

## Last Round Drama



> Radu Nistor, Marius Agica, Joris van Lankveld, Berend van den Bos, Simon Poulat, Aymeric Lebatteux

Final A could not have been scripted better. The two leading pairs were playing against each other in the last round, and on BBO.
Berend van den Bos and Joris van Lankveld from the Netherlands were 20.28 matchpoints ahead and they outscored Aymeric Lebatteux and Simon Poulat from France by 31.44 mps to 22.56 to take the world title.

The full story of that final round is on page 12.
Third were Marius Agica and Radu Nistor from Rumania. They were 0.32 matchpoints behind second and overtook the Croatian pair of Lara Ruso and Ivan Postić in the last round.

In the Final B, Aleksandra Jarosz and Izabela Weinhold from Poland led most of the way, finishing exactly one-and-a-half boards ahead of Simon Ekenberg and Simon Hult from Sweden. Third were Flavia Lanzuisi and Margherita Chavarria from Italy. How great to see two pairs of young women winning a prize.

## Final A - Result

|  | Berend van den BOS - Joris van LANKVELD | NED-NED | 57,33\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Aymeric LEBATTEUX - Simon POULAT | FRA-FRA | 54,44\% |
| 3 | Marius AGICA - Radu NISTOR | USA-ROM | 54,41\% |
| 4 | Ivan POSTIC - Lara RUSO | CRO-CRO | 54,02\% |
| 5 | Michal GULCZYNSKI - Wojciech KAZMIERCZAK | POL-POL | 53,81\% |
| 6 | Adam GROSSACK - Adam KAPLAN | USA-USA | 53,18\% |
| 7 | Liam MILNE - Michael WHIBLEY | NZL-AUS | 53,07\% |
| 8 | Jeremy FOURNIER - Mitch TOWNER | USA-USA | 53,06\% |
| 9 | Luc SEVEREIJNS - Chris WESTERBEEK | NED-NED | 52,71\% |
| 10 | Aarnout HELMICH - Gerbrand HOP | NED-NED | 51,45\% |
| 11 | Ivan CAILLIAU - Edouard DU CORAIL | FRA-FRA | 50,59\% |
| 12 | Roger LEE - Daniel WOLKOWITZ | USA-USA | 49,95\% |
| 13 | Alessandro GANDOGLIA - Gabriele ZANASI | ITA-ITA | 48,45\% |
| 14 | Peter HOLLANDS - Justin HOWARD | AUS-AUS | 46,68\% |
| 15 | Maximo CRUSIZIO - Rodrigo GARCIA DA ROSA | ARG-URU | 45,20\% |
| 16 | Harald EIDE - Kristian ELLINGSEN | NOR-NOR | 45,01\% |
| 17 | Kevin DWYER - Owen LIEN | USA-USA | 44,90\% |
| 18 | Jonathan BERNARD - Nicolas GAYDIER | FRA-FRA | 44,73\% |
| 19 | Zachary BRESCOLL - Anam TEBHA | USA-USA | 43,10\% |
| 20 | Adam EDGTTON - Nabil EDGTTON | AUS-AUS | 42,31\% |
| Final B - Result |  |  |  |
| 1 | Aleksandra JAROSZ - Izabela WEINHOLD | POL-POL | 59,93\% |
| 2 | Simon EKENBERG - Simon HULT | SWE-SWE | 56,93\% |
| 3 | Margherita CHAVARRIA - Flavia LANZUISI | ITA-ITA | 56,80\% |
| 4 | Giorgia BOTTA - Margherita COSTA | ITA-ITA | 56,07\% |
| 5 | Rudolf GUMZEJ - Andrea STANKOVIC | CRO-CRO | 54,90\% |
| 6 | Moa PETERSEN - Catrin WAHLESTEDT | SWE-SWE | 54,83\% |
| 7 | Robin BJORKSTRAND - Irma PETERSEN | SWE-SWE | 54,48\% |
| 8 | Caterina BURGIO - Stefania MORINA | ITA-ITA | 53,55\% |
| 9 | Luis LEANEZ - Luz ORTEGA | VEN-VEN | 53,53\% |
| 10 | Felipe Jose FERRO - Alejandro SCANAVINO | ARG-ARG | 53,33\% |
| 11 | Daniel GULLBERG - Johan KARLSSON | SWE-SWE | 52,85\% |
| 12 | Sophie HERMANN - Simon WEINBERGER | AUT-AUT | 52,55\% |
| 13 | Shane HARRISON - Maxim HENBEST | AUS-AUS | 52,52\% |
| 14 | Andrea FAILLA - Leonardo FRUSCOLONI | ITA-ITA | 51,68\% |
| 15 | Giovanni DONATI - Giacomo PERCARIO | ITA-ITA | 51,19\% |
| 16 | Adam KUBICA - Martin VODICKA | SVK-SVK | 50,84\% |
| 17 | Candas OZGUNGORDU - Burak ULUER | TUR-TUR | 50,58\% |
| 18 | Maciej KITA - Wojciech STACHNIK | POL-POL | 50,43\% |
| 19 | Akin KOCLAR - Ali UCAR | TUR-TUR | 50,41\% |
| 20 | Tom van OVERBEEKE - Ricardo WESTERBEEK | NED-NED | 49,73\% |
| 21 | Ugurcan SUZER - Arda Can TASKIN | TUR-TUR | 49,51\% |
| 22 | Marusa BASA - Gregor RUS | SLO-SLO | 49,14\% |
| 23 | Josko DJILOVIC - Ante MIJIC | CRO-CRO | 48,73\% |
| 24 | Andriano MANCINELLI - Giuseppe PINTO | ITA-ITA | 48,31\% |
| 25 | Kornel LAZAR - Raffael Daniel WADL | HUN-AUT | 48,07\% |
| 26 | Jakub JAKABSIC - Juraj KVOCEK | SVK-SVK | 47,22\% |
| 27 | Yoshiro KIDO - Tomohiro KIYAMA | JPN-JPN | 46,26\% |
| 28 | Maria VAJDOVA - Zuzana ZAVODSKA | SVK-SVK | 46,04\% |
| 29 | Eryck MILANO - Carlos OJEDA | VEN-VEN | 45,81\% |
| 30 | Luka KESIC - Maja TOTH | CRO-CRO | 45,63\% |
| 31 | Karla DE JESUS - Maria Alejandra POLEO | VEN-VEN | 45,17\% |
| 32 | Baturalp GULENC - Eren IMDAT | TUR-TUR | 41,96\% |
| 33 | Luka BULATOVIC - Milan VUSOVIC | MNE-MNE | 40,29\% |
|  | Ivan BRAJKOVIC - Igor VUKAS | CRO-CRO | 30,75\% |

## Pairs Final A - First Session

by Phillip Alder

For the start of the first session, I decided to watch the last qualifiers, Harald Eide and Kristian Ellingsen, who originally thought they had missed qualification by less than one matchpoint. However, someone spotted two incorrectly scored boards. Suddenly they were in. But then the Italian pair in seventeenth place lodged an appeal. When that did not give them enough extra matchpoints, the Norwegians were playing in A , not B .


When East did not lead a heart, it marked him with the ace. So declarer, aided also by the 2-2 trump break, was able to hold his losers to one spade, one heart and two diamonds.

With good manoeuvring, East-West can make three hearts.

Plus 110 was a cold top for North-South, 18 out of 18 .

Presumably at other tables, where the bidding started one club - pass - one spade, West overcalled two hearts, and East raised to three hearts. (Five East-West pairs were plus 140.)

(a) 0-12 points, non-forcing

Three clubs was ill-judged, in my opinion. Although you might belong in the suit, it is so unlikely, and this was pairs where majors rule.

Yes, probably West should have passed out four hearts; perhaps the apparent 6-1 fit will not play that much worse than the 4-4, especially when West has such weak clubs.

Five clubs went one down, of course, and four hearts would have been easy.

Plus 50 gave North-South 13 out of 18 .


Nabil Edgtton
West North East South AEdgtton Eide
NEdgtton Ellingsen

| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

(a) Perhaps four spades

North led the five of hearts.
Leading from length through length is rarely a good idea.

Why not start with a spade? I detest leading from jacks probably more than anyone, but in this case everything else looks much worse.

Here, of course, it did not matter. On a spade lead, declarer would surely have taken it in his hand, played a heart to dummy's queen, and returned a heart to his jack. Then the defenders must cash their five club winners to avoiding conceding at least one overtrick.

The Norwegians got their tricks when South discouraged in spades on the second round of hearts and North switched to clubs.

Minus 90 gave North-South 14 matchpoints. They had scored 45 out of 54 and were off to a great start.

| Board 4 | - A 10 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Dealer West | $\checkmark 108$ |
| All Vul | - AK 53 |
|  | - AKJ 97 |
| - K Q 6 <br> -A76432 <br> - 87 <br> - 54 | N J 9875 |
|  | $W^{\text {N }}$ - ${ }^{\text {VJ } 95}$ |
|  | W E * Q 64 |
|  |  |
|  | -432 |
|  | $\checkmark$ Q |
|  | - J 1092 |
|  | - Q 10832 |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Lebatteux | Eide | Poulat | Ellingsen |
| Pass | $1 \propto$ | Pass | 2NT (a) |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass |  |

(a) Weak with clubs

Eide gambled and lost. The Frenchmen took six heart tricks for two down. North-South got 7 matchpoints.

If North had rebid three diamonds, South would probably have continued with four clubs, which North could have passed for a great result ( 16 matchpoints) or raised for a good result (minus 100 would have been worth 12 matchpoints).

At most tables West will have opened two hearts (or two diamonds, Multi). Then North presumably doubled, despite the worrying doubleton spade. Perhaps East raised to four hearts, especially if he believed that the Law of Total Tricks must always be followed. North would have doubled again, and South would have probably passed. Then North-South would have been plus 200. But looking at the frequency sheet, that never happened!

Kees Tammens was watching the top qualifiers:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| v LankveldCailliau | vd Bos | du Corail |  |
| Pass | $1 \boldsymbol{6}$ | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{6}$ |
| $2 \Phi$ | $3 \circlearrowleft$ | Dble | $4 \boldsymbol{\%}$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

Well judged!


I will draw a veil over this deal. Poulat had a 100 percent line to make three hearts, but chose a different line that had no chance of an
overtrick and resulted in one down when trumps were 4-1, not 3-2.

Plus 50 was worth average for North-South. But minus 140 would have given them only 3.


Pass $\quad 2 \diamond(\mathrm{a}) \quad$ All Pass
(a) Diamonds and a major

I strongly disagree with North's overcall. He has a balanced hand with at least one honour in whichever suit partner leads. You should have distribution to bid here.

One notrump was going one down (four times) or two down (twice).

Against two diamonds, East led the king of hearts. When he held the trick, he switched to the jack of clubs. North won with his king, cashed the ace of hearts, ruffed a heart in the dummy, took the ace of clubs, trumped a club, and ruffed his last heart. West overruffed and returned a low diamond to his partner's king.

Now you would have expected East to go back to clubs to tap declarer. But no, he cashed the ace of spades (not fatal) and played a second spade (fatal). North gratefully won in his hand and drove out the ace of diamonds. West had to concede.

Plus 90 scored 6 matchpoints, minus 50 would have been, funnily, 6 matchpoints! That ties for the least expensive error in bridge history.

| West <br> v LankveldCailliau | East <br> vd Bos | South <br> du Corail |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | $1 \odot$ | Pass |

Kees Tammens comments: North-South were too cautious. Defending one heart could hardly produce a good result.

South led a low spade to the king and ace. Declarer took three rounds of diamonds to discard his jack of spades. On a club from the dummy, North hopped up with his king and led the jack of diamonds, which East ruffed with his king of hearts.

South took the queen of clubs and gave his partner a club ruff. A spade through was ruffed low by East. The next club was ruffed in sequence by the six, nine and jack of hearts to give this endgame:


East had to take two tricks. When North led a low heart, East won and ruffed his last club with the eight of hearts.

Plus 110 gave the Dutch pair 17 matchpoints.

Pairs from the same country play each other early in these events. I now moved to watch a couple of the American battles, with everyone using Meckwell Light, a strong-club system.

Owen Lien has been representing several countries recently, based on his shirt. Two days ago it was Hungary, yesterday Sweden and today Poland.


When the tray came under the table with two passes, Lien immediately leant over and stole Grossack's one-club card! Eventually, though, he was forced to return it.

South's response showed five-plus hearts and game-forcing values. North bid what he hoped he could make, knowing a slam was very unlikely since partner was a passed hand. This way the unknown hand stayed hidden, a big plus of transfer responses to a strong club.

Against four hearts, East led the nine of spades. Declarer won with dummy's ace and played on trumps. East took the third round and after a lot of thought, found the great switch of the queen of clubs. Here, of course, this gave his side only two club tricks, dummy's nine being huge. But if dummy had had only $\mathrm{K}-8-5$ of clubs, the contract would have failed.

Plus 620 gave North-South 15 matchpoints.
Note that four spades can be defeated with careful defence after a major-suit lead.


Owen Lien in Polish uniform


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Dwyer | Grossack | Lien | Kaplan |
| $1 \propto($ a) | Pass | $1 \circlearrowleft$ (b) | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ (c) | Pass | $2 \wedge$ (d) | Pass |
| $3 \wedge$ (c) | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

(a) Sixteen-plus points
(b) 8-11 points and fewer than five spades
(c) Natural
(d) Waiting

Lien upgraded because he had an ace and a king.

The defenders took the first four tricks in hearts, but with the spade finesse working, declarer had nine winners.

Plus 400 gave East-West 11 matchpoints.


When North jumped to four hearts, he almost certainly had to have a two-suited hand.

At another vulnerability, it would have been sensible for North to show his diamonds, so that partner could have judged what to do should the opponents bid four spades. I would have bid four diamonds to say that I was worth four hearts with long diamonds.

This made East's double highly spectulative.
As you can see, there was no winning defence.

Plus 590 was a cold top.

(a) Sixteen-plus points
(b) Hearts

East was surprisingly reticent in the auction. And the contract went the obvious two down, East taking three hearts and two clubs.

Plus 200 was actually just over average: 10 matchpoints. Plus 500 would have been only 11 !


| West <br> Kaplan | North | East | South <br> Tebha |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | Grossack <br> Brescoll <br> (a) |
| $1 \circlearrowleft$ (b) | Dble (c) | $2 \&$ (d) | $60!$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

(a) Sixteen-plus points
(b) Spades or both minors
(c) Typically length in one of the shown suits
(d) Pass or correct

West led a club. East won with his ace and shifted to a trump. A huge 34 masterpoints rested on the trump break. If they had been 33, North-South would have gained 17 mps ; when they were 4-2, East-West received 17 mps.


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Kaplan | Tebha | Grossack | Brescoll |
| $1 \diamond$ (a) | Pass | 2NT | All Pass |

(a) Two-plus diamonds, 11-15 points

Over breakfast, these four players had discussed how to play two notrumps in this position. Grossack said that he likes gameinvitational. Tebha and Brescoll had argued that it never came up. So this auction pleased one person.

South found a good lead: the jack of hearts. Unless from shortage, this promised the queen as well. Declarer made the naturallooking play, ducking in the dummy. But he no longer had the communications to unravel nine tricks via one spade, two hearts, three diamonds and three clubs.

After winning with his king of hearts, declarer played a club to dummy's queen, then
shifted to diamonds. North took the second diamond and double-dummy had to switch to a spade, but that looked dangerous. She actually returned a club, ducked to dummy's ten. Declarer cashed his diamond tricks to give this position:


East led his jack of clubs and South took the ace. To win nine tricks now, declarer had to throw a spade from the dummy. Then South would have had either to let East win a trick with his queen of spades or found himself endplayed at trick 12 to lead the nine of clubs to declarer's king.

But when East discarded a heart from the dummy, that hand could be thrown in. North also pitched a heart, took the next trick with her ten of hearts, and returned a heart. East played a spade to his queen, but South won with his ace and returned a spade. North took the last trick with her ten of spades.

Minus 120 was a cold top to North-South.

## How to win a Trick

by Eitan Levy

The opening lead is a spade, which declarer ruffs in dummy. RHO follows suit, and declarer underruffs. No-one remarks anything, until declarer shows up with some spades later. The revoke will cost him a penalty trick.

Now how does that win a trick?
Well, if he had overruffed, it would have cost him two penalty tricks!

## Appeal 2

## Appeals Committee:

Ata Aydin (Chairman, Turkey), Herman De Wael (Scribe, Belgium), PO Sundelin (Sweden)

Pairs Semi Final A

| Board 2 | - 103 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Dealer East | - Q 10974 |
| N-S Vul | - K 64 <br> -A 96 |
| - 862 <br> - A J 86 <br> -A 1075 <br> - K 7 |  |
|  | - AK Q 75 <br> $\bullet 532$ <br> - 92 <br> - J 42 |

$\begin{array}{ll}\text { West } & \text { North East South } \\ \text { Jarosz } & \text { Delle CaveWeinhold Di }\end{array}$
Franco

|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1 \%$ | $1 \odot$ | Dble | $2 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $2 \circlearrowleft$ | Pass | Pass |
| $2 \uparrow$ | Pass | $3 \boldsymbol{\%}$ | All Pass |

Comments: 1\& Polish
$2 \diamond$ Good raise in hearts
Contract: three clubs, played by West
Result: 7 tricks, NS +100
The Facts:
East explained her double to North as "Take-Out". West told South it showed four spades. North-South complained that they might have doubled three clubs if they had known East had not guaranteed four spades.

## The Director:

Consulted East-West's system card. This did not explicitly mention the double, but it did contain the responses to it (if uninterrupted). One spade would show three cards, and two spades would show four cards, both in the range 12-14. East had told the director she
had doubled because she was willing to play in the 4-3 fit. Therefore, the director did not believe North had been misinformed. Additionally, the director did not believe that North would have doubled, even with a different explanation.

## Ruling:

Result Stands

## Relevant Laws:

Law 40B4

## North/South appealed

Present: All players

## The Players:

North told the Committee that he'd been thinking for about two minutes, deciding whether or not to double. He had decided not to do so because he did not have a good lead against four spades by West. But if South receives the explanation "Take-Out", he could bid one spade. Then, when it goes pass-passtwo clubs, South can double to show heart support. If then East or West goes to three clubs, North would double.

West added at this point that she would have doubled a one-spade bid from South.

South explained that he had shown heart support rather than bid one spade because he'd been told the double showed four spades. After that, he did not dare double three clubs, fearing partner would take that out to three hearts.

East admitted that she knew she was promising four spades, but she explained that in the bidding, she would get to know how many spades her partner had. A one-spade response would have shown five cards.

North added that they knew they needed a top in order to qualify.

## The Committee:

Started by pointing at this last remark, noticing that if he had needed a top, why hadn't he doubled now?

The Committee noted that neither North nor South could have doubled three clubs for
penalties. There would have been too great an uncertainty that this was for penalties.

The Committee decided that the Director had correctly ruled that North had not been misinformed. Even if supporting it would show four cards, the double itself did not promise four spades.

However, this implied that South had been misinformed. The Committee ruled that, if he had received the explanation "Take-Out", South would have, at least some of the time, bid one spade. The Committee did not believe that West would have doubled this. North would then have passed, and East would have supported clubs. South would now have shown his heart support, and East, having shown the clubs one level lower, would not have been tempted to try three clubs.

The Committee considered weighing the different possibilities, but decided in the end to keep it to one single adjustment: +110 for two hearts made.

## The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling adjusted:
Score adjusted to two hearts by North, making eight tricks, NS +110

Deposit: Returned
We have learnt that Miljenko Brkljačić, (commonly known as Brk), the chief organiser of the Pula Bridge Festival, of which the $50^{\text {th }}$ edition starts this weekend, died this morning after a long illness. Our condolences go out to his daughter Tihana and the rest of his family, as well as to the entire bridge community in Croatia.


## WBF President Farewell

Mr. Ivo Dumic, Mayor of Opatija, Ms. Jasna Blajevic, representative of the PrimorskoGoranska County, Mr. Jarica Caric, president of the Croatian Bridge Federation, Mr. Ata Aydin, Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee, authorities, dear colleagues of the World Bridge Federation and of the Croatian Bridge Federation, ladies and gentlemen, dear young friends: We are once again at the end of a marvelous bridge adventure.

When a championship ends and the curtain falls, we are always a little bit sad to leave the old and new friends whom we have met and with whom we have shared a common passion, but in the meantime we are happy to return to our houses, to our families, after having spent together so many intensive days.

I am very happy to have spent with you these days in Opatija and to have had once again the opportunity to experience another successful bridge event. Once again your enthusiasm, behavior and fair play reflected the spirit of such a high standard sports competition, created an atmosphere of friendship, serenity and harmony, and confirmed all the values of our discipline. We are very proud and just yesterday evening I reported these impressions at the conference on bridge organized by the Rijeka Rotary Club.

I am only a little bit disappointed because some Federations did not offer their youth the chance to attend and participate in such an event, very important for the consolidation and development of our beloved bridge. At the same time, I am very happy to remark that many friends joined us from great distances, facing difficult and expensive travel. I am pleased to thank all of them for coming from Argentina and Uruguay, Australia, Japan, USA, and Venezuela. Special thanks also to a great friend of ours, a member of the Youth Committee, coming from Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Jackie Thompson.

This morning I had the opportunity to thank the Primorsko-Goranska County and to present the WBF Plaque to its president. Now I am very pleased to express our thanks and gratitude to the City of Opatija and to present to its Mayor, Ivo Dujmic, the WBF Plaque. I
am also pleased to thank the Croatian Bridge Federation and the Opatija Bridge Association for the huge work done before and during the Championship and for having provided us with many very efficient helpers. I am pleased to call at the podium and to award the EBL Bronze Medal their respective presidents, my dear friends Jurica Caric and Goran Grguric.

I want also, once again, to thank the Organizing Committee and the local Authorities for the great support they gave us, which cannot be overlooked. I am pleased to invite to the podium Branka Grguric and Vedran Grzetic to award them the EBL Plaque.

Let me finally thank all the members of our great staff who enabled us to carry out this Championship by working with enthusiasm and dedication. I invite them all to stand, when I call them to receive our much deserved applause. Our Operation Director Maurizio Di Sacco; the Chief Tournament Director Dimitri Ballas and his colleagues Eitan Levy, Marc van Beijsterveldt, Dusko Krautsak and Jacek Marciniak; the Hospitality and Registration Desk led by Silvia Valentini with Carlotta, Grazia and Zeljka; the Chairman of the Protocol Sevinc Atay; the Main Office guided by Gianni Bertotto with Alessandro, Aleks, Borna, Marino and Miren; the Daily Bulletin edited by Phillip Alder with Herman De Wael, PO Sundelin, Ljerka and Marija; the Duplicators Simona and Paolo; the scoring manager Fotis Skoularikis; the technological team with Giulio, Giuse, Eria and Fabio; the IT Manager Duccio Geronimi and his assistant Nicoletta; the WBF Secretary Marina Madia. Last but not least the WBF Championship Committee: the great chairman Ata Aydin, Paolo Clair and Murat Molva.

Now we are really at the end. Dear young friends, on behalf of the World Bridge Federation and personally I want to congratulate you and thank you again: you are all winners, you are our pride.

I wish you a safe trip home. Un abbraccio to you all.

Gianarrigo Rona

## President received at County Hall



This morning, a delegation of the Championship was received by the president of Primorsko-Goranska County. WBF president Giannarigo Rona expressed his gratitude to the County for the wonderful reception the bridge congress has received.


Giannarigo Rona, receiving the honour of the County

What is the story behind Einstein and Opatija?

Well, for one, he was not born here, did not study here or even live here. Nor did we find any record of him ever having been here.

It's not that his first wife was Croat (she was Serbian). Then why does the hotel have a commemorative plaque to the greatest physicist of all time?

The idea came from the Croatian Association for Protection of Non-Ionizing Radiation (CAPNIR), which was established in 2005. Its basic intention is to propagate Einstein's contribution in physics, the theory of relativity and his humanities. The Association organizes yearly congresses and the plaque was unveiled on the side of the Congress Centre in 2006.


# The Last Round 

by Phillip Alder

As luck would have it, the two leading pairs faced each other in the last three-board round of Final A. Before play began, Berend van den Bos and Joris van Lankveld were leading by 20 matchpoints over Aymeric Lebatteux and Simon Poulat, with 18 available on each board.

This was the initial deal:

(a) A "normal" three-heart raise

If East had rebid three hearts, it would have shown a weaker hand in high-card terms.

North led the five of spades. South won with his ace and switched bravely to a diamond. Declarer took North's king with dummy's ace, drew two rounds of trumps, and established a long club in the dummy. He took one spade, two hearts, one diamond, three clubs, two spade ruffs in the dummy, and three ruffs in his hand (two clubs and one diamond).

Plus 680 gave East-West 13.44 matchpoints and North-South 4.56. The difference was nearly 29 .

This was the next deal:


North bid one notrump to protect his king of hearts, but it is better to bid two spades.

Over one notrump, it was reasonable for South to raise to game. Over two spades, though, he should make a three-diamond game-try and pass when North settles for three spades.

Three notrumps had only eight tricks. Plus 100 gave East-West 11.22 and North-South 6.78. The title had been decided.

If North-South had been plus 140, it would have been 13.56 to North-South and 4.44 to East-West. The margin would have been 18.04 with one board to go.

These were the East-West cards on board 27 (no-one vul.):


West and East bid $1 \uparrow-2 \diamond-2 \bigcirc-3 \diamond-4 \propto$ (diamond support, club control)- $4 \diamond$ (you use RKCB)-4』 (conditional RKCB)-5 4 (3 keys and I like my hand)-6囚-Pass.

The lead was the king of clubs, after which declarer could have taken all of the tricks. However, he settled for 12 and received only 6.78 points. (Four pairs brought home the overtrick.)



## Roll of Honour

## Knock-Out Teams:

Gold: Netherlands Juniors: Berend van den Bos, Joris van Lankveld, Aarnout Helmich and Gerbrand Hop (NED), npc Kees Tammens.

Silver: Argentina-Uruguay: Maximo Crusizio, Felipe José Ferro, Alejandro Scanavino (ARG) and Rodrigo García da Rosa (URU).

Bronze: Netherlands-Rumania: Bob Drijver (playing captain), Ernst Wackwitz (NED), Marius Agica (USA) and Radu Nistor (ROU).

## Board-a-Match Teams:

Gold: Vicky's Vikings: Harald Eide, Kristian Ellingsen, Kristoffer Hegge and Kristian Stangeland (NOR).

Silver: USA: Kevin Dwyer, Owen Lien, Roger Lee, Daniel Wolkowitz, Jeremy Fournier and Mitch Towner (USA), npc Will Ehlers.

Bronze: Netherlands Juniors: Berend van den Bos, Joris van Lankveld, Aarnout Helmich and Gerbrand Hop (NED), npc Kees Tammens.

## Junior Pairs:

Gold: Joris van Lankveld, Berend van den Bos (NED)
Silver: Radu Nistor, Marius Agica (ROU)
Bronze: Simon Poulat, Aymeric Lebatteux (FRA)

## Youngsters Pairs:

Gold: Michal Gulczynski, Wojciech Kazmierczak (POL) Silver: Adam Grossack, Adam Kaplan (USA)
Bronze: Chris Westerbeek, Luc Severeijns (NED)

## Junior Pairs, Final B:

First: Aleksandra Jarosz, Izabela Weinhold (POL) Second: Simon Ekenberg, Simon Hult (SWE)
Third: Flavia Lanzuisi, Margherita Chavarria (ITA)


The Youngsters:
Adam Grossack, Adam Kaplan, Michal Gulczynski, Wojciech Kazmierczak, Chris Westerbeek, Luc Severeijns


The Final B podium: Simon Hult, Simon Ekenberg, Aleksandra Jarosz, Izabela Weinhold, Flavia Lanzuisi, Margherita Chavarria

