



18th World Youth Teams Championships

Veldhoven, Netherlands • 31 July - 7 August 2023

DAILY BULLETIN

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Dear Participants, dear Friends

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to Veldhoven and the 18th World Youth Teams Championships. For many of you this will not be the first time playing at this venue, which is ideal for staging this type of event. When not playing bridge there are many opportunities for both indoor and outdoor sporting activities, and most of you will have your accommodation at the venue hotel as well.

This event could not have been staged here without the enormous efforts undertaken by Marc van Beijsterveldt. It is rare that so much credit can be attributed to one single person, and I want to express my immense gratitude to him.

The WBF worked hard to increase participation this time, and I am happy to note that we succeeded. With a total of 96 teams we set a new record partly, but not solely, due to the addition of the U31 category. Having 24 teams in the U26 and 20 teams in the U16 categories are both new records.

Representing one's country at the World Championships is an honour and a privilege, afforded only a few. Your national federations are doing a lot to support your participation, and you can show your appreciation by spreading our beloved sport among your not yet bridge playing friends when you get back home.

I wish you lots of success at the bridge table and that you will make many new friends here as well. You are our future - we all believe in "Zero Tolerance for Bad Behaviour" and I am sure that you will help me in supporting this policy to build a better (Bridge) world together.

Jan Kamras
President
World Bridge Federation

Main Awards



The Jaime Ortiz-Patiño Trophy

U26 Teams



The José Damiani Trophy

U21 Teams

The Gianarrigo Rona Trophy

U26 Women Teams

The Koç University Trophy

U16 Teams



Robert A. Howes Trophy

U31 Teams



The Joan Gerard Youth Awards

The Joan Gerard Youth Awards will aim at rewarding aptitude, fair play, good sportsmanship and a friendly international spirit, rejecting any discrimination.

Each of the attending players, NPCs, coaches, WBF championship officials and members of the staff can nominate one player from each category to receive the Joan Gerard Youth Award. No one can nominate players from his own country.

The final selection will be made by a Commission composed of the members of the Championship Committee and chaired by the Master of Protocol & Ceremony.

The result will be announced and the Joan Gerard Youth Awards presented at the Prize-giving Ceremony.



Important Notes For Players

These notes are for the convenience of players and captains. They do not substitute for the obligation to know and follow the Conditions, Regulations and Policies of the WBF covering this event.

GENERAL

- Mobile phones and electronic devices capable of communication must be **switched off** in the playing area and be **visible at the table** at all times, i.e. they may not be brought to the toilets. Random checks will be made very frequently, and penalties will be automatically applied without prior warning.
- All participants at the Championship venue must visibly wear their official identification badge.
- Players are requested to be seated 5 minutes before the scheduled start of play. Any team or pair that is not seated and ready to play at the start of a period of play will be subject to VP penalties.
- At the table, whether play is actually taking place at the moment or not, players (and NPCs) may converse only in English unless both pairs (and NPCs) agree to use some other common language at their own risk. TD adjudication will be in English only.
- During the period of play, players must not discuss or argue with partner or opponents. In case of a dispute a TD should be summoned.
- During a playing session players must not talk, call for a card from dummy or make any comment about a hand or a result that can be heard at a neighbouring table. TDs are instructed to enforce this strongly, with a warning for a first offense and automatic IMP or VP penalties for any further offenses.

DURING AND AFTER PLAY

- **When tablets are in use** for bidding and scoring, calls are made by selecting the appropriate keys on the tablet. Requests for explanations of calls and plays, and the responses thereto, shall be made either through tablets or in writing. Declarer enters the score on the tablet and both defenders confirm the score, also on the tablet.
- The opening lead must be made before the screen aperture is opened and only Declarer or Dummy may open the aperture or call for it to be opened.
- The bidding tray is removed, and the board replaced in the centre of the table, only by the Declarer or Dummy.
- Each card should be played towards partner in a consistent manner and placed on the table in the same position each time. Once played, the player should not vary the orientation of the card.
- Quitted tricks should be placed consistently in a neat row in front of the player, evenly overlapping and at an equal distance from the previous card.
- If a player finds an opponent not following any of these rules, even after a warning, a TD should be called.
- If a pair should claim that the responsibility for slow play is with their opponents, they should do so by calling a TD.
- If a player on the side of the screen receiving the tray considers there has been a break in tempo and consequently there may be unauthorised information, he should call a TD. He may do so at any time before the opening lead is made.
- After confirming the score on the last board played, players should leave the playing room immediately and are strictly forbidden to watch play at any table.
- The time for a request for a TD ruling ends 30 minutes after the end of the match. The time to ask for a review of a TD ruling ends 30 minutes after that ruling has been received.
- Requests for Corrections of scores: Manifestly incorrect scores - until 30 minutes after the end of the stage. Agreed upon scores - 30 minutes after the posting of scores at the end of play or, for the final round of a day, until the start of play for that stage on the following day.
- The **minimum playing requirements** to receive Titles and Masterpoints are one-half of the sessions at each stage of the competition and in each Knockout match. Missing sessions cannot be "made up for" in a subsequent stage or Knockout match.
- During playing sessions all players must wear tops of the same colour with some designation of their country. During Opening and Closing ceremonies all team members should wear uniform tops, and for the Prize-Giving podium it is mandatory.

Masterpoints

Rank	U26	U26W	U21	U16	U31
1	400	250	250	160	400
2	350	220	220	140	350
3	250	160	160	100	250
4	200	130	130	80	200
5	130	80	80	50	130
6	120	75	75	45	120
7	110	70	70	40	110
8	100	65	65	35	100
9	60	40	40	23	60
10	55	37	37	21	55
11	50	34	34	19	50
12	45	31	31	17	45
13	40	28	28	16	40
14	35	25	25	15	35
15	30	22	22	14	30
16	25	19	19	13	25
17	23	17	17	12	23
18	21	15	15	11	21
19	19	13	13	10	19
20	17	11	11	9	17
21	15	10	10	8	15
22	14	9	9	7	14
23	13	8	8	6	13
24	12	7	7	5	12
25					
26					

NEED TO RELAX?

**A swimming pool, a fitness center and a sauna are available.
Players staying in Koningshof are
granted free entrance.**

List of Participating NBOs

Countries		Series				
		Under 26	Under 21	Under 26	Under 16	Under 31
	ARGENTINA	✓				
	AUSTRALIA	✓	✓			
	BARBADOS	✓				
	BELGIUM					✓
	BULGARIA					✓
	CANADA	✓	✓		✓	
	CHINA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	CHINESE TAIPEI	✓			✓	✓
	CROATIA	✓				✓
	CZECH REPUBLIC				✓	
	DENMARK		✓	✓	✓	
	ENGLAND	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	ESTONIA	✓			✓	
	FRANCE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	GERMANY	✓	✓			✓
	GREECE	✓			✓	
	HONG KONG, CHINA	✓	✓		✓	✓
	HUNGARY		✓	✓	✓	
	INDIA	✓	✓		✓	✓

List of Participating NBOs

Countries		Series				
		Under 26	Under 21	Under 26	Under 16	Under 31
	IRELAND		✓			
	ISRAEL	✓	✓		✓	✓
	ITALY	✓		✓		
	JAPAN	✓	✓			
	LATVIA					✓
	NETHERLANDS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	NEW ZEALAND		✓			
	NORWAY		✓	✓	✓	
	POLAND	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	ROMANIA					✓
	SCOTLAND					✓
	SERBIA					✓
	SINGAPORE	✓	✓			✓
	SLOVENIA					✓
	SWEDEN	✓				
	THAILAND			✓	✓	
	TURKIYE	✓			✓	✓
	USA1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	USA2	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Schedule

SATURDAY, 5 AUGUST

UNDER 26	
QUARTERFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 21	
QUARTERFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 26 WOMEN	
QUARTERFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 16	
QUARTERFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards

UNDER 31	
QUARTERFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

BAM	
10:00 – 12:20	Round 1
12:20 – 13:30	lunch
13:30 – 15:50	Round 2
16:15 – 18:35	Round 3

U16 BAM	
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SUNDAY, 6 AUGUST

UNDER 26	
SEMIFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 21	
SEMIFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 26 WOMEN	
SEMIFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 16	
SEMIFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards

UNDER 31	
SEMIFINALS	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

BAM	
10:00 – 12:20	Round 1
12:20 – 13:30	lunch
13:30 – 15:50	Round 2
16:15 – 18:35	Round 3

U16 BAM	
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MONDAY, 7 AUGUST

UNDER 26	
FINAL	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 21	
FINAL	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 26 WOMEN	
FINAL	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

UNDER 16	
FINAL	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards

UNDER 31	
FINAL	
09:30 – 11:30	14 boards
11:50 – 13:50	14 boards
13:50 – 14:30	lunch
14:30 – 16:30	14 boards
16:50 – 18:50	14 boards

BAM	
10:00 – 12:20	Round 1
12:20 – 13:30	lunch
13:30 – 15:50	Round 2
16:15 – 18:35	Round 3

U16 BAM	
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Final for 3rd place: a match will be played.
Closing ceremony at 20.30

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European U26 Pairs Final, session 3

By Jos Jacobs

With 21 boards to play, the race for the gold was going to be fought out by the two leading pairs at that moment, Van Oosten/Thorpe (NED) and Kritsalis/Skordas (GRE), or at least so it looked. They were having a lead of over 7% over the 3rd ranked pair. However, as the session progressed, both the leading pairs saw their lead diminish a little after each round. What is more: they both had to face opponents who were rising and thus could be considered to be in more and more serious contention. In this report, I am going to pay special attention to the boards played against each other by any two pairs both in contention for a position at the top of the ranking

The first board that drew my attention was a quiet looking board during the first round.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

After an opening bid by North and a 1NT overcall by East, most South players ventured a 2♥ bid, buying the contract and making it with an overtrick for +140 and only 37,5%.

To score well on the board, the successful approach would be to just do nothing. The Greeks applied this policy with great skill ☺.

West	North	East	South
Zeeberg	Kritsalis	Rolf-Larsen	Skordas
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♣	1NT	All Pass

This was the auction when Kritsalis and Skordas were holding the N/S cards. South led a heart and declarer had nowhere to go. In the end, he went down four and all the matchpoints went to the Greeks.

Over now to Board 13. This time, number 13 was even more ominous than it normally is. One might

even say that the events on this board were decisive for the European Pairs title.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Thorpe	Kritsalis	Van Oosten	Skordas
–	–	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

After this simple auction, West led the ♦Q. Declarer won the ace, drew two rounds of trumps and advanced the ♣J. West rose with the ace and, rather than returning a heart, continued another diamond. This time, declarer won the king and played a low club to dummy's ten. When this held, he could draw the last trump and discard three of his hearts on the established clubs when the ♣Q came down. All the matchpoints thus went to Kritsalis and Skordas, our eventual European U26 champions.

After this plain zero, the Dutch got some consolation from the next board.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

East opened 2NT and, via a standard Puppet



auction, E/W landed in 4♠, usually played by East. We can all understand that no (North or) South player ventured a heart lead against this contract. Still, scoring +450 was worth 75% because a few pairs languished in 3NT.

On the next round, the Dutch by now ex-leaders had to face the Giubilo brothers from Italy. As you may remember from an earlier bulletin, they already established a reputation as fine slam bidders and, on the board below, they did it again. Look:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A J ♥ 7 3 2 ♦ K 8 4 2 ♣ 8 7 6 5	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 10 9 7 2 ♥ A K Q J 8 ♦ — ♣ J 9 4 3	♠ 6 5 ♥ 10 5 4 ♦ A Q J 9 7 6 5 3 ♣ —
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West	North	East	South
Ga. Giubilo	Van Oosten	Gi. Giubilo	Thorpe
—	Pass	1♥	4♦
Dble	5♦	5NT	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

On the actual layout, 6♠ goes down but 6♣ is cold. At the table, it's a different story. Two pairs were in 6♠, in fact, and both duly went down because South got a club ruff. In 6♣, the possibly losing spades would all disappear on East's hearts. Anyway, by bidding this daring but well-chosen slam, the Giubilo brothers earned themselves a clean top. The Dutch thus had to be content with another zero which, this time, was hardly their fault. Maybe, you should not pre-empt

so high because it might drive your opponents to an otherwise unreachable slam but if these were good tactics our game would lose a big part of its charm, wouldn't it?

The last round of the championship once again brought two pairs together who were very much in contention for the title. And once again, the bulletin was present, of course ☺.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ — ♥ J 7 3 2 ♦ 10 7 6 5 4 3 2 ♣ 8 6	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A Q 8 7 6 ♥ 4 ♦ A 9 ♣ A K 10 7 3	♠ 5 3 2 ♥ A Q 10 8 6 5 ♦ — ♣ J 9 4 2
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West	North	East	South
Skordas	Donati	Kritsalis	Porta
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♠	3♣	3♠
All Pass			

In a sense, Donati did well. He could not show his hearts over partner's 1♠ as dealer, though hearts might have been a better denomination. His pass over partner's 3♠ was automatic because 3♠ has not been invitational any more, for ages. Due to the 'youthful optimism cliché' game was bid at half the tables, which led to bigger penalties over there. No surprise therefore that going down just one netted a 62,5% score.

Then, another slam decision. This was the penultimate board.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K 10 8 2 ♥ A 8 ♦ J 10 8 4 2 ♣ J 9	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 5 3 ♥ K 10 7 6 5 4 2 ♦ 9 6 3 ♣ 8	♠ A 9 7 4 ♥ Q 9 3 ♦ K 5 ♣ K 6 4 2
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♠ Q J 6 ♥ J ♦ A Q 7 ♣ A Q 10 7 5 3

Championship special

The dealing machines used to duplicate the boards during the championship are sold out, but the **cards** [only] played during the championships are still available for **€80/100** decks. Not used cards are sold for €100/100 decks.

Pick up in Veldhoven, or shipped afterwards at cost. Email anna@jannersten.com to order.



West	North	East	South	West	North	East	South
Skordas	Donati	Kritsalis	Porta	Skordas	Donati	Kritsalis	Porta
Pass	1♣	2♥	3♣	–	1♦	1♠	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	2♣	Pass	2♠	All Pass
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♥				
Pass	6♣	All Pass					

The Italians soon found out that they did not have a reliable heart stopper. Right they were but slam was just a trifle too high. They were not the only ones, however, as one other pair bid the slam and two more pairs thought they had a combined heart stopper after all. This is why one down in 6♣ still brought the Italians 5 matchpoints or 31%.

Over now to the last board, the last chance to shuffle the rankings.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

On this, the final board, E/W had a typical pairs decision to make. Their preference for the better scoring major suit did not make any difference on paper. Both spades and clubs would yield +110. However, against a club contract, the defence has to be quick because, if not, their diamond tricks are running away.

That is why a club contract usually scored +150 and thus more matchpoints than the +110 for 2♠. The Greeks now got only 2 matchpoints rather than 7 for their +110 but, to their relief, these 2 MPs were just about enough to stay ahead of their Dutch rivals for the European title – and their Italian rivals who now finished 3rd as well! It's a long time since we have seen such a close three-way finish.

Well done and congratulations to all medal winners, but above all to Filippas Kritsalis and Panagiotis Skordas, our new U26 champions!

DAILY BULLETIN

We would like to make the Daily Bulletin the best that it can possibly be but, inevitably, we cannot be everywhere at once, so will miss many of your finest plays.

So, please, if you are involved in a deal which you think is worthy of a wider audience, let us know about it.

You can call into the Bulletin office, or send an email to:

bsenior@hotmail.com

You do not need to give the full deal – round number and event will do. What we do need is the names of the player(s), and the important details of the auction and play – including explanation of any calls whose meanings are not completely obvious.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Brian Senior (Bulletin Editor)