



4TH WORLD YOUTH OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

OPATIJA CROATIA 20TH 29TH AUGUST 2015

DAILY BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY
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CONTENTS

CLICKABLE ON WEB

Knockout Brackets
p. 2

Branka & Goran Grguric
David Stern, p. 3

Top contenders in early clash
Micke Melander, p. 4

The imps that got lost
Micke Melander, p. 8

Put yourself to the test!
p. 11

Australia vs GreSwe Axon
David Stern, p. 12

Italy vs Finland
Ram Soffer, p. 16

Defending vs one-level transfers
Ram Soffer, p. 20

Results
p. 21



VIDEO CORNER

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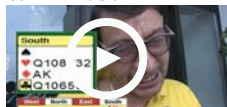
THE PAIRS PRIZE
GIVING



MASTER SOLVER
WITH P.O.



MASTER SOLVER
WITH P.O.



BIDDING QUIZ N.2

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: WBFOFFICIAL

DOPPELGANGERS



Twin brothers & sisters playing together. Mikael & Ola Rimstedt (Sweden), Yifei & Yiyang Luo (China), Gianmarco & Gabriele Giubilo (Italy), Zhiyong & Zhili Zhuo (China)

The qualifying matches are over. The line-ups for the knockout matches are on page 2. All of these matches will be over 48 boards, except in the Kids division, who will play only 32 boards.

The Girls and Youngsters play semifinals (today), and final and third-fourth playoff (tomorrow). These eight teams may join the B-a-M on Friday.

The Juniors play quarterfinals (today), semifinals (tomorrow), and final and third-fourth playoff (on Friday). The losing quarterfinalists may enter the B-a-M on Thursday, the other eight teams may drop into the B-a-M on Saturday.

The Kids play quarterfinals and the first half of the semifinals today, and the second half of the semis, and the final and third-fourth playoff tomorrow. All teams may enter the B-a-M.



TODAY'S SCHEDULE

KO TEAMS

	11.00 - 13.20	15.00 - 17.00	17.40 - 20.00
Juniors	Quarterfinal	Quarterfinal	Quarterfinal
Youngsters	Semifinal	Semifinal	Semifinal
Girls	Semifinal	Semifinal	Semifinal
Kids	Quarterfinal	Quarterfinal	Semifinal

BAM QUALIFICATION

	10.00 - 11.30	11.50 - 13.20	15.00 - 16.30	<i>starting times of round 4 and 5 (if any) to be announced</i>
Round 1	Round 2	Round 3		





JUNIORS BRACKET

Seating rights are marked with an X

NORWAY

Christian Bakke, Harald Eide, Tor Eivind Grude, Kristoffer Hegge

CROATIA

Borna Cicvaric, Ante Mijic, Ivan Brajkovic, Josko Djilovic, Stella Dobrijevic, Andrea Stankovic

NONAME

Berk Gokce, Ataman Aydogdu, Mert Seker, Mustafa Anil Bozyigit, Eren Imdat, Cagatay Birben

GRESWE AXON

Adam Kaplan, Ioannis Oikonomopoulos, Ola Rimstedt, Mikael Rimstedt, Ioannis Oik. Cpt, Giorgos Oik. Coach

ZLATAN

Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa, Giuseppe Delle Cave, Simon Hult, Johan Karlsson, Daniel Gullberg, Simon Ekenberg, Marshall Lewis Captain, Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa Coach

FINLAND

Antti Aimala, Vesa Fagerlund, Oskari Koivu, Maria Myllaeri

ITALIA

Giovanni Donati, Alessandra Gandoglia, Margherita Chavarria, Giacomo Percario, Gianluca Bergami, Alessandro Calmanovici, Valerio Giubilo Cpt & Coach

AUSTRALIA

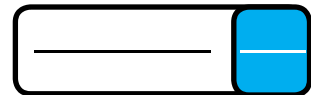
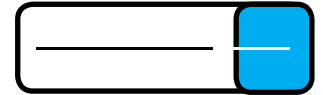
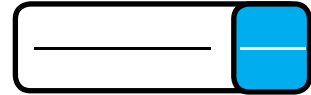
Jamie Thompson, Stephen Williams, Maxim Henbest, Shane Harrison, Renee Cooper, Ella Pattison, Justin Williams Cpt

	1	2	3
NORWAY	X		X
CROATIA		X	

	1	2	3
NONAME	X		X
GRESWE AXON		X	

	1	2	3
ZLATAN		X	
FINLAND	X		X

	1	2	3
ITALIA		X	
AUSTRALIA	X		X



GIRLS BRACKET

Seating rights are marked with an X

SX XHLD

Yunpeng Chen, Chenyun Ge, Huiyuan Jin, Xinyao Ruan, Yue Yu, Aijia Yuan, Weichang Qiu Captain

SX XNMF

Wenyang Huang, Xinying Lu, Min Wu, Yuqian Zhang, Yingying Sun, Liwen Shao, Yifan Cui Captain

ITALIA

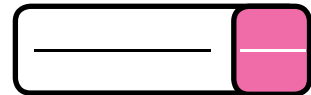
Susanna Broccolino, Caterina De Lutio, Agnese Di Mauro, Flaminia Tanini, Michela Salvato, Giulia Scriattoli, Emanuela Capriata Captain & Coach

CHINA RDFZ

Guangli Wendy Liu, Xinyi Luo, Lingyi Ma, Mengqi Hao, Ling Hu, Qi Xia, Jichao Hu Captain, Tong Jiang Coach

	1	2	3
SX XHLD	X	X	
SX XNMF			X

	1	2	3
ITALIA	X		X
CHINA RDFZ		X	



YOUNGSTERS BRACKET

Seating rights are marked with an X

CHINA

Hongji Wei, Shiyu Sun, Zhengyang Fang, Yichen Yin, Zihan Wang, Dongke Fang, Jichao Hu Captain, Tong Jiang Coach

GERMANY

Stig Jesse, Leonard Vornkahl, Philipp Pabst, Sibrand Van Oosten, Hartmut Kondocho Captain, Florian Alter Coach

ITALIA

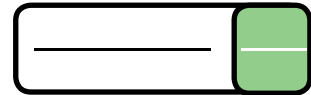
Andrea Manganella, Francesco Chiarandini, Alvaro Gaiotti, Gabriele Giubilo, Gianmarco Giubilo, Sebastiano Scatà, Dario Attanasio Captain & Coach

AZS UW VYCESKA

Stanislaw Maczka, Lukasz Trendak, Krystian Baczek, Piotr Jasinski

	1	2	3
CHINA			X
GERMANY	X	X	

	1	2	3
AZS UW VYCESKA		X	
ITALIA	X		X



KIDS BRACKET

Seating rights are marked with an X

SZ XNWX

Hanyang Dai, Yihong Liu, Jiabin Tong, Ruizhe Wang, Wenjie Xue, Tiancheng Zhang, Qiwei Li Captain, Hui Fu Coach

SX XHLD

Yihong Chen, Yang Hu, Mingtai Li, Hua Shang, Yichen Xie, Xinchun Yu, Jiong Li Captain, Yimei Zhang Coach

AZSUW AKADEMIABRYDZA

Pawel Hulanicki, Tomasz Kielbasa, Kacper Kopka, Oskar Trybus, Stanislaw Maczka Captain, Krystian Baczek Coach

SX HYSW

Renyu Li, Siyuan Liu, Yijun Shang, Yiqin Shao, Yingqi Wang, Tianle Yao, Wen Cao Captain, Lin Lin Coach

CHINA RDFZ1

Baozhuo Jiang, Randy Pan, Yuanzhe Ding, Zixi Cai, Shi Qiu, Haoqing Yu, Jichao Hu Captain, Tong Jiang Coach

CHINESE TAIPEI BLUE

Hsiang-Yi Ko, Yen-Jung Chen, Meng-Fei Wu, Yi-Hsien Lee, Chi-Hsuan Lo, Li-Jen Sun, Shu-Chen Fan Captain, Chen-Chin Wen Coach

SX XHEST

Licong Cheng, Ruicheng Mao, Penghao Wang, Zhe Wu, Zhijie Yuan, Yu Yun, Hongqin Xue Captain, Jiacheng He Coach

CHINESE TAIPEI WHITE

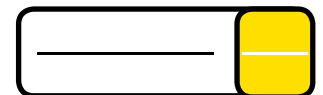
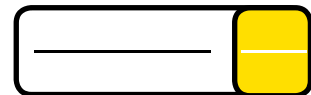
Yi-Ting Lan, Yu-Chen Huang, Ko-Wei Chang, Chen-Syuan Chiu, Yi-Pin Chu, Hung-Sheng Fan, Chung-Yang Huang Captain, Yun-Ching Lo Coach

	1	2
SX XNWX	X	
SX XHLD		X

	1	2
AZSUW A.BR.	X	
SX HYSW		X

	1	2
CHINA RDFZ1	X	
CHINESE TAIPEI B.		X

	1	2
SX XHEST	X	
CHINESE TAIPEI W.		X





BRANKA & GORAN GRGURIC

by DAVID STERN



Most bridge players enjoy the comforts of playing in bridge tournaments without thinking about what it takes to organise these events. Having organised a World Youth Championship and many other events in Australia, I know what is involved and it includes:

- Playing Venues (of course)
- Accommodation
- Equipment
- Transport
- Restaurants & dining options
- Outings
- Staffing
- Volunteers
- Bulletin printing & distribution
- Operations
- Player welcome bags
- Hospitality
- Programmes
- Communications
- Lighting
- Photography
- and much more.

These championships, together with many others over the past ten years, have come to Opatija because of the availability of two people who are proud residents of this beautiful city and who are totally committed to making bridge happen in the city they love – Goran and Branka Grguric – who totally know about organising bridge tournaments.

So I thought I would tell you a little bit about these two cogs in the machinery that is this tournament.

Goran and Branka are in their early sixties and both were born and (apart from Goran's first five years in Zagreb) have spent all of their lives in this area. They started dating when they were 20 and 19 and married about ten

years later. They have two daughters, Zrinka, who is a physiotherapist in this Milenji Hotel Wellness Centre, and Zeljka, who has just completed a Masters in Archaeology.

Branka has two business degrees at the nearby University of Rijeka and started her work life as a commercial manager in one of the local banks. Goran undertook some studies in business and in 1988 opened a marine supply business.

When war broke out in 1990, Goran volunteered for the army, where he served until 1993. He returned to his company until 1997, when the laws changed and made the marine supply business much more difficult. Following the war, the Government established farms for former soldiers who had suffered PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder, which did not include Goran), and Goran gathered all the farmers to join his own farm and form a co-operative, which he and Branka manage to this day.

They are both fiercely proud of being Croats and especially about the town of Opatija. For those who may not know, this town was the winter holiday playground for the members of the Austro-Hungarian aristocracy, who built the most beautiful villas and homes surrounding the sea. Goran recounts that in the 1920's workers in the town had to leave at 22.00 as nobody was allowed in the town overnight except the rich and famous. Also, to enter the town you had to have an invitation or reason – it was not possible just to enter the town as a visitor.

Speaking of villas and property, Goran told me that the price of real estate in Opatija is very high for those on the sea side of the main road – think

€ 800,000 for a reasonable sized two-bedroom apartment. Opatija is a five-hour drive from Milan, Munich, Vienna, Budapest and Belgrade, making it a very inviting proposition for a holiday home. If, however, you are prepared to live a 15-minute drive out of town, the prices are much more reasonable.

Back to the bridge side of things. Goran learned bridge (Branka does not play) in the early 2000's, and in 2004 organised a memorial game for a top bridge playing friend who had passed away. In doing so, he found that he had a calling for organising tournaments and set about a ten-year mission to make Opatija a solid bridge destination. It helped that the bridge clubs in Opatija and Rijeka were very supportive of the project.

Since then the town has hosted a European University Championship, European Pairs Championship, World Youth Congress, European Champion's Cup, European Teams Championship last year, and now the WBF 4th World Youth Open Bridge Championships. Goran and Branka have their sights set on having many more championships in the town they love. Goran explains, "All of the stakeholders, especially the hotels and Milenji, are totally supportive of any activities held in Opatija, especially bridge. They go out of their way to make sure it happens, and when the event is being run, they are totally co-operative."

So, if you are enjoying yourself at this tournament, then, apart from the normal thank you to the organisers and WBF, go up to Goran and Branka to express your thanks for making this event happen in this beautiful town.



TOP CONTENDERS IN EARLY CLASH

by MICKE MELANDER

If we had bookmakers putting up odds for the different tournaments played in Opatija, Croatia, this summer, two of their favourites in the World Open Junior Swiss/Knockout Teams would be GreSwe Axon and Cookie Potter.

These teams were drawn against each other in the very first round. "In the blue corner" playing for Cookie Potter, we had the bronze medallists from the U26 pairs earlier on, Julie Arbit and Sean Gannon. "In the red corner" for GreSwe Axon, the Rimstedt twins who became world champions in the Junior Pairs. Cookie Potter lined up with Alex Hudson-Christian Jolly against the twins, while GreSwe Axon had Adam Kaplan-Ioannis Oikonomopoulos (hereby after called Oik) against Arbit-Gannon.

When Kaplan in South bid at least once too much on the first board, the Cookie Potter team was off to a 6-0 lead.

On Board 2, Arbit-Gannon did what they could to even the score when they bid to three notrumps. When no suit behaved and declarer tried to make the contract, it was down four. That was 4 imps back to the other team when the twin brothers stopped in three clubs, going down only one.



JULIE ARBIT, USA

Then came board three ...

Board 3. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Arbit	Oik	Gannon	Kaplan
1NT	2♦ (a)	3NT	Pass
(a) One long major			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ola R.	Hudson	Mikael R.	Jolly
1NT	2♠ (a)	2NT (b)	Pass
3♣ (c)	Pass	4NT (d)	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass

- (a) Spades and a minor
- (b) Lebensohl
- (c) Forced
- (d) A cause of confusion

In the Open Room, Arbit-Gannon quickly arrived in the superb three-notrump contract, Gannon ignoring Oik's Multi overcall. Oik kicked off with the jack of diamonds (Rusinow), which held the trick. He continued with a low diamond. Declarer went up with dummy's ace and finessed in hearts. When that lost to the king and Oik next cashed the queen of diamonds, hoping that partner had started with three diamonds, it was all over. Declarer claimed ten tricks for 630.

The Rimstedt brothers also got an overcall against them; North in this case showed spades



and a minor. A Lebensohl auction followed and apparently they had a bidding misunderstanding when they finally stopped in six diamonds on a 4-3 fit. We can be sure that if someone was happy at the table, it was North, since the opponents had arrived in his second suit. Ola Rimstedt stood no chance to make his contract and went three down for minus 300. That was a 14-imp swing to the Cookie Potter team, making the score 20-4.

It was also interesting that both Wests decided to treat their 4-4-4-1 as a notrump opening.

The next board produced a 3-imp partscore swing for the Cookies for one fewer vulnerable undertrick. That swing could have been much larger when Oik found the only lead that allowed three notrumps to make. However, declarer would have had to play double-dummy, with 10-7-5-4 opposite K-J-9-8. The winning play was low to the king on the first round to drop the singleton queen offside!

Down by 19 imps, GreSwe Axon got 7 “much needed” imps on Board 5, when Oik made the right move holding

♠ 8 4 ♥ 10 6 5 4 3 2 ♦ 3 ♣ Q J 10 3.

He saw partner open with a strong club and next hand overcall four spades. He passed (that was not the problem) and the next time the bidding tray came back, partner had doubled. What now, when you are vulnerable against not?

Eventually he passed again and that was, at least in theory, the only way to get a plus score for his side. This was the full deal:

Board 5. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

♠ 8 4											
♥ 10 6 5 4 3 2											
♦ 3											
♣ Q J 10 3											
♠ K 10 7 6 3 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <table style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		N		W		E		S		♠ A J
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ -		♥ J 9 7									
♦ K		♦ J 10 9 6 5 4									
♣ A K 8 7 6 2		♣ 9 4									
	♠ Q 9 5										
	♥ A K Q 8										
	♦ A Q 8 7 2										
	♣ 5										

Oik led his singleton diamond, and Kaplan won with his ace. What now?

The one sure way to defeat the contract was to set up a trump promotion for partner by

returning a diamond. He didn't find it and tried to cash the ace of hearts. Declarer could have taken the trump finesse through the opening bidder and claimed her contract, but she ruffed the heart, played a spade to dummy's ace, and returned a club to her ace. Now a low club from hand would have worked, but West tried to cash the king of clubs. South ruffed and led the queen of diamonds. Declarer ruffed with her ten of spades and trumped a club in the dummy. South overruffed, and another diamond would have promoted North's eight of spades, but South led a high heart, so we were back to one down.

This was the auction at the other table:

West	North	East	South
Ola R.	Hudson	Mikael R.	Jolly
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♣	3♥ (a)	Pass	4♥
5♣	Dble	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) Game-invitational

South was a tad thin for one notrump, which would usually be 18 or 19. Then, perhaps South should have trusted his partner.

Five clubs doubled would have gone one down, and five hearts went two down. East led the ace of spades, continued with the jack of spades, and switched to a club. West won and played the king of spades to promote a trump trick for East.



CHRISTIAN JOLLY, USA



So halfway through the match the score was 23-11 to Cookie Potter. We didn't have to wait long for the next swing of the match.

Board 6. Dealer East. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Arbit	Oik	Gannon	Kaplan
1♠	2♥	1♦ (a)	3♥ (c)
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

- (a) An unbalanced hand
- (b) Three spades
- (c) Weak

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ola R.	Hudson	Mikael R.	Jolly
1♠ (a)	2♥	1♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	All Pass

- (a) Might be canapé with a weak hand
- (b) Three spades
- (c) Weak

Oik's raise to game hit the gold when the approximately 25 percent game made. Gannon led the king of diamonds. North won, played a heart to dummy's queen, and led a second heart. East won and switched to his club in a desperate attempt to catch partner with the ace and get a club ruff. When that wasn't the case and he led straight into declarer's tenace, Oik could pull East's last trump, ruff a club in dummy, and get his tenth trick when the ace of spades was onside.

In the Closed Room, Jolly led the queen of hearts, which allowed Mikael Rimstedt to ruff in dummy and try the spade finesse. South won with his king and returned a diamond to stop declarer from ruffing his last low heart. Hudson

won with the ace of diamonds and led a low heart. Rimstedt went up with the ace and cashed all of his diamond winners, carefully leaving the spades in dummy. When he then cashed the ace of spades, the nine dropped from North. East played a spade to dummy's eight and escaped for one down.

That was 8 imps to GreSwe Axon, now down by 23-19.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Arbit	Oik	Gannon	Kaplan
1♣ (a)	Pass	1♥ (b)	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

- (a) Natural or balanced outside the range for a one-notrump opening
- (b) Spades

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ola R.	Hudson	Mikael R.	Jolly
2♦ (a)	Pass	2♥ (b)	Pass
2NT (c)	Pass	3♥ (d)	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (a) Balanced 18-19
- (b) Transfer to spades
- (c) Maximum with spade support
- (d) Retransfer

Both Norths led a high club. This went to declarer's queen when South encouraged instead of playing the king. Now Arbit made a real master play when she immediately led the king of spades from hand! Oik won with the ace and returned a club to the king and ace. Arbit then played a spade to the eight, finessing North's jack. After



pulling North's last trump, Arbit exited with a club to endplay North. He had either to play a heart into the tenace or establish a diamond trick for declarer. Arbit had made her contract.

That is one of the best declarer-plays seen in these championships so far! But maybe North should have found the winning defence of the king and another diamond when in with the ace of spades.

In the Closed Room, Ola Rimstedt also won trick one with the queen of clubs, but then he played a spade to dummy's queen, which held, and a spade to his king that lost to North's ace. North continued the attack of clubs and forced declarer to win with the ace. Rimstedt then exited with his low club. Hudson cashed the jack of spades before playing the king of diamonds and a diamond to partner's ace for one down.

That was 6 imps to the Cookie Potter team, making the score 29-19.

We actually got a push on Board 8. Then GreSwe Axon retrieved one imp by scoring 140 on a 4-3 heart fit instead of 110 in three diamonds.



SEAN GANNON, USA

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ola R.	Hudson	Mikael R.	Jolly
		1♣ (a)	Pass
1♥	Dble	Pass	1♠
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♠
3♣	All Pass		

(a) Natural or balanced outside the range for one notrump

In the Open Room, Arbit led the king of diamonds. Declarer won with the ace in dummy, cashed the ace of spades, and played the four of diamonds to the two, six and Arbit's queen. West then tried attacking clubs by playing the nine, which went to East's jack and declarer's ace. Kaplan, who had played like a machine so far on this deal, didn't make any mistakes. He led a spade to the king, played a diamond to the jack, and could claim his contract, conceding tricks to the queen of trumps and the ace-king of hearts. Moreover, since the defence cashed their winners, Kaplan could win the last trick with the famous beer-card, the seven of diamonds!

Mikael Rimstedt made no mistake at the other table in three clubs after the defence had started with a club to the ace and another round of trumps.

When both contracts scored 110, it was 220 and 6 imps to GreSwe Axon. So they lost the match by only 3 imps, 26-29.

Luckily for GreSwe Axon, it wasn't a knockout match, but it was still a small victory for Cookie Potter.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Arbit	Oik	Gannon	Kaplan
		1♣ (a)	Pass
1♦ (b)	Dble (c)	1♥ (d)	1♠
2♥	2♠	All Pass	

(a) Natural or balanced outside the range for one notrump

(b) Hearts

(c) Takeout double of clubs and hearts

(d) Minimum without four hearts



THE IMPS THAT GOT LOST

by MICKE MELANDER

The first day of the teams in Opatija gave us three sparkling rounds with lots of action. Some players probably thought they were starring in a horror movie. Here come some boards from the third round, in the match between Zlatan and Croatia, where a lot of imps were lost, even though 49 imps changed hands in the ten deals.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brajkovic</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Stankovic</i>	<i>Ekenberg</i>
1♠	1NT	2♠	1♦
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gullberg</i>	<i>Mijic</i>	<i>Karlsson</i>	<i>Djilovic</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣

Gullberg led the ace of spades against two clubs in the Closed Room, which allowed declarer to take 10 tricks when he could pull two round of trumps and set up the diamonds for the needed heart discards. A heart lead would have left declarer with only nine tricks. But that didn't matter much ...

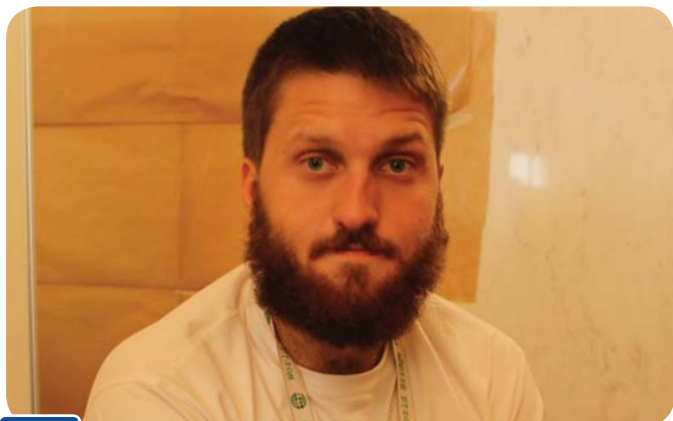
There was a lot of action in the Open Room. The Laser & Light show really was switched on when Simon Hult decided that he should double three spades.

Hult led the five of diamonds, which went to the seven, jack and declarer's ace. Ivan Brajkovic tested trumps by cashing the ace, which proved what he had probably suspected all along: a 4-0 split. South discarded the nine of clubs (reverse: upside down count and attitude). Declarer's problem on this board was to stay in control and make sure that he scored his heart tricks. So when West next decided to play a diamond to dummy, he was walking on a very thin ice. Hult, to defeat the contract, just had to discard a heart. But he thought it was more important to give attitude in clubs and discarded the two. South won with the jack and returned a low club. Declarer ruffed and placed the king of hearts onto the table. South won and returned another low club, forcing declarer to ruff. Declarer then got the fifth trick into his bag when he played a heart to dummy's queen. The remaining six cards were:

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


The winning line was to play a spade to the king, cash the jack of hearts, and lead the last heart to pitch dummy's club. Our Croatian declarer had a blindspot, though, when he ruffed the queen of clubs in his hand. This gave North three trump tricks for down one. Plus 730 or minus 200 made a huge difference. 730 would have been 13 imps in instead of now 2 imps out.





 **ANDREA STANKOVIC, CROATIA**

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brajkovic</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Stankovic</i>	<i>Ekenberg</i>
1♠	Pass	3♠	3NT!
Dble	Pass	Pass	4♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Gullberg</i>	<i>Mijic</i>	<i>Karlsson</i>	<i>Djilovic</i>
1NT	Pass	2♣	2♦
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Ekenberg did very well when he bid three notrumps after being heavily pre-empted by West. This contract would have been very interesting to follow, if only to see what West would have led. A low heart or a diamond and a low-heart shift would have removed declarer's chance to make the contract. All other leads would have allowed declarer to make it, since he could have afforded to overtake the queen of hearts with the king to cash the ace and get his nine tricks.

But when doubled, Ekenberg ran and was put one down, the defenders taking their three aces and a club ruff.

In the Closed Room, Gullberg had no problems in making his two spades. He even collected an overtrick when the defence set up dummy's jack of hearts for a diamond discard. That was 3 imps to the Zlatan team.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brajkovic</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Stankovic</i>	<i>Ekenberg</i>
	Pass	1♣	1♠
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Brajkovic asked for a stopper in spades and Hult said he had one. I wonder if Brajkovic will use that convention again with this partner after watching South cash the first seven tricks!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gullberg</i>	<i>Mijic</i>	<i>Karlsson</i>	<i>Djilovic</i>
	Pass	1♣	1♠
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Luckily for the Croatian team, Karlsson must have had some dirt on his glasses when he also thought he had a stopper in spades and bid the same three-notrump game, going three down as well for a push. East-West actually didn't have any game on, but one down in five clubs would have been an easy 5 imps for either team.


On the last board of the match, Hult and Mijic had to lead against a notrump contract. What would you have chosen from

♠ A 9 3 ♥ J 10 4 ♦ A 5 4 3 ♣ K 9 4

knowing that dummy will be a balanced 12-14 and declarer made an invitational call with two notrumps, which dummy raised to three notrump?



Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Hult led the jack of hearts, and who could blame him for that? But that gave declarer the tempo to set up his diamonds, and when North held the ace of diamonds, the defenders couldn't set the contract. (If North had led a low heart after taking the third diamond, West would have run it to his nine.)

In the Closed Room, Mijic found the inspired lead of a low spade. Yes, this was a little bit easier after East had opened with one heart, but it was still not an obvious lead to make. A diamond wouldn't have surprised me as a choice, or even a heart. Luckily for team Zlatan they had come to stop at one notrump and collected their eight tricks. Still a 7-imp loss when they made game at the other table.

The final score was 35-14 to Zlatan, or 16.18-3.82 in victory points.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brajkovic	Hult	Stankovic	Ekenberg
		1♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gullberg	Mijic	Karlsson	Djilovic
		1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	Pass



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A POTPOURRI OF PROBLEMS



BIDDING

Modern bridge is a bidder's game.

1. You pick up this hand as dealer:

♠ A 10 8 ♥ Q ♦ K J 5 4 ♣ A 8 7 6 5

What would you open?

Assuming you start with one club, what would you rebid if partner responds:

- a. one diamond;
- b. one heart;
- c. one spade; or
- d. one notrump?



BIDDING

Modern bridge is a bidder's game.

3. With neither side vulnerable, you hold:

♠ 4 ♥ K 10 7 6 ♦ 9 7 2 ♣ A Q J 8 3

The auction starts like this:

West	North	East	South
	<i>Partner</i>		<i>You</i>
	1♥	1♠	??

What would you respond?

?? **Answers on page 18** ??
OR **CLICK HERE** (WEB VERSION)



PLAY

Invincibility lies in the defence; the possibility of victory in the attack. (Sun Tzu)

2. Here is a defensive problem.

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ K J 8 5
♥ Q J 10 9
♦ 3
♣ A K 7 4



♠ A 4
♥ A 7 6 4 3 2
♦ 8 6 5 2
♣ 2

West	North	East	South
<i>Partner</i>		<i>You</i>	
			1♠
Pass	4♦ (a)	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) Splinter bid: four-plus spades, at least game-going values, a singleton or void in diamonds

West leads the five of hearts: nine, ace, king. How would you plan the defence?

BRAIN TRAINING



4. What is the minimum number of high-card points needed to be laydown for a grand slam?

You may place the cards as you wish.

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AUSTRALIA VERSUS GRESWE AXON

by DAVID STERN

It's a rainy morning as we start the second day of the Junior Teams Qualifying here in Opatija, but like so many days since we arrived, it will probably finish up bright and sunny.

This fourth-round match saw Australia (5th) playing GreSwe Axon (6th).

Australia (those in bold playing this match): **Renee Cooper, Ella Pattison, Shane Harrison, Maxim Henbest**, Jamie Thompson and Stephen Williams. Justin Williams npc

GreSwe Axon

Mikael Rimstedt (SWE), Ola Rimstedt (SWE), Adam Kaplan (USA), Ioannis Oikonomopoulos (GRE) playing captain, Giorgos Oikonomopoulos (GRE) coach

Board one started with a whimper when both tables went one down in three diamonds. The second deal was more interesting.

Board 2. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

	♠ A Q 8 7 4		
	♥ Q 4 2		
	♦ K 5		
	♣ 7 4 3		
♠ 6 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">N W S E S</div>	♠ J 10 9 5	
♥ 8 6 5		♥ K J 9 7	
♦ Q 9 6		♦ J 4	
♣ Q 9 8 6 5		♣ A K J	
	♠ K 3		
	♥ A 10 3		
	♦ A 10 8 7 3 2		
	♣ 10 2		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kaplan	Harrison	Oik	Henbest
		1NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cooper	Ola R.	Pattison	Mikael R.
3♣	Dble	1♣	1♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♦
		All Pass	

Harrison's pass of one notrump in the pass-out seat seems very conservative, but results speak when he collected plus 50. Declarer took only one diamond and five clubs before the defence collected the rest of the tricks.

In the Closed Room, Cooper's three-club bid "forced" the Rimstedts, all based on sensible actions, to play in three spades. The defence was accurate. After a club lead and spade switch won with the ace, declarer played three rounds of diamonds, ruffing the last and being overruffed. The king of hearts took out dummy's entry, and declarer tried another diamond, pitching a club with East ruffing. A second club was cashed, and when East led her last trump, she left declarer with a heart loser. Plus 50 and plus 100 saw Australia start with 4 imps.

I really liked Ola Rimsted's lead on the following deal.

Board 3. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

		♠ A 7 4 3	
		♥ A J 6 5	
		♦ 8 6 4	
		♣ K 4	
♠ J 6	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">N W S E S</div>	♠ 10 9 8	
♥ K 7 2		♥ Q 10 9 4	
♦ A K Q J 10		♦ 3	
♣ 9 6 3		♣ Q J 10 8 5	
		♠ K Q 5 2	
		♥ 8 3	
		♦ 9 7 5 2	
		♣ A 7 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kaplan	Harrison	Oik	Henbest
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cooper	Ola R.	Pattison	Mikael R.
1NT	Pass	Pass	Pass



Holding both majors stopped and without any Stayman enquiry from East, Ola elected to avoid giving declarer a trick on the lead and chose a neutral diamond. Declarer couldn't gather more than five diamonds and a heart before the defence prevailed.

At the other table, Oik (as we will call him to save ink) elected to seek a better spot and landed his side in two hearts. He suffered the same fate, going one down.

The next board saw some fireworks.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Harrison</i>	<i>Oik</i>	<i>Henbest</i>
Pass	1♠	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	Dble	Redble
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Ola R.</i>	<i>Pattison</i>	<i>Mikael R.</i>
Pass	1♠	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Oik in the Open Room was perhaps a little unlucky to run into such a bad break, but there was always a risk that partner would have limited values. Perhaps Oik should have deduced that (1) with the pass on his left, (2) the lack of action by partner, and (3) the less-than-strong-sounding action by North in rebidding two spades, all suggested danger. And finally partner was still at the table and could have acted if he deemed it appropriate. Oik paid the price with minus 800. Pattison for Australia

paid a lesser price when the Rimstedts penalised her simply for overcalling two hearts, minus 500 and 7imps for Australia, who led by 11-0.

Different overcalling styles led to a 6-imp swing to GreSwe Axon on this deal.

Board 5. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

♠ 10 8 5 4 ♥ A 5 3 2 ♦ Q J ♣ A J 9		♠ J 6 ♥ 7 6 ♦ AK108765 ♣ K 5
♠ A K Q 9 7 3 ♥ K Q 8 4 ♦ 2 ♣ 10 7		♠ 2 ♥ J 10 9 ♦ 9 4 3 ♣ Q 8 6 4 3 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Harrison</i>	<i>Oik</i>	<i>Henbest</i>
	1♦ (a)	2♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) 11-15 points, 2-plus diamonds

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Ola R.</i>	<i>Pattison</i>	<i>Mikael R.</i>
	1♣	3♦	All Pass

I have sympathy for both the two-diamond and three-diamond overcalls, but lean strongly towards two diamonds. Partner needs so little to make three notrumps.

Switch attention to West and ask whether you would really want to bid over partner's three-diamond overcall, which could be as bad as ♠ J x ♥ x x ♦ Q J 10 x x x x ♣ x x.

Of course not. In the Open Room, it was much easier for West to bid on over two diamonds.

In the Open Room, the defence started with their two aces, but that was the end of their trick taking. In the Closed Room, South opted for a singleton-spade lead, and with the friendly diamond position, East took all 13 tricks. Australia now led by 11-6.





On the next deal, the points were distributed 11-11-8-10. Kaplan elected to open one diamond when vulnerable with ♠ Q 5 2 ♥ J 7 2 ♦ K 5 3 ♣ K Q 10 7 (which promised only 11 points because he and Oik were using a strong-club system). He bought it in one notrump. This failed by a trick and lost 3 imps to Australia when the other table passed it out.

The next deal was amusing.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kaplan	Harrison	Oik	Henbest
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♣
Dble	2♥	3♦	3♥
3♠	4♥	4♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cooper	Ola R.	Pattison	Mikael R.
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

The Open Room defended accurately. Harrison (North) led a club, and South, after he cashed the second club, switched to a heart for one down.

The late great bridge player Tim Seres once said to me that a doubleton lead is always wrong, and even when it's right, it's wrong! In the Closed Room, Ola Rimstedt elected to lead his doubleton jack of diamonds, and declarer took six spades and seven diamonds.

The next deal saw some perhaps undeserved good fortune for the Rimstedts.

Board 9. Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kaplan	Harrison	Oik	Henbest
Pass	1♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cooper	Ola R.	Pattison	Mikael R.
Pass	1♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

How good is three notrumps? On a club lead, declarer needs clubs 4-4 (or a blockage) and the spade finesse working, which is not so good. But maybe he would not get a club start ...

Pattison in the Closed Room led the five of spades: six, king, ace. Now North had nine tricks. Three diamonds made six, but SweGre gained 6 imps and left Australia leading by 21-12.



THE PLAYING AREA



The last board saw some more imps change hands, but this time for the Australians.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cooper	Ola R.	Pattison	Mikael R.
		1♥	Dble
Pass	1NT	2♣	Pass
2♥	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Here is another deal on the theme that if you play with cats, you will get scratched. Kaplan chose to promise game-forcing values with his three-count. He expected the opponents to have a game somewhere and hoped to talk them out of it. But Oik, not being tuned in to what had happened, doubled the final contract and paid out 990, including the overtrick.

Those 8 imps against the 650 at the other table left Australia victors in the match by 29-12. This moved Australia up to fourth and GreSwe Axon down to ninth after four of the eight qualifying matches to determine the quarterfinalists.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kaplan	Harrison	Oik	Henbest
		1♥ (a)	Pass
2♣ (b)	2♠	3♣	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

(a) 11-15 points

(b) A psychic game-forcing relay (Editor: Note that this was legal, but in this tournament you may not psych a strong, artificial and forcing opening bid.)



ATTENTION PLEASE!

The following coaches are kindly invited to collect their Championship souvenir bag at the hospitality desk:

- Kees TAMMENS
- Alexandra COVA
- Haibo ZHAO
- Vjekoslav ZEPIC
- Tong JIANG
- Xun LU
- Haihong GU
- Wenqin WANG
- Yun-Ching LO
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ITALY VERSUS FINLAND


by RAM SOFFER

Junior Teams Swiss Round 4

Every imp match contains some insignificant boards, where only minor swings are possible, and some “big deals,” where a lot ofimps are at stake.

In this match, the Italians did everything right in the few boards that mattered. Predictably, they won by a large margin.

Board 4. Dealer West. Vul All.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Koivu</i>	<i>Gandoglia</i>	<i>Myllaeri</i>
Pass	3♠	Dble	Pass
4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

After North’s normal three-spade opening, East had two main options: double and four hearts. (I doubt that many experts would endorse a pass -- the winning call in this deal by a large margin.)

East seemed to have the wrong shape for a double, so four hearts looked more attractive, but at the table that bid would certainly have been doubled. Then declarer would have had to guess diamonds correctly right away in order to avoid a four-digit penalty, and best play by both sides would have resulted in minus 800.

Gandoglia doubled, though, and didn’t correct Donati’s four-club response. Perhaps Myllaeri should have doubled four clubs, but he didn’t.

Koivu underled his ace of diamonds, hoping for a heart ruff. The underlead worked, as South’s queen won the trick, but Koivu didn’t get his ruff. Thus the chance for five down was gone. Donati made six tricks in his ugly contract, and the 400 penalty proved to be inadequate for North-South.

West	North	East	South
<i>Aimala</i>	<i>Percario</i>	<i>Fagerlund</i>	<i>Chavarria</i>
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass

In the Open Room, Percario opened the North hand one level higher. Most players would double this with any 15-plus HCP hand, but the sight of four spades doubled making, sometimes with an overtrick, is not uncommon.

Chavarria produced just the right dummy, and everything worked for the declarer in the minor suits. He lost only one diamond and the ace of trumps. Plus 990 meant 11imps to Italy.

Our next exhibit is a one-notrump contract that was supposed to make with normal play, but the Italians found just the right defence to help declarer go wrong.

First of all, please decide what you would have led from:

♠ Q 5 2 ♥ J 7 2 ♦ K 5 3 ♣ K Q 10 7

following this auction (which occurred at both tables):

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Koivu</i>	<i>Gandoglia</i>	<i>Myllaeri</i>
<i>Aimala</i>	<i>Percario</i>	<i>Fagerlund</i>	<i>Chavarria</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Did you choose the unbid heart suit, or maybe gave preference to your strong club holding, even though North opened one club?



This was the full deal:

Board 7. Dealer South. Vul All.

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

Aimala led the plausible king of clubs. Chavarria took dummy's ace, played a low diamond to the ten, and had no trouble coming to seven tricks.

But at the other table, 17-year-old Giovanni Donati, already considered one of the great future hopes of Italian bridge, found the two-of-spades lead. Gandoglia took dummy's jack with his king and returned the suit, so the defenders took their four spade tricks right away. The contract was still makable, but Myllaeri had to find two discards. One of them was a club.

Meanwhile Donati pitched the two of hearts, asking for a club shift. Gandoglia switched to five of clubs, and Donati slyly played his king. Declarer took his first trick with dummy's ace and played a diamond to the ten. After winning with the king, Donati continued his deceptive play by leading the ten of clubs, squashing declarer's

nine. South, who was under the false impression that East had started with ♣ Q-7-5-2, ducked, and Donati next cashed his queen of clubs to crown a beautiful defence.

The Italians were evidently on a roll. On the next board, they were the only pair (at least in the Juniors event) to bid and make the spade game.

Board 8. Dealer West. Vul None.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Koivu</i>	<i>Gandoglia</i>	<i>Myllaeri</i>
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Donati decided to upgrade his excellent 14 points and rebid two clubs (Gazzilli) after the non-forcing one-notrump response. He showed either clubs or any 15-plus HCP hand. In response, two diamonds showed 8-10 HCP, and then Donati used a Lauria/Versace gadget – three hearts meant either 5-3-3-2 or 6-3-2-2 with three hearts and 15-17 HCP. The idea is to enable responder to bid four hearts with a five-card heart suit.

Gandoglia showed two spades with his three-spade bid, and Donati raised to game.

A club lead would have set it, but North led the apparently safer jack of diamonds. Soon Donati was claiming 13 tricks.

At the other table, it started 1♠-1NT-2♠ and East tried three diamonds, hoping for something like West's actual hand, but the Finnish West interpreted it as a signoff. Chavarria switched to a trump after the ace-of-clubs lead, allowing 12 tricks to be made. Still, Italy won 8 imps, and a bigger swing was yet to come in the final deal.



GIOVANNI DONATI, ITALY



Board 10. Dealer East. Vul All.

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



West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Koivu</i>	<i>Gandoglia</i>	<i>Myllaeri</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	4♣	2NT	3♠
Dble	4NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	6♠	Pass	5♥
		All Pass	

Gandoglia's hand looked quite promising, but he decided to pass as dealer and come in later with a two-suited overcall. Once South supported his partner at the three-level, North was always going to slam unless he was missing two key cards.

Given East's bidding, the odds were in favour of the spade finesse, but appearances proved to be deceptive, and declarer could not avoid losing a trump and a club. Italy plus 100.

West	North	East	South
<i>Aimala</i>	<i>Percario</i>	<i>Fagerlund</i>	<i>Chavarria</i>
Pass	Dble	1♥	Pass
Dble	Redble	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3NT

At this table, East opened one heart, which was followed by two passes. After South cue-bid 2♥ and continued with 2♠, Percario knew that his partner had a decent hand with four spades. However, South had been unable to double one heart, and three notrumps hinted that she had an unwanted concentration of strength in hearts. On top of that, a possible spade finesse was almost certain to fail. Thus the bidding of Percario-Chavarria never got as far as a serious slam-try. Italy plus 650 and 13 moreimps to end the set. Their one-sided victory by 41-1 took them to the top of the table.

SOLUTIONS

TO THE TEST ON PAGE 11

1. You pick up this hand as dealer:
 ♠ A 10 8 ♥ Q ♦ K J 5 4 ♣ A 8 7 6 5
 What would you open?

Assuming you start with one club, what would you rebid if partner responds:
 a. one diamond; b. one heart; c. one spade; or
 d. one notrump?

Some players would open this hand one diamond, planning to rebid two clubs over one heart. But this risks reaching a 4-2 fit when partner gives false preference on the second round. (This hand is not strong enough to bid a third time after 1♦-1♥-2♣-2♦.)

That is not my style. And after opening one club, these are the right answers:

a. two diamonds; b. one notrump; c. two spades; d. pass or two clubs (perhaps pass in a pair event and two clubs at teams)

After 1♣-1♠-2♠, it is a good idea to introduce

some science. Use responder's two-notrump rebid as an enquiry, asking opener to define his hand. This is the response scheme:

Opener	Responder
1♣	1♠
2♠	2NT
3♣	minimum with only three spades
3♦	maximum with three spades
3♥	minimum with four spades
3♠	maximum with four spades

In conjunction, if the auction starts like this:

Opener	Responder
1♣	1♠
2♠	3♣

responder has shown game-invitational strength with only four spades and club support.

If the auction begins 1♣/♦-1♥-2♥, it is sensible to use two spades as the relay. Then, 1♣/♦-1♥-2♥-2NT shows four spades (or whatever you think it ought to be).



Similarly, 1♥-1♠-2♠-3♥ is game-invitational with four spades and three hearts.

2. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West <i>Partner</i>	North	East <i>You</i>	South
			1♠
Pass	4♦ (a)	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) Splinter bid: four-plus spades, at least game-going values, a singleton or void in diamonds

West leads the five of hearts: nine, ace, king. How would you plan the defence?

Partner has led a singleton, so it looks obvious to return a heart for partner to trump. But from where will the fourth defensive trick come from?

In this (and almost every layout), the next deal!

You must hope that partner has two trumps and arrange your ruff first. At trick two, switch to your club. Then, grab the first round of trumps and lead the two of hearts, a suit-preference signal for clubs. Partner will ruff and return a club to defeat the contract.

When a play looks obvious, pause for a moment to see if there might be something even better.

3. With neither side vulnerable, you hold:

♠ 4 ♥ K 10 7 6 ♦ 9 7 2 ♣ A Q J 8 3

The auction starts like this:

West	North <i>Partner</i>	East	South <i>You</i>
	1♥	1♠	??

What would you respond?

This hand is strong enough to insist on game. You could respond three spades, a jump cue-bid being a splinter bid indicating at least four-card heart support and game-going values. However, I think there is a much more valuable bid, if you

have it in your system: a fit-showing jump.

In competition, a jump to four clubs shows four-plus hearts, five-plus decent clubs, and the values for at least game. The big advantage comes if an opponent goes on to four spades. The opener will judge much more accurately. Here are two possible pairs of hands:

Opener	Responder
i. ♠ Q 5 3 ♥ A Q J 7 2 ♦ K 10 6 5 ♣ 4	♠ 4 ♥ K 10 7 6 ♦ 9 7 2 ♣ A Q J 8 3
ii. ♠ Q 5 3 ♥ A Q J 7 2 ♦ 4 ♣ K 10 6 5	♠ 4 ♥ K 10 7 6 ♦ 9 7 2 ♣ A Q J 8 3

West	North <i>Opener</i>	East	South <i>Responder</i>
4♠	1♥ ??	1♠	3♠/4♣

In the first pair of hands, you wish to defend against four spades doubled. Five hearts might be no play, and surely you can get a decent penalty.

In the second pair, though, both four spades and five hearts could be laydown. It is the old story that with a double fit, you win more tricks than the point-count suggests. But if you have a double fit, so do they.

Here, though, if responder has made a three-spade splinter bid, opener will be guessing what to do.

I think fit-jumps in competition are invaluable. The higher you jump, the stronger your hand. (A jump cue-bid is the only splinter available. Also, note that it is highly unlikely you will ever have a splinter in either of the unbid suits.)

4. What is the minimum number of high-card points needed to be laydown for a grand slam?

Five. Here is one layout:

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

You might shed a crocodile tear or two for East!



DEFENDING AGAINST ONE-LEVEL TRANSFERS

by RAM SOFFER

The BBO1 match in Round 6 of the Juniors Teams ended in a comprehensive 55-13 victory for Zlatan against Cookie Potter, but the deal that caught my eye was the one in which Zlatan lost 12 of these 13imps.

Board 24. Dealer West. Vul None.

<p>♠ K 6 ♥ A K 8 6 ♦ J 3 2 ♣ A K 10 8</p>		<p>♠ J 10 9 2 ♥ 3 2 ♦ Q 9 5 ♣ J 4 3 2</p>	<p>♠ A Q 5 4 ♥ J 7 ♦ A 10 7 6 4 ♣ 9 7</p>
		<p>♠ 8 7 3 ♥ Q 10 9 5 4 ♦ K 8 ♣ Q 6 5</p>	

West	North	East	South
<i>Kriegel</i>	<i>Delle Cave</i>	<i>Tebha</i>	<i>G. Da Rosa</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	Dble
Redble	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

East-West were using a convention that is very fashionable nowadays among top pairs, using one-diamond and one-heart responses to a one-club opening as transfers to hearts and spades, respectively, showing four or more cards in the major. Among its advantages, this convention allows the opening side to find 5-3 major-suit fits with much greater ease than in traditional

methods.

The only downside is that the opponents have a greater choice of calls after a transfer response.

The most common agreement against these transfers is that doubling the transfer suit (in this case hearts) is lead directing, while bidding the real suit of the responder (one spade) is equivalent to a takeout double of a natural one spade.

Giuseppe Delle Cave-Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa were using this method, but the result was catastrophic. Once South doubled to show hearts, West had an easy business redouble. Now Garcia Da Rosa could have stood pat and registered minus 1120 for one heart redoubled made with three overtricks. Instead, he wisely chose to limit the damage to 1100 by running to one spade, which went down five doubled.

As you can see, the lead directing double at the one-level puts the doubling side in a very risky position while not taking away any bidding space from the opener's side, which raises the question: Why play it at all?

If South's hand (or his heart suit) is good enough not to have to worry about a redouble, then he may overcall two hearts, a nuisance bid taking away useful bidding space from his opponents.

Perhaps a better system would be that a double of one heart is equivalent to a takeout double of a natural one spade, while bidding one spade can be defined as a red two-suiter or even as natural. The natural sequence (1♣/1♦)-Pass-(1♠)-2♠ is seen from time to time, and the two-spade overcaller may feel much more comfortable when given the opportunity to introduce his suit at the one-level.





JUNIOR KO TEAMS

ROUND 4

ZLATAN	NORWAY	11	16	8.15	11.85
FINLAND	ITALIA	1	41	0.78	19.22
AUSTRALIA	GRESWE AXON	29	12	15.29	4.71
CROATIA	NETHERLANDS RED	15	12	11.14	8.86
JAPAN	ZHIHAOLE	17	29	6.00	14.00
COOKIE POTTER	SUDAMERICA	13	14	9.61	10.39
NONAME	SRBIJA	34	20	14.54	5.46
NETHERLANDS B.	FRANCE	14	21	7.49	12.51

ROUND 5

ITALIA	NORWAY	11	14	8.86	11.14
ZLATAN	ZHIHAOLE	31	1	17.84	2.16
AUSTRALIA	CROATIA	13	22	6.86	13.14
NETHERLANDS R.	FINLAND	5	21	4.95	15.05
NONAME	GRESWE AXON	38	36	10.77	9.23
COOKIE POTTER	JAPAN	32	13	15.75	4.25
SUDAMERICA	FRANCE	9	52	0.45	19.55
NETHERLANDS B.	SRBIJA	31	31	10.00	10.00

ROUND 6

ZLATAN	COOKIE POTTER	55	13	19.44	0.56
NORWAY	CROATIA	64	11	20.00	0.00
ITALIA	AUSTRALIA	27	13	14.54	5.46
FINLAND	GRESWE AXON	26	26	10.00	10.00
NONAME	FRANCE	38	4	18.44	1.56
NETHERLANDS R.	ZHIHAOLE	1	44	0.45	19.55
NETHERLANDS B.	SUDAMERICA	37	37	10.00	10.00
JAPAN	SRBIJA	41	21	15.97	4.03

ROUND 7

ZLATAN	NONAME	11	25	5.46	14.54
NORWAY	FINLAND	27	15	14.00	6.00
ITALIA	ZHIHAOLE	56	4	20.00	0.00
AUSTRALIA	COOKIE POTTER	17	18	9.61	10.39
GRESWE AXON	FRANCE	30	38	7.17	12.83
CROATIA	NETHERLANDS B.	46	24	16.39	3.61
JAPAN	SUDAMERICA	12	26	5.46	14.54
NETHERLANDS R.	SRBIJA	7	28	3.82	16.18

ROUND 8

NORWAY	NONAME	7	7	10.00	10.00
ITALIA	CROATIA	8	10	9.23	10.77
ZLATAN	FINLAND	7	9	9.23	10.77
AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	14	18	8.50	11.50
COOKIE POTTER	FRANCE	13	5	12.83	7.17
ZHIHAOLE	SUDAMERICA	13	12	10.39	9.61
GRESWE AXON	SRBIJA	38	1	18.84	1.16
NETHERLANDS R.	NETHERLANDS B.	15	14	10.39	9.61

RANKING AFTER QUALIFICATION

1	NORWAY	110.25
2	ITALIA	108.03
3	ZLATAN	106.51
4	NONAME	92.83
5	CROATIA	84.06
6	GRESWE AXON	82.72
7	AUSTRALIA	79.45
8	FINLAND	79.27
9	COOKIE POTTER	76.88
10	ZHIHAOLE	75.32
11	JAPAN	72.81
12	FRANCE	69.65
13	SUDAMERICA	67.02
14	NETHERLANDS RED	60.95
15	NETHERLANDS BLUE	60.14
16	SRBIJA	54.11

QUARTERFINALS

NORWAY

CROATIA

NONAME

GRESWE AXON

ZLATAN

FINLAND

ITALIA

AUSTRALIA

YOUNGSTERS KO TEAMS

ROUND 4

CHINA	AZS UW VYCESKA	6	26	4.03	15.97
SX XMXW	CROATIA	14	19	8.15	11.85
CHINA RDFZ2	GERMANY	12	24	6.00	14.00
ITALIA	CHINA RDFZ1	29	12	15.29	4.71

ROUND 5

AZS UW VYCESKA	CHINA RDFZ1	12	20	7.17	12.83
CROATIA	GERMANY	13	26	5.72	14.28
CHINA	ITALIA	40	5	18.58	1.42
SX XMXW	CHINA RDFZ2	59	18	19.33	0.67

ROUND 6

GERMANY	AZS UW VYCESKA	13	45	1.85	18.15
CHINA RDFZ1	CROATIA	44	38	12.18	7.82
CHINA RDFZ2	CHINA	0	50	0.00	20.00
ITALIA	SX XMXW	38	21	15.29	4.71

ROUND 7

AZS UW VYCESKA	CROATIA	46	25	16.18	3.82
GERMANY	CHINA RDFZ1	24	35	6.28	13.72
CHINA	SX XMXW	38	19	15.75	4.25
ITALIA	CHINA RDFZ2	44	22	15.89	3.11

RANKING AFTER QUALIFICATION

1	CHINA	108.02
2	AZS UW VYCESKA	86.50
3	ITALIA	82.99
4	GERMANY	76.88
5	CHINA RDFZ1	67.55
6	SX XMXW	59.76
7	CROATIA	43.13
8	CHINA RDFZ2	34.17

SEMIFINALS

CHINA

GERMANY

AZS UW VYCESKA

ITALIA

**GIRLS KO TEAMS****ROUND 4**

CHILE	SX XHLD	9	36	2.66	17.34
CHINA RDFZ G.	SX XNWX	11	25	4.46	14.54
SX SWXH	ITALIA	22	22	10.00	10.00
SX XNMF	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 5

SX XHLD	ITALIA	24	23	10.39	9.61
SX XNWX	SX XNMF	21	44	3.41	16.59
CHILE	SX SWXH	35	23	14.00	6.00
CHINA RDFZ G.	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 6

SX XNMF	SX XHLD	15	42	2.66	17.34
ITALIA	SX XNWX	60	7	20.00	0.00
SX SWXH	CHINA RDFZ G.	5	36	2.00	18.00
CHILE	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 7

SX XHLD	SX XNWX	50	2	20.00	0.00
SX XNMF	ITALIA	37	29	12.83	7.17
CHILE	CHINA RDFZ G.	17	52	0.67	17.83
SX SWXH	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

RANKING AFTER QUALIFICATION

1	SX XHLD	98.40
2	ITALIA	91.25
3	CHINA RDFZ GIRLS	81.75
4	SX XNMF	70.97
5	SX XNWX	63.30
6	SX SWXH	54.34
7	CHILE	41.49

SEMIFINALS**SX XHLD****SX XNMF****ITALIA****CHINA RDFZ****KIDS KO TEAMS****ROUND 4**

SX XNWX	CHINESE TAIPEI B.	36	18	15.52	4.48
SX XHEST	AZSUW AKADEMIABR.	12	28	4.95	15.05
SX HYSW	CHINA RDFZ1	5	19	5.46	14.54
CHINA RDFZ2	GERMANY	14	24	6.57	13.43
SX XHLD	CHINESE TAIPEI W.	13	14	9.61	10.39
AUSSIE KIDS	CHINA RDFZ3	13	20	7.49	12.51
ITALIA	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 5

SX XNWX	SX XHEST	13	25	6.00	14.00
AZSUW AKADEMIABR.	CHINESE TAIPEI B.	10	38	2.49	17.51
CHINA RDFZ1	GERMANY	60	2	20.00	0.00
SX HYSW	CHINA RDFZ2	44	17	17.34	2.66
SX XHLD	CHINA RDFZ3	7	37	2.16	17.84
AUSSIE KIDS	ITALIA	27	31	8.50	11.50
CHINESE TAIPEI W.	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 6

SX XNWX	SX HYSW	33	20	14.28	5.72
CHINA RDFZ1	SX XHEST	41	29	14.00	6.00
CHINESE TAIPEI B.	CHINA RDFZ3	14	13	10.39	9.61
AZSUW AKADEMIABR.	GERMANY	74	23	20.00	0.00
CHINESE TAIPEI W.	ITALIA	41	15	17.16	2.84
CHINA RDFZ2	AUSSIE KIDS	28	37	6.86	13.14
SX XHLD	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 7

SX XNWX	CHINESE TAIPEI W.	8	32	3.22	16.78
CHINA RDFZ1	AZSUW AKADEMIABR.	16	20	8.50	11.50
CHINESE TAIPEI B.	SX XHEST	22	54	1.85	18.15
SX HYSW	AUSSIE KIDS	61	15	19.86	0.14
CHINA RDFZ3	CHINA RDFZ2	36	39	8.86	11.14
SX XHLD	ITALIA	41	13	17.51	2.49
GERMANY	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

ROUND 8

SX XNWX	CHINA RDFZ3	13	11	10.77	9.23
CHINA RDFZ1	CHINESE TAIPEI W.	21	12	13.14	6.86
AZSUW AKADEMIABR.	CHINA RDFZ2	31	19	14.00	6.00
SX XHEST	GERMANY	39	6	18.30	1.70
SX XHLD	AUSSIE KIDS	45	24	16.18	3.82
SX HYSW	ITALIA	31	5	17.16	2.84
CHINESE TAIPEI B.	Bye	0	0	12	0.00

RANKING AFTER QUALIFICATION

1	SX XNWX	105.46
2	SX XHEST	101.37
3	CHINA RDFZ1	100.49
4	AZSUW AKADEMIABR.	100.04
5	SX HYSW	98.27
6	CHINESE TAIPEI BLUE	88.96
7	CHINESE TAIPEI WHITE	85.51
8	SX XHLD	81.99
9	CHINA RDFZ3	76.96
10	CHINA RDFZ2	62.91
11	GERMANY	56.32
12	AUSSIE KIDS	52.45
13	ITALIA	45.27

QUARTERFINALS**SX XNWX****SX XHLD****AZSUW AKADEMIABRYDZA****SX HYSW****CHINA RDFZ1****CHINESE TAIPEI BLUE****SX XHEST****CHINESE TAIPEI WHITE**