



FUNBRIDGE

WORLD YOUTH OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

LYON | FRANCE

— 15th - 24th AUGUST 2017



"Bridge for Peace"

DAILY BULLETIN

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FEDERATION
FRANÇAISE
DE BRIDGE



Issue No. 4

Saturday, 19 August 2017

Pairs are done, now it's teams



Youth Pairs winners: Juniors, Simon Ekenberg and Linus Dahlström; Youngsters, Cheng Deng and Zhijie Yuan; Girls, Mathilde Thuillez and Sarah Combescur; Kids, Yingqi Wang and Jiahao Yang. For more photos, visit the WBF Youth Facebook page.

The first phase of the Funbridge World Youth Open Bridge Championships – the pairs games – drew to a close on Friday with a prize-giving for the pairs winners before an enthusiastic crowd of mostly youth players in the Vu-graph auditorium.

The champions are Simon Ekenberg and Linus Dahlström, Juniors; Cheng Deng and Zhijie Yuan, Youngsters; Mathilde Thuillez and Sarah Combescur, Girls, and Yingqi Wang and Jiahao Yang, Kids.

As expected, any French pairs called to the stage received suitably loud applause, but in the spirit of sportsmanship, all who received trophies or medals were celebrated enthusiastically.

Starting today through Aug. 24, it's teams events, with qualifying for knockouts and, beginning Aug. 21, Board-a-Match Teams.

Online Youth Bridge Magazine debuts

The WBF has established a new Online Youth Bridge Magazine. To find out more, see page 15 inside.

Alert, Youth players



All players in the Funbridge World Youth Open Bridge Championships are encouraged to gather in the space between buildings outside Forum 1 in the convention center for a group photo on Sunday, Aug. 20. Time to be determined.

Contents

Results	2-6
Junior Pairs final 1	7
What might have been	9
Indian youth bridge gains momentum	12
The Seven... ..	13



Today's Schedule

14.00 - 15.30	Teams Round 1 (J - Y - G - K)
16.00 - 17.30	Teams Round 2 (J - Y - G - K)
18.00 - 19.30	Teams Round 3 (J - Y - G - K)



FINAL RANKING



JUNIOR PAIRS Group A after session 3

Rank	Names		Nationality	Percentage
1	EKENBERG Simon	DAHLSTROEM Linus	SWE - SWE	56.72
2	DU CORAIL Edouard	NEVEU Loic	FRA - FRA	55.82
3	COMBESCURÉ Baptiste	BERNARD Julien	FRA - FRA	55.32
4	URMAN Lior	TOLEDANO Oren	ISR - ISR	54.56
5	WEI Hongji	SUN Shiyu	CHN - CHN	53.93
6	SHAH Shivam	BAKKE Christian	ENG - NOR	53.48
7	EZION Amir	ZAMIR Ami	ISR - ISR	51.29
8	ALISHAW Michael	KENNEDY Stephen	ENG - ENG	49.37
9	NORTON Ben	APTEKER Noah Thomas	ENG - RSA	49.30
10	KOBAYASHI Koki	IMAKIIRE Eishi	JPN - JPN	48.88
11	GINOSSAR Itamar	BEN DAVID Yuval	ISR - ISR	46.03
12	JANAS Adam	TOMIS Zdenek	CZE - CZE	43.36
13	ETCHEPAREBORDA Juan Cruz	CAZABON Philippe	CHI - CHI	42.22
14	WEISS Florian	VELJA Stefan	AUT - SER	39.73

YOUNGSTERS PAIRS Group A after session 3

Rank	Names		Nationality	Percentage
1	DENG Cheng	YUAN Zhijie	CHN - CHN	56.56
2	GIUBILO Gianmarco	PORTA Federico	ITA - ITA	53.47
3	BOULIN Arthur	GUILLEMIN Theo	FRA - FRA	53.18
4	KOIVU Oskari	HUHTAMAKI Hermanni	FIN - FIN	51.80
5	ZHANG Tiancheng	TONG Jiaxin	CHN - CHN	50.94
6	ALTER Florian	VORNKAHL Leonard	GER - GER	50.90
7	SUCHARDA Edward	KIELBASA Tomasz	POL - POL	50.19
8	KOPKA Kacper	CICHY Krzysztof	POL - POL	49.76
9	BELLICAUD Luc	BASLER Raphael	FRA - FRA	49.16
10	NIJSEN Oscar	VAN DE PAVERD Tim	NED - NED	47.84
11	YEKUTIELI Asaf	BANIRI Ilai Ilan	ISR - ISR	47.67
12	PAN Randy	JIANG Baozhuo	CHN - CHN	46.87
13	GUTH Romaric	RABOURDIN Hugo	FRA - FRA	46.22
14	CHIARANDINI Francesco	GAJOTTI Alvaro	ITA - ITA	45.44

KIDS PAIRS Group A after session 3

Rank	Names		Nationality	Percentage
1	LIU Yizhou	LU Mingyu	CHN - CHN	63.86
2	MAO Ruicheng	YU Zhaochen	CHN - CHN	58.26
3	CHENG Licong	WANG Penghao	CHN - CHN	58.12
4	NIU Yuanzhe	WANG Zhaofeng	CHN - CHN	55.70



FINAL RANKING



5	WANG Ruizhe	XU Hao	CHN - CHN	53.29
6	PIGULSKI Adam	RACEWICZ MACIEJ	POL - POL	53.25
7	YAO Tianle	LIU Haochen	CHN - CHN	52.48
8	TEIL Clement	ROMBAUT Leo	FRA - FRA	51.41
9	LI Weishun	YU Zhaolun	CHN - CHN	50.48
10	CHULATHAMMAKUN Asawanee	KUISUWAN Phitchaphuek	THA - THA	50.41
11	SJODAL Sofie Grasholt	JOHNSEN Christian Fredrik	NOR - NOR	50.40
12	ZHANG Boxin	ZHAO Fangchen	CHN - CHN	49.88
13	WANG Size	HUANG Yuxiang	CHN - CHN	49.65
14	ZHU Jiyuan	ZHANG Shengyu	CHN - CHN	49.52
15	ZHANG Xuyang	HUANG Ruochen	CHN - CHN	48.49
16	WANG Zhongtian	WEN Yuqi	CHN - CHN	48.09
17	YAN Tianyao	ZHOU Chuanyao	CHN - CHN	48.06
18	HOU Xingyu	LANG Ningyu	CHN - CHN	48.00
19	GALLARD Aurele	SCHLUMBERGER Wilhelmine	FRA - FRA	47.66
20	CHEN Jingfan	CAI Zhenhao	CHN - CHN	46.11
21	BLOCH Romain	LIBBRECHT Arthur	FRA - FRA	46.10
22	LI Suhang	LU Xiaoming	CHN - CHN	45.09
23	WANG Yifan	WANG Yi	CHN - CHN	44.80
24	WU Xukai	WANG Jiarui	CHN - CHN	43.93
25	YU Yanze	WANG Jingyi	CHN - CHN	43.45
26	LI Yingzhe	SHEN Junjie	CHN - CHN	43.10

GIRLS PAIRS Group A after session 3

Rank	Names		Nationality	Percentage
1	THUILLEZ Mathilde	COMBESURE Sarah	FRA - FRA	54.23
2	CHEN Yunpeng	XU Jiaming	CHN - CHN	53.27
3	RUAN Xinyao	LU Yajie	CHN - CHN	53.13
4	LI Shiyi	WANG Yici	CHN - CHN	52.92
5	LU Yijia	GE Chenyun	CHN - CHN	52.78
6	MAO Shiyun	WU Xiaotong	CHN - CHN	52.43
7	REN Xingsi	ZHANG Yuhan	CHN - CHN	52.26
8	ZHAO Yuchen	MA Jinyi	CHN - CHN	49.85
9	MYLLAERI Maria	VANNI Ilona	FIN - FIN	49.73
10	SRIDAR HINDU SREE	BHIMANAIAK Rekha	IND - IND	49.18
11	XIA Qi	LI Jinyue	CHN - CHN	47.75
12	ZORANOVIC Jovana	PEPIC Selena	SER - SER	45.41
13	YU Wenfei	SUN Jiateng	CHN - CHN	44.12
14	KAMPERMANN Mareille	DAMMANN Alexandra	GER - GER	42.94



FINAL RANKING



JUNIOR / YOUNGSTERS / GIRLS PAIRS Group B after session 3

Rank	Names		Nationality	Percentage
1	CAILLOL Hugo	BASLER Tristan	FRA - FRA	61.82
2	YUAN Aijia	JIN Huiyuan	CHN - CHN	58.26
3	LIU Yihong	YUN Yu	CHN - CHN	58.17
4	ZVEZDIN Zigfrid	ARSENTYEVA Elizaveta	RUS - RUS	57.94
5	NATAF Martin	LAINE Jean-Baptiste	FRA - FRA	56.89
6	GURIDI Gonzalo	RAMIREZ Diego	CHI - CHI	56.43
7	TRNAVAC Vuk	VAZIC Stojan	SER - SER	56.35
8	YAMADA Ryoichi	HINO Takayuki	JPN - JPN	55.47
9	STROBL Diego	LOPEZ Antonio	CHI - CHI	54.99
10	NEO Derek	SONOIKE Sanekata	JPN - JPN	54.92
11	YANG Qipeng	WANG Dingyuan	CHN - CHN	54.67
12	BASKIN Ben	ROZENTAL Nir	ISR - ISR	54.59
13	YU Haoqing	QIU Shi	CHN - CHN	54.15
14	DUFRENE Melic	FRAGOLA Maxence	FRA - FRA	53.89
15	KAMAL PATEL Vidhya	BALIRAM GURJAR Kalpana	IND - IND	53.79
16	SCATA Sebastiano	GIUBILO Gabriele	ITA - ITA	53.67
17	BAO Zhiyun	LI Yiran	CHN - CHN	53.49
18	COUPEL Marie-Valentine	CHELIN Helene	FRA - FRA	53.31
19	DI LORENZO Anastasia	COLOMBO Alice	ITA - ITA	53.06
20	OTTO Viktor	LITTERST Maximilian	GER - GER	53.02
21	JIANG Yixuan	TANG Qing	CHN - CHN	52.94
22	MINUTTI Guillermo	CRUSIZIO Maximo	URU - ARG	52.45
23	WOLFF Ilan	FINKLE Nathan	USA - USA	52.31
24	DOERMER Felix	LEPPER Jannik	GER - GER	52.24
25	PANFILI Guilherme Teiji Nishino	MAUTONE Julia	BRA - BRA	52.20
26	ZHENG Yifei	XU Tong	CHN - CHN	52.14
27	LE LEZ Victor	THORPE Stephan	FRA - FRA	51.95
28	ZHOU Zhenlin	CHENG Jingyu	CHN - CHN	51.93
29	BOSSONNEY Kyle	PEREZ Bastian	CHI - CHI	51.70
30	ZAMORA VILLAMIZAR Jose Alejandro	CUERVO LOPERA Juan Felipe	COL - COL	51.20
31	CHENG Zhiyu	WANG Xihao	CHN - CHN	51.14
32	WU Sihao	WANG Yuming	CHN - CHN	51.13
33	BATTAGGIA Tais	SALOMAO Henrique Barbosa	BRA - BRA	50.72
34	ROY SAGNIK	KUSHARI SAYANTAN	IND - IND	50.45
35	MOLINA Diana	ROMAN Valentina	CHI - CHI	50.24
36	DAVILA Nicolas	LI Jialin	CHI - CHN	50.22
37	GU Yueling	MAO Yanting	CHN - CHN	49.41
38	PESNEL Brieuc	BEDOUET Pierre	FRA - FRA	48.26
39	JOUNIN Emeline	BESANCON Helene	FRA - FRA	48.13
40	WANG Shijia	SHEN Zhiyu	CHN - CHN	48.03



FINAL RANKING



41	HU Yuchen	FAN Kexin	CHN - CHN	48.02
42	QIN Tianling	WANG Xiangwu	CHN - CHN	47.96
43	RUAN Jingyue	YANG Fan	CHN - CHN	47.90
44	YANEZ Camila	VASQUEZ Esteban	CHI - CHI	47.83
45	KAR SOUVIK	DAS SHOUVIK	IND - IND	47.45
46	VELJA Nemanja	VELICKOVIC Bogdan	SER - SER	47.41
47	DUFRENE Beryl	THORPE Tasmin	FRA - FRA	47.31
48	VITSE Maxime	RAIMOND Maxime	FRA - FRA	47.12
49	HU Ling	MA Lingyi	CHN - CHN	46.86
50	ZHOU Jiajing	LIU Xinchun	CHN - CHN	46.74
51	FARWIG Sven Niklas	OELKER Fiona	GER - GER	46.67
52	GERSTMANN Sofia	NACRUR Francisca	CHI - CHI	45.89
53	YU Yue	SUN Yingying	CHN - CHN	45.77
54	GIANNOTTI Rodrigo	PAOLI BARBOSA Heitor	BRA - BRA	45.52
55	YAN Peilin	DING Yufei	CHN - CHN	45.41
56	RIEGER Mona	NORDMANN Leonie	GER - GER	45.32
57	VALENZUELA RIVERA Joan Sebastian	CORREA LAGUNA Nicolas	COL - COL	45.22
58	TROJANSKI Filip	BAZYLAK Jakub	POL - POL	45.15
59	DOUBLE Vincent	GREM Matteo	FRA - FRA	45.11
60	HUANG Siyi	FAN Lingwen	CHN - CHN	44.92
61	DE LUTIO Caterina	CAPOBIANCO Sophia	ITA - ITA	44.11
62	SHAO Liwen	BI Xiaoran	CHN - CHN	44.10
63	BELLOU Constance	PINON Roxane	FRA - FRA	43.29
64	BRUSOTTI Cristina	MONTALTI Irene	ITA - ITA	41.93
65	LIU Guangli Wendy	LUO Xinyi	CHN - CHN	39.85
66	SANCHEZ Thomas	LIERHMANN Florian	FRA - FRA	39.61
67	GUO Yunfei	ZHU Junyue	CHN - CHN	38.76

KIDS Group B after session 3

Rank	Names		Nationality	Percentage
1	WANG Yingqi	YANG Jiahao	CHN - CHN	67.26
2	ZUR Snir	KATZ Amit	ISR - ISR	58.95
3	DALPOZZO Valentina	DALPOZZO Federica	ITA - ITA	58.11
4	DAI Hanyang	WU Zhe	CHN - CHN	57.92
5	ZBIK Bartosz	PASINSKI Przemyslaw	POL - POL	57.30
6	MEREGALLI Matteo	CARLETTI Alessandro	ITA - ITA	57.07
7	TAN Rui	WANG Zhaoyi	CHN - CHN	56.94
8	FARWIG Niels Ole	LANGER Emil	GER - GER	56.36
9	LOMBARDI Antonio	LOMBARDI Matteo	ITA - ITA	56.01
10	XU Tingqiang	XU Yiyang	CHN - CHN	55.07
11	BASOALTO Francisco	PEREZ Ivannia	CHI - CHI	55.01



FINAL RANKING



12	FOLLET Martin	ZOBEL Thibaut	FRA - FRA	54.57
13	BRUNEL Matthias	TABATA Nao	FRA - FRA	54.49
14	CHEN Yufan	YANG Boyuan	CHN - CHN	54.09
15	YANG Siqing	CHEN Yuhao	CHN - CHN	54.00
16	AUSTAD Marius Dalemark	OEBERG Ida Marie	NOR - NOR	53.55
17	HOU Hanfei	LIU Moxi	CHN - CHN	53.16
18	HUANG Yu-Chen	YU Wan-Ting	TPE - TPE	52.55
19	HSU Wen-Yen	LIU Hsi-Li	TPE - TPE	52.08
20	ZHUO Zhili	LIU Yidi	CHN - CHN	51.74
21	WU Bruce	LIN Yukun	CHN - CHN	51.55
22	CAI Hanyu	LI Jiayi	CHN - CHN	51.41
23	LIU Buwen	YAO Yili	CHN - CHN	51.27
24	ZHANG Yang	FU Yanzhuo	CHN - CHN	51.18
25	COHEN-SALMON Arthur	VIBERT Baptiste	FRA - FRA	50.86
26	MA Shuoming	YU Fanfei	CHN - CHN	50.34
27	LI Changyu	WANG Ziqian	CHN - CHN	50.16
28	HU Yang	LI Zihan	CHN - CHN	50.11
29	GU Yi	YAN Shuaitong	CHN - CHN	49.72
30	ZHANG Yaoyuan	GU Chentian	CHN - CHN	49.65
31	YU Yangyang	MIAO Zheheng	CHN - CHN	49.42
32	XIE Yinuo	PAN Yuyang	CHN - CHN	49.05
33	WANG Yicheng	XIAO Yichen	CHN - CHN	48.26
34	HSU Ling-Fang	PENG Fei	TPE - TPE	47.66
35	SIANGLIO Kritsakron	PROMJAN Parit	THA - THA	47.08
36	SOPAK Theeraphat	KOTHA Kittinan	THA - THA	46.92
37	TANG Mingliang	QI Chentong	CHN - CHN	46.25
38	SILVA Catalina	DIAZ Lucas	CHI - CHI	45.94
39	KURLIT Franciszek	KUFLOWSKI Kacper	POL - POL	45.91
40	CHEN Kunning	ZENG Wenjia	CHN - CHN	45.42
41	GUENDEL Marius	DRANSFELD Karl	GER - GER	45.02
42	CHANG Ziwen	GAO Yuxiang	CHN - CHN	44.27
43	PATEL VINAY	MANDLOI DHIRAJ	IND - IND	44.05
44	PRAKASH ANIRUDH	BHATT ANSHUL	IND - IND	43.69
45	CHEN Xuefeng	SONG Xichen	CHN - CHN	43.36
46	LI Haoran	XU Zijie	CHN - CHN	43.28
47	LI Jintian	SUN Yiwen	CHN - CHN	42.80
48	WANG Hongkai	ZHU Feng	CHN - CHN	42.22
49	GAO Wenzhuo	WU Jingyan	CHN - CHN	42.05
50	DU Jinyao	LIU Zihan	CHN - CHN	40.44
51	LIN Zitong	YU Xinlun	CHN - CHN	39.08
52	RAINA KARMANYA	MENEZES KAMRYN	IND - IND	35.75



Junior Pairs final 1

by David Stern

On the first two-board round of the final, Ekenberg-Dahlström, the leaders, faced Velja-Weiss, who were running 12th coming into the final. There was play action on the first board.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ 10 5		
	♥ 9 8 7 6 3		
	♦ A J 10 2		
	♣ 7 3		
♠ K Q 6	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ A J 4 2	
♥ A J 5		♥ K Q 4	
♦ K Q 6 4		♦ 9 8 7	
♣ Q J 4		♣ 9 6 2	
	♠ 9 8 7 3		
	♥ 10 2		
	♦ 5 3		
	♣ A K 10 8 5		
West	North	East	South
<i>Velja</i>	<i>Ekenberg</i>	<i>Weiss</i>	<i>Dahlström</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

With the benefit of the hand record we can see that declarer has four spades, three hearts, three diamonds, three clubs, but hand records make life far too easy.

Ekenberg led the normal heart, won with the king and followed with a diamond to king and, after winning the ♦A, North played a second heart. A second diamond was ducked to North allowing him to clear the heart suit.

Declarer then cashed four spades, pitching a club and relying on the diamond break to make the contract. Had declarer tested the diamond break before cashing the spades, a diamond pitch followed by the miracle ♣A K onside would have resulted in plus 400. Plus 50 gave the leaders 67%. Had declarer made 3NT, then that score would have been reduced to 17%.



Stefan Velja, Serbia

On this deal, E/W did well in the bidding.


Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ A K 7 3		
	♥ K 6		
	♦ A Q 7 5		
	♣ 8 6 5		
♠ 9 8 6	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ 10	
♥ 4 2		♥ J 9 8 7 5 3	
♦ K 9 8 4 3 2		♦ 10	
♣ 7 4		♣ A K Q 10 3	
	♠ Q J 5 4 2		
	♥ A Q 10		
	♦ J 6		
	♣ J 9 2		
West	North	East	South
<i>Velja</i>	<i>Ekenberg</i>	<i>Weiss</i>	<i>Dahlström</i>
Pass	3♥	1♥	1♠
4♥	4♠	4♣	Pass
All Pass		5♥	Dble

With the diamond finesse working, 4♠ would have made exactly 10 tricks for +620 to N/S. Velja-Weiss did well to sacrifice and lose a diamond, a spade and three hearts for -500, scoring 67%.

Experience teaches that playing no-trump with singletons should generally be avoided, so when both hands have a singleton perhaps this should be a double warning.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ Q 7 6 4		
	♥ A Q 8		
	♦ K		
	♣ K Q 6 4 3		
♠ A 9 8 5		♠ K 10 2	
♥ J 10 3 2		♥ K 5	
♦ A 8 6		♦ 5 4 2	
♣ 10 5		♣ A 9 8 7 2	
	♠ J 3		
	♥ 9 7 6 4		
	♦ Q J 10 9 7 3		
	♣ J		
West	North	East	South
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Weiss</i>	<i>Wei</i>	<i>Veljas</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

Three diamonds was the optimal resting place for N/S, and even though that was likely to fail by one trick it was certainly better (25%) than the -300 scored (0%) for 2NT failing by three tricks.

There is a general theory that bridge is a bidder's game, something well evidenced here.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wei	Bernard	Sun	Combescure
1♠	Pass	INT	2NT
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

Likely constrained by the fact that 2♥ would be game-forcing over 1♠, East was confined to bidding INT. Over 3♣, it would be reasonable to try 3♥ having already denied game-going values. N/S did well to steal the hand, and when West led a trump because of his short diamond holding. Declarer won the king and played a low diamond, ducking East's queen. On the low club continuation by East, declarer won the 7, played the ♣A, ♦A and another diamond, establishing the suit. With East bereft of spades, South claimed nine tricks and 83%

It is always very tempting, even for this journalist, to ignore secondary four-card suits in favour of much longer suits, so I have sympathy for Kobayashi-Imakiire on this hand.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kobayashi	Sun	Imakiire	Wei
1♦	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	INT	Pass
3♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
5♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
		6♦	All Pass

On a different day, the diamonds will break 2-2 or 3-1 with singleton honour and clubs will be 4-1; unfortunately, today was not one of those days. Your journalists roughly calculate a club slam at around 73% while 6♦ at around 65%, so not much blame attributable here for the strain chosen. One down in 6♦ managed to score 42% when four other tables duplicated this result.

At the half way mark of the first session, the score stood at:

1	URMAN L. - TOLEDANO O.	71.94
2	DU CORAIL E. - NEVEU L	66.91
3	COMBESCURE B. - BERNARD J.	60.36
4	EKENBERG S. - DAHLSTRÖM L.	58.97

While this article may seem critical at times, it is quite amazing how much knowledge one acquires in 50 years of playing the game and how less-experienced players fall for those traps that we know how to avoid – even if we are getting too old to remember to do so. Try this one.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

With normal and natural bidding, E/W reached 3NT from the 'wrong' side. On perfect defence, 3NT by East can also be beaten, but who in the real world finds perfect defences (club lead, heart switch).

Anyway, back to the lesson. North found the ♥10 lead, jack and king. One has to learn to fight the tendency to find a switch and so it was here. Partner led your suit, so why switch? At the table South switched to the ♣2 in fact. Remember, West was declarer and the club suit was not disclosed, so it was no surprise when North won ♣K, cashed

the ace and played a third club – 9 tricks with +400 scoring 83%. And if this deal doesn't demonstrate the theory of returning partner's lead, then the sage words of my late mother should be the final proof – "you never have to apologise for leading or returning partner's suit."

This deal featured a determined battle to buy the contract.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ben-David	Kennedy	Ginossar	Alishaw
	INT	Pass	2♦
Dble	3♥	Dble	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Not everybody is a fan of the off-shape INT opening, but when you play a 10-12 INT, anything goes. After the off-



Stephen Kennedy, England

shape opening you fully expect partner to transfer into your doubleton major but in this case partner transferred into your four-card major – oh, joy!

Four hearts doubled made the expected 12 tricks after the spade lead: +790 and 100% for N/S, while E/W could have sacrificed in 4♠ for -100 or simply have bid spades up to the six level for a better result.

While it was my general intention to balance this article between bidding, play and defence, the session played at this table was well defined by bidding judgment rather than defence or play.

Standings at the end of the first session of 20 boards were:

1	URMAN L. - TOLEDANO O.	63.85
2	COMBESCURE B. - BERNARD J.	62.74
3	DU CORAIL E. - NEVEU L.	59.56
4	EKENBERG S. - DAHLSTRÖM L.	55.07



What might have been

by Brent Manley

In the Youngsters Pairs, Final B, two French players were sailing along with a strong game that was well north of 60%. If only they could have skipped the last round.

Martin Nataf, of Lyon, and Jean-Baptiste Laine of Chissieu started out with a gift from the opponents.

Board 1 Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nataf		Laine	
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	2♣
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South's bold overcall should have been the killer move for N/S, but when North led the ♣7 and Nataf called for a low club from dummy, South won the with king, Nataf following with the ♣J. It was too late at that point for the defenders, so it didn't matter that South continued with the ♣A and another club. To defeat the contract, South must play low on the opening lead, maintaining communication with North, who holds the ♦A.

In practice, after winning the ♣Q, Nataf cashed his spade winners and played a diamond to his queen and North's ace. He won the return of the ♦J with the king and cashed his heart winners for nine tricks, +400 and a 75% score.

This board was the first of a pair of near tops for the Frenchmen.

Board 6 Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nataf		Laine	
1♥	Pass	1♣	Dble
2♦	Dbl	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South started with a low diamond, taken by North with the king. North could have assured the defeat of the contract by returning his singleton club, but he played another diamond, South winning with the ace. The familiar theme continued: it was too late for the defenders. South exited with a low spade, won in dummy with the jack. Declarer then played a heart to his singleton ace and continued with a low spade. South won the ♠A and played a third round of

the suit, but declarer, with a heart and three spades already in hand, could claim with six club tricks. Plus 620 was good for a 95.31% score.

On this deal, there was no gift from the opponents, just good bidding and play by the French pair.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nataf		Laine	
1♦	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♣	All Pass	5♥	Pass

This was the perfect spot and Laine handled it well. He won the opening lead of the ♦3 with the ace, cashed two high clubs in dummy, noting the fall of the trump jack on his right. He then played a low diamond from dummy, following with his jack when North played the queen. Laine won the heart continuation with the king, pulled the last trump with a club to dummy's queen, then claimed, saying he was going to ruff another diamond, establishing the suit, then ruff a major to dummy, which would be good. Plus 1370 was 95.31%.

Nataf and Laine bid another slam on the next board, but it didn't score as well because, on the opening lead, declarer could have taken all the tricks and Nataf took only 12. It's an instructional deal.

Board 11 Dealer South. None Vul.

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



Jean-Baptiste Laine, France



Martin Nataf, France

West <i>Nataf</i>	North	East <i>Laine</i>	South
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♥	All Pass

North led a low club, taken by Nataf with the 10. He played the ♥A and the ♥Q, overtaking with the king when North showed out. He pulled the last trump with dummy's ♥10, then played a club to his ace. He entered dummy with the ♦A, cashed the ♣K and then ruffed a club, but the suit could not be established because of the 5-1 break and Nataf eventually had to concede a diamond to North.

After entering his hand with the ♣A and discovering the 5-1 split, Nataf could have taken all the tricks by ruffing a spade to dummy to cash the ♣K and then ruff a club. He could then cash his final trump to catch North in a minor-suit squeeze. This would be the position as Nataf leads his last trump:

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

On the lead of the ♥8, North must surrender. A diamond discard will give declarer two tricks in the suit, as will the discard of a club.

By having played a diamond to dummy earlier, Nataf gave up the link to dummy that is needed for the squeeze. Granted, less-experienced players are not expected to execute squeezes or other advanced play. It's hoped that this write-up is useful for players interested in such plays.

Plus 980+ was not a bad board at 56.25%, but it could have been better.

Going into the last round, Nataf and Laine were rocking along with a 66.29% game. Too bad for them there were two more boards to play. This was the penultimate deal:

Board 15 Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West <i>Nataf</i>	North	East <i>Laine</i>	South
Pass	2♣*	3♣	1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	Pass

2♣ Artificial game force.

Declarer was Anastasia Di Lorenzo. She was all set for the opening lead when the ♣A from Laine hit the table. The director was summoned and the young Italian player took the option of forbidding a club lead. Nataf settled on a low spade. Declarer took the trump king with her ace, drew the last trump with the queen and boldly played the ♥Q, finessing into the hand that had entered the auction at the three level. When the ♥Q held, she ran the ♦J – again success. She was soon claiming all the tricks for a 77.39% score.

The last board was also a disappointment and the powerful session ended for the pair at a respectable 57.97%. Despite the two bad boards at the end, the two showed that they are to be reckoned with at this tournament.



Indian youth bridge gains momentum

There was a time when bridge in India was a game mostly for clubs, army officers and the premier educational institutions. The only young players were students at the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology. They learned to play after being recruited as fourths for the professors at the school.

Until recently, bridge was not thought of as relevant by many young Indians, although until the early 1990s an inter-collegiate championship had existed for many years.

In the mind of Deone Menezes, assistant to the president of the Indian Bridge Federation, bridge suffered in the wake



Deone Menezes

of the popularity of video games, hand-held devices and smartphone apps that attracted more and more potential youth bridge players.

Just recently, however, bridge – especially for youth players – has gained momentum in India. Menezes says the driving

force behind the change is the decision of the Olympic Council of Asia to include bridge in next year's Asian Games, scheduled for August in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The decision caught the attention of the Indian government's Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, which has three categories for providing support. The top is Priority for cricket, field hockey and football, to name three. The middle category is General. The lowest category, which included bridge, is Other. Now bridge is at the Priority level and eligible for more government financial support. "It was a huge step," says Menezes. "Our dream," he adds, "is to introduce a program into schools."

The decision to include bridge in the Asian Games, says Menezes, "was huge news in India" and brought more attention to the game.

In Jakarta, there will be eight bridge events, including Mixed and Super Mixed Teams. In the latter, no pairs will be mixed. It will be men versus women at all tables.

Menezes is a resident of Goa, about 350 miles south of Mumbai on the west coast of India. He was a strong junior player, winning national youth titles in the late 1980s and early 1990s. For the past four years, he has been working



Members of the group from India attending the Funbridge World Youth Open Bridge Championships

for the Indian federation, creating programs to attract young players. Since 2012, there have been Indian pairs and teams at tournaments in China, Turkey, Sweden and Italy. The Indian contingent in Lyon numbers 14.

Two members of the group include Menezes' daughter,

14-year-old Kamryn, and 8-year-old Anshul Bhatt, both of whom were part of the opening ceremony for the Funbridge World Youth Open Bridge Championships. Anshul read a players' pledge for ethical conduct. Kamryn held a WBF flag on stage at the opening.

Anshul said he was "a little bit nervous" about his role in the opening ceremony, and his father, Mehul, said Anshul had some misgivings about the word "reprehensible," in part because it was hard to pronounce and "he didn't know what it means."

Anshul's father said his son has a "mathematical bent" and loves to apply his knowledge of math to the game. "It is a lot of fun," he said, "to calculate the cards and see the bids and what they mean – and the signals." Anshul likes the symmetry of 52 cards in a deck and 52 weeks in a year; 13 cards in a suit and 13 weeks in a season, of which there are four, the same as the number of suits. He sees himself playing bridge for a long time. "Bridge is for all ages," he said.



Kamryn, who hopes one day to be a lawyer, learned the game after watching her father play at a bridge club and asking him to teach her. She said she now plays every day, including online. She said her non-bridge-playing friends became more interested when they heard about her trip to Lyon. Upon her return home after the tournament, she plans to

teach them the game. "It's a good learning experience," she said.



The Seven...

by Micke Melander

World Youth Girls Pairs Championships Final – Session I

The reigning champions in the World Youth Girls Pairs are Jovana Zoranovic and Selena Pepic from Opatija, Croatia, in 2015. Hence it was no surprise to find them top of the ranking in the qualification in Lyon in the Girls Pairs. Here comes a Seven Chapter article covering what they were up to in the first session of the finals.

1. The defense

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>♠ 10 5 ♥ 9 8 7 6 3 ♦ A J 10 2 ♣ 7 3</p>		<p>♠ A J 4 2 ♥ K Q 4 ♦ 9 8 7 ♣ 9 6 2</p>	
<p>♠ K Q 6 ♥ A J 5 ♦ K Q 6 4 ♣ Q J 4</p>	<p>N W E S</p>	<p>♠ 9 8 7 3 ♥ 10 2 ♦ 5 3 ♣ A K 10 8 5</p>	
West	North	East	South
Zhang	Zoranovic	Ren	Pepic
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	2♣
Dble	Pass	2♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

This is the point where I seriously realize that I'm either not brave enough or just too old, I just couldn't ever imagine overcalling with 2♣ on that lump.

However, there is no doubt about the fact that it surely was a winning move to do that overcall because it directed partner to kick off with a club rather than anything else which would have made the game like an easy walk in the park. All seven tables actually played 3NT with West as declarer, only one went down.

You might think that it was at this table, but no, Zoranovic led the seven of clubs and South smoothly made the right move by ducking. Declarer won with the queen, cashed four spades, to play a heart to the jack and a heart to the queen whereupon a diamond to the king and North's ace followed. For reasons not understood, North now returned the ♥9 instead of her last club. Declarer simply cashed out and claimed nine tricks.

So instead of a top for the champions, they scored 41.67%, when one declarer managed to go down when a heart was led.

2. The Opening Lead

Board 2. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

<p>♠ 9 8 6 ♥ 4 2 ♦ K 9 8 4 3 2 ♣ 7 4</p>		<p>♠ A K 7 3 ♥ K 6 ♦ A Q 7 5 ♣ 8 6 5</p>	
	<p>N W E S</p>	<p>♠ 10 ♥ J 9 8 7 5 3 ♦ 10 ♣ A K Q 10 3</p>	
West	North	East	South
Zhang	Zoranovic	Ren	Pepic
Pass	Dble	1♥	Pass
Pass	3♠	2♣	2♠
All Pass		Pass	4♠

Pepic went to be declarer in 4♠ on the next board and made no mistakes when West led a heart. Pepic won with the king in dummy, drew three rounds of trumps and pitched one of dummy's losing clubs on the third heart. There was now no way for the defense to get more than two club tricks, when the ♦K was onside. Eleven tricks scored the great 83.33%.

3. The Upgrade

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ Q 10 8 5 ♥ A Q ♦ A J 10 7 ♣ J 9 2</p>		<p>♠ A K 6 ♥ K 9 4 ♦ K 8 5 ♣ 10 7 6 3</p>	
	<p>N W E S</p>	<p>♠ J 7 4 3 ♥ J 6 3 ♦ Q 9 3 ♣ A K 5</p>	
West	North	East	South
Pepic	Ruan	Zoranovic	Lu
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

A bad thing rarely comes alone. Here Pepic decided to upgrade her 14 count to a 15-17 NT and nothing could

stop East to bid game and when she went by a Stayman sequence, to ensure North not leading hearts. Since North options suddenly was down to kicking off with a minor and from that holdings clubs seemed very natural and for sure killing. Pepic tried a low from dummy, but Lu won with the queen and played a passive second round of clubs. Declarer won in dummy and called for a diamond that went to the 10 and North's king, whereupon a third round of clubs came back, establishing North's 10 when everybody followed suit.

There was now no way for declarer to avoid two losers in clubs, a diamond, a heart and two spades. Two down gave Lu-Ruan a nice 75% score when North got some useful help from the bidding, a straight 3NT from East and a helpful heart would have been led...

4. The "Crazy overcall"

Board 5. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pepic	Ge	Zoranovic	Lu
1♠	1♣	Pass	1♥
2♠	Dble	2♣*	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♦
Dble	3♥	Pass	Pass
	All Pass		

If the previous overcall with 2♣ was a bid bold, what about this 1♠ overcall in fourth seat?

I must confess I wouldn't ever have been close by doing it, even though it was successful since the highest making contract in theory was 2♠ or NT by E-W. East tried a good raise in spades but N-S took over and they eventually came to stop in 3♥, Pepic's double was just a fantastic pairs decision!

The ♠A was led by West, going to the 4, the 2 and declarer's 3. Pepic decided to continue spades and led the 8 in trick two. For quite understandable reasons, East never understood that declarer held the jack and partner just had a four-card spade suit so when declarer called for a low from dummy East simply covered with the 10. A surprised declarer won the trick with the jack. Declarer tried the jack of clubs, East won with the ace and returned the nine whereupon declarer pitched a diamond and dummy's king won the trick. The ♦K followed. West won with the ♦A to

return the ♠5. Declarer tried the queen, and East put her king on.

At that point, declarer was just trying to limit the undertricks after being forced to ruff, leaving her with a 3-3 trump fit, still not having cleared trumps. Declarer cashed out two diamonds held and tried to ruff a third one with the ♥8. When East overruffed it was no way for declarer to escape less than two down. Plus 500 was a clear 100% top to the champions.

5. The Optimistic View

Board 6. Dealer East. E-W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pepic	Ge	Zoranovic	Lu
1♥	2♦	Pass	1♦
3♦*	Pass	Dble	Pass
4♥	All Pass	4♣	Pass

A pass of 4♣ would surely have been a winning move, the contract being cold. In real life Pepic had an optimistic view and tried game in hearts, which everybody happily passed out. When North led her singleton club it wasn't the easiest contract to play. Declarer cashed the ♥A and played a spade to the king. The ♥Q followed and South won with the king and gave North a ruff in clubs. A diamond to the ace followed for a second ruff in clubs. North now cashed the ♦K and returned a spade, South winning the ace for three down.




Jovanka Zoranovic & Selena Pepic, Serbia

The defense got two ruffs in clubs, the ♥K, two diamonds and the ♠A. For reasons not understood, it was scored as two down, giving Zoranovic-Pepic a shared bottom with 8.33% instead of 0%...

6. The Support Redouble

Board 9. Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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


West	North	East	South
Wu	Zoranovic	Mao	Pepic
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	2♥	Dble
Rdbl*	Pass	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
All Pass			

Here E-W were in 2♥ redoubled for a long while, and a pass-out at that point would have been an interesting contract. Pepic probably thought she forced to game when bidding 3♥, but North took her first chance to pass out in a suit they had which was a wise move since the defense kicked off with a heart to the ace and a spade to the ace. It was now no way for declarer not losing a trump trick when trumps didn't break 2-2. 130 gave Wu-Mao 58.23%.

At another table, Li-Wang amazingly bid and made 5♦ when a heart was led. By far best in class was Yu-Sun, who came to stop in 3NT and scrambled together 10 tricks when a club was led. It was a clear-cut top!

7. The Good Slam

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wu	Zoranovic	Mao	Pepic
		1♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♦	All Pass

It's very rare to find this kind of biddings in today's bridge with strong game-forcing jump shifts. Why 3♦ and not 3♣ we will never know. Nor will we know why not 4♦ instead of 3NT. It's clear that the pair "crashed" in 5♦, when 6♦ was a great slam. However, with both the ♦K and ♦Q offside, it proved to be a great contract, IF playing in diamonds. The cold contract is 6♣ and the place to be when clubs split 3-2.

When more than half of the field come to play in 3NT by E-W, it was a real disaster for the champions who scored only 16.67% on the board.

When the first session was finished, Zoranovic – Pepic had dropped down to 5th place in the standings. But with two more sessions to go, a lot could happen!



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