



Opatija, 17 July 2010

Bulletin nr 4

Congratulations



Konstantinos Doxiadis and Vassilis Vroustis

Congratulations to all the winners, whether of a title or a medal, and to everyone who has helped to make these championships a great success, from the Croatian organisers, through the EBL workers, to all the players. And thank you to the hotel staff also, who have made us all very comfortable here this week.

The winners of the European Junior Pairs Championship are Konstantinos Doxiadis and Vassilis Vroustis of Greece, whose final score was 55.98%, 0.25% clear of silver-medalists, Janis Bethers and Martin Lorencs of Latvia on 55.73%. The bronze was won by Joanna Taczewska and Artur Wasiak of Poland with 54.80%.

The new European Youngsters Pairs champions are Daniel Gullberg and

Johan Karlsson of Sweden, who scored 56.75%. The silver medals were won by Roman Kowalewski and Lukasz Nierzwicki of Poland with a score of 54.67% and the bronze went to another Polish pair, Maciej Bielawski and Michal Klukowski with 54.44%.

The 2010 European Girls Pairs champions are Polish pair, Magdalena Holeksa and Izabela Weinhold, who scored 57.94%. Second were the Czech Ticha sisters, Magdalena and Katerina, on 54.04%, while the bronze medals were won by Carole Puillet and Claire Chaugny of France with 53.20%.

The 10th European Youth Pairs Championships are over and it remains only to wish you all a safe journey home and to look forward to the 11th championships in 2012.

City of Rijeka

No one would accuse Rijeka of being a must-see destination but it certainly has enough sights to keep a visitor busy for a day or so. The Austro-Hungarian buildings lining the city centre create an appealingly Old Europe atmosphere and there are a number of interesting churches and museums. Most impressive is Trsat Castle, perched on a high hill overlooking the city. Try to come to Rijeka for the Rijeka Carnival, a splendid event and the largest carnival in Croatia.

Taking a walk

Head right to **Korzo**, Rijeka's pedestrian promenade that runs parallel to the port. There you will see Rijeka's most distinctive monument, the **Clock Tower**. As one of the few monuments to have survived Rijeka's devastating earthquake of 1750, it has a special place in the hearts of Rijekans. The still-functioning clock dates from the 17th century and was once part of the **city gates**. Go through the arch under the clock tower and you'll come to the **Roman gate**. Don't expect the kind of triumphal arch you'll see in Pula: this Roman gate is a simple affair just to mark the entrance to the ancient and now disappeared Roman fort. Now return to Korzo and head west to the Hotel Bonavia. Adjacent to the hotel are stairs leading to the former **Governor's Palace**. The building's architecture reflects its administrative importance as the residence of the Hungarian governor when Rijeka was under Hungarian control in 1869. If you liked the architecture in Budapest you'll love this impressive structure. The architect was Alajos Hauszmann, whose other works include the Buda Castle and the Palace of Justice in Budapest. Inside is the **Naval &**

Historical Museum, with plenty of exhibits for maritime-buffs. Also interesting are the rooms decorated in period style. A little further to the north-east is the **Natural History Museum**, an especially good stop if you have kids. They'll love the new **aquarium** with its multimedia displays and the **botanical gardens** make a cool retreat on a hot day.

Nightlife

One of the advantages of Rijeka, is that one can reach almost every desired destination – by foot.

For example, from a lovely and cosy jazz club Tunel, to an alternative club Arca Fiumana, you will not need more than 10 minutes. It is important to mention that Arca Fiumana is actually – a boat. Another boat/club just nearby, is Nina 2. The music you can find there is house, r'n'b and pop. Just across the street there is Capitano, with a similar music to the one on Nina 2. On the main street, Korzo, only two minutes away, you can find clubs, El Rio and Pommery bar. The entrance is free in all of the mentioned bars! A bit further away is a posh club, Terminal. It is probably the club with the most beautiful location in Rijeka.

A bus drive from Opatija to Rijeka takes 30 minutes. There is a direct line, number 32. Taxis are available all night, in both directions.



The Clock Tower

Magical Mateusz

How many tricks would you expect to make as North in 3NT on this deal from Semi-final Session Two?

Board 2	♠ A Q 3
East Deals	♥ K 2
N-S Vul	♦ A J 9 7
	♣ Q 10 9 8
♠ K 5	♠ J 9 8 7
♥ 10 7 4	♥ J 6
♦ 6 4	♦ K 10 8 5
♣ A K 6 4 3 2	♣ J 7 5
	♠ 10 6 4 2
	♥ A Q 9 8 5 3
	♦ Q 3 2
	♣ —

West	North	East	South
—	Andrz'ski	Pass	Gulc'ki
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2♥

Mateusz Andrzejewski and Michal Gulczynski topped the qualifiers for today's Youngsters Final and must have a good chance of finishing in the medals – which we will, of course, know by the time you read this. Gulczynski's 2♣ was weak with both majors and 2♦ enquired. Two Hearts said that the hearts were at least as good as the spades, and Andrzejewski closed proceedings with a jump to everybody's favourite contract. East led the five of diamonds round to declarer's seven. Mateusz returned a low diamond at trick two and East did not put up the king. That proved to be his last chance. Declarer won the queen of diamonds and took the spade finesse. When the queen won, he continued with six rounds of hearts, throwing all his clubs away. Finally, a spade to the ace and a spade exit to

East's jack forced East to lead from his king of diamonds into the ace-jack at trick twelve. Andrzejewski had made four diamond tricks and twelve in all for a huge score.



Mateusz Andrzejewski

Miraculous Martins

Janis Bethers of Latvia came in to tell us about two hands played by his partner, Martins Lorencs, in the second session of the Junior A semi-final.



Martins Lorencs

They helped Bethers/Lorencs to qualify for the final in a comfortable 14th place.

Board 6 ♠ K 7 2
 East Deals ♥ 4 2
 E-W Vul ♦ Q J 9 5
 ♣ Q 6 5 2

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

♠ Q J 10 6 3
 ♥ K 7 5 3
 ♦ A 7
 ♣ 7 3

West	North	East	South
Lorencs		Bethers	
—	—	1♣	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

South's 2♦ overall of the Polish Club opening showed both majors, but not necessarily five-five. Lorencs could not bid 2♥ at this point as that would have been a minor-suit take-out. He passed but then doubled for take-out when North's 2♠ preference came around. When Bethers responded 3♦, he followed through with 3♥, natural but not forcing, and played there.

North led a heart, ducked to declarer's queen. Lorencs led a club to the eight then repeated the heart finesse. Next he led a diamond to the jack, king and ace and South returned the queen of spades, ducked, followed by the spade jack to dummy's ace. Needing to bring himself down to the same trump length as South, Lorencs ruffed the last spade then led a second diamond to North's queen.

North had to lead a minor now and chose a club, dummy winning with the jack. Lorencs played the winning ten of

diamonds and South ruffed. He over-ruffed then cashed the ace of hearts, drawing the last trump in the process – and look what happened!

North was down to the boss diamond and queen-other club and the ace of hearts squeezed him. If he threw the diamond, dummy would have the last two tricks with the ♣A and ♦8, while if he threw a club Lorencs would discard dummy's blocking ace of clubs and win the last two tricks with his king and ten.

Very nicely played for an overtrick and +170. South could have held the contract to nine by not ruffing the ♦10, of course.

Board 26 ♠ 8 5
 East Deals ♥ 10 9 4 3 2
 Both Vul ♦ 9 7 4 3
 ♣ A K

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

♠ A Q J 7 6 4
 ♥ —
 ♦ A Q J 8 2
 ♣ Q 7

West	North	East	South
Lorencs		Bethers	
—	—	2♦	Dble
2♥	Dble	All Pass	

Two Diamonds showed around 8-10 with four spades and five or more hearts, a sort of mini-Flannery. I'm not sure that doubling then passing partner's penalty double in your void is the best way to deal with the South hand, but there is no denying that the opening bid makes life difficult. Here, 6♦ can be made by North/South despite the losing trump finesse, and 2♥ doubled proved to be no problem at all for a declarer as skilled as Lorencs.

North led the king of clubs then switched to the eight of spades, ducked to the jack. South tried a switch to the queen of diamonds but declarer had no problem in playing the king and he continued with a club to North's ace. A second spade through went to the ten, queen and ruff, and now Lorencs led his smallest club and North did not see the need to ruff, discarding a diamond instead. Lorencs threw dummy's remaining diamond then ruffed his diamond with the heart six, ruffed a spade with the king, and led another club. This time North ruffed with the nine but Lorencs simply discarded from dummy and had four heart tricks to come for +870.

♠♥♦♣

Winning Defence

The Croatians came to tell us about this deal from the Junior semi-final, second session.

Board 4	♠ 5 4 2
West Deals	♥ 10 7 6 5 2
Both Vul	♦ 3
	♣ J 10 7 3
♠ K Q 6	♠ A 10 8 3
♥ A Q 4	♥ K 3
♦ Q 9 8 6	♦ J 10 5 4 2
♣ Q 9 5	♣ A 6
	♠ J 9 7
	♥ J 9 8
	♦ A K 7
	♣ K 8 4 2

On the first round of the session, pairs from the same country played against each other where possible. In both the A and B semi-finals, a Croatian North led the jack of clubs against 3NT, ducked to the king, and South returned a club to dummy's ace. Declarer could only ever make nine

tricks now and we were told that nobody else had held the contract to nine. Presumably, a heart had been led at most tables and now declarer has time to get the diamonds going, with the best that the defence can do being for South to win the first diamond and switch to a low club, hoping that if declarer has the queen he will not gamble by playing it. Ten tricks were made at several tables around the semi-finals, though eleven was more common.

Actually, while nobody else in Junior semi-final A held 3NT to nine tricks, it did happen at two or three other tables around the various rooms. Still, well done to the Croatians – Mate Mestric and Ivan Postic for finding the club lead, and Andrea Stankovic and Zoran Sostaric for continuing the suit.



Mate Mestric & Andrea Stankovic

Zoran Sostaric & Ivan Postic



Fancy a game of checkers, anyone?

Girls Final – Session One

Philip Alder was following the Girls final and came across an interesting round featuring the French pair, Carole Puillet and Claire Chaugny and Poland's Monika Makymiuk and Anna Szyber. The two pairs had taken very different routes to the final. The French pair had topped the first stage and come third in semi-final A, while the Poles had not made it to the A semi-final and had sneaked back into the final in the third and last qualifying place in semi-final B. However, with the whole field very tightly bunched, the carry-over would have relatively little effect in this event so everyone had a real chance of taking the title.

Board 7

South Deals ♠ A 3
 Both Vul ♥ K 10 7 4 3
 ♦ K J 9 7
 ♣ 10 6

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

♠ K Q 8 7
 ♥ Q
 ♦ Q 10 8 2
 ♣ A K J 2

West	North	East	South
Makym'k	Chaugny	Szyber	Puillet
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Makymiuk led the eight of clubs against 3NT. Puillet put up the ten and that was covered by the queen and ace. She led the ten of diamonds and Makymiuk pitched a low club. Szyber won immediately to lead her remaining club to declarer's kign and now Puillet played the queen of hearts. Again,

Szyber won immediately, this time returning the nine of spades. Puillet won the ace and led a diamond to her queen, and Makymiuk started to feel the three-suit squeeze tighten its grip. She threw a spade. Puillet cashed the jack of clubs then the diamonds and West was crushed.

Puillet had eleven tricks for +660 and, one would imagine, a handy score. Eleven tricks are always possible, but East's defence of grabbing both red aces at her first opportunity certainly made it easier. Duck the heart, for example, and West can throw hearts, leaving declarer having to read the position much more carefully than as the play actually developed.

Board 8

West Deals ♠ 8
 None Vul ♥ 9 6 3
 ♦ A K 9 7 6 5
 ♣ 10 5 2

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

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

West	North	East	South
Makym'k	Chaugny	Szyber	Puillet
Pass	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♥	3♦	Dble	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Both East and West made moderately aggressive decisions and, predictably, that combination led to a horrible game being reached.

The North/South bidding suggests that East's ♠K may be poorly placed and the ♦J of no value at all, so her game-try double was a little optimistic. When we move over to the West hand, we see a clear maximum in high-card terms, with 9 HCP, but all very

soft values. The $\diamond Q$ will often be wasted, while it is unclear how good is the $\spadesuit Q$, and, of course, the hand contains no ace or king, so accepting the game try is by no means an automatic action. Still, I guess I would give East a little more of the blame.



Claire Chaugny

Puillet led the three of diamonds and Chaugny won the king as Sztyber dropped the jack. Chaugny switched to her spade and Puillet, who could not be sure of the position (if North was desperate for a spade ruff, should she not win the ace of diamonds at trick one rather than the king?), put in the ten, losing to the queen. Sztyber ran the queen of clubs to the king and now Puillet led ace and another spade for Chaugny to ruff. Chaugny cashed the ace of diamonds and that was two down for -100.

Board 9

North Deals \spadesuit K J 7 6
 E-W Vul \heartsuit 10 5
 \diamond 5
 \clubsuit Q J 9 8 7 2

\spadesuit 10 3 2	\spadesuit 9 4
\heartsuit A J 9 8 7 3	\heartsuit Q 4 2
\diamond Q 4	\diamond A K 10 9 3
\clubsuit 5 4	\clubsuit A K 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

\spadesuit A Q 8 5
 \heartsuit K 6
 \diamond J 8 7 6 2
 \clubsuit 10 6

West	North	East	South
Makym'k	Chaugny	Sztyber	Puillet
—	Pass	INT	Pass
2 \diamond	Pass	2 \heartsuit	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2 \spadesuit
3 \heartsuit	Pass	Pass	3 \spadesuit
Pass	Pass	4 \heartsuit	Dble
All Pass			

As if trying to make up for overbidding to the bad game on the previous deal, the Poles reached only 2 \heartsuit on this one, where West might have invited game due to her sixth heart. But Chaugny made a balancing double, despite her singleton diamond, and now the fun began. Puillet bid her spades and Makymiuk competed with 3 \heartsuit . Puillet was happy to compete herself and bid 3 \spadesuit , and when Sztyber took the push to 4 \heartsuit , Puillet felt sure that this must be going off – after all, her opponents had wanted to stop at the two level. When Puillet, not altogether surprisingly, failed to lead a spade, Sztyber had twelve tricks for +1190, losing just one spade – rather an expensive balance.

Statistics

During the three days of competition, a total of 10,816 boards have been played by you all. 2,940 boards were used, all duplicated by Dusko Krautsak. There were three appeals (a Board Appeal Ratio of 0.28 is quite normal). We have received no information on the amount of ice water that was consumed during play.

Junior bidding

Board 15 ♠ 8 6 5 4
 South Deals ♥ K Q 7
 N-S Vul ♦ Q J 6
 ♣ J 8 5

♠ 10 3 2	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">S</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q J 9 7
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ A J 2	♥ 9										
♦ A 7 3	♦ K 10 9 8 5 4										
♣ A Q 7 3	♣ K 4										

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	2♥
2♦	2♥	3♦	All Pass

The names of the players have been withheld to protect the innocent:

The Director was duly called on the insufficient bid, and North accepted it even when the Director told them East would probably be barred. Before becoming declarer, West asked about the meaning of 2♥, to the general amusement of the whole table.

Dutch Blood on the Dance Floor

By Kees Tammens

That other final (Sunday 11 July 2010) long forgotten; Saturday morning 17 July, 9.30, gave four Dutch Junior pairs the chance to go for their own glory. The only hurdle was the group of 26 pairs from other countries who also were aiming at the medals. As it is in international bridge, pairs from the same country meet in the opening stages of a final. So already in the first two boards Bob Drijver/Tim Verbeek, going into the final with a nice carry-over) met countrymen Joris

van Lankveld/Berend van de Bos, who reached the final through the backdoor of the B-semifinal. The good thing about these encounters is that all the 100% of the matchpoints stay in the Netherlands. But I doubt that everybody was happy with that fact.

So this report is a report well suited for the sports page of the newspaper; a lot of facts, little analysis. In the final your main concern is the scores, not the way you achieve them. The supporter is eager for results, the beauty of bridge may for one time be forgotten.

Board 1 ♠ Q J 4
 North Deals ♥ K J 8 5 3
 None Vul ♦ K 6
 ♣ 10 5 3

♠ 10 7	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">S</td><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> </td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 9 8 6 2
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ A Q 9 4	♥ 6										
♦ Q 4	♦ 10 9 5 3 2										
♣ Q 9 8 7 6	♣ K 4 2										

♠ A K 5 3
 ♥ 10 7 2
 ♦ A J 8 7
 ♣ A J

West	North	East	South
Bob	Berend	Tim	Joris
—	Pass	Pass	INT
Dble	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Double showed a 5+Minor and a 4+Major, 3♦ was a transfer. South decided to ignore the ♥ fit and went for the NT game. West's lead, the ♣9, was ducked all around to the jack in south and when declarer picked up the hearts for four tricks that was 490 and almost all the matchpoints for North/South.

On Board 2 the lead was decisive as well:

Board 2
 East Deals
 N-S Vul

♠ J 3
 ♥ 9 8 3
 ♦ 9 7 5 4 2
 ♣ A 6 3

♠ A 7 2
 ♥ J 6
 ♦ A K 8 3
 ♣ 8 5 4 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 5
 ♥ Q 7 5 4 2
 ♦ Q 10 6
 ♣ K J 9

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

West	North	East	South
Bob	Berend	Tim	Joris
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	2♥	2♠
Dble	3♠	All Pass	

Nobody likes to sell out to 1♠ but it was not of much use to drive opponents to the three-level.

The ♥J was the lead declarer hoped for and ten tricks were duly made for another huge score for North/South. This was really the first Dutch blood that flowed this session.

On Board 9 we see Aarnout Helmich/Gerbrand Hop against Berend van den Bos/Joris van Lankveld.

Board 9
 North Deals
 E-W Vul

♠ K J 7 6
 ♥ 10 5
 ♦ 5
 ♣ Q J 9 8 7 2

♠ 10 3 2
 ♥ A J 9 8 7 3
 ♦ Q 4
 ♣ 5 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 4
 ♥ Q 4 2
 ♦ A K 10 9 3
 ♣ A K 3

♠ A Q 8 5
 ♥ K 6
 ♦ J 8 7 6 2
 ♣ 10 6

West	North	East	South
Joris	Aarnout	Berend	Gerb'd
—	pass	INT	Dble
2♦	2♠	3♥	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

When opponents miss a cold game you try everything to get them in the right spot anyway. And against 4♥ bid this way you of course refrain from saving in 4♠, which will go down two or three.

When North/South failed to pick up their two spade tricks declarer sailed home with twelve for 680.

Things were getting more serious when Bob Drijver/Tim Verbeek took it up against Gerbrand Hop/Aarnout Helmich.

Board 11
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ J 5
 ♥ A K 10 5 3
 ♦ 10 9 7 4
 ♣ K 10

♠ Q 10 4
 ♥ Q 9 6 2
 ♦ 8 6
 ♣ J 7 5 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 9 7
 ♥ 7
 ♦ A Q 5 3 2
 ♣ A Q 9 2

♠ A 8 6 3 2
 ♥ J 8 4
 ♦ K J
 ♣ 8 6 3

West	North	East	South
Bob	Aarnout	Tim	Gerb'd
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	Dble	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Some aggressive matchpointed action paved the way to 2♥-doubled. When east led the seven of hearts to the eight, nine and ten, declarer went to dummy in diamonds and with ♠A, picked up the hearts without loss and scored his eight tricks with ♣K onside.

And again the dance floor was covered with Dutch blood.
When Bob Drijver/Tim Verbeek met Jacco Hop/Vincent de Pagter, again a lead was crucial.

Board 13 ♠ —
North Deals ♥ A Q 5
Both Vul ♦ K 9 7 6
 ♣ A Q J 5 3 2

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

♠ A K 9 4 3
♥ 8 6 3 2
♦ 10 5 3
♣ 8

West	North	East	South
Bob	Vincent	Tim	Jacco
—	1♣	1♦	1♠
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

When an enthusiastic ♥K hit the table, declarer was in control. ♥A and ♣A then ♣J for West's king, who returned a heart for North's queen. The ♣Q and a small diamond for the jack left east on play. A spade enables declarer to pitch the heart loser and after ♦A and ♦Q for ♦K the ♦9 in North was the ninth trick. The Dutch blood flowed rich and was getting darker.

Gerbrand Hop/Aarnout Helmich stay at the table and meet the other Hop (Jacco), and Vincent de Pagter



Gerbrand Hop & Jacco Hop

Board 22 ♠ Q 6
East Deals ♥ A J 10 9 6 4 3
E-W Vul ♦ 7 5
 ♣ J 3

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

♠ A K 10 8 3
♥ Q 7 2
♦ 6 4 3
♣ 10 9

West	North	East	South
Jacco	Aarnout	Vincent	Gerb'd
—	—	1♣	1♠
2♦	2♥	3♣	3♥
4♣	4♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

The bidding was as quick as the defense: ♣A, diamond for ♦K, ♣Q, ♦A and a third diamond promoting ♥K as the second undertrick. Can you see the deep red colour of the Dutch blood on the dance floor?

So after the first 28 boards of the final the Dutch pairs were really struggling. All still had to happen in the last 30 boards of this championship.

Remember: in a pairs' game the biggest differences have been overcome in only a couple of boards. 'Hope makes you live', the exact translation of a Dutch proverb. Let's go and find out if the Dutch Juniors will be able to lighten the heart of their perennial kibitzer.

Junior Final – Session Two

Going into the second session of the Junior final, French pair, Nicolas Lhuissier and Pierre Franceschetti had a small lead – which made them the natural pair to follow for a few boards. The board numbers are a little confusing, as the session actually started with everyone playing boards 13-16 before going back to Board 1, but the hand copies show the boards starting at Board 1, in other words, what was played as Board 13 with Board 13's vulnerabilities, is Board 1 on the sheet, and so on. For obvious reasons, this report will give the actual board numbers and vulnerabilities as at the table.

Board 13 ♠ Q 5 2
 North Deals ♥ Q 2
 All Vul ♦ K 8 6 5
 ♣ A Q 9 7

♠ A 7 ♥ A K J 10 8 7 ♦ 4 ♣ K 10 6 5	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 10 9 6 4 3 ♥ 9 6 ♦ J 10 7 2 ♣ 8
	N										
W		E									
	S										

♠ K 8
 ♥ 5 4 3
 ♦ A Q 9 3
 ♣ J 4 3 2

West	North	East	South
Giamp'ro	Lhuissier	Orth	Franc'ti
—	1♦	Pass	INT
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♦
3♥	All Pass		

The session began well for the leaders when Germany's Cristina Giampietro bid once too often and found a very unhelpful dummy. Lhuissier led the five of diamonds to the ace and Franceschetti switched to the four of trumps. Giampietro gave that some thought then played low, figuring that a losing finesse would at least create an

entry to dummy. Sure enough, the finesse did lose and back came a second heart to dummy's nine. Giampietro led dummy's club and, when Franceschetti played low without thought, judged to duck it to Lhuissier's nine – not that it mattered on this lie of the clubs. Lhuissier returned a low diamond so declarer ruffed and ducked a club but eventually lost three of those plus a spade for down three; +300 to Lhuissier/Franceschetti.

Board 14 ♠ 10 9 8
 East Deals ♥ 9 6 5 2
 None Vul ♦ 8 5 4 2
 ♣ 4 2

♠ A 7 4 ♥ A Q J 7 3 ♦ A K J ♣ A Q	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q 6 ♥ K 10 ♦ Q 10 9 ♣ K J 9 7 5
	N										
W		E									
	S										

♠ J 5 3 2
 ♥ 8 4
 ♦ 7 6 3
 ♣ 10 8 6 3

West	North	East	South
Giamp'ro	Lhuissier	Orth	Franc'ti
—	—	INT	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

When Paul Orth upgraded his 14-count with a five-card suit and a couple of tens to a strong no trump, Giampietro had a simple task to raise to seven. There were 16 top tricks so that was an easy 1520. Anyone who missed this one will be extremely embarrassed, I would think.

Board 15 ♠ 2
 South Deals ♥ K J 10 9 8 2
 E-W Vul ♦ 10 9 7 5 3 2
 ♣ —

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

♠ 10 7 6 5 3
 ♥ 5
 ♦ 8 4
 ♣ K Q 5 3 2

West	North	East	South
DiFranco	Lhuissier	Monta'ri	Franc't
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	4♥	Dble	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♠	Dble
All Pass			

What would you open that North hand – 2♥ and maybe come again, 3♥, 4♥, pass and come in later? Four Hearts is a big bid at this vulnerability but it caused serious problems for Lhuissier's Italian opponents. Matteo Montanari doubled for take-out then showed a strong hand by correcting Massimiliano Di Franco's 5♣ response to 5♠. That was doubled by Franceschetti, ending the auction. Franceschetti led his singleton heart to the eight and ace. Montanari played a diamond to the jack then queen of spades and a second spade to his ace. Next he led a club, ducking when Franceschetti put in the queen. Franceschetti correctly played back a second club and there was no way for Montanari to avoid a third loser. He finessed then threw his heart loser on the ace of clubs but then had no good way back to hand. His actual choice was to ruff a heart low. This was over-ruffed and Franceschetti played the king of clubs, forcing declarer to ruff and so getting himself a second trump trick for the setting trick; +100 to the leaders.

When declarer sees the heart position, he knows that North has a very shapely two-suiter, and he needs the second suit to be diamonds if he is to make his contract as he requires a second club trick. To succeed, he must cash four rounds of trumps after unblocking the jack of diamonds. Then he cashes winning diamonds, pitching hearts from the dummy. South can ruff with his trump trick any time that he wants to, but will then have to lead a club. With no need to get back to hand to draw trumps or cash winners, declarer has no problem in holding his losers to one in each black suit. If South never ruffs a diamond, then all the hearts go away from dummy and declarer can play the first club himself, with the same result.

Board 16 ♠ K 10 9 7
 West Deals ♥ 4
 E/W Vul ♦ A K 9 8 3
 ♣ K Q 8

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

♠ A Q
 ♥ A K Q J 8 6
 ♦ Q J 2
 ♣ J 5

West	North	East	South
DiFranco	Lhuissier	Monta'ri	Franc'ti
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

Strong jump shifts are not in the French pair's armoury, so Franceschetti started with a quiet 1♥ and followed up with fourth-suit-forcing. A little later he discovered that, despite his partner's extra values,

there was a key card missing, so settled for 6NT. The heart lead meant 13 tricks for +1020. How many pairs got to seven and made it on a non-club lead?

Board 1 ♠ A K 8 5 3
 North Deals ♥ 9
 None Vul ♦ Q 10 8
 ♣ K 10 9 7

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

W	N	E
S		

♠ J 9
 ♥ A 10 7 6 5 4
 ♦ 5 4 3
 ♣ A 6

West	North	East	South
Bethers	Lhuissier	Balasovs	Franc'ti
–	1♠	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

The auction was short and sweet. Lhuissier opened 1♠ and Franceschetti responded 3♥, natural and invitational. As usual, this action collected a dummy including a small singleton trump. However, it also gave West, Peteris Bethers, a blind lead.



Pierre Franceschetti

Bethers led the eight of clubs. Franceschetti put in dummy's ten and Juris Balasovs ducked. Franceschetti

played a heart to his ace, cashed the ace of clubs, then led the nine of spades to the ten and ace. He pitched a diamond on the king of clubs then continued with the ♣9, ruffed with the eight and over-ruffed. Now Franceschetti played a low heart. Bethers cashed his three heart winners then made the careless return of the queen of spades. Perhaps he had not noticed which spot cards had been played on the first round and thought this was safe, but it meant that Franceschetti could throw another diamond on the eight of spades, just conceding one diamond at the end for an excellent +140.

Of course, Bethers should have realised that declarer could only have two diamonds remaining so to switch to ace and another could never cost a trick.

Board 2 ♠ A 10 4 2
 East Deals ♥ K 8 7 4 3 2
 N/S Vul ♦ K
 ♣ 7 4

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

W	N	E
S		

♠ K Q 5 3
 ♥ A
 ♦ 10 9 7 5 4 2
 ♣ K 8

West	North	East	South
Bethers	Lhuissier	Balasovs	Franc'ti
–	–	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	2♣	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

I was expecting Lhuissier to just bid 2♥ over 2♦ but his 2♠ bid meant that what looked to be a pretty good game, at least single dummy, was reached. However, the play did not go well.

Balasovs led his singleton diamond to the ace and king. Not wishing to help declarer to set up the diamonds, and not being sure if the hearts were running, when dummy's clubs might disappear, Bethers switched to a club rather than return a low diamond. Balasovs won the ace and played a second club to the king. Now I think that Lhuissier made an error. He ruffed a low diamond with the four and was over-ruffed. Now the contract looks impossible as there are not the communications to establish and cash either red suit as the cards lie.

Balasovs returned a heart to dummy's ace. Declarer cashed the king of spades and, when the jack appeared, led the ten of diamonds to the jack and ruff. He pitched a diamond on the ♥K then ruffed a heart low and was over-ruffed. The trump return meant that there was still a diamond to be lost at the end for down two; -200.

Dummy has shown six, or maybe five good, diamonds. It seems very likely that the opening lead is a singleton – no other holding is an attractive choice on the auction – so declarer should have played on that assumption and tried to set up hearts rather than diamonds. Not easy, perhaps, but it looks right.

Despite this last board, the French pair still seemed to be in good shape for a medal and, who knows, maybe even the title.

Champions!

The 2010 European Junior Pairs Champions are Konstantinos Doxiadis and Vassilis Vroustis of Greece. Board 28 of the second final session was one of the big boards that helped them to come out on top.

Board 28

♠ A Q 9
 West Deals ♥ J 10 7
 N-S Vul ♦ A 5 3
 ♣ 7 4 3 2

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

♠ 5
 ♥ Q 6 5 3
 ♦ J 9 8 7
 ♣ A Q 10 6

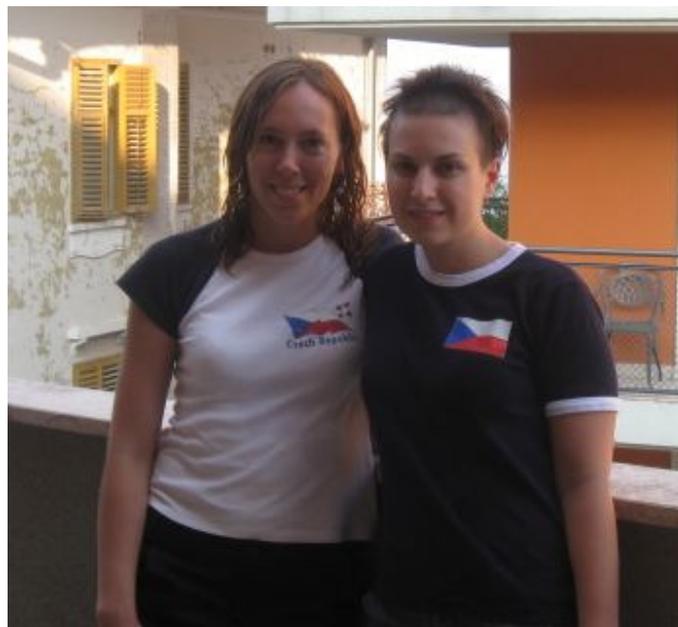
West	North	East	South
Doxiadis	Jochym'i	Vroustis	Kazm'k
1♠	Pass	3♣	Dble
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

The 3♣ response showed 6-9 points with four-card spade support and Poland's Wojciech Kazmierczak took the opportunity to make a lead-directing double. When Doxiadis now jumped to the spade game, Tomasz Jochym'ski doubled for penalty, ending the auction.

Jochym'ski led the four of clubs to the jack, queen and ruff. Doxiadis led the king of diamonds to the ace and back came the two of clubs for the eight, ten and ruff. Declarer played ace, king and a third heart for a ruff in dummy, then finessed the ten of diamonds, cashed the ♦Q, throwing a club from dummy, and ruffed his last diamond low as North pitched a club. The king of clubs was covered by the ace and ruffed with the ♠10 and the last heart led. North was powerless to prevent declarer taking one more trump trick for a great +590 to the new champions.

Final B - Results

1	HODEROVA - CERNA	CZE	62,73	37	GANDOGLIA - BUSOSCHII	ITA	50,31
2	IGLA - MACHNO	POL	62,16	38	ROSLON - MORGIEL	POL	50,21
3	VALO - POULAT	FRA	61,06	39	CHAVARRIA - COSTA	ITA	49,66
4	BARENDREGT - NAB	NED	60,92	40	ANASTASATOS - KOUGIOUMTZI	GRE	49,65
5	SHPUNTOU - SHPUNTOU	BLR	60,80	41	BOYD - GORMALLY	IRL	48,87
6	SERDAR - OZER	TUR	59,23	42	VON BUEREN - BOVET	SUI	48,78
7	STACHNIK - KITA	POL	58,53	43	MORKEN - BARTNES	NOR	48,40
8	WIETESKA - LOSIEWICZ	POL	57,96	44	JACKSON - DOW	ENG	48,36
9	TSVETANOV - DONEV	BUL	57,74	45	HAJKOVA - SCHULZOVA	CZE	48,05
10	SCHIASSI - CASIMIRRI	ITA	57,52	46	DESSAIN - CONSTANTIN	ENG	48,02
11	SAFRAN - OLSCHNÉGGER	AUT	56,88	47	HORLOCK - MITCHELL	ENG	47,81
12	JANECZKO - SZCZYPCZYK	POL	56,16	48	ANDERSONE - GARKAJE	LAT	47,73
13	DONDIVIC - STANICIC	CRO	55,79	49	SOFIOS - TOGIAS	GRE	47,45
14	SUZER - TASKIN	TUR	55,39	50	PHILIPSEN - VAN LEEUWEN	NED	46,76
15	HUZEN - VAN BEIJSTERVELDT	NED	55,07	51	SCHALLER - STOECKLI	SUI	46,57
16	SCHAFFER - VAN DEN HOVE	BEL	55,04	52	ERTEL - LEROY	GER	45,98
17	KOCLAR - UCAR	TUR	54,51	53	CEPONKUTE - BANIKONYTE	LTU	45,83
18	PAUL - FARIA	ENG	54,45	54	BEN DAVID - GORTENSTEIN	ISR	45,73
19	LANNI - FAILLA	ITA	54,21	55	BINA - WADL	AUT	45,54
20	BAHNIK - BARNET	CZE	54,05	56	DILOVIC - MORETTI	CRO	45,47
21	MORINA - BURGIO	ITA	53,75	57	GALLIK - JANAS	CZE	44,03
22	LE PENSEC - MOURGUES	FRA	53,67	58	BOEKHORST - BERGE	FRA	43,66
23	LANZUISI - BUTTO	ITA	53,38	59	IVANCIC - KESIC	CRO	42,59
24	JURISIC - JELIC	SER	52,65	60	SPENCER - LAM	ENG	42,29
25	KAUTNY - HOPFLER	AUT	52,36	61	OIKONOMOP'S - PAPAYANNIS	GRE	42,21
26	PENDRIGH - BOISNAULT	FRA	52,26	62	BORGEAUD - STOECKLI	SUI	41,95
27	LEBATTEUX - LANDRY	FRA	52,12	63	MIJIC - SILJEG	CRO	41,91
28	VERBEEK - LEUFKENS	NED	51,98	64	BEKERE - ILZINS	LAT	41,55
29	CHARIGNON - LAFONT	FRA	51,81	65	HAYWARD - GROOT	ENG	41,02
30	BOZZAI - LAZAR	HUN	51,64	66	SUSTER - BARAK	SVK	40,83
31	SEVEREIJNS - WESTERBEEK	NED	51,43	67	RACCA - PRUNA	ITA	40,71
32	RUSO - GUMZEJ	CRO	51,31	68	PURSTL - WEINBERGER	AUT	40,66
33	PETERSEN - BJORKSTRAND	SWE	51,08	69	PETERSEN - HULT	SWE	40,44
34	ELLERBECK - BRINCK	GER	51,02	70	GUC - DELAC	CRO	39,78
35	NAB - BANAS	NED	50,65	71	BONNEY - BIRCHALL	ENG	39,27
36	MASTIC - STANKOVIC	CRO	50,45	72	KRUZIC - TOTH	CRO	35,77



Pavla Hoderova and Anna Marie Cerna

Finals A – Results

Youngsters Pairs Final A



Daniel Gullberg & Johan Karlsson

1	GULLBERG - KARLSSON	SWE	56,75
2	NIERZWICKI - KOWALEWSKI	POL	54,67
3	KLUKOWSKI - BIELAWSKI	POL	54,44
4	GULCZYNSKI - ANDRZEJEWSKI	POL	52,90
5	SIDEROV - DRAGANOV	BUL	52,88
6	ZMUDA - KRYSA	POL	52,70
7	ROBERTS - BRASS	ENG	51,73
8	KANIA - WITKOWSKI	POL	51,28
9	CEPONKUS - GRIGORAITIS	LTU	50,27
10	MAROSEVIC - RUSCH	GER	49,71
11	KONKOLY - FISCHER	HUN	49,58
12	GINOSSAR - REITER	ISR	49,29
13	STOUGIE - STOUGIE	NED	49,02
14	WAGNER - TUBAK	HUN	48,80
15	GEMBICKI - RACZ	POL	48,79
16	ROWOLD - HOFFMEISTER	GER	48,68
17	POLAK - SCHOLS	NED	48,16
18	YEKUTIELI - DAR	ISR	48,05
19	CALMANOVICI - SAU	ITA	47,14
20	KRALIK - BOURA	CZE	46,59

Girls Pairs Final A

1	HOLEKSA - WEINHOLD	POL	57,94
2	TICHA - TICHA	CZE	54,04
3	PUILLET - CHAUGNY	FRA	53,20
4	FERRER-LOPEZ - WESOLOWSKA	POL	53,10
5	HEIM - KAEPPPEL	GER	50,91
6	MAKSYMIAK - SZTYBER	POL	49,87
7	VLACHOVA - DUDKOVA	CZE	47,71
8	SPANGENBERG - SPANGENBERG	NED	47,31
9	MOSZCZYNSKA - PIESIEWICZ	POL	46,01
10	GORNIK - KEDZIERSKA	POL	45,69

Junior Pairs Final A

1	VROUSTIS - DOXIADIS	GRE	55,98
2	BETHERS - LORENCIS	LAT	55,73
3	WASIAK - TACZEWSKA	POL	54,80
4	LHUISSIER - FRANCESCHETTI	FRA	54,47
5	VAN LANKVELD - VAN DEN BOS	NED	54,17
6	GOGOMAN - SCHULZ	AUT	53,57
7	SPASOV - SKORCHEV	BUL	53,04
8	MONTANARI - DI FRANCO	ITA	52,99
9	ORTH - GIAMPIETRO	GER	52,28
10	KRYCH - BETLEY	POL	52,24
11	LORENZINI - GROSSET	FRA	52,03
12	MISTRETTA - ZANASI	ITA	51,99
13	HELMICH - HOP	NED	50,63
14	DELLE CAVE - FELLUS	ITA	50,51
15	KATERBAU - REHDER	GER	50,20
16	BETHERS - BALASOV	LAT	50,00
17	ILGIN - SAHIN	TUR	49,98
18	KAZMIERCZAK - JOCHYMSKI	POL	49,96
19	EGGELING - GRUNKE	GER	49,62
20	SIKORA - TUCZYNSKI	POL	48,95
21	SAKOWSKA - BUTRYN	POL	48,72
22	PASKE - ROBERTSON	ENG	48,68
23	ERIKSSON - HEDSTROM	SWE	48,41
24	ANDRZEJOWSKI - MERYNDA	POL	47,80
25	HOP - DE PAGTER	NED	47,50
26	VERBEEK - DRIJVER	NED	47,18
27	POSTIC - SOSTARIC	CRO	46,76
28	HUBERSCHWILLER - BARNE	FRA	46,20
29	GALAZKA - KRUSZEWSKI	POL	46,09
30	DARKADAKIS - ROUSSOS	GRE	45,57



Magdalena Holeksa & Izabela Weinhold