

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9 2018 ISSUE No 1

## WELCOME TO WUJIANG!



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- 10.00 Round 1 Junior, Youngsters, Girls & Kids
- 13.30 Round 2 Junior, Youngsters, Girls & Kids
- 15.50 Round 3 Junior, Youngsters, Girls & Kids
- 18.10 Round 4 Junior, Youngsters, & Kids





The Hengtong Group 17th World Youth Bridge Team Championships began with the opening ceremony last night in the Wujiang Hotel.

The players and officials were welcomed to Wujiang by Mr. Zhu Guoping, the Director General of the Board and Card Games Administrative Center of the General Administration of Sport, Party Secretary of the CPC Board and Card Games Administrative Center Committee; and by Mr. Shen Guofang, the Secretary of the CPC Wujiang District Committee.

These were followed by speeches from Mr. Ata Aydin, the Chairman of the World Bridge Federation Youth Committee (see page 4) and Mr. Gianarrigo Rona, the President of the WBF (see page 3).

Mr. Rona awarded WBF 60th Anniversary medals to Mr. Zhu Guoping, Mr. Li Ming, Mr. Yang Yiming and Mrs. Zhou Zhifang.

Medals were also given to the winners and runners-up in the recent online youth championships. The Junior winners were Egypt, ahead of Italy. The one-two in the Kids were China and England.

Just before the Championships were formally declared open, the players' oath was given by Cheng Zhiyu and the tournament directors' oath by Maurizio Di Sacco.











## DRAW & VUGRAPH SCHEDULE TODAY



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	FRA	VS	ENG	
	USA	VS	CHN	2 🔚
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Gianarrigo Rona



**WBF** President



Authorities, dear young friends, officers, ladies and gentlemen, good evening.

I am very pleased and honored to be here in Wujiang with you at the Opening Ceremony of the 17th World Youth Bridge Team Championships.

It is my great pleasure to offer both on behalf of the World Bridge Federation and personally my greetings to the players, and to congratulate all of them. In addition, of course, my warm greetings and welcome to authorities, officers, journalists, companions, guests and staff-officials.

This year in Wujiang with 77 teams -- 22 both in Juniors and Youngsters, 15 in Girls and 18 in Kids, representing 32 NBOs -- we have achieved a great record, and together we will celebrate a wonderful championship. This year, we also celebrate the 60th anniversary of the WBF, which was founded in Oslo in 1958.

Let me repeat, once again, that the development of youth bridge represents one of the key aims of the WBF, and our Youth and Kids Committees are working hard to face this important challenge and to achieve our goal. When I see how far we have come in recent times, I am very confident of a prosperous future for our beloved discipline. Obviously our gratitude goes to our Zonal Conferences, National Federations, Local Associations and thousands of dedicated officers and teachers who have taken up the banner with passion and enthusiasm.

Let me proudly emphasize that it is not mere coincidence that the record attendance here has been achieved in China, the world's leading country in developing youth bridge, thanks to the outstanding efforts of the CCBA, with the support of the Authorities.

I am confident that China will, once again, welcome and host, here in Wujiang, the participants in accordance with its high standards of culture, history and hospitality, which have already been experienced by bridge players during several previous unforgettable events. In particular I have still in my mind -- and I am sure some of you who also had the opportunity to attend -- the marvelous youth championship held in Taicang six years ago.

I would like, on your behalf, to thank and congratulate the General Administration of Sport of China, the Chinese Contract Bridge Association, personally its President Mr. Xiang Huaicheng, my dear friend and colleague, Madam Chen Zelan, IMSA President, the Local Organising Committee, the Wujiang District People's Government, the Jiangsu Sports Bureau and the Suzhou Sports Bureau for their essential support. Not forgetting the Hengtong Group, the Arcelik A.S. and all the other sponsor-friends.

I am pleased to call to the stage Mr. Zhu Guoping, Mr. Li Ming, Mr. Yang Yiming and Mrs. Zhou Zhifang to award them the WBF 60th Anniversary medal.

Dear bridge players, as I have already written in my Welcome Message, your participation, here in Wujiang, gives you the opportunity to live a great bridge event in a very convivial and enjoyable atmosphere of friendship. You can all share, without discrimination, your passion and enthusiasm, in a new, exciting and memorable bridge adventure, proving once again that bridge players can meet at the table in peace despite the turbulent times in which we live.

Bridge for Peace is our motto, and here in Wujiang in order to defeat hatred, we play the Card of Peace and are proud of it.

Enjoy your stay and your play.





WELCOME SPEECH

Chairman of the Youth Committee



Dear young players

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the 17th World Youth Bridge Team Championships in Wujiang.

Here I take the opportunity to thank our hosts, the Chinese Contract Bridge Association and the Authorities of Wujiang, for their excellent organisation.

Within the ten days of competition ahead of us, new world champions will be crowned and medals will be awarded, but what I sincerely believe is that all the participants in these competitions are highly privileged, being members of their national teams representing their NBOs.

Young players, enjoy every moment at the Championships here in Wujiang, for you are in China, a country with thousands and thousands of years of

history and with a culture of extraordinary richness that will surely enrich your view of life and the world.

I wish the best of success to all the participants.



A BRIEF LOOK BACK

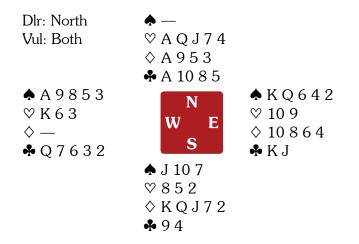
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Phillip Alder

I have edited the daily bulletins at the world youth championships for several years, with one exception. Last year, I could not go to Lyon, because of an unfortunate scheduling conflict. But two years ago, I was the editor in Salsomaggiore, Italy.

First, here are two potential six-diamond contracts from that tournament. Then an award-winning deal.



Six diamonds can be made by North-South. However, with 66 tables in play, only one played in a diamond contract. This was the auction from the Italy-Poland Juniors match:

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Percario	Zmuda	Donati
	$1 \heartsuit$	1 🛧	2♡
4♠	Dble	Pass	??

This was a common start to the auction, and other Souths passed. But Giovanni Donati realized that his partner was almost certainly void in spades and likely to have 0=5=4=4 distribution, which meant that the deal would play well in diamonds. So he bid five diamonds, and was raised to six diamonds by his partner, Giacomo Percario. This was doubled by Michal Klukowski. He then led the ace of spades.

After ruffing in the dummy, how did Donati analyze the deal?

He expected to take these twelve tricks: four hearts, five diamonds, one club and two spade ruffs in the dummy. But his communications were difficult. If he played a diamond to his hand and took a losing heart finesse, a trump return from East would be fatal.

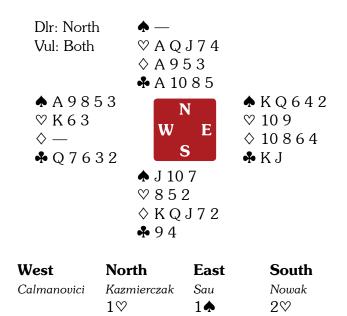
Of course, if the heart finesse were winning, then declarer needed only one spade ruff, but he felt that the finesse was an underdog. Backing his judgment, Donati led the heart queen from the dummy at trick two.

Klukowski won with his king and paused for some time. What did he do now?

At the table, he led another spade, which was fatal. It allowed declarer to take his second spade ruff without needing to waste a hand entry. Donati just ruffed, drew trumps and claimed.

If Klukowski had returned a heart or a club, it would have defeated the slam.

This was the auction at the other table:



Kamil Nowak did not draw the same inference about his partner's hand that Donati had done. Was there a case for North's bidding four notrump over four spades? That could hardly have been some form of Blackwood. It would not have looked so good if partner's only values were in spades, but that was most unlikely.

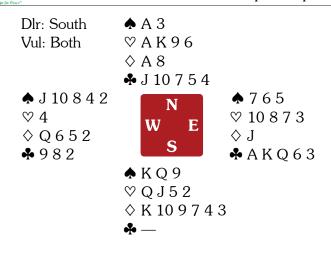
All Pass

Dble

Nowak then led a trump, after which Roberto Sau was under no pressure. He could establish the clubs and get home.

Plus 1540 and plus 790 gave Italy the biggest swing of the tournament so far: 20 international match points.

2018 World Youth Teams Championships



As Ram Soffer explained in the daily bulletin, the analysis of six hearts after a club lead is certainly varied, depending upon both declarer's chosen line of play and the defense.

Obviously, if a pair had bid six diamonds, it would have claimed in almost no time. The chance of playing the diamond suit for only one loser was 87.6 percent. But not one pair in any of the four divisions here played in diamonds at any level.

Only five declarers made six hearts after a club lead. Here are their stories.

West	North	East	South
	Molina		Villegas
			$1\diamond$
Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	Pass	3♡
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 <b>♣</b> (a)
Pass	5� (b)	Pass	5 <b>♠</b> (c)
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

(a) 0 or 3 key cards

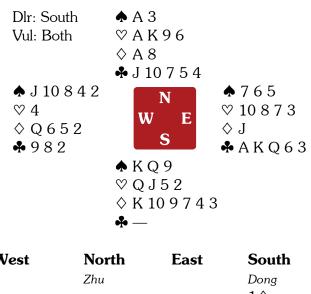
(b) Asking for the heart queen

(c) Showing that queen and the spade king

East led the club ace. Diana Molina of the Chilean Girls team ruffed in the dummy and cashed dummy's two high hearts, which was not fatal. Now to make it, she had to establish her clubs by pinning West's eight and nine, but understandably she played a diamond to her ace and a second diamond.

At first glance, it looked best for East to discard a spade, but although that would have been a winning defense, East did better by ruffing. If she had continued with her the last trump, the contract would have gone down two. But East erred by switching to a spade.

Molina won with her ace, ruffed a club in the dummy, ruffed a diamond with her heart king, cashed the heart ace and claimed because dummy was high. Wujiang, China 8<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> August



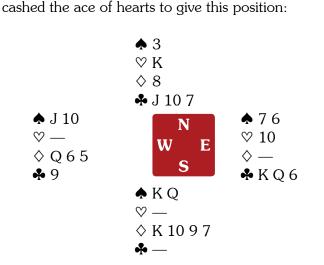
West	North	Last	South
	Zhu		Dong
			$1\diamond$
Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	Pass	3♡
Pass	$4\diamond$	Pass	$4 \heartsuit$
Pass	4♠	Pass	5•
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

Bo Han Zhu, part of the Canadian Kids team, ruffed the top-club lead in the dummy, played a diamond to his ace and led another diamond. East correctly discarded a spade. Now declarer erred by continuing with the diamond four from the dummy and ruffing West's five with his heart nine. East would have done well to discard a second spade, but he actually overruffed. This would not have been fatal if he had led another high club, but he switched to a spade. Zhu won with his ace, played a spade to dummy's queen, ruffed a diamond high, drew trumps ending in the dummy and claimed.

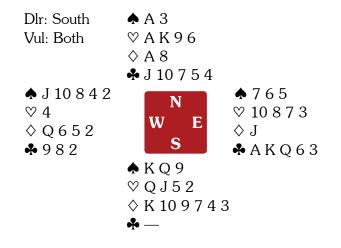
West	North	East	South
	Balodis		Dreimanis
			$1\diamond$
Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	Pass	3♡
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT (a)
Pass	4 <b>%</b> (b)	Pass	4NT (c)
Pass	5� (d)	Pass	6\$ (e)
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

- (a) A spade control-bid (four clubs would have denied a spade control)
- (b) Diamond control, no club control
- (c) Roman Key Card Blackwood
- (d) (1 or) 4 key cards
- (e) Asking for extra diamond help for seven hearts

After East led the ace of clubs, Martins Balodis of the Latvian Youngsters team, ruffed in the dummy, took dummy's two top hearts, played a spade to his ace, ruffed a club, played a diamond to his ace and



When the heart king was cashed, West made a fatal error: he discarded the club nine. Now Balodis could just play on diamonds to establish a long card there. He took three spades, four hearts, three diamonds and two club ruffs.



West	<b>North</b> Manganella	East	<b>South</b> Scatà 1◊
Pass	2 <b>4</b> (a)	Dble	2♦ (b)
Pass	2♡ (c)	Pass	2NT (d)
Pass	3 <b>♣</b> (c)	Pass	3\$ (e)
Pass	3♡ (c)	Pass	3♠ (f)
Pass	4 <b>4</b> (g)	Pass	4� (h)
Pass	4 (h)	Pass	5 <b>♣</b> (h)
Pass	6♡	All Pass	

- (a) Artificial game-force
- (b) Minimum unbalanced hand, not 5-5 or longer in the minors
- (c) Relay
- (d) Five-plus diamonds and four hearts
- (e) 4=6
- (f) Singleton or void in clubs
- (g) Sets hearts as trumps
- (h) Control-bid, five clubs definitely being a first-round control

Andrea Manganella of the Italian Youngsters team ruffed the top-club lead, played a diamond to his ace and led up a diamond. When East discarded, declarer won with dummy's king and ruffed the low diamond with his heart nine. East would have done well to pitch again, but he overruffed with the ten. This would not have been fatal if he had tapped dummy with another high club, but he switched to a spade. North won with his ace, played a spade to dummy, ruffed a diamond high, drew trumps ending in the dummy and claimed because dummy was high.



Dlr: South Vul: Both	<ul> <li>▲ A 3</li> <li>♡ A K 9 6</li> <li>◇ A 8</li> <li>♣ J 10 7 5 4</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>▲ J 10 8 4 2</li> <li>♡ 4</li> <li>◇ Q 6 5 2</li> <li>♣ 9 8 2</li> </ul>	N W E S A K Q 6 3 ↑ K Q 9 ♥ Q J 5 2
	◇ (0 3 5 2 ◇ K 10 9 7 4 3 ♣ —

West	North	East	South
	Bakke		Eide
			$1\diamondsuit$
Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	2♣	2♡
Pass	2NT (a)	Pass	4♡ (b)
Pass	4♠ (c)	Pass	5 <b>%</b> (c)
Pass	68	All Pass	

- (a) Enquiry
- (b) Good hand for the bidding so far with four hearts
- (c) Control-bid

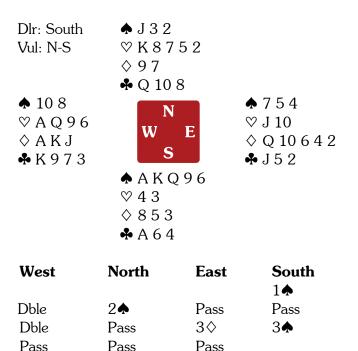
Christian Bakke of the Norwegian Junior team ruffed the club lead, played a diamond to his ace and led a diamond up. When East ruffed in, declarer was not challenged thereafter.

In this situation it is virtually always wrong to ruff in front of the long suit — unless, maybe, if it is the setting trick or you are sure you can see how the defense will succeed.



Christian Bakke won the Joan Gerard youth award in Lyon (2017)

To end this article, the defense that won the Richard Freeman Junior Deal of the Year award from the International Bridge Press Association.



First, look only at the West hand and the auction. What would you have led against three spades?

South's bidding was a tad undisciplined. The Law of Total Tricks advises against bidding to the three-level with only an eight-card fit (unless you have a double fit). Here, three diamonds would have been defeated if South had cashed two spades, then shifted to a low club.

The deal occurred in the last session of the Youngsters final between Italy and the Netherlands.

The match went to Italy, but this was the most interesting deal.

At the other table, the Italian West led the diamond ace (as would we all), then switched to the spade 10 ... too late. South won in his hand, gave up a diamond trick, took the next spade with his nine and ruffed his last diamond on the board. Shortly thereafter, South lost only one heart, two diamonds and one club.

Somehow, Leen Stougie (West) found an initial trump lead. Declarer won with his nine and led a diamond. West took the trick with his king and played his last trump. South won that in his hand and led another diamond. West played the jack, and East, Marc Stougie (Leen's brother), overtook with his queen to lead a third trump. Now the defenders had to get one heart, three diamonds and one club to defeat the contract. Clairvoyant!



Mark Horton

In my experience most young players who are ambitious spend a fair amount of time reading. There is a huge amount to be learned from classic books by writers such as Terence Reese, Eric Rodwell, Mike Lawrence and David Bird (to name but a few).

You can also acquire a huge amount of knowledge by utilising the power of the Internet - for example, just search for the *Bols Bridge Tips* that were given by some of the world's best players and writers.

Here's a hand from the final of the 2018 Grand National Teams:

Dealer West. EW Vul.

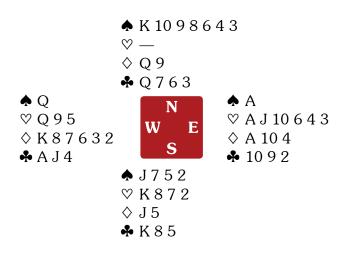
- ▲ J752
   ♡ K872
- ↓ K 0 / 2
   ↓ J 5
- ♦ K85
- You have the South cards and the bidding proceeds as follows:

West	North	East	South
$1\diamondsuit$	3♠	4♡	4♠
5♡	Pass	6♡	All Pass

What are your thoughts and what do you lead?

Your  $\heartsuit K$  is very likely to be a trick - if that's the case find one more and the contract will go down.

Here is the full deal:



South led the  $\bigstar 5$  and declarer won, led the  $\diamondsuit 10$  to the king and ran the  $\heartsuit 9$ . The only trick for the defence was the  $\heartsuit K$ .

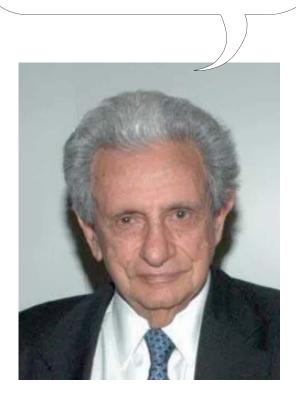
I wonder if South was aware of Benito's Bols tip, which was *Games may be quietly defended*, but slams must be attacked.

What Benito said was:

TIPS FROM THE TOP

Heroic measures are rarely needed when leading against a game contract. The defenders can expect to get the lead again after the dummy has been exposed, and the early play offers further clues to what they should do.

Not so against slams. Unless two tricks can be cashed at once, the defence must strike a telling blow to develop the setting trick by the opening lead. Later is too late.



One way of doing this is to consider what is the least you need partner to have in order to defeat the slam.

On this deal no-one put a gun to East's head and forced him to bid  $6^{\circ}$ . In practical terms it's a racing certainty that he has a spade control and a diamond fit. Once you appreciate that, a club lead, hoping to find partner with the queen, is the obvious move.

In the other room they stopped in 5, so failing to find the club lead saw the Donn team lose 13 IMPs instead of gaining them.

## 15<sup>th</sup> WORLD BRIDGE SERIES Orlando, Florida – 21 September – 6 October, 2018



The **World Bridge Series** is an incredibly exciting and challenging tournament, with many different Championships available to participants.

It is made even more interesting due to the fact that all the events are **transnational**, so that players from across the world, from different National Bridge Organisations, can come together as team-mates or in partnership to compete.

The venue is the magnificent **Marriott Orlando World**, where we have obtained special rates for all participants!

There are several restaurants and lounges within the complex, and excellent amenities that we feel sure you will enjoy ... and there is even a shuttle service to Walt Disney World®! Orlando is, of course, a very well-known and popular resort, with plenty to see and do in the area. It's not all Disney – there is the Epcot Centre and Universal Studio as well as other museums and galleries. For the golfers among you there are golf courses, and there are several parks and lakes to enjoy.

The Opening Ceremony will be held on Friday 21st September.

The following is the outline schedule of the main events.

The first events are the **Open**, **Women's** and **Senior Teams Championships**: the **Rosenblum Open Teams** will start on Saturday 22nd September, the **McConnell Women's Teams** and the **Rand Senior Teams** start a day later on Sunday 23rd September.

The Teams Championships are followed by the **Open**, **Women's**, and **Senior Pairs** – the **Open Pairs** starts on Monday 24th September, the **Women's** and **Seniors** on Tuesday 25th September. Players eliminated from the KO stages of the Teams, up to and including the semi-finals, will be able to drop into the Pairs events, following the regulations that will be specified in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the Championships which will be published here in due course.

The **Mixed Teams** will start on Monday 1st October and the **Mixed Pairs** on Wednesday 3rd October. Players eliminated from the KO stages of the Teams, not including the semi-finals, will be able to drop into the Pairs events, following the regulations that will be specified in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest for the Championships which will be published here in due course.

## Junior Players will also be able to enter the Youth Triathlon event starting on Saturday 22nd September.

In addition there will be the **Joan Gerard Cup** – a pairs event – starting on Saturday 29th September, a **Seniors Triathlon** starting on Monday 1st October, as well as a Short Track Pairs starting on Friday 28th September and an **IMP Pairs** starting in the morning of Friday 5th October.

The Prize-Giving and the Closing Ceremony will close the event on Saturday 6th October.

Alongside all these tournaments there will be a number of **other WBF events** of one or two days (pairs or swiss) available for those wishing to participate in shorter tournaments. Details of these will be announced on the website in due course.

Players in good standing with their National Bridge Organisations are eligible to compete in any of these events, providing of course they meet all the WBF Eligibility requirements (including those relating to the ages of Senior or Youth players).

Registration must be made through the WBF Website.

We look forward to welcoming many players to Orlando where we are sure it will be an enormously successful Championship!

INFORMATION & REGISTRATIONS: championships.worldbridge.org/orlandows18