



Opatija, 16 July 2010

Bulletin nr 2

Some Like it Hot



And just as well, because it was hot yesterday – both outside and in the playing rooms. At the end of the day's play we knew who had made it to the semi-finals of the three championships. Already we are a third of the way through the tournament.

Today the 36 Junior Pairs in semi-final A battle it out for 25 places in tomorrow's final, where they will be joined by five pairs from semi-final B. In the Youngsters, the 20 pairs in semi-final A are playing for 15 places in the final, where they will be joined by the top five from semi-final B, while in the Girls ten pairs will fight it out in semi-final A for seven places in the final, with the remaining three pairs of finalists coming from semi-final B. Don't forget, there is a significant carry-over from semi-final A to the final, so don't take it easy just

because you think you are doing enough to qualify.

Turkey's Irfan Ilgin and Celal Sahin led the way in the Junior Qualifying stage, ahead of Matteo Montanari and Massimiliano Di Franco (Italy) and Poland's Ilya and Yan Shpuntuou.

Polish pairs took five of the top seven positions in the Youngsters Qualifying. Top spot was taken by Michal Kania and Lukasz Witkowski, ahead of Tobias Polak and Michel Schols of the Netherlands and another Polish pair, Michal Gulczynski and Mateusz Andrzejewski.

A French pair, Claire Chaugny and Carole Puillet topped the Girls Qualifying, then came three Czech pairs – Sona Hajkova and Kristyna Schulzova, Pavla Hoderova and Anna Marie Cerna, and Magdalena and Katerina Ticha.

The Town of Kastav

The town of Kastav was built on a 365m high hill overlooking the Kvarner Bay in the northern part of the Adriatic coast. It is in close vicinity of Rijeka, the largest port in Croatia, and only 15 minutes away from Opatija Riviera, one of the popular tourist destinations in Croatia. Rising above towns teeming with activity, Kastav has managed to preserve its rich history, its valuable architectural monuments, its culture, tradition, and its untouched nature over many centuries. At the same time, keeping up with the times, it developed an up to date entrepreneurial spirit reflected in both attractive and unique tourist offers as well as in traditional industries. Kastav can offer an exquisite blend of delights and business opportunities to every visitor.

The city of Kastav has always and with every right taken pride in its cultural heritage. Its cultural events are the city's most recognisable feature to this day. During the centuries, the town has preserved a substantial part of its

cultural-historical monuments and traditions. Each new generation of Kastav people adds another piece to the complex mosaic of the town's culture. Kastav can pride itself on a highly developed musical tradition as well as on other aspects of mainly amateur cultural activity. During past decades, events such as Kastafsko kulturno leto (The Kastav Summer of Culture) and Festival gitare (The Guitar Festival) have emerged on firm foundations of amateur cultural activities in Kastav. These festivals are ranked among the best summer events in the region. The beginnings of Kastafsko kulturno leto festival date back to 1992 and Festival gitare from 1997.

In short, Kastav has it all – from high quality music and stage performances to folk festivals and carnival parties, from recreation in nature to visits to museums and landmarks, always accompanied with first class gastronomic and oenological delights.



Kastav

Who's Here ?

Youth Championships always provide us with a mix of three kinds of players: very new ones, old hands at youth tournaments, and a few who have already broken into the more senior ranks. Let's see who's on offer here:

It is quite natural for previous medallists in the Junior event to be unable to return, having gone past the age of 26 in the meantime. One of the medallists of Wroclaw 2008 does return: Matteo Montanari of Italy, who won a bronze medal last time. A remarkable stayer is Bob Drijver of the Netherlands, who won a bronze medal in Hungary in 2003 (then just aged 16 and playing with his older brother). He plays here with Tim Verbeek, who won the World Junior Pairs last year in Istanbul.

On the other hand, the medallists in the Youngsters usually can return to the championships, most often in the Junior Category now. Yet only one of the five medallists from Poland is back here: Aleksander Krych, who won gold in Wroclaw. He partners Jan Betley, silver medallist from two years earlier in Slovakia. Also here are Bartlomiej Iglar and Artur Machno, gold medallists then, as well as Pierre Franceschetti and Andrea Landry, who won bronze. Andrea plays here with Aymeric Lebatteux, while Pierre partners Nicolas Lhuissier; those two were bronze medallists from Istanbul. Pierre, Aymeric and Nicolas are also reigning Youngster Team World champions.

Gold in 2003 in the Youngsters went to Dutchmen Jacco Hop and Vincent De Pagter, and they must certainly be in the running for a Junior medal now.

Natalia Sakowska, who won gold in the Girls in 2008, is back, but she competes among the Open Juniors this time. Pavla Hoderova of the Czech Republic, bronze last time, tries to do better here. The other Girl medallists have passed the age limit.

We should also probably mention Frantisek Kralik and Magdalena Ticha (Czech Republic Youngsters, Girls, respectively) who won the World Junior IMP Pairs last year, and Robin Fellus, Giuseppe Delle Cave and Eugenio Mistretta (Italy), who won the Junior Board-a-Match.



Aleksander Krych



Jan Betley

Players who represented their countries at the European Team Championships in Ostend last month include Janis Bethers of Latvia, Adele Gogoman of Austria, Lara Ruso of Croatia and Magdalena Ticha of the Czech Republic.. Finally, one player not only made a mark on the senior scene, but even managed to qualify for the World Championships next year in Velthoven, the Netherlands.

Cristina Giampietro was a member, in Ostend, of the German Women's team that qualified for the Venice Cup by finishing fourth. Here's Cristina in action against England:

Board 19

♠ 9 6	
South	♥ K Q 9 4
Deals	♦ 7 5 3
E/W Vul	♣ 9 7 4 2

♠ A 5 3 2	N	♠ K Q J 10 8
♥ A 10 7 6	W	♥ J 3 2
♦ A K 4	E	♦ 8 6
♣ 6 3	S	♣ Q J 5

♠ 7 4
♥ 8 5
♦ Q J 10 9 2
♣ A K 10 8

West	North	East	South
Nehmert	Smith	Giamp'o	Brock
—	—	—	1♦
Dble	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led the king of clubs and switched to the queen of diamonds. Cristina won in dummy, drew trumps and eliminated the diamonds before exiting with the queen of clubs. South won and fatally returned the ten of clubs. Declarer played a heart to the eight (wrong time to show distribution), ten and queen, endplaying North, and +620 when declarer put in the jack on North's heart exit.

In the other room:

West	North	East	South
Dhondy	Auken	Senior	VAR'm
—	—	—	1♦*
Dble	1♥	2♠	2NT*
4♠	All Pass		

Same lead and switch here, declarer drawing trumps and then exiting at once with the jack of clubs. Did that make it harder for South to find the essential heart switch? At any rate when she continued with a diamond declarer could win in dummy, ruff a diamond, cash a club for a heart discard and play a heart to the ten and king. However, when North exited with a heart declarer went wrong by playing the three and was one down when the eight forced the ace.

Remember that South had opened the bidding at both tables and at this one North had responded 1♥. Combine that with the fact that players open very light these days (not only strong clubbers) and you will see that declarer's decision at both tables was not a simple one.

Our editor has inside information, telling us that East could not imagine a player of South's calibre to not play hearts from her actual holding given two opportunities.

Anyway, Giampietro's winning guess gave Germany 12 IMPs.



Cristina Giampietro

Youngsters' Pairs Session One

If you are going to watch Youngsters then why not watch real youngsters, I thought. So my choice for the first qualifying session was an easy one. I had been told that the Dutch Stougie brothers, Leen (13) and Marc (14), were the youngest pair in the tournament so that was who I watched. Little did I know that I had been fed false information and that there was a yet younger pair playing from Israel – well, that would give me someone to watch in the second session.

I started at Board 28, where the young brothers were up against Itamar Ginossar and Adam Reiter of Israel.



Marc Stougie

Board 28
 West Deals ♠ 7 3
 N-S Vul ♥ Q 5
 ♦ A Q 8 5 4
 ♣ K Q 9 4

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 4
 ♥ 10 9 8 6 4 3 2
 ♦ 3 2
 ♣ 8 7 2

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Marc	Reiter	Leen
1♣	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Leen led the three of diamonds – low, queen and jack. Marc thought for a few seconds then worked out that the three was only consistent with a shortage so continued with ace and a third diamond for a ruff. There was an unavoidable club loser so that was one down; –50.

Board 29
 North Deals ♠ A 10
 Both Vul ♥ J 6
 ♦ Q J 10 9 5 3
 ♣ 10 4 3

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K J 4
 ♥ Q 8
 ♦ K 6 2
 ♣ A J 8 7 2

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Marc	Reiter	Leen
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♥	2♦	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Youthful optimism got the better of both brothers on this deal. While the potential to run six diamond tricks is a temptation from South's point of view, if North's diamonds are good enough to run and he has a heart stopper, it will be very fortunate to also find him with a ninth trick, so perhaps to pass 3♦ is the disciplined call. Three No Trump was horrible. Perhaps also, North might have considered that his partner had passed over 2♥, which would usually be a weak no trump type or a minimum with long clubs. Even looking at some help in hearts, 3NT was unlikely to be successful facing such a hand.

Marc threw too many clubs from dummy on the run of the hearts and Ginossar's club switch now established two winners there also. The contract was five down for -500.

Board 30 ♠ A J 10 8 7 3
 East Deals ♥ A 4
 None Vul ♦ J
 ♣ 9 6 5 3

♠ 4 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%; height: 100%;"> <tr><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">N</td><td style="width: 25%;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">S</td><td style="width: 25%;"></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q 9 5	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ K 5 3 2		♥ 10 9										
♦ A K 10 7 5		♦ 8 6 4 3 2										
♣ 7 2		♣ A Q										

♠ 6
 ♥ Q J 8 7 6
 ♦ Q 9
 ♣ K J 10 8 4

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Marc	Reiter	Leen
—	—	1♦	1♥
2♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♦	3♠	Dble	All Pass

No doubt some would choose an unusual 2 NT overcall with the South cards but Leen a simple 1♥ bid. As it happens, 2NT would have worked out well as it finds the club fit. Ginossar cuebid to show a constructive diamond raise and Marc introduced his spades. He can hardly be blamed for taking the push to 3♠ over 3♦, but Adam Reiter's double suggested that he might have done the wrong thing.

With 3♦ making – if the defence gets its spade ruff then the club loser goes away on the spades – the key in 3♠ doubled was to get out for one down and -100. Reiter led a diamond, which Ginossar won. He continued the suit so Marc ruffed and played two rounds of spades. Back came a third diamond and declarer was forced again. Marc ruffed and led a club but Reiter won, drew the remaining trumps and led a diamond. The contract was three down for -500.

Minus 100 was achievable. Declarer needs to play a club at trick three, while there is still a trump in dummy. The defence cannot fruitfully play a third diamond now and declarer can win any return and play two rounds of spades. If declarer can then resist

playing a third trump at his next turn in an attempt to make his contract, he will escape for one down, losing three spades and one in each minor.

Board 31 ♠ A K Q J 7
 South Deals ♥ 9 8 4
 N-S Vul ♦ 10 6 5
 ♣ A 4

♠ 10 9 5	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%; height: 100%;"> <tr><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">N</td><td style="width: 25%;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">S</td><td style="width: 25%;"></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 4	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ 7 5		♥ K Q J 10 6 2										
♦ 3		♦ A K 9 8 7										
♣ K Q 10 9 8 3 2		♣ 7										

♠ 8 6 3 2
 ♥ A 3
 ♦ Q J 4 2
 ♣ J 6 5

West	North	East	South
Fischer	Marc	Konkoly	Leen
—	—	—	Pass
3♣	Dble	4♥	Dble
All Pass			

Next up were Hungary's Brigitta Fischer and Csaba Konkoly. Here, Fischer opened with a routine club pre-empt and over Marc's double Konkoly jumped to 4♥. Leen could hardly commit to 4♠ on four low spades and a scattered eight-count, so he doubled instead, ending the auction.

If the defence can lead trumps quickly enough to prevent a diamond ruff, 4♥ can be down two. Leen led the queen of diamonds and Marc followed with the ten. No doubt this was the correct systemic card but it opened up interesting possibilities for declarer and Konkoly was not slow in taking advantage of them. He won the ace of diamonds and returned the nine, pitching a club when Leen played low. The eight of diamonds was ruffed and now Konkoly played dummy's remaining heart to his jack. Leen won the ace and played a spade and the defence could only take two black tricks; -590.

South did not know that declarer had both remaining diamonds, but he should have played one anyway. On the actual layout the ensuing ruff would have meant one down. But there was surely no danger of any black tricks disappearing, so the attempt to give

partner a diamond ruff could not cost even if unsuccessful.

Board 32

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ —
♥ A J
♦ K 9 8 7 6 5
♣ K 7 5 4 3

♠ K Q 10 8 4 3 2
♥ K 10 5
♦ A 3
♣ 9

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A J 9 7
♥ 9 7 3 2
♦ Q 2
♣ A 6 2

♠ 6 5
♥ Q 8 6 4
♦ J 10 4
♣ Q J 10 8

Fischer opened 4♠ and played there. Marc had no particularly attractive lead and chose a low diamond. Of course, that cost a trick as dummy's queen held. Fischer drew trumps, eliminating clubs along the way. She cashed the ♦A, crossed to dummy with a trump and led a heart to the ten and jack, endplaying Marc to give the overtrick; +650.

Board 33

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 10 7 2
♥ Q 8
♦ Q J 10 5
♣ K J 6

♠ J 6
♥ A 10 3 2
♦ A 7 6 4
♣ 9 8 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 8 5
♥ K 7 4
♦ 8 3 2
♣ A 7 5 4 3

♠ A Q 9 4 3
♥ J 9 6 5
♦ K 9
♣ Q 10

West	North	East	South
Fischer	Marc	Konkoly	Leen
—	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

A normal auction saw a normal contract reached. Alas for the brothers, a normal result followed of one down. Fischer led the two of clubs – low, ace, ten – and back came a second club to the queen and king. Leen drew trumps in two rounds

ending in hand and led the king of diamonds. Looking at a dummy full of minor-suit winners, Fischer had no option but to try ace and another heart, so the defence had its four top winners.



Leen Stougie

When he has gained a little experience, Leen might try the nine of diamonds instead of the king. A sleepy West may play low and now declarer can overtake in dummy and pitch the king of diamonds on the winning club, losing just two hearts and the club ace.

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 3
♥ A 5 3
♦ K Q 10 9 7
♣ 9 3 2

♠ 10 6 5 4
♥ K Q 9 8
♦ 6 3
♣ Q 10 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q 2
♥ J 6 2
♦ A J 2
♣ A J 6 4

♠ A J 9 8
♥ 10 7 4
♦ 8 5 4
♣ K 8 7

West	North	East	South
Leroy	Marc	Ertel	Leen
—	Pass	INT	All Pass

A German pair came to the table and Niko Ertel soon found himself in INT. Leen did not like to lead from a broken four-card spade holding into a strong no trump so instead chose the ten of hearts. Ertel put up

the king and Marc won immediately to switch to the seven of diamonds. that looks to be the right play, but it just made declarer's life easier when the jack held the trick. He crossed to the eight of hearts to run the queen of clubs. Leen took the king and tried the nine of spades, when perhaps a diamond is a better play. Ertel played low from dummy, won the king of spades and cashed out his nine tricks for +150.

Board 2 ♠ K Q 7 3
 East Deals ♥ 3
 N-S Vul ♦ K Q 7 6 2
 ♣ A J 3

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

♠ J 8 6 5
 ♥ A Q 9 5
 ♦ A J 10
 ♣ 6 5

West	North	East	South
Leroy	Marc	Ertel	Leen
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

More youthful exuberance led to a slam which, on a non-club lead, might have some play, but which always looks doomed on the actual layout. Ertel led a diamond and the contract was two down for -200.

Board 3 ♠ 9
 South Deals ♥ K J 10 8 5 3
 E-W Vul ♦ A 6
 ♣ A 10 5 4

♠ 7 3	N	♠ A K J 5
♥ A 7 4	W	♥ 9 6 2
♦ 7 5 4 3 2	S	♦ K Q 8
♣ 9 8 2	E	♣ K 7 3

♠ Q 10 8 6 4 2
 ♥ Q
 ♦ J 10 9
 ♣ Q J 6

West	North	East	South
Leroy	Marc	Ertel	Leen
—	—	—	2♦
Pass	2♠	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

Leen opened a multi and Marc's 2♠ response showed interest facing a weak two in hearts but not opposite spades. Ertel made a take-out double when perhaps 2NT would have been a better idea. Leroy used Lebensohl to show a weak hand with diamonds and played in 3♦ on a spade lead.

Leroy won the ace of spades and played the king of diamonds off the dummy. Marc won the ace and switched to the ten of hearts for the queen and ace. Declarer cashed the queen of diamonds then lost a card from his hand and discarded a heart on the ♠K. When he next led a low spade with the intention of ruffing he realised that he had revoked. That cost a trick and the contract was three down for -300.

Marc and Leen ended the session in 29th place out of 44 with 48.65%.

Football Scores

The World Cup has only just ended and the Champions League has started again:

Liepajas Metalurgs – Sparta Prague	0–3
Aktobe – Olimpi Rustavi	2–0
Levadia – Debrecen	1–1
Partizan – Pyunik	3–1
Inter Baku – Lech Poznan	0–1
Dinamo Zagreb – Koper	5–1
Litex Lovech – Rudar Pljevlja	1–0
Birkirkara – Žilina	1–0
Sheriff Tiraspol – Dinamo Tirana	3–1
Hapoel Tel Aviv – Željeznica	5–0
Omonia – Renova	3–0
Red Bull Salzburg – HB Tórshavn	5–0
Bohemians – The New Saints	1–0
BATE – FH	5–1
AIK – Jeunesse Esch	1–0
Linfield – Rosenborg	0–0
Ekranas – HJK Helsinki	1–0

Return legs on 20 or 21 July

Nice Defence

Board 3 ♠ 9
 South Deals ♥ K J 10 8 5 3
 E-W Vul ♦ A 6
 ♣ A 10 5 4

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

♠ Q 10 8 6 4 2
 ♥ Q
 ♦ J 10 9
 ♣ Q J 6

West	North	East	South
—	Robertson	—	Paske
—	—	—	2♠
Pass	Pass	2NT	All Pass

England's Graeme Robertson found a fine defensive play on this deal from the first qualifying session of the Junior Pairs. His partner, Ben Paske, opened with a weak 2♠ on the South hand and, after two passes, West overcalled 2NT, where he played.

Paske judged not to lead his mediocre spade suit, selecting the jack of diamonds instead. Robertson won the ace and placed the king of hearts on the table. His idea was to force the only entry off the table while the diamonds were still blocked. This succeeds if declarer has queen-doubleton heart, for example. The appearance of Paske's bare queen was a bonus for Robertson. He could continue hearts until the ace was taken and, when declarer led a club towards his king, Robertson could win and had the rest of the hearts to cash for two down; -200.

Just Deserts

For those with limited English, if someone gets their 'just deserts', it means that they get what they deserve – what happens serves them right. That sums up my view on East/West and, in particular, East, on this deal.

Second Session of the Qualification:

Board 20 ♠ 6 4 2
 West Deals ♥ 5 4 3 2
 Both Vul ♦ Q 9 8 5
 ♣ 8 3

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

♠ K Q 8
 ♥ K J 9 7 6
 ♦ A
 ♣ A K Q J

West	North	East	South
Stankovic	Andrzej'i	Mastic	Merynda
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dble
1♠	Pass	2♦	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Rdbl
2♠	3♥	Pass	4♥
Dble	All Pass		

You open 1♦ in third seat on a ten-count including a bare queen and your opponents stop in 2♥ – why on earth would you reopen? While West's double is not exactly secure either, East really got what he deserved when North/South now bid up to 4♥ doubled and made it. Perhaps that is why I was given the story on a piece of paper which gave the names of three players but not that of East?

West led a diamond to declarer's ace and Poland's Grzegorz Merynda guessed to try the nine of hearts from hand. West erred by covering with the ten and East won the queen. East returned a club so Merynda won and played the king of hearts to West's ace. He ruffed the diamond return, drew the last trump and could throw spades from dummy on his winning clubs then ruff the third spade in dummy for a nice +790.

Did I say that West erred when he put in the ten of hearts? Suppose that he plays low. East can win and play a diamond, which declarer ruffs. When he now plays a heart to West's ace, a spade to the ace followed by a third diamond promotes the ten of hearts for the setting trick.

Big Numbers, The Good, the Bad and the Ugly, and Kees for the Defense

By Kees Tammens

Some people say that kibitzing is an easy job. I don't agree. First of all you desire that 'your pair' scores well. Then you like to see bridge at a high technical and tactical level. Third, last but certainly not least, you hope that the decisions you make yourself are winning ones. And it is not easy to refrain from peeking in the hand of an opponent. Your own solution has to be right. So the part of the kibitzer is filled with emotions, wishes, hopes and thoughts.

In the first twenty hands of the first day of the championship, many juniors were already severely tested, and so was the kibitzer.

I decided to follow mainly Vincent de Pagter and Jacco Hop, already longtime contenders in U-20 and Junior bridge, and winners of the gold in Jesolo (2007).

West	North	East	South
VLankv'ld	de Pagter	vd Bos	Hop
—	—	—	1♥
4♦	6♥	Pass	?

And now South (Hop) looked at:

♠	K Q 7 2
♥	A K J 9 4
♦	—
♣	K 10 5 4

Oh hell, and that on board one of this championship!

Partner looks to have both black aces and good heart support, but does he know about ♥A and ♥K, the two black kings and, above all, the void in diamonds? The kibitzer admits to have bid the grand but the junior wisely stopped in small slam; nobody likes to go down on the first board of the tournament. (full board in next column)

Board 19
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 3
♥ 6 5 3
♦ A K Q J 8 7 6 4
♣ J

♠ A J 10 8 4
♥ 10 8 2
♦ —
♣ A Q 9 8 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 6 5
♥ Q 7
♦ 10 9 5 3 2
♣ 7 6 3

♠ K Q 7 2
♥ A K J 9 4
♦ —
♣ K 10 5 4

Two boards later things really got tough, or ugly:

Board 21
North Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A 6 5 2
♥ 7 2
♦ K 8
♣ 7 6 4 3 2

♠ 3
♥ Q 8 6 5
♦ A J 10 9 5
♣ Q J 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K J 10 9 7
♥ K 10 4 3
♦ 6 3
♣ 10 8

♠ Q 8 4
♥ A J 9
♦ Q 7 4 2
♣ A K 9

West	North	East	South
VLankv'ld	de Pagter	vd Bos	Hop
—	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	Dble	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	All Pass	

North/South play that redouble shows worries about the heart suit but, if North had asked, West would have told him that this double asked specifically for a spade lead.

Then the redouble would have been pointed at the spade stopper. Well, probably South would have placed ace-king of spades in East and would have passed any way.

So North/South on their way to minus 400? No, West chose as his lead the ♠A, after which ten tricks were quickly claimed when the finesse for ♦K proved to be onside. That was the first big number of the event; +1400 and all the matchpoints.

A suggestion to all juniors: Don't hesitate to tell about your big numbers – it starts over 1000 – to the bulletin staff. We have all been young and have experienced those boards.

Board 27 ♠ K Q J 10 9
 South Deals ♥ A 5
 None Vul ♦ A 7
 ♣ J 8 4 2

♠ 6 4 2
 ♥ J 6 4 2
 ♦ J
 ♣ 10 7 6 5 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 8 7
 ♥ Q 10 9 7
 ♦ 10 9 8 6 4
 ♣ A 9

♠ A 5 3
 ♥ K 8 3
 ♦ K Q 5 3 2
 ♣ K Q

The Dutch juniors became quiet, too passive? Interesting theoretical bidding stuff.

West	North	East	South
—	De Pagter	—	Hop
Pass	2♥	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	Pass	2♠
All Pass			4♠

Was 3NT enough? (should North instead have bid 4NT?), should South have cuebid 4♣ on his way to 4♠ and would North have accepted this invitation? A big hand for the pairs who found their way to 6NT.



Kees kibitzing Jacco and Vincent

Board 30 ♠ A J 10 8 7 3
 East Deals ♥ A 4
 None Vul ♦ J
 ♣ 9 6 5 3

♠ 4 2
 ♥ K 5 3 2
 ♦ A K 10 7 5
 ♣ 7 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q 9 5
 ♥ 10 9
 ♦ 8 6 4 3 2
 ♣ A Q

♠ 6
 ♥ Q J 8 7 6
 ♦ Q 9
 ♣ K J 10 8 4

Is a two-suiter a two-suiter or does it require any limitations?

West	North	East	South
—	De Pagter	—	Hop
2NT	All Pass	1♦	1♥

The clubs never came into the auction and disaster was on for the Dutch pair when North's lead was the ♠J. Declarer won the king and played diamonds. A second spade from West would have guaranteed the eighth trick but declarer erred and went one off, still a good result against -150 in a club contract.

Some good, some bad was the mood in the next series of boards and the Dutch recuperated with a fine defense.

Board 5 ♠ 4 2
 North Deals ♥ K 7 2
 N-S Vul ♦ 6 5 4 3
 ♣ A 9 6 5

♠ Q 3
 ♥ 9 6 4
 ♦ K Q 10 8
 ♣ Q 8 7 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A J 9 6
 ♥ 8 5 3
 ♦ A J 7 2
 ♣ K 10

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

West was in INT after East opened the bidding with 1♦, a take-out double by South and INT by West. North, Vincent de Pagter, chose his best minor, a small heart for the ace from South, who played the heart queen

then ten for North's king. The crucial moment: North found the winning line: he played a small club to the ten, jack and queen. Declarer needed the finesse for the ♠K, after which North/South collected their two club tricks.

A second suggestion: report the best defended hands (of yourself, your partner or of your opponents to the bulletin staff'. There is a special prize aka 'Kees for the Defense'.

Board 10 ♠ A 10
 East Deals ♥ A Q
 Both Vul ♦ A 10 7 6 3
 ♣ K 7 4 3

♠ 9 7 6 2
 ♥ 9 6
 ♦ K 9 5
 ♣ J 6 5 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J
 ♥ K J 8 5 4 3
 ♦ J 4 2
 ♣ A Q 8

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

An interesting, and a lot of choices for the declarers in 3NT, with North being the declarer at almost all tables.

Rik van Leeuwen (NED) received the lead of ♦2. He played ♦Q, covered by king and ace, and now the ♠A and ♠10 told him the bad news about the spade suit. He took ♠Q and ♠K, discarding a club from his hand. East threw two hearts. Now ♦8 from dummy and East fell from grace by taking ♦J. A diamond for North, who took his three diamond tricks and and endplayed East in hearts so the ♣K was the ninth trick.

Vincent de Pagter received a heart for his queen. He was looking for overtricks and played a diamond for the queen and king. Next was a heart for the ace but after ace and a second spade the contract was hopeless. Still, with ♦J right and diamonds three-three there were nine tricks. But when the diamond finesse lost declarer was down three.

Aarnout Helmich also got a heart lead but first he cashed ♠A and ♠10 to play the diamond from North, hoping ♦Q would be

an entry. But the 1♥ opening did not contain the vital ♦K for declarer so down was also his fate.

As I leave the table of Jacco and Vincent to go and write this story, I just see a tiny but very delicate 'matchpoint' board.

Board 11 ♠ K Q 8 6
 South Deals ♥ J 9 2
 None Vul ♦ 10 5 2
 ♣ A 7 4

♠ 7 5 4 2
 ♥ Q 10 7 6 4
 ♦ K 8
 ♣ Q 10

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 3
 ♥ A 5 3
 ♦ A 7 6 3
 ♣ 6 5 3 2

♠ J 10 9
 ♥ K 8
 ♦ Q J 9 4
 ♣ K J 9 8

West	North	East	South
—	De Pagter	—	Hop
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥	All Pass	—	—

To let opponents play 2♠ in a Pairs game is almost a mortal sin. And Vincent de Pagter rightly took action and pushed West, who 'knew' there were short spades in dummy, one level higher.

The spade king was led for the ace and a second spade for the nine in South. Three rounds of clubs followed, establishing the second trump trick for North. Rik van Leeuwen and Rens Philipsen (NED) were somewhat unlucky on this board when West opened 2♥, showing both majors. In that case a balancing bid of 2♠ becomes less attractive. And Stefan Svetanov of Bulgaria easily took eight tricks for an excellent matchpoint score.

And how about the score for de Pagter/Hop; I root for 53% but maybe the field is kind for the Dutch pair.

Another suggestion to all juniors (and girls and youngsters of course): send in candidate boards for the election 'The Good, the Bad and the Ugly'.

Sauna Qualifier in the Junior Pairs

Many probably asked themselves if they were in Finland yesterday when they realized that the temperature was rising over 40 degrees Celsius outside and probably around 30 in the playing area – with the air conditioning running at the maximum. Croatia and Opatija for sure was the hot place to be at - feeling like a sauna.

Let's see what happened on some of the boards from the first qualifying session.

Board 13

North Deals
Both Vul

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 8 7 4 3
♥ 3 2
♦ J 10 8
♣ J 10 7 3

West	North	East	South
Gandoglia	Schultz	Busoshii	Gogoman
—	Pass	1♣*	Pass
2♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	6NT	All Pass

4 NT asked for aces and 5♦ showed one.

Adele Gogoman led the jack of diamonds. Busoshii made a quick count of his tricks and realised he had to take the heart finesse to be able to make his contract. With the queen rightly placed he had his thirteen tricks in the bag for the Italian pair. Gandoglia/Busoshii did well to stay out of the grand slam which only was 50%, that's not good enough odds. 29 of the 35 tables in the Junior Pairs bid 6NT, and none took the chance of bidding that grand slam that required a finesse.

Board 14

East Deals
None Vul

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 8 3
♥ A J 9 3
♦ 10 8
♣ Q 10 7 6

West	North	East	South
Gandoglia	Schultz	Busoshii	Gogoman
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♦	1♥
2♦	Dbl	Rdbl	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♦	All Pass

The Austrian pair was in great trouble on the next board. They escaped playing in 3♣ (a double and two down would have been almost all match points) that would have gone several down when Busoshii saved them by bidding a contract that needed help to make. It isn't easy to know who is taking on whom when competitive bidding goes on.



Adele Gogoman

Adele Gogoman didn't give any favours away, she passively led a trump. Schultz won the trick with the ace and played a second round following the map partner had drawn. Busoshii, who didn't want to touch the majors, drew the last trump and tried the club finesse. Schultz won the trick when the finesse lost, and sank into deep thought about his continuation – the right thing would for sure have been to continue the passive route. For some unknown reason he decided to shift to the two of hearts, helping declarer in that suit; Gogoman went in with the ace and exited with the queen of clubs. Declarer cashed his hearts and decided to play North for the jack of spades, by playing a low spade to the nine. Two spades and one trick in each of the other suits meant one down. If Busoshii had guessed the jack of spades correctly he would have made the contract with the gift he got in hearts.

Board 18 ♠ A K 8 3
 East Deals ♥ 9 5
 N-S Vul ♦ J 5 2
 ♣ Q J 6 2

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

West	North	East	South
Ondrej	Oikonom' Barnet	Papayiannis	
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

Obviously the sauna, sorry, the heat in the playing area, also affected the Greek players, who should be more used to the climate than many of the other participants. Papayiannis had managed to stop the bidding on the last makeable level. Ondrej led the ten of diamonds and, for reasons unknown, it must be the heat, the Greek declarer went up with the jack. East

won the trick with the ace and attacked hearts. Papayiannis set up his clubs but never managed to play a diamond up to his hand to score a trick in that suit before the defence had collected six.

At normal temperatures most declarers would have counted his or her tricks to come up with three clubs and two in each major making seven. To get a trick from jack-third facing queen-fourth in diamonds isn't impossible, especially not when the opponents start by attacking the suit.



Ioannis Oikonomopoulos



No need to blame Duccio or Manolo, you earned those zeroes all by yourself

Youngsters Pairs Qualifying

Final Ranking (pending Official Confirmation)

20 pairs qualify to semi-final A

1	KANIA - WITKOWSKI	POL	59,61	21	WIETESKA - LOSIEWICZ	POL	50,44
2	POLAK - SCHOLS	NED	58,69	22	STANGELAND - BAATSTAD	NOR	50,29
3	GULCZYNSKI - ANDRZEJEWSKI	POL	58,03	23	GINOSSAR - REITER	ISR	50,13
4	ZMUDA - KRYSA	POL	56,81	24	CEPONKUS - GRIGORAITIS	LTU	49,57
5	PAUL - FARIA	ENG	56,68	25	SEVEREIJNS - WESTERBEEK	NED	49,43
6	JANECZKO - SZCZYPCZYK	POL	56,26	26	WAGNER - TUBAK	HUN	49,31
7	KLUKOWSKI - BIELAWSKI	POL	56,07	27	BEN DAVID - GORTENSTEIN	ISR	49,22
8	ROWOLD - HOFFMEISTER	GER	55,69	28	STACHNIK - KITA	POL	49,05
9	SIDEROV - DRAGANOV	BUL	55,53	29	SPENCER - LAM	ENG	48,97
10	GULLBERG - KARLSSON	SWE	55,26	30	CHARIGNON - LAFONT	FRA	48,44
11	MAROSEVIC - RUSCH	GER	54,93	31	JASSEM - SMIESZKOL	POL	48,23
12	VERBEEK - LEUFKENS	NED	52,91	32	PETERSEN - HULT	SWE	48,15
13	NAB - BANAS	NED	52,87	33	JACKSON - DOW	ENG	47,80
14	ROBERTS - BRASS	ENG	52,72	34	RACCA - PRUNA	ITA	47,15
15	NIERZWICKI - KOWALEWSKI	POL	52,37	35	HAYWARD - GROOT	ENG	46,58
16	YEKUTIELI - DAR	ISR	52,21	36	KRALIK - BOURA	CZE	46,24
17	HUZEN - VAN BEIJSTERVELDT	NED	51,73	37	ERTEL - LEROY	GER	46,12
18	CALMANOVICI - SAU	ITA	51,11	38	GEMBICKI - RACZ	POL	46,00
19	STOUGIE - STOUGIE	NED	50,80	39	SCHALLER - STOECKLI	SUI	45,59
20	KONKOLY - FISCHER	HUN	50,56	40	DILOVIC - MORETTI	CRO	45,02
				41	GALLIK - JANAS	CZE	42,07
				42	BORGEAUD - STOECKLI	SUI	37,91
				43	HORLOCK - MITCHELL	ENG	35,47
				44	MIJIC - SILJEG	CRO	31,98

Girls Pairs Qualifying

Final Ranking (pending Official Confirmation)

10 pairs qualify to semi-final A

1	PUILLET - CHAUGNY	FRA	63,59	11	BARENDREGT - NAB	NED	49,94
2	HAJKOVA - SCHULZOVA	CZE	61,69	12	MORINA - BURGIO	ITA	49,73
3	HODEROVA - CERNA	CZE	60,35	13	FERRER-LOPEZ - WESOLOWSKA	POL	48,85
4	TICHA - TICHA	CZE	58,86	14	CHAVARRIA - COSTA	ITA	48,38
5	ROSLON - MORGIEL	POL	55,98	15	LE PENSEC - MOURGUES	FRA	47,03
6	HEIM - KAEPPEL	GER	54,97	16	BIRD - O CONNOR	ENG	44,43
7	VLACHOVA - DUDKOVA	CZE	54,05	17	SZTYBER - MAKYMIUK	POL	43,87
8	HOLEKSA - WEINHOLD	POL	53,98	18	MOSZCZYNSKA - PIESIEWICZ	POL	42,15
9	GORNIAK - KEDZIERSKA	POL	52,48	19	BONNEY - BIRCHALL	ENG	41,36
10	SPANGENBERG - SPANGENBERG	NED	50,79	20	LANZUISI - BUTTO	ITA	40,90
				21	ANDERSONE - GARKAJE	LAT	40,54
				22	CEPONKUTE - BANIKONYTE	LTU	37,34



**Do something brilliant and you might
end up in the New York Times
(Phillip Alder has been writing a weekly
column for 20 years)**

Juniors Pairs Qualifying

Final Ranking (pending Official Confirmation)

36 pairs qualify to semi-final A

1	ILGIN - SAHIN	TUR	59,74	37	DELLE CAVE - FELLUS	ITA	50,49
2	MONTANARI - DI FRANCO	ITA	59,56	38	OIKONOMOPOULOS - PAPAYANNIS	GR50,44	
3	SHPUNTOU - SHPUNTOU	POL	57,02	39	ANASTASATOS - KOUGIOUMTZI	GRE	50,29
4	POSTIC - SOSTARIC	CRO	56,84	40	BAHNIK - BARNET	CZE	50,15
5	SAKOWSKA - BUTRYN	POL	56,74	41	VAN LANKVELD - VAN DEN BOS	NET	50,07
6	SPASOV - SKORCHEV	BUL	56,33	42	THIZY - COUDERT	FRA	49,73
7	SIKORA - TUCZYNSKI	POL	56,23	43	JURISIC - JELIC	SER	49,69
8	WASIAK - TACZEWSKA	POL	55,91	44	PHILIPSEN - VAN LEEUWEN	NED	49,47
9	ORTH - GIAMPIETRO	GER	55,90	45	MASTIC - STANKOVIC	CRO	49,38
10	KATERBAU - REHDER	GER	55,42	46	SERDAR - OZER	TUR	48,98
11	LEBATTEUX - LANDRY	FRA	55,41	47	ELLERBECK - BRINCK	GER	48,88
12	TSVETANOV - DONEV	BUL	55,34	48	LHUISSIER - FRANCESCHETTI	FRA	48,77
13	BETHERS - BALASOVS	LAT	54,99	49	IGLA - MACHNO	POL	48,65
14	LORENZINI - GROSSET	FRA	54,60	50	BOEKHORST - BERGE	FRA	47,93
15	ERIKSSON - HEDSTROM	SWE	54,36	51	SUZER - TASKIN	TUR	47,52
16	PASKE - ROBERTSON	ENG	54,22	52	BINA - WADL	AUT	47,49
17	DARKADAKIS - ROUSSOS	GRE	54,13	53	RUSO - GUMZEJ	CRO	47,44
18	GOGOMAN - SCHULZ	AUT	53,87	54	BEKERE - ILZINS	LAT	47,02
19	HELMICH - HOP	NED	53,87	55	SUSTER - BARAK	SVK	46,92
20	KRYCH - BETLEY	POL	53,50	56	SCHIASSI - CASIMIRRI	ITA	46,59
21	EGGELING - GRUNKE	GER	53,43	57	MROCZKOWSKI - WOJCIESZEK	POL	46,54
22	VALO - POULAT	FRA	53,32	58	BOZZAI - LAZAR	HUN	46,25
23	SCHAFFER - VAN DEN HOVE	BEL	52,97	59	HUBERSCHWILLER - BARNE	FRA	46,11
24	BETHERS - LORENC	LAT	52,85	60	GANDOGLIA - BUSOSCHII	ITA	45,48
25	VERBEEK - DRIJVER	NED	52,63	61	PENDRIGH - BOISNAULT	FRA	45,28
26	VROUSTIS - DOXIADIS	GRE	52,33	62	IVANCIC - KESIC	CRO	45,04
27	KOCLAR - UCAR	TUR	52,28	63	KAUTNY - HOPFLER	AUT	44,81
28	VON BUEREN - BOVET	SUI	52,16	64	SYNNOTT - O CONNOR	IRL	43,57
29	SOFIOS - TOGIAS	GRE	51,83	65	ANDRZEJOWSKI - MERYNDA	POL	43,19
30	KAZMIERCZAK - JOCHYMSKI	POL	51,51	66	SAFRAN - OLSCHNEGGER	AUT	43,19
31	GALAZKA - KRUSZEWSKI	POL	51,47	67	MARGOT - AMIGUET	SUI	42,39
32	DONDIVIC - STANICIC	CRO	51,45	68	PURSTL - WEINBERGER	AUT	42,10
33	DESSAIN - CONSTANTIN	ENG	51,25	69	BOYD - GORMALLY	IRL	41,25
34	MISTRETTA - ZANASI	ITA	50,73	70	MORKEN - BARTNES	NOR	41,14
35	HOP - DE PAGTER	NED	50,66	71	KRUZIC - TOTH	CRO	40,85
36	LANNI - FAILLA	ITA	50,66	72	GUC - DELAC	CRO	37,06
				73	PETERSEN - BJORKSTRAND	SWE	35,61



Do you like Croatia? Why not come to the Pula festival in September – Lara and Tihana will welcome you with open arms!

Please do not forget to wear your team's uniforms

Today's Schedule

10:00-13:30 Semi-finals first session
15:30-19:00 Semi-finals second session

The Semi-finals of each competition will be played in the same room as the qualifications