

WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 15 2018
ISSUE No 7

IT'S NOW OR NEVER



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10.00	J / Y / G Kids Transnational BAM Kids Swiss	Quarter Finals Final
13.30	J / Y / G Kids Transnational BAM Kids Swiss	Quarter Finals Final
15.50	J / Y / G Kids Transnational BAM Kids Swiss	Quarter Finals Final
18.10	J / Y / G Kids Transnational BAM Kids Swiss	Quarter Finals Final

Kids Prize Giving to follow



Girls and Kids first
<https://youtu.be/hAb2Xxs67Vw>



What is the worst spot to finish in the round robin?

Yes, ninth, the top non-qualifying position.

Before the last round of the Juniors, China was eighth with 230.10 victory points, and France was ninth on 229.16. However, the odds heavily favored China because it was facing last-placed Botswana, while France had to play India, who were fifteenth. As expected, China won easily, by 47 imps, which converted to 19.18-0.82 victory points. Even if France had gained all 20 vps, it would have still been ninth, by 0.12 vps. (In fact France scored 14.64 vps.)

The line-ups for the 56-board quarterfinals are: USA1 vs. Singapore; USA2 vs Poland; Israel vs. Netherlands; Sweden vs. China.

In the Youngsters, the battle for eighth was between France and USA, with the Europeans 4.28 vps ahead before the last round. USA had a tough battle against third-placed Bulgaria, and lost by 30 imps, which added only 2.96 vps to its total. France was through, even though it lost by 12 imps to Italy.

One other point of interest is that Israel led the round robin from start to finish. The draw for the 56-board quarterfinals is Israel vs. Germany; Bulgaria vs. France; Poland vs. Italy; Sweden vs. Netherlands.

In the Kids semifinals, China 3, winners of the round robin, led Sweden by 41 imps and triumphed by 64 (135-71).

France led USA by 1 imp, and took the fourth session by 15 imps to win by 110-94. The draw for the 48-board final is China 3 vs France.

DRAW & VUGRAPH SCHEDULE TODAY

JUNIOR		JUNIOR		JUNIOR		JUNIOR	
BBO	USA 1 vs SGP	BBO	USA 1 vs SGP	BBO+VG	USA 1 vs SGP	Broadcast Schedule; to be announced	
	USA 2 vs POL		USA 2 vs POL		USA 2 vs POL		
	ISR vs NED		ISR vs NED		ISR vs NED		
BBO+VG	SWE vs CHN		SWE vs CHN		SWE vs CHN		
Q. FINAL — TIME: 10.00		Q. FINAL — TIME: 13.30		Q. FINAL — TIME: 15.50		Q. FINAL — TIME: 18.10	
YOUNGSTERS		YOUNGSTERS		YOUNGSTERS		YOUNGSTERS	
BBO	ISR vs GER		ISR vs GER		ISR vs GER		
	BUL vs FRA		BUL vs FRA		BUL vs FRA		
	POL vs ITA		POL vs ITA		POL vs ITA		
BBO+VG	SWE vs NED		SWE vs NED		SWE vs NED		
Q. FINAL — TIME: 10.00		Q. FINAL — TIME: 13.30		Q. FINAL — TIME: 15.50		Q. FINAL — TIME: 18.10	
GIRLS		GIRLS		GIRLS		GIRLS	
	CHN vs USA		CHN vs USA		CHN vs USA		
	FRA vs HUN		FRA vs HUN		FRA vs HUN		
	NED vs NOR		NED vs NOR		NED vs NOR		
	POL vs TUR		POL vs TUR		POL vs TUR		
Q. FINAL — TIME: 10.00		Q. FINAL — TIME: 13.30		Q. FINAL — TIME: 15.50		Q. FINAL — TIME: 18.10	
KIDS		KIDS		KIDS		KIDS	
FUNBRIDGE	FRA vs CHN 3	FUNBRIDGE	FRA vs CHN 3	FUNBRIDGE	FRA vs CHN 3		
FINAL — TIME: 10.00		FINAL — TIME: 13.30		FINAL — TIME: 15.50		FINAL — TIME: 18.10	



ATTENTION JUNIORS AND NBO'S

An invitation will be sent out in the beginning of November 2018 to all NBOs over the World where the quickest ones will have a really good deal to come to Sweden and participate in the Chairman's Cup 2019 and attend the 25th Swedish Bridge Festival. It will be played as usual in Örebro and the dates are July 26th to August 4th 2019.

Don't miss the chance when we will try to break the new record (from 2018) with 486 pairs in a single session side event over 24 boards!

If you have questions or thoughts contact Micke Melander, mme@svensskbridge.se



Jos Jacobs

SINGAPORE VS INDONESIA

JUNIORS – ROUND 9

Before this match got underway, Singapore were the only team from Zone 6 among the top eight. They were scheduled to play Indonesia, another team from the same Asia Pacific Zone, who were struggling a little below average at this point. So, as usual, either team would welcome as many victory points as they could get.

On the first four boards, not a single transfer bid crept into any of the auctions. Maybe, this was the reason why the score stood at just 1-0 to Indonesia when the board below arrived.

Board 5. Dealer North. North-South Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Satriawan	Xin Zhu	Febriyanto	Ming Zhou
	Pass	1NT	Dble
2♦	Dble	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

West transferred himself away from 1NT doubled as quickly as possible, but this did not stop North-South from trying to reach game, in case their combined hands held a heart stopper. North, not looking at anything near a heart stopper, improvised with 3♠, but this message was lost on South, and they ended up in an unsuccessful 3-3 fit at the three-level for down three. Indonesia plus 300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ong	Wijayanto	Chan	Narendra
	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♥	3♣
3♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Another transfer overcall after the strong club, but when North-South had no higher aspirations, the auction came to rest in 3♥, which was about par. One down and another plus 50 to Indonesia: 8 imps.

Three more quiet boards came next, followed by an easy slam for East-West. So, with the score at 10-3 to Indonesia, this was board 10.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Satriawan	Xin Zhu	Febriyanto	Ming Zhou
		Pass	1♥
Dble	2♥	All Pass	

When East passed, West made the inspired decision to throw in the towel as well. On the ♦K lead followed by three rounds of trumps, declarer had to lose two tricks in each suit and thus go down three, Indonesia plus 300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ong	Wijayanto	Chan	Narendra
		Pass	1♥
Dble	2♥	2♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the replay, East-West were not on the same wavelength as to the strength of a free bid opposite a double. On the automatic heart lead by North, declarer could muster only seven tricks for another plus 200 and no less than 11 imps to Indonesia.

Youthful optimism was the issue on the next board.



Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Satriawan	Xin Zhu	Febriyanto	Ming Zhou
			2♣
Dble	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West was no doubt planning to introduce his second suit in the next round of bidding, only to find out that there wasn't one. After the play, he must have felt some relief because he had managed to go down only two, undoubled. The bad breaks in both of his suits caused havoc right from the start. Singapore plus 100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ong	Wijayanto	Chan	Narendra
			2♣
Dble	5♣	Pass	Pass
5♦	Dble	Pass	Pass
5♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At the other table, West effectively introduced both her suits. North could double the first of them so South correctly inferred that 5♠ might be as difficult a contract as 5♦ would have been. On repeated club leads the hand was as unplayable as it had been at the other table: down four but plus 800 and a huge 12 imps to Indonesia.

The next board was about politely raising partner.

Board 12. Dealer West. North-South Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Satriawan	Xin Zhu	Febriyanto	Ming Zhou
1♦	Pass	1♠	2♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

When partner is making an overcall in the sandwich, red v. green, raising with an ace and four trumps is a matter of sheer politeness (and appreciation of his courage), in my opinion. If you don't, you should not be surprised if you have to pay for it. Ten easy tricks but only plus 170 to Singapore.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ong	Wijayanto	Chan	Narendra
1♦	Pass	Pass	1♥
2♦	2♥	3♦	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Now look at the effect of East's Precision-style pass of partner's 1♦. South could balance with 1♥ showing an undetermined force. When West rebid her suit, North's raise was no longer just polite but had become a free raise. Indonesia plus 620 and 10 more imps when South had no trouble in bidding the vulnerable game.



The next board again was a matter of style and politeness.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Satriawan	Xin Zhu	Febriyanto	Ming Zhou
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ong	Wijayanto	Chan	Narendra
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

According to the classic textbooks, AK/A is an opening bid. So North cannot be blamed for bidding 1♦. When 2♣ (fourth suit) is defined as game-forcing it's a matter of politeness to bid on to what might prove to be a hopeless game. Well, with 11 HCP opposite an opening bid, you want to be in game, don't you? On the obvious ♦K lead, one down was inevitable. Indonesia plus 100.

When North, too young to know about all the classic textbooks ?, elected to pass as dealer, North-South were never in danger of reaching game. Not holding a sound opening bid himself, South called it a day as soon as he got the chance. Just made, Indonesia another plus 110 and 5 more imps to win the match 48-3 or 18.98 – 1.02 VP. They had brought their score back to over average whereas Singapore had dropped from fifth to sixth.



Tournament Program

Mixed Pairs	November 8,9
M.P. Pairs	November 10
National Simultaneous	November 11
IMP Pairs	November 12,13
Open Pairs	November 14,15,16
Teams	November 17

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Jos Jacobs

SINGAPORE VS ITALY

YOUNGSTERS – ROUND 13

The first match on Sunday marked the halfway point in the Youngsters event. At this point, Italy were well on track for a quarterfinal berth, lying second at the start of their match against Singapore. The latter team, on the other hand, were struggling after a few losses in their Saturday matches, which had seen them sink from sixth to tenth in the rankings, with a considerable gap of about 20 VP between them and the eighth and last qualifying spot.

This match featured, in my opinion, the advantage of experience at the bridge table. Many swings resulted from serious or sometimes even obvious mistakes rather than from good bridge, so it is very much with mixed feelings that I am writing up this report. I had to include quite a number of these mistakes, hoping, of course, that they will be avoided in the future ...

Take, for example, the first board.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Guan	Porta	J Wu
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1NT	Dble	All Pass	

One diamond was Precision style, but nevertheless North led a low diamond to the king, which was allowed to hold. The ♦10 came next and also won the trick. South then correctly shifted to the ♣K and another. However, North, upon winning with the ace, returned the ♦Q rather than another club. Donati won with his ace, cashed the ♠A and followed with the ♦J, on which North pitched the ♠9, a costly error with those low hearts available for discards.

Another spade went to North's king, on which South discarded a club. But when North returned a heart, the imminent endplay against South was broken up,

and declarer still had to go one down for only plus 100 to Singapore, who had looked well on their way to plus 300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Koh	Gi Giubilo	Tan	Ga Giubilo
	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the other room, West did not overcall (only 14 hcp.) so Gabriele made 8 tricks in peace for plus 120 and 1 imp to Italy.

The next board was a strange push, as the contract that might have been made went down, whereas the contract that should have gone down was made.

Board 2. Dealer East. North-South Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Guan	Porta	J Wu
		Pass	Pass
1♠	2♦	2♠	3♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Double dummy, you can make 4♦ even on a trump lead by playing a low club away from your ace. East has no defence, and you would lose only one club trick.

Having no reason to play this way, Guan won the trump lead when West inserted his ♦J, crossed to dummy's ♥A and led a club to the jack and East's king for a quick one down. It did not even matter whether East returned a trump or not. Italy plus 100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Koh	Gi Giubilo	Tan	Ga Giubilo
		Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

At the other table, West did not think of opening at the one-level like Donati had done, but launched a Dutch export product instead by opening 2♠ Muiderberg (five spades and four-plus in a minor). This proved very effective as it shut out everybody. On the actual layout, the contract should have gone one down, but this was not as obvious at the table as it looked on paper.

North led the ♥K and continued the suit. South won with the ace and shifted to a diamond. Declarer won with the ace, cashed the ♠KA and discarded the diamond loser on the ♥Q. When dummy got off play with another club, South won with his ♣Q and should have defeated the contract now by playing ♠Q and another. When he tried a heart instead, declarer ruffed in hand and ruffed a club with dummy's ♠9, forcing South's ♠Q and thus bringing home his contract for plus 110 to Singapore and a push.

Two boards later, at one table they did not apply the Rule of 15.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

If the total of your high-card points and number of spades is below 15, then you should not open the bidding in fourth position. The rule obviously only applies if your number of high-card points is too low to make a clear-cut opening bid. Singapore correctly observed this rule and, therefore, the deal was passed out in the Open Room.

In the Closed Room, South opened the bidding and thus found himself quickly defending 2♠ by East-West:



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Koh	Gi Giubilo	Tan	Ga Giubilo
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	Redble	2♠	All Pass

On the unlucky lead of the ♥K, declarer won with the ace and continued a low club to dummy's ten and North's ♣K. North continued the ♦AQ, but declarer ruffed, played a club to the queen and ace, ruffed another diamond in hand (!) and played trumps. When they did not break, declarer had to be content with only eight tricks, but it still meant plus 110 and 3 imps to Singapore.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Guan	Porta	J Wu
			1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

A semi-natural Precision auction to a contract that had no play once the ♠Q10 did not come down doubleton. Two down, Italy plus 200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Koh	Gi Giubilo	Tan	Ga Giubilo
			1♣
1♦	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

After the 1♥ transfer, North-South overbid a little and thus ended rather high. West came to the rescue,

however, by leading the $\diamond Q$, understandable but unlucky. Declarer won with the king, unblocked the $\spadesuit A$ and returned a diamond. West won with the ace and exited with the $\heartsuit J$, but dummy's king won, the $\spadesuit K$ was cashed and another heart went to declarer's queen, East discarding a club. Then the $\diamond 9$ was taken by West's jack. West next cashed the $\spadesuit Q$, East and declarer each discarding a club. West's next move was the $\clubsuit K$, followed by a diamond to declarer's $\diamond 8$, on which East, assuming partner would hold the $\clubsuit Q$, discarded the $\clubsuit A$, thus giving declarer an easy ninth trick. Italy plus 600 and 13 imps to them.

On the next board, Singapore got sort of revenge when the Italians were a long way overboard after a bidding misunderstanding.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Guan	Porta	J Wu
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 \clubsuit
Pass	1 \diamond	Pass	1NT
Pass	2 \clubsuit	Pass	2 \heartsuit
Pass	3 \clubsuit	Pass	3NT
Pass	5 \heartsuit	All Pass	

A disciplined Strong Club auction saw the Singaporeans reach safety at the last moment. One diamond showed hearts, 1NT was 17-19 balanced and 2 \clubsuit check-back Stayman. Five Hearts clearly was quantitative but opposite a passed hand, South was not tempted and rightly so. With the $\spadesuit A$ in West, 11 tricks were easy enough when West led a club to declarer's nine. Singapore plus 450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Koh	Gi Giubilo	Tan	Ga Giubilo
Pass	1 \heartsuit	Pass	2 \clubsuit
Pass	2 \heartsuit	Pass	2 \spadesuit
Pass	2NT	Pass	3 \clubsuit
Pass	3 \diamond	Pass	3 \heartsuit
Pass	3NT	Pass	4 \clubsuit
Pass	5 \clubsuit	Pass	5 \spadesuit
Pass	7 \heartsuit	All Pass	

According to the convention card, North's 2 \heartsuit rebid showed 4=5 in the majors, but once hearts were established after a few more relays, a wheel came off. Down two for another plus 100 and 11 imps to Singapore.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Guan	Porta	J Wu
			1 \diamond
1 \heartsuit	Pass	4 \diamond	5 \diamond
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

A normal enough auction but near the end of the play, something happened. West led the $\spadesuit K$, on which East contributed the jack. Declarer won with the ace and played the $\diamond AQ$. West won with the king and cashed his $\spadesuit Q$ before playing $\heartsuit K$ and another. Declarer ruffed the second heart and played off all of his trumps. When East discarded all of his spades, wanting to hold on to his $\clubsuit Jx$, declarer should have escaped for one down, but apparently didn't realise that the $\spadesuit 9$ had become good. So he claimed, stating he would lose another trick.

Down two doubled, Italy plus 300.



In the other room, the auction was short:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Koh	Gi Giubilo	Tan	Ga Giubilo
Pass	Pass	Pass	5♦

Down two against correct defence, but only plus 100 to Singapore and thus 5 imps to Italy.

The next board featured the noble art of overcalling.

Board 12. Dealer West. North-South Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Guan	Porta	J Wu
1♠	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

When North ventured an overcall, opposite a non-passed partner, on this multi-loser hand, the Singaporeans ended up one level higher. Nobody doubled, so that already was some sort of relief for them. The defence started with three rounds of spades, East ruffing the third round and continuing with the ♦A and another to declarer's king. Had declarer crossed to dummy's ♥K and thrown a club on the now established ♦Q before leading the ♣J, it would have been two down, but when dummy was asked to play another heart after winning the ♥K, three down had become inevitable. Italy plus 300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Koh	Gi Giubilo	Tan	Ga Giubilo
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	2♥	All Pass	

When Gianmarco did not overcall immediately, Gabriele knew that he should not make any further move. One down only when the defence played clubs after getting their spade ruff, so only plus 100 to Singapore and 5 imps to Italy.

With the score at 28-16 to Italy, this was the last board.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Guan	Porta	J Wu
1♦	1♥	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
		Pass	Pass

East's 2♥ showed spades and effectively ended the auction. In spite of North's heart lead into declarer's tenace, the contract still had no play and went one down. Singapore plus 50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Koh	Gi Giubilo	Tan	Ga Giubilo
1♦	1♥	Pass	Pass
Pass	2NT	1♠	1NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	3NT

When East in the Closed Room did not have a spade jump in his repertoire, the Italians had enough room to overbid a little and end up in a touch-and-go 3NT.

West led a spade to the queen and declarer's king. But when declarer's next move was an immediate low club to dummy's jack and East's queen, his chances of bringing home the bacon had gone. One down, another plus 50 and 3 imps to Singapore.

The final score: 28-19 or 12.71 – 7.29 VP to Italy.



Micke Melander

FRANCE VS NETHERLANDS

JUNIORS – ROUND 16

When Giants Meet

Two perennial giants in the junior bridge world over the last decades have been France and Netherlands. These have not disappointed anyone this year either, and they met in round 16, both being placed near the top of the standings and looking as if they would qualify for the knock-outs.

The match will probably be one of the most interesting been played in these championships. It offered the spectators a real show in which a lot more imps could have been splashed around than was actually the case. It's worth knowing that both teams have partnerships playing mini and weak notrumps in first and second seat when non-vulnerable, and aggressive weak twos.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Combescure</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Bernard</i>
	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♠	Dble	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

South mini-notrump opening didn't create any problems for East-West. Against four spades, North led a trump, which went to the jack and declarer's ace. Declarer established his hearts and didn't have to rely on the club finesse when hearts broke 3-3. Ten tricks and plus 420.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Laloubeyre</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Lafont</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	2♠	Pass	3♦
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the Closed Room, South opened with one diamond, and when North showed a good diamond raise with 2♠, South didn't accept. When West competed with 3♠, surely East (who should have doubled two spades) should have raised to game instead of passively passing. The ace of diamonds was led, and the play went similarly as in the Open Room. Declarer pulled trumps and set up his hearts for club discards. Ten tricks and minus 170 was 6 imps to the Netherlands.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ AKJ752	
	♥ AJ97	
	♦ 3	
	♣ 74	
♠ 84	<div>♠ N ♥ W ♦ E ♣ S</div>	♠ Q1096
♥ KQ85		♥ 3
♦ K10542		♦ AQ76
♣ 93		♣ Q1052
	♠ 3	
	♥ 10642	
	♦ J98	
	♣ AKJ86	

Open Room:


West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Combescure</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Bernard</i>
		Pass	Pass
2♦	2♠	4♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

The French juniors decided to defend instead of trying for game in hearts. North led the ace of spades, and when he couldn't read partner's three, he shifted to the seven of clubs, which went to South jack. South cashed the ace of clubs and played a third round of the suit, declarer pitching his spade and North ruffing. Declarer just lost a heart trick for down two, minus 300, which rated to be a good score since North-South could make a game in hearts.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Laloubeyre</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Lafont</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	2♠	Pass
3♦	Dble	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Very well done by the Dutch pair to bid to four hearts after that weak opening from Laloubeyre. So, what about 4♥? The play is extremely complicated. East kicked off with the ace of diamonds. As we can see, playing double-dummy, declarer has to cope with the 4-1 trump split and the spades being 4-2 offside. But on the other hand, clubs are behaving relatively nicely. Kiljan ruffed the second diamond in his hand and cashed the ace and king of spades, discarding a diamond from dummy. So far so good. Declarer then played a spade and ruffed in dummy with the six. West overruffed with the eight when pitching a club would have worked out better in retrospect. West decided to lead another diamond, conceding a ruff-and-discard. After some thought, declarer discarded a spade from his hand and ruffed low in dummy. (A ruff in his hand followed by a club finesse was required.) The four of hearts went to the king, ace and three. Declarer ruffed another spade and was doomed when West pitched a club, since declarer was locked in dummy and had to play the ace-king of clubs. West ruffed the second round and still had the queen of hearts to come for down one. So how should Kiljan have played from this point when he had cashed ace-king of spades?

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

Finesse in clubs, play ace-king of clubs. What is West going to do? If he ruffs, you overruff and ruff a spade. West will just get two more tricks in trumps and you lose only two trumps and a diamond. If West discards a diamond, you simply discard a spade. With eight tricks already in the bag, you crossruff in the black suits for two more winners.

The net result was 9 imps to France.



Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Combescure</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Bernard</i>
Pass	Pass	1NT	2♥
3♦ (a)	3♥	4♠	All Pass

(a) Spades

South led the expected queen of hearts. North overtook with the ace and returned the jack of diamonds, taken by South's ace. Another diamond put declarer in dummy. The BBO records say that declarer finessed in spades and claimed 10 tricks. I don't believe this, because that results in 11 tricks. I think declarer played a spade to the ace, and when the king did not drop, it was 10 tricks for plus 620.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Laloubeyre</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Lafont</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

In the Closed Room, game in spades was declared from the West hand. The jack of diamonds was led to the ace and another diamond followed. Declarer won and instantly put the queen of spades on the table. Why did North cover with the king looking at ace-jack-nine-fifth in dummy? Well, it made life simple for declarer, who could pull trumps and claim 11 tricks. A little later, when I checked the scorecard, I discovered that there had been a ruling by the TD on this board, and South in the Closed Room was allowed to play 3♥ down two for minus 100. East had paused for some time over three hearts, and that was felt to make it much safer for West to balance with three spades.

That was 11 imps to the Netherlands.

More imps should have been scored on the next deal, but neither declarer found out until it was too late:

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Combescure</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Bernard</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

The four of clubs was led that went to the ten, ace and declarer's nine. When North switched to the jack of diamonds, declarer covered with the queen, and South won with the king. He then returned the five of diamonds. When declarer called for the nine from dummy and North covered with the ten, suddenly declarer had got another diamond loser and had to go one down, losing one spade, two diamonds and one club.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Laloubeyre</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Lafont</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
2♥*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

2♥ was weak 5-9 with both majors and it quickly put East-West in game. The play went more or less the same way for one down and a flat board. If East believes that spades are 3-2, it would have been better to jump up with the ace of diamonds at trick two, cash the ace-king of spades, then play on hearts and let either defender ruff whenever he wishes. Declarer can still reach dummy with a club ruff. This would only be wrong only if North had jack-low in diamonds and the third trump. And as you noticed, of course, each declarer could have made his contract by not playing the nine of diamonds in dummy on the second round of the suit.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Combescure</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Bernard</i>
	1NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♥	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

A lead-directing double from West would have been very successful if East had judged it to be asking for a club, given South's initial transfer response. In real life, East led the nine of spades, and declarer quickly claimed 13 tricks for 1470.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Laloubeyre</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Lafont</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Dble	Pass	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the Closed Room, West doubled when South bid clubs for the second time. Kiljan passed wisely and North-South got to 6♦ from the safe side. Plus 1390 was worth 2 imps for France, but it might have been 16 to the Netherlands.



Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Combescore</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Bernard</i>
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1♥	1♠ (a)
2♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

(a) Values with fewer than four spades

The six of clubs was led. Declarer won with his ace and played three rounds of spades to discard his diamond. South ruffed with the eight and led the two of clubs. Declarer crossruffed the minors. Thus he lost only three trump tricks; 620 to Netherlands.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Laloubeyre</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Lafont</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Things didn't go so well for Lafont in the Closed Room. Again, a club was led. Declarer won and ruffed a club. A spade to the king and another club ruff followed. Declarer then cashed the ace and queen of spades for a diamond discard. South ruffed with the eight and now did very well, returning the ten of hearts to North's ace. Declarer had no way to escape a club loser for one down. Where did Lafont go wrong? Obviously, he could have followed Mendes de Leon's line. Or after crossing to the king of spades, he could have led his king of diamonds and fallen into a crossruff. That was another 12 imps to Netherlands.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ J 10 5
♥ A J 2
♦ Q J 8
♣ J 9 7 4

♠ 9 7 3
♥ K 6 5 4
♦ 9
♣ K 10 8 5 2

♠ Q 8 4
♥ Q 10 9 8 3
♦ K 7 5
♣ Q 6

♠ A K 6 2
♥ 7
♦ A 10 6 5 4 3
♣ A 3

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>	<i>Combescure</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Bernard</i>
	1NT	3♦	All Pass

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Laloubeyre</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Lafont</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
	1NT	Dbl	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

Interesting to see that at both tables North decided to open with a mini NT showing 10-12 points with a hand that most would feel did not qualify as an opening bid. Mendes in the Open Room jumped to 3♦, which was passed out and made for plus 110. There was more action in the Closed Room, where the French partnership went overboard. West eventually became the declarer in 3NT, doubled confidently by South. The contract stood no chance and went two down for plus 500 and 12 imps to the Netherlands.

High-card points aren't everything in bridge – more interesting is the number of tricks that can be taken.



Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Laloubeyre	Kiljan	Lafont	Tijssen
		1♦	Dble
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The Dutch North-South pair had an easy ride to 3NT when West didn't interfere, and North's options over 1♦ weren't ideal. South, with probably eight tricks in his hand assuming spades were running, had an easy raise to game. East led the king of diamonds, declarer won and quickly claimed when spades were 3-2. Plus 400.

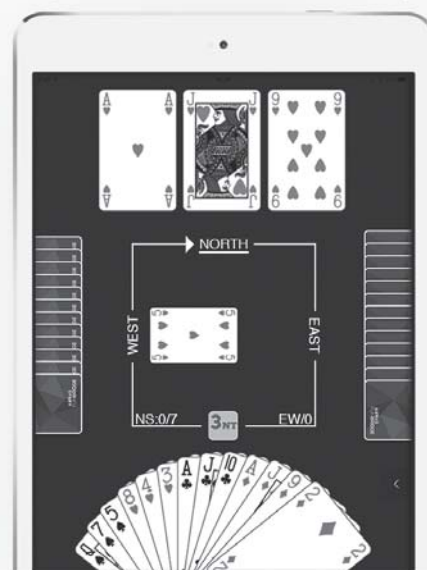
Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Combescure	M. de Leon	Bernard
		1♦	Dble
2♦	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The real hero on this deal was Combescure, who was brave to slip 2NT onto the bidding tray. It solved his partner's problem, and Bernard also had little problem raising to 3NT with his powerful hand. This time the jack of diamonds was led, the play went identically, and it was soon over for a push.

The Netherlands won this battle between giants by 42-13 imp, or 16.88-3.12 in vp.

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Left to right: Sally Brock (captain), Yvonne Wiseman, Liz Gahan, Olivia Bailey, Siyu Ren, Laura Covill, Ewa Wieczorek, David Burn (coach)

The U26 English girls team has been generously sponsored for the World Championships by an English company, Touchlight. Touchlight is a biotechnology company focused on the development, commercialization and licensing of doggybone or dbDNA™ based therapeutics and technologies. Touchlight's doggybone DNA is a novel, linear, synthetic DNA vector with a unique expression profile, produced using a revolutionary enzymatic technology. Touchlight's ambition is to advance genetic medicines to improve the treatment of disease and to underpin the future of DNA with our technology.

Board 5

Dir: North

Vul: N-S

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

West	North	East	South
Marcinowski	Grossack	Majcher	Kriegel
	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West	North	East	South
Jolly	Chodacki	Kaplan	Sobczak
	1NT	Pass	2NT
Pass	Pass	3♦	Pass
6NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

When Adam Kaplan fished out the club lead against the slam (well done!) that was a cool 16 IMPs for right-siding the contract. But credit to Grossack for opening 1♥ while technically in range for 1NT. I guess two unguarded suits is enough reason for discretion; few shared his view though.

However, the match was not all one way traffic. When both tables reached 6♣ on our next exhibit, a difference on opening leads made Kriegel's task far harder than Sobczak's.

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

Both tables reached 6♣ from South, after Kriegel had explicitly shown the minors while Sobczak had

only suggested diamonds. Where Marcinowski led a top heart, Kriegel quite reasonably unblocked spades, led a trump to the king, then took a diamond finesse. When he tried to cash the diamond ace, West ruffed, and declarer was left with an inevitable diamond loser. Of course, had he somehow guessed that it was spades that were breaking as opposed to diamonds, he could have ruffed a spade to hand at trick four. Then he could have played three rounds of clubs to West with 12 tricks available via the diamond finesse.

In the other room, Jolly's diamond lead let Sobczak cover and win with his ace. After long thought, he found the best play of unblocking spades and continuing with the diamond queen. West could ruff, but declarer could win with his heart king, cash the club ace, ruff a diamond in dummy, unblock trumps and claim 12 tricks.

The last big swing came when East-West had to deal with two essentially balanced hands:

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

There are people all round the world who persist in opening the East hand 1♦ and rebidding 2♣. But that singleton ace makes it look a lot more like a minor-suit opener and 1NT rebid to me. (Which minor may provoke a civil war on the scale of the Little-Endians and the Big-Endians in Gulliver's Travels ... but I digress.)

Kaplan-Jolly bid 1♣-1♠-1NT-2♦-2♥-3NT-Pass and wrapped up nine tricks on the defense of repeated heart leads; had the defenders got round to diamonds early enough, the spade jack was falling anyway. Majcher-Marcinowski had an artificial Polish auction:

West	East
Majcher	Marcinowski
	1♦
1♠	2♣
2♥ (a)	2♠
3♣	3♥
3♠	4♣
4♠	5♣
Pass	

(a) Puppet to two spades; either to play there or a game-force with spades

So, West, with his three-club bid, showed a game-force with five-plus spades and club support. Was East's 3♥ now bidding out the pattern or showing doubt about 3NT? Whichever the case, you'd have to pry the 3NT card from my cold dead hands as East at my fourth turn. The 3♥ call led to the hopeless 5♣ contract, and USA1 had a 62-31 win.



David Bird

NETHERLANDS VS INDIA

JUNIORS – ROUND 17

A spirited fight-back

The Netherlands Juniors were in 2nd place as this match started. India were in 15th position. How would the match unfold?

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bose	M. de Leon	Kar	Sprinkhuizen
1♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

India reached the par contract of 6♥ with a straightforward auction, using two ace-or-king control-bids and Roman Key Card Blackwood. Declarer would need to do something with his potential spade loser and might be assisted if a ruffing finesse in diamonds became apparent.

South led the ♦6 and North won with the king, which was helpful to the declarer. If North had won with the ace, it would have been possible that South had led the unbid suit from such as ♦K-9-6. When East's ♦Q fell, North returned a low diamond and declarer ruffed.

There had been no reason to suspect an underlead of the ♦A from South, particularly with the strong hand on his right. Declarer still had the entries to take a ruffing finesse in diamonds, but he preferred to play on spades, misguessed and went one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Schols	Kushari	Westerbeek	Roys
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Again the ♦6 was led and North, misguidedly as I see it, won with the king rather than with the ace. Declarer was not tested when North then switched to a spade, and a trick or two later declarer claimed 980 for a 14-imp swing.

Sadly for India, this swing was duplicated on the very next board:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bose	M. de Leon	Kar	Sprinkhuizen
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	4♥

Mendes de Leon invoked Puppet Stayman, found no major-suit fit and eventually raised to 6NT. Declarer had 10 tricks on top. If an early finesse of the ♦J succeeded, he would have the chance of finding a major 3-3 or various squeezes.

Bose chose the commendably safe lead of the ♣5, won by declarer, and the ♦J was successfully finessed. Sprinkhuizen unblocked the ♦K, reached his hand with the ♠K and continued with the queen and ace of spades. When the suit did not break 3-3, he exited with the ♠6 to rectify the count for a possible red-suit squeeze. On East's club return to the king, West would have been squeezed if he had started with four hearts and four diamonds. As it was, the hearts broke 3-3 and declarer had his 990.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schols</i>	<i>Kushari</i>	<i>Westerbeek</i>	<i>Roys</i>
			2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♦
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

The 2♥ rebid was Kokish (hearts or strong balanced). Puppet Stayman again led to 6NT.

Somehow, West struck a lead of the ♥10. East contributed the jack, and declarer won with the king. A diamond finesse succeeded. Declarer then cashed the ♦K, crossed to the ♥Q and tested the spades. After cashing the ♦A and the top clubs, he finessed the ♥8 to go one down.

It was a strange mirror of the previous deal. On Board 2, the ♦6 (if North had then played the ace) would have given declarer a choice of plays in diamonds. On this board, the unorthodox lead of the ♥10, backed by East doing well to show his ♥J, offered declarer a losing option in that suit. (Editor's note: Yes, the jack was an imaginative play. But surely it was preferable to play first the seven, then the jack. Would he have really played the jack from jack-seven doubleton?)

The Netherlands led India by 30-0 after just three boards. Could India possibly recover, against a team in second position? Yes, they could!

On Board 5, North held ♠762 ♥K9872 ♦AQ9 ♣J8. Mendes de Leon passed and heard East open a weak 2♥, and South double for take-out. What action would you take? He decided to pass and the contract was made, when South led the ♣10 from ♠AQJ4 ♥4 ♦K10874 ♣K109. This ran to declarer's ♣AQ65 and was the only lead to let the doubled contract succeed.

That was 7 imps to India when three notrumps went down by two tricks in the other room.

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bose</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Kar</i>	<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>
Pass	1♦	1♠	Dble
Reble	2♦	2♠	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♠	Dble
All Pass			

West made a Rosenkranz redouble, showing a doubleton ace or king of spades. Did South have his double of 3♠? You will be the judge.

Sprinkhuizen led the ♠8, which prevented a club ruff in the dummy. Declarer won with dummy's king and drew trumps in two further rounds. He then led a heart to the ten and ace. North only 'safe return' was a heart to partner's queen. South could not play a heart or a club, and returned the ♦J to the king and North's ace. Now North was truly endplayed. He led a club to South's ace, and declarer could claim the balance without having to resort to a finesse of the ♣10. That was plus 530.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schols</i>	<i>Kushari</i>	<i>Westerbeek</i>	<i>Roys</i>
Pass	1♦	3♠	Dble
Pass	4♦	All Pass	

Kushari won the heart lead in dummy and led the ♦J, running it when West played low. A finesse of the ♦Q was followed by the ♦A, the ♥A and a club to the ace. The ♥Q permitted a discard of the ♠4. Declarer then claimed the contract for the loss of two clubs and the ♦K. It was another 12 imps to India.



Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bose	M. de Leon	Kar	Sprinkhuizen
1♠	Pass	2♣	2♦
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Dble	5♦	Pass
6♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

West made a splinter bid to agree clubs, and East was soon in a small slam. South cashed the ♦A and switched to a heart, allowing an early claim. Without this switch, declarer would have been able to discover the spade situation in time to take a ruffing finesse in that suit. That was plus 920.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Schols	Kushari	Westerbeek	Roys
1♠	Pass	2♣	2♦
2♠	3♦	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	All Pass

East never heard about the diamond control opposite, and West did not like to bid further. It was 11 imps to India to complete a 44-2 recovery in 8 boards. Well played, indeed!

India eventually won the match by 44-43, 10.33-9.67 in VPs.



Jim Munday

THE KIDS CAN PLAY

While the under-16 players don't garner much attention in the Daily Bulletin or on vugraph, it turns out that they can play a little as well. Check out Tie Chen from China at the helm of the following deal in a pivotal round 16 match-up between China 3 and USA.

Dlr: North	♠ Q 10 8	
Vul: E-W	♥ K J 7 6 4	
	♦ A	
	♣ A 7 6 3	
♠ 4 3 2		♠ 6 5
♥ 3		♥ 10 9 8 5 2
♦ 8 6 5 3 2		♦ Q 10 9
♣ 10 9 8 4		♣ K 5 2
	♠ A K J 9 7	
	♥ A Q	
	♦ K J 7 4	
	♣ Q J	

West	North	East	South
Zhou	Dai	Hu	Chen
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦ (a)
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣ (b)	Pass	4♦ (b)
Pass	4♥ (b)	Pass	4NT (c)
Pass	5♠ (d)	Pass	5NT (e)
Pass	6♥ (f)	Pass	7♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- Fourth suit game-forcing
- Control-bid
- Roman Key Card Blackwood
- Two key cards and the spade queen
- Grand slam try
- Heart king, no minor-suit king

Fifteen-year-old Chen, sitting South, found himself in seven spades on the troublesome club-ten lead.

That tangled communications by removing the convenient late entry to the heart suit, so declarer could no longer ruff a diamond profitably. It was easy to get careless here, taking the heart suit for granted, but Chen found an exciting solution.

He drew trumps in three rounds, East able to spare a low club. A fourth spade followed (club pitch from dummy), but what could East do? He elected to pitch a diamond, hoping partner had the diamond jack. Chen then unblocked the heart ace-queen and crossed to the diamond ace. Bad news in hearts, but the damage had been done. Declarer pitched his losing club and a low diamond on the heart king-jack, ruffed a club back to hand, and with the diamond queen now falling, the diamond jack took trick 13.

A well-earned plus 1510. As it happened, no fewer than eight of eighteen pairs recorded 1510 in the under-16 event. Due to the schedule, they were the only group to play this deal. It is hard to imagine a more exciting outcome than making a grand slam on a triple squeeze.



Kees Tammens

DUTCH DIARY

Monday morning, August 13: the Orange squad (the color of Dutch juniors, girls and youngsters) plus the coaches, captains and supporters at breakfast in the Dyna Sun Hotel (great girls and boys are taking very good care of us). Ham and eggs or some Chinese dish, and looking serious while studying small slips of paper: the first one with a certain touch of 'Aha-erlebnis'.

Dlr: West
Vul: N-S

North

♠ A 3 2
♥ A 10 8
♦ K J 4
♣ K Q 3 2

South

♠ Q J 8
♥ K Q 4
♦ Q 6 3 2
♣ J 5 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West leads ♠4 (low from an honour), you play low from the dummy, and East produces the ♠10. What is your line of play as declarer? The opponents play flawlessly and have the right to choose honours.

Monday I acted as the bridge tourist, walking around, listening to all the conversations, as a bridge journalist looking for great stories, as a bridge trainer interested in new developments, and as a bridge player with a keen eye for the psychological and mental issues the juniors have to cope with. Of course theoretical themes keep me interested, but I always like the atmosphere in international (youth) events. It must be a very fertile surrounding for every young bridge player. And the only way to keep bridge alive as a competitive sport is to raise and educate as many girls and boys as possible from a very young age. Three matches in the qualification to go for the girls at Monday, the fifth day of this championship. Still seven more rounds in the Juniors and Youngsters; lots can happen there. The Dutch juniors and girls have a pretty big gap between themselves and ninth place. In the Youngsters category, Netherlands has a fight left for the so eagerly wanted place eight. In the morning, I start kibitzing in the Kids championship:

Germany versus Turkey (much to their regret the kids team of the Netherlands did not qualify).

Dlr: West
Vul: None

♠ 6 5
♥ Q 8 4 2
♦ A 6 4
♣ A 5 3 2

♠ A K 2
♥ A K J 9 5
♦ J 7 3
♣ Q 9

♠ Q J 9
♥ 6 3
♦ Q 10 8 2
♣ J 10 8 4

♠ 10 8 7 4 3
♥ 10 7
♦ K 9 5
♣ K 7 6

West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Developing low cards in long suits is an important topic in defending notrump contracts. The Turkish kids pair did exactly that. South, Toygar Tuncay Altun, led a middle spade for ♠Q, and declarer played ♦10 ducked to ♦A. North, Umut Gorkem Eren, simply returned a spade. West, after taking ♦J with his ♦K, cleared the spades. Declarer crossed to ♦Q and took the thirteenth diamond. He now needed the ♥Q finesse, but when this lost North-South had two diamonds, two clubs, one heart and two spades for down three. At many tables North-South got too busy in defense and cashed their two top tricks in ♦ and ♣ too early, giving declarer two tricks in ♥ and ♦ and ♣, as well as the three tricks in spades for 3NT just making. The most exuberant result was when the USA juniors collected plus 1000 from 3NT redoubled down three, with the USA pair at the other table making 3NT for plus 400 and 16 imps, one imp short of a Dinosaur. The Dutch juniors on Monday faced strong opposition (Poland, France, India, Singapore, all in the top eight). Netherlands started by giving away a 34-0 lead against Poland, but ended with a 43-43 draw, and they had even had chances to win.

To prevail in top-level bridge, you need to establish a state of mind that permits you to play every board as new. My good old teammate André Mulder (one of the finest players in the Netherlands) could completely forget a just played board (for me that

was very hard to understand, I kept on pondering over a possible other bid or play), so he was able to concentrate fully on the board on the table.

Now for the solution to the problem set at the beginning of this article.

North

♠ A 3 2
♥ A 10 8
♦ K J 4
♣ K Q 3 2

South

♠ Q J 8
♥ K Q 4
♦ Q 6 3 2
♣ J 5 4

With both ♦A and ♣A in West, 3NT has no play; with spades 4-3 there is no problem. But West passed in first position and has only one ace. The creator of this problem is cruel. If you start by playing on diamonds, East will win with the ace and continue spades to develop three tricks, and West still has ♣A. And if you start on clubs, it will also be East who takes

the trick with the ♣A and clears the spades with ♦A still in West. So that cannot be the solution. The winning play should have been made at trick one: if you duck ♠10, you will still have a double stop in spades and it does not matter if you first attack diamonds or clubs.



Mark Horton

TIPS FROM THE TOP

Right on Cue

Slam bidding is a bit like a curate's egg, good in parts. Some deals are relatively straightforward, while others are difficult to negotiate. There are lots of gadgets that are designed to make slam bidding easier and one of the best is the control-bid. The concept of bidding a suit to show you have first- or second-round control has been around for a long time, but no-one knows who first introduced the idea.

Here's a deal from one of the semifinals in the 2018 GNT:

Dealer South. Both Vul.

You have the West cards:

♠ A 8 7 3 2
♥ 8
♦ A K 8 4 3 2
♣ A

South opens 1NT, 15-17.

Let's say you bid 2♥, showing spades, and then bid 3♦ over partner's 2♠, which is raised to 4♦. Your move.

At the table, West bid 5♦. Do you agree?
Time to reveal partner's cards:

♠ 10
♥ K J 7 6
♦ Q J 9 5
♣ 10 9 8 7

With spades 4-3 and the ♦10 falling on the first round, twelve tricks were child's play.

Could the slam have been reached?

Suppose West control-bids 4♥ over 4♦? If East then control-bids 4♠, West has enough to bid 6♦. Keep in mind that you don't need dummy's heart honours to have a play for slam.

Would your defence to 1NT have given you a chance to get there?



RESULTS

JUNIOR TEAMS

ROUND 19

ISRAEL	CANADA	69	15	19.83	0.17
COLOMBIA	CHINA	14	51	1.96	18.04
CHILE	NEW ZEALAND	30	37	7.84	12.16
CHINA HONG KONG	ENGLAND	42	30	13.48	6.52
CHINESE TAIPEI	USA 1	26	33	7.84	12.16
SWEDEN	FRANCE	34	8	16.38	3.62
INDONESIA	INDIA	51	27	16.03	3.97
BOTSWANA	AUSTRALIA	26	55	3.12	16.88
NETHERLANDS	USA 2	60	34	16.38	3.62
EGYPT	ITALY	64	30	17.63	2.37
POLAND	SINGAPORE	43	31	13.48	6.52

ROUND 20

SWEDEN	CHINESE TAIPEI	45	13	17.34	2.66
INDONESIA	CHINA HONG KONG	30	27	10.97	9.03
POLAND	CHILE	29	34	8.42	11.58
NETHERLANDS	COLOMBIA	26	35	7.29	12.71
EGYPT	ISRAEL	14	46	2.66	17.34
BOTSWANA	CANADA	36	48	6.52	13.48
ITALY	CHINA	12	41	3.12	16.88
USA 2	NEW ZEALAND	47	6	18.53	1.47
FRANCE	AUSTRALIA	43	32	13.23	6.77
INDIA	USA 1	18	63	1.02	18.98
SINGAPORE	ENGLAND	53	16	18.04	1.96

ROUND 21

FRANCE	INDIA	44	27	14.64	5.36
USA 1	SINGAPORE	8	23	5.81	14.19
ENGLAND	USA 2	5	42	1.96	18.04
NEW ZEALAND	ITALY	31	43	6.52	13.48
CHINA	BOTSWANA	47	0	19.18	0.82
CANADA	EGYPT	30	27	10.97	9.03
ISRAEL	NETHERLANDS	30	14	14.42	5.58
COLOMBIA	POLAND	0	53	0.26	19.74
CHILE	INDONESIA	58	36	15.66	4.34
AUSTRALIA	CHINESE TAIPEI	53	11	18.65	1.35
CHINA HONG KONG	SWEDEN	18	34	5.58	14.42

RANKING AFTER ROUND 21

1		USA 1	309.91	7		POLAND	257.24	15		COLOMBIA	193.29
2		SWEDEN	272.62	8		CHINA	249.28	16		CHINESE TAIPEI	186.17
3		USA 2	269.53	9		FRANCE	243.80	17		CHINA HONG KONG	185.76
4		ISRAEL	261.55	10		AUSTRALIA	233.40	18		CHILE	168.98
5		SINGAPORE	260.83	11		INDONESIA	211.16	19		EGYPT	166.13
6		NETHERLANDS	257.39	12		ENGLAND	208.40	20		CANADA	125.14
				13		ITALY	205.61	21		NEW ZEALAND	112.54
				14		INDIA	195.50	22		BOTSWANA	44.77

YOUNGSTER TEAMS

ROUND 19

FRANCE	ENGLAND	24	16	12.44	7.56
SWEDEN	FINLAND	47	14	17.49	2.51
CHILE	THAILAND	66	49	14.64	5.36
ISRAEL	USA	28	31	9.03	10.97
NETHERLANDS	CANADA	49	27	15.66	4.34
CHINA	BOTSWANA	84	0	20.00	0.00
JAPAN	INDIA	49	42	12.16	7.84
CHINA HONG KONG	SINGAPORE	49	15	17.63	2.37
ITALY	BULGARIA	45	51	8.13	11.87
NORWAY	GERMANY	17	39	4.34	15.66
POLAND	CHINESE TAIPEI	25	39	6.04	13.96

ROUND 20

CHINA	NETHERLANDS	6	31	3.79	16.21
JAPAN	ISRAEL	11	96	0.00	20.00
POLAND	CHILE	40	24	14.42	5.58
ITALY	SWEDEN	1	33	2.66	17.34
NORWAY	FRANCE	8	59	0.44	19.56
CHINA HONG KONG	ENGLAND	34	33	10.33	9.67
GERMANY	FINLAND	26	4	15.66	4.34
BULGARIA	THAILAND	27	4	15.85	4.15
BOTSWANA	SINGAPORE	30	66	2.09	17.91
INDIA	CANADA	32	52	4.74	15.26
CHINESE TAIPEI	USA	34	54	4.74	15.26

ROUND 21









BOTSWANA	INDIA	17	53	2.09	17.91
CANADA	CHINESE TAIPEI	17	14	10.97	9.03
USA	BULGARIA	8	38	2.96	17.04
THAILAND	GERMANY	18	54	2.09	17.91
FINLAND	CHINA HONG KONG	36	19	14.64	5.36
ENGLAND	NORWAY	24	37	6.28	13.72
FRANCE	ITALY	32	40	7.56	12.44
SWEDEN	POLAND	14	20	8.13	11.87
CHILE	JAPAN	34	23	13.23	6.77
SINGAPORE	NETHERLANDS	21	11	12.97	7.03
ISRAEL	CHINA	24	28	8.72	11.28

RANKING AFTER ROUND 21

1		ISRAEL	314.53	7		NETHERLANDS	250.98	15		CHINA HONG KONG	188.61
2		BULGARIA	296.42	8		FRANCE	243.78	16		ENGLAND	184.68
3		SWEDEN	288.00	9		USA	234.90	17		NORWAY	168.86
4		POLAND	281.13	10		CHINESE TAIPEI	229.11	18		THAILAND	153.91
5		ITALY	276.07	11		CANADA	225.69	19		CHILE	141.35
6		GERMANY	269.39	12		CHINA	205.62	20		INDIA	137.14
				13		SINGAPORE	195.32	21		JAPAN	129.50
				14		FINLAND	189.00	22		BOTSWANA	14.01

KIDS TEAMS

SEMIFINALS

	C/O	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Tot
 USA	0	42	42	13	55	18	73	21	94
 FRANCE	0	21	21	25	46	28	74	36	110
 CHINA 3	0	22	22	31	53	40	93	42	135
 SWEDEN	0	14	14	24	38	14	52	19	71
 CHINA 1	0	39	39	34	73	21	94	2	96
 ISRAEL	0	15	15	37	52	27	79	26	105
 NORWAY	0	51	51	31	82	32	114	17	131
 CANADA	0	44	44	32	76	27	103	54	157

BAM SWISS

1	GERMANY	103.52	6	DENMARK	76.31
2	ENGLAND	86.46	7	GREECE	76.05
3	CHINA 2	79.58	8	CHINESE TAIPEI	64.86
4	POLAND	79.49	9	INDIA	41.55
5	TURKEY	76.60	10	BOTSWANA	7.58

ATTENTION: BRIDGE TEACHERS AND PLAYERS!



There is a new game - HOOL - specially developed for kids to learn Bridge. It is both a face-to-face game as well as an online mobile app (test version).

Please come to the MEETING ROOM anytime (next to the WBF President's office) for a demonstration.

If no one is present, leave your name/email/country on the Bridge table inside and I will find you.

Amaresh Deshpande
Bridge Development, WBF

15th 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