



WORLD YOUTH BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

3rd - 13th AUGUST 2016

SALSO MAGGIORE TERME / ITALY

Daily Bulletin

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LET THE FINALS BEGIN

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All the Participants of the BAM tournament are kindly required to take their mobile phones with them to the venue on Friday afternoon.

Captains, coaches and players who are attending the World Bridge Games in Wroclaw may fill in their commitment forms here in Salsomaggiore.

SCHEDULE

10:00 - 12:00: J, G, Y F 1 - BAM Consolation
13:30 - 15:30: J, G, Y F 2 - BAM Consolation
15:50 - 17:50: J, G, Y F 3 - BAM Consolation
18:10 - 20:10: J, G, Y F 4 - BAM Consolation



POLAND



CHINA

VS JUNIOR



AUSTRALIA



NETHERLANDS

VS GIRLS



ITALY



NETHERLANDS

VS YOUNGSTERS

The 84-board final match line-ups are decided.

In the Juniors, Poland easily defeated Sweden and will face China, who won a tough struggle with the Netherlands.

In the Youngsters, the Netherlands got revenge for their juniors by defeating China. They will play against Italy in the final, who had a very strong fourth quarter (36-6) to defeat China Hong Kong.

The Girls final will be the Netherlands against Australia. The Dutch had an early night, Norway conceding after 42 boards. The match between Australia and Indonesia was close, but the Australians gained 20imps over the last eight boards to win by 5.

Fourteen teams compete for the B-a-M title.



PUT YOURSELF TO THE TEST!

PRACTICE MAKES LESS IMPERFECT



Bridge is a bidder's game

1. Dealer South. E-W vul.
North (Dummy)
♠ 5 2
♥ K Q J 9
♦ A J 8 7
♣ 10 4 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

East (You)
♠ K J 9 4
♥ 7 2
♦ K 5 3
♣ A J 9 6

West	North	East	South
Partner	Dummy	You	Declarer
Pass	3♥	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	4♥

How would you plan the defense after partner leads a fourth-highest spade three?



Opportunities multiply as they are seized. (SUN TZU, Art of War)

3. Dealer East. None vul.
♠ A Q 8 3
♥ J
♦ 9 6 3
♣ J 10 6 5 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 6
♥ A K Q 5 2
♦ J 5 2
♣ Q 3 2

West	North	East	South
		1♥	1♠
Dble (a)	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble (b)	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) Negative: length in both minors
(b) Extra values

West, anticipating that North was sacrificing, leads the four of spades. Declarer wins with dummy's queen and leads the jack of hearts. How should East plan the defence?



To know your Enemy, you must become your Enemy. (SUN TZU, Art of War)

2. Dealer South. Both vul.
Dummy
♠ 9 3 2
♥ 5
♦ 8 7 5 4
♣ 10 7 6 4 3

Opening lead: ♦ A

Declarer (You)
♠ A K Q J 10
♥ A K Q J 10
♦ --
♣ A K Q

West	North	East	South
	Partner		You
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣ (a)	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	7♠

(a) Double negative, some 0-3(4-) points

You might have reached the final contract a lot quicker, perhaps with this sequence:

2♣-2♦-2♠-3♣-7♥-7♠-Pass.

West leads the ace of diamonds. You ruff and cash the ace of spades, but East discards a diamond.

How would you plan the play?

Solutions on page 14.
Or CLICK HERE on the web version



A CRITICAL BOARD

RAM SOFFER

Youngsters Teams Quaterfinal, Session 4

Wednesday was quarter-final day: 12 matches in total. Most of them were rather one-sided, with nothing much to play for during the fourth quarter (in two cases the match was even conceded by the losing team after three sessions). However, the Israel-Netherlands Youngsters match went right down to the wire. True, in such a situation every board is critical, but in my opinion the following deal, where Asaf Yekutieli had to play in a contract of 4♠ doubled, was of special significance.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>L. Stougie</i>	<i>Toledano</i>	<i>M. Stougie</i>	<i>Yekutieli</i>
	Pass	1♣	1♠
Dble	3♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

The bidding was rather normal. 15 HCP was probably not within the Dutch 1NT range, so East opened 1♣. West made a negative double on minimal values, and North's 3♣ was a "mixed" four-card raise. The nine-card fit significantly strengthened South's hand, so he bid a game. East voiced his opinion that the opponents had overbid with a double.

At the other table, East opened 1NT and the Israelis "stole" the deal in 4♥ undoubled. This could have been five down after the ♦A lead, but South led the ♣A (as expected) and switched to ... a low diamond, allowing declarer to get rid of two losing clubs and escape for one down.

So far, so good for Israel. The remaining task was to make ten tricks after the ♣8 lead.

Obviously, declarer had to ruff diamonds in dummy, so Yekutieli started with ♦A, ruffed a diamond (noting the fall of East's ♦Q 10), crossed to his ♥A, and led

another diamond from hand. Declarer feared 5-2 diamonds, so he decided to play it "safe" and insert ♠Q, just in case. The diamond king appeared from East. Declarer's diamonds were now high, but in fact he had just lost his contract, though he might not have been aware of it yet.

A losing heart was duly discarded on the ♣K, but then a trump was led and the ugly 4-0 break was revealed. East won with his ♠A and forced declarer with a heart. At this stage both East and South had exactly three trumps remaining and the defender was holding the top card, which meant that declarer had lost control. As a result, all four of East's spades became winners and the contract went one down.

Should South have suspected the 4-0 break? In fact, his chosen line would have produced an overtrick against 2-2 or 3-1 trumps. However, I don't consider him unlucky. Yekutieli should have asked himself: why did East double when his only sure defensive tricks were ♠AK? Indeed, if we move one of East's spades to his heart suit, for example, the penalty double would look rather silly.

Experienced declarers know that in such circumstances, against good opposition, penalty doubles mean bad breaks, and the way to overcome the bad break is to cross-ruff instead of trying to establish the master hand, for example: ♣A, ♦A, ♥A, ♦ ruff, ♣K (♥ discard), ♥ ruff, ♦ ruff (with a low trump), ♣ ruff and ♦ ruff (now with the ♠Q). So far declarer has eight tricks, so East must overruff, but there is no way to stop South from scoring two more trump tricks.

In fact, at the highest level, East would not double 4♠ with such a hand, so as to avoid giving declarer any hints.

When this deal was played Netherlands led 89-80.5. Making the doubled contract would have given Israel the lead. Going one down cost only 4 IMPs, but the whole momentum changed against Israel. In the next two deals the Dutchmen made all of the right decisions and their lead grew to 115-80.5. Israel didn't give up and staged a late rally, but they ended up agonizingly 1.5 IMPs short.

Thus Israel's dream to have both of its teams among the medals was dashed. Overall, though, their Youngsters' performance was creditable. One critical board could have changed everything ...





FANTASY IN SALSOMAGGIORE ON A THEME OF BELLADONNA

BARRY RIGAL

The two deals in this article represent problems that were not faced by any players. They are my homage to Giorgio; explanation to follow.

First:

♠ A
♥ A
♦ K Q J 10 5
♣ A K J 9 5 4



♠ Q 10 8 7 4
♥ 10 3
♦ A 4
♣ Q 8 3 2

West	North	East	South
2♣	4♥	Pass	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♦	All Pass

You lead the ten of hearts. On the ace, partner plays a suit-preference nine.

Declarer now plays the king of diamonds, which goes nine, six to you. Plan the defence.

Next problem:



♠ Q J 10 7 2
♥ K 6
♦ K 10 4
♣ 5 4 2

♠ A 8
♥ 8 7 4 2
♦ Q 7 6 3
♣ 9 6 3

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	Pass
2NT (a)	Pass	3♥ (b)	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣ (c)	Pass	4♦ (d)	Pass
4♥ (d)	Pass	6♠	All Pass

(a) 20+-22 points

(b) Transfer

(c) Spade support and a source of tricks in clubs

(d) Control-bid

Your partner (North) leads the nine of hearts, promising the ten or shortage, with or without a

higher honour. Declarer wins with dummy's king and plays a top trump from dummy. Plan the defence.

The first deal is from the quarterfinals of the Junior event, where six diamonds was reached by Poland.

On a similar auction to this, declarer led a top trump, ducked, and when it held (North playing the nine), East shifted to clubs. This would have been the losing line had North found the splendid false-card in trumps, with a doubleton diamond and singleton club, the full deal being:

♠ J 9 5
♥ K Q J 9 8 6 5
♦ 9 2
♣ 10

♠ A
♥ A
♦ K Q J 10 5
♣ A K J 9 5 4




♠ K 6 3 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ 8 7 6 3
♣ 7 6

♠ Q 10 8 7 4
♥ 10 3
♦ A 4
♣ Q 8 3 2

This way North gets to ruff the second club and defeat the slam; whereas if you win with the ace of diamonds, declarer cannot go wrong. In fact in real life the nine of diamonds was a singleton and so it was necessary for declarer to go after clubs at trick three, which he did.

In the second deal, again I have switched a spot card – in real life South had ace-third of spades and one fewer club to make the defense somewhat harder.



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

Two declarers (Giovanni Donati and Omar Shaheen) played the six-spade slam from West after a heart lead. They both took a diamond ruff early and played trumps, starting with the king from hand. It was somewhat easier for the defenders to duck a trump here, and now when they won the second and played a club, declarer took the percentage line when he finessed rather than trying to run hearts to pitch dummy's clubs.

But if declarer plays a trump at trick two, you have to duck the ace of spades – never quite so easy when you have a doubleton – to destroy declarer's timing, for the same reason.

So why is this an homage to Giorgio Belladonna? His BOLS bridge tip was to consider utilizing the ace of trumps to maximum effect; never truer than in these two deals.




A GEM FROM THE QUARTERFINAL

BARRY RIGAL

This deal occurred during the second stanza.

Board 19. Dealer South. E-W vul.

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

long diamonds, 3♦ suggested a minimum hand with only four hearts.

Christian Bakke (West) led a low spade; declarer took the spade in hand (8, J, A) and led a spade to the ten, Harald Eide (East) contributing the seven.

Now came a diamond finesse, East's two being upside down count. When Bakke won this, he decided declarer rated to be 3-6 in the pointed suits. Obviously the defenders needed to run hearts now, and the question was whether to play partner either for ♥AQx (when a low heart would let him cash out easily); or ♥Q9x and ♣A, in which case again a low heart was necessary; or, if declarer had a singleton honor, the ♥K was necessary to cater for the stiff ♥Q.

Bakke decided that with eight hearts and six clubs visible in the two hands, declarer rated to be 1-3 more often than 2-2, so shifted to ♥K to defeat the game. This was worth a 10 IMP pick-up when 3NT made in the other room.

Mikael and Ola Rimstedt bid this to 3NT:
1♦-1♥-2NT-3♦-3NT.
1♦ was natural and unbalanced, 2NT extras with

The Chilean delegation would like to thank all involved in making possible their participation in this tournament: the Club de Bridge Santiago, COCH, the Matte family, bridge players at Club Los Leones and the WBF.

They also wish to extend an invitation to the 7th South American Transnational Bridge Festival in Santiago from May 3 to 17, 2017.





ANTICIPATE THE FUTURE

PHILLIP ALDER

One important bridge skill in anticipating what will happen. Being able to alter an opponent's future is harder to achieve, but fun when it happens.

This deal occurred during the first session of the semifinals.

Board 11. Dealer South. None vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Cooper	Sefita	Pattison	Fytry 2♠
Dble	3♠	Dble	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Ningtias	Brake	Sibuea	Fuller 2♠
3♠ (a)	4♠	Dble (b)	Pass
6♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) Asking partner to bid three notrumps with a spade stopper

(b) Card-showing

At every other table where diamonds were trumps, South either played the ace and king of spades at the first two tricks, or won with the king of spades and shifted to a club.

Each declarer realised that if South had the ace and king of spades, (s)he could not also have the king of diamonds. So they all cashed the ace of diamonds and dropped North's king.

This happened in the Open Room of the Girls semifinal between Australia and Indonesia. So Renee

Cooper took twelve tricks.

Only Kirstyn Fuller from Australia anticipated this future. To change it, she won trick one with the ace of spades and immediately switched to the nine of clubs. Now the declarer, Elsy Saktia Ningtias from Indonesia, thought that Jessica Brake (North) had the king of spades. This made it likely that South had the king of diamonds, and as long as North was not void in trumps, dummy's seven of diamonds would be an invaluable second dummy entry.

West won with her ace of clubs, cashed the ace of hearts, played a heart to dummy's king, and returned a low diamond to her queen.

If that had held the trick and both opponents had followed suit, declarer would have cashed the ace of diamonds, led a diamond to dummy's seven, and hoped to discard her remaining clubs on the hearts.

However, the finesse lost. Brake (North) then cashed her king of clubs and gave her partner a club ruff for three down and 11 imps to Australia.

That was timely anticipation by Kirstyn Fuller.



KIRSTYN FULLER
AUSTRALIA



CHINA VS NETHERLANDS

MURAT MOLVA

Junior Teams Semifinal, Session 1

The semifinal encounter between China and the Netherlands rated to be an exciting match-up. China completed the round robin in third position and won their quarterfinal match against Singapore by the huge margin of 124 IMPs; and the Netherlands has been *the* most successful country in the 16th World Youth Teams Championships, being represented in every category semifinal (Juniors, Youngsters, Girls) by very strong teams.

China started the 4-segment match (4 x 14 boards) with a 4 IMPs carryover.

There are mainly two schools of thought regarding the number of boards in a segment. Some believe that it does not matter, and depending on time restrictions, any number of boards is acceptable; while others insist that dealer's position and vulnerability evens out only in a 16-board segment, and hence the segments *must* consist of 16 boards.

China drew first blood on Board 2.

Dealer East. NS vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Overbeeke	Tao	Polak	Z. Tang
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦ (a)	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	All Pass
(a) Hearts			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wei	Kiljan	Sun	Tijssen
		Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

The Closed Room auction and play were routine: +110 for China. But the Dutch pair in the Open Room investigated the game possibilities before applying the brakes in three hearts.

Overbeeke ducked the ♣Q opening lead, took the continuation and played three rounds of spades, pitching his club loser. Then he ruffed a club in hand.


Readers of my articles would know that I advocate the implementation of a personal alarm bell for each player at the table. This bell would be programmed to ring whenever the player is expected to do something extraordinary, so that he or she will not go down by routine play.

Overbeeke was probably aware that there was a risk of the defence promoting their ♥9 as the setting trick, but it was far from clear that, at this point, the only winning line was to play diamonds, spurning the finesse for the diamond king. However, it looked so natural to play a trump when trying to prevent a promotion, so Overbeeke exited with the heart queen. The Chinese defence was accurate. The ♥9 was promoted, 3♥ went down one and China gained 4 IMPs.



SHIYU SUN
CHINA

Board 6. Dealer East. EW vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Overbeeke</i>	<i>Tao</i>	<i>Polak</i>	<i>Z. Tang</i>
1♥	2♥ (a)	2NT (b)	4♠
5♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) Spades and a minor suit
 (b) Good 4+-card heart support

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wei</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
1♥	4♦	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

There was slam on the cards thanks to the to-be-proven finesse for the ♣J, but it was difficult for either East or West to drive to slam without any shortness.


Overbeeke, the Dutch West in the Open Room, did well to take the push to 5♥ to save the vulnerable game bonus for his side.



VERI KILJAN
NETHERLANDS

In the Closed Room, Kiljan applied maximum pressure with a 4♦ overcall and, with the aid of the favourable vulnerability, took the opportunity of introducing his spade suit as well. The 4♠ sacrifice went down three (don't ask!), and this was good enough for 5 IMPs to Netherlands.

Board 7. Dealer South. All vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Overbeeke</i>	<i>Tao</i>	<i>Polak</i>	<i>Z. Tang</i>
1♣	1♥	2♥ (a)	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) Spades

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wei</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
1♣	1♥	Dble	3♣
Pass	4♥	Dble	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

This is the type of board that, when comparing scores after the session, players ask their teammates if they are talking about the same deal or not.

The Open Room bidding was quite short and almost boring. Tang, South, did not even bother raising partner's hearts with four-card support. West, Overbeeke, took his partner's transfer to the spade suit and made 8 tricks. +110 for Netherlands.

The Closed Room bidding was quite a different affair. Everybody at the table was bidding or doubling. At some point, China was all set to get +500 from 4♥ doubled, but when the smoke cleared, the Chinese pair had reached the dizzy heights of 5♣ doubled. This contract went down 2 for another +500 to Netherlands, and 12 IMPs.

Board 8. Dealer West. None vul.

	♠ K 10 9		
	♥ 9 7 6		
	♦ J 2		
	♣ K 10 8 4 3		
♠ A Q J 6 5 4 ♥ J 5 ♦ A K 9 7 ♣ 7	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ -- ♥ Q 10 8 3 2 ♦ 8 4 3 ♣ A Q J 6 2	
	♠ 8 7 3 2		
	♥ A K 4		
	♦ Q 10 6 5		
	♣ 9 5		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Overbeeke</i>	<i>Tao</i>	<i>Polak</i>	<i>Z. Tang</i>
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wei</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the Open Room, Overbeeke decided to begin describing his distribution with a 2♦ rebid. He planned, perhaps, to follow with two spades if necessary. When Polak, looking at a spade void (never a good sight) passed, the description session ended early. West made two overtricks to register +130.

In the Closed Room, Wei was more ambitious and wanted to underline his good six-card spade suit with a jump-rebid. East, Sun, was looking at the same void in his hand and decided to try his luck in 3NT.

Tijssen (South) led the ♥A, saw his partner's ♥9, a discouraging signal, and shifted to a diamond. Sun took his ace and played dummy's ♥J, overtaking with the ♥Q in hand. The Dutch North, Kiljan, probably regretted his decision to contribute the ♥9 to the first trick. South took the ♥K and continued the diamond attack. The declarer, Sun, let North's ♦J win the trick. Kiljan tried a club return now, which allowed declarer to take his first club finesse for the king. Sun cashed his three established heart tricks and went to dummy's diamond king. Reading the cards perfectly, he cashed dummy's ♠A and exited to North's ♠K to get his second club finesse for his ninth trick. Well played for +400 and 7 IMPs for China.

It is hard to see the double-dummy defence that, after the ♥A lead, will beat 3NT (provided that the declarer plays the spots off the cards). South must shift to a club

at the trick two. Bridge can be a tough game.

Board 9. Dealer North. EW vul.

	♠ A J 6 5		
	♥ 4 3		
	♦ A 9 8		
	♣ A K 10 3		
♠ K Q 9 ♥ J 10 9 6 5 ♦ K J 6 ♣ 9 8	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 8 7 4 3 ♥ 8 2 ♦ 4 3 2 ♣ Q J 6 2	
	♠ 10 2		
	♥ A K Q 7		
	♦ Q 10 7 5		
	♣ 7 5 4		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Overbeeke</i>	<i>Tao</i>	<i>Polak</i>	<i>Z. Tang</i>
	1♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wei</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦ (a)	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT (b)	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

(a) Normal reverse or 16-18 balanced
(b) 16-18 balanced

Board 9 had big potential for a swing for either side. In the Closed Room, Kiljan-Tijssen had a misunderstanding. Both Tijssen and Kiljan assumed that, based on their bids so far, their side held an eight-card diamond fit, so the poor slam on a 4-3 fit was reached, going two down.

When China stopped in 3NT after a strong-club auction, the kibitzers calculated 11 IMPs for China. But after a heart lead, the Chinese declarer, Tang, started the diamonds by playing the ace.

Incidentally, what is the best way to play this diamond combination for three tricks? You may want to check www.suitplay.com for the answer. If you are a married man, asking your wife is another good solution.

Cashing the ♦A left the declarer with only eight tricks and no time to establish the ninth. So, the cost of the poor slam to the Netherlands was only 2 IMPs. Cheap fun, I would say.

Board 11. Dealer South. None vul.

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

This was the sensational board of the segment, and was full of action in all matches.

In the Closed Room, Kiljan tried to hit his partner's major suit by leading his shorter major, hearts. The Chinese West, Wei, cashed the first five heart tricks. Tijssen, South, to his credit, did not pitch any diamonds, and when declarer took the diamond finesse, Kiljan was able to guess his partner's major suit this time(!) and 3NT went one down.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Overbeeke</i>	<i>Tao</i>	<i>Polak</i>	<i>Z.Tang</i>
3♦	Pass	3♥	2♦ (a)
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

The real drama was in the Open Room. South, Tang, led the ♠A and saw his partner's ♠6. Could East have bid 3NT with ♠Q3 only? South finally decided that this would have been too good to be true, so he shifted to a diamond. Now it was Polak's turn to shine. He went up with the diamond ace(!). He probably reasoned that South would not have opened a Multi with a good suit *and* a side king. His analysis was accurate and the stiff king offside bonus was +490 and 11 IMPs for Netherlands.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wei</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
3NT	Pass	Pass	2♦ (a)
(a) Weak two in one of the majors			

Netherlands won the set 35-21 and with the 4 IMPs carryover for China, led the match by 35-25 IMPs.



Santiago 2017

7th South American Transational Bridge Festival

3-13 May 2017 / Santiago-Chile

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ITALY vs CHINA HONG KONG

RAM SOFFER

Youngsters Teams Semifinal, Session 2

Three of the four Italian teams didn't make it past the qualification stage, so the Youngsters team remained the sole hope of the host country for glory.

So far they have done it in style, finishing top of the qualification round robin and winning their quarterfinal match smoothly. In the semifinals they faced a tougher opponent – China Hong Kong. Italy started with a carryover of 8.5 IMPs, but it was wiped out during the first session, which finished: China Hong Kong 32, Italy 29.5.

The Italians started the second session with a bang:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ J 6					
♥ Q 3					
♦ J 9 5					
♣ A 10 6 5 4 3					
♠ K 10 9 7 5 2	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A 3
N					
W E					
S					
♥ 6 5		♥ J 10 8 7 4 2			
♦ 8 7 6		♦ A Q 10			
♣ Q 7		♣ K 2			
♠ Q 8 4					
♥ A K 9					
♦ K 4 3 2					
♣ J 9 8					

West	North	East	South
<i>Chiarandini</i>	<i>Chan</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Tsang</i>
2♠	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Chan didn't find a way to show his clubs over 2♠. Gaiotti may have attempted to trap his opponents by a non-invitational raise to 3♠, which didn't turn out so well as there was a fair chance that 2♠ would have bought the contract.

Chan led a diamond, ducked to South's king. Tsang played ♥AK and continued hearts. His partner overruffed the ♠9 with ♠J and cashed ♣A, but later declarer successfully finessed against the ♠Q to escape for one down.

West	North	East	South
<i>Man</i>	<i>Manganella</i>	<i>Tseng</i>	<i>Scatà</i>
Pass	3♣	3♥	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦

For some reason, Niko Man avoided the weak jump overcall at favourable vulnerability and paid the price. Andrea Manganella responded to his partner's opening with a constructive jump to 3♣. East fought for the contract with 3♥, but South decided to bid 3NT with club support and a double stopper in the opponent's suit.

A diamond lead would have immediately developed the required five tricks for the defence. Even a spade lead could have been good enough, but West was faithful to his partner and led a heart, after which the 21-HCP game easily rolled home.

That was 11 IMPs to Italy, and they added 13 more during the next three boards thanks to some busy bidding by China Hong Kong that led to unnecessary minus scores.

Then it was China Hong Kong's turn to score 26 unanswered IMPs.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A 3					
♥ 10 8 7 3					
♦ A 8 3 2					
♣ A K 7					
♠ K J 7 4	<table border="1" style="width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 9 6 5 2
N					
W E					
S					
♥ A Q		♥ J 9 4			
♦ Q 9 7 6 4		♦ K 10 5			
♣ 9 2		♣ J 8 6			
♠ Q 10 8					
♥ K 6 5 2					
♦ J					
♣ Q 10 5 4 3					

West	North	East	South
<i>Chiarandini</i>	<i>Chan</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Tsang</i>
<i>Man</i>	<i>Manganella</i>	<i>Tseng</i>	<i>Scatà</i>
1♦	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The auctions were simple and identical. Both Easts led ♦5, covered by J-Q-A. At trick 2, both declarers played low trumps from both hands, and both Wests won with their ♥Q.

Francesco Chiarandini cashed his ♥A and switched back to diamonds. This didn't make declarer sweat. Chris Chan drew the outstanding trump and cashed his clubs for ten easy tricks.

Niko Man preferred to continue the diamond attack.

Declarer ruffed in dummy and led a low trump, forcing out the ♥A, but he had the ruff the next diamond with his ♥K.

Andrea Manganella cashed his ♣AK. The readers can see that he should have continued with a trump, but he couldn't be sure that East would have no diamond to cash after winning with his ♥J. Instead, declarer played two more rounds of clubs, letting East ruff and hoping that he would have to underlead his ♠K. This didn't happen, so declarer finished one down. It was a poor line of play, taking into account West's vulnerable opening bid of 1♦.

There followed a series of boards where the lead constantly changed hands. On Board 23, Italy stopped in 1NT with 25 HCP, but they were lucky as the 3NT bid in the other room didn't make due to a 5-1 club break (and in addition declarer missed a chance to make it nevertheless). On Board 24, Italy overbid to 4♥ and China Hong Kong found the killing lead, while in the other room 3♥ from the other side was allowed to make with an overtrick. Next, China Hong Kong's South passed what seemed to be a forcing bid by his partner, granting Italy 7 IMPs free of charge.

Two boards later, Italy surrendered that lead:



Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Chiarandini</i>	<i>Chan</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Tsang</i>
Pass	1♠	Dble	2NT
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

2NT was an invitational (or better) four-card raise. North duly declined the invitation, and he needed the heart finesse to make 3♠. When the defenders failed to take their club tricks in time, declarer managed an overtrick by discarding one of dummy's clubs on his diamonds.

West	North	East	South
<i>Man</i>	<i>Manganella</i>	<i>Tseng</i>	<i>Scatà</i>
Pass	1♠	Dble	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	4♠

Sebastiano Scatà decided that he knew better than his partner, and bid 4♠. The defenders were alert and took their four top tricks to gain 6 IMPs.

The session concluded with a nice defence by the Italian East-West pair:

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Chiarandini</i>	<i>Chan</i>	<i>Gaiotti</i>	<i>Tsang</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	All Pass	





After keeping quiet during the bidding, Chiarandini led his heart singleton. Gaiotti's ♥J forced out the ♥A. Declarer started drawing trumps and East won with the ♠K. Giving partner a heart ruff was premature. Alvaro Gaiotti found the nice diamond switch. Jackson Tsang lost the finesse to the ♦K, and West continued diamonds.

Now declarer tried to sneak the ♠8 through, but Chiarandini trusted his partner's play of ♠K (denying ♠Q), went up with ♠A and gave his partner a diamond ruff. There followed ♥K, heart ruff and ♣A for down two and +200.





Had they been playing matchpoints, it would have been a deserved top. In the context of this match, it was a moderate swing of 3 IMPs (at the other table West opened 1♦ and eventually made 2♣ with an overtrick), yet it sufficed to grab the lead at half-time, albeit at the tiniest possible margin: Italy 71.5, China Hong Kong 71.

My impression was that neither team manage to produce its A-game in this session, and that the one who does over the remaining sessions will win.





JUNIOR SEMIFINALS

	c.o.	1	2	3	4	tot.
 POLAND	8	15	47	50	25	145
 SWEDEN	0	15	9	19	32	75
	c.o.	1	2	3	4	tot.
 CHINA	4	21	21	47	35	128
 NETHERLANDS	0	35	50	1	38	124

GIRLS SEMIFINALS

	c.o.	1	2	3	4	tot.
 INDONESIA	1	25	35	35	16	112
 AUSTRALIA	0	35	27	32	24	118
	c.o.	1	2	3	4	tot.
 NORWAY	11	28	63	79	0	181
 NETHERLANDS	0	11	21	28	0	60

YOUNGSTERS SEMIFINALS

	c.o.	1	2	3	4	tot.
 ITALY	8.5	21	42	43	36	150.5
 CHINA HONG KONG	0	32	39	59	6	136
	c.o.	1	2	3	4	tot.
 GERMANY	0	29	34	22	25	110
 NETHERLANDS	0.67	31	55	49	31	166.7



click on the picture from the web version to open the video



Plan, Count, Plan
by Gilad Ofir



All for One
& One for All



Peace & Sport
Hand by Hand

BAM TEAMS

Answers to the Quiz
on page 2

FINAL RANKING

1	ENGLISH LIONS	142.80
2	MUNDAYS FUNDAYS	135.00
3	FRANCE1	119.80
4	USA JUNIORS	117.80
5	BAM FOREVER	117.60
6	INDIAN TIGERS	111.60
7	FRANCE3	109.20
8	ENGLISH CUBS	107.80
9	NORWAY JUNIORS	107.40
10	ITALY JUNIORS	105.80
11	RI1	102.60
12	KENTUCKY	101.80
13	POLAND GIRLS	101.60
14	JAPAN	100.80
15	ISRAEL YOUNGSTERS	99.80
	POLAND YOUNGSTERS	99.80
17	SWEDEN FULDANSARNA	99.60
18	CUTIES	95.80
19	MANITOBA	94.60
20	ARGENTINA JUNIORS	91.60
21	SINGAPORE JUNIORS	91.20
22	MISFITS	90.00
23	CHILE GIRLS	89.80
	CHILE U21	89.80
25	TPE MACACA CYCLOPIS	88.80
26	TAIPEI PRECISION	88.60
27	LATVIA	87.80
28	ITALY GIRLS	84.80
29	TAIPEI DOLPHIN	82.20
30	AUSTRALIA	80.80
31	BERMUDA FUNIONS	77.80
	GERMANY JUNIORS	77.80

1. Dealer South. E-W vul.

♠ 5 2
 ♥ K Q J 9
 ♦ A J 8 7
 ♣ 10 4 2

♠ 10 8 7 3
 ♥ 4 3
 ♦ 9 6 4 2
 ♣ K 8 5

N	E
W	S

♠ K J 9 4
 ♥ 7 2
 ♦ K 5 3
 ♣ A J 9 6

♠ A Q 6
 ♥ A 10 8 6 5
 ♦ Q 10
 ♣ Q 7 3

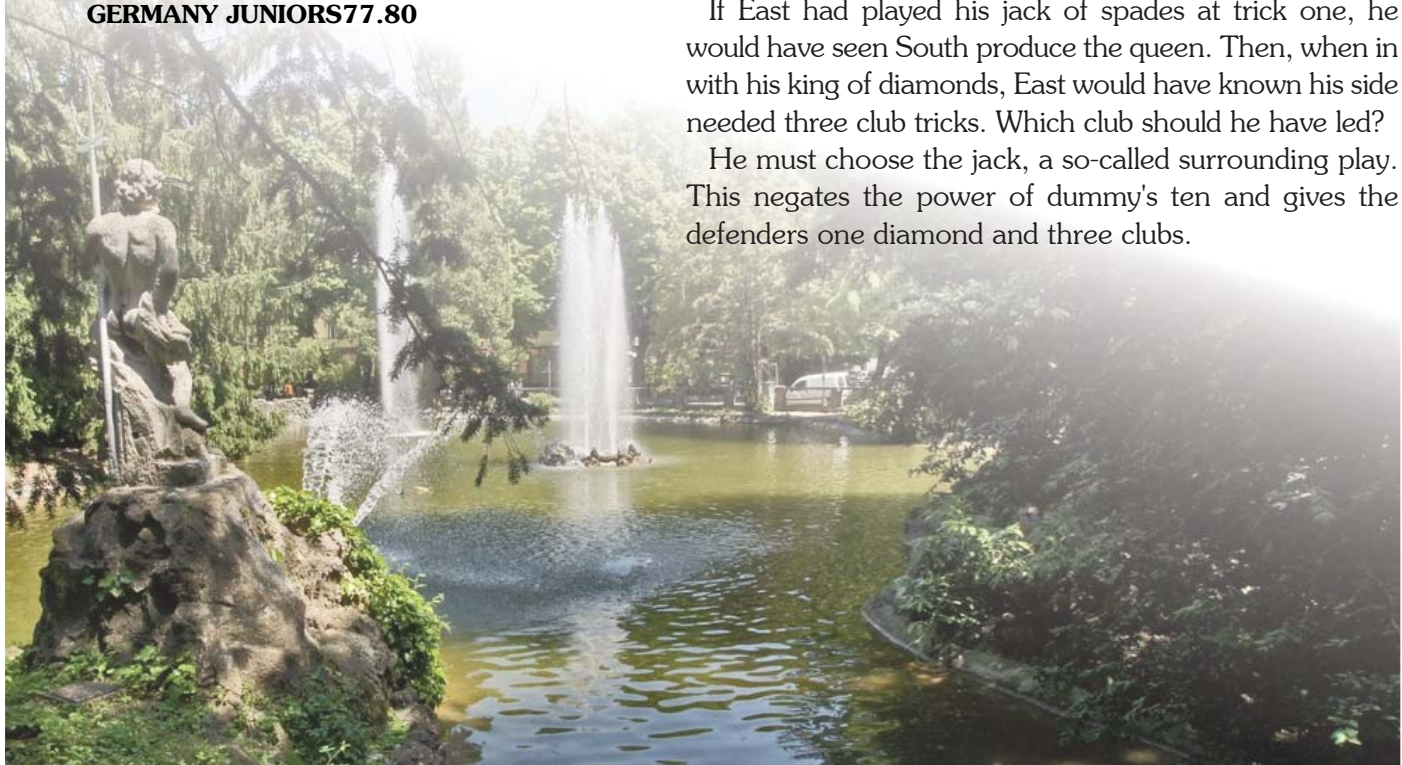
West	North	East	South
Partner	Dummy	You	Declarer
			1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

How would you plan the defense after partner leads a fourth-highest spade three?


At the table, South won East's spade king with his ace, drew two rounds of trumps, and ran the queen of diamonds. East took the trick with his king and returned a spade, but declarer won with his queen and claimed eleven tricks: two spades, five hearts, three diamonds and a spade ruff in the dummy.

If East had played his jack of spades at trick one, he would have seen South produce the queen. Then, when in with his king of diamonds, East would have known his side needed three club tricks. Which club should he have led?

He must choose the jack, a so-called surrounding play. This negates the power of dummy's ten and gives the defenders one diamond and three clubs.



2. Dealer South. Both vul.

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

West	North <i>Partner</i>	East	South <i>You</i>
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣ (a)	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	7♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) Double negative


You might have reached the final contract a lot quicker, perhaps with this sequence: 2♣-2♦-2♠-3♣-7♥-7♠-Pass.

West leads the diamond ace. You ruff and cash the spade ace, but East discards a diamond.

How would you plan the play?

Since West has one more trump than you do, you must lead winners through him. If he ever ruffs, you can overruff with dummy's nine of spades, draw trumps, and claim. However, while leading hearts, you can discard only four of dummy's five clubs. Before touching the hearts, cash the ace of clubs. If West ruffs that, the contract had no chance.

When the ace survives, shift to hearts. Unless West ruffs, pitch clubs from dummy. With this layout, you will eventually reach this position:

♠ 8 7 6 5 ♥ -- ♦ K Q ♣ --		♠ -- ♥ -- ♦ J 10 9 ♣ J 9 8	♠ 9 3 ♥ -- ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ 10 ♠ K Q J ♥ 10 ♦ -- ♣ K Q
------------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------	--


If West ruffs the ten of hearts, overruff and draw trumps. If he throws a diamond, discard dummy's last club, then lead a club.

Note that if you do not cash the ace of clubs before leading the fifth heart, West will discard his singleton club and you will fail, because he will ruff the ace of clubs.

Yes, here you could delay taking the ace of clubs until after four rounds of hearts, but not if West has, for example, 5=2=5=1 shape. Then he will pitch his club on the third heart to defeat your grand slam.

Just your everyday deal!

3. Dealer East. None vul.

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

West	North	East	South
		1♥	1♠
Dble (a)	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble (b)	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) Negative: length in both minors
 (b) Extra values

This deal came from a practice match in Australia many years ago in which I was the declarer.

West had found the only killing opening lead. And at the table, East automatically returned his second trump at trick three. However, I won in hand with the jack and ran the ten of hearts, discarding one of dummy's diamonds.

After winning with the king, East switched to a diamond, but it was too late. I won with the ace and discarded dummy's last diamond on the nine of hearts. I lost three heart tricks but that was all. I had the rest with a high heart and a crossruff.

It was very difficult to see (unless warned by the question being set on paper or having Murat Molva's bell ringing in your ear), but if East had switched to a diamond at trick three, I could not have done it. If I finessed the queen (or ducked to West), a trump return would have held me to nine tricks. If I won with the ace of diamonds and ran the ten of hearts, discarding a diamond from the dummy, East could have won with the king, played a diamond to his partner, and a trump exit again would have left me a trick short.



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