

6th World Youth Open Bridge Championships 20th - 29th August 2019



Welcome to Opatija the House of Bridge

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GOLD DIGGERS OF 2019



U26 WINNERS

AMIR EZION – LIOR URMAN
ISRAEL



U21 WINNERS

TOMASZ KIELBASA – KACPER KOPKA
POLAND



WOMEN U26 WINNERS

THEA L. INDREBO – IDA M. OEBERG
NORWAY



U16 WINNERS

LOUIS BONIN – CLEMENT BENS
FRANCE

The new World Youth Pairs Champions took different routes to their respective titles. The U26 crown went to Israel's Lior Urman & Amir Ezion, their margin of victory being just 2.36 MP. The U21 winners, Poland's Kacper Kopka & Tomasz Kielbasa were more than 5% clear of the field. Norway's Thea Lucia Indrebo & Ida Marie Oeberg won the U26 Women's title by more than top while Louis Bonin & Clement Bens captured the U16 title for France by less than a top. France's Leo Rombaut & Clement Teil won the B-Final.

SCHEDULE TODAY

10.00 - 11.10	Teams: 1 st 8 boards round Swiss
11.40 - 12.50	Teams: 2 nd 8 boards round Swiss
14.00 - 15.10	Teams: 3 rd 8 boards round Swiss
15.40 - 16.50	Teams: 4 th 8 boards round Swiss
17.20 - 18.30	Teams: 5 th 8 boards round Swiss
19.00 - 20.10	Teams: 6 th 8 boards round Swiss



JOAN GERARD FORM

NPC and coaches are kindly requested to pass by the hospitality desk to collect the Joan Gerard Award form

PHOTO!

We will be taking a picture of all the participants at these Championships tomorrow, at 1 pm (after the last round of the Swiss). The meeting point is in front of the venue!



U26 2nd
JAMIE THOMPSON – MATTHEW SMITH
AUSTRALIA



U21 2nd
ILAI ILAN BANIRI – ALEXANDER SANDIN
ISRAEL & SWEDEN



WOMEN U26 2nd
SOFIE G. SJODAL – AGNETHE H. KJENSLI
NORWAY



U16 2nd
IVAN TATARKIN – EGOR STOLYARIOV
RUSSIA



U26 3rd
HONGJI WEI – SHIYU SUN
CHINA



U21 3rd
HAO ZHEN DONG – BO HAN ZHU
CANADA



WOMEN U26 3rd
YIJIA LU – CHENYUN GE
CHINA



U16 3rd
KACPER KUFLOWSKI – FRANCISZEK KURLIT
POLAND



B FINAL 1st
CLEMENT TEIL – LEO ROMBAUT
FRANCE



B FINAL 2nd
EMANUEL EVACIC – IVAN BILUSIC
CROATIA



B FINAL 3rd
PATRICIO CRISAFULLI S. – SOPHIE HERMANN
AUSTRIA

FLOOD THE NETWORKS!



World Bridge Federation - Youth

worldbridgefederation

WBFOfficial



OPATIJA DIARY

Mark Horton

Friday, August 23rd, 2019

If you ever become a bridge reporter, you will quickly come to appreciate that your task will be so much easier if the deals are exciting. It is a matter of luck as to which ones you choose to follow in any given session. Even the greatest scribe cannot do much with a run of part-score deals. See what you make of this collection from the penultimate qualifying round:

Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Mackowiak	Yao	Goscianski	Liu
—	Pass	3♠	All Pass

South led the ♣3 and North won with the ace, declarer dropping the queen, and switched to the ♦4, South taking the ace and returning a diamond. That gave declarer 11 tricks, but +200 was only 29/23 as 12 pairs bid game.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Mackowiak	Yao	Goscianski	Liu
—	—	1♥	2♣
2NT*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♦*	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

- 2NT 3+♥ game forcing
- 3♣ Cue bid
- 3♦ Cue bid
- 3♠ Cue bid
- 4NT RKCB
- 5♦ 0-3 key cards

South led the ♣K and declarer won and played a heart to the ten, so only +1430 still scoring 14/38. The overtrick would have meant 7/45.

I would be inclined to play North for heart length after the overcall, but it's only a straw in the wind.



Kajetan GOSCIANSKI

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A 2 ♥ 10 4 3 ♦ A Q 8 7 5 ♣ K Q 4	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q 4 ♥ K 9 8 6 ♦ 10 9 3 ♣ 8 6 5 2	♠ K 9 8 7 6 3 ♥ A Q 7 5 ♦ 2 ♣ J 7
♠ J 10 5 ♥ J 2 ♦ K J 6 4 ♣ A 10 9 3			

West	North	East	South
Yang	Pemberton	Dai	La Chapelle
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Facing a passed partner North decided against a 1NT overcall, which effectively sealed the destination of most of the matchpoints. After the lead of the ♠A there was no way to prevent nine tricks, +140 and 3/49.

It's of academic interest that a heart lead will hold declarer to eight tricks as long as North takes the ♠A at once and plays a second heart after which South cannot be denied a heart ruff. 3NT would have been worth 27/25 and making an overtrick 43/9.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K Q ♥ K J 6 ♦ Q 9 6 2 ♣ A K Q 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 10 8 3 2 ♥ 10 9 5 2 ♦ 4 ♣ J 10 4 3	♠ A 7 6 5 ♥ A ♦ A K J 10 3 ♣ 9 8 7
♠ J 9 4 ♥ Q 8 7 4 3 ♦ 7 6 5 ♣ 6 5			

West	North	East	South
Yang	Pemberton	Dai	La Chapelle
1♦	Dble	Pass	1♥
1♠	2NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♦A, cashed the major suit aces and then played the ♦K followed by the jack, East's ruff being the setting trick, -100 and 24/28.

Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.

♠ — ♥ A Q 8 7 3 ♦ 8 6 4 3 ♣ K 8 7 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 9 4 2 ♥ J 10 9 ♦ A J ♣ A Q 10 3	♠ K Q 8 7 6 3 ♥ — ♦ K Q 10 7 2 ♣ 9 5
♠ A 10 5 ♥ K 6 5 4 2 ♦ 9 5 ♣ J 6 4			

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Guo	Morawska	Zhang
—	2♥*	Dble	4♥
6♠	All Pass		

2♥ Hearts and a minor

North led the ♥A but declarer could ruff and play to draw trumps - the diamonds would take care of three of dummy's clubs so a club ruff would be the twelfth trick. +1430 and 6/46 as only 6 pairs bid the slam.

South gave a little thought to sacrificing - it looks as if one pair did bid 7♥ which saw EW try 7♠ which resulted in a complete zero.



Jiahao YANG

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ K 8 7 ♥ Q 10 2 ♦ A Q J 3 ♣ K 9 6	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 9 3 2 ♥ A 8 4 3 ♦ 10 6 ♣ 10 3 2	♠ A Q 10 4 ♥ J 6 ♦ K 9 7 5 2 ♣ 8 4
♠ 6 5 ♥ K 9 7 5 ♦ 8 4 ♣ A Q J 7 5			

West	North	East	South
<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Guo</i>	<i>Morawska</i>	<i>Zhang</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♥3 and declarer took West's jack with the queen and returned the ten. East took the ace and switched to the ♠2, but the ♠A was the last trick for the defence and +660 was 36/16.

It was reasonable to lead a major, but I think East should prefer a spade, hoping that if partner has a decent holding the ♥A will be a useful entry. +600 gave the defenders 11/41.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ K Q J 10 ♥ 10 2 ♦ J 7 5 ♣ K 7 6 4	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 8 7 6 2 ♥ A J 8 7 6 ♦ K 9 3 ♣ J	♠ A 9 5 ♥ K Q 5 ♦ A Q 10 4 2 ♣ A 5
♠ 4 3 ♥ 9 4 3 ♦ 8 6 ♣ Q 10 9 8 3 2			

West	North	East	South
<i>Ding</i>	<i>Goscianski</i>	<i>Cai</i>	<i>Mackowiak</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	1♠	2♥	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5NT*	Pass	6♦*	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

- 2♠ Good hand
- 4NT RKCB
- 5♣ 1 key card
- 5NT Kings?
- 6♦ ♦K

There were 12 tricks, +980 and 6/46. However, one pair excelled themselves on this deal:

West	North	East	South
<i>Bazyluk</i>	<i>Porta</i>	<i>Cichy</i>	<i>Lombardi</i>
1♣*	Pass	1♥*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

- 1♣ Polish
- 1♥ 8+
- 2♦ Strong
- 2NT 5♥, minimum
- 4♣ Cue, usually a splinter

Jakub Bazyluk reasoned that his partner must have the ♥A, ♦K and a singleton club and that was enough for thirteen tricks. A magical +1440 and that very rare occurrence, a maximum 0/52, and a nomination for an IBPA award in 2020.



Xiaolei GUO

Board 28. Dealer West. NS Vul.

♠ Q 10 8 3 ♥ Q 6 4 2 ♦ 9 6 3 ♣ J 5	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 5 4 2 ♥ A J 3 ♦ K Q 5 2 ♣ 10 6 4	
♠ A K 7 6 ♥ K 10 5 ♦ 4 ♣ A K 9 8 3			
	♠ J 9 ♥ 9 8 7 ♦ A J 10 8 7 ♣ Q 7 2		

West	North	East	South
<i>Ding</i>	<i>Goscianski</i>	<i>Cai</i>	<i>Mackowiak</i>
1♣	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♦J and declarer won with the king and played three rounds of clubs, South winning with the queen and exiting with the ♠J. Declarer won with dummy's ace, cashed two clubs and the ♠K and played North for the heart queen, +430 and 16/36.

With BBO in operation, our team of reporters are in full swing, which gives me time to look at some individual deals featured on the brilliant WBF site, <http://youth.worldbridge.org/>

Here is one of the best, a possible candidate for an IBPA award in 2020.

One in a Thousand

In his classic book *Reese on Play*, the author writes that good players differ from average players in that the good player tries to play all fifty-two cards, while the average player only considers the twenty-six he can see. A player who does not try to reconstruct the unseen hands cannot be better than fair, while a player who does this, even if he knows little of elimination and nothing of squeeze play is a player in a thousand.

With that in mind, let's look at this deal from the sixth qualifying session in Opatija:

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ 10 7 ♥ K 10 9 4 2 ♦ 8 6 4 ♣ Q J 9	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A Q 6 4 2 ♥ J 7 5 ♦ 10 5 ♣ 5 4 2	
♠ K J 8 3 ♥ 8 6 ♦ K J 7 3 2 ♣ 6 3			
	♠ 9 5 ♥ A Q 3 ♦ A Q 9 ♣ A K 10 8 7		

West	North	East	South
<i>Puerto Moreno</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Rafecas</i>	<i>Donati</i>
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

- 3♠ Denies 4♠
- 4♣ Good fit in hearts

West led the ♣6 and declarer won with dummy's jack and drew trumps, West discarding the ♦2. When West played the ♣3 under dummy's queen, declarer formed the opinion that West might well be 4-2-5-2. He played a fourth trump pitching a spade and when West discarded a spade he took three rounds of clubs, pitching dummy's spades. West discarded two spades and a diamond to leave this position...



Karol MACKOWIAK



Giovanni DONATI

♠ — ♥ 10 ♦ 8 6 4 ♣ —	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A Q ♥ — ♦ 10 5 ♣ —
♠ K ♥ — ♦ K J 7 ♣ —	♠ 9 ♥ — ♦ A Q 9 ♣ —	

Declarer ruffed his remaining spade and played a diamond for the ten (well done East), queen and king and faced his cards - a beautifully played hand for a near maximum.



Sebastiano SCATÀ

The Red Mist

Psyching is a legitimate part of the game, but you don't see too many examples nowadays. However, cometh the hour, cometh the man....

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

♠ J 8 6 3 ♥ J 9 4 ♦ 8 6 ♣ K 10 9 3	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K 10 7 4 ♥ K Q 3 ♦ K 2 ♣ Q 8 7 5	♠ A Q 5 2 ♥ A 7 6 ♦ A J 3 ♣ A 6 2
		♠ 9 ♥ 10 8 5 2 ♦ Q 10 9 7 5 4 ♣ J 4	

West	North	East	South
<i>Cheung</i>	<i>Hino</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Endo</i>
—	1♣	Dble	1♠!
Pass	2♠	Dble	3♦
Pass	3NT	Dble	4♦
Pass	4♥	Dble	Pass
Pass	4♠	Dble	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Once South bids 3♦ it is clear that he has been operating and had North passed, it would have been interesting to see what East would have done. In theory, you can make 3NT, but it requires a number of good views; winning the second diamond, playing a club to the ten, winning the ♥K switch, cashing the clubs, taking a spade finesse, playing a heart to the nine, winning the heart return and then ducking a spade to North - actually when you write it down it doesn't look impossible given the auction. No one got near it.

North's 3NT rendered that academic and although 4♦ might in theory have been a good save at -500 it would have been no better than the -800 that resulted from North's continued activity - 0.04/47.96.

Protecting your Equity

In simplistic terms, equity is what is considered to be right and fair. It is sometimes applied by ordering someone to do something to prevent damage occurring. You may have heard the phrase, 'protecting your equity' which was definitely the case on this deal from the first session of the finals:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

<p>♠ A 4 2 ♥ 7 6 3 ♦ 9 8 ♣ Q J 8 6 3</p>	<p>♠ J 9 7 5 ♥ Q J 9 ♦ A 7 5 3 ♣ A 7</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ Q 10 8 6 ♥ A 4 ♦ Q 10 4 2 ♣ K 4 2</p>	<p>♠ K 3 ♥ K 10 8 5 2 ♦ K J 6 ♣ 10 9 5</p>
--	--	--	--

West	North	East	South
Urman	Myllaeri	Ezion	Koivu
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
3♣	Pass	4♣	All Pass

Having resisted the temptation to open 3♣, West sprang into action at his second turn and his partner raised the ante.



Maria MYLLAERI



Oskari KOIVU

In a sense, this was not a bad idea, as it is possible that NS would have reached 3♥ and that contract might be made; for example if West leads a trump East wins and plays a second round and declarer wins in dummy, draws the last trump and takes the diamond finesse. When it holds declarer plays three more rounds of the suit, ruffing and exits with ace of clubs and a club. If East wins and plays a spade it is clear to play West for the ace and +140 would be worth 20/4.

Electing to defend 4♣ undoubled is not the way to protect your equity - South needs to double. If North starts with two rounds of trumps the defenders are well on the way to at least +300 and the same is true if North leads a heart.

North did lead the ♥Q against 4♣ and declarer won with dummy's ace and played back the four. South took the king and switched to the ♠K, declarer winning, ruffing a heart and exiting with the ♣K. North won (ducking is better, as South will then get a spade ruff for -100 and 13/11) and returned a club, declarer winning and drawing the outstanding trump. Cashing the remaining trumps now would have given North a chance to go wrong - he will need to discard the ♦A to avoid being endplayed! (Declarer could play a spade to the eight and then exit with a diamond.) Happy to be only one down, declarer ran the eight of diamonds and -50 was 5/19.

Doubling and collecting +300 would have been a maximum.



MISPLAY THIS HAND WITH ME IN OPATIJA

Mark Horton

PROMOTION DENIED

Playing in a Mixed Pairs event where my partner has more than one world title to her name I pick up these cards:

Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 10 9 8
 ♥ 10 4 3
 ♦ K J 4
 ♣ A J 9 3

We are playing Precision and when my partner opens 1♣ I respond 1♠ which we play as promising a balanced hand with at least eight points. My partner continues with 2♠, promising at least five spades and from the various alternatives that are available I opt for 3NT, which partner corrects to 4♠, leaving us with this auction:

West	North	East	South
—	1♣*	Pass	1♠*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West leads the ♥9 and I get a decent dummy:

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

N
 W E
 S

♠ 10 9 8
 ♥ 10 4 3
 ♦ K J 4
 ♣ A J 9 3

I take the ♥A, come to hand with a diamond and run the ♠8. East wins with the king, and plays three rounds of hearts. I ruff the last of these, but West overruffs with the jack and I am one down.

This was the full deal:

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

♠ J 7
 ♥ 9 5
 ♦ 10 9 8 5
 ♣ Q 8 7 4 2

N
 W E
 S

♠ K 5 3
 ♥ K Q J 2
 ♦ 6 2
 ♣ K 10 6 5

♠ 10 9 8
 ♥ 10 4 3
 ♦ K J 4
 ♣ A J 9 3

Post mortem

Declarer could have avoided this grizzly outcome by the simple expedient of cashing the ♣A at trick three, pitching a heart from dummy and removing any possibility of a trump promotion. They spotted that in the other room.





SACRIFICE

Simon Stocken

Day two of the play in Opatija, Croatia sees the last day of qualifying for the pairs finals with three sessions completed and three to go. Just as in Lyon two years ago, the Chinese have arrived in numbers.

Board 14 Under 21 Pairs qualifier (Session 4)

Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bazyluk	Dai	Cichy	Yang
—	—	1♠	2♥
Dble*	4♥	5♣	5♥
6♣	6♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

The auction began the same at most tables with East opening 1♠ and South overcalling 2♥. The Polish West chose Double where others bid 3♦. With North bidding 4♥, East's 12 points has become much stronger with key 10s and 9s to add to the shape and Cichy bid 5♣. South fancied 5♥ and West, realizing that partner must have a void heart decided to chance 6♣. This contract would have fared very well with every card well placed. Both minor suits can be played for 5 tricks apiece and with the spade finesse right twelve tricks are easy. Declarer will have an exact count of the hand so the 13th trick comes from a second finesse in the spade suit, with South marked with a singleton.

China's Dai, sitting North did not fancy his defence to the club slam and opted for 6♥ which East passed, alerted as forcing and showing a 1st round heart control in case partner is interested in the grand slam. West doubled and pondered. What would you lead? To my mind, it is clear-cut. While

you consider your answer, here are some statistics for this hand across all four competitions.

At the Under 26 level (Open and Womens) there were 8 heart contracts (two of which were declared by North) – diamonds were led 6 times and the spade jack was led twice.

In the junior categories (Under 21 and Under 16) there were 19 heart contracts, all declared by South. At all eight U21 tables West led the ♦A. At the U16 level we had three leads of ♠J, four small diamonds and four big diamonds.

Deep Finesse confirms that 13 tricks are available in clubs with 12 tricks available in diamonds, while heart contracts will make either 7 or 8 tricks, depending on who declares. South can be restricted to just 7 tricks, whereas North can make 8 tricks. The question to ask is how will declarer score additional tricks. What does West know about the hand? Answer: East is likely void in hearts and the defenders have the side-suits covered.

The trump lead is clear-cut. You intend to lead trumps three times and you will need two additional entries (the ♦A and the ♣K). After starting with a high diamond, you can now only lead trumps twice.

At the table Bazyluk started with the ♦A and switched to the ♠J (the trump switch is better), which gave partner a further problem - who held the singleton - partner or declarer? Cichy continued with the ♠Q and Yang played very neatly from this point, eventually endplaying East to concede a spade trick or a diamond trick and escape for -500, scant consolation as very few pairs bid to slam.



Hanyang DAI



THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

Mark Horton

A couple of days ago before the start of play I sought out a pair to discuss a deal where there was a possibility of a show-up squeeze. In one of those strange coincidences, the stars of this deal from the U26W were sitting at the same table.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ K 7 4 3 ♥ K Q 6 ♦ 6 ♣ A Q 7 6 3	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 6 ♥ A 10 3 ♦ A Q 10 7 ♣ K 8 4 2	♠ Q 9 8 2 ♥ J 9 8 5 4 ♦ K J 8 ♣ 10 ♠ J 10 5 ♥ 7 2 ♦ 9 5 4 3 2 ♣ J 9 5
--	--	--	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Baldysz</i>	<i>Kamal Patel</i>	<i>Zalewska</i>	<i>Baliram Gurjar</i>
—	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♥*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
7♣	All Pass		

- 2♠ Game forcing relay
- 3♥ 2-3-4 4
- 4♣ Agrees clubs
- 4♦ Cue bid
- 4♥ Cue bid
- 4♠ Cue bid
- 4NT RKCB
- 5♣ 1/4 key cards

Once you know partner's distribution, perhaps 4♣ should be asking for key cards, but it was still a good effort to reach the grand slam, which is cold if trumps are 2-2.

North led the ♣10 and declarer drew trumps and then played three rounds of spades, ruffing in dummy before cashing three hearts and a fourth club. This was the position:

♠ 7 ♥ — ♦ 6 ♣ 6	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ — ♥ — ♦ A Q 10 ♣ —	♠ Q ♥ — ♦ K J ♣ — ♠ — ♥ — ♦ 9 5 4 ♣ —
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When the last club was played, North was the victim of a show-up squeeze and EW might make the IBPA shortlist.



Joanna ZALEWSKA and Sophia BALDYSZ



UNDER 26 PAIRS FINAL – SESSION 1

David Bird

The pairs final was underway at the very reasonable hour of 09.00 GMT, which allowed BBO voice commentators such as Marc Smith and me to take breakfast beforehand. On some recent championship, we had to set the alarm for 05.30 and commentate in a state of near starvation. The very first board was a slam.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Oikonom</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kristensen</i>
—	1♠	Pass	2♥
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

South's 2♥ was forcing to game. The control-bids at the four-level were followed by RKCB. 5NT asked for side-suit kings to be shown, also confirming that all six key-cards were held. It was a good auction. They investigated a grand slam but very reasonably stopped in six.

Assisted by partner's somewhat bold lead-directing 3♦ bid, Bakke led the ♦3. Rosenberg won with dummy's ace and played a trump to West's 10 and his king. It was not a straightforward Restricted Choice position, because West might have played the 10 from J10x as well as J10 doubleton. Nevertheless, declarer finessed the ♠9 on the next trick. The ♠Q was followed by a heart to the ace and the ♠K to draw East's last trump. Declarer then

played the ace and king of hearts before discarding the diamond loser on the ♥J. He could then discard two clubs on the ♥107.

At another table, Koive and Myllaeri stopped in game: 1♠ – 2♥, 3♣ – 3♠, 3NT – 4♠. Just well, since they lost a trump and a diamond. Vojtik and Klems ended in Six Hearts: 1♠ – 2♥, 2♠ – 3♠, 4♣ – 4NT, 5♦ – 6♥. They were rewarded with a splendid +1010 after a club lead from the queen.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Yuge</i>	<i>Ghosh</i>	<i>Ghosh</i>	<i>Chakrabort</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	1NT	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

You think it unlikely that two players called Ghosh were on different partnerships? Perhaps you're even inclined to blame it on the impending senility of the present writer? Well, that's what it says on the hand records. East's 1NT on a passed hand showed the black suits, and West ventured a double of the heart game.

East, Ghosh or not, led the ♠4 to West's ace. Back came the ♠8 to dummy's queen. When the ♥2 was led, West played the ♥3 and declarer could have done well by covering with the ♥4. (That would surely have got him a mention in the following day's bulletin.) No, he won with the ♥9. The ♦J was followed by a club ruff in dummy and the ♦AK. When the ♦Q was played, West ruffed with the ♥7 and declarer overruffed with the ♥J.

After a second club ruff, declarer led the $\diamond 10$ and West ruffed with the $\heartsuit 8$. If declarer discards on this, a return of the $\heartsuit K$ will put him down. He correctly overruffed with the $\heartsuit A$ and ruffed the $\clubsuit K$ with dummy's $\heartsuit Q$. West had to follow suit and the doubled game was made, for +590.

At another table, East opened $2\heartsuit$, showing spades and a minor. West manoeuvred into $3\clubsuit$ and South protected with a take-out double, left in by North. North led the $\heartsuit A$, ruffed in the dummy, and declarer crossed to the $\spadesuit A$ to discard a diamond on the $\heartsuit K$. This contract was also cold. However, at trick nine North switched to a trump and declarer rose with the ace, to ensure another spade ruff in his hand. That was one down and a useful +200 for Bakke (North) after his decision to leave in the double.

I was somewhat mystified by the bidding on our next deal:

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

	♠ K Q 5 ♥ 10 4 ♦ 10 4 ♣ A Q 7 6 3 2		
	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>		
♠ 9 7 6 ♥ J 9 8 3 2 ♦ 3 ♣ J 8 5 4		♠ A J 10 4 3 ♥ A K Q 7 ♦ A K 9 2 ♣ —	
	♠ 8 2 ♥ 6 5 ♦ Q J 8 7 6 5 ♣ K 10 9		

West	North	East	South
Tanabe	Kohutova	Yuge	Kolek
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♠
Pass	2♣	3♣	Dble
4♣	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

South's $1\spadesuit$ denied spades (or hearts). It is West's $4\clubsuit$ that I found puzzling. My bidding is sometimes described as old-school, but I feel sure I would have mentioned the 5-card heart suit. If West did indeed realize that his hand was a gold-mine facing partner's powerful bidding and a likely void club, then I will have to salute him.

Tanabe won the $\diamond 10$ lead with dummy's ace and cashed the $\diamond K$ to discard a spade. His next move was a spade to the nine and queen. When North returned the $\spadesuit 5$, declarer won with the ace. He then drew trumps and established the spades with a ruff, claiming his +1430.

At another table, the slam was not reached:

West	North	East	South
Stepper	Oikonom	Van Oosten	Bakke
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♠
Pass	2♣	Dble	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Again South's $1\spadesuit$ had denied spades, so it was risky for East to bid $2\spadesuit$, despite showing a good hand with his two previous doubles. I do not have the matchpoint scores available to me at the time of writing, but +230 may well be languishing at the bottom of the E/W scores.

There were various adventures on this deal:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

	♠ Q 8 6 4 ♥ 9 ♦ A Q 10 ♣ A 10 9 6 5		
	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>		
♠ A 10 5 2 ♥ 10 7 5 ♦ J 5 4 ♣ K 7 3		♠ — ♥ A Q 4 2 ♦ K 9 8 7 3 ♣ Q 8 4 2	
	♠ K J 9 7 3 ♥ K J 8 6 3 ♦ 6 2 ♣ J		

West	North	East	South
Jalšovszky	Tanabe	Vandeviele	Yuge
—	1♣	Pass	1♥*
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

I assume that $1\heartsuit$ was a transfer to spades and game was reached in that suit. A diamond lead to the jack and queen gave declarer a good start. When he led a heart towards dummy, East went in with the ace. At this stage that esteemed kibitzer, Mr GIB, was predicting a possible overtrick. Let's hope he did not place a large bet on it.

East switched to clubs, declarer winning West's king with the ace. When a low trump was led, East discarded a diamond and West allowed dummy's $\spadesuit K$ to win. After throwing a club on the $\heartsuit K$, declarer ruffed a heart with the $\spadesuit 6$. Declarer does best to lead the $\clubsuit 10$ next. His choice was the $\clubsuit 6$, ruffed with the $\spadesuit 3$, and Mr GIB had lost his overtrick bet. Declarer ruffed the $\heartsuit 8$ in his hand, West discarding a diamond. He then led the $\diamond 10$. West was out of

diamonds and declarer needed to ruff with the ♠J to make the contract. No, he ruffed with the ♠7 and West overruffed with the ♠10. The ♠A followed by a club, forced dummy to ruff (belatedly with the ♠J) and West's ♠5 became the setting trick.

West	North	East	South
<i>Wei</i>	<i>Kolek</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Kohutova</i>
—	1♣	1♥	Dble
2♦	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led a diamond, dummy's queen winning, and that was +930 for an overtrick.

West	North	East	South
<i>Natt</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Norton</i>	<i>Stepper</i>
—	1♣	1♦	1♠
2♦	2♠	3♣	3♠
4♣	Dble	4♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

A club to the ace was followed by a ♥9 switch and the ♦K from declarer. East-West collected a painless 800.

We will end with a heart/spade competitive bidding deal:



Sibrand VAN OOSTEN

Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Scatà</i>	<i>Zoranovic</i>	<i>Donati</i>	<i>Vazic</i>
—	2♥	2♠	4♥
4NT	Pass	5♠	All Pass

North-South collected only +100, for two down undoubled. Still, at least it was a plus-score. They say that you shouldn't bid 'weak over weak'. Marc Smith tells me that he would have passed on the East cards, but then bid 4♠ if South's raise to 4♥ came back to him.

West	North	East	South
<i>McMahon</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ranson</i>	<i>Stepper</i>
—	2♥	2♠	4♥
4♠	All Pass		

No doubt West was somewhat surprised when the spade game went one down.

West	North	East	South
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Urman</i>	<i>Wei</i>	<i>Amir</i>
—	2♥	2♠	3♠
4♥	Pass	4♠	5♥
5♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

West's bid of 'five over five' cost him 300. I will leave you to draw whatever lessons you think can from these three auctions. As for me, the earlier mention of starvation comes to mind. I'm off to lunch!



UNDER 26 PAIRS - FINAL A

1	URMAN Lior	EZION Amir	ISR - ISR	58.20
2	THOMPSON Jamie	SMITH Matthew	AUS - AUS	58.02
3	WEI Hongji	SUN Shiyu	CHN - CHN	55.69
4	KOLEK Lukas	KOHUTOVA Lucie	CZE - CZE	55.68
5	ROSENBERG Kevin	KRISTENSEN Benjamin	USA - USA	55.15
6	SCHEBERAN Philip	THORPE Stephan	AUT - AUT	53.99
7	TOLEDANO Oren	ZAMIR Ami	ISR - ISR	53.40
8	MARCINOWSKI Piotr	SOBCZAK Mateusz	POL - POL	53.39
9	OIKONOMOPOULOS Ioannis	BAKKE Christian	GRE - NOR	53.37
10	DONATI Giovanni	SCATA Sebastiano	ITA - ITA	51.64
11	MCMAHON John	RANSON Nicholas	AUS - AUS	50.91
12	SAU Roberto	PERCARIO Giacomo	ITA - ITA	50.84
13	YIN Yichen	LIU Chang	CHN - CHN	50.45
14	WU Michael	HUNG Tsz Fung Harry	HKG - HKG	50.21
15	CUERVO LOPERA Juan Felipe	KAMPERMANN Mareille	COL - GER	50.19
16	CHIARANDINI Francesco	GAIOTTI Alvaro	ITA - ITA	48.66
17	NORTON Ben	NATT Shahzaad	ENG - ENG	47.58
18	MYLLAERI Maria	KOIVU Oskari	FIN - FIN	47.55
19	COOPER Renee	SPOONER Andrew	AUS - AUS	47.41
20	VOJTIK Jakub	KLEMS Erik	CZE - CZE	46.78
21	GHOSH SOUMADEEP	CHAKRABORTY ARYA	IND - IND	46.74
22	TANABE Hitoshi	YUGE Hirokana	JPN - JPN	44.38
23	VANDEWIELE Emiel	JALSOVSZKY Janka	BEL - HUN	43.43
24	IMAKIIRE Eishi	YAMAMOTO Tetsutaro	JPN - JPN	43.33
25	VAN OOSTEN Sibrand	STEPPER Maximilian Niklas	GER - GER	43.07
26	ZORANOVIC Jovana	VAZIC Stojan	SER - SER	39.94

UNDER 21 PAIRS - FINAL A

1	KOPKA Kacper	KIELBASA Tomasz	POL - POL	65.42
2	SANDIN Alexander	BANIRI Ilai Ilan	SWE - ISR	60.22
3	ZHU Bo Han	DONG Hao Zhen (John)	CAN - CAN	57.43
4	NIJSEN Oscar	VAN DE PAVERD Tim	NED - NED	57.35
5	WANG Yingqi	WANG Penghao	CHN - CHN	56.63
6	PATREUHA Jakub	PATREUHA Patryk	POL - POL	54.88
7	BUNE Soren	LAHRMANN Christian	DEN - DEN	54.38
8	KAPIRIS Dimitrios	SKORDAS Panagiotis	GRE - GRE	52.72
9	CICHY Krzysztof	BAZYLUK Jakub	POL - POL	52.48
10	LIU Yihong	LU Mingyu	CHN - CHN	50.67
11	HANSSON Erik	MANN Castor	SWE - SWE	50.47
12	PORTA Federico	LOMBARDI Matteo	ITA - ITA	50.35
13	MADDEN Harry	SELBY Oscar	ENG - ENG	48.83
14	GIUBILO Gianmarco	GIUBILO Gabriele	ITA - ITA	47.56
15	FEGARTY Liam	GAUDART Patrick	ENG - ENG	46.96
16	LUBA Harrison Anders	KOLESNIK Finn	USA - USA	46.01
17	DENG Cheng	YUAN Zhijie	CHN - CHN	45.87
18	BELLICAUD Luc	GUILLEMIN Theo	FRA - FRA	45.64
19	YAO Tianle	LIU Haochen	CHN - CHN	45.62
20	ROSIKIEWICZ Ryszard	SZUSZKIEWICZ Adam	POL - POL	45.20
21	COPE Andrew	ANOYRKATIS Theo	ENG - ENG	45.20
22	XU Hao	YAN Tianyao	CHN - CHN	45.10
23	YU Zhaochen	TONG Jiaxin	CHN - CHN	44.91
24	TOMIS Zdenek	NEMCIK Daniel	CZE - CZE	44.54
25	GRAS Szymon	JOZKOWIAK Lukasz	POL - POL	43.15
26	ZHOU Chuanyao	YU Zhaolun	CHN - CHN	42.39

UNDER 26 WOMEN PAIRS - FINAL A

1	INDREBO Thea Lucia	OEBERG Ida Marie	NOR - NOR	57.71
2	SJODAL Sofie Grasholt	KJENSLI Agnethe Hansen	NOR - NOR	54.43
3	LU Yijia	GE Chenyun	CHN - CHN	53.81
4	TUUS Hanna	LEEMING India	ENG - ENG	53.68
5	KAMAL PATEL Vidhya	BALIRAM GURJAR Kalpana	IND - IND	53.11
6	BI Xiaoran	ZHAO Yuchen	CHN - CHN	51.39
7	DI LORENZO Anastasia	SEREGNI Linda	ITA - ITA	50.64
8	KOKOT Joanna	OCYLOK Dominika	POL - POL	50.46
9	DALPOZZO Valentina	DALPOZZO Federica	ITA - ITA	49.15
10	MOLINA Diana	ROMAN Valentina	CHI - CHI	48.63
11	STRBOVA Barbora	DOLANSKA Veronika	CZE - CZE	48.48
12	BALDYSZ Sophia	ZALEWSKA Joanna	POL - POL	47.21
13	CHEN Yunpeng	RUAN Xinyao	CHN - CHN	44.45
14	PELAGGI Maddalena	PELAGGI Annachiara	ITA - ITA	36.84

UNDER 16 PAIRS - FINAL A

1	BONIN Louis	BENS Clement	FRA - FRA	57.97
2	STOLYAROV Egor	TATARKIN Ivan	RUS - RUS	56.44
3	KURLIT Franciszek	KUFLOWSKI Kacper	POL - POL	54.91
4	SOUMPLIS Michail	PAPASPYROU Iasonas-iraklis	GRE - GRE	54.61
5	YANG Siqing	XU Muqun	CHN - CHN	54.37
6	STASIK Michal	KASPERCZYK Lukasz	POL - POL	54.11
7	ZHUO Zhili	HUANG Juncan	CHN - CHN	53.86
8	WANG Ziao	LIN Xuanda	CHN - TPE	53.44
9	BAKHSHI Jasmine	BERTHEAU Markus	ENG - SWE	53.06
10	ROSE Henry	FEGARTY Jamie	ENG - ENG	52.70
11	WANG Jiarui	YANG Junyi	CHN - CHN	52.60
12	WU Yijun	LU Zhenyue	CHN - CHN	52.35
13	LANG Ningyu	YU Fanfei	CHN - CHN	52.31
14	MA Shuoming	LIN Fengming	CHN - CHN	51.92
15	BUKAT Aleks	SWIATKOWSKI Pawel	POL - POL	51.06
16	XIE Zimo	JIANG Haoxuan	CHN - CHN	50.84
17	ROCHES Maxence	TCHOULKINE Philippe	FRA - FRA	48.53
18	BETLINSKI Maciej	ZIMORSKI Sebastian	POL - POL	48.52
19	LI Suhang	ZHANG Xuyang	CHN - CHN	48.47
20	TANG Tengbo	TIAN Zhixian	CHN - CHN	48.01
21	FU Yanzhuo	SHEN Haotian	CHN - CHN	44.91
22	CHEN Yanxu	LIU Jiakang	CHN - CHN	43.75
23	GAO Zhuxiongjie	WANG Zicheng	CHN - CHN	43.14
24	BROGELAND Anders	LANDSVIK Are Borgar	NOR - NOR	43.13
25	LI Jialin	QIN Shiyuan	CHN - CHN	41.12
26	BHATT ANSHUL	MAYUR Prajjwal	IND - IND	33.86

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5	DAI Hanyang	YANG Jiahao	CHN - CHN	62.08
6	KENNEDY Stephen	YE Junyuan	ENG - ENG	61.62
7	TAKIZAWA Ken	INOUE Yoshitake	JPN - JPN	61.52
8	ROY SAGNIK	KUSHARI SAYANTAN	IND - IND	60.36
9	WANG Zhaofeng	YU Haoqing	CHN - CHN	60.24
10	ALTER Florian	STRECK Lauritz	GER - GER	59.88
11	BAR Surajit	DEY Pradip	IND - IND	59.31
12	DONNELLY MICHAEL	VALENTINE Ronan Richard James	IRL - SCO	58.86
13	MA Jinyi	WU Yutong	CHN - CHN	58.82
14	MEREGALLI Matteo	CARLETTI Alessandro	ITA - ITA	58.51
15	VYSHESLAVOV Ivan	SKARZHINSKIY Nikolay	RUS - RUS	58.17
16	VINOGRADOVA Maria	SMIRNOVA Polina	RUS - RUS	58.01
17	JINDRA Manuel	EDER Felix	AUT - AUT	57.67
18	YU Wenfei	XU Jiaming	CHN - CHN	57.26
19	PEREZ Bastian	LIN Kam Fai	CHI - HKG	57.04
20	FAN Lingwen	XU Tong	CHN - CHN	56.96
21	NACRUR Francisca	YANEZ Camila	CHI - CHI	56.88
22	HINO Takayuki	ENDO Eisuke	JPN - JPN	56.59
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24	PYSZKO Adam	KASTOVSKY Ondrej	CZE - CZE	55.89
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26	NAWROCKI Jakub	MORAWSKA EWA	POL - POL	55.55
27	LEWIS Ben	CLARK Joseph	ENG - ENG	55.09
28	SONG Yihan	KAWABATA Sukai	JPN - JPN	54.71
29	VUJIC Katarina	KATANIC Vesna	SER - SER	54.27
30	XUAN Yu	CHAO Qin Yi	CHN - CHN	54.18
31	GAHAN Elizabeth	ANOYRKATIS Samuel	ENG - ENG	53.79
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33	CATER James	SOONAWALLA Zane	ENG - ENG	53.11
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54	OSTROWSKI Szymon	TOKARCZUK Oskar	POL - POL	49.68
55	ARREDONDO Andres	LENZI Jonathan	URU - URU	49.14

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67	WEI Sikun	MA Hanxi	CHN - CHN	45.29
68	FEI Sihan	ZHANG Fengrui	CHN - CHN	44.16
69	MAUVE Amelia	MAUVE Antoinina	ENG - ENG	44.15
70	LI Yaojia	XIAO Hongxin	CHN - CHN	43.69
71	WANG Rui	JIANG Lanxi	CHN - CHN	43.60
72	JANCIC Natalija	FABEKOVEC Zlatko	CRO - CRO	43.09
73	LIAO Yipeng	SHANG Anrui	CHN - CHN	42.87
74	POTTER Thomas	POTTER Jacob	ENG - ENG	42.79
75	VASQUEZ Esteban	BOEHM Alexander	CHI - CHI	42.31
76	LIU Haoxin	LI Yankun	CHN - CHN	42.04
77	CHEN Xingjian	WAN Jialu	CHN - CHN	41.92
78	ZHANG Tiancheng	GUO Xiaolei	CHN - CHN	41.75
79	GRUBISIC Mia	CIZEL Vanja	CRO - CRO	41.44
80	CHEN Xuefeng	LIU Xuanci	CHN - CHN	41.40
81	ZHANG Qianwen	JIN Weiyi	CHN - CHN	40.18
82	ZHAO Yuqiao	ZHAO Chiyu	CHN - CHN	39.72
83	LI Chengxi	HUANG Ziyu	CHN - CHN	37.44
84	WANG Zihao	SHI Jiayi	CHN - CHN	36.42
85	LIU Yupeng	ZHANG Zimo	CHN - CHN	35.51
86	KOWALSKI Kacper	ZIMORSKI Wojciech	POL - POL	31.96
87	SUN Ruoshui	ZHANG Beilin	CHN - CHN	29.56
88	FENG Zirui	XIA Jingxuan	CHN - CHN	27.41
89	LADOVIC Lara	LUBINA Lara	CRO - CRO	27.06
90	SMADILO RALIS Tibor	CAKOVIC Natanael	CRO - CRO	25.79

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