

Bulletin 7

Wednesday, 1 August, 2012

Let the KOs Begin

What an exciting last day in all three divisions.

The Girls event looked settled, with China 32 VPs behind fourth-placed Italy. But China gave Italian supporters some nervous moments by winning 25-5, 25-0 and 22-8 to finish only 4 VPs adrift.

In the Youngsters, China looked well set with three rounds to go, but then lost 23-7 to Poland and 25-1 to Sweden. England had a middling day, with 18 from a bye and two 15-15 ties. Italy beat Singapore 25-4, but then lost to Canada by 17-13. Before the last round, the scores were England 251, Italy 249, China 239, with two to qualify.



In the last round, China was not catching up. But then on boards 10-15 China scored 66 unanswered IMPs against Canada to move ahead of Italy into eighth place. Then Italy retaliated, gaining 28 IMPs over the last four boards to regain the last quarterfinal berth. England and Italy ended with 266, with China 2 points behind.

The eighth spot in the Juniors was between Denmark and Singapore. Before the day began, Denmark led Singapore by 6 VPs. This margin widened to 11 after Round 17. But then Singapore crushed Argentina 25-0 to move within 3. In the last round, Singapore scored another maximum, this time over Egypt. And when Denmark defeated France by only 19-11, Singapore had made it.

Now in the knockout stage we have 56-board quarterfinals and semifinals, and 80-board finals.

Results Tuesday 31 July

Juni	iors Rour	nd 17		
ARGENTINA	DENMARK	38 47	13	17
PAKISTAN	ISRAEL	28 45	11	19
SINGAPORE	NETHERLANI	OS 32 44	12	18
BRAZIL	JAPAN	61 21	24	6
CHINA H K	USA1	26 41	12	18
INDIA	CHINA	1 70	1	25
ITALY	BULGARIA	19 28	13	17
AUSTRALIA	CANADA	53 32	20	10
COSTA RICA	USA2	21 35	12	18
FRANCE	EGYPT	55 32	20	10

Juni	ors Round	1	8		
SINGAPORE	ARGENTINA	97	7	25	0
EGYPT	PAKISTAN	61	8	25	3
CHINA	BRAZIL	48	44	16	14
BULGARIA	CHINA H K	28	54	9	21
CANADA	USA1	20	57	6	24
USA2	JAPAN	43	36	16	14
FRANCE	NETHERLANDS	78	41	24	6
COSTA RICA	ISRAEL	19	102	0	25
AUSTRALIA	DENMARK	14	25	13	17
ITALY	INDIA	83	30	25	3

Jun	Juniors Round 19					
CHINA H K	ARGENTINA	27 66	6 24			
BRAZIL	PAKISTAN	40 86	5 25			
EGYPT	SINGAPORE	7 70	2 25			
CHINA	USA1	59 33	21 9			
BULGARIA	JAPAN	38 33	16 14			
CANADA	NETHERLAND	S 22 59	6 24			
USA2	ISRAEL	52 48	16 14			
FRANCE	DENMARK	25 42	11 19			
COSTA RICA	INDIA	45 28	19 11			
AUSTRALIA	ITALY	46 40	16 14			

Juniors Final Ranking NETHERLANDS 1 371.6 2 **ISRAEL** 370.0 3 **AUSTRALIA** 361.5 4 FRANCE 349.4 5 **CHINA** 346.0 6 USA1 333.0 7 **ITALY** 321.0 **SINGAPORE** 312.0 8 9 DENMARK 308.5 **BULGARIA** 288.0 10 11 ARGENTINA 281.0 CHINA HONG KONG 278.0 12 13 USA2 273.0 **CANADA** 14 249.0 15 **PAKISTAN** 244.0 16 **INDIA** 220.0 17 **JAPAN** 219.0 **BRAZIL** 170.0 18 **EGYPT** 19 160.0 **COSTA RICA** 20 126.0

	Matches	on BBO)
We	dnesday 1 Augus	st (all times GMT	+8)
		:00	
VG	NETHERLANDS	SINGAPORE	J
B2	ISRAEL	ITALY	J
В3	AUSTRALIA	USA1	J
B4	POLAND	ENGLAND	Y
OG	FRANCE	CHINA	J
	13:	:00	
VG	ISRAEL	ITALY	J
B2	NETHERLANDS	SINGAPORE	J
В3	AUSTRALIA	USA1	J
B4	USA1	AUSTRALIA	Y
OG	FRANCE	CHINA	J
	15:30 8	& 17:55	
VG			
B2			
В3	TO BE I	DECIDED	
B4			
OG			

Youngsters Round 15					
ARGENTINA	FRANCE	24	57	7	23
CHINA	POLAND	30	64	7	23
ISRAEL	JAPAN	50	26	21	9
SWEDEN	CANADA	78	29	25	4
SINGAPORE	ITALY	28	76	4	25
CHINESE TAIPEI	LATVIA	22	62	6	24
USA2	AUSTRALIA	30	50	10	20
USA1	NORWAY	74	13	25	2
ENGLAND	Bye	0	0	18	0

Young	sters Rou	nd 16	5	
USA2	ARGENTINA	53 50	16	14
CHINESE TAIPEI	FRANCE	9 64	3	25
SINGAPORE	ENGLAND	36 38	15	15
SWEDEN	CHINA	84 14	25	1
NORWAY	ISRAEL	14 105	0	25
POLAND	AUSTRALIA	52 34	19	11
JAPAN	LATVIA	44 19	21	9
CANADA	ITALY	57 48	17	13
USA1	Bye	0 0	18	0

Young	sters Ro	und	1	7	
FRANCE	POLAND	27	67	6	24
ENGLAND	JAPAN	35	35	15	15
CHINA	CANADA	84	8	25	0
ISRAEL	ITALY	40	50	13	17
SWEDEN	LATVIA	54	45	17	13
SINGAPORE	AUSTRALIA	29	35	14	16
CHINESE TAIPEI	USA1	0	97	0	25
USA2	NORWAY	56	49	16	14
ARGENTINA	Bye	0	0	18	0

	Girls Final Ranking				
	\Diamond				
1	NETHERLANDS	380.0			
2	POLAND	352.0			
3	FRANCE	321.0			
4	ITALY	293.0			
5	CHINA	287.0			
6	CHINESE TAIPEI	231.0			
7	SWEDEN	208.0			
8	INDONESIA	207.0			
9	OCEANIA	191.0			
10	USA	186.0			

Youngsters Final Ranking **POLAND** 1 331.0 2 **FRANCE** 312.0 309.0 USA1 **SWEDEN** 306.0 4 **ISRAEL** 304.0 **AUSTRALIA** 297.0 **ENGLAND** 266.0 **ITALY** 266.0 **CHINA** 264.0 9 LATVIA 237.0 10 USA2 229.0 11 12 **SINGAPORE** 219.0 216.0 13 **NORWAY** CHINESE TAIPEI 14 208.0 **ARGENTINA** 181.0 15 **CANADA** 180.0 16

Gir	ls Rou	nd 16	
INDONESIA	CHINESE T	AIPEI 37 54	11 19
NETHERLANDS	FRANCE	43 47	14 16
ITALY	USA	40 30	17 13
POLAND	OCEANIA	59 35	-
SWEDEN	CHINA	1 56	3 25

164.0

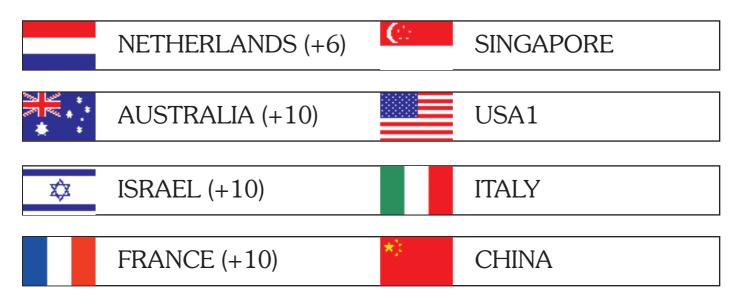
JAPAN

17

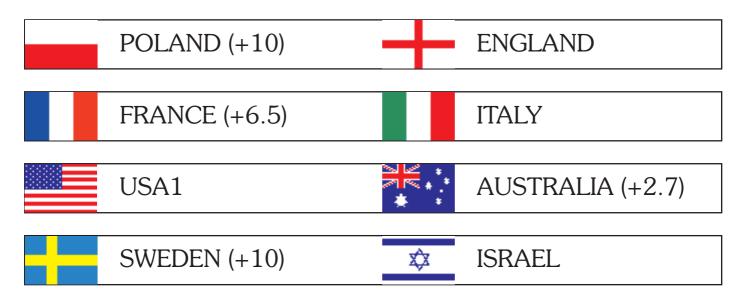
Gir	ls Round	17	
CHINESE TAIPEI	NETHERLANDS	1 63	2 25
FRANCE	SWEDEN	66 24	25 5
INDONESIA	ITALY	14 40	9 21
USA	POLAND	14 101	0 25
OCEANIA	CHINA	23 106	0 25

	Girls Round 18	
FRANCE	CHINESE TAIPEI 76 11	25 1
ITALY	NETHERLANDS 24 64	6 24
POLAND	INDONESIA 59 25	23 7
CHINA	USA 45 22	20 10
SWEDEN	OCEANIA 40 24	19 11

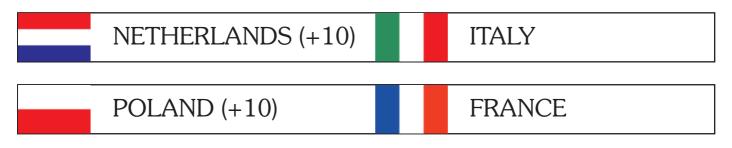
Quarterfinal Line-Up - Juniors Jaime Ortiz-Patiño Trophy



Quarterfinal Line-Up - Youngsters José Damiani Cup



Semifinal Line-Up - Girls Gianarrigo Rona Trophy



TRANSNATIONAL TEAMS

A seven-session Swiss Teams will be held on Thursday 2nd August and Friday 3rd August 2012. There is **NO** entry fee for the event.

If you have been knocked out in the qualifying event, then you will have Wednesday off for relaxing and sightseeing before this event begins.

The event is open to all participants in the Juniors, Youngsters and Girls who have not qualified for the semifinals.

	SESSION TIMES				
Match 1	10:00	14 Boards – same as Semifinals			
Match 2	13:00	14 Boards – same as Semifinals			
Match 3	15:30	14 Boards – same as Semifinals			
Match 4	17:55	14 Boards – same as Semifinals			
Match 5	10:30	14 Boards – same as Finals			
Match 6	14:00	14 Boards – same as Finals			
Match 7	16:50	14 Boards – same as Finals			
	FORMAT				

Seven-round Swiss Tournament comprising 14-board matches. The leader at the end of round seven will be declared the winner. Ties will be broken using the same criteria as the Main Events.

ENTRY CRITERIA

All players from the Juniors, Youngsters and Girls events are eligible to enter in **ANY** combination of country and ages. For clarity, a team can comprise girls, youngsters and juniors from a combination of countries.

ENTRY

Entries will close at 18:00 on Wednesday 1st August 2012 and should be made through one of the directors.

All teams including quarterfinalists who intend to play should enter, and should the team advance to the semifinals, then the organisers will withdraw their entry.

So if you are a quarterfinalist and wish hhto play in the Transnational Teams if you lose your quarterfinal, you should pre-enter the Transnationals even though the quarterfinals have not been completed.

ENJOY YOUR TIME IN TAICANG AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS HOW GREAT BRIDGE CAN BE

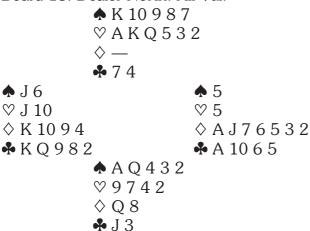
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Dutch Diaries - Part 5

by Kees Tammens

Although I got no further than Nihao and Tsitsji, I really like it in Taicang. I smoke a cigar in the morning with the guy who watches the cars outside my hotel. The girl who makes up the room takes care that there are three new clean shirts, and the espresso across the street is ok. I must also admit that the performance of the Dutch girls and juniors in the qualification has put my mind at ease. Top bridge, top sport is harsh. Everything will come together in the knockout. The gap between the joy of victory and the sadness after a loss is narrow. Still, the comfortable position of my teams gave me the opportunity to walk around town on day five and see all kinds of interesting things.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



Board 13 in round 13, who does not fear that? Fortunately it was not Friday. But the strangest things can happen. A turnover of 86 IMPs in the ten matches is a nice score. Many teams must have different stories.

The one I saw was in Netherlands-Argentina.

For some odd reason the Dutch North-South pair was allowed to play in a comfortable five hearts making 650. There was much more action at the other table.

West	North	East	South
_	1 %	$2 \diamondsuit$	3%
$4\Diamond$	5♦	Pass	5 ^
Pass	6♡	$7 \diamondsuit$	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Leading the ace of clubs against six hearts isn't that difficult, but you can't be sure that partner has the king. So East took the save and got out for down one when North tried to cash a second heart.

Eight players found the killing lead as South in this deal:

♣ 7 3 ♠ 7 ♡ A J 10 8 7 2 ◇ Q 7 ♣ A 10 6 5

After South opened one heart and West made a take-out double, East advanced, depending on agreements, with two, three or four spades. Regardless of his choice, four spades became the final contract.

Congratulations to the eight juniors who found the lead of the ace of hearts and gave partner two ruffs. At five tables, North led the six of hearts, but strangely four times four spades was let through. Where South did not lead the ace of hearts, the declarers had no problem getting home.



Much to my surprise I saw a lot of declarers going down in four hearts on this deal from Round 14.

Board 12. Dealer West. N-S Vul.

Dould 12. Do	saici vvcsi. i v	y ai.
	♠ A J 2	
	♥ 7 6 4	
	♦ 10 2	
	♣ K 9 8 7 2	
♠ 10 7 5 3		♠ Q986
♥ A J 9 5		♡ K Q 10 3 2
\Diamond K 7 6 5 3		♦ A Q
4 —		♣ Q J
	♦ K 4	
	♥8	
	♦ J 9 8 4	
	♣ A 10 6 5 4	3

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 %	2♣
4♣	Pass	$4\Diamond$	Pass
4 %	Pass	Pass	Pass

South led the ace of clubs, ruffed in dummy. I don't see what is wrong with playing a spade immediately. South will not have the A-K-J-x.

What happened at the tables where four hearts went down? Did any North or South come up with some devious defensive move? We want to learn. And if so, it is possibly material for the prize for the best-defended deal.



Sigrid Spangenberg & Magdalena Ticha

A couple of weeks ago, Magie Ticha and Sigrid Spangenberg won the European Pairs Championship in Vejle, Denmark. Here in Taicang they have also proven to be kittens who are not so easy to handle.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul. **♠** 10 6 5 4 ♥ Q 10 3 2 ♦ 1085 ♣ Q 2 ♠ Q 8 7 ♣ J ♥84 ♥ A K 9 7 5 ♦ A K 4 3 ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ A K J 9 **4** 10 7 6 5 ♠ AK932 ♥ J 6 ♦ J 9 6 **\$**843

West	North	East	South
Ticha		S. Span	genberg
_	_	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	$2 \diamondsuit$	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Against two spades doubled, West led the ace of clubs, cashed the ace and king of diamonds, then played a third diamond to East's queen. After the ace and king of hearts, South ruffed the third heart low, believing that West had four spades. West overruffed with the seven of spades and played a fourth diamond. When East ruffed with the jack of spades, the uppercut promoted West's queen of spades for down four.

Of course, if West did have all four missing spades, it could not cost to ruff the third heart with the nine of spades, but that does not detract from a pretty defence.

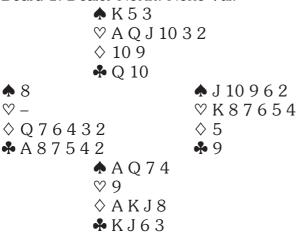


Never Give Up

by Michael Byrne

This was the interesting first board from the England Youngsters' match with Argentina in Round 14, and it shows that you should never give up.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
_	1 %	Pass	1 🛧
2NT	Pass	3♣	6NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

You bid to 6NT after West shows the minors, and East doubles it. After West leads a diamond, what do you do?

If you overtake dummy's nine and lead a club to the queen, you have a chance of a brilliancy.

West is 6-6 in the minors and East 6-5 in the majors, so once the queen of clubs holds, you are home! Simply play a heart off the dummy towards your nine.

If East puts the king up, you have 11 easy tricks (three diamonds, one club, four hearts and three spades), and when you cash the ace and king of diamonds East is squeezed. There is no guess to make as either the hearts become good, or if one is still out then the fourth spade will be a winner.

If East ducks the heart, then you knock out the ace of clubs instead and again you have 11 tricks (three clubs, three diamonds, two hearts and three spades). East is again squeezed in the majors on the run of the clubs and diamonds.

In the Open Room, our declarer was put off by the hesitation when he played a club to the queen and nine, clouded by the fact that East had given preference to clubs during the auction. The directors were sympathetic, but they didn't feel they could adjust the score because declarer had taken a very long time to play to trick one and it was thought that East needed a bit of time to wake up and realize what suit was being played. However, declarer did recover to strip and endplay East to get out for down one; minus 100.

Why does this show you should never give up? When we came to score up, the other table read out its result first, as always when I watch at one table, and announced "plus 500" to win 9 IMPs.

At the end of the scoring I ventured to ask what contract they had doubled, thinking perhaps they had bid to 6% or something fanciful.

"Oh, I doubled 4\(\Phi\)," said Alex Roberts. "I suppose I should have passed against a good team, but I was fairly sure they wouldn't run to 4NT," he added, almost as an afterthought.



Alex Roberts

Thank You

The pictures on these pages have been taken by Miao Zhi Qing. He has been very helpful. Thank you!

Juniors Round 18 Australia vs Denmark

by Phillip Alder

Just before we get to the matter at hand, here is a declarer-play problem.

♠ 4♡ Q 10 2◇ A Q 9 7 3 2♣ A 8 3
♠ 10 9 8 5 3 ♥ A K 8 5 4 ♦ K 6 ♣ J

You are South, in four hearts after an uncontested auction. West leads the king of clubs. What would be your plan?

This was a critical match for Denmark, who were lying eighth but only ten victory points ahead of Bulgaria, with Singapore another point back. Australia was already sure to qualify for the quarterfinals.

The match started in exciting fashion:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 9 7 4 3 ♥ A 8 5 2 ♦ 6 **4** 10 8 6 4 ♠ A K Q 10 5 **♠** J 6 2 $\heartsuit J 4$ \otimes — ♦ K 5 ♦ QJ10943 ♣ Q J 9 2 ♣ A 7 5 3 **\$** 8 ♥ K Q 10 9 7 6 3 ♦ A 8 7 2 ♣ K

West	North	East	South
Tofte	Hung	Ege	N. Edgtton
_	Pass	Pass	4%
4	5♡	6 ♠	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West	North	East	South
Milne	Bilde	A. Edgtton	Jepsen
_	Pass	3♦	4 %
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

Against six spades doubled, Andy Hung led his singleton diamond. Nabil Edgtton won with his ace and returned the two. North ruffed and shifted to a club, declarer losing one trick by playing low from the dummy and going two down.

Four hearts doubled, though, was easy. Liam Milne found the best lead of a trump, but Emil Jepsen won in his hand, cashed the diamond ace and ruffed a diamond in the dummy. Then he called for a club, Adam Edgtton erring by playing low. (But even if he had taken his ace and led a spade so that West could have played a second trump, declarer would have still got seven hearts, one diamond and two ruffs.)

When the king of clubs held, South ruffed a diamond, ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a club high, drew the missing trump and claimed six.

Minus 300 and plus 790 gave Denmark 10 IMPs.



Adam Edgtton

Then:

Board 2. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

★ K 7 2♥ Q 10 6 4♦ 9 8 2♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 4 3
 ♠ A 10 9 5
 ♥ 7 5 3 2
 ♦ Q J 7 6 5
 ♠ Q 9 7 3
 ♠ 4

♠ Q J 6♡ K J 9 8◇ A

♣ A J 10 8 2

	1101002				
West	North	East	South		
Tofte	Hung	Ege	N. Edgtton		
_	_	Pass	1♣		
$1\Diamond$	Dble (a)	2 ♣	4♡		
Pass	Pass	5♦	Dble		
Pass	Pass	Pass			
(a) Four o	or five hearts				

West	North	East	South
Milne	Bilde	A. Edgtton	Jepsen
_	_	Pass	1 ♣
$2\Diamond$	Dble	4♦	4♡
Pass	Pass	5♦	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

An American sitting East in the Open Room, after pass-one club-one diamond-double, would make a three-club jump cue-bid to show some 6-8 points with four-card support, a Mixed Raise. The two-club cue-bid made by Niclas Raulund Ege would promise more high-card power.



Dennis Bilde

The play in five diamonds doubled started the same way in both rooms: a diamond to the ace and a heart to the ace.

Lars Tofte led his queen of clubs, but North won with his king and played another trump, after which declarer could collect only eight tricks: four diamonds in his hand, two aces and two ruffs in the dummy.

Milne played a spade to dummy's ten at trick three. Now South had to switch to a low club to put his partner on lead for another trump play (or continue with the queen of spades, an unlikely choice). When South actually returned a heart, declarer could have got out for two down with a dummy reversal: ruff, trump to the king, heart ruff, spade to the ace, heart ruff. But West cashed his jack of diamonds, then took another spade finesse. Again South had his chance, but after cashing the ace of clubs, he went back to hearts. Declarer took the hint, ruffing, playing a spade to the ace, ruffing a heart, ruffing a club, cashing the king of diamonds to draw the missing trump and claiming the nine of spades.

Only two down gave Australia 5 IMPs.

Denmark gained one overtrick IMP over the next four boards; then:

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

♦ 8 4 3 ♥ K 9 8 6 3 2 ♦ 9 4 ♣ 5 3

♠ A J 6 2
 ♠ 9 7 5
 ♥ Q 7 4
 ♥ A J 5
 ♦ A Q 10 8
 ♠ K J 7 4

♠ K Q 10 ♡ 10 ◇ K Q 10 8 7 2

♣ 9 6 2

West	North	East	South
Tofte	Hung	Ege	N. Edgtton
_	_	_	$1 \diamondsuit$
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Milne	Bilde	A. Edgtton	Jepsen
_	_	_	2♦
Dble	2 %	Pass	Pass
Dhle			



Liam Milne

Is that South hand a one-bid or a weak two? I would vote for one; but even so, it is not clear why Dennis Bilde bid two hearts over West's takeout double, especially since he had two diamonds. And the Australians made him pay.

The defenders got the maximum from two hearts doubled. East led a club, West winning and returning a club. East accurately shifted to a spade, West ducking dummy's queen and encouraging. North ruffed a club in his hand and played a diamond to the king, ducked by West. After a diamond to the ace, West shifted to a trump, North putting up his king and losing to the ace. East led another spade, so the defenders took two spades, three hearts, one diamond and two clubs for three down, minus 800.

I think most players would double one diamond with the West hand, not overcall one notrump. However, North, thinking West was ready for a diamond lead, tried a surprise heart attack. When South did not produce the king, Tofte could be confident that South had the king-queen of spades.

West won with his queen of hearts, crossed to dummy with a club and played a spade. In this way, he built up three spades, three hearts, one diamond and four clubs.

However, Australia gained 5 IMPs on the board to tie the match at 11-11.

There were two flat boards, then came a good declarer-play exercise.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul. **4** ♥ Q 10 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 3 2 ♣ A 8 3 **♠** Q 7 ♠ A K J 6 2 **♥** J 9 ♥ 763 ♦ J 10 8 4 ♦ 5 **♣** 7 5 4 2 ♣ K Q 10 9 6 ♠ 109853 **♥ A K 8 5 4** ♦ K 6 J.

Both Souths were in four hearts and both Wests led the king of clubs to dummy's ace.

In a pair event, it would be normal to go down, assuming the diamonds are running and drawing trumps. But Nabil Edgtton and Jepsen carefully called for dummy's spade at trick two.

Edgtton then followed up by ruffing two spades in the dummy to bring home an overtrick and gain an IMP.

Then came this weird deal:

Board 12. Dealer West, N-S Vul. **♠** 9632 \heartsuit 7 5 4 2 ♦ Q 5 **4** 10 5 4 ♠ Q 7 5 ♠ A 8 4 **% K 9 6** ♥ Q J 8 ♦ J 9 6 ♦ A 10 8 7 ♣ A Q 8 3 ♣ J 9 7 ♠ KJ 10 ♥ A 10 3 ♦ K 4 3 2 ♣ K 6 2

West Tofte 1♣	North Hung Pass	East Ege 3NT	South N. Edgtton All Pass
West	North	East	South
Milne	Bilde	A. Edgtton	Jepsen
1NT (a)	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2 ♣	All Pass	
(a) 9-plus to	o 12		

The bidding in the Open Room was probably duplicated by several pairs. And the way the cards lay, there was no way to defeat the contract. Also, South accidentally pulled the wrong card from his hand at one point, which let through an overtrick.

In the Closed Room, I can understand East's passing over one notrump. And South's double is reasonable with an honour in every suit, but borderline. It is not clear why North ran, especially at the prevailing vulnerability. If East had just doubled, probably the final contract would have been two hearts doubled.

Two clubs undoubled drifted three down, although it could have been four.

Plus 430 and minus 300 gave Denmark 4 IMPs.

The last sizable swing came on the next deal.

Board 13. Dealer North Both Vul.

♠ A Q 7 4 3 2 ♥ 1086 \Diamond — ♣ K 6 3 2 986 ♠ K ♥ 5 4 3 ♦ K 7 5 ♦ A Q 6 3 2 ♣ A Q 10 8 **?** 7 4 **♠** J 10 5 $\heartsuit A Q$ ♦ J 10 9 8 4 **♣** J 9 5

West	North	East	South
Tofte	Hung	Ege	N. Edgtton
_	2 ^	3♡	3♠
4%	4 🏟	Dble	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Milne	Bilde	A. Edgtto	on Jepsen
_	1 🛧	2♠ (a)	3 ♠

All Pass

(a) At least 5-5 in hearts and a minor

4

4♡

Another one-bid or two-bid decision.

Hung, having opened two spades, contravened captaincy with his four-spade rebid; but the bidding suggested that his partner was short in hearts. And Ege, who knew North was limited, doubled four spades. (I doubt South would have doubled four hearts, but that contract would probably have failed by two tricks.)

Both Easts led a heart, dummy's queen winning. Hung cashed the ace of hearts before running the jack of spades. East won and tried to cash the ace of diamonds. North trumped, ruffed his last heart, drew trumps and tackled clubs, losing four tricks there to go two down.

In the Closed Room, the played started with a heart to the queen, the jack of spades to the king, a heart to the ace, a diamond ruff and a club to dummy's nine. West won with his ten and returned a trump. North won in the dummy, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a heart and played a club toward his king to escape for one down.

Plus 500 and minus 100 gave Denmark 9 IMPs.

Little happened over the last three boards, the match ending 25-14 to Denmark, or 17-13 in victory points. Denmark was still in contention for the eighth quarterfinal berth.



Emil Jepsen

Team Profiles Wanted

After receiving and publishing a few team profiles, we thought the flood gates would open, but you've all fell silent. Please captains, players, coaches or whoever, write us a few words about the players in your team. We'll add the photographs.



The Group Picture

The WBF wishes to thank the people from BridgeDocumentary.com for taking the group picture of the championship.

We imagine you would like a copy of this photograph so we have put it, in normal and in full size (15 Mb) on the website.

Just go to the tournament site:

www.worldbridge.org/tourn/ TaiCang.12/MicroSite/Taicang.htm

and follow the link to videos & photos

Departure Details

Please would all of the non-playing captains submit departure details — date, time and airport — for all of their teams to Marina Madia in the WBF Office as soon as possible. We wish to arrange all the necessary buses.



Olympic Update

On Monday, there were 12 events that came to a conclusion.

China again dominated the medal harvest. Cao and Zhang won the synchronized platform diving for men, Li Xueying won in weightlifting, and the Chinese men won the team gymnastics. Amazingly, Great Britain won bronze in the team competition, something they last did exactly a century ago (although Briton Louis Smith won an individual bronze four years ago and the British women won bronze at the inaugural women's team competition in 1928).

The USA won two swimming golds, by Missy Franklin and Matthew Grevers, in their respective gender's 100 meters backstroke.

Other gold medals went to Alin George Moldoveanu (ROU, air rifle), Kaoru Matsumotu (JPN, judo), Mansur Isaev (RUS, judo), Yana Shemyakina (UKR, épée), Kim Un Guk (PRK, weightlifting), Yannick Agnel (FRA, 200 meters freestyle) and Lithuania's Ruta Meilutyte (100 meters breaststroke) who is only 15 years old!

There were also medals for Thailand (women's weightlifting), Indonesia (men's weightlifting) and a second silver for Colombia (weightlifting; on Saturday cyclist Roberto Uran had finished second after losing the sprint finish).

The first round of matches in men's hockey saw wins for Australia, Great Britain, Korea, Netherlands and Germany, while Spain drew with Pakistan.

In tennis, the first round has concluded. In the men's competition, Tomas Berdych is the only seeded player to be eliminated, defeated by Belgium's Steve Darcis. In the women's, ninth and tenth seeds Sara Errani and Li Na lost to Venus Williams and Daniela Hantuchova (both unseeded because of recent injuries), but a greater upset was second seed Agnieszka Radwanska's defeat at the hands of Julia Goerges.

Match of the Day Italy v Bulgaria (Juniors Round 17)

by Brian Senior

Going into their Round 17 match on Tuesday morning, Italy lay seventh, 27 VPs ahead of Bulgaria, who were tied for ninth, 10 VPs behind eighth-placed Denmark. It looked as though five teams were battling for the crucial eighth qualifying place, though a big win for Bulgaria would bring Italy back to the chasing pack and make a second place available.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul. ♠ K J ♥ KJ96 ♦ Q 9 2 ♣ K Q 9 4 ♠ 10 8 7 3 2 ♠ A Q 9 5 4 ♥ Q 10 4 ♥ 75 ♦ KJ 10 5 3 \Diamond – ♣ A J 7 3 2 **%** 8 **6** ♥ A 8 3 2 ♦ A 8 7 6 4 **4** 10 6 5

West Skorchev Pass 4♠ Pass	North Di Franco 1NT Pass Pass	East Spasov 2♠ Pass Pass	South Zanasi Dble Dble
West Gandoglia Pass 4♠	North Vasilev 1NT Dble	East Delle Cave 2♠ All Pass	South Siderov Dble

There had been two boards already, Boards 1 and 3, on which N/S had saved in 4♠ doubled at both tables for flat boards at minus 300 and minus 500, respectively. When it came to E/W's turn to play in 4♠ doubled, however, the doubles were rather less successful. Dean Spasov's 2♠ overcall showed spades and a minor, while Guiseppe Delle Cave merely showed spades with the same bid. One can understand South, who held two aces facing a strong no trump, doubling twice, but I am not sure about Vasilev's double of the final contract with the North hand.

Zhivko Siderov led ace and another heart against 2 doubled. Nikolai Vasile won with the heart king and switched to the king of clubs. Alessandro Gandoglia won with the ace and ruffed a club, took a spade finesse, cashed the ace of spades, then ruffed out the clubs and had the rest; 11 tricks for plus 990.

Gabriele Zanasi kicked off with a trump to the king and ace. Spasov played ace then ruffed a club, followed by a heart to the ten and ace. Zanasi returned a heart to Massimiliano Di Franco's king and Di Franco returned the jack of trumps to the queen. Spasov could ruff out the clubs for the same 11 tricks and a flat board at plus 990.

Half the field in the Juniors played in $4 \spadesuit$ doubled.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul. **♠** A K 8 6 3 ♦ A 7 6 2 **\$** 9 **♠** 10 7 4 ♥J98642 ♥ 10 ♦ K Q 10 9 ♦ J 8 5 4 ♣ A 7 2 ♣ K Q 5 4 3 ♠ QJ952 ♡ A Q 3 ♦ 3 ♣ J 10 8 6

West	North	East	South
Skorchev	Di Franco	Spasov	Zanasi
_	1 ^	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♡	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4
Pass	5♦	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
West	North	East	South
Gandoglia	Vasilev	Delle Cave	Siderov
_	1 ^	Pass	4
Pass	Pass	Pass	



Giuseppe Delle Cave

Precision players often simply raise one of a major to game with hands on which natural players would use a Jacoby 2NT raise or splinter, arguing that slam is unlikely facing a hand limited to 15 HCP. While that may be a sound policy holding a flat 12- or 13-count, I am not so sure that it is a good idea when the alternative is a splinter as a well-fitting pair of hands can make slam on quite limited high cards. Here, this policy resulted in Vasilev/Siderov missing an excellent slam.

At the other table, Zanasi's 3\$\parple\$ response was a splinter, game-forcing. I don't have the details of the rest of the auction but whatever it meant it got the job done and the Italians were soon in the small slam.

Though slam is good, it is defeated by the combination of three-zero spades and the bad heart split, which means that on a heart lead declarer cannot negotiate the required three ruffs for his contract. A heart was duly led against Vasilev, holding him to plus 450. The stakes were rather higher in the other room, where Spasov had to avoid cashing the ace of clubs, which would have opened up declarer's communications and allowed him to make his slam. No, Spasov too found the killing heart lead and that was down one for minus 50 and 11 fortunate IMPs for Bulgaria.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ Q 10 7 5 3 2

♡ 8 4 3

◇ 9 5

♣ K 4

♠ J 4
 ♠ A K 9 8 6
 ♡ —
 ◇ Q 7 4
 ♠ A J 10 7
 ♠ Q 6 5 2

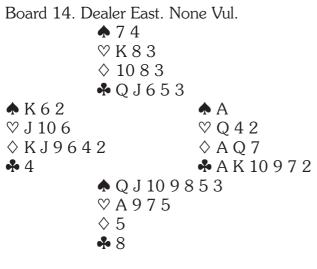
← —♡ Q 10 9 7 6 2◇ A K 8 2♣ 9 8 3

West	North	East	South
Skorchev	Di Franco	Spasov	Zanasi
_	_	_	Pass
1NT	Pass	2 %	Dble
Pass	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West	North	East	South
Gandoglia	Vasilev	Delle Cave	Siderov
_	_	_	$2\Diamond$
Dble	3♡	Dble	4%
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

For Italy, Zanasi passed as dealer, so Stefan Skorchev got to open the West hand with 1NT and he declared in the notrump game after Zanasi had doubled Spasov's transfer response. Di Franco's heart lead did not inconvenience Skorchev in the slightest. He won with the ace and led the jack of spades to the queen and ace, followed by the queen of clubs, losing to the king. Now Di Franco tried a diamond switch, Zanasi ducking the nine to Skorchev's queen. That just gave the overtrick; plus 430.

At the other table, Siderov opened $2 \diamondsuit$, Multi, and Gandoglia doubled. Vasilev bid a pass or correct $3 \heartsuit$ and Delle Cave made a responsive double. Siderov had extra playing strength, so raised to $4 \heartsuit$. Gandoglia was delighted to double that, ending the auction. Delle Cave led a top spade. Vasilev ruffed and played three rounds of diamonds for a ruff, then ruffed a spade and ruffed his last diamond. He ruffed another spade and was overruffed by Gandoglia, who cashed a top heart to draw declarer's last trump, then played the jack of clubs to dummy's king. Vasilev could make only one more trump from here for down two, but minus 300 was worth 4 IMPs to Bulgaria.



West Skorchev - Dble	North Di Franco - Pass	East Spasov 1♣ 6♣	South Zanasi 4♠ All Pass
West Gandoglia	North Vasilev	East Delle Cave	South Siderov
		Delle Cave	Siderov

Both E/W pairs got this one completely wrong. Delle Cave opened with an essentially natural 1. and Siderov overcalled 4. Gandoglia's double looks a touch aggressive but it would have collected 300 had Delle Cave managed to pass it, and their card does say that double is negative only up to 4%, so perhaps he should have done so. In practice, Delle Cave was unwilling to settle for a penalty and removed to 4NT, then bid 64 over the 5\$\primes response. I wonder if they were on firm ground regarding the meaning of this sequence? Anyway, 6♣ was hopeless and drifted three off for minus 150.

I think it was a little harder in the other room, where Spasov's 14 was strong, 16-plus, so that Skorchev could see game values his way and had to double to show them. However, perhaps Spasov should bid only 5♣ – he has a bit to spare for his opening but removing the double at all suggests a shapely hand, and the fact that he bid a suit rather than 4NT, two places to play, presumably shows that the suit is a long one. Still, 54 down two would not be much better than 6♣ down three. The trick here is to get to $5\diamondsuit$, and that is very tough after the $4 \spadesuit$ overcall.

Six clubs was again down three, so no swing.

W Vul.
♠ K 9 8
♥ 9 5
♦ K Q 10 8 6
♣ 8 7 2

Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣	Pass	2 ^	Pass
Pass	3♣	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
Gandoglia	Vasilev	Delle Cave	Siderov

Di Franco Spasov

East

South

Zanasi

North

West

Skorchev

Pass Pass Pass 1NT **Pass Pass Pass**

Both Souths opened 1NT in fourth seat. Siderov was allowed to play there. He received a low heart lead and put up dummy's queen. When that held, he led a club to the gueen and ace. Back came the two of spades to the king and ace. Siderov cashed the clubs and the ace of diamonds before exiting with ace and another heart. West, who had thrown a diamond, was endplayed to concede a trick to the jack of spades; plus 120.

Skorchev came in over 1NT, 24 showing the majors, and Spasov bid his longer major. Two spades can be made on any defence, so Skorchev had done well to overcall. Now Di Franco in turn competed with 34, where he played. Spasov led a heart, ducked to the king, and Skorchev returned the suit. He won the first club and gave Spasov a heart ruff, who exited passively with a trump. Di Franco won that and played ace and another diamond, so lost two of those and there was a spade to come for down two; minus 100 and 6 IMPs to Bulgaria.

Bulgaria won by 28-19 IMPs, 17-13 VPs. Italy were still well-placed to qualify, while Bulgaria would need a good last two rounds to get through.