

6th World Youth Open Bridge Championships

20th - 29th August 2019

Welcome to Opatija

the House of Bridge



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WBF – WORLD BRIDGE FRIENDS

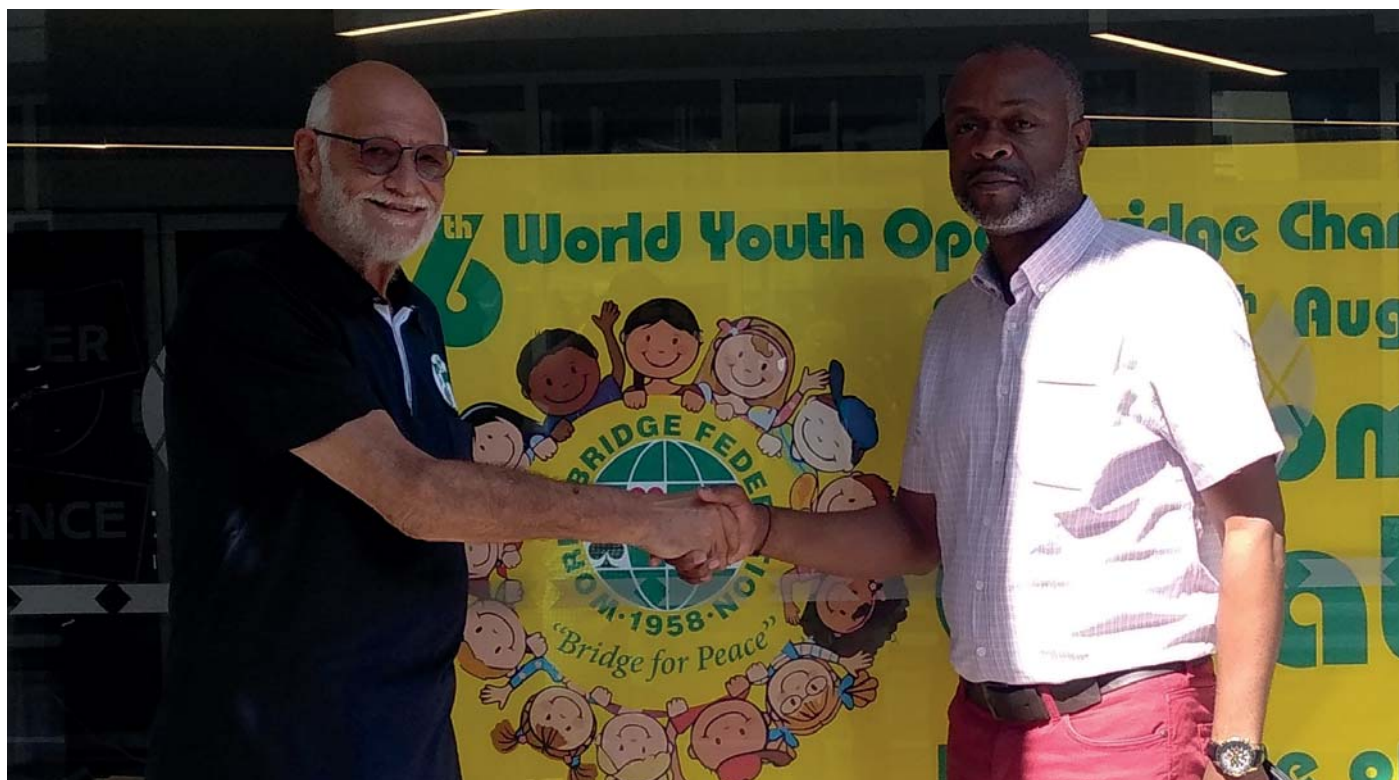


Yesterday was full of drama, especially for the U26 teams representing Australia and Japan. A tremendous struggle ensued. It appeared that Australia had won by a single IMP, but they discovered a scoring error and brought it to the attention of the officials. Their opponents had gone to dinner, but were located for the two-board playoff that saw Australia advance.

SCHEDULE TODAY

10.00 - 12.00	Teams: Semifinal 1st stanza 14 boards Teams BAM Tablets
12.20 - 14.20	Teams: Semifinal 2nd stanza 14 boards Teams BAM Tablets
15.20 - 17.20	Teams: Semifinal 3rd stanza 14 boards Teams BAM Tablets
17.40 - 19.40	Teams: Semifinal 4th stanza 14 boards

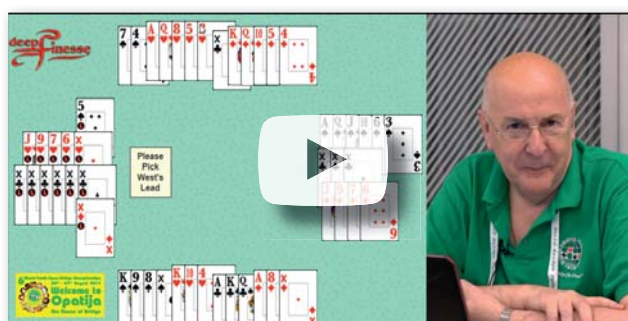
WELCOME TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO DELEGATION!



The World Bridge Federation welcomes for the first time in our bridge family, a delegation from one of the biggest African Countries. Sharadi Kanga, President of the R.D. Congo Bridge Federation and member of the R.D. Congo National Olympic Committee leads the Delegation.

We apologize for all the hardships they faced during their trip but finally they arrived in Opatija. The WBF wish all the players from Congo an enjoyable competition, sharing the spirit of fair-play and making new friends from all around the world.

VIDEO CORNER



The Villain's Ankle

https://youtu.be/ATP_TpNivOY



SHORT IS SAFE

Simon Stocken

Board 23 U26 Final session 3

Dealer South. Game All.

	♠ 5 3		
	♥ A J 4		
	♦ A Q 5 2		
	♣ K 10 6 3		
♠ 8 7 2		♠ 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
Rosenberg	Chiarandini	Kristensen	Gaiotti
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	East	2NT
All Pass			

“4th highest of your longest and strongest suit”

As a bridge teacher I shudder when I hear these words - few realise that this advice was coined during the days of Whist. Whist is a game with no bidding and no dummy and so offers far fewer opportunities for skill than bridge. It was widely played in England (and beyond) for two centuries until someone came up with the bright idea of introducing dummy - probably because a fourth player was not available. Whist is a decidedly dull game.

Experts are very wary about leading from 4-card suits versus NT contracts, especially at matchpoints. Leading against 2NT is a unique situation as the opponents should have 23 or 24 points and so the opening leader knows how many points partner is expected to hold. Kristensen here expects his partner to hold 4 or 5 points so a safe lead is indicated. Partner actually has one extra as the Italian South has taken an over-optimistic pairs decision with his shapeless, ace-less collection.

Kristensen found the excellent lead of the ♥6 and declarer played ♥7, ♥9, ♥J. After a spade to the king, and a club to the 10, ducked smoothly by East, declarer played another spade, inserting dummy's ten. The diamond finesse lost to East's king and

Kristensen now continued hearts to the queen, king and ace. Declarer was still unsure of the heart position - another huge advantage of the short suit lead - and opted to lead a low diamond towards dummy, taken by West with the ♦J. The defence ended up taking the rest of the tricks, as declarer misguessed the club position in the ending thanks to Kristensen's excellent refusal to take his ♣A at trick three. An outright top and well deserved.

It is possible to take 8 tricks (according to Deep Finesse) even after the heart lead. The key is to isolate the West hand. Playing the ♥Q at trick one has considerable advantages - it may win the trick, providing a much-needed entry to dummy. When it is covered by the ♥K, it becomes straightforward to duck thereby eliminating the threat of the heart suit. The third advantage of playing the ♥Q is it clarifies the position.

In the U21 final, North declared Notrumps 12 (out of 13 times) - hearts were led three times and spades nine times. In the U16 final, the eventual winners, Bonin and Bens from France defended 3NT doubled and were the only pair to lead hearts - this netted them 500 points and an outright top.



Alvaro GAIOTTI



U26 SWISS TEAMS – ITALIA V NATT

David Bird

Pairs events are fine but the teams championship is surely the 'main event'. The under-26 teams starts with two days of Swiss teams, the leaders to advance to the knock-out stage. Let's see some of the action from ITALIA v NATT.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norton	Scatà	Natt	Donati
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
1NT	3♣	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Declarer was off to a flying start when Donati chose to lead a low heart through the 1NT overcaller. It might have been a brilliant move on a different lie of the cards. Here North played the ♥10 and declarer won with the ♥J. There were no particularly loud cheers from England supporters because it still seemed that declarer had too many losers.

Natt drew two rounds of trumps with the queen and ace, discovering the break, and continued with dummy's ♦A. He then drew South's remaining trumps. On the last round of trumps Scatà discarded the ♥K. Natt ran the ♦7 to North's ♦10 and North was endplayed, having to choose a card from ♦Q3 ♣Q1083. The ♣3 went to South's ace and the club return to the ♣10 and king. Declarer's last trump then strip-squeezed North, holding ♦Q3 and ♣Q8. He threw a club and was thrown in with a club to lead into dummy's diamond tenace. That was an unexpected +420 to NATT.

West	North	East	South
Gaiotti	Ye	Chiarandini	Kennedy
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
1NT	3♥	Dble	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Declarer won the ♦9 lead with the ace and drew trumps in four rounds. A club to the jack lost to the queen and South won the club return with the ace. A low heart to the king and a heart back to the ace put the game one down. It was 10 IMPs to NATT

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norton	Scatà	Natt	Donati
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
Pass	1NT	3♣	3♦
4♠	All Pass		

Norton had 12 losers in his hand (if you add one for no aces... maybe you should add another for no kings). Marc Smith and I, who were doing written commentary on BBO because there was no-one present to enable us for Voice, rated a 2♠ response as 'normal'. Norton saw it differently and passed. Scatà protected with 1NT and Norton then recovered, jumping to 4♠ over his partner's 3♣ rebid. The ♥5 lead drew the queen, king and ace. Natt then played the ♠A, discovering the 4-0 break. At trick three he found the interesting shot of the ♣10 to North's queen. A diamond to the queen was followed by the ♥J and a third heart to force declarer. However, Natt could now play a club to the 10, pick up the remaining trumps and claim ten tricks. Brilliant!

West	North	East	South
Gaiotti	Ye	Chiarandini	Kennedy
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Here West did find a spade raise (quite right) and East then had visions of a possible slam. His 3♣, nominally a game-try, attracted no interest and he signed off in game. Kennedy's ♥5 lead again drew three big honours. Declarer then played the trump ace, South discarding a diamond. After a heart to North's 10 and a diamond to the queen, declarer ruffed the ♥J. He was still on track for a make but would have to step carefully.

Declarer played the ♣AK next and good news arrived when the ♣Q fell from North. However, there was also some good news for the defenders, which was later to become apparent. Declarer had failed to unblock dummy's ♣J.

When declarer attempted to cross to the ♣J, North ruffed. A diamond return forced declarer to ruff with the ♠7. The next club was ruffed with the ♠J and overruffed with the ♠Q,

If declarer had made the far-sighted unblock of the ♣J, he could have played a trump to the 8 and queen. He would then ruff the diamond return with the ♠K, overtake the ♠10 with the jack and draw North last trumps. Finally he could return dummy's preserved low club to his ♣1043. It would have been a virtuoso performance. As it was, NATT gained 13 IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norton	Scatà	Natt	Donati
—	—	1♥	Pass
1♠	2♣	2♦	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

The bidding was fairly normal, it seemed, and ten tricks were made for +130. If anyone was about to beat par, they would have to be sitting at the other table. Let's see.

West	North	East	South
Gaiotti	Ye	Chiarandini	Kennedy
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	2♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♥	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

It was a fine piece of bidding to reach the diamond game. Chiarandini won the club lead, crossed to the ♥A and led the ♠3 from dummy. Ye rose with the ♠A, cashed the ♣K and played a third club. Declarer ruffed with the jack, ruffed a heart in dummy and discarded a heart on the ♠K. A spade ruff, a trump to the 10 and a spade ruff high allowed declarer to draw trumps. Dummy's ♦K and the established ♠8 scored the last two tricks. It was 10 IMPs to ITALIA.



Francesco CHIARANDINI



The scores were tied at 22-22 when the last board was placed on the table:

Board 8. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norton	Scatà	Natt	Donati
Pass	2♥	Dble	4♥
4♠	All Pass		

After what one might describe as a normal auction, the good spade game was reached. However, the cards lay poorly for declarer. North led the ♥9 to the jack and South's ace. Declarer ruffed the heart continuation and drew two rounds of trumps with the queen and jack, North showing out. A finesse of the ♦J lost to the king and South ruffed the diamond return. South returned his last trump and a club had to be lost for one down.

West	North	East	South
Gaiotti	Ye	Chiarandini	Kennedy
Pass	2♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	



Ben NORTON

Over the multi opening, Chiarandini did not have a call in his methods. Many would have doubled. The England pair won the bidding battle, keeping out East-West of a good spade game, but it seemed that they would lose the play battle. How could they possibly avoid two club losers in addition to a spade and a diamond?

The play advanced to trick 8 or 9 with declarer still heading for a one-trick set. Suddenly, the defenders must have made a mistake. +420 was showing! I had my finger poised on the BBO 'Save Boards' button when – incredibly annoyingly, they brought the table down only a second after play had terminated. How many times have I asked the organiser not to do this! I won't name him, because he does a great job in general. Fortunately, I had remembered to take my heart pills earlier, so there was no great damage.

You and I will have to wait until the deal appears in the BBO VuGraph Archives to see how declarer managed to collect ten tricks. Ah, wait a minute, we're in luck. I was just about to send my report to the Editor when this match was posted in the archive. Let's see what happened:

East played two top spades, Ye ruffing. A trump to the king and a spade ruff were followed by a trump to the ace and a club to the 10 and ace. After a diamond to the ace, West played the ♠Q ruffed by declarer. Ye ruffed the established ♦K in dummy. Nine tricks had been played and GIB had all indicators showing red. After club to the king, +420 appeared. Well, that's annoying. Declarer still had an unavoidable club loser. So the otherwise excellent VG operator must have misrecorded the earlier play. We will never know what happened. Sorry!

NATT scored 9 IMPs on the final board, to win by 31 IMPs to 22. That's 15.45 to 6.55 in VPs.



Shahzaad NATT



SWISS TEAMS QUALIFICATION R.5

Jos Jacobs

Australia v. Germany

Sivy B v. Poland

Two matches on BBO in any round will usually produce a combined report on both of them. No exception this time so here we go.

Board 1 was a partscore push in the Sivy B v. Poland match but in the other match, declarer brilliantly exploited the chances given to him after the lead.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stepper	Thompson	Van Oosten	Smith
—	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

Like both E/W pairs in the other match, the German E/W in this match settled for a quiet partscore when the N/S bidding came to an end after their 11-14 1NT opening. Nine tricks, Germany +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Spooner	Alter	Cooper	Streck
—	1♦	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

When the Precision style 1♦ by North ran round to West, the intermediate balancing overcall duly did its job. It needs an initial spade lead to defeat 4♥ out of hand but when you are dealt a J108x-combination, you are supposed to lead from it, aren't you?

Declarer won the ♦A, cashed the ♥KA in that order picking up the ♥Q as a bonus for his fine play and went on to discard three spades on three rounds of diamonds when South was the one who did not follow suit to the last diamond. So North was left on play and could do nothing better than exit in spades. Declarer ruffed, drew the last trump and led a club towards dummy's jack, no doubt having placed the ♣AQ with North in view of his opening bid. This way, he only lost two clubs and thus landed his contract for a fine +420 and 7 IMPs to Australia.

Two boards later, it was slam time.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Marcinowski	Rosenberg	Sobczak	Kristensen
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

The Americans had little trouble in getting to the quite reasonable slam once North could rebid 4♦ to show a second suit. One can imagine South's super-positive reaction...Sivy B +920 when declarer misguessed the ♦Q but fully exploited the nice heart break.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duffie	J Patreuha	Youngquist	P Patreuha
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

The Poles lacked the tools and/or the courage to equal this fine American bidding effort and thus had to be content with +480 only, a loss of 10 IMPs to them.

In the other match, we saw basically the same difference.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stepper	Thompson	Van Oosten	Smith
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4♠*
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

Once North could show his second suit in transfer fashion, the Oz problems were over. At this table, too, the ♦Q was declarer's only loser after West led the ♣J to solve the problem in that suit..

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Spooner	Alter	Cooper	Streck
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT
All Pass			

In spite of the Strong Club and South's quantitative reraise, North once again lacked the tools and/or the courage to make any further move. Germany +490 but 10 IMPs to Australia.

Two quiet boards and then:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A 8 3
♥ Q 7 3
♦ A K J 10 5 4
♣ 9

♠ Q J 10 2
♥ 6 4
♦ Q 9 8 6 3
♣ 6 5

N
W E
S

♠ 9 7 6 4
♥ K 10 9 5
♦ —
♣ A 8 7 4 2

♠ K 5
♥ A J 8 2
♦ 7 2
♣ K Q J 10 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Marcinowski	Rosenberg	Sobczak	Kristensen
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦
Pass	5NT*	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

After two transfer bids by North, 5NT was "pick a youthful slam" and South correctly went for the best denomination: 6NT.

Declarer won the spade lead with his king and immediately led a diamond to dummy's jack – the correct way to handle a suit like this. When East discarded a club, declarer could afford to overtake dummy's ♣9 to establish the suit but this only made his life a lot easier: the squeeze would have worked anyway. Sivy B +990.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duffie	J Patreuha	Youngquist	P Patreuha
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♣*	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

The Poles were not interested, and understandably so, when North showed the singleton South did not in the least want. The contract was just made: +400 to Poland bit 11 IMPs to Sivy B.



Benjamin KRISTENSEN

The next board would only produce some little nightmares here and there.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Marcinowski	Rosenberg	Sobczak	Kristensen
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Against this straightforward auction, North led a straightforward spade which resulted in down three when South took the ace and returned his fourth-best spade. With the spades “blocked,” South had little option but to try a heart next. Sivy B +300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duffie	J Patreuha	Youngquist	P Patreuha
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	2♣*	Dble	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♠*	Dble
4♣	All Pass		

When North intervened, 3NT was out of the question for E/W but with East being too strong to pass 2♠, the pair still got too high, of course. One down, Poland +100 but 5 more IMPs to Sivy B.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stepper	Thompson	Van Oosten	Smith
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	2♣*	Dble	3♠
All Pass			

In the other match, the Ozzies reached sort of a par result when they were allowed to go one down in 3♠ with 3♣ making for their opponents. Germany +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Spooner	Alter	Cooper	Streck
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	2♣*	Dble	2♠
3♣	Pass	3♠*	Dble
4♣	All Pass		

The slower approach by the Germans offered Oz one more (fully understandable) chance to go wrong – a chance they duly took...Germany another +100 and 5 IMPs to them as well.

On the last board of the set, the auction was the same at all our four tables. West opened 1♣ as dealer, upon which North overcalled 4♥ and played there. Let's have a look at the variations in lead and play.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

For Poland, Sobczak led a spade to Marcinowski's ace and the suit was returned. This made life very simple for declarer: he ruffed and played three rounds of trumps. West on lead could cash his ♣A now but when he did not, an overtrick was born: Sivy B +450.

In the replay, Youngquist as East led a club, so West cashed two tricks in the suit and got off play with a low spade. East won the king and exited in diamonds, so declarer had nothing to guide him and quietly went one down when a first-round trump finesse did not occur to him. Sivy B another +50 and 11 more IMPs to win the match 40-0 or 19.74 – 0.26 VP.

In the other match, play at one table went exactly the same when Sibrand van Oosten also led a club as East. Germany +50.

In the replay, we saw an interesting variation. Renée Cooper, too, led a club as East but after winning the queen, West first cashed the ♠A before continuing the ♣A and a spade. This apparently gave declarer, Florian Alter, the luminous idea to cross to dummy in diamonds and take a first-round trump finesse to land his contract. Germany +420 and 10 IMPs to them to eventually win the match 22-17 or 12.05 – 7.95 VP.



MISPLAY THIS HAND WITH ME IN OPATIJA

Mark Horton

I am not a huge fan of playing in Individual events, but in some of the bigger ones the financial rewards can be considerable. Having been lured by the promise of good food and wine and a lavish prize fund I have somehow made my way towards the business end of the table when I pick up these cards:

Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 3
♥ 8 2
♦ J 10 9 5
♣ A 10 6 5 3 2

My partner is an unknown quantity, currently hovering in mid-table. I briefly contemplate opening 3♣, but come to my senses in time and pass. When player on my left opens 3NT, announcing a solid minor I suspect I may have a surprise for him, but when my partner doubles East bids a 'pass or correct' 4♣, I double with fair confidence. As expected West bids 4♦ but I do not get an opportunity to double that as my partner bids 5♦. I take that to show particular interest in the majors, but it cannot hurt to show my suit and when I bid 6♣ everyone passes. This has been the frenetic sequence:

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
3NT	Dble	4♣*	Dble
4♦	5♦	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

West leads the ♦A and dummy is revealed:

♠ A K Q 9 2
♥ A 10 9 5 3
♦ —
♣ K J 7



♠ 3
♥ 8 2
♦ J 10 9 5
♣ A 10 6 5 3 2

There are no immediate losers, but I can't count twelve tricks just yet. If trumps are 2-2 I can ruff one diamond and will be able to set up a trick in that suit. I may also be able to set up dummy's spade suit.

Having ruffed the diamond lead, East following with the three, I play dummy's ♣J and when East cover it with the queen I play the ace and await West's card, which proves to be the ♦2. My next move is to play three rounds of spades, pitching a heart and a diamond and when everyone follows I play a fourth spade, ruffing when East produces the ten. I play a heart to the ace, ruff a heart and ruff a diamond, East following with the eight. When I play the established spade East ruffs with the ♣8. Accepting my fate I underruff with the ♣5 and claim eleven tricks. This was the layout:

♠ A K Q 9 2
♥ A 10 9 5 3
♦ —
♣ K J 7

♠ J 8 4
♥ J 7 6
♦ A K Q 7 6 4 2
♣ —

♠ 10 7 6 5
♥ K Q 4
♦ 8 3
♣ Q 9 8 4

♠ 3
♥ 8 2
♦ J 10 9 5
♣ A 10 6 5 3 2

Post mortem

There was no need to play the ♣J at trick two. If declarer cashes the ♣K at trick two he can then play four rounds of spades, ruffing. A heart to the ace is followed by a heart ruff, a diamond ruff and a heart ruff. Down to the ♦J ♣A10 declarer exits with a diamond and can claim the last two tricks.





THE RIGHT REBID

Simon Stocken

Board 19. U26 Swiss Teams

Dealer South. EW Vul.

You pick up this beauty vulnerable in 4th seat:

♠ A K Q 9 8 7 5 4

♥ —

♦ 4

♣ A J 10 6

Would you believe your first bid in this auction would be pass?

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

West	North	East	South
Belgium	Rosenberg	Belgium	Kristensen
—	—	—	2♥*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	Pass	4♠	All Pass

2♥ Majors

2NT Asking

3♣ Minimum with equal length in the majors (or longer hearts)

On this occasion, the bid backfired as West usually opened the shapely 10 count after which East pressed towards slam. Spade contracts made ten tricks on a minor suit lead and eleven on a heart lead.

Few players use a strong jump shift over a 1♥ opening, so after 1♥-1♠ should West rebid 2♣ or 2♦?



Kevin ROSENBERG

- 1♥-1♠-2♣-2♦*-3♦-3♠
what should West bid now? East now knows partner is 5440 and so might be discouraged from going beyond game. With partner opening vulnerable in second seat and rebidding 2♣ East (encouraged by his club holding) will be encouraged to press towards slam.
- 1♥-1♠-2♦-3♣*-3♥-3♠
again West has a problem.

It looks better to rebid 2♦ than 2♣ and it looks good to open this attractive 10-count.





SWISS TEAMS QUALIFICATION R.6


Jos Jacobs

Natt v. Germany
Sivv B v. Australia

The deals in this final set of the day were much less lively than in the previous set so the review of this round can easily enough be added to the more extensive 5th round report above.

Take for example the opening board.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

This looks like a routine 4♥ for N/S and so it proved in the Natt v. Germany match.

In the Sivy B v. Australia match, the Americans had other ideas:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McMahon</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Ranson</i>	<i>Kristensen</i>
—	Pass	1♠	1NT
Pass	4♦*	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West led a low spade to East's ace and the $\diamond Q$ came back. Declarer won the ace and exited with the $\spadesuit Q$, apparently trying to find out more about the distribution of both the cards and the high-card points. West won the $\spadesuit K$ and returned the $\diamond 10$ to declarer's king. Kristensen's next move was to cash the $\clubsuit K$. When the $\clubsuit J$ appeared, he exited in diamonds, throwing a club loser from dummy when West followed low. East won the $\diamond J$ and continued the $\clubsuit Q$, so declarer won dummy's now blank ace and played $\heartsuit A$ and a heart to dummy's jack...

One down, Australia a surprise +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Duffie</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Youngquist</i>	<i>Spooner</i>
—	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

When North opened a natural weak two, she found herself quickly in game. East led the $\diamond Q$ so dummy won the ace and two top trumps followed. Curtains, Australia +420 and 10 IMPs.

On the next board, we saw a gross misdefence against 3NT:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McMahon</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Ranson</i>	<i>Kristensen</i>
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

On any reasonable defence, 3NT should go down. Declarer lacks the communication to both establish the diamonds and enjoy them. Kristensen did his best when he won the low heart lead with his king and advanced the $\diamond K$ but when West immediately took his ace and returned the $\heartsuit 10$, declarer's chances were gone. One down, Australia +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duffie	Cooper	Youngquist	Spooner
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

In the replay, a low heart went to the queen and king as well but here, Spooner first unblocked his ♣AK before returning a heart and ducking in dummy when West inserted the ten. A spade now would easily have saved the day for the Americans but when West tried the ♦A and another instead, declarer suddenly had 11 tricks for another +660 and 13 more IMPs to Oz.

In the other match, Norton went down in 3NT on a heart lead and correct defence for +100 to Germany but in the other room, the Germans managed to stay low:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kennedy	Alter	Ye	Streck
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	2♦
All Pass			

Two Spades would have been OK for E/W but when West did not speak over 2♦, there it rested. One easy overtrick and another +110 or 5 IMPs to Germany.

The rest of the set was as quiet as any tired player could hope for at the end of a long day. This was the last board of the day, which required some thinking after all.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
McMahon	Rosenberg	Ranson	Kristensen
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Strong Club and the ensuing strong 1NT rebid led to the normal contract. North led a normal spade to the king and ace and now, declarer had to guess which missing ace should be the first to go after. When he next led a heart to dummy's queen, it was South who won the ace and returned a spade for a quick and painless down two. Sivy B +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duffie	Cooper	Youngquist	Spooner
1♣	1♠	Dble*	3♣
3NT	All Pass		

When North overcalled and South raised, the spade lead became even more obvious but here, after winning the ♠K with his ace, West first cashed the ♦QK before leading a club from dummy to his king and North's ace. What should North return now?

On a spade return, declarer gets an extra trick in the suit and will have time to establish two heart tricks for his contract. A heart return gives declarer three tricks in the suit and a diamond return also costs a trick and a tempo, no good either. What about a low club? Declarer will have to duck this or dummy will be out of reach but now, South gets the lead in time with the ♣10 to lead another spade while he has still got the ♥A. Declarer thus will be restricted to two spades and three tricks in either minor...

Would you have found this at the table on the last board of the day? Cooper did not; she returned a spade and declarer went on to make an overtrick for +630 and 13 IMPs to Sivy B.

Not really surprisingly, both plays and results were duplicated in our other match. Stepper, for Germany, led a heart at trick two to eventually go down only one and Alter, on lead for Germany with the ♣A, also returned a spade into declarer's tenace to give Natt +600 and 12 IMPs.

The final results:

Natt v. Germany 13-11 or 10.86 – 9.14 VP to Natt
Sivy B v. Australia 18-29 or 5.91- 14.09 to Australia.





U26 SWISS TEAMS

David Bird

Australia vs Netherlands

Day 2 of the Swiss qualifier began with some tasty match-ups on BBO. Marc Smith and I decided to watch Australia (1st) play the Netherlands (4th). Of course, I had problems getting going on to Voice commentary, but BBO's Aurora correctly diagnosed that this was because I was using Internet Explorer. I switched to Firefox and (yes!) everything worked just fine.

You're not very interested in computer software and would rather see some bridge deals? That's fine by me.

The first trick was exactly the same here: ♠K and South playing the ♠6. Bijsterveldt switched to the ♥9, however. South won with the king, and now Spooner had a discard for his diamond loser. He won the diamond switch, drew trumps and claimed the contract for +550. It was 12 IMPs to Australia.

When reporting on an 8-board Swiss match, a bulletin writer cannot expect to be gifted four big swings. I was lucky enough to have three such boards (my thanks to the Great Dealer), and have chosen the next deal to make up the four-board norm.

Board 18. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Ranson</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>McMahon</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
3♣	Dble	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

Board 19. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Ranson</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>McMahon</i>
—	—	—	1♣
1♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Ranson led the ♠K, winning the first trick. In such a situation, with no further tricks available in the suit led, it is normal for South to give a suit-preference signal. South followed with the ♠6, declarer playing the ♠4. Only one card from North will beat the contract now, and that is the ♦6. Ranson duly switched to this card and the doubled game was one down when an eventual heart finesse lost.

McMahon led his two top clubs and switched to the singleton spade, won by North. He ruffed the spade return and played a diamond to dummy's ace. If declarer had tried the ♣Q immediately, he would have escaped for one down. He could overruff North, return to the ♥A and then try his luck with the ♠Q. He preferred to play the ♥A, followed by the ♣Q. When North ruffed, declarer could overruff but had to lose a diamond for two down.

West	North	East	South
<i>Spooner</i>	<i>Bijsterveldt</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Coppens</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
3♣	Dble	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Spooner</i>	<i>Bijsterveldt</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Coppens</i>
—	—	—	1♣
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	Dble	4♥	All Pass



Coppens led his singleton spade to North's ace. At double-dummy a club return is best (achieving two down if South then switches to a diamond), but of course North was aiming just to beat the contract. He led the ♠6 for South to ruff. Coppens then cashed the ♣AK, giving the defenders the first four tricks, and switched to the ♦5. Declarer won with dummy's ♦A and, as at the other table, drew one round of trumps with the ace. He could then have escaped for one down by playing the ♠Q, since South held no more trumps. Naturally, he preferred to try the ♣Q and was two down for a flat board..

In retrospect, it was not much of a deal. Sorry about that. Perhaps I should have scraped a different barrel.

Board 21. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Ranson</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>McMahon</i>
—	Pass	1NT	Pass
4♦*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

East opened a 12-14 1NT and West chose to transfer the 4♠ contract to the East hand. As the cards lay, this was not a good decision, since South had a singleton club to lead.

Declarer won with dummy's ♣Q and played the ♠K. South ducked this, perhaps hoping for a signal on the second round. McMahon won the next round of trumps and found the underlead in hearts to receive his club ruff. Well defended! When he switched to a diamond, partner produced the king and that was one down.

West	North	East	South
<i>Spooner</i>	<i>Bijsterveldt</i>	<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Coppens</i>
—	Pass	1♣	1♥
1♠	3♥	Pass	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

At the other table West played the spade game. Once again, a club lead was needed to beat the game.

Unproductive as leads from a king often are against suit contracts, North cannot be blamed for leading a heart when partner had bid the suit. South won with the ♥A and switched to the ♣6, won in the dummy. He ducked the first trump and won the second. Now came a diamond switch, in the hope that North held the ♦A. Not today, and the game was made for a swing of 10 IMPs to AUSTRALIA.

My final board features a borderline slam. Will it pay off to bid boldly? Let's see.

Board 22. Dealer East. E-W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Ranson</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>McMahon</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

The North hand is well-suited to an old-fashioned strong jump shift. Do any of these under-26 players use strong jump shifts? Have any of them even heard of such a prehistoric method?

North employed the fourth suit, to set up a game force, and then rebid his spades. South, with good controls but only one spade, suggested playing in 3NT. After control bids in clubs and diamonds, North might have used a Last Train 4♥, not saying anything about the heart suit. No, he hoped from the earlier 2NT bid that South would hold one of the top two hearts. RKCB then carried the Australians to 6♠.

Suppose there is no trump loser and no heart lead. You can then draw trumps, discard a heart on the ♣AK, lead towards the ♥K and fall back on a diamond finesse if West has the ♥A. When the ♦10 was led, declarer won with the jack, drew trumps, played the ♣AK and ruffed a club. He then ran his trumps, but no squeeze developed for the overtrick. East held the

♥A and West was not squeezed in the minors, since he was discarding after the dummy. It was +980 to AUSTRALIA.

West	North	East	South
Spooner	Bijsterveldt	Cooper	Coppens
—	—	Pass	1♣*
Pass	1♠*	Pass	1NT*
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

With so many bids annotated as conventional, and East's three bids in the middle of the auction just one

step over West's bids, it looks like a relay auction. You were rather hoping that any competent bulletin writer would understand the latest Netherlands systems? I expect the editor, Mark Horton, is fluent in such matters. He may or may not choose to insert some instructive text here. Personally, I would rather that he spent his time extracting any typos that I have made. (Sadly, the number seems to increase at my age.) Stopping in game cost the Netherlands pair 11 IMPs. AUSTRALIA won the match by 33 IMPs to 6 (17.87 VPs to 2.13), cementing their place at the top of the leaderboard. There was one more Swiss match to play before the start of the knock-out matches. The NETHERLANDS had slipped to 7th place and would need a sound last match to qualify.

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UNDER 26 TEAMS - QUALIFICATION RANKING

1	AUSTRALIA	120.53
2	NATT	113.55
3	SIVY B	96.37
4	ITALIA	93.18
5	NETHERLANDS	91.87
6	POLAND	84.49
7	JAPAN	83.72
8	CROATIA	83.21
9	SERBALICIOUS	80.79
10	CHINA RDFZ HU	80.41

11	GERMANY	79.83
12	AUSTRIA	76.93
13	BELGIUM	73.78
14	ISRAEL	72.94
15	GREISNOR	72.66
16	HONG KONG	69.07
17	ALSO INDIA	66.98
18	INDIA	61.86
19	CHILE	53.86
20	URUGUAY	39.97

UNDER 26 WOMEN TEAMS - QUALIFICATION RANKING

1	SCREWDRIVER	125.10
2	SOFIES WORLD	118.43
3	POLAND GIRLS	116.13
4	SXPEONY	114.72
5	CHILE	101.29
6	SXDAISY	90.93
7	ITALIA	86.93
8	SXTULIP	49.80
9	ZHIHAOLE	49.14
10	SERBIA	47.53

UNDER 21 TEAMS - QUALIFICATION RANKING

1	ITALIA	90.98
2	BADOELL	88.42
3	POLAND	75.42
4	THE CANADIANS	72.35
5	SXSTARLORD	69.56
6	AZS WRATISLAVIA	65.83
7	JAPAN	64.50
8	SXSPARK	64.46
9	CHINA RDFZ	63.43
10	MEISTERS DISCIPLE	61.34

11	SXNEBULA	56.85
12	FRANCE FUNBRIDGE	54.27
13	INDIA	51.72
14	50 50	51.62
15	ITALIA 2	48.44
16	DABROWKA PO	48.31
17	MAN EATING COBRAS	45.58
18	DABROWKA	44.85
19	PRISM FALCONS	43.55
20	SERBIA	32.52

UNDER 16 TEAMS - QUALIFICATION RANKING

1	SXSATURN	111.15
2	SHSLLS1	107.29
3	SHARKS	105.55
4	POLAND	104.52
5	EYE OF THE TIGER	97.15
6	SXVENUS	87.31
7	SXMARS	86.95
8	RDFZ BRIDGE STRAIT	83.25

9	CS21MSCHOOL	77.97
10	RDFZ ZHIHAOLE	76.59
11	INDIA	64.57
12	CHINA RDFZ HOPE	62.90
13	CAPRISUN	58.83
14	CROATIA U16	50.37
15	TIANJIN BRIDGESCHOOL	41.60

UNDER 26 TEAMS - QUARTER FINALS

	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	TOTAL
AUSTRALIA	44	48	92
JAPAN	59	29	88
ITALIA	13	36	49
NETHERLANDS	27	46	73
SIVY B	61	72	133
POLAND	11	33	44
NATT	63	25	88
CROATIA	37	39	76

UNDER 21 TEAMS - QUARTER FINALS

	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	TOTAL
BADOELL	45	52	97
SXSTARLORD	26	11	37
FRANCE FUNBRIDGE	28	37	65
MEISTERS DISCIPLE	43	36	79
THE CANADIANS	36	43	79
ITALIA	47	22	69
POLAND	65	52	117
JAPAN	33	18	51

UNDER 16 TEAMS - QUARTER FINALS

	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	TOTAL
SXSATURN	54	72	126
RDFZ BRIDGE STRAIT	21	14	35
POLAND	57	16	73
EYE OF THE TIGER	39	25	64
SHARKS	29	24	53
SXMARS	47	38	85
SHLLS1	23	39	62
SXVENUS	78	50	128

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9	SXNEBULA	33.20
10	SERBALICIOUS	32.00
11	GERMANY	30.40
12	BELGIUM	30.00
13	CHILE	29.40
14	PRISM FALCONS	29.00
15	50 50	28.60
16	HONG KONG	28.20
17	URUGUAY	28.00
	CHINA RDFZ HU	28.00
19	DABROWKA	27.60
20	RDFZ ZHIHAOLE	27.40
	POLAND KIDS	27.40
22	INDIA U16	26.40
	SERBIA	26.40
24	INDIA U21	26.00
25	MAN EATING COBRAS	25.40
26	SXSPARK	25.00
27	DABROWKA PO	21.40
28	CROATIA U16	20.40
29	CS21MSCHOOL	19.00
	HAPPY BRIDGE	19.00
31	CHINA RDFZ HOPE	18.80
32	TIANJIN BRIDGESCHOOL	17.40
33	CAPRISUN	14.00
34	CONGO	5.60

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