

# 6<sup>th</sup> World Youth Open Bridge Championships

20<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019



# Welcome to Opatija

## the House of Bridge

DAILY BULLETIN • Issue No 5 • Sunday, August 25, 2019

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## THE CLASS OF 2019



This morning we will add to our montage of Championship photos.

Secure your place in history by assembling in front of the Royal Hotel at 13.00, after the 8th Round has been completed.

### SCHEDULE TODAY

10.00 - 11.10	Teams: 7th 8 boards round Swiss
11.40 - 12.50	Teams: 8th 8 boards round Swiss
15.00 - 17.10	Teams WU26: 9th 8 boards round Swiss
15.00 - 17.20	Teams U26/U21/U16: Quarterfinal 1st 16 boards Teams BAM Tablets
17.40 - 20.00	Teams U26/U21/U16: Quarterfinal 2nd 16 boards

### JOAN GERARD FORM

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

### WBF YOUTH WEBSITE

Visit <http://youth.worldbridge.org/> where you will find news, articles and videos about the Championships.

### TABLE OF MEDALS

	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
NORWAY	2	2	
POLAND	2		2
ISRAEL	2	1	
FRANCE	2		
AUSTRALIA		2	
RUSSIA		2	
SWEDEN		1	
CHINA			4
CANADA			2



# ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH

**Simon Stocken**

Board 8 U26 Final session 2

Love All. Dealer West.

♠ A K 9 ♥ J 8 5 3 ♦ J 4 3 2 ♣ A K	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N W     E S                 </div>	♠ Q 8 5 4 ♥ — ♦ K Q 10 8 6 5 ♣ J 8 7	♠ J 3 2 ♥ K 9 7 2 ♦ 9 7 ♣ Q 6 5 2
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West	North	East	South
1♥	<i>Scatò</i> 1NT	Dble	<i>Donati</i> Pass
Pass	Rdbl	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2♦	Dble	2♥
Dble	All Pass		

On board 8 of the second session of the finals North-South have 22 combined points but can make only one contract – 1♥. An impossible contract to reach when your opponent opens the suit with ♥AQ1064. Three pairs managed to find their heart fit nevertheless. Rosenberg & Kristensen for USA were held to seven tricks in 2♥. Likewise Vojtik and Klems for Holland just one level higher but doubled for -300. Could Donati and Scatà do one better? At all three tables diamonds were led. What should West do next?

West switched to ♥4 won by ♥5 in dummy. The top clubs were cashed and declarer exited with a diamond to East's 10 who had no alternative but to play a high diamond trumped with ♥K and overtrumped. West played ♥Q and exited with ♥10 won by dummy's ♥J. East was now in trouble in the 5-card ending as Percario led ♥8 off dummy:

♠ 10 7 6 ♥ 8 ♦ 4 ♣ —	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N W     E S                 </div>	♠ A K 9 ♥ 8 ♦ 4 ♣ —	♠ Q 8 5 ♥ — ♦ Q 6 ♣ —
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♠ 10 7 6 ♥ 6 ♦ — ♣ 10	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N W     E S                 </div>	♠ J 3 2 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ Q 6	
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If East discards a diamond on the final heart, North will endplay him with the diamond to lead away from the ♠Q. As it is, he chose to let go a spade and declarer ended up with an overtrick which made precisely zero difference to the matchpoints. So Donati actually managed two better, taking advantage of West's error at trick 2. West must attack spades at trick two and then the defence cannot be denied a spade trick, two diamonds and three trump tricks. There is no threat from dummy as West can always overruff declarer in the diamond suit.

*(West can also defeat the contract by exiting with a spade before or after playing the ♥Q. Editor.)*



Giovanni DONATI



# PAIRS U26 FINAL, SESSION 3

Jos Jacobs

After about two thirds of the 50 scheduled boards in this final, Israel's Amir Ezion and Lior Urman were leading the field by a comfortable margin of 5.5% over three candidates for the silver medal: China's Hong Ji Wei and Shi Yu Sun, Israel's Oren Toledano and Ami Zamir and Australia's Jamie Thompson and Matthew Smith, in that order. These three pairs were all in the 58% region, more than 3% ahead of the 5th ranked pair.

With 16 more boards to be played, the rankings could still change dramatically because any board could make a difference of 2% in a pair's overall score.

The first board of the set was an entirely routine 3NT for 11 tricks but the next board was one of those typical pairs' curiosities. As you can see, 3NT again looks very much the normal contract but, contrary to the previous board, there were many "odd pairs out" this time. Three E/W pairs ended up in 4♥ and at two of the 3NT tables, an eccentric lead was an issue.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

If West leads a normal enough spade, declarer will end up with 11 tricks but what if North produces the ♦10 to South's ♦Q? This is what Cooper (Australia) and Tanabe (Japan) did to their opponents, holding them to 10 and 9 tricks respectively for 16 and 23 mp. to N/S out of the maximum 24.

Two boards later, correct bidding was punished severely.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kampermann</i>	<i>Yin</i>	<i>Cuervo</i>	<i>Liu</i>
1♦	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Reaching the correct contract of 5♦ was worth 11 mp, just under average. England's Norton and Natt were the only other pair to get there.

Below, we have some examples of what happened in less correct auctions.

West	North	East	South
<i>Yamamoto</i>	<i>Percario</i>	<i>Imakiire</i>	<i>Sau</i>
1♦	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

To me, it looks that East's forward-going 4♠ bid implies a club control. So it did to West, I would say, but North had the last laugh when he could lead the ♣A and continue the suit.

West	North	East	South
<i>Smith</i>	<i>Chiarandini</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
1♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

As so often in pairs, 3NT was a popular contract. The Aussie medal contestants reached it like this

and duly got a heart lead once West showed his shortness. Twelve tricks, 19 mp.

The Israeli medal contestants suffered a remarkable setback here as this was their auction.

West	North	East	South
Toledano	Wu	Zamir	Hung
1♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass

One down was still worth 4 mp because some pairs had gone down in slams or even in 3NT. Well done, Giovanni Donati, to find the club lead to beat 3NT.

The next board was one of those cases of youthful optimism, I think.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Cuervo	Wu	Kampermann	Hung
	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
All Pass.			

If 2♥ is GF by agreement, which is likely, and certainly if 2♥ is not GF, then North had better bid 4♥ straight away to avoid leading partner into temptation. As it was, there suddenly was no way

back. One down and 2 mp because the only pair to really get to 6♥ suffered the ignominy of being doubled, too.

On the next board, Austria's Scheberan and Thorpe were the only NS pair to avoid 4♥, good for 16 mp against the leaders Urman and Ezion.

The other side of this coin was shown by our Aussie medal candidates, in the direct confrontation with their Israeli rivals:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Smith	Zamir	Thompson	Toledano
—	—	1♣	1♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

West not only doubled but also led a nasty ♣8 rather than a friendly but safe enough ♦K. Declarer played low from dummy so East won the ♣Q and returned a diamond. Now, declarer made the correct pairs play of going up with the ace and taking another club finesse. Had it worked, he would have got rid of his diamond loser and thus might well have made his contract – his only chance. As it was, he now went down two for no matchpoints but it had been worth the risk: going down one trick doubled would have brought him just 2 mp.

## Championship offer

The new dealing machines that are [only] used during the championships will be sold at the end for **EUR 2299** incl. a full five years warranty. Cards and boards are also sold at special prices in conjunction with a purchase of a machine. Please contact [anna@jannersten.com](mailto:anna@jannersten.com) regarding payment and pick up at Opatija/shipping from Sweden.





On the next board, +120 to N/S was a popular result but we also saw a few strange exceptions:

Board 23. Dealer South. All

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kristensen</i>	<i>Chiarandini</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

East led a heart to the nine and declarer's jack. A spade then went to dummy's queen and a club to declarer's ♣10 also held the trick. Another spade went to dummy's ten but when declarer took a diamond finesse next, East won the queen with his king and cleared the hearts. Stranded in his hand, declarer could do little better but play a diamond but when West produced the jack, he could also cash a number of hearts, squeezing dummy in the black suits in the process for down three and all the matchpoints after a fine defensive effort.

At another table, the Israeli medal chasers also showed their defensive virtues.

West	North	East	South
<i>Yamamoto</i>	<i>Toledano</i>	<i>Imakiire</i>	<i>Zamir</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♠	1NT
2♠	All pass		

South led the ♣5 to dummy's queen and North's king which was allowed to hold the trick. A trump came back, South winning the ten and the ♣J now was won by declarer's ace. A club was ruffed in dummy and a diamond off dummy was taken by North's ace. Another trump went to declarer's nine and South's queen. When South continued the ♥Q, dummy ducked this so South could play another heart to North's jack. On the ♥A, declarer discarded his last losing club. When North exited

with the ♣10, South overruffed declarer's ♠J with his ♠K and put declarer back into his hand with the last trump. In the end, North thus scored his ♦Q as the fourth undertrick, good for 23 mp.

After a few less spectacular boards, we got back into action on #27:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Chakraborty</i>	<i>Toledano</i>	<i>Ghosh</i>	<i>Zamir</i>
—	—	—	1♦
1♠	Dble	1NT	3♦
Pass	3NT	Dble	All Pass

The Indian E/W did well to double 3NT but the eventual result came as a big surprise to me. On BBO, the contract was scored as one down which looked a clear mistake.

East led the ♥A and shifted to a spade so declarer immediately won the ace and went for his only chance: the diamond finesse right. No luck: West won the ♦K and returned the ♥9 and another, to put the contract down two, one would think. However, on BBO and, more important, in the official results, the board was scored as down one, still worth 5 mp to N/S instead of a plain zero to the Israeli contenders.

West	North	East	South
<i>Koivu</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>Mylläri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	—	1♦
1♠	Dble	2♣	2♦
3♣	3♦	5♣	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

The Oz contenders did much better: When given the chance, they duly collected +300 in the other direction for an entirely legitimate +300 and 19 mp to them.

The next board was a matter of finding the right lead.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Koivu</i>	<i>Thompson</i>	<i>Mylläri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Can you blame South for leading a solid-looking ♣J rather than a heart through West's natural (yes, entirely natural) 2♥ rebid? Eleven tricks and 19 mp to E/W.

No South player and only two out of five North players on lead against 3NT found the heart lead. Mind you, one of the North players to lead the ♥Q still managed to let 3NT through...only the Japanese Yamamoto and Imakiire defeated it.

On the last board to be shown in this report, the lead once again made a substantial difference.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Chakraborty</i>	<i>Cuervo</i>	<i>Ghosh</i>	<i>Kampermann</i>
—	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

A heart lead not only takes away West's only card in the suit but it also costs a direct trick, never a

good idea in a pairs event.

North won the ♥K and immediately led a diamond to dummy's queen and West's king. A diamond came back to dummy's ♦J and the ♠Q was taken by West's ace. West, forever out of hearts, exited in spades so declarer won and successfully played a club to dummy's jack – a safety finesse. When this held, he had made two overtricks for +180 which was worth a disappointing 16 mp only. Below, we shall explain why.

West	North	East	South
<i>Mylläri</i>	<i>Imakiire</i>	<i>Koivu</i>	<i>Yamamoto</i>
—	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Not wanting to give away a trick and the contract, East led an interesting ♦10. Dummy's ace won and the ♠Q was continued, which West allowed to win. Declarer's next move was to misguess the clubs into the safe hand, trying to avoid a heart shift but now, East woke up. He won the queen and returned a spade. West won the ace and continued the ♥J after all to give partner six tricks in the suit for down four and 23 mp. In spite of this fine example of how to deal with this deal, 3NT was bid and even made twice and there was one case of N/S collecting a telephone number (do we still know what this is?)

When all the smoke had cleared, (another expression on the brink of disappearance, btw) the leading Israeli pair Urman-Ezion had just held on to 2.2 mp of their big lead, enough to win the title. The Australians Smith and Thompson had won the session and thus reached the runner-up position, coming from 4th place, whereas the China pair Wei and Sun had dropped back from 2nd to 3rd. Congratulations to all six medal winners. Our third initial medal contender, the Israelis Toledano and Zamir, had not enjoyed the final session either and had dropped back to 7th spot in the end.





# A NOT SO SIMPLE SQUEEZE

**Simon Stocken**

Board 14. Dealer East. Love All.

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

West	North	East	South
Linn	Natt	Perez	Norton
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The English pair had a sensible and natural auction to 3NT. East found the extraordinary lead of ♦10. Extraordinary because the ♠Q looks mandatory. Natt tried the ♦J which was covered by the queen and ace. When East got in with the ♥K, a second diamond broke up the impending minor suit squeeze and restrict declarer to 11 tricks. +490 would have been worth 70% of the matchpoints. 460 was worth 46%.

West	North	East	South
Koivu	Cuervo	Myllaeri	Kampermann
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Our second auction shows North, Juan-Felipe Cuervo the only Colombian player in attendance, upgrading his hand with a game-forcing 2♣. South rebid 2♦ and North bid 3NT to show minimal values. South was unstoppable after partner's game-force and closed the auction with 6♥.

Again, the lead was significant. West chose a trump, which pushed declarer away from a losing option. On a non-trump lead, declarer might be tempted to create a 12th trick by trumping a diamond in dummy. As it was declarer won, played

A♥ and Q♥ to East who switched to spades, won in hand with ♠A. After unblocking the ♣K, declarer went to dummy with the ♠K to play the ♣A. When West dropped the ♣Q, declarer had a restricted choice scenario. Did West start with a doubleton or ♣QJ9? Declarer got it right and trumped - there were still some additional chances if the clubs did not provide the 12th trick. +980 was worth 90% outscored only by two successful 6NT contracts.

West	North	East	South
Bakke	Bose B	Oikonomop.	Kar
—	—	2♦*	Pass!
3♥*	3♠!	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Our final auction is somewhat bizarre: The first three bids in the auction were off beat but acceptable. East opened a 5-card multi 2♦ which South elected to Pass. West's optimistic 3♥ was pass or correct. The fourth bid defies any reasonable explanation with the 4-card overcall at the 3-level (perhaps he had a club with the spades...?) South had heard enough and found an easy 6NT, still unsure which major his RHO held. This was doubled by East. 6NT played by South can always be made as the squeeze-breaking diamond lead can not be made by West without gifting declarer his 12th trick in diamonds. West did well to guess his partner's suit and led the ♠5, which declarer needed to win the ♠K. Winning with the ♠A meant communications became tangled and declarer ended up with 10 tricks when the diamond finesse failed. Winning the ♠A allows declarer to knock out the ♥K and then return to the ♠A to run the hearts, which squeezes West in clubs and diamonds. As the diamonds are 5-2 it is impossible for declarer to misguess the ending.

The heart slam is excellent - how best to reach it?

We saw one route where North responds 2♣ - Game-forcing using 2/1 but most would avoid a game-force with a singleton in partner's suit and a 10-count.

If South were to open 2♣, slam would be reached - again most would avoid the 2♣ GF with the south cards.

I saw one auction begin 1♥-1♠-2♣ (Gazilli) and this seemed to offer better chances although the final resting spot was 4♥.



# MISPLAY THIS HAND WITH ME IN OPATIJA

Mark Horton

During the last session of a close match I pick up a regulation hand:

Dealer West. All Vul.

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

The first three players have nothing to say and although this hand is nothing special I open 1NT and partner raises to game, giving us this simple auction:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West leads the ♠Q, and dummy is not encouraging:

♠ 7 4 3  
 ♥ J 9 5 3  
 ♦ A 9 2  
 ♣ A 10 3



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

I can understand why my partner did not look for a heart fit.

When I duck (not a difficult play for anyone who has lived in Bath) West switches to the ♣2 and when East follows with the nine I win with the queen. The club king must be onside, so I have seven tricks. The other two will have to come from the red suits, so I play the ♥7, putting up dummy's nine when West follows with the eight. East wins with the ten, and having played the ♠5 on the first round of the suit, now returns the ♠9. I play the jack, but West wins and plays the ♣4, which I win with the jack. When I play the ♥4 East discards the ♣7 and East takes

dummy's jack with the queen and plays the ♣6, West following with the king as I win with dummy's ace. I can pick up East's hearts, but there is no way to avoid a diamond loser, so I am one down.

This was the layout:

Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 7 4 3  
 ♥ J 9 5 3  
 ♦ A 9 2  
 ♣ A 10 3

♠ K Q 10 8 2  
 ♥ 8  
 ♦ J 7  
 ♣ K 8 7 4 2



♠ 9 5  
 ♥ K Q 10 2  
 ♦ Q 10 5 4  
 ♣ 9 6 5

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

Post mortem

If declarer wins the second round of spades, he can then play a diamond to the nine. East will win, but declarer will then have time to develop two tricks in hearts and will only have to play West for his 2-4-4-2 pattern. As to the location of the high cards, declarer must assume that the king of clubs is onside, and West's silence during the bidding therefore suggests that the remaining high cards will be with East.

In the other room, West overcalled 2♠, promising spades and a minor and when North doubled my hand gave no thought to passing, rebidding 2NT and being raised to game.

West switched to the ♥8 at trick two and declarer took the ten with the ace and played a diamond to the nine and ten. When a spade came back declarer took the ace and played the ♥6 to East's queen. A club exit went to the queen and declarer ran the jack and played the ♥7 for the jack and king. The diamond return went to the jack and ace and declarer cashed dummy's ♣A, the ♥5 and then played the ♦2 to the eight for +600 and 12 IMPs.

We lost the match by just 8 IMPs.





# OPATIJA DIARY

Mark Horton

Saturday, August 24th, 2019

After the excitement of Friday's finals come new opportunities. The news that the impending strike by British Airways Pilots has caused my flight to Wuhan for the World Championships to be cancelled is unwelcome, and there is a strong possibility that my return flight will be affected. Given my intended entry point in China, I am tempted to add a new meaning for the word shanghaied.

Material is coming in thick and fast, a mixture of brilliancies & blunders with an occasional example of the esoteric.

## Extra Boards

I can't say we watch every deal, but we do try to pay attention to the ones that might provide a story. The U26W played 20 boards in the first session of the finals and this was the second of them:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

There are only seven results - the shared top of 11/1 going to the two NS pairs who recorded +720 -one after the lead of the ♠7 (there is no squeeze, but West might go wrong) the other after the lead of the ♣7! +690 was worth 7/5, +660 4/8, +660 4/8 and +620 a mildly unlucky zero.

The deal reminds me of one that was written about by Reese and Trézel where they described how a contract might be played by players of different levels of ability.

Imagine the contract is 6♦ and East cashes a top club and switches to a diamond.

An inexperienced player might win, draw the outstanding trumps and then guess which major suit to finesse in.

A more experienced player might, after drawing trumps, cash the top spades and then fall back on the heart finesse.

How about this line: after drawing trumps, cash the top spades and then settle down to the rest of the diamonds; East will be forced to keep two clubs, otherwise you can cross to dummy with a heart and ruff a club. That means that East will have to come down to two hearts and two clubs, while West must retain a spade and three hearts. Then the last trump, pitching a club, squeezes West in the majors. That's not bad, but East might be 3-1-2-7 with the ♠Q, when that won't work.

An expert will leave the major suits well alone and simply play out some trumps. The penultimate diamond will see West, down to ♠Q87 ♥Q1096 become the victim of a trump squeeze.

Were East to have the 3-1-2-7 I have mentioned then declarer will have to read the position, coming down to ♠A9 ♥AK ♣Q and then crossing to dummy with a spade to cash the ♥AK, squeezing East in the black suits.



## Do you Feel Lucky?

Here's a little problem from the first session of the finals:

Board 12. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Holding the West hand, you see the auction unfold like this:

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	2♦*	4♣*
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♥	Pass	Pass
?			

- 2♦ Black suits
- 4♣ Splinter
- 5♣ Void

Are you a man or a mouse?

Suppose you double? Partner leads the ♠J and this proves to be the layout:

	♠ 9 2										
	♥ A J 9 4										
	♦ J 8 4										
	♣ K 10 5 2										
♠ A 8	<table border="1" style="background-color: green; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <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>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 10 7 5 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ K 10 8 7 3		♥ —									
♦ 7 6 2		♦ 9 3									
♣ J 9 6		♣ A Q 8 7 4 3									
	♠ K Q 6 3										
	♥ Q 6 5 2										
	♦ A K Q 10 5										
	♣ —										

Declarer, Stephan Thorpe, plays the king from dummy and you win and return the ♠8, declarer winning with the queen and advancing the ♥Q. When you cover, declarer takes the ace as East throws a club. Declarer ruffs a club, crosses to hand with a diamond to the jack and then plays winning diamonds. You pitch clubs, as do North and East. In the four card ending declarer plays a spade and you ruff with the ♥8. Declarer overruffs with the nine and ruffs a spade with the ♥5. You overruff, but then have to play a heart from your ♥103 into the ♥J4.

'Eek! I'm a mouse Minnie'.

## VIDEO CORNER



And the winners are...

<https://youtu.be/hbYpKqiOtkA>



Plan, Count, Plan by Nikica Šver

[https://youtu.be/mrllSG\\_dV4U](https://youtu.be/mrllSG_dV4U)



Let me show you a squeeze

<https://youtu.be/IO3ZLkry3Gk>



# GRAND DESIGNS

**Simon Stocken**

Board 25 U26 Final session 3  
Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Spooner	Sobczak	Cooper	Marcinowski
—	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Dble	Pass
Pass	Rdbl*	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	7♠
All Pass			

3NT shortage?



Mateusz SOB CZAK

Thirteen tricks are trivial on this hand once the spades divide 1-1 but how many would find an auction to get there? Two pairs (out of 13) bid it in the U26 final. Four pairs (out of 13) in the U21 final. One out of 13 in the U16 final and none of the seven pairs in the Women's final bid it.

The auction above has three points of instruction:

1. The 3NT bid asking for shortage is key – South is able to count three extra tricks from ruffs in dummy, which brings the known total to 13 – grand slams should generally only be bid if thirteen tricks can be counted.

2. East's double of the splinter is not useful as a lead-directing bid. One possible treatment is to suggest a lead of the suit above (or below) according to agreement. Another is to suggest a possible sacrifice although the vulnerability here would advocate against that.

3. The double here makes little difference as once South initiates RKCB, North's response will confirm the presence of the singleton ace of clubs. Had North held a club void, the double would have been more costly, as the redouble by either player is used to show first-round control (ace or void) in the suit. West led a trump and South claimed shortly thereafter. If the spades divide 2-0, declarer can choose to trump three clubs before drawing trumps, or attempt to create an extra trick out of the heart suit.



Piotr MARCINOWSKI

## UNDER 26 TEAM ROSTERS

ALSO INDIA	India LEEMING, Ian ROBSON, Eshan SINGHAL, Hanna TUUS
AUSTRALIA	Renee COOPER, John MCMAHON, Nicholas RANSON, Matthew SMITH, Andrew SPOONER, Jamie THOMPSON, Michael DOECKE captain
AUSTRIA	Patricio CRISAFULLI SADABA, Felix EDER, Sophie HERMANN, Manuel JINDRA, Philip SCHEBERAN, Stephan THORPE, Florian WEISS captain, Simon WEINBERGER coach
BELGIUM	Stefan BEUKEMA , Kamiel LUYCKX, Arthur MASSAR, Emiel VANDEWIELE, Dennis DE WIT captain
CHILE	Francisco BASOALTO, Alexander BOEHM, Kyle BOSSONNEY, Nicolas DAVILA, Bastian PEREZ, Esteban VASQUEZ, Hanoi RONDON captain, Hanoi RONDON coach
CHINA RDFZ HU	Ziliang CHEN, Chang LIU, Shiyu SUN, Hongji WEI, Qiufeng XIANG, Yichen YIN, Jichao HU captain, Jichao HU coach
CROATIA	Ivan BILUSIC , Emanuel EVACIC, Matko FERENCA, Filip KATUSIC, Viktor LESKOVAR, Kristijan STEFANEC, Marshall LEWIS captain
GERMANY	Florian ALTER, Maximilian Niklas STEPPER, Lauritz STRECK, Sibrand VAN OOSTEN, Sibrand VAN OOSTEN captain
GREISNOR	Christian BAKKE, Amir EZION, Tomer LOONSTEIN, Ioannis OIKONOMOPOULOS
HONG KONG	Wai Lam CHEUNG, Tsz Fung Harry HUNG, Kam Fai LIN, Shuk Man NG, Michael WU, Tsz Fung Harry HUNG captain
INDIA	BABHRUBAHAN BOSE, ARYA CHAKRABORTY, SOUMADEEP GHOSH, SOUVIK KAR, SAYANTAN KUSHARI, SAGNIK ROY, Shibnath Dey SARKAR captain, Shibnath Dey SARKAR coach
ISRAEL	Oren TOLEDANO, Lior URMAN, Asaf YEKUTIELI, Ami ZAMIR
ITALIA	Francesco CHIARANDINI, Giovanni DONATI, Alvaro GAIOTTI, Giacomo PERCARIO, Roberto SAU, Sebastiano SCATA, Dario ATTANASIO captain, Valerio GIUBILO coach
JAPAN	Eisuke ENDO, Takayuki HINO, Eishi IMAKIIRE, Hitoshi TANABE, Tetsutaro YAMAMOTO, Hirokana YUGE, Hiroaki MIURA captain
NATT	Stephen KENNEDY, Shahzaad NATT, Ben NORTON, Junyuan YE
NETHERLANDS	Pim COPPENS, Guy MENDES DE LEON, Thibo SPRINKHUIZEN, Niels VAN BIJSTERVELDT, Guy MENDES DE LEON captain
POLAND	Piotr MARCINOWSKI, Jakub PATREUHA, Patryk PATREUHA, Mateusz SOBCZAK, Marek MARKOWSKI captain
SERBALICIOUS	MICHAEL DONNELLY, Ronan Richard James VALENTINE, Stojan VAZIC, Jovana ZORANOVIC
SIVY B	Cornelius DUFFIE, Benjamin KRISTENSEN, Kevin ROSENBERG, Sarah YOUNGQUIST
URUGUAY	Andres ARREDONDO, Juan Felipe CUERVO LOPERA, Sofia KOZLOVIZ, Jonathan LENZI, Agustin TEIXEIRA, Guillermo MINUTTI captain, Guillermo MINUTTI coach

## UNDER 26 TEAMS RANKING AFTER SESSION 6

1	AUSTRALIA	82.66	11	AUSTRIA	56.21
2	NATT	79.16	12	CHINA RDFZ HU	53.68
3	SIVY B	74.59	13	HONG KONG	53.32
4	NETHERLANDS	73.28	14	BELGIUM	52.45
5	GERMANY	72.29	15	GREISNOR	50.47
6	ISRAEL	69.40	16	ALSO INDIA	49.24
7	ITALIA	68.70	17	SERBALICIOUS	48.97
8	POLAND	66.46	18	INDIA	46.75
9	JAPAN	63.72	19	CHILE	46.28
10	CROATIA	58.17	20	URUGUAY	30.20

## WOMEN UNDER 26 TEAM ROSTERS

CHILE	Diana MOLINA, Francisca NACRUR, Valentina ROMAN, Camila YANEZ, Alexandra COVA captain, Hanoi RONDON coach
ITALIA	Federica DALPOZZO, Valentina DALPOZZO, Anastasia DI LORENZO, Linda SEREGNI, Dario ATTANASIO captain, Margherita CHAVARRIA coach
POLAND GIRLS SCREWDRIVER	Sophia BALDYSZ, Joanna KOKOT, Dominika OCYLOK, Joanna ZALEWSKA Malene Holm CHRISTENSEN, Laura COVILL, Esther VISSER, Janneke WACKWITZ, Bas VAN ENGELEN captain
SERBIA	Vesna KATANIC, Tamara MILUTINOVIC, Aleksandra OVUKA, Katarina VUJIC, Vesna KATANIC captain, Vuk TRNAVAC coach
SOFIES WORLD	Thea Lucia INDREBO, Agnethe Hansen KJENSLI, Ida Marie OEBERG, Sofie Grasholt SJODAL
SXDAISY	Xiaoran BI, Yixuan JIANG, Qing TANG, Yuming WANG, Fan YANG, Yuchen ZHAO, Shuangle HU captain
SXPEONY	Yunpeng CHEN, Chenyun GE, Yijia LU , Xinyao RUAN, Jiaming XU, Wenfei YU, Ling WANG captain
SXTULIP	Lingwen FAN, Yi Ran GAO, Jinyi MA, Yutong WU, Tong XU, Yiyun YANG, Tianlu MA captain, Yunpeng CHEN coach
ZHIHAOLE	Qin Yi CHAO, Jingjing HAN, Qiyun HE, Yu XUAN, Chiyu ZHAO, Yuqiao ZHAO

## UNDER 26 WOMEN TEAMS RANKING AFTER SESSION 6

1	POLAND GIRLS	84.74
2	SCREWDRIVER	84.69
3	SXPEONY	81.24
4	SOFIES WORLD	73.77
5	SXDAISY	66.31
6	CHILE	63.99
7	ITALIA	52.79
8	SXTULIP	42.97
9	ZHIHAOLE	28.02
10	SERBIA	21.48

# FLOOD THE NETWORKS!

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## UNDER 21 TEAM ROSTERS

50 50	Theo ANOYRKATIS, Andrew COPE, Harry MADDEN, Alexander PEMBERTON, Oscar SELBY
AZS WRATISLAVIA	Alicja MYSLIWIEC, Szymon OSTROWSKI, MACIEJ RACEWICZ, Ryszard ROSIKIEWICZ, Adam SZUSZKIEWICZ, Oskar TOKARCZUK
BADOELL	Erik HANSSON, Castor MANN, Oscar NIJSSEN, Tim VAN DE PAVERD
CHINA RDFZ	Zixi CAI, Yuanzhe DING, Zhaofeng WANG, Haoqing YU, Jichao HU captain, Jichao HU coach
DABROWKA	Kajetan GOSCIANSKI, Karol MACKOWIAK, EWA MORAWSKA, Jakub NAWROCKI
DABROWKA PO	Jozef BUGAJEWSKI, Szymon GRAS, Lukasz JOZKOWIAK, Adam ZALWOWSKI
FRANCE FUNBRIDGE	Luc BELLIKAUD, Theo GUILLEMIN, Leo ROMBAUT, Clement TEIL, Thibault DELMAS-SIRVEN captain
INDIA	Kalpna BALIRAM GURJAR, Rekha BHIMANAİK, Vidhya KAMAL PATEL, Manasa MANASA, KAMRYN MENEZES, Taral Emmanuel Lazarus RODRIGUES, Vinay DESAI captain, Vinay DESAI coach
ITALIA	Gabriele GIUBILO, Gianmarco GIUBILO, Matteo LOMBARDI, Federico PORTA, Valerio GIUBILO captain, Dario ATTANASIO coach
ITALIA 2	Alessandro CARLETTI, Matteo MEREGALLI, Annachiara PELAGGI, Maddalena PELAGGI
JAPAN	Terushi INAMI, Yoshitake INOUE, Sukai KAWABATA, Yihan SONG, Takahito SUZUKI, Ken TAKIZAWA, Hiroaki MIURA captain
MAN EATING COBRAS	Jamie FEGARTY, Liam FEGARTY, Patrick GAUDART, Ben LEWIS
MEISTERS DISCIPL	Ilai Ilan BANIRI, Soren BUNE, Sanna CLEMENTSSON, Christian LAHRMANN, Alexander SANDIN
POLAND	Jakub BAZYLUK, Krzysztof CICHY, Tomasz KIELBASA, Kacper KOPKA, Marek MARKOWSKI captain
PRISM FALCONS	Sihan FEI, Lanxi JIANG, Rui WANG, Fengrui ZHANG, Zhijun ZHANG captain, Xiaofang WANG coach
SERBIA	Ivan BORKOVIC, Slobodan GUZVICA, Mihailo SIMIC, Bogdan VELICKOVIC, Bogdan VELICKOVIC captain, Milorad RADOJEVIC coach
SXNEBULA	Hanyang DAI, Penghao WANG, Yingqi WANG, Hao XU, Tianyao YAN, Jiahao YANG, Haihong GU captain, Liping WANG coach
SXSPARK	Xiaolei GUO, Jiixin TONG, Zhaochen YU, Zhaolun YU, Tiancheng ZHANG, Chuanyao ZHOU, Jiping YAO captain, Renhong PAN coach
SXSTARLORD	Cheng DENG, Haochen LIU, Yihong LIU, Mingyu LU, Tianle YAO, Zhijie YUAN, Xiaochen KONG captain
THE CANADIANS	Hao Zhen (John) DONG, Finn KOLESNIK, Harrison Anders LUBA, Bo Han ZHU

UNDER 21 TEAMS  
RANKING AFTER SESSION 6

1	ITALIA	90.98	11	SXNEBULA	56.85
2	BADOELL	88.42	12	FRANCE FUNBRIDGE	54.27
3	POLAND	75.42	13	DABROWKA PO	52.70
4	THE CANADIANS	72.35	14	INDIA	51.72
5	SXSTARLORD	69.56	15	50 50	51.62
6	JAPAN	66.50	16	ITALIA 2	48.44
7	AZS WRATISLAVIA	65.83	17	MAN EATING COBRAS	45.58
8	SXSPARK	64.46	18	DABROWKA	44.85
9	CHINA RDFZ	63.43	19	PRISM FALCONS	43.55
10	MEISTERS DISCIPL	56.95	20	SERBIA	32.52

## UNDER 16 TEAM ROSTERS

CAPRISUN	Weiyi JIN, Yupeng LIU, Jiayi SHI, Zihao WANG, Qianwen ZHANG, Zimo ZHANG, Jian WANG captain
CHINA RDFZ HOPE	Xuefeng CHEN, Yipeng LIAO, Xuanci LIU, Moye REN, Anrui SHANG, Xinlun YU, Yanyan CAO captain, Wei QIN coach
CROATIA U16	Franko BACIC, Vanja CIZEL, Eliza DRAGCEVIC, Mia GRUBISIC, Kaya Fay PROBST, Tristan Nicholas PROBST, Richard PROBST captain, Vjekoslav ZEPIC coach
CS21MSCHOOL EYE OF THE TIGER	Xingjian CHEN, Yaojia LI, Maoxiang TIAN, Jialu WAN, Hongxin XIAO, Junyu YANG Clement BENS, Louis BONIN, Martin DESAGE, Maxence ROCHES, Lucas SARTORI, Philippe TCHOULKINE, Benoit DEVEZE captain
INDIA	ANSHUL BHATT, Kunj CHHEDA, Tilakraj CHOWDHURY, Prajjwal MAYUR, Aryan MEHTA, Vineet NANDU, Vinay DESAI captain, Vinay DESAI coach
POLAND	Lucja CIBOROWSKA, Konrad CIBOROWSKI, Lukasz KASPERCZYK, Kacper KUFLOWSKI, Franciszek KURLIT, Michal STASIK, Marcin KUFLOWSKI captain
RDFZ BRIDGE STRAIT	Ziwen CHANG, Juncan HUANG, Xuanda LIN, Zhuangyan SUN, Ziao WANG, Zhili ZHUO, Jichao HU captain, Ziliang CHEN coach
RDFZ ZHIHAOLE	Yanxu CHEN, Jiakang LIU, Siyi LIU, Hanxi MA, Chushi SU, Sikun WEI, Yanhong LIU captain, Wei LIU coach
SHARKS	Jasmine BAKHSHI, Markus BERTHEAU, Anders BROGELAND, Are Borgar LANDSVIK, David BAKHSHI captain, Tonje Aasand BROGELAND coach
SHSLLS1	Yuxin JIANG, Jialin LI, Shiyuan QIN, Muqun XU, Nuoyi XU, Siqing YANG, Wei Guo ZHENG captain, Jiening XU coach
SXMARS	Yanzhuo FU, Zhuxiongjie GAO, Ningyu LANG, Haotian SHEN, Zicheng WANG, Fanfei YU, Wei YANG captain, Yihong LIU coach
SXSATURN	Suhang LI, Zhenyue LU, Tengbo TANG, Zhixian TIAN, Yijun WU, Xuyang ZHANG, Hongfeng ZHU captain, Zhijie YUAN coach
SXVENUS	Haoxuan JIANG, Fengming LIN, Shuoming MA, Jiarui WANG, Zimo XIE, Junyi YANG, Lin LIN captain, Cheng DENG coach
TIANJIN BRIDGESCHOOL	Linzhen CAI, Zirui FENG, Ruoshui SUN, Xieyang WEI, Jingxuan XIA, Beilin ZHANG, Yang ZHANG captain, Binbin DONG coach

## UNDER 16 TEAMS RANKING AFTER SESSION 6

1	SHSLLS1	92.88
2	SXSATURN	86.06
3	POLAND	74.29
4	EYE OF THE TIGER	72.91
5	SHARKS	69.95
6	SXVENUS	67.79
7	SXMARS	61.50
8	RDFZ BRIDGE STRAIT	61.46
9	RDFZ ZHIHAOLE	58.37
10	CAPRISUN	51.69
11	INDIA	46.70
12	CROATIA U16	44.99
13	CS21MSCHOOL	44.91
14	CHINA RDFZ HOPE	43.28
15	TIANJIN BRIDGESCHOOL	35.22