

# 7TH WORLD YOUTH TRANSNATIONAL



## BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



# DAILY BULLETIN

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Saturday, 13 August 2022. Issue No 6.

# Destiny Beckons



There were dramatic deals aplenty on day one of the knockouts. As the penultimate day of the Championships dawns, ten teams are set to contest five finals alongside the BAM finals.

The U26 final features Bridgenoobs and USA26 which, as John Carruthers points out, features a Canadian on each team, while the U21 final is between Daddy Lahrmann and CKIS Skawina U18.

Norway Girls and Italy U26W Green will contest the U26 Women's final, and Blitz take on USS Unsinkable in the U16 final. The U31 final sees Finland and Sweece in opposition.

Meanwhile, the defeated semifinalists will contest the bronze medal matches.

### KO TIME SCHEDULE

Due to time constraints related to the prize giving ceremony it became necessary to change the original time schedule as follows:

#### Saturday August 13th

1 <sup>st</sup> stanza:	9.30 – 11.30
2 <sup>nd</sup> stanza:	11.45 – 13.45
3 <sup>rd</sup> stanza:	14.45 – 16.45
4 <sup>th</sup> stanza:	17.00 – 19.00

### INDIVIDUAL

An individual competition will be held on Sunday, August 14th starting from 10 am. The players willing to participate MUST register going to the registration desk and scanning their own badge. No other registration mean will be available. It is foreseen – numbers may vary according to the final entries – that approximately 50 boards will be played.

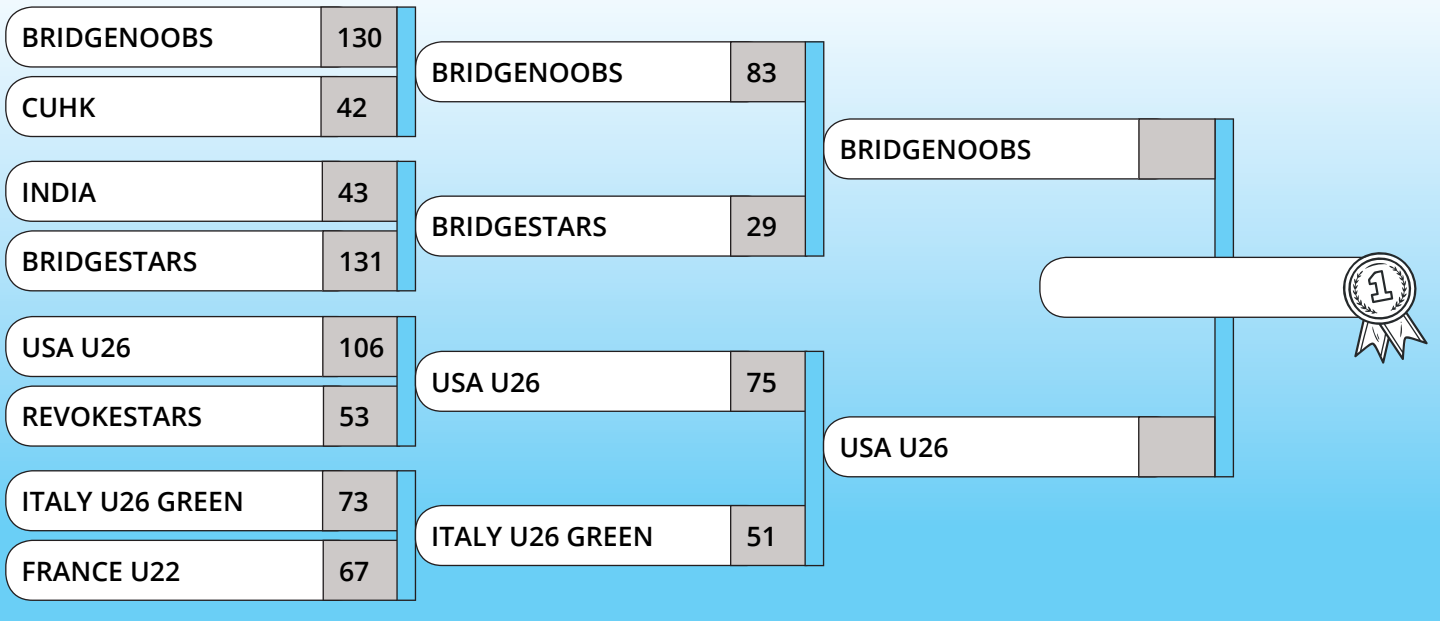
All players will be given the WBF standard card, and its use will be mandatory. No convention and/or agreement different than those contained in the official card will be allowed at any time.

**The Convention Card is published at the end of this bulletin (pages 25 to 28).**

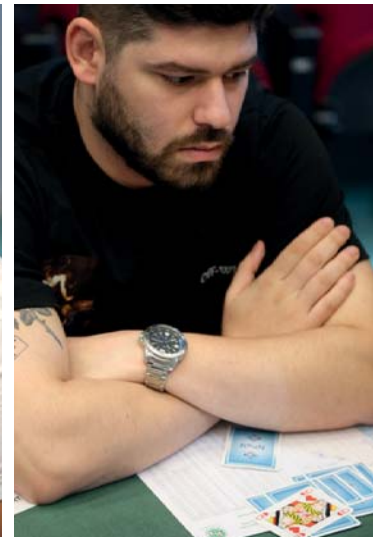
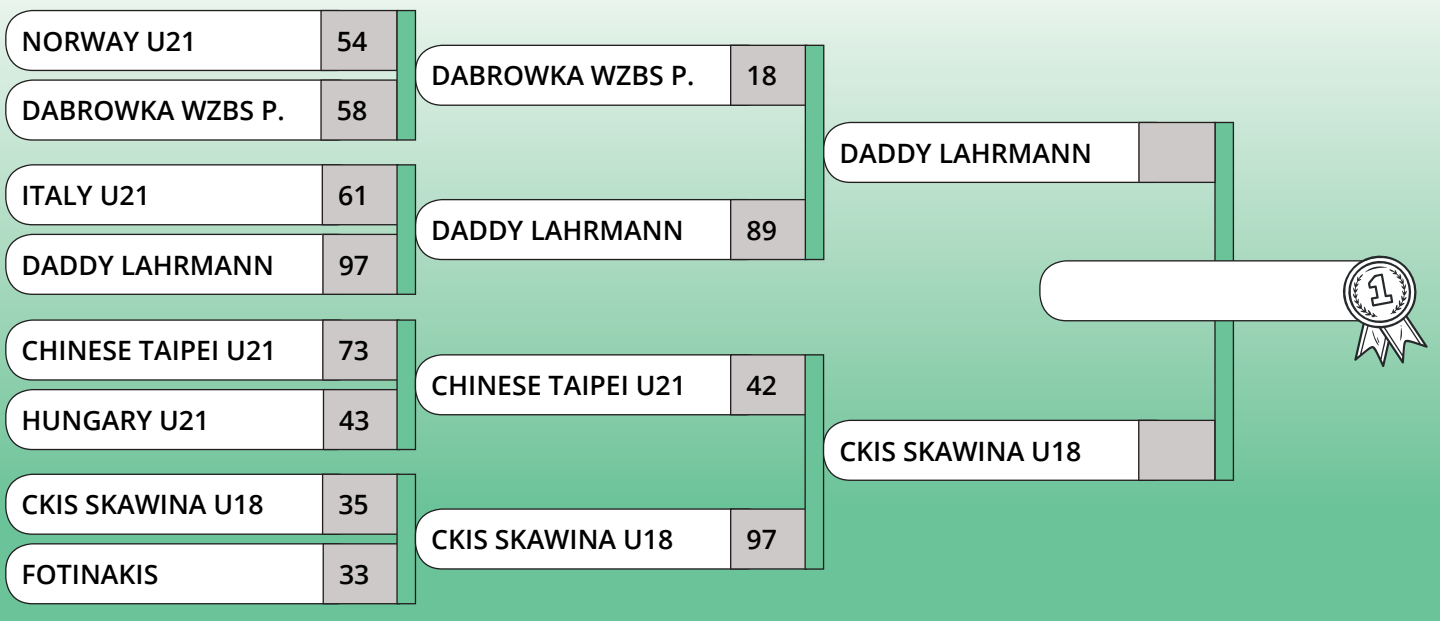
SALSO MAGGIORE TERME  
7TH/14TH AUGUST 2022



## UNDER 26

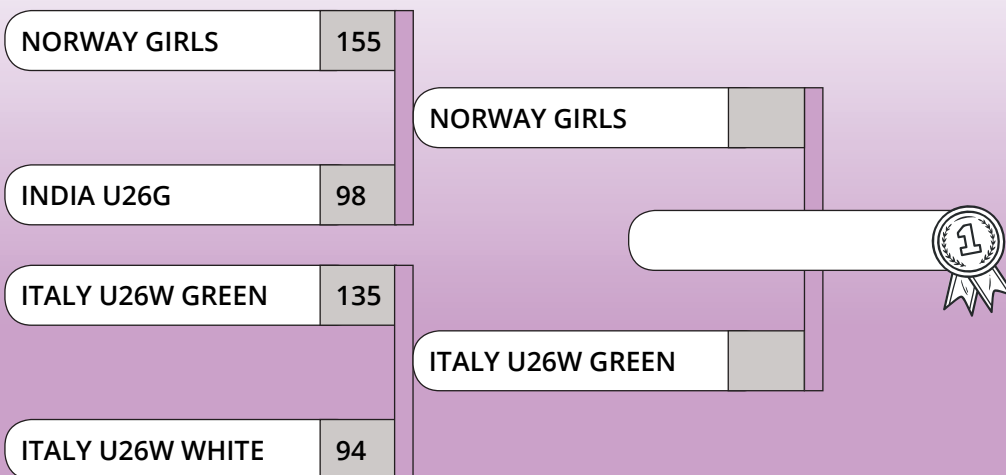


## UNDER 21

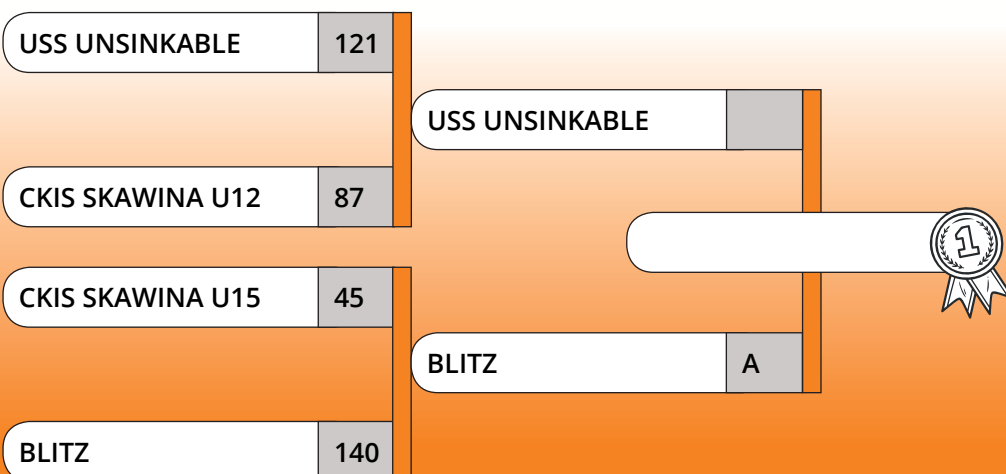




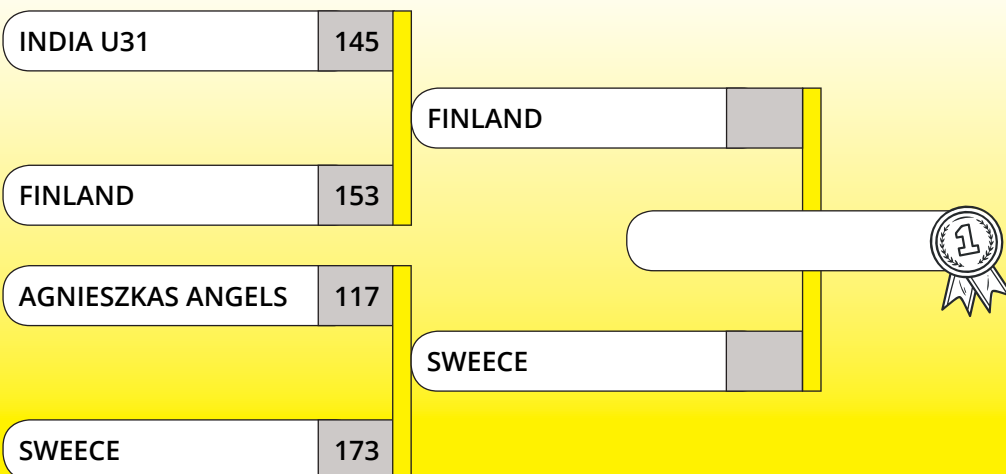
## WOMEN UNDER 26



## UNDER 16



## UNDER 31







## Herman De wael

# DIRECTORS' CORNER

*Directors often have interesting stories to tell. Let's give them the space to do so.*

### ALL ALONE IN THE BUILDING

You are East, vulnerable against not, holding:

♠ J 8 6   ♡ A K Q 10   ◇ A K 7 3   ♣ 9 7

and the bidding goes:

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	3♠
Dble	4♠	?	

over to you.

Giacomo Ramazzotti was the only person in the building to be faced with this problem, as, this was the full lay-out:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ Q 4		
	♡ J 9 8 6 3		
	◇ Q 9 8 6 5		
	♣ 8		
♠ K 9		♠ J 8 6	
♡ 7 4 2		♡ A K Q 10	
◇ J 10		◇ A K 7 3	
♣ A K Q 5 3 2		♣ 9 7	
	♠ A 10 7 5 3 2		
	♡ 5		
	◇ 4 2		
	♣ J 10 6 4		



I was called when the tray had come to the North/East side of the screen. South had not seen he was not in first position and had opened; West had not noticed either and the tray had been passed. That meant the call out of rotation had been accepted and now East was faced with a problem no-one else would encounter. He chose to bid 6♡. Sadly, partner's double did not provide what was expected and it was not a surprise that the trumps misbehaved. Three down.

*Barry observed that if East had bid 5♠ West would have continued with 6♣. If East then bids 6◇ West might try 6NT. Double dummy that is unbeatable! It would not have been ridiculous for West to overcall 3NT. Editor*





## Barry Rigal

# ROUND 8 SWISS

Bridgenoobs looked sure of a place in the last eight; Revokestars needed to avoid a heavy loss. An exciting set of deals would offer both teams a chance for 'Sydney or the bush?'. No, that was not this set of deals; those of you needing to find a sure way of getting to sleep might consider substituting this set for your glass of Ovaltine.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Guth</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bellicaud</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
—	2♦*	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>	<i>Stephani</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♦(♣)	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

In the Open Room Bellicaud won the spade lead to take a diamond finesse, then led a diamond to dummy to lead a heart to the jack, ducked. He ruffed a diamond and claimed 12 tricks a moment later. In the other room declarer won the spade and led a club to dummy to take a heart finesse. Again South ducked, so declarer ruffed out the clubs, North trumping in with the ♥Q and being overruffed on the third. Now declarer simply drew trumps, and when a spade came back from South after he won the ♥K declarer had no re-entry to hand to take the

diamond finesse. That was 11 tricks and 1IMP to Revokestars.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Guth</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bellicaud</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1NT	2♣*	2♦	2♠
All Pass			

2♣ Majors

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>	<i>Stephani</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	Dble	Pass	1♠
All Pass			

The computer wasn't giving us much to write home about (or indeed for the bulletin). 2♠ saw declarer receive a top club lead and a shift to ♦10. He finessed and the defenders did their best by playing three more rounds of clubs. But East was not thoughtful enough to have the ♠J, to help promote a defensive trump. Thus declarer could handle the rest bar West's trump trick.

Against 1♠ the defenders led three rounds of clubs. East exited with a trump and the defenders got their spade and diamond tricks in the fullness of time. Yawn...

David Bird would have upped and quit the pressroom by now, and if he hadn't already, the next board would have done the trick.

## Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

## Open and Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Guth</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bellicaud</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>	<i>Stephani</i>
—	—	—	1NT
All Pass			

Jacob Freeman led a top club, saw his partner's queen and continued the suit. The defenders took four clubs and declarer pitched diamonds from both hands. Now Freeman led a diamond to the queen and

king. Declarer knocked out the heart ace, won the return, and ran hearts. When East pitched a spade, declarer could lead the ♠A then ♠J and establish the spade seven by force for +120.

Guth led a top club and shifted to the ♦4. Zeitak won and drove out the ♥A, won the heart return and ducked a club. That let Bellicaud cash two clubs and lead a diamond through. On the run of the hearts West bared the ♠Q and declarer wasn't going to finesse and risk the contract so also cashed out the spades for three tricks and a flat board.

## Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Guth</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bellicaud</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
1♣	3♦	Dble	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>	<i>Stephani</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦(♥)	Pass
1♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Zeitak refrained from leading the ♦K – having seen his partner's non-vulnerable preempts before. Instead he led a club and declarer had nine tricks without breaking a sweat. He played for the ♠K to be right and settled for nine tricks.

Van Oosten had a rather harder task on the ♠8 lead. This went to the ten and ace and he knocked out the ♥A. When the ♠J came back he covered, ducked a diamond, and was charmed to find South with a singleton ♦K. On winning the king Stephani exited with a spade and the ♠5 was declarer's ninth trick. No swing...again.

On our fifth deal we were finally confronted with a deal with potential swing...



Jacob Freeman





Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Guth</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bellicaud</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
1NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>	<i>Stephani</i>
—	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

4♠ looks impregnable if spades behave with 5♣ equally comfortable, if not more so. Stephani's 1♠ overcall might have been greeted with a 3♣ fit jump if it wasn't for that inconvenient 2-card club opener. Wood settled for a 2♣ cuebid raise and passed the 2♠ response. Declarer wrapped up 11 tricks on a club lead, by ruffing a diamond in dummy then taking five tricks in each black suit and the heart ace.

In the other room Neither South (not surprisingly) nor North (rather surprisingly) could find a way in over the high-level barrage by E/W to 1NT. The defenders led a heart, ducked, and declarer ran for home. One down was a triumph for Revokestars and 4 IMPs to boot. They led 5-0.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open and Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
<i>Guth</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Bellicaud</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>	<i>Stephani</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Yet again, nothing much at stake here. After the ♦J lead declarer played ♥A and another. Khutorsky won and shifted to clubs, while Wood continued diamonds. the overtrick saw Bridgenooobs avoid being skunked. At 5-1, both teams had ensured their passage to the next day.

## THE YOUNG ONES



13-year-old Anshul Bhatt a student of Grade IX at the Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS) in Mumbai became the youngest World Bridge Champion after winning the under-16 World Youth Transnational Bridge Championships. He and his partner, Darwin Li from Toronto, Canada, had only played with each other online before this tournament.

"We congratulate young Anshul Bhatt on this stupendous win. His gold medal and championship win have the potential to do to the game of bridge what Vishwanthan Anand's early success did to chess," said Gianarrigo Rona, President of the WBF.

This is the second success for Anshul at the World Bridge Youth Championships. He is the youngest recipient of the Joan Gerard Award, which aims at rewarding aptitude, fair play, good sportsmanship, and a friendly international spirit, rejecting any discrimination. Anshul won the prestigious award at the age of eight in 2017 at the World Youth Open Championships in Lyon, France.

Anshul has been regularly participating in various open category local, national, and international tournaments. He won the Junior National Bridge Championships (U-26) in Mysore, India, in August 2018, and the Junior National Bridge Championship (U-21) in December 2021.

Anshul has diverse interests and an insatiable curiosity that extends from the sciences to the humanities. He enjoys reading books by Philip Pullman, JK Rowling, and JRR Tolkien and is a die-hard Star Wars and Avengers fan. He loves to cook, to play board games, and to write short stories. Every evening, he looks forward to playing squash, cricket, football or going cycling with his friends.



## Ron Tacchi

# Round 6 U26 Qualifying

Round 6 of the Under26 Teams qualifying saw the transnational team BridgenooBs (Freeman, Van Oosten, Khutorsky, and Zeitak) taken on Croatia U26 (Stefenac, Ferenca, Bilusic, and Evacic). The other BBO match for round five of the Under 26 Teams featured Italy U26 Green (Scata, Gaiotti, Giubilo, and Scata) taking on Germany U26 (Farwig, Doermer, Pieper, Stepper, Litterst, and Pabst).

This report features both matches.

Board 1. Dealer North, Non Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stefanec</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ferenca</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

Whenever I pick up the South hand after partner opens One Spade and I have to respond 1NT partner never bids two of a minor. South must have thought it was Christmas and happily bid the game, probably to the surprise of his partner. With the ace of spades handily placed and the suit splitting kindly declarer was not tested and easily brought home his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Evacic</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Bilusic</i>
—	1♠	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

South made a weak jump in his minor in preference to making a response of 1NT and North, with his meagre 12 count, could not divine the possibility of game. The same eleven tricks were available, but

BridgenooBs gained 6 IMPs.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Farwig</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Doermer</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
—	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

South took a similar approach to that adopted in the other match and was rewarded with the game bonus.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Pieper</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>	<i>Stepper</i>
—	1♠	Pass	1NT*
Dble	2♦	2♥	3♦
3♥	Pass	Pass	4♦
All Pass			

South's 1NT was forcing for one round but West was eager to get into the action and that perhaps muddied the waters but nevertheless South's hand does become enormous when it is known that there are four diamonds opposite. Timidity gave 7 IMPs to Italy.

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Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stefanec</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ferenca</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	—	1NT	2♦*
3NT	All Pass		

My play record for this deal somehow disappeared into the ether and I am left with the report that states that the contract failed by three tricks. The only possible scenario I can come up with is that declarer took the first trick in hearts and tried early on to sneak his ninth trick in spades, but North was wide awake and went in with the ace and fired a heart back. If this was the case then perhaps he was assuming That South had less than seven hearts and that if he had the ace of spades with his partner having the queen then when South gained the lead in spades he would believe that declarer still had ♥ Jx in his hand and try and find an entry to the North hand. When the ether finally gave up her secrets my diagnosis proved 100% accurate.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Evacic</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Bilusic</i>
—	—	1♦	2♥
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

At this table declarer held up for one round and was rewarded when the hearts broke 7-2 and the spade ace was in the North hand. Declarer managed a couple of overtricks when North discarded unwisely. 12 more IMPs to Bridgenoobs.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Farwig</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Doermer</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
—	—	1♦	3♥
4♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass

West has only competed and for the slam to be a viable proposition West will need a heart control or a running source of tricks in addition to an ace and king and sadly for East this was not forthcoming and so on the inevitable heart lead the contract was going to fail.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Pieper</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>	<i>Stepper</i>
—	—	1♦	2♥*
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

East held up his heart ace and made the same eleven tricks as in the other match. This gave Italy another 11 IMPs.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stefanec</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ferenca</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	3♠	Dble	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West's light opener was perhaps not suited for 3NT and a response of 4♣ might have led to a more amenable outcome as the defence had five spade tricks and two aces to take and so scored 300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Evacic</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Bilusic</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	2NT*	Dble
Rdbl*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

When West refrained from opening North was able to bid spades at the one-level. I assume the 2NT bid showed the minors as East could have

doubled with other two-suiters, if so, West might have considered Three Clubs but no harm was done as the Three Hearts contract had one loser in each suit. Yet another ten IMPs to Bridgenoobs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stefanec</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ferenca</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	Dble	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

With, what proved to be a very good spade stop, South decided that 1NT was the lesser evil on this hand. West started with the king of spades taken in dummy by the ace. A diamond to the ace and another towards the dummy saw West over-eagerly rise with his king and when he cashed two top spades he had turned a contract that was set for defeat into one with an overtrick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Evacic</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Bilusic</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣*
1♠	Dble	Pass	2♣
All Pass			

I am not sure that my choice would be Two Clubs with the South hand and would probably have taken the route in the aforementioned deal. But, as they say, 'no double, no trouble'. The hopeless Burns Law breaking contract drifted two off giving 8 IMPs to Bridgenoobs.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Farwig</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Doermer</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	Dble	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♦	All Pass	

N/S did well to find a safe resting spot, others were not so lucky. On the lead of a small spade Declarer won with the ace and immediately set about trying to ruff some heart losers in dummy and so a small heart was taken by West and the king of spades was cashed and a low spade saw a heart discarded and East ruffed with the ♦6. A heart came back for West to win and play another spade but declarer ruffed with his ♦5 and when East could not overruff it exposed the trump position so the rest of the play was trivial and allowed declarer to bring home the modest contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Pieper</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>	<i>Stepper</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣*
1♠	Dble	Pass	2♣
Dble	All Pass		

Yet again South has the dilemma we have seen twice before and again took the route of rebidding his opening suit. This time, however, East was happy to transform West's Double to penalties. West's king of spades lead was taken by dummy's ace and a small diamond was won in hand with the ace. The diamond continuation allowed West to take his king and play another for his partner to ruff. A spade was returned to West who switched to a trump to the ♣10 and ace. A spade from hand was not covered by East so when dummy discarded a heart East ruffed and played another round of trumps which declarer took in hand with the king. A heart from hand went to the queen and ace. Another heart came back for West who cashed a winning spade. East still had a master trump to come so that was three off for 800 and 13 IMPs to Italy.





Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

another then crossed to dummy with a diamond. Now jack of spades and another put North on lead and with only hearts left in the four hands dummy's ♥K had to take a trick. Nicely played and good defence.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Evacic</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Bilusic</i>
—	—	Pass	2♥
2NT	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stefanec</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Ferenca</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

This hand is about controlling your entries whilst establishing your tricks. The defence got off to the best start when South led the ♣9 which declarer took in hand with the king. North correctly ducked a spade to the king and the king of diamonds but took the ♦Q and continued to try and disrupt declarer's communications with another club. Declarer won in hand and tried the queen of spades taken by North who persisted with clubs. Declarer now has nine tricks, but the entry situation is such that he cannot get them directly, so he took the club, cashed

The same contract but played by West, however the defence got off to the same good lead of a club taken in dummy. A spade to the king was taken by North's ace and clubs were continued and won in hand, blocking the club suit. A diamond to the jack held the trick and dummy cashed two spades, discarding two hearts, and a club. Declarer now seemed to lose the plot as he now did not make another trick as he decided to try for a heart trick by playing to the king which lost to North's ace who cashed his spade winner and diamond ace before leading a heart for his partner to take the last three tricks. Declarer somehow forgot to set up his diamond tricks while there was still some fluidity in his communications. Down three was -300. This was a much needed 14 IMPs to Croatia who lost by 36-14 or 17.57-2.42 VPs. In the other match Italy U26 Green beat Germany U 26 34-15 or 16.89-3.11 VPs.



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




**Mark Horton**

# The title to be named Later

You may not be aware that Barry Rigal is a keen follower of Baseball. He supports the New York Mets, who have the dubious distinction of posting the worst regular season record of 40-120. They last won the World Series in 1986. Things are going well this season – they are currently top of the NL East division with a 73-39 record. He might be the only person here to appreciate my choice of title, which is a subtle play on the baseball term ‘the player to be named later’ (it was famously used in the film Bull Durham).

I have probably used it before – it is a stopgap when I haven’t been able to think of a theme in advance and hope the deals will develop a theme.

Join me now to see if the second half of the U21 Quarter Final between Chinese Taipei and Hungary would be inspirational. Chinese Taipei enjoyed a 12 IMP lead.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Selmeci</i>	<i>L Syu</i>	<i>Zabradi</i>	<i>Huang</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the ♦9 and declarer won with the jack and tested the hearts. When they divided he could play a diamond to ensure nine tricks and he later secured a trick with the ♣K for +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P Syu</i>	<i>Argay</i>	<i>R Wu</i>	<i>Kemeny</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣	3♠	Pass
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

South led the ♣3 and North won with the king and switched to the ♥K. The defenders took three tricks in the suit and South then switched to the ♦K. There was no way to avoid the loss of a diamond, four down, -800 and a 5 IMP swing.

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Selmeci</i>	<i>L Syu</i>	<i>Zabradi</i>	<i>Huang</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1NT
2♠*	Dble	All Pass	

2♠ 5+♠, 4+♦/♣

North led the ♣6 and declarer took dummy’s ace and played a spade for the nine and king. He ducked the heart switch, ruffed South’s return of the ♣K and played a spade, South winning, cashing the ♦A and switching to the ♥Q. Declarer took dummy’s ace and played a diamond, South winning with the king and playing a heart. Declarer ruffed and unfortunately continued with the ♦6, a fingerfehler that meant he was three down, -800.





## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P Syu</i>	<i>Argay</i>	<i>R Wu</i>	<i>Kemeny</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

West led the ♠J and declarer won with the ace and played on hearts, East taking the second round and switching to the ♣3. Declarer won with the ten and ducked a club, emerging with ten tricks, +180, but a 12 IMP loss.

If the next deal had delivered an 800 penalty we might have been onto something.

## Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Selmeci</i>	<i>L Syu</i>	<i>Zabradi</i>	<i>Huang</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the ♣10 for the jack and queen and when declarer ducked South returned the ♣8, which held the trick. A third club saw declarer win and force out the ♦A. He could not be denied nine tricks, +400.

After the ♣8 had held a spade switch would have upset declarer's applectart.

Had South switched to a spade at trick two, declarer would have needed to rise with the ace lest North were to win and revert to clubs.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P Syu</i>	<i>Argay</i>	<i>R Wu</i>	<i>Kemeny</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

South led the ♣7 and declarer took dummy's ace (ducking is also possible) and played the ♦K. When that held he cashed the ♥AK, ruffed a heart with the ♦J and played a diamond. South won and played a club and North won and played a heart for South to ruff for one down, -50 and a 10 IMP loss.

Having ruffed a heart one way to get home is to cash the ♠A, ruff a spade and play the ♥Q. South can ruff, but declarer overruffs in dummy and will eventually score the master heart. Alternatively, declarer can exit with a club, removing North's entry.

## Board 22. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Selmeci</i>	<i>L Syu</i>	<i>Zabradi</i>	<i>Huang</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	Dble	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

North found the deadly trump lead and declarer took South's jack with the ace and played a heart. If North had taken that and played a second trump the defenders would have prevailed, but when he ducked declarer won in dummy, drew trumps and played a club, soon claiming nine tricks, +110.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P Syu</i>	<i>Argay</i>	<i>R Wu</i>	<i>Kemeny</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	2♣	Dble	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the ♣K and declarer won with the ace (essential), cashed the ♠K and exited with the ♣8. Declarer won, cashed his diamonds and claimed – he could throw North in with a spade and was sure to score a ninth trick, +600 and 10 IMPs.

North must cash both spades before exiting with a club.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

South led the ♥5 so declarer could win, draw trumps, eliminate the red suits and eventually play a low spade. South made no mistake, so the defenders took two spade tricks, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P Syu</i>	<i>Argay</i>	<i>R Wu</i>	<i>Kemeny</i>
—	—	—	4♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

The defenders scored their aces, -100 and 3 IMPs that saw Chinese Taipei win the set 36-19 and advance to the semifinals, 72-43.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Selmeci</i>	<i>L Syu</i>	<i>Zabradi</i>	<i>Huang</i>
—	—	—	3♦
Dble	4♦	6♣	All Pass





## Barry Rigal

# QF UNDER 26

BridgenooBs went into their QF match as favourites. As events would show, this was not, perhaps, an inappropriate expectation.

Board 1. Dealer North, Non Vul.

♠ 10 9		♠ K 5 4 3									
♥ J		♥ 6 3 2									
♦ A K Q J 10 9 5 3 2		♦ 8 4									
♣ 7		♣ J 5 4 3									
♠ A 6	<table border="1"><tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>S</td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	N			W	S	E				♠ Q J 8 7 2
N											
W	S	E									
♥ K Q 10 9		♥ A 8 7 5 4									
♦ 7 6		♦ —									
♣ A 10 9 8 6		♣ K Q 2									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wu	Freeman	Cheung	Van Oosten
—	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khutorsky	Lam	Zeitak	Hung
—	5♦	All Pass	

Michael Wu's double of 5♦ looks rather sporting to me; I would not be thrilled to hear my partner introduce his spades next. However, no harm came of it. Both defenders led a 3rd and lowest spade four; both defenders won and had to decide what to do

next. The Editors were in agreement that a spade return looks right. Partner can win and play either a heart or club (he would surely lead a heart now if he had a small doubleton and five clubs) and no losers can go away. But a top heart back at trick two lets through the game if declarer is 2-0-9-2 instead of his actual shape. Again: no harm, no foul. CUHK led 2-0 at the end of the deal.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A K Q J 10		♠ 8 3 2		♠ 9 7									
♥ 10 9 2		♥ Q 8 6 5 4		♥ A K 7									
♦ J 2		♦ 10 9 8 7		♦ A Q 6 5									
♣ Q J 9		♣ 10		♣ 8 7 6 5									
	<table border="1"><tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>S</td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	N			W	S	E						
N													
W	S	E											
♠ 6 5 4													
♥ J 3													
♦ K 4 3													
♣ A K 4 3 2													

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wu	Freeman	Cheung	Van Oosten
—	—	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	3♥	3♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khutorsky	Lam	Zeitak	Hung
—	—	1NT	Pass
2♦	2♠	3♥	All Pass

Freeman might have been worried that his side had missed a decent game when dummy came down, and indeed he wrapped up 11 tricks when the defenders did not cash out. One can understand not acting directly over the transfer, but I suspect I would have fallen from grace and done so. By contrast, where Lam did bid at once, Hung was not even prepared to compete to 3♠ over 3♥. To make matters worse, after a club lead and spade shift declarer arranged a spade ruff in hand and came to nine tricks in his part score, for an 8 IMP swing to BridgenooBs.





**Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.**

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

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Cheung</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Lam</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Hung</i>
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥*	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

1♥ Spades

Both Norths knew they were facing a weak no-trump but Lam knew he was not facing primary spade support. Lam went low, Freeman went high (perhaps as a two-way shot to keep his opponents out).

In 2♠ Lam received repeated diamond leads. He won the first in dummy to pitch hearts from hand on the ♣K then eventually the ♣Q. That produced 10 tricks when the defenders did not cash out. Freeman was charmed to receive the lead of ♣A. He ruffed and crossed to a diamond to pitch two hearts on the clubs, then played ♠K from dummy and eventually lost three tricks in the majors. 6 IMPs and a 14-2 lead for Bridgenoobs.

Both E/W pairs coped competently enough with a grand slam on the next deal (in each case a 5-7-0-1 hand had heard their partner respond 1♠ to one heart; they eventually used Blackwood and jumped to 7♠ over the response, hoping for a fifth spade - which they got - or some luck in the trump suit).

**Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.**

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

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Cheung</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>
	Pass	1♥	1♠
3♣*	4♠	Dble	All Pass

3♣ Less than invitational

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Lam</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Hung</i>
—	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♣	4♦	5♦	Pass
Pass	5♠	Dble	All Pass

This was not at all an easy board for the East players. Zeitak, whose partner was unlimited, advanced to the five level, but then had to decide what to do. Had he passed, I suppose his partner might have doubled







rather than bid 6♦, but as it was, Khutorsky had the decision taken out of his hands. The top club lead let East ruff and take two hearts and a ruff, but that was it. +500 was still good enough for a 7 IMP pick-up when Cheung went low over 4♠. The defenders took the same four tricks but that was only +200 of course. 21-2 for the Bridgenoobs.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Cheung</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>
—	—	1♦	2♣
Dble	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Lam</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Hung</i>
—	—	1♦	2♣
Dble	2♥	4♣	Dble
Pass	5♣	5♦	All Pass

Both Easts did something sensible with their collections. Zeitak tried to agree spades then offered 5♦ as an alternative spot. Hung might well have doubled this and then perhaps Lam would have been given the opportunity to express an opinion on 5♠? As it was, though, 5♦ was a perfectly sensible spot; well done to Khutorsky for passing it, I think. That was until the trumps went pear-shaped. On a club lead declarer might have pitched a spade, but he actually threw ♥K. In fact, East now had to go three down.

4♠ doesn't look hopeless does it? But the diamond and spade break meant declarer was scrambling for tricks; 7 tricks are the limit on best play and defence. He won the club lead, pitching ♥K and played the ♦10. When North discarded it might have been right to play low from hand but he split his honors and South won and pumped him in clubs. Declarer finished up scoring one club and three ruffs in hand

and two trumps in dummy; down four and 3 more IMPs to Bridgenoobs, leading now 24-2.

On the next deal CUHK ran into a very bad hand for the transfer responses to 1♣. If you play 1♣-1♠ as no major, opener is obliged to rebid 1NT with all 12-14 hands and also a 12-16 hand with precisely 4=4=1=4 hand. That latter hand is what Hung had when he rebid no-trump, and his partner with a subminimum 5332 with diamonds though diamonds would be best. -300 later he learned that passing 1♣ (as they had done in the other room) would have been far cheaper – it led to defending a one-level contract for -110 but a gain of 5 IMPs.

The score now was 29-2 for Bridgenoobs.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Cheung</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>
1♠	2♣	2♠	4♥
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Lam</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Hung</i>
1♠	2♣	2♠	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Unless declarer takes a trump finesse (highly unlikely on the singleton club lead) the only defence to 4♥ would start with a low spade lead for a diamond switch. As Dana Carvey would say: "Not gonna happen". Of course the 4♠x save wasn't exactly a bargain: on accurate defence West had to lose three hearts and one trick in each suit.

So long as 3NT came home all would be well though. But can you blame declarer, on a spade lead to the ace for a low spade return for putting up the queen? He was after all missing only 16 HCP... another 11 IMPs and that meant the lead was 40-2.

## Board 9. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Cheung</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
1♠	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Lam</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Hung</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
1♠	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠*	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

## 4♠ Keycard

5♥ was hopeless. Declarer could hardly do anything but lead ace and another trump. The defenders let him out for down one. in 4♥ on a top spade lead I believe declarer is supposed to lead a low heart to the queen, when it loses, you can win the spade return and lead clubs. The defenders cannot get the third trump, in so you can come to 10 tricks whatever E/W do. No swing when after declarer played ♥A and another the defenders drew trumps and led a top club and left declarer with no play for 10 tricks when diamonds did not behave..

What do you think about the play in 5♣ here on a passive lead?

## Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Both tables won the opening lead (well done) and had only to protect themselves against unfriendly breaks. At one table declarer won the spade and crossed to the ♦A to lead a trump. When the seven

appeared they put in the nine. In the other room declarer relied on no hostile breaks and banged out the top trumps. Which line do you prefer?

The second line saw trumps 3-1 long in North. A heart to the jack and a heart back saw North discard, but declarer's heart spots were good enough for a ruffing finesse and 11 tricks were easy enough. In the other room South won the first trump and led ace and another heart for the ruff! Down one.

I don't think this boils down to the simple percentage question of 4-0 trumps versus 5-1 hearts. (5-1 is much more likely than 4-0, though). I'm not sure you can protect against the 4-0 trump break if hearts do not behave, so playing the suit from the top does seem right. However, it was undeniable that Cheung's line was harshly punished and Bridgenoops led 52-2.

On board 11 both tables played 4♠ off two diamonds a club and a ruff, with the trump queen still to find. For Bridgenoops the defenders took their tricks at once and scored the trump queen as well. For CUHK the defenders had two chances to take the ruff and accepted neither of them. A further 11 IMPs, in unexpected fashion. That made it 63-2, and there was more to come.

## Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Cheung</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Lam</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Hung</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♥
1♠	2♣*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

## 2♣ Diamonds



Zeitak knew not to lead spades, and with diamonds bid to his left a small diamond seemed somewhat against the odds. Instead he led a club (if they are good enough to bid...) and now the defenders had the upper hand. In the other room, Wu's spade lead surrendered a trick and a tempo. Van Oosten won dummy's eight, unblocked diamonds, and cleared hearts. When East was in the best they could do was return a diamond, and declarer cashed his nine tricks for a further 12 IMPs to make it 76-2.

There was still worse to come: on the next deal the CUHK N/S stretched to bid a slam that was at best on playing Ax facing KJ109xx for no loser – a very reasonable proposition given the state of the match, you could argue. But with Qxx lying over the jack, declarer had no reason to do anything but make the normal play of ace and finesse. Down 200 and 13 more IMPs.

The final deal of the set exemplifies what can happen when things are going right for you and wrong for the opponents

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

<p>♠ 9 8 7 ♥ K Q 10 9 4 2 ♦ 2 ♣ 10 8 2</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px; font-weight: bold;"> <span>N</span><span>E</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px; font-weight: bold;"> <span>W</span><span>S</span> </div> </div>	<p>♠ 6 5 4 2 ♥ A 5 ♦ 10 3 ♣ A K Q 7 6</p>	<p>♠ A K Q 3 ♥ 6 3 ♦ Q J 9 6 5 ♣ J 4</p>
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#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wu	Freeman	Cheung	Van Oosten
—	—	1NT	Dble*
2♦*	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Dble A minor and a major  
2♦ Hearts

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khutorsky	Lam	Zeitak	Hung
—	—	1♣	1♦
2♥	5♦	All Pass	

Lam's 5♦ call might have been right to apply the maximum pressure on a different day. It wasn't favourite to do so...but desperate times... 5♦ went quietly down only one when the defenders did not cash out correctly. Meanwhile in the other room N/S didn't seem to know who had diamonds and who didn't. 3♦ over 2♠ has to be natural does it not, given that there is a 3♥ cuebid available? To set 3♠ the defenders have to force the South hand. But on the singleton diamond lead South drew trumps and claimed +140 for a further 5 IMPs to make it 94-2 at set end.




**Jos Jacobs**
**U26 Quarterfinal, segment 2**
**ITALY U26 GREEN V. FRANCE U22**

Three of the four quarterfinals in the U26 category were looking all but over at halftime, with one team leading the other by over 40 or (in one case) even by nearly a hundred (honourable mention, we call this). As there were only 14 boards left in each match, the organisers quite rightly decided to put the fourth of these U26 QF's on BBO. In that match, France U22 were leading Italy Green by 15 IMPs only so maybe, a good contest was in prospect.

Right on the very first board, the Italians showed their intentions: aggression all over the place.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Vallet</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Dble	2♥	2♠	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Opposite a lead-directing double, there was not very much Vallet could do, or at least that is what he thought when he bid just 2♠. Right he was, because a sacrifice in spades might have cost 800.

When the hearts behaved, 3NT just came home on a diamond lead. Italy +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Bens</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Roches</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣	3♠	Pass
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Scata did not need a lead-directing double to take action. Maybe, Donati was expecting a much stronger hand with his partner but as it was, the club lead saved one undertrick. France +500 but 3 IMPs to Italy instead of 5 IMPs to France. Would this be significant?

On the next board, we saw a fine example of French aggression:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Vallet</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1NT
2♥	3NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

After West's transfer overcall, South, apparently not happy with his meagre spade stopper, tried his luck in a heart contract. When the defence kicked off with a club to the ace and ♣Q to the king and ruffed, declarer suddenly had four losers. France +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Bens</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Roches</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1NT
2♠	Dble	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

After mainly the same 2+ 1♣ opening bid, Donati's 2♠ showed spades and a minor. From there, the French duly found their way to the right contract. One overtrick, France +430 and 10 IMPs back to them.



## Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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



♠	Q
♥	A K Q 7 6
♦	Q 10 9 7 2
♣	J 2

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Bens</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Roches</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

At the other table, Donati showed that even the slightest preference might be enough. The play presented no problems as declarer should easily come to eight red tricks and two black aces. Italy +420 and 7 IMPs to them.

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Vallet</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	All Pass

From West's point of view, 4♥ did not look attractive enough and 5♦ might well be far away. Hence his pass. Vallet duly made 11 tricks when he correctly ducked the opening club lead. Now he could win the second club, run the ♦K and when this won the trick, play on hearts, ruff the 3rd heart in dummy and continue dummy's last trump to South's ace. The duck at trick 1 simply broke up the defenders' communication for a possible defensive heart ruff. France +150

## Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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



♠	5
♥	10 9 4
♦	K Q 9 7
♣	K 10 8 7 4



## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Vallet</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Gazzilli worked well for the Italians on the next board, because the extra values in the combined hands came to light easily. Declarer ducked the ♦K lead and when East continued a low diamond instead of the ♦Q, Gaiotti's task was even easier. Not that it mattered very much as dummy has sufficient entries to take the necessary two heart finesses early in the play. Italy +420

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Bens</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Roches</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

The French lacked these 21st century tools and thus languished in a partscore. One overtrick, France +140 but another 7 IMPs to Italy. The difference was now 9 IMPs still to France.

Two boards later, the theme was: "Who is afraid of the clubs?"

## Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Vallet</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1NT	Dble	2♦	All Pass

It cannot be denied that Gabriele Giubilo had an opening bid. Neither can it be denied that Alvaro Gaiotti was strong enough to double the 1NT overcall. This being said, the Italians subsided and conceded -110 when 2♦ produced an overtrick.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Bens</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Roches</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
Dble	1NT	2♦	Pass
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

In the other room, Donati just doubled the 1♣ opening bid. Suddenly, the situation was unclear for North: South might as well hold a stronger hand. On the actual layout, 3♣ had no play. Down two, another 3 precious IMPs to Italy in what was beginning to look more and more like a very close match: the French lead had gone down to just 3 now.

Then came a beautiful defensive problem:

## Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Bens</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Roches</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	2♣	Dble	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

You lead a top club. Partner plays the ♣6 (even number). Declarer wins the ace and leads a heart. If you duck, dummy wins and declarer crosses in diamonds to present the ♣10. You cannot come to more than four tricks. Italy +600 when the play went like this.

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Vallet</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	—	2♣	Pass
3NT	Dble	All Pass	



At the other table, East showed his weakish major two-suiter by opening 2♣, upon which West was quick to close the auction, or at least so he tried. North, however, wants to have the last word but can he justify it?

You (North) lead the ♣Q, partner again plays the ♣6 (even) and the ♣Q wins the trick. What now?

Double dummy, the winning defence is not too difficult to see. Just strip West of his exits and then lock him in his hand by playing diamonds. Would you have found it at the table? Alvaro Gaiotti did. He returned a club into declarer's tenace but when a heart was led next, he eventually rose with the ace, cashed the ♠AK and exited in diamonds. Maybe, this beautiful defence gains him a prize somewhere because the setting trick will now inevitably be North's ♣K.

Down one, Italy +200 and we had a new leader in the match: Italy by 10.

After two (near) pushes, the French tried to fight back:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Vallet</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	3♠	Pass	4♠
5♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Bedouet took a courageous sacrifice, red v. green, which should have resulted in a further loss for the French. Down two for -500 against a non-vulnerable game.

However, this time Donati came to their rescue:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Bens</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Roches</i>
—	3♠	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

Well, passing 4♠ is best with the West hand but this would probably lead to some suspicious looks. Anyway, when the defence did not cash their club winners in time, one of them disappeared on a diamond so the French chalked up even +690, good for 5 IMPs. The difference was now 6 to Italy.

Another push and then a slam:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bedouet</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Vallet</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

Probably, it is too difficult to discover the nasty duplication in the pointed suits in time. The super-accept worked well but that was not enough. Even on a non-diamond lead, the contract has no legitimate play.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Bens</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Roches</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	All Pass

Donati gave his partner a better chance, I think, to realise the duplication danger but apparently to no avail.

So, both sides missed a great chance to register a match-winning swing on this board but when they both failed, Italy stayed in the lead by 6 IMPs, enough to proceed to the semifinals. The last board, of course, was a dull push in a routine 4♠.



# BAM QUALIFICATION



## UNDER 26 / U21 / WOMEN U26 / U31




1	KITKUTIM II U21	68.00
2	CARROTS U21	64.80
3	U21 ENGLAND	64.60
4	ITALY U26 RED	62.00
5	DOUBLE I	61.00
6	CROATIA U26	60.00
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8	GERMANY U26	56.00
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11	FRANCE U26	52.00
12	JAPAN 3	51.00
13	GERMANY U21	50.00
14	CZECH REPUBLIC	49.40
15	ITALY U26 BLUE	49.00
	JAPAN U21	49.00
17	DABROWKA POZNAN	48.50
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25	SLOVAKIA U26	42.00
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27	ECUADOR U21	25.80
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## UNDER 16

1	TEAM TRICKY BRIDGE	57.00
2	CZECH REPUBLIC	40.00
3	INDIA U16	34.00
4	ITALY U16	32.00
5	ECUAEL	30.00
6	ECUADOR	27.00



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# WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION Standard Card

<i>Leads and Signals</i>	<i>System Summary</i>
<b>Leads and Signals</b>	<b>General approach and Style</b>
<b>Opening Leads - style</b>	Natural, 5-card Majors
Lead In Partner's Suit	Longer Minor - 1♣ if 3.3
Suit 3rd / 5th 3rd / 5th	Limit jump raises over majors
NT 4th 3rd / 5th	INT response = not forcing
Subseq	
Other 2nd from 4 small	
<b>Leads</b>	
Lead Vs. Suit Vs. NT	
Ace AKx: Axxx(+) AK: AKx(+)	
King KO: AK; KQ: 109x KQ: AKJ10(x); KQJ109(+)	
Queen QJ: QJx(x) QJ: QJx(+); AQJx(+); KQx(+);	
Jack J10; J10x(+); KJ10x(+) J10; J10x(+); KJ10x(+)	
10 109; 109x(+); H109x(+); 10x 109;	
9 9x; 98x(+); 98x(+)	
Hi-x Sx: xxS Sx: Sxx; xSxx	
Lo-x HxS; HxSx(+); xSxx(+)	HxS; HxxS(+);
<b>Signals in order of Priority</b>	
Partner's Lead Declarer's Lead Discarding	
1 Hi/lo = E Same Same	
2 Hi=encouraging	
3 S/P	
1 Hi/lo = E Same Same	
2 Hi = encouraging	
3 S/P	
<b>Signals (including trumps):</b>	
Echo in trump suit shows ability to ruff	
<b>Takeout Doubles (Style; responses reopening)</b>	
May be light with classic shape	
Cue = F until a suit is bid twice;	
New suit = FI	
Reopen: same as above	
<b>Special, artificial and competitive doubles/redoubles</b>	
Responsive Dbl: After T/O Dble thru 4♥; after o/call thru 4♠	
Repeat same suit dble by Neg doubler = Take out (See Note 8)	
Over minor Michaels: Major = stopper	
Over Major Michaels: cue bid in opponents' major = limit raise or better	
<b>Defensive and Competitive Bidding</b>	
<b>Overcalls (Style; responses: 1/2 level; reopening)</b>	
General Style = Sound	
Responses: Jump Raise = Preemptive	
Cue-Bid = Forcing raise	
New Suit = Forcing - jump shift = fit	
In Balancing Position: Same	
<b>Take-out double:</b>	
General Style = Can be light / shaped	
Responses: Natural. Cue bid = Forcing	
<b>INT overcalls (2nd/4th live; responses; reopening)</b>	
2nd Position = 16 - 18	
Responses: Bid as INT opening	
Natural	
4th Position = 10 - 14	
Responses: Natural	
<b>Jump Overcalls: (Style; responses; unusual NT)</b>	
1-Suit : Natural;	
Responses - New suit = forcing	
2-suit:- 1♣ - 2♦ = 5♥/5♠	
Reopen: Cue = any good two suiter. 2NT = 19-21	
<b>Direct and Jump cue Bids (Style; responses; reopen)</b>	
Direct Cue Bid = Michaels (Note 1)	
<b>Vs NT (vs Strong/weak; reopening; pH)</b>	
Landy (Note 3)	
<b>Vs preempts (doubles, cue-Bids; jumps; NT bids)</b>	
Take out doubles thru 4♥	
<b>Vs Artificial Strong Openings</b>	
<b>Over Opponents take out double</b>	
New suit forcing at 1-level	
Jump Shift: non-forcing	
Double Jump = Splinter / 2NT = limit raise or better	
<b>Special Forcing Pass Sequences</b>	
<b>Important notes that don't fit elsewhere</b>	
Double Jump in new suit = Splinter if minor over major	
Jump Cue Bid by Opener = Splinter raise	
<b>Psychics:</b>	
Rare	

Opening	Tick if Artificial	Min. No. Cards	Neg. Dbl. Thru.	Description	Responses	Subsequent Auction	Modifications over Competition and with Passed Partner
Pass				Not an Opening Bid			
1♣		3	3♣	11 - 21 HCP	Single raise weaker than double raise Strong jump shift (1♣ - 2 any)	4th suit forcing; game forcing; Reverses by opener forcing; by responder = Game forcing; Third suit = 1 Round Force	Jump Cue-bid over overcall = Splinter Cue bid for overcall = asks for a stopper jump shift pre-emptive over overcalls
1♦		3	3♣	11 - 21 HCP	Single raise weaker than double raise Strong jump shift (1♣ - 2 any)	As above - NOTE 5 -	As above
1♥		5	3♣	11 - 21 HCP	1NT not forcing, 5+ points Raises = limit. 2NT = FG with trump support	Raises = limit. Re-raise = Pre-emptive General principles as above	Cue bid over Comp = Strong Raise
1♠		5	3♣	11 - 21 HCP	As for 1♥	As for 1♥; 1♠ - 2♣; 2♠ - 3♠ = limit	As for 1♥
1NT				15 - 17 balanced	Jacoby Transfers: Note 9	Over Stayman: rebids are Major invitational, minor forcing	Dble at 3-level shows values. Dbl at 2-level is T/O
2♣	□		3♣	Artificial, strong - near Game Force, any suit,(s) any shape	Natural; positive requires good suit; 2♦ = neutral	Cheaper minor = second negative thru' 3♦	Natural
2♦		6	3♣	6 - 10 HCP	New suit forcing 2NT asks for feature if maximum	3NT = AKQxxx	Natural
2♥		6		6 - 10 HCP	New suit forcing 2NT asks for feature if maximum	3NT = AKQxxx	Natural
2♠		6		6 - 10 HCP	As for 2♥ opener	As for 2♥ opener	Natural
2NT				20 - 21 balanced	Jacoby Transfers; Stayman Note 9	2NT - 3♠ > ♣ 2NT - 3♣ 2NT - 4♠ > ♦ 3♦ - 3♥ = 5♠ + 4♥	Natural Dbl = Penalties
3♣		6		Pre-emptive	New Suit forcing		
3♦		6		Pre-emptive	New Suit forcing		
3♥		6		Pre-emptive	3♣ Natural. Minors = cue-bid		
3♠		6		Pre-emptive	4♥ Natural. Minors = cue-bid		
3NT		7(6)		Gambling	Natural		
4♣		7		Pre-emptive	Natural		
4♦		7		Pre-emptive	Natural		
4NT				Blackwood			
Slam Approach and Conventions (including all Slam-Interest Bids)							
Five - Ace Blackwood: RKCB (Note 6) Cue Bids Splinters GSF  No Changes Allowed:							



## WBF Standard Card

### Supplementary Sheet

#### Note 1: Michaels Cue Bids:

(1♣) – 2♣

(1♦) – 2♦

Both majors 5(+) / 5(+)

(1♥) – 2♥ = 5♠ + 5 minor

(1♠) – 2♠ = 5♥ + 5 minor

All jumps in known suits are PRE (but may be tactically strong)

#### Note 2: Lebensohl:

2NT forces 3♣. Responder may now pass or make a minimum bid in a suit, NF  
2-level new suit bids are not encouraging. 3-level new-suit bids are forcing

INT (2x) 2NT (p)

3♣ (p) 3x = GF No Stopper

#### Note 3: Landy: (vs No Trump)

Penalty Double

2♣ shows at least four cards in each major suit = Landy

2♦/♥/♠ = Natural

INT - 2♣ - ?

2♦ = relay to play the better major

2NT = strong inquiry (cue-bid!)

#### Note 4: Opener's Splinter Raise

Opener's rebid 1 level above either a jump shift or a forcing reverse is a game-forcing splinter raise.

#### Note 5: Responses after NT rebid

1♦ - 1♥ 1♥ - 1♠

INT - 2♣ = new minor, forcing

INT - 3♥ = forcing

3♦ = Nat. forcing

1♣ - 1♥ 2NT - 3♣ Nat. Forcing (2NT denies 4 card ♠ suit)

1♣ - 1♦ INT - 3♣ = forcing

3rd suit: one round force

4th suit: one round force but 3 level responses or further bids by responder are game forcing

#### Note 6: R K C B (4NT asks for 5 key cards, 4 Aces + King of Trumps)

Responses: 5♣ = 3 or 0

5♦ = 4 or 1

5♥ = 2

5♠ = 2 + Queen of Trumps

5NT = 2 + a void

6♣ = 1 + a void

## Note 7: Non Forcing Sequences

1♠ - 2♣  
2♦/♥/♠ - 3♣

1♠ - 2♣  
2♦/♥ - 2♠

1♠ - 2♣  
2♦/♥/♠ - 2NT

1♠ - 2♣  
2♠ - 3♠

1M - 2 lower  
2NT = extra values

1♥ - 1♠  
2♣ - 3♥ - limit raise

## Note 8: Take Out Double

1♣ - 1♦ - X = denies 4-card major  
1♣ - 1♥ - X = denies 4♠

Take Out Double by Opener: shows three card support for responder and a non-minimum hand or a strong hand

## Note 9: Responses to 1NT and 2NT Opening

### a) Stayman

1NT - 2♣:

2♦ = No Major

2♥ = 4♥

2♠ = 4♠

2NT - 3♣

### b) Transfers

1NT -

2♦ = 5+♥

2♥ = 5+♠

2♠ = 5+♣

2NT = Nat

3♣ = 5+♦

4♦ = 5♥+5♠

2NT -

Same

c) 1NT - 3♦/♥/♠ = strong, Natural

### d) Subsequent Bids:

1NT - 2♣

2♦ - 3♥ = 4♥ + 5♠ F

1NT - 2♣

2 any - 3♣ = forcing

## Note 10: Drury

After an opening bid of one in a major in third or fourth position the partner's 2♣ shows 9/11 HCP and 3/4 card support. Subsequent bids:

2♦ from the opener shows a normal hand with proper opening values.

2 in the opening major is a sign off

2♥ (after a 1♠ opening bid) is weakish with ♥