, so the declarers went one down.

Then came the deal of the match.

Board 12. Dealer West. N-S Vul. ▲ 84 ♡ Q J 6 4 3 ♦ 10.8 A 6 3 2 ♠ Q J 10 6 5 **4** 2 ♥ 8 5 2 ♡ 10  $\diamond Q 9 5 3$ ◊ K J 6 4 2 ♣ J 8 5 ♣Q 10 7 4 A K 9 7 3 ♡ A K 9 7 ♦ A 7 🗣 K 9

West	North	East	South	
Ginossar	Kaplan	Reiter	Brescoll	
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 🗣 (a)	
1 🛧	$2 \heartsuit$ (b)	Pass	3♡	
Pass	4 🗣 (c)	Pass	4 <b>♠</b> (d)	
Pass	4NT (e)	Pass	5 <b>•</b> (f)	
Pass	6♡ (g)	All Pass		
(a) 16-points or more				
(b) Five-plus hearts, game-forcing				
(c) Control-bid (cue-bid)				
(d) Domon	Kan Cand	Dia aluura a d		

(d) Roman Key Card Blackwood

(e) One key card

(f) Asking for the queen of hearts

(g) Showing her and denying a king

West	North	East	South	
Zachary G	. Levy	Adam G.	Asulin	
2 <b>4</b> (a)	Pass	Pass	Dble	
Pass	2NT (b)	Pass	3•	
Pass	3♡	Pass	4NT (c)	
Pass	5� (d)	Pass	6♡	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
(a) Weak two-bid				
(b) Lebensohl, warning of a bad hand				
	Kan Cand D			

(c) Roman Key Card Blackwood

(d) One key card

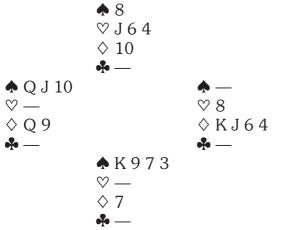
The Israeli auction was surprising. First North warned that she might have a zero-count when she was easily worth a constructive three-heart advance; then South barrelled into six hearts anyway.

A diamond lead would have been lethal, but understandably both Easts led their singleton two, telling the declarers that spades were definitely 5-1.



Adi Asulin

Levy won with dummy's ace, cashed the ace of hearts, played three rounds of clubs, ruffing the last, led a trump to heris hand, ruffed the last club and cashed the ace of diamonds to give this position:



On the next diamond lead, Zach Grossack accurately put up his queen, then played a spade to promote his brother's eight of hearts as the setting trick.

After the club ruff at trick five, the contract could have always been defeated.

At the other table, Kaplan spotted the right line of play.

After winning the first trick, he cashed dummy's ace of hearts (believing when West played the ten that the hearts were 3-1) and king of clubs before playing a club to his ace. Then he made the key play: he led his last spade.

At the table, East ruffed in and led his last trump, but Kaplan claimed. He could discard his diamond loser on the king of spades and ruff both of his clubs in the dummy.

It would have been stronger defence by East to discard a diamond, not ruff in. But Kaplan had seen the right answer. He would have won with dummy's king of spades and led a third spade, discarding his diamond loser.

Suppose West plays another spade. North ruffs high, plays a diamond to the ace, ruffs a diamond and crossruffs home.

Plus 100 and plus 1430 have 17 IMPs to USA1 and the lead by 26 with two boards to play.

USA1 gained 6 IMPs on these boards to take the set by 74-12 and the match by 182-150.

Did you notice? After Israel won 12 IMPs on the first board, they did not score another point. USA1 won the last 13 boards by 74-0.

### **Transnational Squeeze**

by Brian Senior

Not all the good bridge is being played in the championship events. Moustafa Mohamed Moustafa of the mostly Egyptian PEACE team found the winning line on this deal from Round 5 of the Transnational Swiss Teams.

Board 10. Dealer East. A	ll Vul.
🔶 K 7 5	
♡ Q 9 5	
♦ A Q 7 3	
<b>4</b> 10 6 2	
♠ Q 4 3	♠ J 10 9
♡ A K 8 7 4	♡32
♦ 9	♦ J 10 6 5 2
<b>*</b> 8543	🗣 K J 7
♠ A 8 5 2	
♡ J 10 6	
♦ K 8 4	
\Lambda Q 9	

Moustafa was in 3NT by South, after the simple auction, 1NT – 3NT. He received the lead of the seven of hearts, fourth-best, round to his jack. Moustafa led a diamond to dummy and a low club to the queen. Next he cashed the king of diamonds and saw a club pitch from West. Moustafa exited with a heart and the Chinese Taipei West had an unpalatable choice. If he cashed the hearts, he risked squeezing his partner, while if he did not cash them, he would never again see the lead – declarer would duck a spade into the East hand and have nine tricks.

West decided to cash the hearts. East threw two spades and one diamond, while declarer came down to ace-nine of clubs, a diamond and ace-doubleton of spades facing ace-other diamond, a club

and king-doubleton spade. It didn't matter with which black suit West exited, Moustafa cashed the two spade winners ending in hand and East was hopelessly squeezed in the minors. That was a nicely played suicide squeeze for plus 600 and a game swing to the PEACE team.



Moustafa Mohamed Moustafa

### Australia vs China Juniors Play-Off - First Session

#### by Brian Senior

It is unusual to cover the play-off matches in the bulletin rather than the finals but, due to BBO crashes and internet problems, we lost most of the data from the Juniors final, which we had intended to cover. But the Chinese site, OurGame, is set up differently so that the data from the match they covered was not lost and, as it was either that match or nothing ...

Third-place play-offs are always difficult because the two teams are coming off losses in the semifinals and are not feeling very happy about life. In this case it was Australia who found life very difficult and the set was all China, as the hosts racked up a series of major swings.

Board 2. Dealer East. N-S Vul. ♠ Q J ♡ Q 4 ◊ J 8 6 4 ♣ K 9 6 4 3			
<ul> <li>▲ 10 5 4 3</li> <li>◇ A K J 8</li> <li>◇ 2</li> <li>▲ Q 8 2</li> </ul>	3 2	<ul> <li>▲ K 9</li> <li>♡ 10</li> <li>◇ A K</li> <li>♣ 5</li> <li>9 7 5</li> </ul>	9532
<b>West</b> Shao	North Hung	<b>East</b> Hu Pass	<b>South</b> N Edgtton 1◊
Dble 3♠	2¢ Pass	Dble 4	3♦ All Pass
West A Edgtton − 1♠ 3♠	<b>North</b> Jiang – Pass Pass	<b>East</b> Milne Pass 2NT Pass	<b>South</b> Chen Pass Pass Pass

Nabil Edgtton opened the South hand, which looks a normal action to me, while Yichao Chen did not. Yinpei Shao doubled the  $1\diamond$  opening and Junjie Hu made a responsive double of Andy Hung's single diamond raise. When Edgtton

reraised himself to  $3\diamond$  to make life more difficult for his opponents, it did not have the desired effect. Shao might have had a minimum take-out double, but he had a five-card major, so bid it, and now Hu had an easy raise to game. Shao won the diamond lead, ruffed a diamond to hand and led a spade to the jack, king and ace. He delayed the heart play as long as he could and found no good reason to do other than play the suit from the top, so made his game for plus 420.

After Chen's pass, Adam Edgtton opened 1 as West and Liam Milne in my view cut it far too fine when he failed to drive to game. Milne responded 2NT, invitational-plus with spades, then respected Adam's sign-off. Adam too got the hearts right, but that was worth only plus 170; 6 IMPs to China.

Australia picked up a couple of modest swings to lead by 7-6 (13.5-6 including carry-over), but that was the last of the good news for this session.



Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul. A Q J 2 $\otimes 8 3$ $\diamond A 7 5$ Q J 6 5 A - A Q J 2 $\otimes 8 3$ $\diamond A 7 5$ Q J 6 5 A - A Q 4 $\diamond 10 4 3$ A 9 8 7 4 2 A 9 8 7 4 2 A 9 8 6 5 4 3 $\otimes K 7 6 2$ $\diamond K 9 2$ A -			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Shao	Hung	Hu	N Edgtton
– Pass Pass Pass Pass	- 1♣ 2♠ 3♡ Pass	– 1NT Pass Pass Pass	Pass 2♣ 3◊ 4♠
West	North	East	South
A Edgtton	Jiang	Milne	Chen
–	–		Pass
Pass	1♣	1NT	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

Both Norths opened 1. And both Easts overcalled 1NT. At both tables, South could use Stayman and, when the spade fit materialized both N-S pairs bid to game. Perhaps hoping for a bad break, Adam doubled the final contract while the Australian contract was left unmolested.

Hu led the queen of diamonds against 4 hundoubled. Hung won the king, led a spade to his ace and played a heart up. Hu took his ace and played king then ten of spades. Shao had thrown three clubs on the spades. Hung won and led the jack of clubs, throwing a diamond from dummy and losing to Shao's ace. Hung won the diamond return and ruffed a club, then played king and ruffed a heart. He was left with a heart loser, so was one down for minus 50.

Milne too led the queen of diamonds, but Yujie Jiang won in hand to play a heart up. Milne won with the ace and returned his low spade round to the queen, but this was disastrous. Now Jiang could ruff two hearts with the two and jack and only lose one trump trick. Without the trump switch, two ruffs in the North hand would have been at the expense of a second trump loser. Jiang made ten tricks now for plus 590 and 12 IMPs to China.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.			
West Shao 3♠	Hung	<b>East</b> Hu All Pass	<b>South</b> N Edgtton
<b>West</b> A Edgtton 4♠		<b>East</b> Milne All Pass	<b>South</b> Chen

Shao opened 3 A and Hung overcalled 3NT; Adam opened a level higher and Jiang doubled. Both North calls ended their respective auctions.

Jiang led the king of clubs against 4 doubled and, when that held the trick, switched to the queen of diamonds. Chen won with the ace and returned the jack to Adam's king. Declarer played the queen of hearts, won by Jiang, who played the queen of clubs. Adam won with the ace, cashed the king of hearts for a diamond pitch, and continued with the jack of spades. There was no way to avoid losing two of those, so he was two down for minus 300.

Hu led the jack of spades against 3NT and Hung won immediately. He ran the queen of diamonds and, when that was smoothly ducked by Shao, repeated the finesse, losing to the king. Shao played the queen of hearts, ducked, then cashed the queen and king of spades before exiting with a club. Hung could get to dummy in that suit so was just one down for minus 50 and 8 IMPs to China.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.			
🔶 K 7 5			
♥ Q 9 5			
♦ A Q 7 3			
<b>4</b> 10 6 2			
♠ Q 4 3	🔶 J 10 9		
♡ A K 8 7 4	♡32		
$\diamond$ 9	◊ J 10 6 5 2		
<b>*</b> 8 5 4 3	🗣 K J 7		
♠ A 8 5 2			
♡ J 10 6			
◇ K 8 4			
🗣 A Q 9			

West	North	East	South
Shao	Hung	Hu	N Edgtton
A Edgtton	Jiang	Milne	Chen
_	-	Pass	14
$1 \heartsuit$	1	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Identical auctions saw both Norths bid  $1 \clubsuit$  after the overcall to deny four cards in the suit. When South now rebid 1NT, North invited game and South accepted.

Shao led a low heart round to Nabil's jack. Nabil cashed the queen and king of diamonds, seeing a club pitch from West, then exited with a heart. The idea was that if West did not cash the hearts now, he might not have a later entry to his winners, while if he did cash them, he might squeeze his partner. Alas, while the theory was sound, Nabil misread which squeeze would succeed. On the hearts, he came down to only two clubs in each hand and hoped for a spade/diamond squeeze, but that did not materialize and he was one down for minus 100.

Adam too led a low heart. Chen cashed three rounds of diamonds ending in dummy as Adam discarded two clubs. Now Chen called for the ten of clubs, covered by the jack and queen. Then a spade to dummy and a second club finesse resulted in nine tricks; plus 600 and 12 IMPs. Board 15. Dealer South. N-S Vul. **♦** J 9 8 3 ♡ A 4 ♦ K 2 A 10 8 7 5 **7** 5 **♦** Q 6 ♡J 10 6 ♥ Q 9 8 5 3 2 ♦ J 7 4  $\diamond Q 9 6 5$ ♣ J 2 ♣KQ96 A K 10 4 2 ♡K7 ♦ A 10 8 3 43 West South North East Shao Hung Hu N Edgtton 1

Pass	4♠	All Pass	
West A Edgtton – Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass	North Jiang - 2♣ 3♠ 4♣ 4♥ 4♥	<b>East</b> Milne – Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass	South Chen 1♠ 2♠ 3NT 4♦ 4♠ 5♦
Pass	6 <b>A</b>	All Pass	2~

Dble

Pass

3◊ 4◊

Pass

Pass

3

30

With no hope to avoid a club loser, slam is all about the trumps.. On another day it might have been 13 IMPs to Australia but, as we have already seen, this was not Australia's day. Sure enough, trumps were two-two, so Chen chalked up plus 1430 while Nabil scored only plus 680; 13 IMPs to China.

The set score was 67-8 in favour of China, who led by 67-14.5 overall.

The organizing committee of the Red Sea festival invites (accommodation & entrance fee) the winning team of the Juniors Championship (two pairs) to the Eilat event.

During the festival, the Champions Cup will also be played in Eilat. This is the annual between the national champions of the top ten European countries. See page 16 for details.



The day belonged again to Michael Phelps. He won the 200 meters individual medley, an event he had also won in Athens and Beijing. He became the first male swimmer to win an individual event three times. His triple title was the 156th in history, and he's one of only four people to have achieved this in two events. He has now moved up to second on Herman's performance list, and he has one more individual event to come. If either he wins gold in the 100 meters butterfly, or if he wins silver in the butterfly and any medal in the medley relay, he will pass Ray Ewry in Herman's list.

Two minutes later, Valentina Vezzali was on the Italian team that won the team foil. She too became a triple Olympic champion in two events, and is now eighth on Herman's list.

The US caught up with China in the gold-medal count, by winning six events. For five of the crew in the women's rowing eight, it was their second gold; Caryn Davies and Mary Whipple (the cox) has additionally won silver back in 2004. Gabrielle Douglas won the individual gymnastics, and Kayla Harrison the judo. Rebecca Soni took the 200 meters breaststroke, a title she also won in Beijing. She had set a new world record in the semifinal, and she bettered that by 0.41 seconds in the final.

Tyler Clary won the 200 meters backstroke. Ryan Lochte could not repeat his Beijing triumph in this event, but his bronze was his 10th Olympic medal, becoming only the 33rd person in history to reach that particular milestone. Barely half an hour later, Lochte was again in the pool, for the 200 meters individual medley. Four years ago, Lochte had also swam these two events 30 minutes apart, and then the result was: 1-Phelps, 2-Cseh (HUN), 3-Lochte. This time around, it was Phelps – Lochte – Cseh. So Lochte's 11th medal was overshadowed by Phelps' 20th.

The home nation won three golds: In the team sprint, Jason Kenny repeated his Beijing gold. So did Chris Hoy, but he also had a silver from Syd-

ney. Phillip Hindes competed the line-up of the sprint team. Peter Wilson won the double trap (clay shooting), and Tim Baillie and Etienne Stott the men's canoe slalom C2. In that event, third place went to Slovak twins Pavol and Peter Hochschorner, who had won the title at the last three Olympics. The extra bronze propelled them up to joint 45th place on Herman's list.

Zhang Jike won the men's singles table tennis. Just like in the women's event, the final was all-Chinese. Wang Hao won his third consecutive silver medal (that's a nicer phrase than saying 'lost his third final'). That was China's 18th gold medal, a total that was equalled by the USA later in the evening.

South Africa won the men's lightweight four rowing event. Bronze went to Denmark, with a crew that included Eskild Ebbesen, who has won three golds and one bronze previously in this event. Ebbesen becomes the 23rd person to have won five medals in the same event.

Nathan Cohen and Joseph Sullivan (NZL) won the men's double sculls. Bronze went to the Slovenians Spik and Cop, who had won gold and silver in 2000 and 2004.

Ki Bo Bae (KOR) won the women's individual archery. Silver and Bronze went to Mexico.

Tagir Khaibulaev (RUS) won the men's judo. The losing finalist, Naidan from Mongolia, could not repeat his 2008 triumph.

Kristina Vogel and Miriam Welte (GER) won the women's team sprint cycling. This was the first time that event was scheduled at the Olympics, but unlike the men's, the women's teams are only two strong.

Emilie Fer (FRA) won the women's canoe slalom, and Ranomi Kromowidjojo (NED) the women's 100 m freestyle.

In men's football, the first round has finished. Only Brazil managed to win all three matches. The quarterfinal line-up is Great Britain – South Korea, Brazil – Honduras, Mexico – Senegal and Japan – Egypt.

In men's tennis, the semi-finals are Roger Federer – Juan Martin Del Potro and Novak Djokovic – Andy Murray, while in the women's event we have Victoria Azarenka – Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova – Maria Kirilenko.

### **Team Profile: Japan Juniors**



Sho, Daisuke, Takashi, Kosuke, Takumi and Koichiro

**Takashi Matsuda** is 24 years old and majors in mathematics at Tokyo University. He and Aita have been friends since they were junior high school students.

**Sho Aita** is 24 years old. He's very interested in bidding systems. He's short and skinny like Seshimo.

**Kosuke Ito** is 21 years old. He studies medicine at university. He always smiles. When he's asked, "Why do you always smile? Is my face strange?", he may reply, "Smiling is natural for me. Don't be angry." **Takumi Seshimo** is 20 years old. He learned bridge last year and played the game for seven or more hours every day (or so he says). Then he won the U26 trial in Japan. He is very short and has a baby face, but he's not U21!

**Koichiro Hashimoto** is 21 years old. He won the 'rookie-of-the-year' as the best new player in Japan. Like most Japanese, he's never angry. He studies sports action analysis at university.

**Daisuke Sugimoto** is 21 years old. He started to play bridge in his high school days with Kosuke Ito. He likes films very much. If you want to discuss movies, talk to him!