

### 8<sup>TH</sup> WORLD YOUTH **TRANSNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Wroclaw, Poland • 13 - 18 July, 2024



Editor: Brian Senior 🦚 Co-Editor: Jos Jacobs 🦚 Layout Editor: Francesca Canali 🐢 Photographer: Arianna Testa

Issue Four. 16.7.2024

# **Congratulations**

...to the five new World Champion teams and to the other medallists!











### U26 Open Gold: Hellas U26

Dimitrios KAPIRIS, Iasonas-iraklis PAPASPYROU, Ioanna-Aikaterini POLLATOU, Panagiotis SKORDAS, Michail SOUMPLIS. Marilena BOMPOLAKI (npc)

#### Silver: Skaffatar (NED)

Xavier FRIESEN. Ronald GOOR, Tim VAN DE PAVERD, Oscar NIJSSEN (pc)

#### Bronze: France U26

Luc BELLICAUD, Maxence FRAGOLA, Romaric GUTH, Nao TABATA

#### Gold: Bridgechamp (ISR)

Ido MOSKOVITZ, Daniel MSIKA Koren RETTER Lia PETELKO (pc)

#### Silver: Poland U21

Woiciech BAK. Jakub BEREZA Kacper KUFLOWSKI, Bernard KULA, Franciszek KURLIT, Wojciech OKRZESIK, Michal WRÓBEL (npc)

#### Bronze: RDFZ B (CHN/USA)

Hanxi MA. Ziao WANG, Bruce WU, Yuekai YANG, Brian ZHANG, Feng ZHU, Yinghao LIU (npc), Jichao HU (coach)

#### Gold: Poland 1

Fwa BAGROWSKA Matylda BRZYZKA, Dominika LUCKA, Ewa MORAWSKA, Maria NIKLAUS, Natalia SUSZANOWICZ, Rafal MARKS (npc)

#### Silver: France U26W

Constance BELLOY Margaux KUREK BEAULIEU, Elise NUGUES, Wilhelmine SCHLUMBERGER, Wilfried LIBBRECHT (npc)

#### **Bronze: Poland 2**

Wiktoria FORYS Natalia FRECHOWICZ, Milena GRYZLO, Magdalena KAPALA. Kaja PUSTULKA, Maja TROJANSKA Rafal MARKS (npc)

#### Gold: Jack (USA)

Andrew CHEN, Kyo CHEN, Jeff XIAO. Charlie CHEN (pc) Steve CHEN (coach)

### **Silver: The Vikings (SWE/NOR)** Filip ASPLUND SIVELIND,

Sebastian LILLEJORD, Markus Hansen MOE, Matteo NORDQVIST

#### Bronze: CT U16 (CTE)

Yino CHANG, Hsin-Wei CHIU Ying-Hsuan HUANG, Zi-Ming LAI, Chun-Po LU Yu-Chen PENG

#### U31

Gold: France U31 Raphael BASLER, Pierre BEDOUET, Louis BONIN, Colin DEHEEGER, Thomas GUICHET, Esteban VALLET

#### Silver: ZG HC (CRO/SER)

Filip KATUSIC Selena PEPIC, Jovana ZORANOVIC. Matko FERENCA (pc)

#### **Bronze: Polish Dodos**

Karol KONOPKO. Konrad MAJEWSKI Konrad PALUSZEK, Lukasz TRENDAK, Jakub ANDRUSZKIEWICZ (pc)

#### **Happy Birthday!**

Happy Birthday to:

- Georgina SZABO
- (Hungary) Frederik ZEEBERG (Denmark)
- Maria TURANT (Poland)
- . Zofia TROJAN











#### DAM

#### Gold: Washed Up U31

Washed Up U31, Christian BAKKE, Matthew BROWN, Giovanni DONATI, Jacob FREEMAN, Adam KAPLAN, Sibrand VAN OOSTEN (pc), Charlotte BAUMGART (coach)

Silver: Team Friesenjung U26 Felix DOERMER, Sven Niklas FARWIG, Sander GOOR, Tobias WESTERVELD

Bronze: Austria U31 Patricio CRISAFULLI SADABA, Sophie HERMANN, Manuel JINDRA, Louise WEISS SELWAY

#### RAM II16

Gold: Poland U16
Kacper KISIELEWSKI,
Milena KLIMIUK,
Dominik MAGRYS,
Jakub MICHALSKI,
Marcel PROKOPOWICZ,
Franciszek STEZALA,
Roland LIPPIK captain,
Marcin KUFLOWSKI coach

Silver: France U16 Lubin CREPIN, Gregoire DUTERTE, Robin FARISSIER, Saveria GARCIA, Blanche LEGRAS, Esteban LYOEN, Thibaud VINCENOT captain

Bronze: CZE HUN U16 Emma KONSTACKA, Georgina SZABO, Zsofia ZABRADI, Pavla SLOVAKOVA captain

## **WORLD YOUTH PAIRS FORMAT**

U26, U21, U26W, U16, U31

Qualification (**Tuesday** and **Wednesday**): 6 Sessions of 16 boards each.

Final A (Thursday): 3 Sessions

**U26**: 14 pairs advance to the Final

**U21**: 26 pairs advance to the Final

U26W: 14 pairs advance to the Final

U16: 22 pairs advance to the Final

**U31**: 14 pairs advance to the Final

Final B (**Thursday**): 2 Sessions of 16 boards altogether (U16 play separately 2 Sessions of 14 boards).

TIMES: Qualification Final 10:00 12:15 09:30 12:20 LUNCH LUNCH 13:30 15:45 16:15 18:30 Final A only



# The Joan Gerard Youth Awards

The Joan Gerard Youth Awards will aim at rewarding aptitude, fair play, good sportsmanship

and a **friendly international spirit**, rejecting any discrimination.

Each of the attending players, NPCs, coaches, WBF championship officials and members of the staff can nominate one player from each category to receive the Joan Gerard Youth Award. No one can nominate players from his own country.

The final selection will be made by a Commission composed of the members of the Championship Committee and chaired by the Master of Protocol & Ceremony.

The result will be announced and the Joan Gerard Youth Awards presented at the Prize-giving and Closing Ceremony

### Correction

#### Jos Jacobs

We would like to make a correction to the article entitled Board 23 from Bulletin 3.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	<b>^</b>	985			
	$\otimes$	Q J 10 3			
	$\Diamond$	K J 2			
	•	1096			
$\spadesuit$	J 7 4	N	$\spadesuit$	AKQ	3 2
$\Diamond$	A 8 7 5 4 2	W	$\Diamond$	K 6	
$\wedge$	0	VV	$\wedge$	Λ 1	

♦ 8 **♣** K O 3

> 9♦ Q 10 9 7 6 5 3

♣ J82

We were guessing about the meaning of a number of bids, and made some poor guesses in one auction In particular. Here is the correct explanation for the auction of the Poland U21 E/W pair.

West	North	East	South
Okrzesik	P Hammelev	Kuflowski	D Tylvad
_	_	_	Pass
2 %	Pass	3♣	Pass
$4\diamondsuit$	Pass	4NT	Pass
5 <b>.</b>	Pass	5♡	Pass
5NT	Pass	<b>7</b> ♠	

Two Hearts was natural, six-plus hearts and 9-12 HCP,  $3\clubsuit$  was strong with spades, and  $4\diamondsuit$  a splinter bid in support of spades. Four No Trump was Keycard, 5 showed one, and 5  $\heartsuit$  asked for outside kings. Five No Trump now showed either the king of clubs or two other kings – and that had to be the 4 K as East was looking at one of the other two kings.

And  $7 \spadesuit$  was the logical conclusion – well bid.



### 16TH WORLD BRIDGE GAMES

Buenos Aires, Argentina - 22 October - 3 November, 2024



#### 3 EVENTS open to all players

♣ A 7 5 4

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# Bridgechamp v France 1

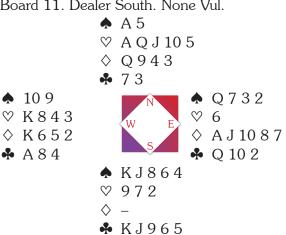
### **U21 ROUND 9**

#### **Brian Senior**

Going into the penultimate round of the U21 Championship, Israel's Bridgechamp headed the rankings and were looking good for a place in the final. In Round 9 they faced France 1, who were lying third but with very little margin over the fourthand fifth-placed teams.

A football commentator would have described this as a game of two halves.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Ben GuiGui	Petelko	Chanal	Retter
_	_	_	Pass
Pass	1 %	Pass	2♣
Pass	$2\Diamond$	Dble	4♡
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
Moskovitz	Bens	Msika	Bonin
_	_	_	2 <b>^</b>
All Pass			

For France 1, Eulalie Bobin opened a two-suited weak 2 and was left to play there. Ido Moskovitz led the four of hearts, Bonin rising with the ace and leading a club to the jack and ace. Moskovitz returned the two of diamonds for the three, seven and ruff, and Bobin cashed the king of clubs then ruffed a club low. When that passed off peacefully she cashed the ace of spades then tried the five of hearts towards her nine. However, Daniel Msika ruffed that and returned the eight of diamonds. Bonin ruffed and played a winning club, discarding a heart from dummy, ruffed the diamond return, and cashed the king of spades

then the fifth club, making nine for +140.

For Bridgechamps, Koren Retter passed as dealer and it was left to North, Lia Petelko, to open 1♥. A Drury sequence then saw the Israeli pair bid to the heart game. Maximilien Chanal led the three of spades to the six, ten and ace. Petelko got the clubs right at trick two, leading to the jack and ace, and Costa Theodore Ben Guigui returned the three of hearts, Petelko winning the ten and playing a club to the king then ruffing a club. A diamond ruff was followed by a heart to the jack, and the four-one split was bad news for Petelko. She led a spade to the king followed by a winning club, but Ben Guigui sacrificed his trump trick to prevent there being any more black-suit winners in the dummy. He ruffed and Petelko over-ruffed and conceded a diamond. There were three of those to be lost so the contract was down one for -50 and first blood to France 1, who gained 5 IMPs.

On Board 12, Bridgechamps declared 1NT-1 at one table and 2NT-1 at the other for another 4 IMPs to France 1, who led by 9-0. Both Easts made a ridiculous number of tricks, 12, in a spade partscore on Board 13 – it was normal to play in 2♠ – then came a massive swing deal.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul. **♠** 10 5 ♥ K864 ♦ Q 10 9 8 3 2 **%** 3 ♠ AJ742 ♠ K63 ♥ Q 10 7 Α ♦ J 7 ♦ A 6 ♣ AKJ10752 ♣ Q98 ♠ Q98 ♥ J9532

West	North	East	South
Ben GuiGui	Petelko	Chanal	Retter
_	_	<b>1♣</b>	Pass
<b>1</b> ♠	Pass	<b>3♣</b>	Pass
3♦	Dble	<b>3♠</b>	Pass
$4\diamondsuit$	Pass	4♡	Pass
4 <b>♠</b>	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♡	Pass	6 <b>%</b>	Pass
<b>7</b> ♠	All Pass		

♦ K 5 4

**♣** 64

14	ä	b.	
80	•	٧.	
88	٠.	2	

West	North	East	South
Moskovitz	Bens	Msika	Bonin
_	_	1♣	Pass
<b>1</b> ♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	<b>3♠</b>	Pass
<b>4♠</b>	All Pass		

Facing an invitational range hands with at least six clubs and three spades, I think Moskovitz owed his partner one slam try on the way to game. Having said which, on a diamond lead slam is pretty much on the  $\mathbf{A}$ Q being onside so maybe it's not such a big deal whether to be in slam or not. Of course, sometimes they will lead a heart and now slam is much better.

Ninon Bens led her club against  $4 \spadesuit$ . Moskovitz won, picked up trumps without loss, and claimed all 13 tricks for +510.

If the Israelis perhaps underbid the E/W cards, the same accusation cannot be made against the French E/W. However, they reached Seven because of a misunderstanding. Chanal had used Key-card for spades so knew that the  $\triangle Q$  was missing and bid 6 in an attempt to play there. It looks as though Ben Guigui took it as asking for third-round club control, hence his jump to 7  $\triangle$ . Of course, as the cards lay there were 13 tricks for +1510 and 14 IMPs to France 1, who led by 23-0.

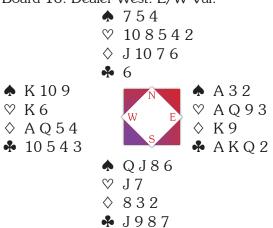
Six Clubs is the place to be a sit needs only that there be three spade winners without a loser. Six Spades requires that spades play for no loser; any four-one break dooms the contract.

One pair bid to 7NT, but went down. Eleven pairs bid and made  $6 \spadesuit$ , and five bid  $6 \clubsuit$ . The rest stopped in  $4 \spadesuit$ ,  $5 \clubsuit$  or 3NT.

France 1 gained a further 2 IMPs on the next deal for  $2\diamondsuit-1$  against  $3\diamondsuit-2$  by West, so led by 25-0 at the midpoint in the match.

Then the tide turned, and with a vengeance.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



West	North	East	South
Ben GuiGui	Petelko	Chanal	Retter
$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	Pass
1NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Moskovitz	Bens	Msika	Bonin
<b>1♣</b>	Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	Pass
1NT	Pass	2\$	Pass
2NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Seven Clubs is the place to be on the E/W hands, and two pairs in the U21s and several more in the other series got there – only to find that they had an inescapable trump loser. Unlucky.

Our two pairs got to 6NT played by West.

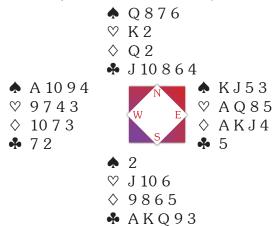
Petelko led the two of hearts, Ben Guigui putting in dummy's queen and cashing two top clubs. Upon discovering the bad news, Ben Guigui unblocked the king of hearts and cashed all the diamonds, discarding a spade from dummy, then the king and ace of spades. Finally, he cashed the  $\heartsuit A$  and  $\clubsuit Q$  and was down one for -100.

Bens led the four of spades to the jack and king. Moskovitz cashed two top clubs then led a heart to the king to run the ten of spades, losing to the queen. Back came a spade to dummy's ace and now Moskovitz cashed the queen of clubs, which squeezed North in the red suits to produce the twelfth trick; +1440 and 17 IMPs to Bridgechamps; 17-25.

There will almost always be a squeeze as long as declarer can read the position. As simplistic a line as playing four rounds of clubs at tricks two to five would do the trick on this deal, as North's three discards will make it obvious that he is guarding the red suits, and now cashing the top spade(s) will operate the squeeze.

There were two pairs going down in 7% and one in 7NT. One had a misunderstanding and stopped in  $4\diamondsuit$ , and one in 4NT. Nobody played 6%, the rest all being in 6NT. Ten pairs went down in 6NT, 13 made it.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Ben GuiGui	Petelko	Chanal	Retter
_	Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$	2♣
Pass	3♣	Dble	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

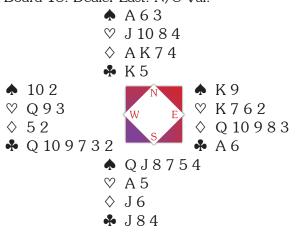
West	North	East	South	West	North	East	South
Moskovitz	Bens	Msika	Bonin	Moskovitz	Bens	Msika	Bonin
_	Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	_	_	$1 \diamondsuit$	2 <b>^</b>
1♡	Pass	4 <b>.</b>	Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
4♡	5♣	Dble	All Pass	All Pass			

Chanl opened  $1\diamondsuit$  then doubled for take-out when his opponents bid and supported clubs. Ben Guigui didn't want to risk an inadequate major-suit fit when he thought Chanal would have five diamonds more often than not, so responded  $3\diamondsuit$  and the two major-suit fits were not found. Retter cashed the king of clubs and would have done best to continue with a second club. However, he switched to his singleton spade and that went to the four-six and jack, and Chanal cashed the ace and king of diamonds. The fall of the queen was excellent news. Chanal continued with a third diamond to the ten, a heart to the queen, and the jack of diamonds. There were two spades and a heart to come, so nine tricks in all; just made for +110.

Bonin did not overcall and Moskovitz scraped up a 1% response on the West cards. Msika splintered and Bobin took the opportunity to double. That was principally for the lead, but with five clubs Bens felt it right to save in  $5\clubsuit$  over the opposing 4%, and Msika doubled to conclude the auction.

The good news for N/S was that 4% could be made by E/W; the bad news was that they had five top losers so were down three for -500, more than the value of the enemy game. The swing was 9 IMPs to Bridgechamps, and they had the lead in the match at 26-25.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



West	North	East	South
Ben GuiGui	Petelko	Chanal	Retter
_	_	$1 \diamondsuit$	2 <b>^</b>
Pass	<b>4</b>	All Pass	

Both Souths made weak jump overcalls. Petelko simply raised to  $4\spadesuit$ , while Bens cuebid to invite game then respected partner's decision to sign off at the three level.

Moskovitz led a diamond against  $3\spadesuit$ , Bonin winning the ace and leading a low spade off the table. Msika took the king and returned the  $\Diamond Q$ , pinning declarer's jack. Bonin won the king and ruffed a diamond to hand to lead a club to the king. That lost to the ace and back came the ten of diamonds, on which Bonin discarded her heart loser. Msika now switched to the nine of spades and Bonin won that and conceded a second club trick but could then ruff her third club in dummy to make nine tricks for +140.

Ben Guigui also led a diamond to dummy's ace. Retter cashed the king of diamonds then played the jack of hearts, covered by king and ace. Next Retter led the queen of spades and ran it, losing to the king, ruffed the diamond return with the jack, and led a spade to the ace. The even spade split meant that he could ruff the last diamond to hand to play a heart towards the ten. Ben Guigui went in with the queen and returned the \$Q - not that Retter would have got it wrong had he returned a low club. That was covered by king and ace, and Retter had 10 tricks for +620 and 10 IMPs to Bridgechamps; 36-25.

Board 19 was a flat game for E/W, but there was one more swing to come on the final deal.

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

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

West	North	East	South
Ben GuiGui	Petelko	Chanal	Retter
1♣	Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

♣ J 4 3



West	North	East	South
Moskovitz	Bens	Msika	Bonin
<b>1♣</b>	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Ben Guigui opened 1♣ and rebid 1NT over the 1♦ response. Chanal raised to game, against which Petelko led a low spade. Ben Guigui got those wrong by putting in the nine and losing to the ten. Retter continued with a second spade, Petelko ducking to dummy's jack, and Ben Guigui led a diamond to the jack. Petelko won the ace and cashed the ace and queen of spades then led a low heart through the queen. Ben Guigui put up the queen so that went to the king and ace, and now he cashed the diamonds. Finally, Ben Guigui cashed the king of clubs, led the seven to his ace, and a third club to... the ten! That was down two for -200.

Of course, had Petelko led a heart at trick one, or won the second spade to switch to a heart, the contract would have been off from the start. But why

would she do either of those things?

Moskovitz also opened 1♣ but Msika, with a hand that looked as though it should be led round to, just jumped to 3NT and played there. Bonin led the ten of hearts round to the queen, and Msika led a diamond to the jack. Bens won the ace and continued the heart attack, and Moskovitz ducked but then, perforce, won the next heart. He cashed the diamonds then led the ♣K, a club to the ace, and a club to... the queen; nine tricks for +600 and 13 IMPs to Bridgechamps.

From 0-25 after five boards, Bridgechamps had scored 49 unanswered points over the remaining five boards to win by 49-25 IMPs, or 16.78-3.22 VPs. They were assured of a place in the final with a match to spare. France 1, however, were down to ninth and would need a big win in the last round plus other results going their way if they were to make the top four.





# France v Cood Life Funbridge Blue v Japan

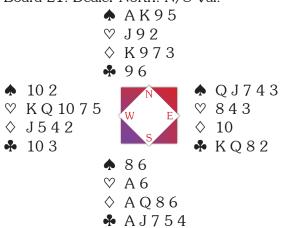
### **Team Qualifications U26 Last Round**

#### **Jos Jacobs**

At the start of the last round of the U26 team qualifications, only the team from France looked pretty certain to make it into the final four. They were about 14 VPs ahead of the fifth placed team at the time, Hellas U26. Because Funbridge Blue had climbed up the rankings only recently, they were to play Japan, who were in sixth place and, due to this pairing, not without a chance either. France, who had been leading the field for most of the time, apparently had not yet played the Cood Life team from all over the world, so that pairing would improve the chances of the winners of other matches, provided the French would continue their winning streak. The Dutch, called Skaffatar this time, were in third place but in danger to miss the cut if they would lose against the Frenemies who themselves were in with an outside chance only - in case of a big win.

So from this complicated position, the last round got underway at just after 6 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. This was the first deal.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



In the Open Room, the French soon reached the normal contract.

#### Open Room

- F			
West	North	East	South
Mann	Fragola	Sandin	Tabata
_	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	$2\Diamond$
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When West led a logical enough  $\heartsuit K$ , nine tricks suddenly had become easy; France +600.

This contract was made at quite a lot of tables but, in the Closed Room of our match, something different happened.

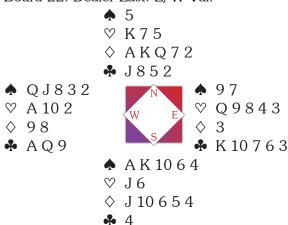
#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Guth	M Xu	Bellicaud	Meier
_	Pass	2 <b>^</b>	All Pass

East opened a quite weak weak two and nobody had anything more to say. The contract went two down in peace, Cood Life thus scoring +100 but the French registering their first 11 IMPs.

Next:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mann	Fragola	Sandin	Tabata
_	_	Pass	Pass
1 🖍	Dble	All Pass	

For the French, South passed his hand with some nice spades, only to hear the next man open 1. After some consideration, at his next turn Tabata decided to pass partner's take-out double. On a top diamond lead and a trump switch, declarer lost two diamonds, a heart, two top trumps and two club ruffs for just one down; France +200. For E/W, there were several better places to play ,but how to get there?



#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Guth	M Xu	Bellicaud	Meier
_	_	Pass	1 <b>♠</b>
Pass	$2\diamondsuit$	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

At the other table, South found an opening bid in spades himself so N/S were quickly in game. East led a club and that was an equally quick two down, so France another +100 and 7 IMPs more to them.

In the Funbridge Blue v Japan match, the Japanese West also ran into trouble.

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takizawa	Abragi	Yagishita	Rombaut
_	_	Pass	Pass
1	Dble	All Pass	

On a top diamond lead and a trump shift, the contract even went down two for Funbridge Blue +500.

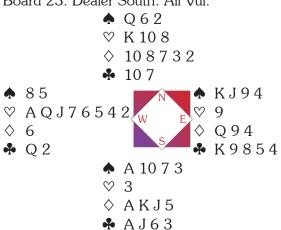
#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Patreuha	Yamamoto	Kolesnik	Song
_	_	Pass	2 <b>^</b>
All Pass			

As you can see, South found an opening bid in spades at this table too, and his weak two also survived unchallenged. Song went down three for another +150 to Funbridge Blue, worth 12 IMPs.

Next:

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mann	Fragola	Sandin	Tabata
_	_	_	$1 \diamondsuit$
4♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	5♦	Dble	All Pass

The South hand was strong enough to welcome even a pass of the double from North, certainly at this vulnerability. However, not yet all French hopes were lost when West led the  $\heartsuit A$  and continued the  $\clubsuit 8$ . This went to the jack and the ace, the  $\diamondsuit A$  was cashed and a spade was led towards dummy's queen and East's king. When East continued the  $\spadesuit 9$ , apparently hoping for West to ruff, declarer suddenly was in with a chance. He won the  $\spadesuit 10$ , cashed the  $\spadesuit 7$ , on which a club from dummy was thrown, and made the rest of the tricks with the help of the now marked diamond finesse, so France a surprise +750.

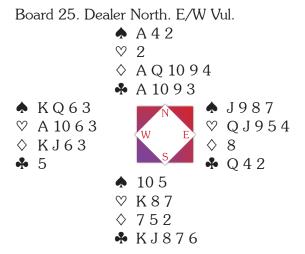
#### Closed Room

0.000				
West	North	East	South	
Guth	M Xu	Bellicaud	Meier	
_	_	_	$1 \diamondsuit$	
4♡	Pass	Pass	Dble	
All Pass				

At the other table, the auction started the same way, but here Xu had little trouble in passing it. A A diamond to the jack, diamond ruffed, ♣Q to the ace, another diamond ruffed, club to the king and a heart finesse. Back came a spade. Dummy's ♠J forced South's ace, but now another club promoted North's ♥10 into the second undertrick. Well done; Cood Life +500 but still 6 IMPs more to France. They were leading 24-0 after just three boards.

In the Funbridge Blue v Japan match, both tables were in 4% doubled but the trump promotion was only found by the Funbridge Blue defenders Abragi and Rombaut. That meant 7 more IMPs to Funbridge Blue.

Two deals later, E/W would just go down in 4% but at most tables, N/S were allowed to play in clubs, either by missing game or by taking a phantom sacrifice. Only Tim van de Paverd made 4% on a spade lead so there something must have gone wrong in defence, I assume. Here are a few auctions and results.



#### •

#### **France v Cood Life:**

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mann	Fragola	Sandin	Tabata
_	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1NT
Pass	2 <b>%</b>	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	2 %	3♣
All Pass			

West might have taken action immediately over 1NT, I thought. The club shortness looks an asset to me, though the diamond holding does not. Anyway, Fragola made an overtrick for +130 to France.

In the Closed Room, East entered the scene at an early stage.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Guth	M Xu	Bellicaud	Meier
_	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	2 %	3♣
4♡	5 <b>.</b>	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

It all worked well for the French because the opposition believed them. When declarer did not finesse in trumps nor on the first round of diamonds, he even went down two for +300 to the French. That was another 10 IMPs for them to bring the score forward to 34-0.

Mainly the same happened in the match between Funbridge Blue and Japan. Here are the auctions.

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takizawa	Abragi	Yagishita	Rombaut
_	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

Abragi took all the available finesses and emerged with no less than 12 tricks; Funbridge Blue+170.

#### Closed Room

Closed Hoc	7111		
West	North	East	South
Patreuha	Yamamoto	Kolesnik	Song
_	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	2NT	3♡	<b>4♣</b>
4♡	5 <b>.</b>	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

In this match, too, the  $4\heartsuit$  bidders were believed. Declarer just went the unavoidable one down for

another +100 and 7 more IMPs to Funbridge Blue. Two deals later in the same match:

Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
Takizawa	Abragi	Yagishita	Rombaut	
_	_	_	2 %	
Pass	4 <b>^</b>	4NT	Pass	
5 <b>♣</b>	All Pass			

♦ 765

♣ K94

A nice East hand but having to enter at the 4NT level is no pleasure, even less so without a sure fit. Nobody doubled but the contract still went down three for Funbridge Blue +150.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Patreuha	Yamamoto	Kolesnik	Song
_	_	_	2 %
Pass	2NT	3♦	<b>3♠</b>
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The same sound weak two here but North reacted to it in quite different fashion. South showed his spade shortness but North thought his diamond stopper would do. East led his second suit but when dummy's K held the first trick, declarer had his contract, Japan had +400, and 6 IMPs to them.

In the France v Cood Life match, both tables were in 54 doubled, East trying 4NT at both tables. Castor Mann went down one trick more than his French counterpart so the French got 5 more IMPs.

Now over to the big drama in the U21s.

At the start of the last round, the local team Blue Wratislavia were in seventh place and the Dutch U21 champions were lying eighth. They both were having terrific matches and with two boards to play they had risen to fourth and fifth respectively. This was the penultimate board.

Board 29. Dealer North, All Vul.

**♠** J 10 7 2 ♥ J963 ♦ 964 ♣ K3 ♠ K854 AQ96  $\heartsuit AQ4$ ♦ A K 10 Q8 ♣ QJ842 10965 ♥ 108752 ♦ J7532 ♣ A 7

Both the French opponents of the Dutch team and the Blue Wratislavia team ended up in 6 here, obviously missing the AK and a trump trick. The swing of 13 IMPs meant that with one board to play, the Dutch were fourth and Blue Wratislavia fifth. This was the last board:

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♦ 9

♣ AJ7

**♠** Q 5 4 ♥ 9653 ♦ A 4 ♣ KQ103 J876 ♥ J87 ΑQ ♦ J 10 8 7 KQ6532 **4** 92 **8** 8 6 5 4 ♠ AK1092 ♥ K 10 4 2

This looked like a routine game, and it led to the following final results in the U26:

France v Cood Life 40-3 or 18.84-1.16 VPs. Funbridge Blue v Japan 29-14 or 14.80-5.20 VPs. Skaffatar v Frenemies 58-17 or 19.33-0.67 VPs.

So the three teams already within the top four easily consolidated their positions with these big wins. The fourth team to make it into the Final Four was the Hellas U26 team.

In the U21 series, Blue Wratislavia also reached 4. but the Dutch U21 champions ended up in 6. That was doubled and went two down so they lost 12 IMPs in the process and dropped back to fifth place after all. Blue Wratislavia went back to fourth and thus made it to their final four.

Talking about a slam, on this last board, the only playable slam is 6. Not that it is a particularly good contract but, with the  $\heartsuit A$  right and the black suits both breaking not too badly, there are 12 easy tricks. The diamond ruff is trick 12 if you play a heart before drawing trumps. I spotted one pair who even got to 6. Here is their auction:

West	North	East	South
Nijssen	Saetre	Van de Paverd	Brogeland
	_	$1 \diamondsuit$	Dble
3♦	Dble	5♦	5NT
Pass	6 <b>%</b>	All Pass	

A glorious effort to no avail at all; down two and 11 IMPs away.

### Championship specials

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# Hellas U26 v France U26 Funbridge Blue v Skaffatar

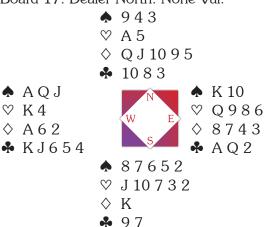
#### Final Four U26

#### Jos Jacobs

For the second match of this round robin, my choice was the encounter between the two leaders of the classification, France v Hellas U26. France had lost their first match but, thanks to the carry-over, they are still in second position, just behind Hellas U26, the Greeks who not only won their first match against The Netherlands (Skaffatar) but also got 1 VP carry-over for finishing third in the Swiss. In this report, I will also keep an eye on the other U26 match, between Skaffatar and Funbridge Blue.

The opening deal of this second match immediately produced a big swing in our other match.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Friesen	Lahrmann	R. Goor	Heiberg-E.
_	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	$1 \diamondsuit$	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the Open Room, the Dutch reached the normal contract in normal fashion: 10 tricks and Skaffatar +430.

#### Closed Room

Closed Room	1		
West	North	East	South
Kolesnik	Van de Paverd	Patreuha	Nijssen
_	Pass	1 <b>♣</b>	Pass
2♣	Pass	2 %	Pass
<b>4♣</b>	Pass	<b>4</b>	Pass
4NT	Pass	5 <b>♣</b>	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

Once West got too optimistic, they were overboard. 4NT is makeable but only if it had been meant as quantitative; down two and 11 IMPs to Skaffatar.

Back now to the France v Hellas match.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fragola	Kapiris	Tabata	Papaspyrou
_	_	Pass	Pass
1 <b>.</b>	$1 \diamondsuit$	All Pass	

A careful auction in the Open Room led to an excellent contract. There were two overtricks, Hellas +110.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Skordas	Guth	Pollatou	Bellicaud
_	_	Pass	Pass
1NT	Dble	Rdbl	Pass
2 <b>♣</b>	Dble	Pass	Pass
$2 \diamondsuit$	Dble	Pass	2 %
Pass	4 %	All Pass	

An enterprising auction in the Closed Room led to a quite reasonable game contract. With the trumps 4-1 and the diamonds 4-2 behind declarer, this contract just was impossible to handle. One down meant another +100 and 5 IMPs to Hellas.

Two quiet deals and then:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ AJ953♡ 95

♦ K8
A 10 9 2

♠ 6♡ Q 8◇ 9 7 4 2

♣ Q76543

W E

**∧** K7 ♡ AKJ1063 ◇ AQ3

♣ K8

♠ Q 10 8 4 2

♥ 742♦ J 1065

🔑 J

The two E/W pairs had different opinions about the best denomination for a sacrifice.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fragola	Kapiris	Tabata	Papaspyrou
_	1 <b>^</b>	Dble	<b>4</b> ♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5 <b>♣</b>	Pass	5♡	All Pass

Tabata went for his own suit which proved to be the right solution; one down, Hellas+50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Skordas	Guth	Pollatou	Bellicaud
_	<b>1</b> ♠	Dble	<b>4</b>
5 <b>♣</b>	Dble	All Pass	

Pollatou respected her partner's choice (or, as they say, did not want to go down herself) so the Greeks paid the price, which proved to be down two, for +300 and 6 IMPs to France.

Not really surprisingly, we saw the same difference of opinions in the Skaffatar v Funbridge Blue match. The Dutch played in clubs, the Fun team in hearts. The latter also won 6 IMPs this way.

Next:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

♠ 987♡ J♦ KQ32♣ AJ865

W E

♠ A Q J♡ 9 4

♦ A 9 7 4
♣ Q 9 7 2

♠ K 6 5 3♡ Q 10 7 3◇ J 10 5♣ K 4

Five of any minor is the proper contract. The only problem is the club suit. Do you play low from East or do you present the queen on the first round of the suit?

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fragola	Kapiris	Tabata	Papaspyrou
_	_	1	Pass
2 <b>♠</b>	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	5 <b>%</b>	All Pass





Tabata possibly remembered a deal from the day before where the same problem occurred and was not solved correctly. This time, he started by playing a low club to the jack and that happened to be the right way to tackle the suit. France +600.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Skordas	Guth	Pollatou	Bellicaud
_	_	1♣	Pass
$1\Diamond$	3♡	Pass	4♡
4NT	Pass	5♦	All Pass

In the Closed Room, diamonds were trumps but clubs were the essential suit. Declarer finessed against the \$10 on the second round of the suit and thus went one down for another +100 and 12 IMPs to France.

In our other match, both tables avoided the nasty guess in clubs. Here are their auctions.

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Friesen	Lahrmann	R. Goor	Heiberg-E.
_	_	1♣	Pass
2 <b>.</b>	3♡	Pass	4♡
Dble	All Pass		

This contract went the expected three down, so Skaffatar +500.

In the Closed Room, even less attention was paid to clubs.

#### Closed Room

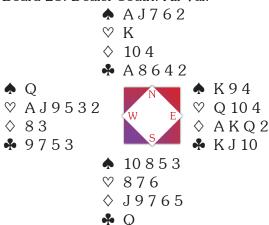
West	North	East	South
Kolesnik	Van de Paverd	Patreuha	Nijssen
_	_	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass
2♦	2♡	2 <b>^</b>	3♡
<b>3</b> ♠	Pass	4♦	All Pass

Neither East nor West could find any extra values in their cards. With the clubs right for declarer, E/W scored an easy +150 but lost 8 IMPs in the process.



And next:

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fragola	Kapiris	Tabata	Papaspyrou
_	_	_	Pass
2 %	2 <b>^</b>	4♡	All Pass

Double dummy, 4% can always be defeated by A and a ruff, A and another club ruff but, at the table, West might have made his contract had he guessed to play for the blank %K. North led the A on which South contributed the three. Then came A and a club ruff, followed by a diamond to dummy. When declarer was not clairvoyant, he was two down because he suffered another club ruff after losing to the %K; Hellas +200.

In the Closed Room, the Greeks avoided the dangers.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Skordas	Guth	Pollatou	Bellicaud
_	_	_	Pass
$2\diamondsuit$	2 <b>^</b>	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♣	Dble	3♠
Dhle	All Pass		

Three Spades was just asking too much from the cards. There were three red losers and not enough useful spot cards in clubs. To ruff three of them would give the defence a second trump trick and that's exactly what happened or could not be avoided. Hellas scored another +200 and 9 IMPs to them.

There was not much in the remaining cards in our main match. Hellas v France ended at 22-21 or 10.31-9.69 VPs. to Hellas. In the other match, Funbridge Blue lost to Skaffatar by 36-43 or 7.97-12.03 VPs.

With only the last match to be played, all four teams could still win. There were just about 5 VPs. between them and less than 2 VPs. between the top three teams.

# Lower Silesia

Lower Silesia is a geographical region located on the border of southwestern Poland. It borders the Czech Republic and Germany, so you can get here from Prague or Berlin in about 4 hours.

Over the centuries, Lower Silesia has experienced constant contacts between the cultures of at least three nations – Polish, Czech and German – which together shaped the extremely turbulent and dramatic history of the region. Lower Silesia can rival its wealth with the most interesting regions in the world. Especially in the vast mountain areas of the Lower Silesian Sudetes, you can find real treasures of both cultural and natural heritage.

There are still many traces of history in Lower Silesia. You can learn more by embarking on a journey along the trail of numerous forts, castles and palaces (there are over 100 of them in Lower Silesia - highest density of castles Poland) or by traversing the corridors of former mines in Wałbrzych, Kletno and Złoty Stok, as well as mysterious and not fully explored military facilities in Kamienna Góra, Jelenia Góra, Walim or Głuszyca (the Underground City of Osówka). It is worth looking for peace and rest primarily in the south of the voivodeship – in popular health resorts or mountain resorts of Duszniki-Zdrój, Polanica-Zdrój, Lądek-Zdrój, Szczawno-Zdrój, Cieplice Śląskie-Zdrój, Świeradów-Zdrój, Jedlina-Zdrój or Długopole-Zdrój.

When visiting the sites from the European Route of Castles and Palaces (szlakzamkowipalacow.eu), you can learn not only the fascinating stories of their creation and often no less interesting stories of their owners, but also take advantage of the rich hotel and gastronomic offer. This is one of the most interesting thematic routes in Poland, which covers not only the south-west corner of Poland, but the entire Polish-Czech border area. Traveling along the designated route provides an extraordinary scenic experience also while moving between individual castles and palaces, among which there are, among others, the beautifully situated castles of Książ, Czocha, Grodno, Grodziec and Bolków as well as palaces and impressive residences in Łomnica, Staniszów, Pakoszów, Kamieniec Ząbkowicki and many others.







Bicycles, skiing or horseback riding, kayaks, hiking – no matter how you like to spend your free time, if you are interested in active recreation, Lower Silesia has plenty of possibilities waiting for you.

Bicycle trips around the picturesque Barycz Valley, on the mountain routes of the Sudety and Singletrack Glacensis MTB trails cannot be overlooked (be sure to check the website: dolnyslaskrowerem. pl and the Lower Silesia Biking mobile application(dolnyslaskrowerem) for Android and iOS mobile devices).

Ski lifts are availible in the in the Karkonosze Mountains and in Kłodzko Land. Places like Świeradów-Zdrój, Szklarska Poręba and Jakuszyce, Karpacz, Zieleniec or Czarna Góra are top winter and summer hiking destinations. Another natural treasure where you can find numerous well marked tourist routes are located in Stołowe Mountains (lit. "Table Mountains") with unique rock labyrinths, the volcanic Kaczawskie Mountains known primarily for the colorful lakes in Rudawy Janowickie Mountains.

The Lower Silesian Voivodeship has convenient, direct railway connections with all major cities in Poland and a well-connected network of connections to the Czech Republic and Germany. A wide range of local rail connections is provided by Koleje Dolnośląskie, which facilitates access to even the most remote corners of the region. You can fly to Wroclaw with one of 10 airlines that connect Wroclaw with cities such as Frankfurt, Zurich, Amsterdam, Helsinki or Warsaw.

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Find out more at: dolnyslask.travel









# **Rankings**

#### **UNDER 26**

1	HELLAS U26	41.78
2	SKAFFATAR	39.17
_		33.17
3	FRANCE U26	24.91
4	TEAM FUNBRIDGE BLUE	20.14

#### **UNDER 26W**

1	POLAND 1	55.35
2	FRANCE U26W	43.91
3	POLAND 2	22.05
4	AUSTRALIA	4.69

#### **UNDER 31**

1	FRANCE U31	39.72
2	ZG HC	38.56
3	POLISH DODOS	31.49
4	ANIA	16.23

#### **UNDER 21**

1	BRIDGECHAMP	36.88
2	POLAND U21	32.44
3	RDFZ B	30.51
4	BLUE WRATISLAVIA	26.17

#### **UNDER 16**

JACK	45.12
THE VIKINGS	35.50
CT U16	25.38
CT 360	20.00
	JACK THE VIKINGS CT U16 CT 360



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**YOUTH BAM** 

RDFZ U16

1	WASHED UP U31	43.00	27	CLEO U26W	32.40
2	TEAM FRIESENJUNG U26	41.00	28	WILDER BRIDGER CREW U21	32.00
3	AUSTRIA U31	40.40		AZS WRATISLAVIA U26	32.00
4	WZBS U21	40.00	30	FRANCE 2 U21	31.80
5	DABROWKA DWUJEZYCZNI U26	40.00	31	AUSTRALIA U26	31.40
6	JAPAN U26	39.40		POLAND U31	31.40
7	COOD LIFE U26	39.40	33	MAIA U26W	31.20
8	CHINA SUN U31	39.00	34	EXPIRED YOUTH U31	30.00
9	SAMI U31	38.00		HUNGAEL U26	30.00
10	YOUNG AND BROKE U26	37.40		POLAND U26	30.00
	ENGLAND U21	37.40		SLOVENIJA U31	30.00
12	FRANCE 1 U21	37.00	38	JAPAN U21	29.00
13	BFI JUNIORS U31	36.00		PIAST GOL AZS UW U21	29.00
14	DISCO PIGERNE U26	35.00	40	CZECH REPUBLIC U21	28.00
	CARDSAGAINSTURSANITY U31	35.00	41	NEW FRIENDS U26W	27.00
	INDIA A U31	35.00		TEAM CANADA U26	27.00
17	PANATHINAIKOS U21	34.80		WZBS U26W	27.00
18	AZS UW WARSAW 1 U21	34.40	44	AKADEMIA PRIMUS U21	26.80
19	DUTCH BULLDOZERS U31	34.00	45	RDFZ R U21	26.20
20	BLITZ U21	33.40	46	AZS UW PTC PIAST U26W	25.00
	POLAND 2 U21	33.40	47	HKAB U21	24.40
22	NONE U21	33.20	48	EKO ROZANKA HUSSARS U31	22.40
23	RDFZ G U21	33.00	49	PTC DOLINA NARWI U21	20.40
	TEAM FUNBRIDGE PINK U26	33.00	50	4KL 2BKB U21	19.20
	NETHERLANDS U21	33.00	51	VERCO CKIS SKAWINA U21	16.00
26	STROMSGODSET U26	32.80			
U1	6 BAM				
1	POLAND U16	41.00	12	BRIDGE SCHOOL TEAM1 U16	27.00
2	FRANCE U16	38.00	12	THE BAST U16	27.00
3	CZE HUN U16	36.00		AZS UW GOL GIRLS U16	27.00
3	VERCO U16	36.00	15	POLAK MALI U16	26.40
3	AZS UW WARSAW 1 U16	36.00	16	WEPLAYBRIDGE4US U16	25.20
6	VERCO CKIS SKAWINA U16	34.00	17	KRAKOW I BRODNICA U16	24.00
7	USRAEL U16	30.00	18	AZS UW GOL U16	23.00
8	WZBS U16	29.00	19	CHINA SMZY SPLINTER U16	21.00
9	BRIDGEBLITZ DAIS U16	28.60	20	CHINA SMZY SMOLEN U16	19.20
10	BRIDGE SCHOOL TEAM2 U16	28.00	21	BRIDGE SCHOOL TEAM3 U16	18.00
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