

Opatija, 22 August 2011

Bulletin nr. 1

Dobro došli u Opatiju



Mr. Mayor Ivo Dujmić, Mr. President Zlatko Komadina, Mr. President Jurica Carić, Authorities, Mr. Chairman Ata Aydin, WBF colleagues, and dear young friends, welcome to the Opening Ceremony of the 2nd World Youth Bridge Congress and thank you for coming.

First of all I am very pleased personally and on behalf of the World Bridge Federation to thank the President of the Republic of Croatia, Ivo Josipović, who has honoured us by sending his welcome message and greetings. We are very proud of it. I would like to congratulate the Organizing Committee, led by my dear friend Goran Grgurić and his marvelous wife Branka, and the Croatian Bridge Federation and its President, my colleague and friend Jurica Carić. I am sure that this event will be a great success rewarding the excellent work done by them with passion and dedication.

I am pleased also to take this occasion to thank the City of Opatija, the Primorje-Gorski Kotar County, the Tourism Office Opatija and the Grand Hotel 4 Opatijska Cvijeta: without their support these Championships would not have materialized.

As I have already written, I am confident that Opatija, which for the third time in two years is hosting an International Youth Bridge event, will again receive you with open arms, in accordance with its high standards of culture, history and hospitality.

Let me repeat that your participation here gives you a great opportunity to meet old and new friends from all over the world in peace and serenity, sharing together without any discrimination your passion and enthusiasm in a new, exciting and memorable bridge adventure.

Dear young friends, now the stage is yours. I officially declare open the 2nd World Youth Bridge Congress. Enjoy!

Gianarrigo Rona

President of the World Bridge Federation

Extract from the Conditions of Contest

Knockout Teams

General Description

To be played in two phases as follows:

In the first phase (Swiss phase) the teams will play 10 rounds of Swiss, 10 boards each, five and five matches respectively over two days.

In the Knockout phase the top eight ranked teams of the Swiss phase will play direct knockout matches, playing Quarter Finals on day three and Semi Finals on day four (three segments of 16 boards each), Final, and Play-Off for the bronze medal on day five (four and three times 14 boards, respectively). The four teams eliminated in the Quarter Finals will drop into the BAM; carry-over to be decided.

Schedule Of Play

1. Swiss Phase

For the Swiss phase to be played over two days, the following general rules will govern the organization of the schedule of play:

The seating for the first round will be made by random draw.

The seating from the second round onward will be determined by the ranking: the first ranked team will play the second, the third ranked team will play the fourth and so on, but two teams will not play each other more than once.

2. Knockout Phase

For the Knockout phase, the teams will be seeded according to their ranking after the Swiss phase.

Pairings:

The top-ranked team will choose its opponent among the teams placed from the 5th to the 8th places. After this choice is made, the same process follows for the second and third placed teams. The last match will be automatically determined.

Brackets for the Knockout Phase

The brackets for the Knockout phase will be as follows:

Round of 8 (Quarter Finals)

Match one: Team seeded 1 vs (one Team seeded between 5 and 8 - by choice)
Match two: Team seeded 4 vs (one Team seeded between 5 and 8 - by choice)
Match three: Team seeded 3 vs (one Team seeded between 5 and 8 - by choice)
Match four: Team seeded 2 vs (one Team seeded between 5 and 8 - by choice)

Round of 4 (Semi Finals)

Match five: Winner of match one vs Winner of match two
Match six: Winner of match three vs Winner of match four

Final : Winner of match five vs Winner of match six Play-Off : Loser of match five vs Loser of match six

Carry-Over

There will be no carry-over.

A Bit of Geography and a Lot of History

Opatija is situated in the gulf of Kvarner, which is between the peninsular and coastal areas of Croatia. The peninsula is called Istria, and although Opatija is geographically on the peninsula, it is not within the county of Istria itself, but rather in Primorje-Gorski Kotar county, which is the region around Rijeka, which is the big city you see to the left when you look out at the sea from the hotel. Opatija has about 13,000 inhabitants, the greater Rijeka area has around 220,000.

The area was inhabited since Neolithic times but the first known settlement was Celtic, and called Tarsatica. Even today, there is still a part of Rijeka called Trsat. The Romans rebuilt Tarsaticum in the first century, and called it Flumen (river). Fiume is still the Italian name for Rijeka. The area was dedicated to St. Vitus in the 4th century. In Medieval times the Croats translated the name of the city to Reka sv. Vita, from whence comes Rijeka (which still means river in Croatian).

Just south of Rijeka the Benedictine Monks founded an abbey and dedicated it to St.

Jacob. The church of St Jacob, from 1506, can still be seen in the city which grew around it. In German, this city is still called Sankt Jakobi, but in Croat, they shortened Opatija Sv. Jacova to Opatija. So now we have a city called "Abbey" next to one called "River".

In 1466, the area came under the control of the Austrian Habsburgs, who kept control until the end of World War one, when the region was under dispute. Would the city become Italian (as "Fiume") or Croat (as "Rijeka"). The city itself contained 88% of Italians, but the surrounding areas were mostly Croat. In November 1920 the treaty of Rapallo created the "Free state of Fiume". Its area of only 28 km² proved not to be viable and by the treaty of Rome in 1924 the territory was annexed to the "Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes". That country changed its name to Yugoslavia in 1945.

Croatia declared its independence in 1991 and this area has been part of that country since then.



The Church of St. Jacob

Welcome to Opatija

by Phillip Alder

Welcome to picturesque Opatija, on the Gulf of Kvarner, off the Adriatic Sea.

This is the third consecutive year that a junior bridge tournament has been played here. Two years ago, we had the inaugural European Universities Team Championship.

With one round to go, Paris led Wroclaw-1 by two victory points. Paris played against Krakow (lying 15th) and Wroclaw-1 faced Munich (13th).

The final match started well for Paris. On board 21, the Krakow East-West pair misdefended to let three notrump through, giving Paris 13 international match points. And on the next deal, this same Krakow pair missed three notrump that was made at the other three tables in these matches, giving Paris another 10 imps.

After a flat third deal, Wroclaw-1 gained six imps when the Munich North-South pair got too high, going two down in four spades doubled.

Board 25 was also flat. Then the Munich East-West pair missed six hearts to gift 13 imps to Wroclaw-1.

Board 27 left the standings nearly unchanged. The tournament was decided by this deal, Board 28 (which, like all of the deals in this article, has been rotated to make South the declarer).

All four pairs played in three notrump, three times by South and once (Munich) by North.

Board 28 ♠ 10 9 **7** 6 4 Dealer North • A 8 5 3 E-W Vul ♣ A K 9 2 ♦ QJ73 ♠ K 5 4 2 **Y** K 10 9 5 3 ♦ 9 2 ♦ KJ 104 **♣** J 7 ♣ 8 5 4 3 **♠** A 8 6 ♥ A Q J 2 ♦ Q 7 6 ♣ Q 10 6

Pass 3NT All Pass

The Krakow West led the queen of spades, after which the contract could not be made. In addition West had fearlessly made a bid showing a major two-suiter despite the unfavourable vulnerability. So the French declarer understandably played East for long clubs, at one point leading a club to his ten. This lost to West's jack and the contract went two down.

At the other table, West for Paris led the heart ten. Declarer did not get the clubs wrong and played a diamond toward his queen, collecting one spade, two hearts, two diamonds and four clubs. That gave Krakow 11 imps, cutting the Paris lead to ten.

Munich played in three notrump by North. The Wrocław-1 East, Michal Nowosadzki, led a low spade to defeat the contract.

The Wroclaw-1 South, Piotr Zatorski, was favored by a heart lead and won nine tricks, giving 10 imps to Wroclaw-1 and a match lead of 33 imps.

On the penultimate board Wroclaw-1 gained 5 imps and Paris 7. So Paris needed a big swing on the final deal, but it was a dull three notrump where the only fight was for an overtrick.

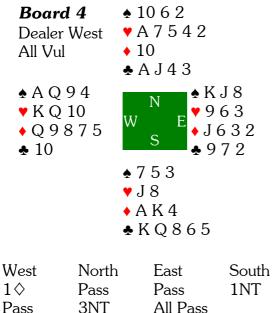
Paris had prevailed in its last match by 18 imps, which gave the team 20 victory points, but Wroclaw-1 had won a 38 imp to 0 blitz, gaining 25 victory points and the gold medals by 3 victory points.

The winning team was Wojciech Gawel, Piotr Zatorski, Michal Nowosadzki and Piotr Wiankowski.

Dinner

Please note that dinner will be at **nine** o'clock every evening.

West North East South Pass Pass 1NT In the same event, this deal caught my eye:



Nearly 20 young women competed. Rosaline Barendregt, playing for The Hague, found a clever ruse in this deal from the match against Athens.

In three notrump, she seemed to have only eight winners: one heart, two diamonds and five clubs. What was her ninth trick?

At the other table, Gerbrant Hop (West for The Hague) bought the contract in three diamonds. Konstantinos "Dinos" Doxiadis (North for Athens) found the effective lead of a low heart. Then, when Konstantinos Kontomitros (South) got in with a top diamond, he returned a heart and received a heart ruff. The defence therefore took one heart, two diamonds, one club and the heart ruff for one down.

The balancing one-notrump overcall by Barendregt (South) showed some 11-14 points, so the jump to three notrump by Natalia Banas was aggressive. (Yes, she might have transferred to hearts first, to offer a choice of games.)

Barendregt, apparently fighting a lost cause, won the first trick with her king of diamonds and led a low spade from her hand!

East took that and returned a diamond, but South won with the ace and cashed her club tricks. West, thinking that he had to keep his spades, promptly discarded the ten of hearts and king of hearts!

A low heart to dummy's ace brought down West's queen, and declarer took her ninth trick

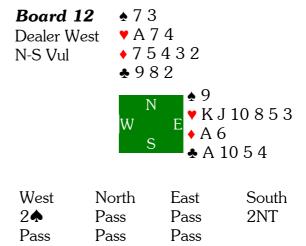
with the jack of hearts. Did you guess that?

Minus 100 and plus 600 gave The Hague 11 imps en route to victory by 29.

Although this ruse is well-known, it continues to work.

Last year featured the Tenth European Youth Pairs Championships.

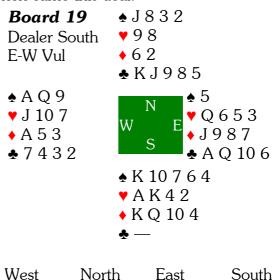
First, there was this interesting defensive problem:



Your partner leads the jack of diamonds: two, ace, four. What would you do next?

The Junior Pairs winners, Doxiadis and Vroustis, were doing well halfway through the final session, then had several bad boards in a row. But they moved ahead in the penultimate round. On the first board of which they made three hearts when their opponents misdefended to gain 19 matchpoints out of 28.

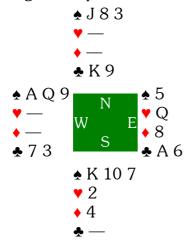
Then came this deal:



	Vroustis		Doxiadis
			1 ^
Pass	3 ♣ (a)	Dble	4 🏟
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass
(a) 6-9 po	ints with for	ur spades	

West led the four of clubs, second-highest from three or four low cards: jack, queen, ruff.

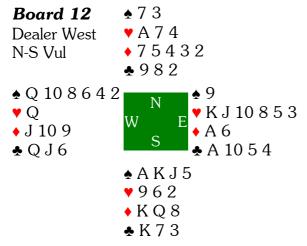
Now Doxiadis played the king of diamonds. West won with his ace and led another club: eight, ten, ruff. South cashed his top hearts, ruffed a heart in the dummy and bravely played a diamond to his ten. When the finesse worked, declarer cashed his queen of diamonds to give this position:



South trumped a diamond (West discarding a club) and ruffed a club for his ninth trick. Then Doxiadis led his last heart to ensure one more trump trick for his contract.

Plus 590 was worth 22 matchpoints out of 28 and the title.

This was the full deal on the defensive problem:



Sitting East was Graeme Robertson from England, partnering Ben Paske. Robertson placed declarer with \Diamond K-Q-8, and if he did have that holding, he was threatening to take four diamond tricks — but only if dummy had an entry card after the king and queen of diamonds had been unblocked.

So, after winning the first trick with the ace of diamonds (yes, he might have ducked), Robertson shifted to the king of hearts.

This worked better than Robertson could have expected when partner turned out to have the singleton queen. Declarer could not do better than take dummy's ace and play a club toward his king to escape for two down. But that still gave East-West 55.57 matchpoints out of 70.

Perhaps you think that was an easy play to find. But note two things. First, the king-of-hearts lead would have worked if declarer had queen-doubleton. Only if South had queen-third would it not have helped. And the king of hearts was a rarity - a card that simultaneously produced two coups.

First, it was a Merrimac Coup because it dislodged dummy's entry card. And second, it was a Crocodile Coup because it swallowed partner's singleton queen. Two for the price of one.

The winners were:

Junior (under 26): Dinos Doxiadis and Vassilis Vroustis from Greece

Girls (under 26): Magdalena Holeksa and Isabela Weinhold from Poland

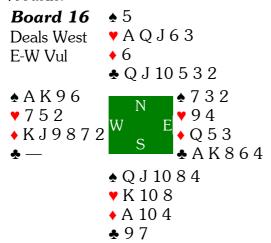
Youngsters (under 20): Daniel Gullberg and Johan Karlsson from Sweden



Dinos Doxiadis & Vassilis Vroustis

The most recent junior event was the 23rd European Youth Teams Championship, held last month in Albena, Bulgaria.

A few of the deals appealed to me. The first features those Greeks we just met, Doxiadis and Vroustis.



West	North	East	South		
Doxiadis	Grönkvist	Vroustis	Rimstedt		
$1 \diamondsuit$	2NT(a)	Pass	4♡		
Pass	Pass	Pass			
.\ T					

(a) Two-suiter with clubs and hearts

Doxiadis led the ace of spades ... but only after a lot of thought. Then he continued with the six of spades!

We can all see how to make the contract from here, by discarding from the dummy, drawing trumps and setting up clubs. But West's long pause before leading left declarer wondering if he had started with an unsupported ace. If he had, though, he surely did not hold the king-queen-jack of diamonds.

After her own lengthy consideration, Cecilia Rimstedt ruffed in the dummy and led a low club, endeavouring to get dummy's suit set up.

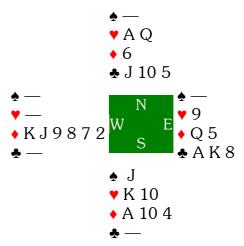
Now Vroustis made his own great play: the four.

West ruffed declarer's nine and continued his ruse by leading the nine of spades. (Double dummy, this was a mistake. Leading the king or shifting to a diamond would have defeated the contract.)

This time declarer ran that to her ten. She continued with the queen of spades, covered by West's king and ruffed high in the dummy, East discarding a diamond.

The ping-pong play continued. If South had led a diamond to her ace and ruffed a diamond before playing another club, she could have got home. But when South called for the queen of clubs, East correctly played low again.

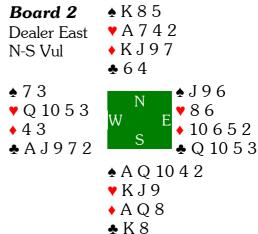
West ruffed and accurately returned his last trump, taken by declarer's eight and giving this position:



Declarer had to lose another trick and go one down.

We usually say declarer has the advantage of the closed — the unseen — hand, but here it was West who put his hidden hand to good use.

This deal is instructive from an unusual angle.



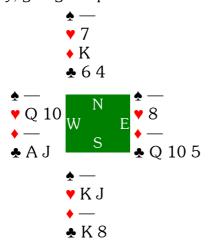
West	North	East	South
Helmich	Bogen	Нор	Johansen
		Pass	2♦(a)
Pass	2♥(b)	Pass	2NT(c)
Pass	3 ♣ (d)	Pass	3 ♠ (e)
Pass	4 ♦ (f)	Pass	4♡(g)
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

- (a) Multi, including 20-21 balanced
- (b) Pass or correct
- (c) 20-21
- (d) Puppet Stayman
- (e) Five-card spade suit
- (f) Control-bid, denying club control
- (g) Heart control-bid also promising a club control

At the other table, Bob Drijver from the Netherlands (South) opened one spade. Then he and Ernst Wackwitz cruised into six spades. West led a low heart, which ran around to declarer's nine. South drew trumps and ran the diamonds to squeeze West in hearts and clubs for an overtrick.

The Norwegians bid as given. After the auction was over, West asked several questions, in particular with reference to four hearts guaranteeing a club control. Eventually West found a safe lead, the four of diamonds.

Lars Arthur Johansen won with his ace, cashed four rounds of trumps, played a heart to dummy's ace, returned a diamond to his hand, took his last trump, and led a diamond to dummy, giving this position:



When declarer cashed dummy's king of diamonds, he had to commit himself one way or the other. Did East have the ace of clubs all along?

Surely not, given West's questions.

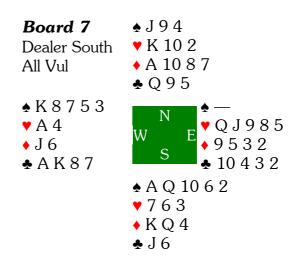
Backing his judgment, South discarded his eight of clubs, and West pitched the jack of clubs.

Now declarer led a club, endplaying West to lead away from his queen of hearts.

That was a beautifully played strip squeeze, but Johansen lost one imp (instead of 17 for one down). And West was left to realize that

asking a lot of questions about the opponents' hands risks tipping about his.

I know you are missing those Greeks, so here they are again.



West	North	East	South
Vroustis	L'Huissier	Doxiadis	Frances'ti
			1 ♠
Pass	1NT(a)	Pass	2♦(b)
Pass	3 ♠ (c)	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

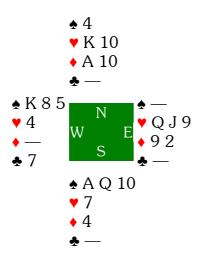
- (a) Forcing for one round
- (b) Three-plus diamonds; if only three diamonds, exactly 5=3=3=2 distribution
- (c) Game-invitational with exactly three-card support.

When three spades came around to him, Vroustis decided that he had sat quietly for long enough.

West started with three rounds of clubs, declarer discarding a heart from his hand on dummy's queen.

The jack of spades took the next trick. Then South played a diamond to his king and led a heart toward dummy's king. West grabbed the trick with his ace and returned his last diamond, taken by declarer's queen.

Now South accurately led his six of spades, covered by the seven and nine to give this position:

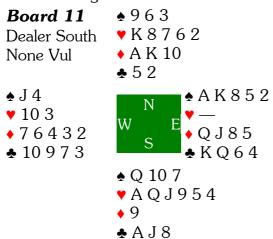


Declarer cashed dummy's king of hearts and ruffed the ten with his queen of spades, leaving West helpless.

That was very nicely done by Pierre Franceschetti, but West showed bad imp tactics with his double.

Yes, he had hopes for two down, but often when doubled like this, declarer will play a trick better because he has been warned about the bad trump split. That often turns plus 200 into plus 200! And since it risks turning plus 100 or minus 140 into minus 730 (as here), the double can be very expensive.

Cédric Lorenzini from France produced this terrific defence against Serbia.



At both tables, South opened one heart and North responded three of a minor to show a game-invitational limit raise (with a hand worth game on the Losing Trick Count). East took the opportunity to overcall three spades. Then, when South rebid four hearts, East made a takeout double that West decided not

to take out. (Five diamonds doubled costs 500 on best defence.)

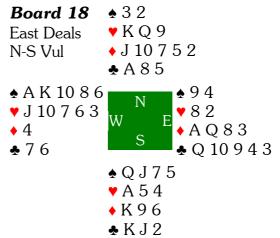
When Franceschetti declared for France, West led the jack of spades. East won with his king, cashed the ace and continued with a suit-preference two for partner to ruff. Now West obediently switched to a club.

South took East's queen with his ace and cashed six rounds of hearts, which squeezed East in the minors for plus 590.

Lorenzini (East) played less impulsively, thinking matters through before leading at trick three. Could it cost to ask his partner, Christophe Grosset, to return a diamond? It appeared that a club trick couldn't disappear, and a diamond switch might stop a squeeze.

So East led not the two of spades but the eight of spades at trick three. And his partner, after ruffing, trustingly played a diamond, which killed the squeeze and gained 12 imps for France.

Finally, here is a well-played deal from the winners, Israel.



Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Padon		Birman	
		Pass	1
2 (a)	2 ♠ (b)	Pass	3♡(c)
Pass	3NT(d)	All Pass	

- (a) At least 5-5 in the majors
- (b) Five-plus diamonds, game-invitational or stronger
 - (c) "Do you have a heart stopper, partner?"
 - (d) "Yes, I do."

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
	Schwartz		Fisher
		Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$
2 ♦ (a)	2♥(b)	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) At least 5-5 in the majors

(b) game-invitational or stronger with a heart stopper and no spade stopper

At the first table, Alon Birman (East) led the spade nine, which declarer "naturally" covered with dummy's jack. But West did brilliantly, playing his six, low encouraging and keeping communication with his partner. Then, when declarer (North) played a heart to his hand and led the jack of diamonds, East won the trick with his ace and returned his second spade. West took four tricks in the suit for one down.

In the second auction, Lotan Fisher (South) opened one diamond. He and his partner, Ron Schwartz, mix up their minor-suit openings when they have a balanced hand with 12-14 points, sometimes opening one diamond even with 3=3=2=5 distribution.

West led his lowest spade and East put up the nine. What did declarer do?

Clearly West had underled the ace-king of spades. Who, though, had the ace of diamonds?

If it was West, South had to win the first trick; otherwise, a spade return would give the defenders four spades and one diamond. But Fisher judged that if West had the ace of diamonds, he would have led a high spade, not a low one. And declarer saw the necessity to cut the communications between the defenders. To achieve this, Fisher let East win the first trick.

East returned her second spade, West taking South's jack with his king and switching to a heart.

Declarer won with dummy's queen, played a diamond to his king and led the nine of diamonds. East took the trick with her queen, cashed the ace of diamonds and exited with a heart.

South won with his ace, played a heart to dummy's king, cashed the two high diamonds and ace of clubs, then led a club toward his king-jack.

Declarer knew that West had begun with 5=5=1=2 distribution. Did he start with two low or queen-doubleton in clubs? Playing the percentages, Fisher finessed his jack and made the contract to give Israel 12 richly deserved imps.

The winners were:

Juniors: Israel: Alon Birman, Dror Padon, Lotan Fisher, Ron Schwartz, Gal Gerstner and Moshe Meyuchas

Youngsters: Poland: Wojciech Kazmierczak, Adam Krysa, Adam Lonski, Kamil Madej, Lukasz Witkowski, Justyna Zmuda

Girls: Poland: Magdalena Holeska, Aleksandra Jarosz, Danuta Kazmucha, Joanna Taczewska, Izabela Weinhold and Justyna Zmuda.

Time Table

Day 1 - Monday August 22nd							
10.00-11.30	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	1st round		
12.00-13.30	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	2nd round		
14.30-16.00	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	3rd round		
16.30-18.00	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	4th round		
18.30-20.00	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	5th round		
Day 2 - Tuesday August 23rd							
10.00-11.30	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	6th round		
12.00-13.30	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	7th round		
14.30-16.00	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	8th round		
16.30-18.00	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	9th round		
18.30-20.00	KO Teams	-	Qualification	-	10th round		