

7TH WORLD YOUTH TRANSNATIONAL



BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



DAILY BULLETIN

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Let the Games Begin!



Welcome to the beautiful city of Salsomaggiore Terme and the start of the 7th Youth Bridge Transnational Championships. The city has long been associated with major bridge events, most recently hosting the World Bridge Team Championships in March. This is the third occasion on which the city has hosted a Youth Bridge event. Under the inspirational leadership of the President of the World Bridge Federation, Gianarrigo Rona, the World Bridge Federation is dedicated to bringing you an event to remember.

SCHEDULE TODAY

10.00	Session 1:	U26/U31 Open - U21 - U26 Women - U16
14.30	Session 2:	U26/U31 Open - U21 - U26 Women - U16
17.15	Session 3:	U26/U31 Open - U21 - U26 Women - U16

SALSOMAGGIORE TERME
7TH/14TH AUGUST 2022





**Dear Young Friends,
Welcome to Salsomaggiore Terme to celebrate the 7th Youth
Bridge Transnational Championship.**

I had the privilege to attend all the editions of this event, born in 2009 in Istanbul under the name of Youth Bridge Congress. In 2011 in Opatija it was the first official event organized since my election as President of the WBF. With my term of Presidency ending this year, I am delighted and deeply moved in having this opportunity to welcome you and to enjoy once again with you the championship.

I want to express my gratitude to the members of the Youth Committee chaired by my brother friends Ata Aydin, as Chairman, and Sevinç Atay, as Co-Chairman, for the outstanding services offered in these twelve year in organising and managing the Youth events and in developing and consolidating the entire youth bridge movement. Bravo! Thank you!

I am confident that Salsomaggiore, which just few months ago hosted the World Bridge Teams Championship and once again for the third time hosts an international Youth Bridge event, will receive you with open arms, in accordance with its high standard of culture, history and tradition of hospitality.

A great thanks to the City of Salsomaggiore, its Mayor Filippo Fritelli, the Italian Bridge Federation, its President Francesco Ferlazzo Natoli, and the Welcome Salsomaggiore-Tabiano, its President Antonella Passera, for their great support. A special thank you to our friend Michela Cavatorta, the On Site Organizer.

Dear Young Friends, as I have already several times said, let me repeat that your participation here gives you a great opportunity to meet old and new friends from all over the world in peace and serenity, sharing together without any discrimination and with your high ethic standard, your passion and enthusiasm in a new, exciting and memorable bridge adventure.

Bridge For Peace is our motto and, in these moments of serious natural and unfortunately also human calamities, I am sure that you will unanimously confirm and show that we strongly believe in it.

**Un abbraccio
Gianarrigo Rona**



Mark Horton

Meck (no) Well

One of the many tragedies resulting from the Covid curse is the demise of the most famous partnership in the world. This is one of the news items in the latest issue of Bridgerama US: Leading players and personalities are regular guests on the Bridge Partner Podcasts presented by Catherine Harris and Jocelyn Startz. Sorry, Partner (sorrypartner.com). In June Jeff Meckstroth featured in two episodes in which he talked about a wide range of bridge topics, in one of them he refers to Eric Rodwell as his former partner and says the partnership is over. If you want to discover Jeff's favourite tournaments and conventions and get an insight into bridge at the top, make sure you listen to the Podcasts!

That coincided with the publication of a terrific deal from the final match in the second Round-Robin of the 2021 USBC Open Championships between Levine and Henner, reported by Andrew Robson in his daily column in The Times.

Board 80. Dealer West. EW Vul.

<p>♠ 7 5 2 ♥ 9 6 ♦ 8 5 3 ♣ Q 10 6 4 3</p>	<p>♠ J 10 8 ♥ A 7 5 4 ♦ A 10 4 2 ♣ J 9</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W S E </div>	<p>♠ 9 6 4 3 ♥ 10 2 ♦ K Q J 9 7 ♣ A 8</p>	<p>♠ A K Q ♥ K Q J 8 3 ♦ 6 ♣ K 7 5 2</p>
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Passell	Henner	Lair	Ivatury
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dble
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East led the ♣A and continued with the eight. Declarer won with dummy's king and ruffed a club with the ♥7, East's overruff holding him to eleven tricks, +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zolotow	Meckstroth	Tebha	Garner
Pass	Pass	1♦*	Dble
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♦*
Pass	5♦*	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

4♦ Splinter

5♦ Cue

The bidding made it clear to East that her diamonds were paste, so rising star Anam Tebha found the devilish lead of the ♣8!

This is what Andrew wrote:

Meckstroth will have reasoned as follows: 'Where my play matters, East has led from the queen or ace of clubs. Would East really lead from the queen – much more likely to cost than gain?' Declarer will have reflected that if East had not led a club, he would have had to play East for the ace of clubs and lead towards the king.

Meckstroth went up with dummy's king and returned a club. East won and exited with the ♥2 and declarer won in dummy, cashed another heart, and claimed, +980 and 11 IMPs.

Levine won the match by a single IMP, 16-15 and secured the last of the eight qualifying places in the knock-out phase. If the contract had failed Henner would have been the team to advance.



Mark Horton Brinkmanship

The last session of the 2022 Spingold final was a classic, full of thrilling deals.

Here are two of them where the spotlight is turned on Sjoert Brink who, alongside Bas Drijver took the silver medals in the 2001 World Junior Pairs in Stargard Szczecinski.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Manno	Drijver	Di Franco	Brink
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

- 3♣ Mixed raise
- 3♦ Last train invitation

West led the ♦4 for the six, king and ace. Declarer's next move was to run the ♥10 which held. If the hearts were coming in declarer could hope that the ♣Q might fall or that East might be caught in an endplay. However, reading the BBO commentary it appears that East had taken some time to follow with the ♥9, so declarer could be reasonably sure that the king was offside. If that were the case the contract clearly had very little chance – or so you might think. Declarer's next card was the ♣5!!

When West followed with the seven and dummy's jack held declarer was in business. He unblocked the top clubs, crossed to dummy with the ♥A and played the ♣9 to dispose of a spade, claiming ten tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Zatorski	Gawrys	Pachtmann
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West led the ♦8 for the jack, king and ace and as before South ran the ♥10 East again following with the suit preference nine. When declarer continued with the ♥6 West pitched the ♦7 and declarer took dummy's ace, cashed the top clubs and exited with a club. West won and promptly played two rounds of spades for two down and 11 IMPs.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Manno	Drijver	Di Franco	Brink
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♥*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Dble
6♠	All Pass		

- 2♣ Game forcing relay
- 2♦ Not four hearts
- 2♠ Relay with fit
- 2NT Balanced or one-suited
- 3♣ Relay
- 3NT Balanced ('I guess' Al Hollander)
- 4♣ Relay
- 4♥ 5332 ('I guess 5332' MH)



As you can see, on this layout there is no way to go down in 6♠. However, suppose South was looking at the ♥AQ and the ♣K? Then declarer could get home by cashing five spades and five diamonds. South would be forced to unguard the ♣K or blank the ♥A, exposing himself to an endplay. South's double of 5♥ was an attempt to create a losing option – either in the bidding or the play.

South led the ♦2 and declarer won with the jack, cashed four rounds of spades, crossed to dummy with a diamond and played the ♥J. When North took the ace he claimed.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Zatorski</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Pachtmann</i>
—	—	1♠	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

2NT Game forcing

The convention card that EW were using at the World Championships says 2NT is 4+♠, but sheds no light on how the auction is developed.

South led the ♣J and declarer won with dummy's ace, drew trumps, cashed the ♦J and a fourth spade, cashed four more diamonds to dispose of a club and a heart and played the ♥3, claiming when North produced the ace.

Flattening the deal was enough to see Zimmermann's reigning World Champions home by a single IMP!



More pictures are available in the WBF Facebook Page!
<https://www.facebook.com/WorldBridgeFederation>