


MONDAY
AUGUST 24, 2015 ISSUE n. 4

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TODAY'S
SCHEDULE
15.00-16.30 Round 1
16.50-18.20 Round 2
18.40-20.10 Round 3

Juniors \& Kids:
Swiss, 8 rounds qualification Youngsters \& Girls:
Round Robin, 7 rounds qualification


## HEALTH AND MIND PLAY TOGETHER

A workshop will be held today, Monday 24 August, from 11 to 12 in the Auditorium.
NBO Officers, Team Officials, non-playing Captains, Coaches, Managers and Journalists are kindly invited to attend. The players are very welcome as well.
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MILENIJHOTELI



YOUNGSTEBS, $3 \mathbb{E D}$


SEBBASTLANO SCATA 83
ANDREA MLANGANHLLA


The pair events are over, with considerable excitement on the last day in a couple of the flights.
Ola and Mikael Rimstedt from Sweden won the Junior Pairs by nearly two boards. Although some poor results toward the end were making them nervous, they finished ahead of Giuseppe Delle Cave from Italy and Rodrigo Garcia da Rosa from Argentina. Third were Julie Arbit and Sean Gannon from the United States.

The Girls Pairs was much closer. But throughout the final day, the lead was held by the winners, Selena Pepic and Jocana Zoranovic from Serbia. They finished three-quarters of a board in front of Michela Salvato and Giulia Scriattoli from Italy. Third, less than a third of board behind second, were Susanna Broccolino and Enrica Raffa from Italy.
There was a big cheer for the winners of the Kids Pairs, Soren Bune and Christian Lahrmann from Denmark. They are 14 and 12, respectively. Lahrmann had been running a high temperature during the last day, but he and his partner held on to win by just less than one-third of a board from Kacper Kopka and Oskar Trybus from Poland. Third were Wu Zhe and Yuan Zhijie from China.

The Youngsters Pairs was won comfortably by Sun Shiyu and Wei Hongji, who finished almost five boards ahead of Fang Zhengyang and Yin Yichen from China. Third, another board back, were Andrea Manganella and Sebastiano Scata from Italy.

Congratulations to all of the medal winners.

## © VIDEO CORNER <br> CLICKABLE ON WEB



MASTER SOLVER WITH P.ALDER


YOUTUBE CHANNEL: WBFOFFICIAL

## PUT YOURSELF TO THE TEST!

A POTPOURRI OF PROBLEMS


TRIVIA QUESTION
How much do you know about bridge?

| $\wedge$ | K 87 |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\diamond$ | 764 |
| $\diamond$ | 92 |
| $\&$ | A Q 1065 |


| West | North <br> Partner | East | South <br> You |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $1 \uparrow$ | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ |
| Pass | $3 \&$ | Pass | $? ?$ |

What would you do now?
3. Who invented the Stayman convention?

2. Dealer South. N-S Vul.

$$
\text { ヘ } 72
$$

○K865
$\diamond$ K Q J
\& Q 1043
A A Q 9653
$\checkmark 72$
$\diamond$ A 109
\& K 5

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| You | Dummy | Partner | Declarer <br> $1 \Omega$ |
| 14 | 2NT (a) | Pass | $4 \Omega$ |

Pass Pass Pass
(a) At least game-invitational values with four or more hearts

As the other three suits look unappealing, you lead a trump.
How would you hope to take four tricks?

## TRIVIA QUESTION

How much do you know about bridge?
4. You are on a game show, confronted by three doors. You are told that behind one door is a valuable prize, say, a new car. There is nothing behind the other two.
You are asked to pick one of the doors. After doing so, the quiz master opens another door to show you that the car is not there. He then makes you this offer: Stick with the door you initially chose or switch to the other door.
Which should you do, and of which bridge principle is this an example?


## THE NAME OF THE GAME

## by MICKE MELANDER

In the last session of the Junior Pairs in Opatija, the players were put to some real tests with high-level bidding. Let's see what kinds of problems they faced.

First, you, West, have to lead against six clubs from this hand:
ヘ109754 ৩Q9543 $勹 82$ \&

| West | North <br> Ramirez | East <br> Harrison | South <br> Guridi |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | Pass | $1 \boldsymbol{1 0}$ |

(a) Control-bid
(b) Roman Key Card Blackwood
(c) Two key cards and the queen of clubs

Which card would you choose?
On the following board, with all vulnerable, you hold:
-96 ๑K43 3 KQJ4 \&K943

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Henbest | Ramirez | Harrison | Guridi |
|  |  |  | $4 \uparrow$ |

What's your call?


Here are the two full deals.
Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.


Henbest found the killing spade lead. Any other suit would have given declarer the chance to make his contract.
Harrison won with the king when declarer played low from dummy, then shifted to the seven of hearts.
Declarer saw his chance and went up with the ace, unblocked the jack of spades, and continued with a club to dummy's king. He then cashed the ace of spades, pitching a diamond from hand, took the ace of diamonds, ruffed a diamond, and ran his trumps to reach this position:


The last club would have squeezed West if he had held the jack of diamonds and queen-jack of hearts. When that wasn't the case, South had to concede one down.

Let's have a look at the second problem. Harrison decided to try for slam by bidding five notrumps, asking his partner to pick a suit.

Board 11. Dealer East. All Vul.
© Q 82
$\bigcirc$ J 10852
$\diamond 109$
\& J J 106


| West | North <br> Henbest | East <br> Ramirez | South <br> Harrison |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Guridi |  |  |  |
| Dble | $5 \boldsymbol{4}$ | 5NT | Pass |
| $6 \boldsymbol{6}$ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

A double of five spades would have created a top, when slam stood no chance. But give West ace-jack or ace-queen four times in clubs and the same cards and the slam is at worst on a finesse. Here it was completely dead when North led a spade, and the defenders sat back and waited for their trump trick.

Did you do better than our players? And yes, the name of the game in that round was six clubs.

## MAKE ANOTHER SLAM

## by PHILLIP ALDER

$T$here were several slams on the second day of the pair events. How would you plan this one from round 8 ?

Board 21. Dealer North. N-S Vul.
Dummy
A AJ 6
$\checkmark$ AQ 82
$\diamond A 10$
\& A 432
Declarer (You)

- Q 987
© K J 976
$\diamond 6$
\& K 87

| West | North <br> $10 \%$ <br> (a) | East <br> Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | $2 \checkmark$ | Pass |
| Pass | $4 N T$ | Pass |
| Pass | $5 N T$ | Pass |
| Pass | $6 \diamond(e)$ | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |

(a) Strong, artificial and forcing
(b) A slightly aggressive splinter bid
(c) One key card
(d) King of clubs
(e) Grand slam try

I imagine a lot of pairs bid $10-1 \bigcirc-4 \bigcirc$-Pass. It is easier to reach six within a strong-club system -- not that the slam is exactly cast-iron.

However, assuming you get there, what would you do after West leads a diamond? You will find trumps breaking 2-2.


| gо то PAGE: | $\mathbf{1}$ | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |  | 6 |  | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 12 | 13 | 14 |  | 15 |  | 16 |  | 17 |  | 18 |  |
| RESULTS |  | 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PHOTO |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## MAKE ANOTHER SLAM

## by PHILLIP ALDER

This was the full deal:

|  | A A J 6 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A Q 82 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ A 10 |  |
|  | A 432 |  |
| AK 42 |  | A 1053 |
| $\bigcirc 103$ |  | $\bigcirc 54$ |
| $\diamond$ Q J 542 | $W_{S} \mathrm{E}$ | $\diamond$ K 9873 |
| \& Q 106 | S | \& J 95 |
|  | A Q987 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ K J 976 |  |
|  | $\diamond 6$ |  |
|  | \& K 87 |  |

With an unavoidable club loser, the first thing you should realize is that West must hold the king of spades. But does he also have the ten, when you may have to take two finesses?
You should win with dummy's ace of diamonds, ruff the ten of diamonds in your hand, and draw trumps, preferably with dummy's ace and queen. Then play three rounds of clubs.
If they break 4-2 and you are forced to ruff the fourth round, then you should lead the queen of spades. Maybe West will err and not cover with the king; or you might get lucky and find East with a singleton ten. But if the queen is covered by the king, win with dummy's ace, play a trump to your hand, and run the nine of spades.
Here, though, clubs are 3-3. If the defenders slip up and West takes the third round, you are home.

If West defends well, unblocking his queen of clubs, East will win the third round and shift to a low spade. You should play low.
Here, that pulls out West's king and you are home. But if West could cover with the ten, you take the trick with dummy's jack, come back to your hand with a heart (you were careful there, weren't you?), and take a second spade finesse.
How did the competitors get on?
In the Girls event, two pairs reached the slam with one successful: Huang Danlei and Luo Yiyang.
In the Juniors, eight got there, but only two made it: Merih Dikbas-Sena Nur Tozoglu from Turkey and Renee Cooper-Ella Pattison from Australia.
In the Youngsters, one pair got there but failed.
And in the Kids, three pairs were that adventurous and two made it. Shao Yiqin and Wang Yingqi from China and -- fanfares! -- Pawel Hulanicki and Tomasz Kielbasa from Poland, who, after a diamond lead, won all 13 tricks.

There was an interesting development at one table. When declarer, North, came to play on clubs, he cashed dummy's king first, then led low towards his hand. Seeing the potential endplay, Filip Jelic from Serbia smoothly played his queen. Now the declarer wondered if that was from an initial queendoubleton. After some thought, North decided it was (and that West had failed to unblock on the first round of the suit), so played low from his hand. Then, though, Jelic could exit with his third club, and the slam went down.

## THE FIVE-LEVEL BELONGS TO THE OPPONENTS?

by ANA ROTH \& FERNANDO LEMA

several years ago, on 1st March 1950, in her daily bridge column, Helen Sobel (considered one of the best bridge players in the world at the time) and Charles Goren wrote:
Bridge conversation is full of clichés. "Always cover an honor with an honor," "Never lead away from an ace," and "Second hand low" are only a few of dozens. It's the "nevers" and the "always" in most of these phrases that make them lose their value.
Although Helen didn't include "The Five-Level Belongs to the Opponents," these boards played at the five-level gave a top to some very aggressive North-South pairs in Round 9 of the Juniors.

Board 5. Dealer North. N-S Vul.
4 AK 10832
) J 10632
$\diamond 2$
\& 4

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| © J 96 - 697 | N | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 15 } \\ & \text { © AQ } 854 \end{aligned}$ |
| $\diamond$ AK J 10 | W E | $\diamond$ Q 84 |
| \& K 65 | S | \& J 1073 |
|  | A Q 74 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$-- |  |
|  | $\diamond 97653$ |  |
|  | \& A Q 982 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Schols | Delle Cave | van de | Da Rosa |
|  | 14 | 20 | 30 |
| $\bigcirc$ | 4 | 50 | 54 |
| Dble | Pass | Pass | Pas |

Giuseppe Delle Cave opened one spade, East showed his heart suit, Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa indicated game interest with a heart cue-bid, and West raised to the heart game. North decided to compete with four spades, and the non-vulnerable East sacrificed in five hearts.
At this point Da Rosa, unaware that the hearts were 5-5-3, thought that East-West had a better heart fit and, holding his void, said five spades. West happily doubled.
Declarer Delle Cave was lucky to receive the only lead that allowed him to make the contract: a high heart.


North ruffed the ace of hearts in the dummy and carefully calculated how he could fulfill his contract. As Delle Cave at this stage could not afford to give up a trick, he cashed the ace of clubs, and crossruffed clubs and hearts to give this end-position:


Declarer continued leading the queen of clubs.
Whatever West played, the contract was cold. If West had pitched something, declarer would have discarded his diamond loser. West chose to ruff high, so declarer overruffed and drew trumps with his ace and ten ... and claimed 11 tricks by playing the jack of hearts. He lost just one heart and one diamond.

Plus 850 was only a second top because Hitoshi Tanabi and Hirokana Yuge from Japan made two spades doubled with an overtrick for plus 870 .

This board occurred in the same set.
Board 9. Dealer North. E-W Vul.
A 10863
© J 8763
$\diamond-$
\& K Q 95


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Dikbas | Oik. | Tozoglu | Kaplan |
|  | Pass | Pass | $2 \circlearrowleft$ |
| $3 \diamond$ | $4 \diamond$ | Dble | $4 \circlearrowleft$ |
| $5 \diamond$ | $5 \diamond$ | Dble | All Pass |

Although East-West have a cold diamond slam, North-South did not help them to find it.
After two passes, Kaplan opened the bidding with two hearts, showing 10-15 HCP and a three-suiter short in diamonds. Dikbas said three diamonds, and Oikonomopoulos cue-bid four diamonds to ask his partner to choose a major. After Tozoglu doubled, Kaplan picked the heart game.
West now competed in diamonds, and North, with a diamond void, was confident that five hearts doubled would not be expensive.
Against five hearts doubled, Dikbas took the first two tricks with his top spades, then he switched to a club. Declarer won in the dummy and played a low heart. East won with his ace and continued with a spade. South won with his queen, cashed the king of hearts, and conceded two down. But minus 300 was worth 24.56 match points out of 38 .

## HEALTH AND MIND PLAY TOGETHER

continued from the front page
During the workshop, Giovanni Capelli and Bruno Federico, from the WBF Medical Commission, will inform the audience about the project and its on-going results in elite, open and young players (from Lille 2012 to Istanbul 2014). The project is aimed to raise the awareness of Coaches, Captains, Players and everyone else involved in top-level Bridge about their responsibilities on the compliance to the WADA Code in International Competitions, but also on the promotion of healthy lifestyles among athletes, especially the younger ones. In particular, the project aims to educate athletes to be fully aware about any substance (both prescription drugs and dietary supplements) they consume, expecially in the weeks preceding a Competition or during a Competition, to avoid very unpleasant results from possible anti-doping tests.

The project continues during the team competitions here in Opatija, and players from the Junior, Girls and Youngsters teams will be invited to join the interview starting from this afternoon, Monday 24 August. The full schedule of team players invitations and any details about the interviews will be discussed during the workshop held today from 11 to 12 in the Auditorium. You are kindly invited to come...


## 

After ten sessions, with just two to go, Mikael and Ola Rimstedt had a big lead over the second-placed pair, Giuseppe Delle Cave (Italy) - Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa (Argentina). Italian/Argentinian partnerships have become fashionable lately after the success of BocchiMadala and Di Franco-Bianchedi in the Lavazza team. With little chance of catching the Swedish twins, Delle Cave-Garcia needed a solid session to keep hold of second place, and they got just that with $52.54 \%$. However, their session had a lot of ups and downs, starting with this:

Board 2. Dealer East. Vul N-S.
A Q 5

- K 97
®QJ9732
d J 6

A964
○ Q 4
$\diamond$ K 65
\& K Q 1092


- K 3
© J 10853
$\diamond$ A 1084
\& 75

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Garcia | Polak | Delle Cave <br> Overbeeke |  |
| 1NT |  | Pass | $2 \uparrow$ |



Delle Cave-Garcia were playing a forcing onenotrump response and Gazzilli, so they reached the normal contract of four spades in a roundabout way. Two clubs was either natural or a strong hand, and two diamonds showed 8-plus HCP.
This gave North-South an opportunity to have their say by doubling two diamonds and competing to three diamonds. Evidently this was not very wise. Three diamonds doubled might have produced a bigger minus than the opponents' game - although the defence for plus 500 would not have been easy to find. Furthermore, the leaddirecting double prompted South to lead his ace of diamonds - the only lead (apart from a low diamond) to hand East-West a second overtrick: Trumps broke 2-2, and the two heart losers disappeared on the king of diamonds and the fifth club. A somewhat lucky $85.09 \%$ for Delle Cave-Garcia.

Board 3. Dealer South. Vul E-W.

- 9
-A Q 98762
$\diamond 72$
of K Q 6


๑K105
$\diamond$ K J 9
\& J 75

| West <br> Garcia | North <br> Polak | East <br> Delle Cave | South <br> Overbeeke |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | $1 \diamond$ |
| Dble | $1 \diamond$ | $1 \uparrow$ | $2 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $4 \diamond$ | $4 \uparrow$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

East's extremely risky four-spade bid cost his side a lot of matchpoints. In my opinion, Delle Cave endplayed himself by not pre-empting to three spades in the previous round and letting partner take it from there. Garcia's failure to bid two spades was also an alarm signal.
When dummy hit the table, Delle Cave saw that he was losing five tricks off the top, vulnerable vs not, but he still tried his best: The jack-ofhearts lead held, and a second heart was ruffed. Declarer played two rounds of trumps and played a diamond towards dummy. South rose with the ace and continued the suit. Declarer decided to risk down three in order to have an outside chance of down one. He finessed dummy's jack, discarded a club on the king of diamonds, ruffed the last heart, and went back to dummy with a spade to the queen.
Now he led a low club from dummy. North played low, and East inserted the ten. South started thinking! Indeed, if declarer's holding were of K-10-9, playing low would have been correct - but if this was the case, why hadn't declarer led the jack of clubs? South got it right in the end. He won with the ace of clubs, and East went two down.
East-West got a surprisingly high $26.61 \%$ of the matchpoints, since there were three other tables in four spades doubled, two tables in five hearts doubled and made, and one table where East was passed out in a transfer bid of two hearts for minus 600 .

Board 5. Dealer North. Vul N-S.
A A K 6
© Q J 32
$\diamond$ Q J 5
\& 943

| - Q 54 | N | ¢ 732 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ๑K1076 | W E | $\bigcirc 8$ |
| $\diamond 83$ | $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{S}} \mathrm{E}$ | $\diamond$ AK 9742 |
| \& A Q 86 |  | \& J 107 |
| A J 1098 |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ A954 |  |  |
| $\diamond 106$ |  |  |
| K 52 |  |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| v.d.Boom | Delle Cave | Langelaan | Garcia |
|  | $10 \%$ | $3 \diamond$ | Dble |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

Langelaan had a perfect weak jump overcall of two diamonds, but since the vulnerability was in his favour, he decided to bid "one more".
Garcia chose to double rather lightly, and his partner made the correct matchpoint decision of passing. They had to defend well to justify this - any delay in cashing their side winners would have resulted in a discard on dummy's fourth club. Garcia led the obvious jack of spades, and after three rounds of spades, Delle Cave found the heart switch.
At this stage, the most important card in the deck was Garcia's ten of diamonds. Had it been in declarer's hand, he could have made the contract via a double finesse against North, but as the cards lay, declarer's cause was hopeless. Down one doubled gave Delle Cave-Garcia 93.34\% of the matchpoints.


Another good result came when Ioannis Oikonomopoulos did not find a winning line in a complicated three-notrump contract.

Board 8. Dealer West. Vul None.
A A 10
$\checkmark$ A Q 7
$\diamond$ Q 843
\& Q 983

- 72

งJ8542
$\diamond 106$
\&) 10765

, K J 64
$\checkmark 109$
$\diamond$ AJ 92
\& A J 2

- Q 9853
-K 63
$\diamond$ K 75
\& K 4

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Garcia | Oik. | Delle Cave Kaplan |  |
| Pass | $1 N T$ | Dble | Pass |
| $2 \Omega$ | Pass | Pass | 3NT |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

North's 1NT was 14-16. East doubled to show 14 -plus. South passed at first, then bid three notrumps after West ran to two hearts.
East led the ten of hearts, won by North in his hand. Every high card except the jack of hearts was marked in East's hand, but the play was still very difficult. Declarer continued with the ace of spades and ten of spades, which was ducked. Now he had to break a minor suit.
Amazingly, the shorter one, clubs, was the winner. For example, North could have played a low club to the king, followed by the king of hearts, and another club from dummy. East could have taken his club tricks, but afterwards would have been helpless.
On the other hand, after a low diamond to the king, as Ioannis actually played at trick four, the contract could no longer be made. Declarer continued with two rounds of hearts, finishing in his hand, and now Delle Cave could afford to discard the jack of spades.
A low club followed, and East ducked. With nothing better to do, declarer switched to spades, squeezing himself! His discard of a low diamond allowed East to play the ace of diamonds and follow with the jack of diamonds to endplay North. Had North discarded a club instead, East would have continued with the ace and jack of clubs. Then Garcia's ten of diamonds once again would have
turned out to be a highly important card, because if declarer played a low diamond, West's hand would have been high; or if declarer played the queen of diamonds, East's hand would have been high.
However, the last board was a disappointment for the Italians. Once again Delle Cave-Garcia bid too much vulnerable and conceded 500.

Board 9. Dealer North. Vul E-W.
AJ 10743
งK 53
$\diamond$ Q 53
of J 2


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Garcia | Oik. | Delle Cave Kaplan |  |
|  | Pass | $1 \uparrow$ | $2 \propto$ |
| Pass | Pass | $2 \uparrow$ | Dble |
| $3 \diamond$ | Dble | $3 \uparrow$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

It would have made more sense to bid three diamonds with that West hand on the first round - if the bid would have been natural and preemptive. Once East volunteered a two-spade bid, it would have been wiser for West to pass when the doubling started. Officially South's double was for takeout, but North was going to penalize his opponents in any contract.
Both three diamonds and three spades were poor spots. Adam Kaplan led the ace of clubs against three spades doubled. He continued the suit, allowing Delle Cave to discard two hearts from dummy. North ruffed the third club and continued with the four of spades, but declarer was not brave enough to run this to dummy's nine and escape for one down. He won with the ace of spades and led his diamond, but Kaplan went up with the ace and did very well to play a low heart, allowing his partner to win with the king and to lead the jack of spades, after which Delle Cave could not avoid two down.
It was not a total disaster: Delle Cave-Garcia had some company in minus 500, and some pairs did even worse with the East-West cards. They received $29.53 \%$ of the matchpoints.

| 7 | 18 |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | 8 |

## SPRINT FOR THE FINISH LINE

## by DAVID STERN

## The last 21 boards

Having elected to bypass the Youngsters U21 event, the twenty-year-old twin brothers, Ola and Mikael Rimstedt, led the field of the Juniors U26 from board nine onwards, and were a shade under two tops ahead with the last 21 of 111 boards to go. My Swedish spies had told me that this pair were strong medal contenders.

Did a World Championship title await them? Let's see. Board one certainly looked like good things were happening.

Board 1. Dealer North. Nil Vul.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { A } & \text { A Q J } 82 \\
\diamond & 4 \\
\diamond & 9 \\
\& & \text { Q } 97532
\end{array}
$$



ค 104
© J 108762
$\diamond$ K J 104
A K 975
$\checkmark$ KQ93
$\diamond 873$
\& $A 4$

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Percario | Ola | Chavarria | Mikael |
|  | Pass | $2 \varnothing$ | Pass |
| $2 N T$ | $3 \circlearrowleft$ | Pass | $4 \uparrow$ |
| Dble | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Margherita Chavarria, in addition to representing Italy in these Junior Championships, will also be playing for Italy in this year's Venice Cup in Chennai, a very rare feat indeed. However, this result will not be one that will go down in her bridge memoirs after conceding minus 590. Mikael lost only a heart, a diamond and a club. The Rimstedts gained almost all of the matchpoints.

But the Italians were soon to have their revenge.


Board 2. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

- Q 5
© K 97
$\diamond$ QJ9732
\& J 6


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percario | Ola | Chavarria | Mikael |
|  |  | 14 | Pass |
| 2NT | Pass | 3\% | Pass |
| $3 \diamond$ | Dble | 4\% | Pass |
| $4 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ | Pass |
| 40 | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Mikael led the unfortunate ace of diamonds, allowing declarer to pitch one heart loser on the king of diamonds and the other on the long club. Plus 480 gave North-South just 14.81\%.

Board 3. Dealer South. E-W Vul.
© 9
$\checkmark$ AQ98762
$\diamond 72$
of K Q 6

West

Percario \begin{tabular}{lll}
North <br>
Ola

$\quad$

East <br>
Chavarria

 

South <br>
Mikael <br>
$1 \diamond$
\end{tabular}

With plus 500 available against four spades doubled by East-West, it was essential for Ola to make five hearts. With a diamond and a spade to lose, it all came down to picking the heart suit for no losers. After Chavarria led the ten of clubs, North won with dummy's ace and played the jack of hearts, which was covered by the king and ace. He then crossed to dummy with a diamond to the ace, correctly assuming that the diamond finesse was failing, and played a second heart from dummy. When West played low, declarer put the six of hearts at the end of his hand -- as I thought to myself, well picked -- but after much subsequent thought he decided to play the queen and went one down with a very poor board.

That was not the start that they had hoped for.
After a slightly above average board, I watched the following auction:

| West | North <br> Ola | East | South <br> Mikael |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1 \%$ | $1 \diamond$ | Dble | Pass |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | Pass | $2 \diamond$ |

You will note that I have left out the names of E-W and now I will tell you why. At this point East-West called the director to announce that West had 15 cards and East had just noticed that he had only 11 cards. The good news is that as the non-offending side, the Rimstedts gained a valuable 60\% board.

There is a saying that if you play with cats, you will get scratched, clearly something the opponents didn't know before playing this deal.


| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bergami | Ola | Calma | Mikael |
|  | Pass | 14 | $2 \%$ |
| Pass | Pass | 3 | Dble |
| 44 | Dble | All Pas |  |

The defenders took two spades, two hearts, one diamond and one club to collect 800 and nearly all of the matchpoints.

With just 12 boards to go, the Rimstedts were more than two tops clear of the field.



Board 12. Dealer West. N-S Vul.
a K 109
$\bigcirc$ K J
$\diamond$ AK 107643
44

| 4 J 853 | N | A A Q 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 109762$ | W E | $\bigcirc 854$ |
| $\diamond$ J 9 | W E | $\diamond$ Q 8 |
| \& A Q |  | \& K 7532 |
|  | - 742 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ A Q 3 |  |
|  | $\diamond 52$ |  |
|  | \& J 1098 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ola | Aydogdu | Mikael | Gokce |
| Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass | 1NT |
| 2\& (Majors) | 2NT | Pass | 3NT |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

It looks as though North looked at his playing strength rather than his point count, while his partner felt he was raising opposite a good hand. With East on lead, a club would likely have sunk the contract with two spades and three hearts. That was also possible with West leading a black suit, but who could seriously blame Ola for leading a heart? That was ten tricks to declarer and almost no matchpoints for our leaders.

When you are leading a tournament, having a three-board bye round is one of the best things that can happen to you. Contrary to what many players think, you do not receive $50 \%$ for that bye, but your percentage score remains the same.

After some relaxation, it was back to the battlefield and probably what proved to be the Rimstedts' worst round of the 35 so far.

Board 16. Dealer West. E-W Vul.

- Q 32
$\checkmark$ K 87
$\diamond K 6$
\& K Q 932


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ola | Harrison | Mikael | Henbest |
| Pass | $1 N T$ | (a) | Pass |
| $2 \diamond$ | $2 \diamond$ | (b) |  |
| (c) | $3 \propto$ | Pass | $3 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \diamond$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

(a) 13-15
(b) Transfer
(c) Spades and a minor

Perhaps three clubs showed a five-card suit and implied some heart support, and three diamonds was a retransfer. Anyway, the final contract was reasonable, and especially so when declarer won the diamond lead with the ace, cashed two top trumps, and proceeded to play the king of clubs, a club to the ten, the ace of clubs, a diamond to the king, and his last two clubs to pitch spades from the dummy. Conceding 450 gave the Rimstedts only $32 \%$.


Board 17. Dealer North. Nil Vul.
A Q 83
$\checkmark 1063$
$\diamond$ AK 1053
\& 104



| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ola | Harrison | Mikael | Henbest |
|  | $1 \diamond$ (??) | Dble | $3 \&($ minors) |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $5 \diamond$ | Pass | $6 \circlearrowleft$ | All Pass |

The slam seemed to depend on finding a doubleton queen of clubs, together with some favourable trump or spade position. Anyway, it was not to be on this deal, but one down was not as bad as might have been expected, scoring 38\%.

And the final nail.

Board 18. Dealer East. N-S Vul.
4 J 986
$\odot$ A
$\diamond 109$
\& 1098432


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ola | Harrison | Mikael | Henbest |
|  |  | $1 \uparrow$ | $3 \varnothing$ |
| $4 \uparrow$ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Did declarer err on this deal? You be the judge. South led the queen of hearts, ducked in dummy and won by North's ace. The two-of-clubs return was won by declarer, who then tried to cash a second high club in order to take a club ruff in the dummy.

At this point the roof fell in - South ruffed the club and gave his partner a heart ruff, which, together with the ace of diamonds, was one down and $12 \%$.

We can see that declarer had a certain eleven tricks by playing the spades sensibly. That would have scored 70\%.

At this point, with only three boards to go, they were still 1.5 tops ahead of second. But the bad run that they had just experienced could have been weighing on their minds.

On the next two deals they scored average, to reach the final board of the tournament:

Board 21. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

- 982
$\checkmark$ Q 42
$\diamond \mathrm{K} 4$
Q Q 10873

| $\wedge$ | A J 64 |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\diamond$ | 6 |
| $\diamond$ | Q 10975 |

\& K 94


- Q 105
$\checkmark$ AKJ 97
$\diamond$ A632
of 2

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Donati | Ola | Gandoglia | Mikael |
|  | Pass | Pass | $1 \Omega$ |
| Dble | $2 \circlearrowleft$ (bad raise) $3 \boldsymbol{\%}$ | $3 \circlearrowleft$ |  |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | Pass |
| $4 \boldsymbol{4}$ | Dble | All Pass |  |

North-South were certainly overboard in three hearts. One could question each of East's and West's actions: the takeout double opposite a passed hand, the free bid of three clubs while holding defensive values and four hearts, and the takeout double in the pass-out seat. This gave the Rimstedts a 90\% board instead of average in three hearts.

I am pleased to report that Ola and Mikael Rimstedt from Sweden survived a $51.51 \%$ session to win by almost two tops from Giuseppe Delle Cave, from Italy, and Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa, from Argentina.

## THE RACE FOR THE GOLD

## by RAM SOFFER

0ver two and a half days, the lead changed hands many times in the Kids Pairs event. At first it seemed that this new world title would go to China, but with one session to go there were only two pairs with a realistic chance for gold: Poland's Kopka-Trybus and Denmark's Bune-Lahrmann.
In the short final session (only 6 boards) both leading pairs scored over 70\%. Apparently their tired opponents, who had lost competitive interest, did everything in their power to help them.

Board 1. Dealer North. Vul None.
A A J 32
○ K J 105
$\diamond$ K 6
\& 1084
AK 1065
$\diamond 943$
$\diamond$ A 32
\& K 75

© Q 4
$\checkmark$ A Q
$\diamond$ Q 9754
\& A J 92
か987
$\bigcirc 8762$
$\diamond$ J 108
\& Q 63

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bune | Song | Lahrmann Yang |  |
|  | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass |
| 1ヵ | Pass | 1NT | Pass |
| 3NT | Pass | Pass | Pass |

The Danes play a weak-notrump opening, so that Lahrmann's one-notrump rebid showed 1517.

Instead of a normal heart, Yang led declarer's suit. His jack of diamonds was overtaken by North's king, and declarer won the heart continuation with his queen.
Now Lahrmann ran his diamonds, and North discarded three clubs, creating a finessing position against his partner's queen. Lahrmann led the jack of clubs, but when South failed to cover, declarer became nervous and asked his opponents many questions about their carding agreements.
Eventually he played the king of clubs to this
trick, missing a chance for plus 460 . However, after South won the next trick with his queen of clubs, he switched to a spade instead of a heart. So the final result was plus 430, which gave East-West no less than 78.95\%, as several pairs missed game, and some others went down in three notrumps.

The next board was misplayed by Qi Song, who missed possible overtricks in two spades, giving the Danish pair 68.42\%.

Then the leaders displayed their defensive skill after a serious underbid by an opponent.

Board 3. Dealer South. Vul E-W.
AA 62
$\checkmark 1052$
$\diamond$ K 876
\& A K J


| West <br> Bune | North <br> Song | East <br> Lahrmann | South <br> Yang <br> Pass |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass | $1 \circlearrowleft$ |
| Pass | $1 N T$ | Pass | $2 \varsigma$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | $2 \uparrow$ |
| Pass | $2 N T$ | All Pass |  |

Apparently Song downgraded his flat 15-count and didn't open one notrump, but later he should have bid game after his partner's invitational sequence. Four hearts didn't look great, but it would have made due to the fall of West's queenjack of trumps.
Lahrmann led the two of clubs against two notrumps, and declarer gave up his chance for five heart tricks by running his ten. Bune won the trick and took full advantage of his opponent's error by switching to the queen of diamonds. When
that held, he followed with the ten of diamonds. Declarer ducked again, but Bune realized that a third round of diamonds would allow North to score his king. Thus West switched to spades, and declarer could do no better than cash eight top tricks.
This fine defence was rewarded with $84.21 \%$ of the matchpoints. Bune/Lahrmann needed every one of those matchpoints, because their Polish rivals were having a great session as well.
On the very next board, the Danes got 100\% by making one notrump doubled with two overtricks, while Kopka-Trybus scored a normal plus 90 for 60.53\%.

The Polish pair finished on a high note, thanks to good defence and persistent overbidding by their opponents:

Board 5. Dealer North. Vul N-S.
A 87
$\bigcirc$ K J 4
$\diamond$ AK 109
\&9653

$\checkmark 107$
$\diamond$ Q 542
\& K 8


A 104
©A98532
$\diamond 3$
\& Q 1072

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Shang | Trybus | Yu | Kopka |
|  | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $1 \uparrow$ | Pass | $2 \uparrow$ | Pass |
| $4 \uparrow$ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

West had 11 HCP plus some shape, but his diamonds were too weak opposite partner's length and the hand was aceless. A trial bid of three diamonds would have been the best solution, but Shang blasted into game. The punishment was swift: ace-king of diamonds, diamond ruff, ace of hearts, heart to the king, and another diamond ruff. Plus 150 meant $86.84 \%$ for North-South. The result was duplicated at Bune-Lahrmann's table, so this board didn't help the Polish pair in the race for the gold medal. The next one did, though.


Board 6. Dealer East. Vul E-W.
a K 108
© K 87
$\diamond 8753$
\& 832


- 42
$\bigcirc 542$
$\diamond$ AK 64
\& 9765

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Shang | Trybus | Yu | Kopka |
|  |  | 14 | Pass |
| 1NT | Pass | 34 | Pass |
| 44 | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 5\% | Pass | 54 | All Pass |

I would rather not comment on East-West's poor bidding, which got them unnecessarily high. This board had an interesting defensive point after the obvious ace-of-diamonds lead and the king-ofdiamonds continuation. The trap that South had to avoid was switching to a trump, as East needed two finesses to capture North's king, but unfortunately he had only one dummy entry in the queen of clubs.
Trybus did his best to help his partner by playing the eight of diamonds on the second round, indicating preference to hearts. Kopka did switch to a heart, and now it was all over for declarer, who could finesse spades only once.
This gave the Poles $89.47 \%$, while the Danes allowed 11 tricks to be made and scored 10.53\%. However, the Danes' excellent results in the five previous boards sufficed to win the tournament.
Congratulations to Soren Bune - Christian Lahrmann, who took the event with $59.67 \%$, slightly ahead of Kacper Kopka-Oskar Trybus on 59.34\%.

## SOLUTIONS

## TO THE TEST ON PAGE 3

1. With both sides vulnerable, you pick up:

| A K 87 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 764$ |  |
| $\diamond 92$ |  |
| \& A Q 1065 |  |
| North | East |
| Partner |  |
| 19 | Pass |
| $3 \%$ | Pass |


| West | North <br> Dummy | East <br> Pourtner | South <br> Declarer <br> $1 \Omega$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | $1 \Omega$ |
| 1ヵ | 2NT (a) | Pass | $4 \Omega$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

(a) At least game-invitational values with four or more hearts

It should be clear that your partner, East, has few values. He cannot hold the king of spades or ace of clubs, unless South has taken a big gamble.
So, you should hope to take these four tricks: two spades, one diamond and one club. But to get those spades, you might need partner to lead the suit through declarer.
South draws trumps and plays a diamond. Rise with your ace and exit safely with a diamond. Declarer will take his tricks there and play a club to his ace. You must be ready -- sacrifice the king under the ace. Then East must get in for the lethal spade switch.
Keep the king of clubs in your hand and you will be endplayed, forced to lead a spade or concede a ruff-and-discard.
3. Who invented the Stayman convention?

It was devised independently by George Rapée in New York City and Jack Marx in London.
Rapée was Sam Stayman's partner when he had the idea. He suggested it to Stayman, who liked it and promptly wrote an article about it for The Bridge World magazine.
4. You are on a game show, confronted by three doors. You are told that behind one door is a valuable prize, say, a new car. There is nothing behind the other two.
You are asked to pick one of the doors. After doing so, the quiz master opens another door to show you that the car is not there. He then makes you this offer: Stick with the door you initially chose or switch to the third door.
Which should you do, and of which bridge principle is this an example?
You should change and take the third door.
If you picked a losing door - two chances out of three the quiz master had no choice when he opened a door.
But if you picked the winning door, the quiz master had a choice of door to open.
You should assume he had no choice -- the Principle of Restricted Choice.

| Go to page: | $\mathbf{1}$ | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- |
|  | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | 13 | 14 | $\mathbf{1 5}$ |

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## BANRING

JUNIOR PAIRS - FINAL RANKING


| 1 | WEI Hongji | SUN Shiyu | CHN - CHN | 61.22 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | YIN Yichen | FANG Zhengyang | CHN - CHN | 57.29 |
| 3 | SCATA Sebastiano | MANGANELLA Andrea | ITA - ITA | 56.41 |
| 4 | FANG Dongke | WANG Zihan | CHN - CHN | 55.96 |
| 5 | MACZKA Stanislaw | TRENDAK Lukasz | POL - POL | 55.20 |
| 6 | HUANG Yongkang | CHEN Biteng | CHN - CHN | 54.03 |
| 7 | HERMANN Sophie | ALTER Florian | AUT - GER | 53.11 |
| 8 | JASINSKI Piotr | BACZEK Krystian | POL - POL | 52.90 |
| 9 | CHIARANDINI Francesco | GAIOTTI Alvaro | ITA - ITA | 51.46 |
| 10 | VAN OOSTEN Sibrand | PABST Philipp | GER - GER | 50.81 |
| 11 | SUN Qian | WANG Xihao | CHN - CHN | 48.86 |
| 12 | HU Yiyang | YU Zhaochen | CHN - CHN | 48.65 |
| 13 | LIU Yizhou | LIU Haochen | CHN - CHN | 46.86 |
| 14 | GIUBILO Gianmarco | GIUBILO Gabriele | ITA - ITA | 46.80 |
| 15 | MYLLAERI Maria | KOIVU Oskari | FIN - FIN | 46.43 |
| 16 | VORNKAHL Leonard | JESSE Stig | GER - GER | 45.52 |
| 17 | DENG Cheng | LI Yingzhe | CHN - CHN | 45.40 |
| 18 | CAI Haoxiao | WANG Jiayi | CHN - CHN | 44.60 |
| 19 | WANG Zhaohong | ZHOU Zhenlin | CHN - CHN | 44.17 |
| 20 | VELJA Stefan | VAZIC Stojan | SER - SER | 43.97 |
| 21 | LIU Quan | LIU Guangfu | CHN - CHN | 39.99 |

## BANRIING

GIRLS PAIRS - FINAL RANKING

| 1 | ZORANOVIC Jovana | PEPIC Selena | SER - SER | 57.08 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | SALVATO Michela | SCRIATTOLI Giulia | ITA - ITA | 56.46 |
| 3 | RAFFA Enrica | BROCCOLINO Susanna | ITA - ITA | 56.22 |
| 4 | MOLINA Diana | GERSTMANN Sofia | CHI - CHI | 55.17 |
| 5 | HUANG Danlei | LUO Yiyang | CHN - CHN | 53.68 |
| 6 | HU Ling | XIA Qi | CHN - CHN | 53.56 |
| 7 | RUAN Xinyao | YUAN Aijia | CHN - CHN | 53.15 |
| 8 | LU Yijia | CHEN Jiyao | CHN - CHN | 52.59 |
| 9 | CHEN Yunpeng | YU Yue | CHN - CHN | 51.72 |
| 10 | SHI Qinyi | LUO Yifei | CHN - CHN | 50.46 |
| 11 | DI MAURO Agnese | TANINI Flaminia | ITA - ITA | 50.36 |
| 12 | JIN Huiyuan | GE Chenyun | CHN - CHN | 50.34 |
| 13 | CHEN Tian | ZHAO Yuqiao | CHN - CHN | 50.12 |
| 14 | LU Xinying | ZHANG Yuqian | CHN - CHN | 49.04 |
| 15 | HAO Mengqi | MA Lingyi | CHN - CHN | 48.37 |
| 16 | LIU Guangli Wendy | LUO Xinyi | CHN - CHN | 48.25 |
| 17 | LIYiran | SHI Lemiao | CHN - CHN | 48.09 |
| 18 | WU Min | HUANG Wenying | CHN - CHN | 46.96 |
| 19 | SUN Yingying | SHAO Liwen | CHN - CHN | 45.81 |
| 20 | BAO Zhiyun | QIU Tian | CHN - CHN | 45.44 |
| 21 | VILLEGAS Francisca | ROMAN Valentina | CHI - CHI | 43.58 |
| 22 | NACRUR Francisca | PALAU Macarena | CHI - CHI | 42.14 |
| 23 | YU Wenfei | WU Sihao | CHN - CHN | 41.43 |

## BANREING

KIDS PAIRS - FINAL RANKING

| 1 | BUNE Soren | LAHRMANN Christian | DEN - DEN | 59.67 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | KOPKA Kacper | TRYBUS Oskar | POL - POL | 59.34 |
| 3 | WU Zhe | YUAN Zhijie | CHN - CHN | 57.18 |
| 4 | WANG Penghao | MAO Ruicheng | CHN - CHN | 56.63 |
| 5 | WANG Yingqi | SHAO Yiqin | CHN - CHN | 56.21 |
| 6 | CHENG Licong | YUN Yu | CHN - CHN | 55.99 |
| 7 | LI Renyu | SHANG Yijun | CHN - CHN | 55.60 |
| 8 | WU Meng-Fei | LEE Yi-Hsien | TPE - TPE | 55.22 |
| 9 | NARKIS Itai | BANIRI Ilai Ilan | ISR - ISR | 55.21 |
| 10 | DAI Hanyang | WANG Ruizhe | CHN - CHN | 54.74 |
| 11 | PAN Randy | JIANG Baozhuo | CHN - CHN | 53.67 |
| 12 | KIELBASA Tomasz | HULANICKI Pawel | POL - POL | 53.52 |
| 13 | CHEN Yen-Jung | LO Chi-Hsuan | TPE - TPE | 52.87 |
| 14 | LIN Ziqiao | LIU Dingwei | CHN - CHN | 52.79 |
| 15 | YU Haoqing | QIU Shi | CHN - CHN | 52.25 |
| 16 | SHANG Hua | YU Xinchen | CHN - CHN | 51.92 |
| 17 | DING Yuanzhe | CAI Zixi | CHN - CHN | 51.89 |
| 18 | YANG Qipeng | SONG Qi | CHN - CHN | 51.87 |
| 19 | XUE Wenjie | TONG Jiaxin | CHN - CHN | 51.41 |
| 20 | SZUCS Leo | TOTH Andrea | HUN - HUN | 51.31 |
| 21 | PORTA Federico | CAPOBIANCO Sophia | ITA - ITA | 51.18 |
| 22 | SCHARO Jonathan | ARGELAZY Roi | ISR - ISR | 50.86 |
| 23 | NIU Yuanzhe | ZHANG Boxin | CHN - CHN | 50.65 |
| 24 | KO Hsiang-Yi | SUN Li-Jen | TPE - TPE | 50.58 |
| 25 | LIU Yihong | ZHANG Tiancheng | CHN - CHN | 50.42 |
| 26 | LIU Siyuan | YAO Tianle | CHN - CHN | 49.68 |
| 27 | AALTO Aleksi | HUHTAMAKI Hermanni | FIN - FIN | 49.47 |
| 28 | OTTO Viktor | DOERMER Felix | GER - GER | 48.02 |
| 29 | LAN Yi-Ting | HUANG Yu-Chen | TPE - TPE | 46.91 |
| 30 | FAN Hung-Sheng | CHU Yi-Pin | TPE - TPE | 46.88 |
| 31 | XIE Yichen | HU Yang | CHN - CHN | 46.75 |
| 32 | LI Mingtai | CHEN Yihong | CHN - CHN | 46.21 |
| 33 | BOREVKOVIC Vlatko | RENNIE Finn | CRO - AUS | 44.62 |
| 34 | SONG Yifu | WANG Jiaqi | CHN - CHN | 44.21 |
| 35 | RIEGER Mona | NORDMANN Leonie | GER - GER | 43.46 |
| 36 | MEREGALLI Matteo | CARLETTI Alessandro | ITA - ITA | 43.44 |
| 37 | ZHUO Zhili | ZHUO Zhiyong | CHN - CHN | 42.23 |
| 38 | DRAGHI Luca | BRUSOTTI Cristina | ITA - ITA | 40.66 |
| 39 | CHANG Ko-Wei | CHIU Chen-Syuan | TPE - TPE | 40.48 |
| 40 | HOSKING Conor Francis | CLIFFORD Patrick Randle | AUS - AUS | 38.24 |
| 41 | ROBERTSON Liam James | ROBERTSON Aiden Jack | AUS - AUS | 35.63 |


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