



# 18<sup>th</sup> World Youth Teams Championships

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## DAILY BULLETIN

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The 18th World Youth Team Championships are up and running. Some teams have made a great start and just want things to carry on as they are, others struggled on day one and are looking for a change of fortunes as we move forward. Thinking of those who have had a great start, the leaders in each series after day one are as follows:

### U16:

China leads on 61.42 from four matches. They are followed by USA1 on 57.61, Israel on 51.60, and Hungary with 51.29.

### U21:

Japan leads with an impressive 76.66 from four matches. England comes next on 69.51, followed by Poland, with 65.15, and USA1 with 60.03.

### U26:

Croatia leads on 82.92 from five matches, followed by Sweden on 74.97, France with 71.13, and USA1 on 69.98.

### U31:

Israel leads on 66.96 from four matches, followed by India, with 60.05, China 51.35, and Chinese Taipei with 49.85.

### U26W:

Denmark leads with 56.33 from four matches. They are followed by Netherlands on 55.71, Italy 48.97, and Poland 42.40.



# BBO MATCHES TODAY

## U26

Turkiye - China R6  
Singapore - Croatia R6

Netherlands - France R7  
China - Israel R7

Netherlands - Turkiye R8  
Poland - Sweden R8

USA1 - France R9  
China - Greece R9

USA1 - Sweden R10  
Italy - Poland R10

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## U21

USA1 - Japan R5

Japan - New Zealand R6

USA1 - France R7  
Poland - Israel R7

England - USA1 R8

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## U26W

Netherlands - France R5

Netherlands - Denmark R9  
Poland - France R9

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## U31

France - India R6  
Israel - Bulgaria R8



# U26 Round Robin, Round 1

## Singapore v Italy Sweden v Netherlands

By Jos Jacobs

For the opening round of these Youth U26 World Championships, three matches were on display for me to report on. As I have done so often before, I decided once again to try to report on all three matches, if at all possible. As the matches progressed, I had no reason to complain. China and Hong Kong, China were not really making a fight of it, China winning 64-8 in the end. A score like that does not seem to be an invitation to read a report on such a match, for the neutral observer, that is...

So I reduced myself to the other two matches. As the Netherlands are the hosts, it looks a matter of courtesy to our guests to first of all concentrate on them, so I decided to make Singapore v Italy my main match for the morning session. I would, however, have a look or two at the Sweden v. Netherlands match as well, if anything interesting would happen there.

Well, the boards were quite awake from the word go. This was the first board:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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



Open Room

| West        | North | East        | South    |
|-------------|-------|-------------|----------|
| Ga. Giubilo | Lee   | Gi. Giubilo | Yang     |
| –           | 1♠    | Pass        | 4♠       |
| Dble        | Pass  | 5♦          | All Pass |

As you can see, Italy fielded the Giubilo brothers in the Open Room. For the sake of convenience, I will refer to them as Gianmarco (East) and Gabriele (West).

In the Open Room, Gianmarco went to 5♦ over partner's double. This contract can always be made because, on a spade lead, dummy can ruff and declarer then can cash two top trumps and three hearts with the help of a successful finesse. On the 4th heart, his losing spade will disappear. The defenders just get their ♣A and a trump trick.

At the table, however, South led his club to partner's ace and immediately got a ruff – which marked the end of the defence; Italy +400.

The same happened in the Closed Room of the Sweden-Netherlands match; Sweden +400.

Back to the our main match.

Closed Room

| West | North | East     | South   |
|------|-------|----------|---------|
| Teo  | Scata | Wu       | Gaiotti |
| –    | 1♠    | Pass     | 3♦      |
| Dble | 4♠    | 5♦       | Pass    |
| Pass | Dble  | All Pass |         |

South's 3♦ showed four spades and a singleton somewhere in a GF hand. Knowing that, one might have sympathy for North's double or not but the board was clearly won by Singapore, even more so when declarer was not tested: South led his club rather than a top spade, so Singapore +550 and 4 IMPs to them.



Linus LEE

The Dutch East (in our other match) decided to sit partner's double of 4♠, but soon found out that this contract could not be beaten. Plus590 and +400 added up to 14 IMPs to Sweden on the opening board of the Championship. Would this be an omen of things to come??

On the next board, I saw the first defensive error of the event.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

| West        | North | East        | South    |
|-------------|-------|-------------|----------|
| Ga. Giubilo | Lee   | Gi. Giubilo | Yang     |
| –           | –     | Pass        | 1♣       |
| 1♠          | Pass  | 2♣          | 2♦       |
| Pass        | 3♣    | 3♠          | All Pass |

No, not in this contract. Declarer could not get back to hand to ruff his last club without giving South the chance to draw two rounds of trumps. This way, 3♠ went the normal one down; Singapore +50.

Closed Room

| West     | North | East | South   |
|----------|-------|------|---------|
| Teo      | Scata | Wu   | Gaiotti |
| –        | –     | Pass | 2♦      |
| Pass     | 3♣    | Pass | 3NT     |
| All Pass |       |      |         |

After the 18-19 balanced variation of their 2♦ opening bid, the Italians were quickly in game and West led the obvious ♠Q. East played the ♠7 to this trick. When declarer next drove out the ♣A, West won the 3rd round, East having discarded a diamond and a heart. A low spade now beats the contract but, when East tried a diamond to the king and ace instead, declarer was home for Italy +600 and 11 IMPs back to them.

On the next board, everybody overbid and then we saw the first slam of the event.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West        | North    | East        | South |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------|
| Ga. Giubilo | Lee      | Gi. Giubilo | Yang  |
| 2♣          | 2♠       | Pass        | 4♠    |
| Pass        | Pass     | Dble        | Pass  |
| 5♦          | All Pass |             |       |

For once, the Italian slam machine did not work properly. East might have acted over both 2♠ and 5♦, but any action might have been entirely mistimed. Would an immediate 5♦ rather than the forcing pass over 4♠ have solved the problem? This was Italy +620 when the diamonds broke reasonably.

In the other room, the Singaporeans showed exactly the opposite approach.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South    |
|------|-------|------|----------|
| Teo  | Scata | Wu   | Gaiotti  |
| 2♣   | 3♠    | Dble | 4♠       |
| 5♦   | Pass  | 6♦   | All Pass |

East not only acted over 3♠ but, after that, he also found the extra values for a raise to slam over partner's free 5♦ bid; Singapore a fine +1370 and 13 IMPs back to them.

In the Sweden v Netherlands match, the Dutch E/W were sort of pushed into their slam.

Open Room

| West   | North       | East       | South  |
|--------|-------------|------------|--------|
| Thorpe | Clementsson | Van Oosten | Sandin |
| 2♣     | 2♠          | Dble       | 3♠     |
| 4♦     | 4♠          | Pass       | Pass   |
| Dble   | Pass        | 5♦         | 5♠     |
| 6♦     | All Pass    |            |        |

I don't have many doubts that they would have missed the slam, had South not bid 5♠. East's slow raise (pass & pull) should show a good hand; The



Netherlands +1370.

Little could they know that they had already won the board, because at the other table we saw a Swedish hiccup.

#### Closed Room

| West | North       | East    | South   |
|------|-------------|---------|---------|
| Mann | V.d. Paverd | Hansson | Nijssen |
| 1♦   | 3♠          | Pass    | 4♠      |
| Dble | Pass        | 4NT     | Pass    |
| 5♣   | All Pass    |         |         |

East apparently showed more minors than he actually had and West fell for it. So that was one down, The Netherlands another +100 and 16 IMPs, rather than the 12 in case the slam would have been missed.

On the next board, the Singaporean West paid the price for not acting aggressively enough opposite partner's two-suiter. He was caught in an elegant endplay.

#### Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| ♠ 2        | ♠ 2        |
| ♥ 10 7 3 2 | ♥ 10 7 3 2 |
| ♦ J 10 9 5 | ♦ J 10 9 5 |
| ♣ A K 10 4 | ♣ A K 10 4 |



#### Open Room

| West        | North    | East        | South |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------|
| Ga. Giubilo | Lee      | Gi. Giubilo | Yang  |
| —           | —        | —           | Pass  |
| Pass        | 1♣       | 2♦          | 3♣    |
| 3♠          | All Pass |             |       |

North led a top trump and switched to a diamond. Dummy won the queen and declarer discarded dummy's club loser on a top diamond before attacking the hearts. When North rose with the ace and returned the suit, declarer just lost two more trump tricks and that's it; Italy +140.

The elegance I was talking about occurred at the other table.

#### Closed Room

| West     | North | East | South   |
|----------|-------|------|---------|
| Teo      | Scata | Wu   | Gaiotti |
| —        | —     | —    | Pass    |
| Pass     | 1♣    | 2♣   | Dble    |
| 2♠       | Pass  | Pass | Dble    |
| Pass     | 2NT   | Pass | 3♣      |
| All Pass |       |      |         |

East led the ♥K when partner did not bother to

Sebastiano SCATA'

Bryan YANG

compete any further in spades. Declarer won the ace and returned a heart to East's jack. When East returned his ♣J now, declarer won dummy's ace and tried a diamond. West hopped up with the king and played back a spade for declarer's ace. A spade was then ruffed in dummy and another diamond followed next. When West rose again with his remaining honour, a defensive trick was lost. What is more, on West's spade return, declarer could win the king and cash two more diamonds, on which West had to follow suit. At this point West had only trumps left so, when dummy exited with his last heart, West had to ruff and concede the last two tricks to dummy's ♣K10. That was just made, for Italy another +110 and 6 more IMPs to them.

On the next board, you might so easily miss a reasonable game if your style of raises at the two-level follows a modern approach.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West        | North    | East        | South |
|-------------|----------|-------------|-------|
| Ga. Giubilo | Lee      | Gi. Giubilo | Yang  |
| Pass        | Pass     | 1♠          | Pass  |
| 2♠          | All Pass |             |       |

Italy +170.

We saw the same auction and result in our other match when the Dutch were E/W.

In the Closed Room, both the Singaporeans and the Swedes had other ideas. The Swedes bid game all by themselves via a Drury style 2♣ response over 1♠, but the Italians helped their opponents a little into the right spot.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South    |
|------|-------|------|----------|
| Teo  | Scata | Wu   | Gaiotti  |
| Pass | 2♥    | 2♠   | Pass     |
| 3♠   | Pass  | 4♠   | All Pass |

After North's weak two, E/W could hardly miss their game. Playing along a different but equally careful line, declarer brought home his ten tricks for +420 to Singapore.

On the next board, all North players opened the bidding with a number of spades. The aggressive Swedes and Dutch both opened 3♠ and thus went down two and one for a swing of 2 IMPs to the Netherlands.

The less aggressive Singaporean North opened just 2♠ but this did not silence his partner.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

| West        | North | East        | South |
|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| Ga. Giubilo | Lee   | Gi. Giubilo | Yang  |
| –           | 2♠    | Pass        | 3NT   |
| All Pass    |       |             |       |

Well, 3NT by South is always on but, when East played low to West's low diamond lead, declarer's 9th trick was born prematurely, so to speak; Singapore +400.

Closed Room

| West | North | East     | South   |
|------|-------|----------|---------|
| Teo  | Scata | Wu       | Gaiotti |
| –    | 2♠    | All Pass |         |

Less aggression by the Italian North here as well, but when South joined in on the same wavelength, the Singaporeans had scored a plus at both tables because declarer refrained from a heart finesse. After that, the forcing defence led to an unexpected heart trick in the end for the defenders and one down; Singapore another +50 and 10 IMPs to them.

The final scores:

Singapore v Italy 42-20 or 15.99-4.01 VPs

Sweden v Netherlands 32-21 or 13.45-6.55 VPs



# U21 Round 1 – Denmark v Israel



Christian LAHRMANN

By Jos Jacobs

Denmark picked up an overtrick IMP on Board 1, but it was Israel who were to gain the first big swing, and we didn't have to wait long at all for that to come along.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

| West     | North | East     | South     |
|----------|-------|----------|-----------|
| Tylvad   | Msika | Lahrmann | Moskovitz |
| –        | –     | 2♦       | 2♥        |
| 2♠       | 3♥    | Pass     | 4♥        |
| 4♠       | 5♣    | Pass     | 5♥        |
| All Pass |       |          |           |

| West     | North    | East   | South   |
|----------|----------|--------|---------|
| Sliowicz | R-Larsen | Sabbah | Zeeberg |
| –        | –        | 2♠     | 3♥      |
| 4♠       | All Pass |        |         |

For Israel, Ofek Sabbah's natural weak two opening worked out better than Christian Lahrmann's multi at

the other table, at least in a sense.

Ido Moskovitz overcalled 2♥ over 2♦ and Daniel Tylvad competed only at the two level with the West cards. However, when his opponents bid to their vulnerable heart game, Tylvad came again with a save in 4♠. Daniel Msika took the push, introducing his long club suit, but Moskovitz went back to hearts, ending the auction.

Tylvad led the king of diamonds. Moskovitz won the ace and ruffed a diamond then led a spade up. Lahrmann won the ace and returned a spade, so Moskovitz won the king, ruffed his remaining diamond loser, then played on trumps. The fall of the queen meant that there was no loser in that suit, and a successful club finesse meant 12 tricks in all for +680.

For Denmark, Nikolaj Zeeberg overcalled the 2♠ opening with 3♥ and saw Yonataon Sliowicz jump to 4♠ on his left. That proved to be sufficient to silence North, Andreas Rolf-Larsen, and Zeeberg also felt that he had done all he could, so 4♠ became the final contract.

Zeeberg cashed two top hearts then switched to a club, Rolf-Larsen winning two of those then switching to his singleton diamond. Ace of diamonds and a diamond ruff, a club through, ruffed with the king, and a third diamond for North to ruff meant down no fewer than five for –250 and 10 IMPs to Israel.

I said that the weak two worked better only in a sense because 4♠ could have been taken for –1100. In practice, however, it was a big success.

Israel picked up another big swing on the next deal.



Daniel MSIKA

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

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

| West   | North | East    | South     |
|--------|-------|---------|-----------|
| Tylvad | Msika | Lahrman | Moskovitz |
| —      | —     | —       | Pass      |
| 1♥     | 3♦    | 3NT     | Pass      |
| 4♦     | Pass  | 4♥      | All Pass  |

| West     | North    | East   | South    |
|----------|----------|--------|----------|
| Sliowicz | R-Larsen | Sabbah | Zeeberg  |
| —        | —        | —      | Pass     |
| 1♥       | 3♦       | 3NT    | All Pass |

The two auctions began in identical fashion but then Sliowicz passed out his partner's 3NT while Tylvad took it out, bidding 4♦ in an attempt to show long hearts with secondary spades. Neither major excited Lahrman very much, but he obediently bid 4♥ and prepared to put dummy down.

Three No Trump was easy after a diamond lead and continuation, Sabbah coming to 11 tricks for +660 to Israel. Four Hearts was not so easy.

Msika led a low spade against 4♥ – jack, king – and Tylvad led the jack of diamonds towards dummy's king. Msika won the ace and returned a diamond to the king. Tylvad took a spade discard on the diamond then led a heart to the jack and queen. Back came a spade to the ten, queen and ace. Tylvad cashed the ace of hearts, dropping the queen, then played three rounds of clubs. The third round was ruffed with the six and over-ruffed, and declarer was left with a spade and a heart to lose, so was down one for –100 and 13 IMPs to Israel.

As the cards lay, Tylvad could have succeeded by taking a spade ruff after winning the king of diamonds. Now, simply playing hearts from the top holds the trump losers to two, and the contract is home.

Israel gained a more modest swing on the next deal.

## Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

| West   | North | East    | South     |
|--------|-------|---------|-----------|
| Tylvad | Msika | Lahrman | Moskovitz |
| 1♣     | Dble  | 3♣      | 3♠        |
| 5♣     | 5♠    | Dble    | All Pass  |

| West     | North    | East     | South   |
|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Sliowicz | R-Larsen | Sabbah   | Zeeberg |
| 1♣       | Dble     | Pass     | 2♠      |
| 3♣       | 4♣       | 5♣       | Pass    |
| Pass     | 5♠       | All Pass |         |

Both 1♣ openings could have been based on a minimum balanced opener with only two clubs but, when North doubled, the respective Easts made very different decisions, Lahrman jumping pre-emptively to 3♣, while Sliowicz passed.

The pre-emptive raise added considerable momentum to the auction and, when Msika bid 5♠ under pressure, Lahrman thought his hand worth a double. At the other table, the slower auction had allowed North room to make a slam try, so Rolf-Larsen was not tempted to double the same contract..

Sliowicz led a top club against 5♠ undoubled.



Ofek SABBAH





Zeeberg ruffed and drew trumps then ran the ten of diamonds. That lost, but he could win the heart return with the ace, come to hand with a trump, and take a second diamond finesse. Though that lost, he had two diamond winners on which to throw two small hearts, and that meant 11 tricks for +650.

Tylvad led the king of hearts against 5♠ doubled. That looked to be a more challenging start as the defence would be able to get their heart trick set up before declarer had established the diamonds. However, Moskovitz won the heart with the ace, came to hand with a trump, and ruffed his club loser. Next he drew the outstanding trump and ran the ten of diamonds. That lost and a heart came back to the ten and queen. But now Moskovitz simply exited with a heart and East had to win the jack and concede the contract, either by leading round to the diamond tenace or giving a ruff and discard; +850 and 5 IMPs to Israel.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

|                  |                                       |                 |                  |             |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
|                  | ♠ 10 9 5                              |                 |                  | ♠ A K 8 7 6 |
|                  | ♥ 8 7 6 4 2                           |                 |                  | ♥ K Q 9 3   |
|                  | ♦ 5                                   |                 |                  | ♦ 3         |
|                  | ♣ A Q 5 3                             |                 |                  | ♣ K 8 2     |
| ♠ J 4 3 2        | <div>W<div>N</div>E<div>S</div></div> |                 |                  |             |
| ♥ A J 10 5       |                                       |                 |                  |             |
| ♦ A 9 8          |                                       |                 |                  |             |
| ♣ J 10           |                                       |                 |                  |             |
|                  | ♠ Q                                   |                 |                  |             |
|                  | ♥ –                                   |                 |                  |             |
|                  | ♦ K Q J 10 7 6 4 2                    |                 |                  |             |
|                  | ♣ 9 7 6 4                             |                 |                  |             |
| <b>West</b>      | <b>North</b>                          | <b>East</b>     | <b>South</b>     |             |
| <i>Sliwowicz</i> | <i>R-Larsen</i>                       | <i>Sabbah</i>   | <i>Zeeberg</i>   |             |
| <i>Tylvad</i>    | <i>Msika</i>                          | <i>Lahrmann</i> | <i>Moskovitz</i> |             |
| –                | Pass                                  | 1♠              | 5♦               |             |
| 5♠               | Pass                                  | 6♠              | All Pass         |             |

Zeeberg and Moskovitz both overcalled 5♦, which bullied Sliwowicz and Tylvad into supporting spades at the five level. Both Lahrmann and Sabbah now guessed to add a sixth.

Zeeberg led the king of diamonds. Sabbah won the ace and led a spade to the ace, and the fall of the queen meant that he needed only a successful club guess to make his contract. Of course, as the cards lay there was no guess, so Sabbah soon chalked up 12 tricks and +1430.

Moskovitz knew that his opponents must be ready for a diamond lead, so instead tried a club. Msika won the ace and continued with the queen. Lahrmann won

the king and ruffed his last club then led the jack of spades off the dummy and ran it, playing for a bare nine or ten on his left.

South was known to have very long diamonds and had also shown up with some club length. Was it unreasonable, then, to play him for a singleton trump and, once that decision had been made, was a singleton nine or ten twice as likely as a bare queen? Yes, of course, this play could also go wrong when trumps were two-two, but we should have a little sympathy for Lahrmann. Had his play been the winning one, he would be getting plenty of praise for his brave line.

Anyway, –100 meant 17 IMPs to Israel, who were building up a pretty healthy lead, currently standing at 48-1.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

|               |                    |                 |               |              |  |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--|
|               |                    | ♠ A K 8 7 6 5 2 |               |              |  |
|               |                    | ♥ K 8 7 4       |               |              |  |
|               |                    | ♦ 7 4           |               |              |  |
|               |                    | ♣ –             |               |              |  |
| ♠ 9 4 3       | <div>W N E S</div> |                 |               | ♠ J          |  |
| ♥ A J 6 3     |                    |                 |               | ♥ 10 9       |  |
| ♦ A Q 6 3     |                    |                 |               | ♦ K J 10 9 2 |  |
| ♣ J 5         |                    |                 |               | ♣ A Q 9 6 3  |  |
|               |                    | ♠ Q 10          |               |              |  |
|               |                    | ♥ Q 5 2         |               |              |  |
|               |                    | ♦ 8 5           |               |              |  |
|               |                    | ♣ K 10 8 7 4 2  |               |              |  |
| <b>West</b>   | <b>North</b>       | <b>East</b>     | <b>South</b>  |              |  |
| <i>Tylvad</i> | <i>Msika</i>       | <i>Lahrmann</i> | <i>Moskov</i> |              |  |
| –             | –                  | 1♦              | Pass          |              |  |
| 1♥            | 1♠                 | 2♣              | Pass          |              |  |
| 2♠            | Dble               | 3♣              | Pass          |              |  |
| 3♦            | Pass               | 3♥              | Pass          |              |  |
| 4♦            | Pass               | 4♠              | Pass          |              |  |
| 4NT           | Pass               | 5♥              | Pass          |              |  |
| 6♦            | Dble               | All Pass        |               |              |  |

|             |              |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>West</b> | <b>North</b> | <b>East</b> | <b>South</b> |
| Sliwowicz   | R-Larsen     | Sabbah      | Zeeberg      |
| –           | –            | 1♦          | Pass         |
| 1♥          | 1♠           | 2♣          | Pass         |
| 3♦          | 3♠           | 5♦          | All Pass     |

Sabbah and Sliwowicz had a well-controlled auction to the diamond game, not being in the least discomforted by Rolf-Larsen's 1♠ then 3♠ combination.

Zeeberg led the queen of spades and continued with the ♠J, which Sabbah ruffed. He tried a low club to the jack at trick three, but Rolf-Larsen ruffed and there was still a heart to be lost, so a fairly quick down one

for – 100.

At the other table, Msika took even less bidding space away as North by overcalling 1♠ then doubling the 2♠ cuebid – actually, I guess that this actually gave his opponents extra bidding space. However, they failed to use that space wisely, and drove to a dreadful slam, which appears to require that clubs play for five tricks if it is to succeed.

Msika made a Lightner Double, and it wasn't too taxing for Moskovitz to work out that he wanted a club. Moskovitz led a thoughtful ten of clubs as a suit-preference signal for spades, and had Msika followed it and underled at trick two the contract could have been down three, but Msika, probably wisely, settled for a safe spade cash at trick two and the later heart trick meant down two for –500 and a further 9 IMPs to Israel, leading now by 57-1.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

|  |              |   |                  |   |  |
|--|--------------|---|------------------|---|--|
|  |              | <p>♠ 8 7<br/>♥ A 9<br/>♦ A K 7 6<br/>♣ A 10 9 4 3</p> |                  |   |  |
| <p>♠ J 3 2<br/>♥ K Q J 5<br/>♦ Q 9<br/>♣ Q J 8 2</p>   |              |   |                  | <p>♠ A K Q 9 4<br/>♥ 8 2<br/>♦ J 10 8 4 2<br/>♣ 7</p> |  |
| <p>♠ 10 6 5<br/>♥ 10 7 6 4 3<br/>♦ 5 3<br/>♣ K 6 5</p> |              |   |                  |   |  |
| <b>West</b>  | <b>North</b> | <b>East</b>   | <b>South</b>     |   |  |
| <i>Tylvad</i>  | <i>Msika</i> | <i>Lahrman</i>  | <i>Moskovitz</i> |   |  |
| –  | –            | –   | Pass             |   |  |
| 1NT  | Dble         | 2♠  | Pass             |   |  |
| Pass   | Dble         | Rdbl  | 3♥               |   |  |
| Dble   | All Pass     |   |                  |   |  |

|                |                 |               |                |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>West</b>    | <b>North</b>    | <b>East</b>   | <b>South</b>   |
| <i>Sliwicz</i> | <i>R-Larsen</i> | <i>Sabbah</i> | <i>Zeeberg</i> |
| –              | –               | –             | Pass           |
| 1NT            | Dble            | 2♠            | All Pass       |

Both tables saw West open 1NT (10-13), North double, and East run to 2♠. At one table that ended the auction and Sabbah came to 10 tricks for +170. At the other, Msika doubled a second time and Lahrman redoubled to show a good hand in context of his previous bid. When Moskovitz now ran to 3♥, Tylvad could double, and that ended the auction.

Tylvad led the two of spades, Lahrman winning the king and switching to a heart for the jack and

ace. Moskovitz led a club to the king then back to the ace, but Lahrman ruffed and returned a low diamond to the nine and ace. Moskovitz led a spade off the dummy, so Lahrman went in with the ace and played a second diamond to the nine and king. A low diamond was covered by the ten, and both Lahrman and Moskovitz discarded clubs. The next diamond was ruffed with the ten and over-ruffed, and Tylvad cashed the king of hearts and jack of spades, for down three and –500, and finally 8 IMPs to Denmark.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

|   |              |   |                  |   |  |
|---|--------------|---|------------------|---|--|
|   |              | <p>♠ J 8 7 6 2<br/>♥ A 6<br/>♦ J 10 9 6 3<br/>♣ 9</p> |                  |   |  |
| <p>♠ A 10<br/>♥ Q 7 5 2<br/>♦ Q 7 4 2<br/>♣ A J 4</p> |              |   |                  | <p>♠ 9 5<br/>♥ 10 9 8 4t<br/>♦ K 8<br/>♣ K 10 7 3 2</p> |  |
|   |              | <p>♠ K Q 4 3<br/>♥ K J 3<br/>♦ A 5<br/>♣ Q 8 6 5</p>  |                  |   |  |
| <b>West</b>   | <b>North</b> | <b>East</b>   | <b>South</b>     |   |  |
| <i>Tylvad</i>   | <i>Msika</i> | <i>Lahrman</i>  | <i>Moskovitz</i> |   |  |
| 1NT   | Pass         | 2♦  | Pass             |   |  |
| 3♥  | All Pass     |   |                  |   |  |

|                |                 |               |                |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>West</b>    | <b>North</b>    | <b>East</b>   | <b>South</b>   |
| <i>Sliwicz</i> | <i>R-Larsen</i> | <i>Sabbah</i> | <i>Zeeberg</i> |
| 1NT            | Pass            | Pass          | Dble           |
| Pass           | Pass            | 2♣            | Pass           |
| Pass           | 2♠              | Pass          | 3♠             |
| Pass           | 4♠              | All Pass      |                |

Again, both Wests could open a 10-13 NT. When that reached Zeeberg he doubled and, when that came round to Sabbah, he ran to 2♣. Rolf-Larsen competed with 2♠, then accepted his partner's game invitation. After the lead of the ten of hearts, there was no problem in coming to 10 tricks for +620.

Lahrman decided to play in hearts rather than NT, despite holding only four weak hearts. On this layout, that was a great decision, because Tylvad broke the transfer, and this combination shut out both opponents. After a singleton club lead, Tylvad was down two for –100, but that meant 11 IMPs to Denmark.

Despite their late recovery, Denmark were well beaten by 57-21 IMP, giving Israel a 17.91-2.09 VP win, a great start to the tournament for them.



# Nice Duck

By Brian Senior

Anders Brogeland of the Norwegian U21 team found a neat ducking play which was overlooked by his counterpart at the other table.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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



## Championship special

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| West | North    | East | South     |
|------|----------|------|-----------|
|      | Saetre   |      | Brogeland |
| –    | –        | 1♦   | 1♥        |
| 1♠   | Pass     | 2♦   | Pass      |
| 3NT  | All Pass |      |           |

At the other table there was no 1♥ overcall, but North led the three of hearts anyway, West having bid spades then clubs before admitting to a heart stopper. South won the ace at trick one and continued with a low heart to declarer's ace. It would not have been clear to declarer, Christian Johnsen, who had the heart length, only that they might be five-two, if the defensive carding to these two tricks was to be believed. However, declarer picked up the diamonds successfully, leading low to the ace then back to the king, and came to 10 tricks for +430.

Magnus Saetre also led the three of hearts, but Brogeland followed with an encouraging four, playing for the heart layout to be exactly as it was. Not only did this keep defensive communications open, but it also seems to have convinced declarer that it was North who held the heart length. That being the case, South rated to have the diamond length, so he won the ten of hearts, led a diamond to the ace, and back to the jack, losing to the doubleton queen. Saetre duly led his remaining heart, and Brogeland cashed four of those for, apparently, down two for –100 and 11 IMPs to Norway. Don't ask me where the second undertrick comes from.

Anders BROGELAND



# U26 Round Robin, Round 2

## France v Croatia China v Australia

By Jos Jacobs

For Round 2 in the U26, just two matches were on display so I had an easy choice: the two of them should make a good couple to report on. Already on the first board, there was a problem in both matches.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

### France v Croatia:

Open Room

| West           | North            | East          | South         |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Bilusic</i> | <i>Guillemin</i> | <i>Evacic</i> | <i>Boulin</i> |
| –              | Pass             | Pass          | 1♣            |
| 1♠             | Dble             | Rdbl          | 3NT           |
| All Pass       |                  |               |               |

The normal contract and a very good lead by West: his 'secret suit,' diamonds. Declarer won the 3rd round in dummy and what now? Even a correct guess in hearts would not bring the 9th trick, assuming the ♠K is with the overcaller. So declarer went for a possible swindle: a heart to the king. If this would hold the trick, there might be a defensive error later on... At the table, this happened to be a pretty safe route to down two; Croatia +200.

At the other table, South opened a very maximum 1NT.

Closed Room

| West           | North          | East          | South           |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Fragola</i> | <i>Ferenca</i> | <i>Tabata</i> | <i>Leskovar</i> |
| –              | Pass           | Pass          | 1NT             |
| All Pass       |                |               |                 |

West had no reason for any action but to pass and to lead a spade when North and East also passed. Declarer crossed to the ♣K and guessed correctly in hearts next to end up with ten tricks; Croatia +180 and 9 IMPs to open their account.

In the China v Australia match, both sides reached 3NT. For China, North launched an invitational bid after partner's opening bid of 1NT. At the other table, the Chinese West overcalled 1♠ over 1♣ and thus presented the Australian declarer with the same problem as his French counterpart in the other match. Needless to say that the Chinese made 3NT with an overtrick for +630 on a spade lead and that the Australian declarer went down in mainly the same way as the French South player. China thus got 12 IMPs.

On the next board, the effects of pre-empting in a minor while holding a four-card major as a side suit came to light.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West           | North            | East          | South         |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Bilusic</i> | <i>Guillemin</i> | <i>Evacic</i> | <i>Boulin</i> |
| –              | –                | 3♦            | Pass          |
| Pass           | 3NT              | All Pass      |               |

In 4th seat, 3NT over a pre-empt would show 12-18 HCP with or without a stopper. This principle is also well-known in France and this time it also worked reasonably well. 3NT went down three on a diamond lead for +150 to Croatia but, for them, 4♥ was on. Would the French E/W bid it?



## Closed Room

| West           | North          | East          | South           |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Fragola</i> | <i>Ferenca</i> | <i>Tabata</i> | <i>Leskovar</i> |
| –              | –              | 2♦            | Pass            |
| 2NT            | 3♣             | Dble          | 4♣              |
| Pass           | Pass           | 4♥            | All Pass        |

Yes, they did! The natural weak two worked very well for the French. East showed a side suit with his double of 3♣ and bid his suit at the second attempt opposite a logical forcing pass. Well done, and one overtrick after finding North with the ♥Ax; France +450 and 7 IMPs back to them.

Two boards later, we were in the slam zone again.

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

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

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

## Open Room

| West           | North            | East          | South         |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Bilusic</i> | <i>Guillemin</i> | <i>Evacic</i> | <i>Boulin</i> |
| 2♣             | Pass             | 2♥            | Pass          |
| 2NT            | Pass             | 3♣            | Pass          |
| 3♦             | Pass             | 3NT           | All Pass      |

West showed his 23-24 balanced hand and via Puppet the Croatians ended up in a very safe spot. On a spade lead from North and a spade return by South after winning his ace, 12 tricks were made, so Croatia +690.

## Closed Room

| West           | North          | East          | South           |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Fragola</i> | <i>Ferenca</i> | <i>Tabata</i> | <i>Leskovar</i> |
| 2♣             | Pass           | 2♦            | Pass            |
| 2NT            | Pass           | 3♣            | Pass            |
| 3♦             | Pass           | 5NT           | Pass            |
| 6♣             | Pass           | 6NT           | All Pass        |

The same basic approach as at the other table but, with 5NT, East was looking for a minor-suit slam. Had he taken into account that West might have held 4-4 in the minors, the French would have ended up in a

makable slam, even more so because the ♠K is well placed for them. As it was, one down brought the Croatians another +100 and 13 IMPs.

A few boards later, the French were too aggressive at one table but the Croatians were just plainly unlucky at the other.

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

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

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

## Open Room

| West           | North            | East          | South         |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Bilusic</i> | <i>Guillemin</i> | <i>Evacic</i> | <i>Boulin</i> |
| –              | –                | –             | 1♣            |
| Dble           | 1♠               | 4♥            | Pass          |
| Pass           | Dble             | Pass          | 4♠            |
| Dble           | All Pass         |               |               |

To me, South's 4♠ looks a bit too much...Down three, Croatia +500.



Emanuel EVACIC

In the replay, South's second top diamond did not survive:

| West           | North            | East          | South         |
|----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Bilusic</i> | <i>Guillemin</i> | <i>Evacic</i> | <i>Boulin</i> |
| —              | —                | Pass          | Pass          |
| 4♠             | Dble             | All Pass      |               |

Closed Room

In the other room, the French E/W bid their hands in style, 2♥ showing a spade raise. This approach avoided all problems and they thus scored a regular +650 for another 8-IMP loss.

France v Croatia 12-43 or 2.44-17.56 V.P.  
China v Australia 29-6 or 16.18-3.82 V.P.

| <b>West</b>    | <b>North</b>   | <b>East</b>   | <b>South</b>    |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Fragola</i> | <i>Ferenca</i> | <i>Tabata</i> | <i>Leskovar</i> |
| –              | –              | –             | 1NT             |
| Pass           | 2♣             | Dble          | Rdbl            |
| All Pass       |                |               |                 |

On Board 20, China chalked up a vulnerable game swing when the Australian defender did not find an underlead away from an ace to obtain a crucial ruff.

This was the ante-penultimate board:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

4

Result: 2. round - 14. board  
Waiting for partner to accept

FRANCE FFB

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Theo GUILLEMIN

Theo GUILLEMIN




# U21 Round Robin, Round 3

## Norway v USA2

**By Brian Senior**

Thirteenth-placed Norway faced off against eighth-placed USA2 in the third round of day one of the U21 qualifying round robin. The action started immediately.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

| West             | North       | East          | South      |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| <i>Brogeland</i> | <i>Xiao</i> | <i>Saetre</i> | <i>Yue</i> |
| –                | Pass        | 1♦            | Pass       |
| 1♠               | Pass        | 2♣            | Pass       |
| 2♥               | Dble        | 3♥            | Pass       |
| 4♣               | Pass        | 5♣            | All Pass   |

| West        | North            | East        | South         |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| <i>Haas</i> | <i>Heiberg-E</i> | <i>Pahk</i> | <i>Austad</i> |
| –           | 1♥               | Pass        | 2♠            |
| Dble        | 2NT              | Pass        | 3♦            |
| Pass        | 3♥               | Pass        | 4♥            |
| All Pass    |                  |             |               |


With the exception of one double at each table, Norway had the auctions to themselves, freely bidding to game at both tables. Winning the two auctions was the good news, the bad was that neither contract was successful.

Against 4♥, Samuel Pahk led his singleton spade, Michael Haas winning the king and switching to a club when Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad dropped the queen. Pahk won the ♣J and returned a low club to the queen and ruff. Heiberg-Evenstad cashed the ace of diamonds then played ace, queen, and a third heart to the king, followed by a low spade off the table. Haas put in the nine and returned a club, taking declarer's last trump. Heiberg-Evenstad played a spade now, establishing a winner in dummy, but had also to

concede a club, so was down two for –100.

Jonathan Yue led a heart against 5♣, Rory Xiao winning the ace and switching to his trump. Magnus Saetre won the ace, ruffed a heart, and led a diamond to his king, losing to the bare ace. He won the club return with the queen and led the eight of diamonds, losing to the ten. Xiao cashed the queen of diamonds and could have promoted a trump for his partner by playing a fourth round. However, in practice he switched to a spade, and Saetre could claim the rest; also down two for –100, so 5 IMPs to USA2.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

| West             | North       | East          | South      |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| <i>Brogeland</i> | <i>Xiao</i> | <i>Saetre</i> | <i>Yue</i> |
| –                | –           | 1♦            | 1♥         |
| Pass             | Pass        | Dble          | All Pass   |

| West        | North            | East        | South         |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| <i>Haas</i> | <i>Heiberg-E</i> | <i>Pahk</i> | <i>Austad</i> |
| –           | –                | 1♦          | 1♥            |
| 1NT         | Pass             | 2♣          | 2♥            |
| All Pass    |                  |             |               |

Both Easts opened 1♦ and both Souths overcalled 1♥. Haas now bid 1NT and left Marius Austad to play in 2♥ undoubled. Anders Brogeland, looked for a penalty from his vulnerable opponents, passing over 1♥ and passing again when Saetre reopened with a double.

Haas led his singleton diamond and Pahk, rather surprisingly, played low, permitting declarer's bare king to score. As we will see shortly, this did not actually cost a trick. Austad led a low heart at trick two, Pahk winning the bare ace and returning a low spade. Austad won that with the king and led a second

low heart, losing to the eight on his left. He won the club return and cashed two more top clubs, then led a spade to the ace followed by a diamond, ruffing low and being over-ruffed. Haas could cash the queen of spades then get out with a club, so came to the king and jack of hearts at the end for down one and -100.

Brogeland too led the singleton diamond, but Sætre won the ace then switched to a low spade. Yue won that in dummy and played the jack of diamonds, ruffing out the queen and being over-ruffed. Brogeland returned the queen of spades. Yue won the ♠K and cashed the ace and king of clubs then ruffed his ♣Q in dummy to play a winning diamond for a spade discard – there would not have been a winning diamond at this point had East ducked at trick one as at the other table. That was ruffed on his left, but he could not be prevented from coming to two trump tricks in the ending, so the contract was just made for +160 and 6 IMPs to USA2.

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

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

| West      | North | East     | South |
|-----------|-------|----------|-------|
| Brogeland | Xiao  | Sætre    | Yue   |
| –         | –     | –        | 2♣    |
| 2♦        | Dble  | 2♥       | 3♠    |
| 4♦        | 4♠    | All Pass |       |

| West     | North     | East | South  |
|----------|-----------|------|--------|
| Haas     | Heiberg-E | Pahk | Austad |
| –        | –         | –    | 1♠     |
| 3♦       | 4♦        | Pass | 4♥     |
| Pass     | 5♦        | Pass | 5♥     |
| Pass     | 5♠        | Pass | 6♠     |
| All Pass |           |      |        |

Yue opened a Precision 2♣ then jumped to 3♠ at his next turn to show at least six-five, and Xiao was happy to settle for game. There were just two aces to be lost, so Yue soon chalked up +450.

Austad opened 1♠ and Heiberg-Evenstad showed a hand too good for a simple 4♠. An exchange of

red-suit cuebids saw Heiberg-Evenstad sign off in 5♠ but Austad guess to go on to slam. Two aces meant two defensive winners, and that meant down one for -50 and 11 IMPs to USA2.

Board 4 saw the Norwegian N/S pair get too high on a partscore board to concede -200 while their team-mates were conceding -110, for another 7 IMPs to USA2, who had scored 29 unanswered IMPs in four boards.

Norway stopped the bleeding, with two flat boards. First for 4♠-1 against 3♠-1. then Board 6 was flat in 1NT just making by East at both tables.

### Board 7 Dealer South. All Vul.

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

| West      | North | East  | South    |
|-----------|-------|-------|----------|
| Brogeland | Xiao  | Sætre | Yue      |
| –         | –     | –     | 2♣       |
| Dble      | Pass  | 3♠    | All Pass |

| West | North     | East | South    |
|------|-----------|------|----------|
| Haas | Heiberg-E | Pahk | Austad   |
| –    | –         | –    | 1♣       |
| Dble | Pass      | 2♣   | Dble     |
| Pass | Pass      | 4♠   | All Pass |



Magnus SÆTRE



Yue again opened a Precision 2♣. Brogeland doubled for take-out and Saetre jumped to 3♠ but Brogeland did not go on to game.

Yue led ace and another club, Saetre winning and running the jack of spade. Xiao won the king and returned a spade, so Saetre won in hand and led a diamond, ducking Yue's eight and seeing Xiao overtake to play a diamond back. Saetre could in that, draw trumps, and cash out his nine tricks for +140.

Austad opened at the one level and Haas made a take-out double, to which Pahk responded with a cuebid. When Austad doubled that and Haas left it round to him, Pahk jumped to 4♠, which looks to be what the hand is worth facing a take-out double.

Again, the defence started with two rounds of clubs, declarer ruffing. Pahk took the trump finesse but Heiberg-Evenstad ducked, so he repeated the finesse. Now Heiberg-Evenstad went into a long huddle before winning and playing back a third trump. Pahk won that and played three rounds of diamonds. Austad won the third diamond and was endplayed, forced to either open up hearts or give a ruff and discard. The latter would for sure be fatal, so Austad opted to open up the heart suit, but he did so by leading the jack, and Pahk got it wrong, calling for dummy's king. He cashed the ace of spades, then ran the ten of hearts to Austad's queen, and Austad had a club to cash for down two and -200 and 8 IMPs to Norway.

Pahk might have got the hearts right, of course, but this is a standard position where the defender has to lead an honour both from queen-jack, and also from Hxx(x) to give declarer a guess. But he need not have been given the opportunity to get it right. North can see what is about to happen, and can ruff his partner's diamond winner to play a heart, and now the defence must come to a heart as the setting trick. Sure, this will pick up South's queen if that is all he has, but then there was no defence anyway.

Did anyway in one of the other matches reach the same ending and find this defence?

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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



| West      | North | East   | South |
|-----------|-------|--------|-------|
| Brogeland | Xiao  | Saetre | Yue   |
| —         | —     | —      | 2NT   |
| Pass      | 3♠    | Pass   | 3NT   |
| Pass      | 4♦    | Pass   | 4NT   |

| West | North     | East     | South  |
|------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Haas | Heiberg-E | Pahk     | Austad |
| —    | —         | —        | 2NT    |
| Pass | 4♥        | Pass     | 4NT    |
| Pass | 6♣        | All Pass |        |

Austad opened 2NT and Heiberg-Evenstad jumped to 4♥, showing clubs. Four No Trump said that Austad wasn't interested but, with an ace and two kings and a good six-card suit, Evenstad-Heiberg now jumped to the small slam in his long suit. Austad had all the top tricks required, so there was just a club to be lost; +920.

Yue also opened 2NT. Three Spades was a minor-suit slam try and, presumably, 4♦ showed long clubs. That would be consistent with a 4NT sign-off, but really I'm guessing so, if you are desperate to know what the auction meant, best ask Rory or Jonathan. The bottom line is that they too reached the club slam, so the board was flat at +920.



Brent XIAO

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

|             |  |             |
|-------------|--|-------------|
| ♠ Q 10      | ♠ 2  | ♠ 9 8 5 4   |
| ♥ A 9       | ♥ K 5 3  | ♥ Q 7 6 4 2 |
| ♦ K 9 7 3 2 | ♦ Q J 8  | ♦ 10 6      |
| ♣ 10 8 7 2  | ♣ A K J 9 4 3  | ♣ 6 5       |
|             | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N<br/>W E<br/>S </div> |             |
|             | ♠ A K J 7 6 3  |             |
|             | ♥ J 10 8   |             |
|             | ♦ A 5 4  |             |
|             | ♣ Q  |             |

| West      | North | East   | South |
|-----------|-------|--------|-------|
| Brogeland | Xiao  | Saetre | Yue   |
| Pass      | 2♣    | Pass   | 3♥    |
| Pass      | 3♠    | Pass   | 4♠    |
| All Pass  |       |        |       |

| West     | North     | East | South  |
|----------|-----------|------|--------|
| Haas     | Heiberg-E | Pahk | Austad |
| Pass     | 1♣        | Pass | 1♥     |
| Pass     | 2♣        | Pass | 4♠     |
| All Pass |           |      |        |

Xiao opened a Precision 2♣, Yue responded with a jump to 3♥, transfer to spades, then raised the completion to game. Saetre led the five of spades. Xiao put in the jack, losing to the doubleton queen. Brogeland won the spade and switched to ace and another heart. Xiao won the king and crossed to the ace of diamonds to cash the top spades. Finding himself with a second spade loser, he led the queen of clubs and overtook it. However, when he played off the king and jack of clubs he found that he had only two discards for his side-suit losers, so was down one for -100.

Heiberg-Ebenstad opened 1♣ then rebid the suit over the transfer response, and Austad just jumped to 4♠. Haas led a club at the other table. Austad won the queen and cashed the ace and king of spades. When the queen appeared, he also cashed the jack, then led a low diamond towards the queen-jack. Haas won the king of diamonds and cashed the ace of hearts, after which there was just the nine of spades to come; just made for 620 and 12 IMPs to Norway.



## Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

|                |  |              |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| ♠ J 10 9 7 5 2 | ♠ A Q 6  | ♠ 8 4 3      |
| ♥ J 3          | ♥ Q 7 4  | ♥ 10 9 8 6 5 |
| ♦ 9 6          | ♦ A 8 4 3  | ♦ J 10 5     |
| ♣ K 10 7       | ♣ A 9 8  | ♣ J 2        |
|                | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N<br/>W E<br/>S </div> |              |
|                | ♠ K  |              |
|                | ♥ A K 2  |              |
|                | ♦ K Q 7 2  |              |
|                | ♣ Q 6 5 4 3  |              |

| West      | North | East     | South |
|-----------|-------|----------|-------|
| Brogeland | Xiao  | Saetre   | Yue   |
| –         | 1NT   | Pass     | 3♣    |
| Pass      | 3♦    | Pass     | 4NT   |
| Pass      | 6NT   | All Pass |       |

| West     | North     | East | South  |
|----------|-----------|------|--------|
| Haas     | Heiberg-E | Pahk | Austad |
| –        | 1NT       | Pass | 2♣     |
| Pass     | 2♦        | Pass | 3♣     |
| Pass     | 3NT       | Pass | 4♣     |
| Pass     | 4♦        | Pass | 4NT    |
| Pass     | 5♦        | Pass | 6♣     |
| All Pass |           |      |        |

Beyond the fact that 1NT was strong and 2♣ Stayman, I would be guessing to try to explain the Norwegian auction. Suffice it to say that they reached a slam which can be made double dummy, but would not normally be made at single dummy. Haas led a spade, which was won by the bare king, and Austad played a low club on which, inexplicably, Haas played the ten. Clubs could now be played for one loser, and that meant 12 tricks for +1370.

To make 12 tricks double dummy declarer must go for the intra-finesse – lead the eight of clubs off the dummy and run it, then lead the queen to pin the jack and establish the nine for the twelfth trick.

The Americans got to 6NT. With less pressure to play clubs immediately, was there any prospect that Xiao might find the winning club play for his contract? The lead was the ten of hearts. Xiao won the ace of hearts and cashed all four diamonds before taking stock. There was no real clue to suggest playing the clubs in non-standard fashion, so he played ace and another, and so was down one for -100, and another 16 IMPs to Norway.

Having conceded the first 29 IMPs in the match, Norway had come back to win by 36-29 IMPs, converting to 12.16-7.84 VPs.



# U26 Round Robin, Round 3

## USA 2 v Argentina Netherlands v Israel

By Jos Jacobs

For once, the boards were more quiet than we have been enjoying here during the last few days. We had to wait till the closing boards of the session before anything worth reporting happened. There was one exception, though this belonged primarily to the accidents group

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West             | North      | East         | South         |
|------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| <i>Semberoiz</i> | <i>Lin</i> | <i>Nunez</i> | <i>Duffie</i> |
| Pass             | Pass       | Pass         | 1♥            |
| Pass             | 1♠         | Pass         | 3♦            |
| Pass             | 3♠         | Pass         | 4♠            |
| All Pass         |            |              |               |

A fully normal 4♠ for the Americans, for a straightforward +620.

Closed Room

| West        | North                 | East        | South         |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|
| <i>Xiao</i> | <i>Etchepareborda</i> | <i>Jeng</i> | <i>Guerra</i> |
| 1♦          | 1♠                    | Pass        | 2♥            |
| Pass        | 2♠                    | Pass        | 3♣            |
| All Pass    |                       |             |               |

Had West not opened 1♦, then 3♣ would certainly have been forcing to everybody's ears. The unlucky contract went down two for another +200 and 13 IMPs to USA2. We would have to wait till the final board to get the scoreboard really moving again in this match.

Which means that we have ample time to have a look next door. The Netherlands and Israel were playing each other and, not surprisingly, not very much was happening in that match either. The score had reached 13-8 to the hosts when this board came up.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

| West             | North              | East          | South          |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Khutorsky</i> | <i>V.d. Paverd</i> | <i>Zeitak</i> | <i>Nijssen</i> |
| –                | –                  | Pass          | 1NT            |
| Pass             | 3NT                | All Pass      |                |

Against this unrevealing auction West led a normal enough heart. Declarer won the king and immediately played a club towards dummy's king. When East took the ace and continued the ♠K, the contract was one down very quickly; Israel +100.

Closed Room

| West          | North         | East              | South            |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Thorpe</i> | <i>Baniri</i> | <i>Van Oosten</i> | <i>Loonstein</i> |
| –             | –             | Pass              | 1NT              |
| Pass          | 3♣            | Pass              | 3♦               |
| Pass          | 3NT           | All Pass          |                  |

Against basically the same auction (Puppet included) West led mainly the same heart, the two. Here however, declarer called for dummy's queen and continued a club through East's ace. When this little ruse came off, he had his nine tricks. Nicely played for another +600 and 12 IMPs to Israel.

On the next board in this same match, it was all

about aggression once again.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West             | North              | East          | South          |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Khutorsky</i> | <i>V.d. Pavard</i> | <i>Zeitak</i> | <i>Nijssen</i> |
| –                | –                  | –             | 1♦             |
| 1♥               | 3♦                 | Pass          | Pass           |
| Dble             | Pass               | 4♠            | All Pass       |

In spite of East's pass over 3♦, West gave it one more try and got a rich reward when partner not only bid 4♠ straight away but also made it easily enough with an overtrick for Israel +450. The lead of the ♣K only prevented the second overtrick.

In the replay, East also passed the 3♦ overcall.

Closed Room

| West          | North         | East              | South            |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Thorpe</i> | <i>Baniri</i> | <i>Van Oosten</i> | <i>Loonstein</i> |
| –             | –             | –                 | 1♦               |
| 1♥            | 3♦            | All Pass          |                  |

And so did everybody else. One down, for +50 to the Netherlands but 9 more IMPs to Israel.

On the final board, the Dutch recouped some IMPs when the Israeli declarer misguessed the trumps.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

| West             | North              | East          | South          |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>Khutorsky</i> | <i>V.d. Pavard</i> | <i>Zeitak</i> | <i>Nijssen</i> |
| 1♦               | Dble               | 2♦            | 4♥             |
| 5♦               | Dble               | All Pass      |                |

After the ♥A lead and a spade shift, declarer won his king and immediately led a trump to dummy's king. That was down two for +300 to the Netherlands.

Closed Room

| West          | North         | East              | South            |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Thorpe</i> | <i>Baniri</i> | <i>Van Oosten</i> | <i>Loonstein</i> |
| 1♦            | Dble          | 3♦                | 4♥               |
| 5♦            | Dble          | All Pass          |                  |

After the lead of ♥A and another, Thorpe ruffed, cashed the ♦A and led a trump to dummy's jack. When this won the trick, he was only one down for just –100, a gain of 5 IMPs to the Dutch.

In our other match, more was at stake.

Open Room

| West             | North      | East         | South         |
|------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| <i>Semboeriz</i> | <i>Lin</i> | <i>Nunez</i> | <i>Duffie</i> |
| Pass             | 1♦         | Pass         | 1♥            |
| Pass             | 2♥         | Pass         | 3♥            |
| Pass             | 4♥         | All Pass     |               |

When West did not judge his hand worth an opening bid, North was quick to steal his opponents' suit by opening a systemic 1♦. Try to find the diamond sacrifice as E/W from there! West might have saved the day by leading the ♠K and another, but this would certainly have been near to clairvoyance. There were ten tricks for declarer after a club lead; USA 2 +620.

Closed Room

| West        | North                 | East        | South         |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|
| <i>Xiao</i> | <i>Etchepareborda</i> | <i>Jeng</i> | <i>Guerra</i> |
| 1♦          | Pass                  | 1NT         | 2♥            |
| 3♦          | 4♥                    | 5♦          | Pass          |
| Pass        | Dble                  | All Pass    |               |

In the other room, West duly found an opening bid, so the phantom sacrifice was duly taken. After a heart lead and continuation, declarer correctly guessed the trump suit and thus was only one down; +100 to Argentina but another +11 IMPs to USA2.

The final scores in our two matches:

USA 2 v Argentina 29-11 or 15.15-4.85 V.P.

Netherlands v Israel 18-29 or 6.55-13.45 V.P.



**U26 RANKING**

|    |                 |       |
|----|-----------------|-------|
| 1  | CROATIA         | 82.92 |
| 2  | SWEDEN          | 74.97 |
| 3  | FRANCE          | 71.13 |
| 4  | USA1            | 69.98 |
| 5  | SINGAPORE       | 66.75 |
| 6  | NETHERLANDS     | 63.93 |
| 7  | TURKIYE         | 63.15 |
| 8  | CHINA           | 61.77 |
| 9  | ISRAEL          | 58.53 |
| 10 | AUSTRALIA       | 54.95 |
| 11 | USA2            | 53.40 |
| 12 | GREECE          | 48.49 |
| 13 | JAPAN           | 47.56 |
| 14 | ENGLAND         | 46.46 |
| 15 | ARGENTINA       | 46.11 |
| 16 | POLAND          | 44.00 |
| 17 | GERMANY         | 41.75 |
| 18 | CHINESE TAIPEI  | 39.39 |
| 19 | ITALY           | 35.15 |
| 20 | HONG KONG CHINA | 34.20 |
| 21 | CANADA          | 33.52 |
| 22 | ESTONIA         | 29.10 |
| 23 | INDIA           | 28.57 |
| 24 | BARBADOS        | 3.72  |

**U16 RANKING**

|    |                 |       |
|----|-----------------|-------|
| 1  | CHINA           | 61.42 |
| 2  | USA1            | 57.61 |
| 3  | ISRAEL          | 51.60 |
| 4  | HUNGARY         | 51.29 |
| 5  | ESTONIA         | 46.44 |
| 6  | POLAND          | 45.67 |
| 7  | CANADA          | 44.78 |
| 8  | THAILAND        | 43.59 |
| 9  | CHINESE TAIPEI  | 42.44 |
| 10 | TURKIYE         | 40.41 |
| 11 | FRANCE          | 40.36 |
| 12 | ENGLAND         | 39.48 |
| 13 | NORWAY          | 36.48 |
| 14 | GREECE          | 33.70 |
| 15 | INDIA           | 33.69 |
| 16 | USA2            | 31.44 |
| 17 | HONG KONG CHINA | 31.28 |
| 18 | CZECH REPUBLIC  | 27.80 |
| 19 | NETHERLANDS     | 20.93 |
| 20 | DENMARK         | 17.59 |

**WOMEN U26 RANKING**

|    |             |       |
|----|-------------|-------|
| 1  | DENMARK     | 56.33 |
| 2  | NETHERLANDS | 55.71 |
| 3  | ITALY       | 48.97 |
| 4  | CHINA       | 39.52 |
| 5  | POLAND      | 41.85 |
| 6  | NORWAY      | 40.60 |
| 7  | USA1        | 37.65 |
| 8  | FRANCE      | 37.16 |
| 9  | HUNGARY     | 36.18 |
| 10 | USA2        | 31.00 |
| 11 | ENGLAND     | 28.46 |
| 12 | THAILAND    | 26.57 |

**U21 RANKING**

|    |                 |       |
|----|-----------------|-------|
| 1  | JAPAN           | 76.66 |
| 2  | ENGLAND         | 69.59 |
| 3  | POLAND          | 65.15 |
| 4  | USA1            | 60.03 |
| 5  | ISRAEL          | 59.27 |
| 6  | FRANCE          | 52.74 |
| 7  | HONG KONG CHINA | 43.81 |
| 8  | CANADA          | 38.71 |
| 9  | USA2            | 36.06 |
| 10 | DENMARK         | 35.25 |
| 11 | NEW ZEALAND     | 34.07 |
| 12 | NORWAY          | 34.02 |
| 13 | SINGAPORE       | 27.86 |
| 14 | AUSTRALIA       | 27.66 |
| 15 | INDIA           | 27.44 |
| 16 | NETHERLANDS     | 25.71 |
| 17 | GERMANY         | 25.57 |
| 18 | HUNGARY         | 24.19 |
| 19 | CHINA           | 24.08 |
| 20 | IRELAND         | 11.13 |

**U31 RANKING**

|    |                 |       |
|----|-----------------|-------|
| 1  | ISRAEL          | 66.97 |
| 2  | INDIA           | 60.05 |
| 3  | CHINA           | 51.35 |
| 4  | CHINESE TAIPEI  | 49.85 |
| 5  | BULGARIA        | 45.35 |
| 6  | FRANCE          | 44.08 |
| 7  | POLAND          | 41.68 |
| 8  | BELGIUM         | 41.48 |
| 9  | HONG KONG CHINA | 40.99 |
| 10 | NETHERLANDS     | 40.86 |
| 11 | SINGAPORE       | 37.47 |
| 12 | CROATIA         | 37.45 |
| 13 | USA1            | 36.34 |
| 14 | TURKIYE         | 34.76 |
| 15 | SCOTLAND        | 34.44 |
| 16 | ROMANIA         | 34.27 |
| 17 | GERMANY         | 31.48 |
| 18 | SERBIA          | 23.52 |
| 19 | SLOVENIA        | 20.23 |
| 20 | LATVIA          | 14.88 |