

7TH WORLD YOUTH TRANSNATIONAL



BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



DAILY BULLETIN

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Sunday, 14 August 2022. Issue No 7.

On Top of the World



Welcome to our magnificent array of world Champions and medal winners! It was a day of mixed emotions. While several teams ran away from their opponents, there were terrific battles for the titles in the U16, U26 and U31 categories.

OPEN UNDER 26

1 USA26

Zachary Grossack, Finn Kolesnik, Harrison Anders Luba, Kevin Rosenberg, Michael Xu, Bo Han Zhu

2 BRIDGEBOOBS

Jacob Freeman, Nir Khutorsky, Sibrand van Oosten, Aviv Zeitak, Alex Kolesnik cpt

3 ITALY U26 GREEN

Giovanni Donati, Alvaro Gaiotti, Gabriele Giubilo, Sebastiano Scatà, Valerio Giubilo (cpt), Dario Attanasio (coach)

WOMEN UNDER 26

1 NORWAY GIRLS

Kaja Brekke, Thea Lucia Indrebo, Agnethe Hansen Kjetsli, Mia Eline Stalte

2 ITALY U26W Green

Sophia Capobianco, Eleonora Dalpozzo, Federica Dalpozzo, Valentina Dalpozzo, Dario Attanasio (npc), Valerio Giubilo (coach)

3 ITALY U26W White:

Cristina Brusotti, Zaira Davide, Annachiara Pelaggi, Maddalena Pelaggi, Dario Attanasio (npc), Valerio Giubilo (coach)

OPEN UNDER 21

1 DADDY LAHRMANN

Andreas Abragi, Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad, Harry Hjorth Warlenius, Ivar Lichtenstein, Leo Rombaut, Christian Lahrmann (cpt), Jerome Rombaut (coach)

2 CKIS SKAWINA U18

Wojciech Bak, Franciszek Kurlit, Michal Stasik, Marcin Kufłowski (cpt)

3 DABROWKA WZBS POZNAN

Wiktor Chalupniczak, Szymon Gras, Jakub Nawrocki, Jakub Pilat

OPEN UNDER 16

1 BLITZ

Darwin Li, Albert Pedmanson, Jasper Vahk, Anshul Bhatt (cpt)

2 USS UNSINKABLE

Andrew Chen, Charlie Chen, Kayden Ge, Eric Xiao, Jeff Xiao, Brian Zhang (cpt), Qiang Zhang (coach)

3 CKIS SKAWINA U15

Aleks Bukat, Kacper Kisielewski, Milena Klimiuk, Jan Trojak, Marcin Kufłowski (cpt)

OPEN UNDER 31

1 SWECE

Dimitrios Konstantinos Balokas, Alessandro Calmanovici, Jeremie Stoeckli, Ioannis Oikonomopoulos (cpt)

2 FINLAND

Hermanni Huhtamaki, Oskari Koivu, Maria Myllaeri, Ilona Vanni

3 AGNIESZKAS ANGELS

Jakub Bazyluk, Krzysztof Chichy, Tomasz Kielbasa, Kacper Kopka, Patryk Patreuha

BAM

France U26 won the BAM, Team Tricky Bridge Won the U16 BAM, Japan U21 won the BAM final B

INDIVIDUAL

An individual competition will be held today starting from 10 am.

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

SALSO MAGGIORE TERME
7TH/14TH AUGUST 2022





OPEN UNDER 26 - podium. 1. USA U26 2. U26 Bridgenoobs 3. Italy U26 Green



WOMEN UNDER 26 - podium. 1. Norway Girls 2. Italy U26W Green 3. Italy U26 W White



WOMEN UNDER 26 - podium. 1. Daddy Lahrmann 2. CKIS Skawina U18 3. Dabrowka Wzbs Poznan



OPEN UNDER 16 - podium. 1. Blitz 2. USS Unsinkable 3. CKIS Skawina U15



OPEN UNDER 31 - podium. 1. Sweece 2. Finland 3. Agnieszkas Angels

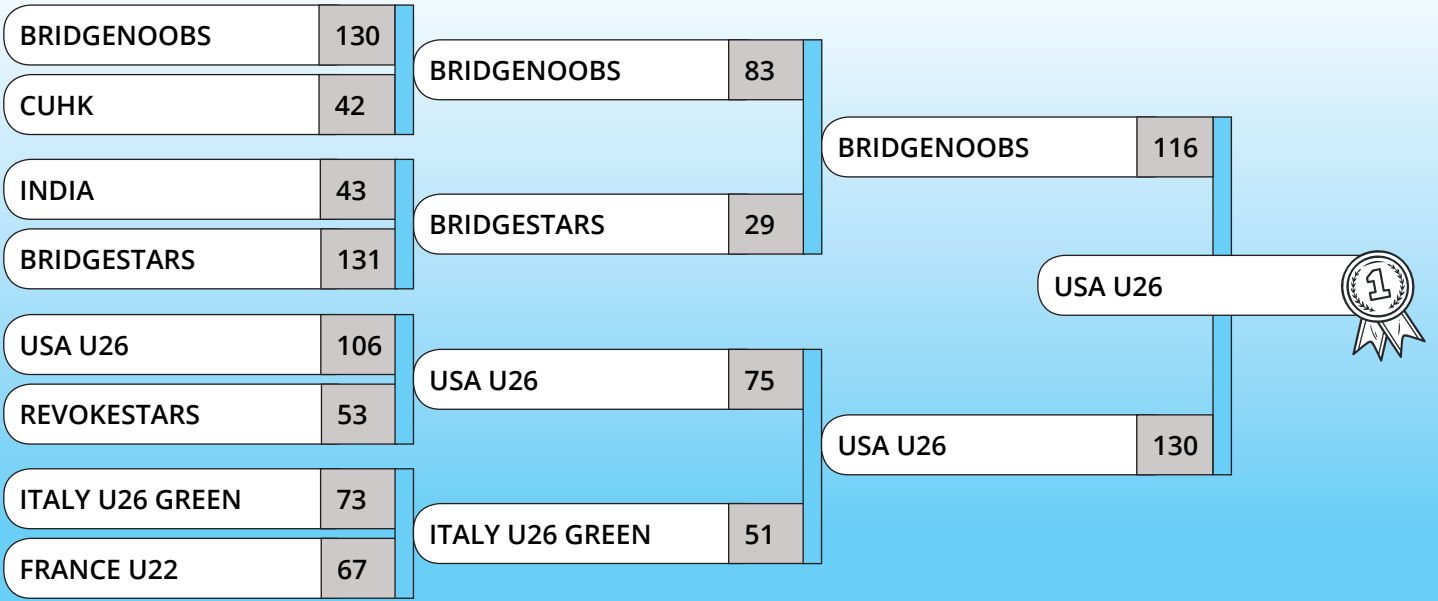


BAM - podium.

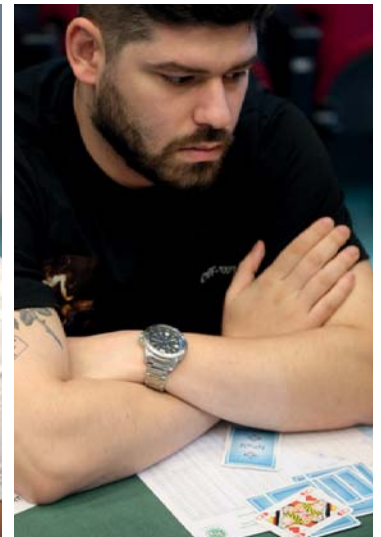
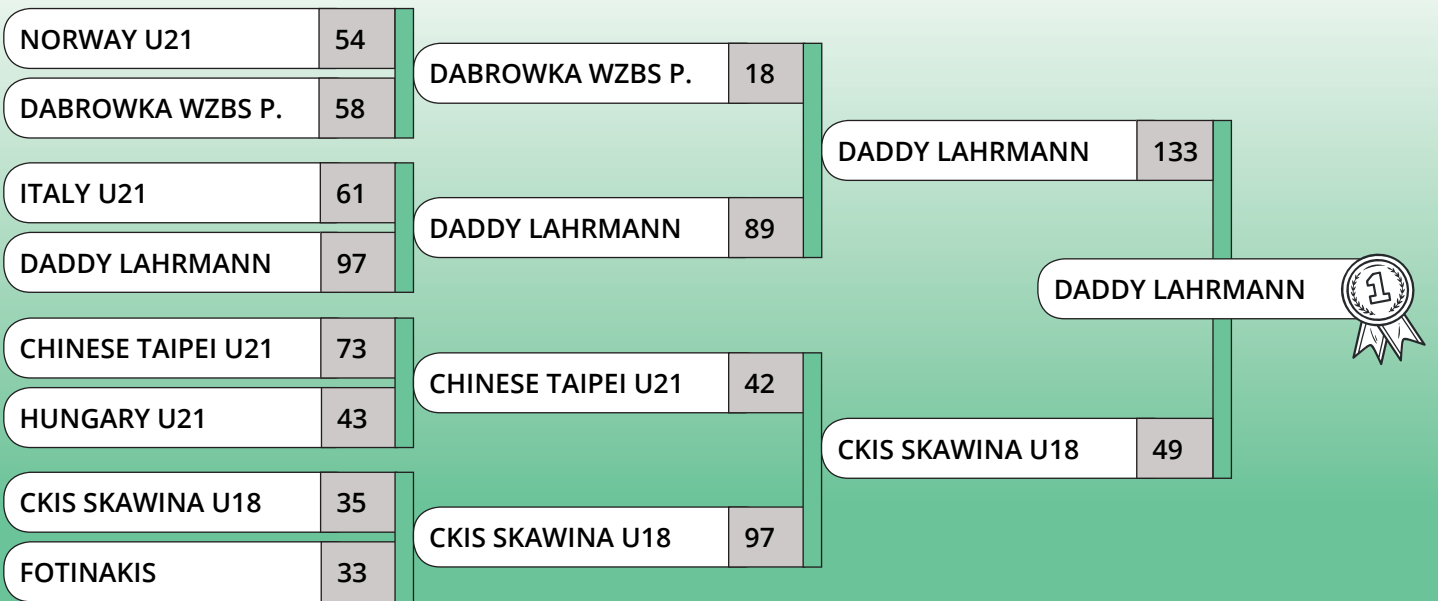
BAM

- 1 FRANCE U26**
Louis Bonin, Arthur Boulin, Maxence Fragola, Thomas Guichet, Theo Guillemain, Nao Tabata
- 2 GERMANY U26**
Felix Doermer, Sven Niklas Farwig, Maximilian Litterst, Philipp Pabst, Jonathan Pieper, Maximilian Niklas Stepper
- 3 CROATIA U26**
Ivan Bilusic, Emanuel Evacic, Matko Ferenca, Kristijan Stefanec, Marshall Lewis (cpt)

UNDER 26

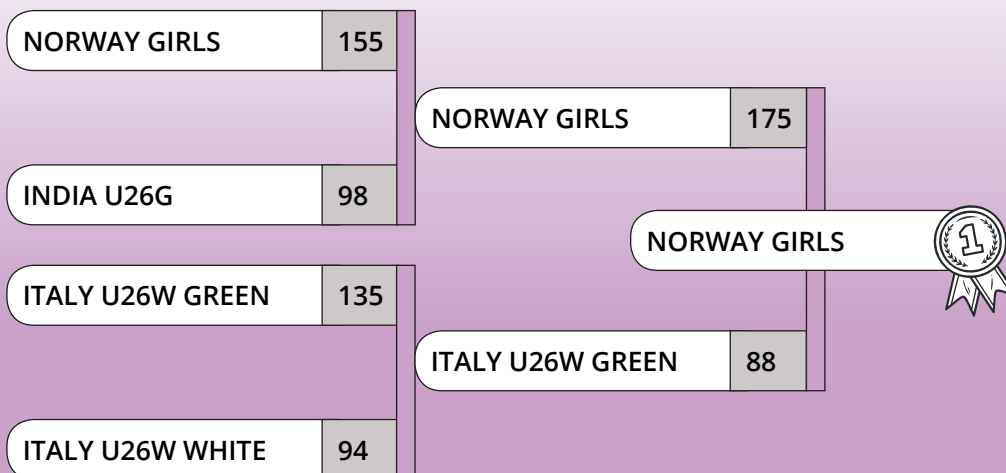


UNDER 21

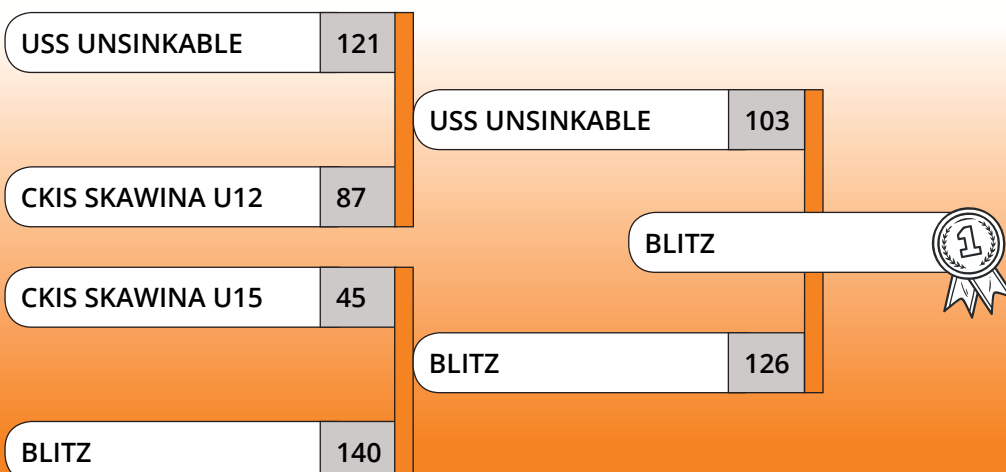




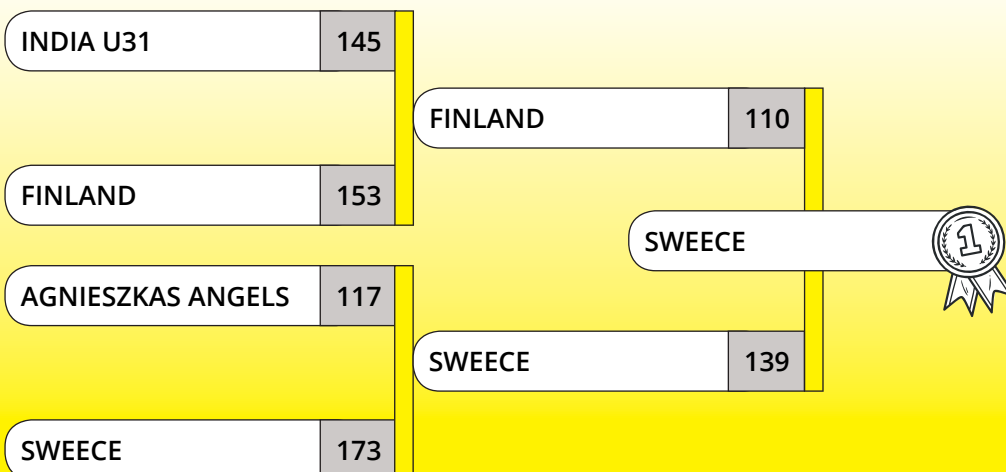
WOMEN UNDER 26



UNDER 16



UNDER 31





Mark Horton

The Comeback Kids

In the U26 quarterfinals USA had recovered from a half-time deficit against Italy. Could they do it again as they went into the third quarter of their semifinal trailing Bridgnoobs 51-87.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>
—	1♥	Pass	1♠
2♥*	Dble	Rdbl	4♥
5♣	5♦	6♣	6♦
Dble	6♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

If West's initial double was based on the premise that a spade lead would be effective against 6♦ he was about to be disappointed. However, when North retreated to 6♥ he came again, and the spotlight was on East. He led...(drum roll please) the ♦6 and West ruffed and switched to the ♠K, eventually scoring a spade trick to defeat the slam.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Xu</i>
—	1♥	Pass	1♠
2♣	2♦	5♣	5♦
6♣	6♦	All Pass	

East led his spade and declarer won with dummy's ace, played a diamond to the ace and the ♠9. West won with the ten and returned the queen and declarer ruffed with the ♦K, drew trumps and cashed the top hearts for +920 and 14 IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♠	3♣*	3♠	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

3♣ Diamonds

Declarer won East's lead of the ♠Q in dummy and played two rounds of diamonds, East winning and switching to the ♥4. Declarer won, played a club to the ace and ran the queen, pitching a heart from hand and claiming when East discarded, +750.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Xu</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	Dble*	3♣*	Dble
3♠	4♦	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Declarer took the spade lead with the ace, ruffed a spade, played a heart to the ace and a heart to the nine. East won and played a spade and the contract had to go two down, -200 and the 14 lost IMPs had been recovered.



Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

♠ K Q 10 8 ♥ 7 4 ♦ A K 10 6 2 ♣ A 5	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 9 6 ♥ J 5 ♦ Q 9 8 ♣ K 9 8 4 3	♠ 5 4 2 ♥ A K 10 6 ♦ J 5 3 ♣ Q 7 2
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grossack	Freeman	Rosenberg	van Oosten
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the ♣4 and declarer played low from dummy, taking West's ten with the ace and playing a heart to the ace followed by a diamond to the ten. East took the queen and played the ♣9, declarer winning with dummy's queen and cashing the diamond before playing the ♠Q. East won and cashed his clubs for one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khutorsky	Kolesnik	Zeitak	Xu
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♣4 and when dummy's queen held, West dropping the jack, declarer played a spade to the king. When that held he cashed the ♦A and continued with the two, East winning and playing a second club to the ten and declarer's ace. Declarer cashed his winners for +400 and 10 IMPs.

As you can see it would not have helped East to take the ♠K as long as declarer subsequently plays on spades.

Over the next three deals USA collected another 17 IMPs – this was the last of the trio...

Board 10. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ A K Q 9 2 ♥ 6 ♦ J 5 4 2 ♣ Q 8 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 8 3 ♥ J 8 4 3 ♦ Q 9 8 3 ♣ K 7	♠ 10 7 ♥ 10 9 5 2 ♦ A K 7 6 ♣ A 5 4
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grossack	Freeman	Rosenberg	van Oosten
—	—	1♦	1♥
2♦	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

East led the ♦K and when West followed with the three, he switched to the ♣4 and three rounds of the suit saw West ruff for one down, which was worth 6 IMPs when the same defence was found in the other room against 3♠. That reduced the gap to just 10 IMPs, 93-103.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 5 3 ♥ 2 ♦ A J 10 8 6 5 4 2 ♣ 10 5	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A K Q 9 8 6 ♥ J 7 6 ♦ K ♣ K 8 4	♠ J 10 7 4 ♥ A Q 10 ♦ 7 ♣ Q J 7 6 2
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grossack	Freeman	Rosenberg	van Oosten
—	—	Pass	2♥
3♠	5♦	5♠	Dble
All Pass			

North led the ♥2 and declarer won with dummy's ace, drew trumps and played the ♣K. South won, cashed the ♥K and switched to the ♦Q, one down, -100

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khutorsky	Kolesnik	Zeitak	Xu
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♠	4♦	4♠	5♦
5♠	All Pass		

North led the ♡2 and declarer took dummy's ace, drew trumps ending in dummy and played a club. South took the ace, cashed the ♡K and played a diamond, -50 and a couple of IMPs to Bridgenoobs who led 103-94 going into the final session.



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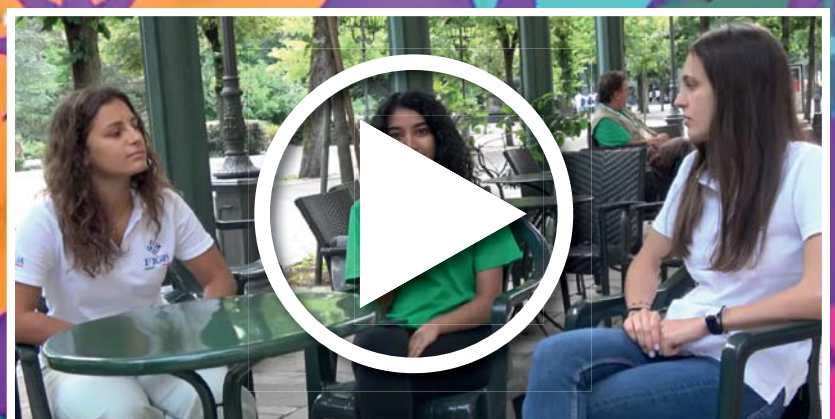
Tap the names



VIDEO CORNER

**INTERVIEW WITH TEAM INDIA**

 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dpk_xOEMJJI

**DIALOGUE WITH DALPOZZO SISTERS**

 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9t-rUSJnOVI>



Jos Jacobs

The U26 Final, segment 2

Bridgenoobs v. USA U26

At the start of segment 2 (out of 4), the USA team was facing a deficit of 25 IMPs. Two major adverse swings halfway the first set had made up for most of this difference. So, one might expect something like an Operation Restore Hope from them. The opening board of the segment sort of set the tone for it when the Americans scored an extra undertrick in their opponents' inferior contract.

In the next board, however, there was more than just 2 IMPs at stake.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ K 3 ♥ A J 10 2 ♦ A 9 ♣ A J 7 6 5</p>	<p>♠ J 9 6 2 ♥ K 7 4 3 ♦ 4 ♣ Q 9 4 2</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> NE</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> WS</div> </div>	<p>♠ Q 8 ♥ Q 9 6 ♦ K Q 10 8 ♣ K 10 8 3</p>	<p>♠ A 10 7 5 4 ♥ 8 5 ♦ J 7 6 5 3 2 ♣ —</p>
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
1♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass

It looks as if 3NT is the superior contract here, even on a spade lead. If the clubs don't behave, you still have the heart finesse up your sleeve. This extra chance does not apply in 5♣.

However, when North led a diamond, declarer did well to smell the possible singleton and thus put in dummy's ten. When this held, he was able to start tackling trumps by leading low from dummy, . North being the one with more empty spaces for club length. This way, he did not have a trump loser and even made an overtrick when the defenders failed to cash their spade trick. USA +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Xu</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>
1♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	All Pass

A typical case of youthful optimism at the other table. After the 5NT "pick a slam" E/W settled for 6♣ and were in with a good chance of making it when North led a heart. Declarer called for dummy's ♥Q which held the trick but with diamonds 6-1, even the continuation of a low trump from dummy rather than the actual ♣K would not have saved the day for Freeman. Two down and 13 IMPs to USA.

On the next board, the Israeli N/S pair showed they are well aware of their mutual level of aggression.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>♠ Q 7 5 ♥ K 9 6 5 ♦ K 5 4 2 ♣ 5 3</p>	<p>♠ K 10 9 8 2 ♥ 8 ♦ 10 7 ♣ 9 8 7 6 2</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> NE</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> WS</div> </div>	<p>♠ J 6 4 ♥ Q J 7 4 2 ♦ 9 6 ♣ A K 4</p>	<p>♠ A 3 ♥ A 10 3 ♦ A Q J 8 3 ♣ Q J 10</p>
--	--	--	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
—	2♦	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Zeitak did very well not to show any enthusiasm when partner opened a Multi. Bridgenoobs +140.

The Americans showed less restraint.

Closed Room

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

Once North did not pass 1♦, N/S were overboard. On a heart led, the contract went down 3 so the Noobs (why not the rookies?) scored another +150 and recouped 7 IMPs.

On the next board, we once again saw entirely different levels of aggression.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

Opposite partner's passed hand, Khutorsky was happy to sell out to 3♦. The breaks were friendly for Zeitak so an overtrick emerged: +130 for the Noobs.

The auction in the Closed Room almost looked like a relay with the Open Room. The relay baton over 3♦ is 3♥ and that's where they started. Apparently, Kolesnik also belongs to the popular school of preemptors with a good two-suiter. Xu was looking at three tricks so he quite rightly decided to raise 3♥ to game. West led the ♣Q to dummy's ace and when a heart to the ten won the next trick, declarer could afford to continue the ♥A and later lose two diamond tricks. USA a fine +620 and 10 IMPs more to them. They were really starting to close the gap.

A push board in between and then another adventurous overcall.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
1♣	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	Dble	All Pass

Rosenberg had to pass over North's 1♠ overcall but was given the opportunity to show the real nature of this pass at his next turn. He led the ♣10, covered with jack and king. West played a diamond at trick 2, won by declarer's ace. Khutorsky's next move was the ♥7 which...held the trick. Another heart went to East's jack when both dummy and West played low but now, East did not play his ♦Q but continued with the ♣9. This proved a costly error for the defence. Declarer ruffed and led his last heart. West won and played back a diamond, but Khutorsky could win the king and exit in trumps. East scored his ♠AQ but declarer had 7 tricks: three reds and four trumps. One down, USA +200.

In the Closed Room, the auction was exactly the same but here, Van Oosten made the more revealing lead of the ♥Q. When this held, he quickly shifted to the ♣10, covered by jack and king. The ♦10 came back from West and now, declarer won the ace and immediately played a trump. East rose with the ace but when he continued the ♦Q, declarer was without resources because West still had the ♥A as an entry to his diamond trick. So declarer won the ♦Q and played a heart to dummy's nine but when West next cashed his ♦J, East could discard the ♥J and obtain a heart ruff for down two. +500 gave the Noobs 7 more precious IMPs.

Two flat boards and on the next board, keeping quiet would also have been the best thing for you to do.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	2♥	All Pass

In the Open Room, they duly followed this advice...



The contract went one down so N/S should have been happy with their plus score.

In the other room, they had other ideas, too:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Xu</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	Pass	1NT
Dble	All Pass		

East's 1♦ showed hearts, of course but I do not understand West's double of South's balancing action very well. Yes, he is slightly above minimum, but his heart void warns him that defensive communication might be a problem. East would have been better off to retreat to 2♥ but how could he know? West led a club which ran to the ten and declarer's queen. Next came a low heart and when West did not follow suit, declarer had no further problems and eventually scored a valuable overtrick for +380 and 7 IMPs instead of only 2.

Operation Restore Hope was going well for the Americans: the gap was now down to only 8.

The next board again looked swingy:

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	Dble
All Pass			

Apparently, Rosenberg applied the principle of the lesser risk and Zeitak must have been pleased with it, to judge from his prompt double. One down, +100 to the Noobs.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Xu</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Basically, the same auction as in the other room, the only difference being that South was polite enough to leave the final decision to his partner. One down, flat board, though it might have been a swing either way.

But then:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>
—	1NT	4♥	All Pass

South led a club to partner's ace and North did not hesitate to play ♥A and another. Even though dummy suddenly had got an entry now, declarer still would have a club and two spades to lose, of which only one could disappear on the ♦A. Noobs +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Freeman</i>	<i>Xu</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>
—	1♣	4♥	Dble
All Pass			

Same auction in CR but here, Kolesnik found a double before leading a club. North won the ace and rather than leading a trump, tried the ♠5. This went to the king and ace but when Kolesnik next returned a spade, dummy's nine provided both a trick and an entry to the ♦A. Contract made, Noobs +790 and 14 IMPs back. Time for Operation Restore Order???

The next board again offered chances to shine, even though the auction was routine at both tables..

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grossack	Khutorsky	Rosenberg	Zeitak
—	—	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

“Pik ist der Feind der Ohne” is a saying certainly known in Central Europe and therefore definitely not unknown in Israel either. Zeitak no doubt applied this saying when he found the excellent led of the ♠4. When North duly put up his ♠Q, the contract easily went one down. Noobs +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Xu	Van Oosten	Kolesnik
—	—	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Same auction here but when South led a more pedestrian heart, the hand was soon over. Noobs another +660 and 13 more IMPs to them. The Noobs were leading by 9 now in this segment and by 35 overall. They certainly had restored order, at least for the time being...

An American overtrick on the next board and then more fireworks...



Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grossack	Khutorsky	Rosenberg	Zeitak
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

“Where are the fireworks?” you would ask me and quite rightly so. South did not take any action though he could be pretty sure of finding a few clubs in dummy, to accompany the spade shortness. The defenders never cashed their club trick, so Grossack made an overtrick. USA +450. This looked a solid enough result, because 4♠ is the only makeable game and E/W had missed their sacrifice in clubs that would have turned out to be a make...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Xu	Van Oosten	Kolesnik
1♠	2♥	3♥	4♣
4♦	Pass	4♥	5♣
5♦	Pass	6♦	Pass
Pass	7♣	Dble	All Pass

The auction in the other room offered ample compensation for the previous lack of fireworks. North found an overcall, vulnerable against not, which enabled N/S to find their club fit as well. E/W were not to be deterred, however. Though West may well have meant his 5♦ as a sacrifice (which in fact it would have been...), East thought he had a very suitable hand (which in fact was very much the case). So, he bid one more and enjoyed the pleasure of being believed all round the table, albeit only until they saw the actual layout. Down two, Noobs +500 and a surprise 2 IMPs to them. They had won session 2 by 44-33 and increased their lead to 87-51 at halftime.

Elsewhere in these Bulletins, we will no doubt tell you more about these restoring operations...



Mark Horton

The Lead's the thing, wherein I'll catch the Conscience of the King

The ageing process is a significant factor in most sports, and in due course new stars emerge to replace our former heroes. However, in bridge age is not necessarily a bar to success, perhaps because with it comes experience, which can only be gained at the table. The legendary Benito Garozzo maintained that anyone who always found the best opening lead would win every prize the sport has to offer, and it is one of the hardest aspects of the game to master. There are several excellent books covering the topic (one of my favourites is *The Complete Book of Opening Leads* by Easley Blackwood) and they point you in the right direction. After you have been playing for a number of years you get a firm idea of what tends to work well.

Underleading aces can sometimes produce a spectacular result, but more often that not it presents declarer with a trick and/or a tempo.

Underleading a king is seriously risky, ask Mike Lawrence if you don't agree. There are exceptions, but on balance my advice is not to do it.

Leading the queen from a combination headed by the QJ is another dubious move. How many times do you see dummy appear with A/K10x with declarer holding the reciprocal honour.

Does it make a difference if partner has bid a suit?

Yes, but some situations are still fraught with danger.

Try this problem from the first session of the Women's final:

Dealer West. NS Vul.

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♦*	1♠
2♥*	2♠	3♦*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

1♣	3+♣
1♦	Hearts
2♥	4♥, 11-14
3♦	Game try
3♠	Cue
4NT	RKCB
5♣	0 key cards

The auction suggests that West has a stronger hand than the 2♥ bid might imply!

Your lead?

Time to reveal all:

Board 4. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Perhaps you think it is okay to lead the suit your side has bid and supported?

Given that you have a useful card in what may be declarer's main suit and that West has cue bid in spades, there is no reason to lead that suit. That leaves you to choose between the red suits. A diamond might help declarer (it would have worked fine this time) which leaves you with a trump (an automatic choice for Brother Hubert!).

When North led the ♠A, declarer's potential club loser had ceased to exist and she recorded +650, winning an IMP instead of losing 13.



Mark Horton

The Force of Destiny

Our hotel contains many references to the legendary Italian opera composer, Giuseppe Verdi. The Semifinals of the U26 event pitted Bridgenoobs against Bridgestars and Italy Green against USA – which of them were destined to reach the final?

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Italy U26 Green v USA U26

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Xu</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♠	2♦*	2♠	3♥
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

2♦ Hearts

When you hold a two-suited hand you almost always have to choose between starting with a conventional bid or a simple overcall.

North led the ♥K and declarer ruffed, unblocked dummy's spades, played a diamond to the ace and claimed 11 tricks, +690.

If North had bid something over 4♠, say 4NT, 5♣ or 5♥ would EW have bid on to 5♠?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
3♣*	3♦*	5♦	5♥
6♦	Dble	All Pass	
3♣	♠+♦		
3♦	Hearts		

South led the ♥A and declarer ruffed in dummy and cashed the ♦A. When the wrong honour appeared he unblocked dummy's spades, but when North followed twice he conceded one down, -100 and a 13 IMP swing.

Bridgenoobs v Bridgestars

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sandin</i>	<i>van Oosten</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♠	2♦*	Pass	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble

2♦ Hearts

Declarer ruffed the heart lead and cashed the ♦A, losing a trump and a club for +550.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Hansson</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Mann</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣*
1♠	2♥	2♠	4♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble

1♣ 2+♣

Declarer ruffed the heart lead, unblocked dummy's spades, played a diamond to the ace, drew the outstanding trump and claimed 11 tricks, +690 and 4 IMPs.

Board 3. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Xu</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT	2♥	2NT
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

West led his heart and declarer pitched a diamond on dummy's ace and played a club East winning with the ace and switching to the ♠6. Declarer won with the



ace and played the ♣Q, ruffing with dummy's ten. He took the diamond finesse which meant he finished with seven tricks, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Grossack	Scata	Rosenberg
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

A heat lead saw a diamond go on the ace and that was followed by a club to East's ace and a spade return, declarer winning with the ace, ruffing the 10 and taking the diamond finesse. When East's ♣K fell on the nine later in the play declarer was one down, -50 and 2 IMPs richer.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sandin	van Oosten	Clementsson	Freeman
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT	2♥	Dble
All Pass			

What a way to fall foul of Burn's Law!

South led the ♠A and switched to the ♣3, the trick being completed by the four, two and five. With that minor ambition being fulfilled (as Terence Reese would have written) declarer took his eye of the ball and played a diamond (playing the ♠Q saves a trick). South won with the ace and led the ♣10, North ruffing and exiting with the ♥10. That meant three down, -800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khutorsky	Hansson	Zeitak	Mann
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

2NT 6+♠+4♦/♣

West led the ♥7 and declarer pitched a diamond on dummy's ace and played a diamond for the queen and king. Back came a trump and declarer took East's queen with the ace and played the ♣Q East winning and exiting with the ♥5. That went to dummy's ten and declarer now tried to enter hand with the ♦A. East ruffed and played the ♥K and declarer ruffed, ruffed a club and played a diamond, emerging from this mysterious affair with eight tricks, -50 and a 13 IMP swing.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kolesnik	Gaiotti	Xu	Giubilo
—	1NT	2♦*	Dble
Rdble*	Pass	2♠	3♠*
Dble	4♥	Dble	All Pass

2♦ One major
Rdble Which suit?

The inevitable overtrick meant +990.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Grossack	Scata	Rosenberg
—	1NT	2♦*	Dble
Rdbl*	Pass	2♠	3♠*
4♠	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

2♦ One major
Rble Which suit?

The fate of 6♥ depended on the location of the ♥K, -100 and a 14 IMP loss.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sandin	van Oosten	Clementsson	Freeman
—	1NT	2♦*	Dble
2♥*	Pass	2♠	3♠
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

2♦ One major
2♥ Pass or correct

West led the ♠K and switched to the ♦10, declarer scoring 11 tricks, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Hansson</i>	<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Mann</i>
—	1NT	2♦*	Dble
Rdbl*	Pass	2♠	Dble*
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
4♠	Pass*	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

2♦ One major
 Rdbl Which one?
 Pass Forcing

East led the ♦2 and declarer won in dummy, played the ♥J to the ace and a second heart, +650 and a couple of IMPs.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Xu</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
Pass	1NT	2♦*	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

2♦ One major
 2♠ Pass or correct

North led the ♦9 and South took the ace and switched to the ♣K. Declarer ruffed the next club in dummy and played a diamond and North took trick and returned the ♠K. Declarer won with dummy's ace, played a spade to the queen and played on hearts for +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
Pass	1♦	1♠	Dble*
Pass	1NT	2♠	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the ♠2 for the nine, queen and king and declarer cashed five rounds of diamonds, West parting with a heart and two clubs, and then played a club to the jack. West won and switched to a heart. When East won with the queen, the hand was over – a miraculous +400 and 11 IMPs.

In the other match both teams scored +120 in notrumps.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Xu</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	—	—	2♣*
Pass	2♥*	Dble	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2♥ Spades

When North could not cue bid in hearts South let matters rest. With West leading the ♥10 it was a good idea, +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
—	—	—	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥*	Dble	4♣*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

3♥ Spades
 4♣ Cue
 4♥ Retransfer

The same lead meant the same score, no swing.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sandin	van Oosten	Clementsson	Freeman
—	—	—	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West led the ♥10 so the defenders took two tricks, +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khutorsky	Hansson	Zeitak	Mann
—	—	—	1♣*
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

East led the ♥K and declarer had to lose two tricks, -100 along with 11 IMPs.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sandin	van Oosten	Clementsson	Freeman
—	1♣	1♦	2♦*
Dble	2♥	2♠	Pass
3♣	3♥	Pass	Pass
4♦	All Pass		

2♦ Hearts

South led the ♣8 and declarer took dummy's ace and played a second club, South ruffing when North followed with the five. South switched to the ♥Q and after taking two tricks in the suit NS could sit back and wait for two spade tricks, two down, -200.

Declarer can save a trick by drawing trumps before playing a second club.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Khutorsky	Hansson	Zeitak	Mann
—	1♣	1♦	1♥
2♣*	Dble*	Pass	2♥
2NT	All Pass		

North led the ♣3 and declarer won with dummy's jack, cashed the ♦A and played a spade to the king and ace. When North exited with a diamond declarer could cash four more tricks in the suit and then take the ♠Q. When North followed with the four declarer played two rounds of clubs and collected a heart at the end for +150 and 8 IMPs.

Unblocking the ♠J would not have helped as declarer exits with a spade and then ducks the ♥Q. North wins the next heart but must then lead into the club tenace.

However, if North leads a heart at trick one declarer has only seven tricks.

In the other match both sides bid 3NT, but North led a heart and the contract was two down. USA took the session 30-20, while Bridgenoobs led 39-13.

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Ron Tacchi

Round 7 U26

The penultimate round of the Swiss qualifying for the U26 Teams saw Italy U26 Green (Scata, Gaiotti, Donati, and Giubilo) take on Bridgenoops (Zeitak, Khutorsky, Van Oosten, and Freeman) while in the other BBO broadcast match USA U26 (Luba, Zhu, Grossack, and Rosenberg) were pitted against Bridgestars (Mann, Hansson, Clementsson, and Sandin).

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mann</i>	<i>Luba</i>	<i>Hansson</i>	<i>Zhu</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

The 2NT response was some form of an enquiry and I suspect the 3NT reply denied a singleton. East's hand is certainly worth another effort below game, he has a ninth and tenth trump with controls in two of the other suits. A cue-bid of 4♦ would have elicited a heart cue-bid from his partner, also showing a club control, and now East could wheel out the ol' 'Black' and bid the slam.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grossack</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Sandin</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

The editorial consensus is that the Four Clubs bid was a psychic splinter and as a result it goaded West into trying for slam. If partner had a hand worthy of slam exploration and had a singleton club, then there must be some substantial diamonds opposite. So, when East showed two keycards and the trump queen in response to the Blackwood enquiry, he elected to bid the slam. As we can see this was a success. The failure to bid the slam in the other room cost Bridgestars 13 IMPs. This was the only swing of interest in this match, USA won by 13-7.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
Redble	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♠	All Pass

After West supported spades East made a forward going move and West cooperated with a cue-bid, when North doubled this East passed allowing West to redouble to show a first-round control, this was enough for East to embark on Blackwood and bid the slam.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

Here East continued with a more natural approach of 3♦ and West with 3♥. East cue-bid his diamond control and again West simultaneously showed a club control when he made a cue-bid in hearts.

Both rooms did well to reach the slam for a push.



Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zeitak</i>	<i>Scata</i>	<i>Khutorsky</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>
—	—	2♠	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

East was left to play peacefully in spades. South's opening salvo of the ♥5 was unfortunate as when declarer inserted the jack North ducked. A club off dummy was passed to South who switched to a diamond round to declarer's ace. A small club was ruffed in dummy and a diamond brought declarer back in hand to allow him to ruff his last club. The king of trumps was taken by North's ace and now declarer only had a diamond and a trump to lose to make his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

At this table East valued the hand, as indeed I would, as an opening bid and when West showed support made a game try and when he found a singleton club opposite bid the spade game. A trump was led and North ducked it into declarer's hand who played a heart to the jack and ace. North now played ace and another trump leaving declarer with four minor-suit losers in his hand and only one good heart for discards. Two down and 8 IMPs to Bridgenoobs.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mann</i>	<i>Luba</i>	<i>Hansson</i>	<i>Zhu</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South chose to lead the ♠6 to the ♠8, ♠10 and ace. Declarer set about establishing his clubs and a small club to the ♣10 saw the North take the ace. He continued with spades and declarer won with the king and crossed to dummy a diamond to lead another club and won with the jack while South discarded a heart. He took one final throw of the dice by crossing to dummy with the ace of hearts to lead another club, North went up with king and switched to a heart but South only had two hearts to cash so declarer had nine tricks. Do you see where North and South had a chance for glory? When dummy's last club is lead North must duck and South then discard a top heart honour and when declarer then clears the clubs he can discard the other heart honour leaving North with ♠J98 to take three tricks and beat the contract, alternatively when North won with the king of clubs he can unblock one of the heart honours.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Van Oosten</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>	<i>Freeman</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Same contract, same lead, but at trick two declarer played the jack of clubs from hand and when North took the king and switched to the ♥9 which held the trick. He continued the suit, ducked again and dummy took the third round and played the ♣10 taken by North's ace. At this point the play record says 'Down one'. You or I as defender would have demanded two down and so only 10 IMPs to Bridgenoobs. At the end of the match Bridgenoobs had outscored Italy 22-4 or 16.64-3.36 VPs.





Herman De wael DIRECTORS' CORNER

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

THE MOST UNUSUAL BIDDING

If ever a prize was to be given for the most unusual bidding sequence, this one should surely be the only possible contender:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1♥	Pass	Pass
1♦	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

(name of any player who committed an irregularity omitted)

I was called when the tray had come back to the South/West side of the screen, after 2♥-Pass. Since the insufficient call of 1♦ had now been seen by all players, there was no longer anything to be changed.

What must have happened was that North had opened the bidding, and when the tray was pushed through for the first time, neither South nor West noticed the call of 1♥. So South, who did not have opening values, passed, and West, who did, opened 1♦. This got pushed through and although it was now already too late to give any other ruling than “insufficient call accepted”, neither North nor East noticed that the bidding was strange. Whatever possessed North to raise himself over a passed partner we shall never find out. When the tray got back to South, I was called and confirmed to all that the bidding had to continue. South must have realized that he was somewhat maximum for his bidding so far, so he bid game. I can safely say that it was not the case, but East might have remembered that his partner had opening values, and he doubled. One down was the fairly normal outcome.

The joys of being a Director!





Barry Rigal

Finals stanza one

Board 1. Dealer North. Non Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhu	Khutorsky	Luba	Zeitak
—	Pass	1♦	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT*
3♣	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

2NT Short suit somewhere

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Grossack	Van Oosten	Rosenberg
—	Pass	1♣*	♠
3♣	3♠	Pass	4♠
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

1♣ 2+♣

The perils of a short club are not limited to missing a club fit. Sometimes you find it when you shouldn't... when he played his partner for a singleton spade was Freeman foolhardy? Will his penalty of 500 deter him in future? Of course, 4♠ goes down immediately on the diamond ruffs, but even 3♠ was more than a little uncomfortable after a diamond lead to the ♦A and the ruff with ♦8. Zhu obediently led a heart to the queen king and ace, so now only one club ruff was needed.

5♣_x saw Rosenberg lead a heart and shift to spades, then win the ♣A and lead a low spade. That allowed the defenders to ruff out the ♥K for 500 and 8 IMPs.

An overtrick IMP in 3NT took the lead to 9-0, but Bridgenoops got on the board on the next deal.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhu	Khutorsky	Luba	Zeitak
—	—	—	1♣
1NT	3♣	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Grossack	Van Oosten	Rosenberg
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♠*	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

2♠ Clubs

Both tables reached three clubs, one on an uninformative sequence one on a very revealing one. Rosenberg had no reason to play trumps in any way but to lead to the queen, while Zeitak started trumps with the king and finessed against the jack on the next round. That brought him in 110 and 4 IMPs.

After a push in 4♥ where the only issue was a possible overtrick, we turned to meatier stuff.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhu	Khutorsky	Luba	Zeitak
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	2♣	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Grossack	Van Oosten	Rosenberg
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Dble
6♦	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

3♠ Long diamonds and four spades

Zhu's 1♦ opener saw him guess well at his final turn. Whether one opens 2♣ may depend on whether one has a way to show hands like West's at one's second turn (and whether both players are using the same methods). Freeman showed his two-suiter then emphatically suggested diamonds as trumps; Van Oosten wasn't on the same page. Grossack knew a wheel had fallen off and was prepared to up the stakes.

But Grossack needed to lead the club ace to save the overtrick; which he did. Declarer won the heart shift and played ♠A and a second spade, claiming 12 tricks when Ogier (Per Ron Tacchi, the official name for the ♠J) put in an appearance.

Bridgenoops added 4 IMPs on the next deal where a strong no-trump for Rosenberg bought the hand in what turned out to be an unmakeable contract. In the other room the weak no-trump structure allowed N/S to open 1♣ and preempt to 3♣ over a double (which would also not have made) but which saw their opponents compete unsuccessfully to the three-level. And there was much more to come...

On the next two deals, after a flat 3NT, Grossack's natural effervescence allowed him to open a strong no-trump and reach 3NT on a deal where the same cards looked like a weak no-trump to Khutorsky. There were lies of the cards where 3NT would make, but they needed both a heart break and spade finesse and Grossack got neither. Indeed 1NT was in some danger; but both declarers ended up with seven tricks and Bridgenoops had 5 more IMPs to lead 20-9.

On the next deal Freeman/van Oosten bid smoothly to 5♣, on the spade finesse through the opening spade bidder. They wrapped up 600 for their pains, but Zhu/Luba ran into an unusual problem. Does the auction: Pass-(1♠)-2♣-(Dble)-2♥ promise a club fit? While 3♥ would be a fit jump I cannot see any reason why this sequence should be fit, and more to the point neither could Zhu. 2♥ in a 4-2 fit splitting 5-2 didn't fetch, and that was an unforced error for 12 IMPs to Bridgenoops, up 32-9.

Both tables played 4♥ down two on the next deal, but then Grossack was faced with a 22 IMP decision on the next deal. Having reached a horrid slam could he find a way to bring it home?

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhu	Khutorsky	Luba	Zeitak
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	1♠	4♥
Dble	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	5♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Grossack	Van Oosten	Rosenberg
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	1♠	4♣*
Dble	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

4♣ Fit-jump



After a spade to the ♠A and another spade, it looks fairly normal to trust West's double and play him for the ♣K, doesn't it? Grossack instead tried to ruff out the ♣K in three rounds then took the diamond finesse. Maybe the double of 4♣ wasn't lead-directing (in some situations for E/W, double of a splinter would be a desire to bid 4♠) but it sure looks that way. Those 11 IMPs made it 43-9.

The Americans rescued a couple of IMPs over the next two deals; it could well have been much worse.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhu	Khutorsky	Luba	Zeitak
—	1♣	1♥	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

3♦ Minors GF

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Grossack	Van Oosten	Rosenberg
—	1NT	Pass	2♠*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT
All Pass			

2♠ Range ask
3♦ Minors



3NT in the Open Room fetched 400, while 4NT on the ♥J lead looks booked for down one. Grossack won the heart, cashed the ♦A and crossed back to his ♣8 to finesse in diamonds. Now when Freeman continued hearts (and how could he not?) it was tough for Van Oosten to find the spade play. But maybe it was not impossible - since North could not have the ♠AK and reject the slam-try in the context of already having shown a minimum? When he tried to cash out the hearts, he had set up the 10th trick for declarer. (Note: a club exit by van Oosten would not work here since the heart communications had already been cut.)

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhu	Khutorsky	Luba	Zeitak
—	—	Pass	1♦
2♣	Dble	2♠	Dble
Pass	3NT	Dble	Pass
Pass	4♦	All Pass	



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Freeman	Grossack	Van Oosten	Rosenberg
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♣
2♠	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

N/S should have no trouble here in avoiding 3NT; the Open Room steamed into 3NT then thought better of it when doubled. Close but no cigar. The minor-suit game was cold of course so the USA did pick up a 6 IMP swing, to close the match down to 17-43, and feel a little better about themselves at the break.

BAM

UNDER 26 / U21 / WOMEN U26 / U31

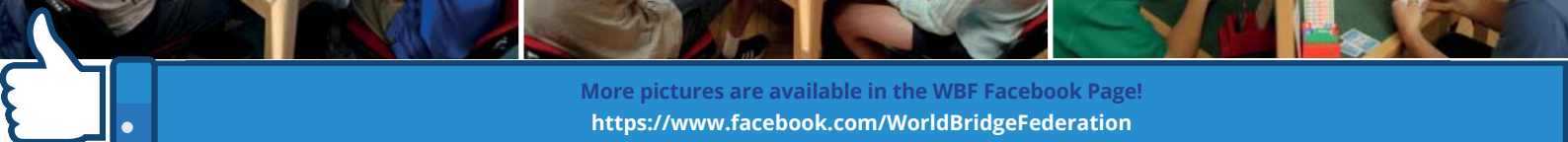
	1	FRANCE U26	71.00
	2	GERMANY U26	62.00
	3	CROATIA U26	59.00
	4	ITALY U21	58.00
	5	CUHK	54.50
		FOTINAKIS	54.50
	7	ITALY U26 RED	53.00
		JAPAN AND AUSTR	53.00
		KITKUTIM II U21	53.00
		U21 ENGLAND	53.00
	11	ENGLAND U21	52.00
	12	DOUBLE I	49.00
		SLOVENIJA U31	49.00
	14	REVOKESTARS	43.50
	15	HUNGARY U21	42.00
	16	INDIA U26	40.00
	17	CARROTS U21	38.00
	18	GERMANY U21	32.00

UNDER 16

	1	TEAM TRICKY BRI	86.00
	2	CZECH REPUBLIC	75.00
	3	INDIA U16	65.00
	4	ITALY U16	62.00
	5	ENGLAND U16	60.00
	6	ECUAEI	57.00
	7	ECUADOR	48.00
	8	BYE	0.00

U26/U21/U26W/U31 Final B

	1	JAPAN U21	53.00
	2	CZECH REPUBLIC	45.00
		ITALY U26W RED	45.00
	4	ITALY U26 BLUE	44.00
		MAPLE U21	44.00
	6	JAPAN 1	40.00
		THE MULTI LANDO	40.00
	8	AUSTRALIA U21	39.00
		BYE	39.00
	10	CZECH REPUBLIC	35.00
		DABROWKA POZNAN	35.00
		ECUADOR U21	35.00
	13	TAIWAN U26W	32.00
	14	ECUADOR GIRLS U	20.00





WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION Standard Card

<p><i>Defensive and Competitive Bidding</i></p> <p>Overcalls (Style); responses: 1/2 level; reopening)</p> <p>General Style = Sound</p> <p>Responses: Jump Raise = Preemptive</p> <p>Cue-Bid = Forcing raise</p> <p>New Suit = Forcing - jump shift = fit</p> <p>In Balancing Position: Same</p> <p>Take-out double:</p> <p>General Style = Can be light / shaped</p> <p>Responses: Natural. Cue bid = Forcing</p> <hr/> <p>INT overcalls (2nd/4th live; responses; reopening)</p> <p>2nd Position = 16 - 18</p> <p>Responses: Bid as INT opening</p> <p>Natural</p> <p>4th Position = 10 - 14</p> <p>Responses: Natural</p> <hr/> <p>Jump Overcalls: (Style); responses; unusual NT)</p> <p>1-Suit : Natural;</p> <p>Responses - New suit = forcing</p> <p>2-suit:- 1♣ - 2♦ = 5♥/5♠</p> <p>Reopen: Cue = any good two suiter. 2NT = 19-21</p> <hr/> <p>Direct and Jump cue Bids (Style); responses; reopen)</p> <p>Direct Cue Bid = Michaels (Note 1)</p> <hr/> <p>Vs NT (vs Strong/weak; reopening; pH)</p> <p>Landy (Note 3)</p> <hr/> <p>Vs preempts (doubles, cue-Bids; jumps; NT bids)</p> <p>Take out doubles thru 4♥</p> <hr/> <p>Vs Artificial Strong Openings</p> <hr/> <p>Over Opponents take out double</p> <p>New suit forcing at 1-level</p> <p>Jump Shift: non-forcing</p> <p>Double Jump = Splinter / 2NT = limit raise or better</p>	<p><i>Leads and Signals</i></p> <hr/> <p>Opening Leads - style</p> <p>Lead In Partner's Suit</p> <p>Suit 3rd / 5th 3rd / 5th</p> <p>NT 4th 3rd / 5th</p> <p>Subseq</p> <p>Other 2nd from 4 small</p> <hr/> <p>Leads</p> <p>Lead Vs. Suit Vs. NT</p> <p>Ace AKx: Axxx(+) AK: AKx(+)</p> <p>King KQ: AK; KQ: 109x KQ: AKJ10(x); KQJ109(+)</p> <p>Queen Q: QJx(x) QJ: QJx(+); AQJx(+); KQx(+);</p> <p>Jack J10; J10x(+); KJ10x(+) J10; J10x(+); KJ10x(+)</p> <p>10 109; 109x(+); H109x(+); 10x 109;</p> <p>9 9x; 98x(+) 98x(+)</p> <p>Hi-x Sx: xxS Sx: Sxx; xSxx</p> <p>Lo-x HxS; HxSx(+); xSxx(+) HxS; HxSx(+);</p> <p>Signals in order of Priority</p> <p>Partner's Lead Declarer's Lead Discarding</p> <p>1 Hi/lo = E Same Same</p> <p>2 Hi=encouraging</p> <p>3 S/P</p> <p>1 Hi/lo = E Same Same</p> <p>2 Hi = encouraging</p> <p>3 S/P</p> <p>Signals (including trumps):</p> <p>Echo in trump suit shows ability to ruff</p> <hr/> <p>Takeout Doubles (Style); responses reopening)</p> <p>May be light with classic shape</p> <p>Cue = F until a suit is bid twice;</p> <p>New suit = FI</p> <p>Reopen: same as above</p> <p>Special, artificial and competitive doubles/redoubles</p> <p>Responsive Dbl: After T/O Dble thru 4♥; after o/call thru 4♠</p> <p>Repeat same suit dble by Neg doubler = Take out (See Note 8)</p> <p>Over minor Michaels: Major = stopper</p> <p>Over Major Michaels: cue bid in opponents' major = limit raise or better</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>System Summary</i></p> <hr/> <p>General approach and Style</p> <p>Natural, 5-card Majors</p> <p>Longer Minor - 1♣ if 3.3</p> <p>Limit jump raises over majors</p> <p>INT response = not forcing</p> <hr/> <p>INT Opening: 15 - 17</p> <p>2 over 1 response: Promises rebid (See Note 7)</p> <p>Special Bids that may require defence</p> <p>2♣ Opening = strong, near Game Force - any suit, (s) any shape</p> <p>2♦ Opening = Weak ♦ 6+ (6-10 HCP)</p> <p>2♥ Opening = Weak Major 6+ (6-10 HCP)</p> <p>2♠ Opening = Weak Major 6+ (6-10 HCP)</p> <p>3NT Opening = Gambling</p> <p>2NT Overcall = two lower unbid suits</p> <p>Michaels Cue-bids (Note 1)</p> <p>Lebensohl after 2-level overcall of INT (Note 2)</p> <p>Negative Doubles to 3♠</p> <hr/> <p>Special Forcing Pass Sequences</p> <hr/> <p>Important notes that don't fit elsewhere</p> <p>Double Jump in new suit = Splinter if minor over major</p> <p>Jump Cue Bid by Opener = Splinter raise</p> <hr/> <p>Psychics:</p> <p>Rare</p>

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	Slam Approach and Conventions (including all Slam-Interest Bids)	
3♦		6		Pre-emptive	New Suit forcing		
3♥		6		Pre-emptive	3♠ Natural. Minors = cue-bid	Five - Ace Blackwood: RKCB (Note 6) Cue Bids	
3♠		6		Pre-emptive	4♥ Natural. Minors = cue-bid	Splinters GSF	
3NT		7(6)		Gambling	Natural	No Changes Allowed:	
4♣		7		Pre-emptive	Natural		
4♦		7		Pre-emptive	Natural		
4NT				Blackwood			



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

