



Opatija, 24 August 2011

Bulletin nr. 3

Eight Teams Left



The Congress Centre under the hot Croatian Sun

The last round of the Swiss was tension-packed, with so many teams able to qualify for the quarterfinals. The difference in victory points between third and twelfth was only 13.

In the end, though, Australia-1 dropped from eighth to tenth despite beating Ned-Rum by 17-13. And France defeated Netherlands Juniors, who had been second, by 19-11 to leapfrog from tenth to eighth.

The unluckiest team was USA. They overcame their fellow countrymen, USA-U21, by 21-9 to end on 164 vps, the same as France. The tie was split based on the sums of the victory-point totals of each team's ten

opponents. This is to make it harder for a team to qualify that starts poorly and moves up the rankings late in the day playing the weaker teams. Using this method, France qualified. USA needed three more imps for another victory point.

Quarter Final Line-Up

- 1: ARG URU vs TURKEY 1
- 2: TURKEY 3 vs NED RUM
- 3: NED JUNIORS vs JAPAN
- 4: ITALY 1 vs FRANCE

The winners of matches 1 and 2 will face each other in the semis, as will 3 and 4.

Results

Swiss Teams Round Six

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| JAPAN | TURKEY 3 | 1 | 36 | 5 | 25 |
| NED JUNIORS | ARG URU | 26 | 11 | 19 | 11 |
| ITALY 1 | NED RUM | 5 | 10 | 14 | 16 |
| SWEDEN | USA U21 | 28 | 19 | 17 | 13 |
| FRANCE | GERMANY | 40 | 0 | 25 | 4 |
| USA | AUSTRALIA 2 | 29 | 34 | 14 | 16 |
| POLAND | VICKYS VIKINGS | 19 | 35 | 10 | 20 |
| ITALY 2 | TURKEY 1 | 1 | 39 | 4 | 25 |
| AUSTRALIA 1 | VENEZUELA | 53 | 17 | 25 | 5 |
| KATTBRIDGE | NED YOUNG | 38 | 34 | 16 | 14 |
| IRELAND BLUE | CROATIA | 9 | 22 | 11 | 19 |
| ITALY GIRLS | TURKEY 2 | 35 | 24 | 18 | 12 |
| CROATIA KIDS | IRELAND GREEN | 47 | 30 | 20 | 10 |
| AUSTRIA | Bye | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0 |

Swiss Teams Round Seven

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| TURKEY 3 | NED JUNIORS | 13 | 21 | 13 | 17 |
| ITALY 1 | FRANCE | 16 | 17 | 15 | 15 |
| JAPAN | NED RUM | 24 | 30 | 14 | 16 |
| ARG URU | SWEDEN | 23 | 4 | 21 | 9 |
| USA U21 | TURKEY 1 | 11 | 12 | 15 | 15 |
| AUSTRALIA 1 | AUSTRALIA 2 | 11 | 19 | 13 | 17 |
| VICKYS VIKINGS | USA | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 |
| POLAND | KATTBRIDGE | 18 | 6 | 18 | 12 |
| NED YOUNG | ITALY GIRLS | 14 | 19 | 14 | 16 |
| GERMANY | CROATIA | 13 | 15 | 14 | 16 |
| ITALY 2 | IRELAND BLUE | 33 | 8 | 22 | 8 |
| AUSTRIA | CROATIA KIDS | 88 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| TURKEY 2 | IRELAND GREEN | 43 | 23 | 21 | 9 |
| VENEZUELA | Bye | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0 |

Swiss Teams Round Eight

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| NED JUNIORS | NED RUM | 28 | 25 | 16 | 14 |
| TURKEY 3 | ITALY 1 | 25 | 18 | 17 | 13 |
| ARG URU | FRANCE | 29 | 18 | 18 | 12 |
| JAPAN | USA U21 | 19 | 42 | 8 | 22 |
| TURKEY 1 | SWEDEN | 33 | 1 | 24 | 6 |
| AUSTRALIA 2 | VICKYS VIKINGS | 27 | 34 | 13 | 17 |
| AUSTRALIA 1 | USA | 40 | 29 | 18 | 12 |
| KATTBRIDGE | ITALY GIRLS | 18 | 36 | 10 | 20 |
| POLAND | NED YOUNG | 46 | 4 | 25 | 3 |
| GERMANY | ITALY 2 | 10 | 11 | 15 | 15 |
| VENEZUELA | AUSTRIA | 34 | 33 | 15 | 15 |
| TURKEY 2 | CROATIA KIDS | 24 | 21 | 16 | 14 |
| IRELAND BLUE | IRELAND GREEN | 37 | 19 | 20 | 10 |
| CROATIA | Bye | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0 |

Swiss Teams Round Nine

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| TURKEY 3 | ARG URU | 9 | 33 | 8 | 22 |
| NED JUNIORS | TURKEY 1 | 14 | 23 | 13 | 17 |
| NED RUM | FRANCE | 21 | 13 | 17 | 13 |
| ITALY 1 | USA U21 | 35 | 18 | 20 | 10 |
| POLAND | JAPAN | 13 | 35 | 8 | 22 |
| AUSTRALIA 1 | ITALY GIRLS | 20 | 8 | 18 | 12 |
| VICKYS VIKINGS | SWEDEN | 3 | 23 | 9 | 21 |
| AUSTRALIA 2 | ITALY 2 | 38 | 17 | 21 | 9 |
| USA | CROATIA | 28 | 0 | 23 | 7 |
| GERMANY | IRELAND BLUE | 60 | 9 | 25 | 1 |
| KATTBRIDGE | TURKEY 2 | 4 | 37 | 6 | 24 |
| VENEZUELA | CROATIA KIDS | 5 | 20 | 11 | 19 |
| AUSTRIA | IRELAND GREEN | 42 | 14 | 23 | 7 |
| NED YOUNG | Bye | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0 |

Swiss Teams Round Ten

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----|----|----|------|
| ARG URU | ITALY 1 | 21 | 24 | 14 | 15.5 |
| NED JUNIORS | FRANCE | 13 | 27 | 11 | 19 |
| TURKEY 3 | TURKEY 1 | 12 | 17 | 14 | 16 |
| NED RUM | AUSTRALIA 1 | 6 | 15 | 13 | 17 |
| JAPAN | AUSTRALIA 2 | 11 | 17 | 14 | 16 |
| USA U21 | USA | 16 | 35 | 9 | 21 |
| POLAND | GERMANY | 16 | 24 | 13 | 17 |
| SWEDEN | ITALY GIRLS | 37 | 19 | 20 | 10 |
| VICKYS VIKINGS | ITALY 2 | 43 | 16 | 23 | 7 |
| AUSTRIA | TURKEY 2 | 18 | 11 | 17 | 13 |
| VENEZUELA | IRELAND BLUE | 33 | 27 | 16 | 14 |
| NED YOUNG | CROATIA KIDS | 40 | 14 | 23 | 7 |
| CROATIA | IRELAND GREEN | 32 | 21 | 18 | 12 |
| KATTBRIDGE | Bye | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0 |

Ranking after Round Ten

| | | |
|----|----------------|-------|
| 1 | ARG URU | 177 |
| 2 | ITALY 1 | 171.5 |
| 3 | NED JUNIORS | 171 |
| 4 | TURKEY 3 | 170 |
| 5 | TURKEY 1 | 169 |
| 6 | NED RUM | 167 |
| 7 | JAPAN | 166 |
| 8 | FRANCE | 164 |
| 9 | USA | 164 |
| 10 | AUSTRALIA 1 | 162 |
| 11 | AUSTRALIA 2 | 161 |
| 12 | SWEDEN | 157 |
| 13 | VICKYS VIKINGS | 156 |
| 14 | GERMANY | 154 |

| | | |
|----|---------------|-------|
| 15 | USA U21 | 153 |
| 16 | POLAND | 152 |
| 17 | AUSTRIA | 149 |
| 18 | NED YOUNG | 142 |
| 19 | ITALY GIRLS | 140.5 |
| 20 | VENEZUELA | 136 |
| 21 | CROATIA | 135.5 |
| 22 | TURKEY 2 | 134 |
| 23 | KATTBRIDGE | 133 |
| 24 | ITALY 2 | 130 |
| 25 | IRELAND BLUE | 117 |
| 26 | CROATIA KIDS | 105 |
| 27 | IRELAND GREEN | 76 |

The Board-A-Match Tournament

Day 1 – Wednesday

19 teams have entered.

They will play a complete Round Robin, Mirror Barometer Howell Movement, three boards per match.

Schedule:

10.00-11.15 (9 boards)

11.30-12.45 (9 boards)

13.30-14.45 (9 boards)

15.00-16.15 (9 boards)

16.30-17.45 (9 boards)

18.00-19.45 (12 boards)

Days 2 and 3 – Thursday & Friday

23 teams are playing. The four teams dropping in from the Quarter Final of the KO are awarded a carry-over of 56.5 points.

They will play a complete Round Robin, Mirror Barometer Howell Movement, five boards per match.

The top 8 teams will qualify for Final A, joining the four semi finalists dropping in from the KO.

Schedule of day 2:

10.00-11.30 (10 boards)

11.45-13.15 (10 boards)

14.00-15.30 (10 boards)

15.45-17.15 (10 boards)

17.30-19.00 (10 boards)

19.15-20.45 (10 boards)

Day 3

10.00-11.30 (10 boards)

11.45-13.15 (10 boards)

14.00-15.30 (10 boards)

15.45-17.15 (10 boards)

17.30-19.45 (15 boards)

Day 4 - Saturday

The 12 teams will play a complete double Round Robin, Mirror Howell Barometer Movement; two boards per match in the first Round Robin, and three boards per match in the second. The Teams will be seeded before the second Round Robin.

There is no carry-over.

Schedule:

10.00-11.30 (10 boards)

11.45-13.30 (12 boards)

14.30-15.15 (9 boards)

15.30-16.45 (9 boards)

17.00-18.15 (9 boards)

18.30-19.30 (6 boards)

The eliminated Teams may play in the consolation, provided that at least 10 of them register for it. There is no carry-over.



What's in the names?

by PO Sundelin

Most of you adapt to the fact that players from different parts of the world don't speak your particular language, and try your best to communicate in English.

But you write Cappelletti on your card, or Hamilton, Pottage, Helms meaning the same, depending on where you come from, or what books you happen to have read. Should you really expect your opponents to have read your book or "speak your language"?

Or take Smith – the Englishman who introduced the concept of signalling your opinion about the lead. There are different ways to do this; declarer plays another suit and both leader and his partner use high cards to say they like the lead – or low cards in some countries or partnerships – or leader high and partner low – or the other way ... Again, just writing "Smith" is like speaking your own version of Esperanto, and expecting the world to understand. Or worse, "Reverse Smith". Which one did you think was the unreversed, and how are opponents expected to know what you thought?

So until a name has reached official status in the instructions on how to fill in the system cards — don't use it, or at least provide in your supplementary sheets a list of names and expressions you use with *your* interpretations.

Expressions — what does he mean? What about courteous, frivolous, serious, standard, turbo, and abbreviations like UCB?

I'll be back ...

The Netherlands face Poland and Japan

by Kees Tammens

Junior team matches between Poland and the Netherlands are always special. And there is never a shortage of imps flowing.

In Round 2, the first blow went to the Polish juniors:

Board 15 ♠ 9 2
 Dealer South ♥ 5
 N-S Vul ♦ J 6 3
 ♣ K 9 8 7 5 4 3

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

♠ J 6
 ♥ J 8 4 3
 ♦ Q 8 7 4
 ♣ A 10 2

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Weinhold | vd Bos | Jarosz | vLankveld |
| Pass | 3♣ | Dble | Pass |
| 3♥ | Pass | 4♣ | Pass |
| 4♦ | Pass | 4♠ | Pass |
| 5♥ | Pass | 6♥ | All Pass |

After a club lead to the ace and a club ruffed in the East hand, declarer picked up trumps safely and had 12 tricks: five spades, four hearts, two diamonds and the club ruff.

Well bid by Izabela Weinhold and Aleksandra Jarosz.



Izabela Weinhold

| West | North | East | South |
|------|------------|---------|----------|
| Hop | Gulczynski | Helmich | Kaz'czak |
| Pass | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| 3♠ | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| 4♦ | Pass | 4♥ | Pass |
| 5♥ | Pass | 6♠ | All Pass |

This contract drifted one down to give Poland 14 imps.

Later on a real junior result; at both tables East-West were doubled in two spades, the Netherlands making and Poland going down one.

The Dutch juniors recovered well and took the win with a nice result on the last board.

Board 20 ♠ A Q 6
 Dealer West ♥ K 10 7 3 2
 All Vul ♦ 9 2
 ♣ A K 7

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

♠ J 9 5 2
 ♥ J 9 8 5
 ♦ 10 5 3
 ♣ J 3

| West | North | East | South |
|------|------------|---------|----------|
| Hop | Gulczynski | Helmich | Kaz'czak |
| 1♣ | 1NT | 2♦ | All Pass |

The one-notrump overcall robbed North-South of their heart fit.

South, Wojciech Kazmierczak, led the jack of clubs and the defenders took two club tricks and a ruff. Then after a spade to the queen, North, Michal Gulczynski, impatiently cashed the ace of spades to let the contract make.

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Weinhold | vd Bos | Jarosz | vLankveld |
| 1♣ | 1♥ | Dble | 3♥ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |

After a fearless three hearts by South, Joris van Lankveld, North, Berend van den Bos, was left to make this contract. East led the eight of clubs: jack, queen and ace. The king of clubs and a club ruff were followed by the jack of hearts. West ducked and North went up with his king, with great success when the queen tumbled down.

Next came the nine of hearts to the ace and a third heart to North's seven. After West took the queen of spades with his king, he sleepily played a club, ruffed by North for an overtrick.

Plus 90 and plus gave the Netherlands 6 imps and victory by 22-8 in victory points.

In Round 3, I witnessed the clash between Japan and the Netherlands.

Japan had started with 50 vps out of 50 from two matches. Japan was somewhat late to the table. (I believe they had an excuse because in the official program the start time was 15.00 and the Japanese pairs arrived at 14.45!)

A new board number one was dealt and Japan will not complain because they won a vulnerable game swing. The match stayed close and a good partscore swing brought the teams level. This was the decisive board:

Board 28

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

Japan reached the secure contract of four hearts, made with an overtrick.

At the other table, the Netherlands went to six hearts, a contract that looks doomed to failure because of the 4-1 trump break – but let's see.

To make six hearts, declarer takes the queen-of-spades lead with dummy's ace and plays the queen of hearts, covered by the king

and ace. Now comes the king of spades and a spade ruff with dummy's seven.

The five of hearts is led, West putting in the nine and declarer winning with his jack.

West's ten and six of hearts seem to be two certain winners, but declarer has an answer. He cashes three top diamonds, then leads dummy's nine. After West throws a club, declarer ruffs with his three of hearts. Then the ace of clubs, a club to dummy's king, and another club enable declarer to score his eight of hearts with a coup en passant.

Sadly, the Dutch declarer went down and Japan won 13 imps to take the match by 29-13. This converted to 19-10 in vps when Japan was fined 1 vp for the late arrival.

♠♥♦♣

Double-Dummy Play Problem

by PO Sundelin

West leads a low heart against four spades. Would you rather declare or defend?

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

Solution in tomorrow's Bulletin

♠♥♦♣

Or was it "Praying"?

After driving for 11 hours with the German team, Hartmut Kondoch arrived in Opatija and was given a badge that said "NPC". That must mean "Non-Playing Chauffeur"!

The First Chink in the Armour

by Phillip Alder

In Round 6, the leaders Japan took on Turkey-3. The match started well for the Euro-Asians.

Board 21

Dealer North
N-S Vul

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

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

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| ♠ Q J 8 7 | ♠ Q J 8 7 |
| ♥ A 10 | ♥ A 10 |
| ♦ 10 8 2 | ♦ 10 8 2 |
| ♣ J 9 6 2 | ♣ J 9 6 2 |

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|-------|-------|----------|
| Taşkin | Kido | Süzer | Koike |
| | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| 1♥ | Pass | 2♥ | Pass |
| 3♦ | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Kitamura | Özgüng'dü | Sugimoto | Uler |
| | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| 1♥ | Pass | 2♥ | Pass |
| 2♠ (a) | Pass | 2NT (b) | Pass |
| 3♥ (c) | Pass | Pass | Pass |

- (a) Relay
(b) Not a bad hand
(c) Spade singleton or void

After East correctly raised hearts, I would have bid four hearts with that West hand. Arda Can Taşkin, though, made a long-suit game-try, which Ugurcan Süzer accepted. Takayuki Kitamura instead described a hand with spade shortage, which Daisuke Sugimoto did not like.

Against four hearts, Yoshiro Kido led the three of clubs. Declarer won with dummy's ace, played a heart to his king, and led the king of diamonds. North took his ace and played the queen of hearts, South winning and returning a club. West won with his king, cashed the queen of diamonds, ruffed a

diamond in the dummy, and claimed, losing only two hearts and one diamond.

Against three hearts, Candaş Özgüngördü debatably chose the ace of spades as his opening lead. Since East had denied a bad raise, but had declined to bid game opposite spade shortage, he surely had spade values.

West ruffed, played a club to dummy's ace, and led the two of hearts, ducking when South produced the ten. But in the fullness of time, declarer took ten tricks.

Plus 420 and minus 170 gave 6 imps to Turkey-3.

At some tables, East responded one spade to one heart. But then when they gave preference with two hearts after West rebid two diamonds, the Wests assumed hearts was only a 5-2 fit and passed.

More imps went to Turkey-3 on the next deal.

Board 22

Dealer East
E-W Vul

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

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| ♠ K Q 6 2 | ♠ K Q 6 2 |
| ♥ 7 | ♥ 7 |
| ♦ K 10 9 7 6 | ♦ K 10 9 7 6 |
| ♣ A K 10 | ♣ A K 10 |

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

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

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Taşkin | Kido | Süzer | Koike |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♥ | Pass |
| 1♠ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Kitamura | Özgüng'dü | Sugimoto | Uler |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♥ | Pass |
| 1♠ | Pass | 1NT | All Pass |



Ugurcan Süzer

I like Süzer's pass over one spade. But at the other table, I would have continued with two clubs with the West hand. Yes, I might be 4=0=5=4 or 4=1=4=4, but responder could be 4=5 or 4=6 in hearts and clubs. Against one spade, North should have led a trump. It was virtually certain to be a 4-3 fit (East would have raised spades with four) and dummy rated to be short in diamonds.

In fact North chose the jack of hearts. When he held the trick, he switched to a trump. West won in the dummy, ruffed a heart in his hand, carefully cashed his two club tricks, then crossruffed in the red suits to eight tricks.

Against one notrump, South, with no good lead, opted for a dangerous queen of clubs.

Declarer might well have won in the dummy, played a spade to his hand, and led a club to dummy's ten. If he had done that, a similar position would have arisen as actually occurred.

Instead, East played three rounds of clubs. North switched to the jack of hearts, ducked around. Then came the ten of hearts.

To make his contract, East had to cover, blocking the suit. When he played low, though, North continued with his third heart, South taking two more tricks in the suit and shifting to a low diamond.

What should East have done?

In isolation, playing low from the dummy guarantees one down, but if the king of diamonds wins this trick, the contract is made.

Thinking along those lines, East called for dummy's king and went four down, losing four hearts, five diamonds and one club.

What did East overlook?

South had already produced the ace-king of hearts and queen of clubs, but had not open the bidding. He could not have the ace of diamonds.

Plus 110 and plus 400 gave 11 imps to Turkey-3.

Three flat boards followed, but the last of those was interesting.

Board 25 ♠ Q 10 8 6 5 3 2
 Dealer North ♥ Q 5 2
 E-W Vul ♦ K
 ♣ A J

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----|-----------------|-------|---|-------|---------------|------|-----------|---|--|-----|----------|-----------|--------------|
| ♠ J 9 4 | ♥ K | ♦ A Q 9 8 5 4 2 | ♣ K 2 | <table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 80px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td>W</td><td>N</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> | W | N | E | | S | | ♠ 7 | ♥ A 10 7 | ♦ J 7 6 3 | ♣ 10 9 8 7 5 |
| W | N | E | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | ♠ A K | ♥ J 9 8 6 4 3 | ♦ 10 | ♣ Q 6 4 3 | | | | | | |

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|-------|----------|--------|
| Taşkin | Kido | Süzer | Koike |
| | 1♠ | Pass | 3♥ (a) |
| Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | |

(a) Six-card suit, game-invitational values

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Kitamura | Özgüng'dü | Sugimoto | Uluer |
| | 1♠ | Pass | 1NT (a) |
| 2♦ | 2♠ | 3♦ | 4♠ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |

(a) Forcing one round

One can understand Noriaki Koike's three-heart response, but it is debatable with such a weak suit and the ace-king of spades. Four hearts, though, was not without hope.

Taşkin led the ace of diamonds: king, seven, ten. What did he do next?

Trusting his partner to make a suit-preference signal, he found the only winning defence at double-dummy: a spade switch. Then, when he got in with his king of hearts, he gave his partner a spade ruff. The ace of hearts was the fourth defensive trick.

At the other table, when Burak Uluer learned that his partner had at least six spades, he went for game in that suit.

East led the six of diamonds. West won with his ace and cashed the king of hearts. What did he do next?

West, now knowing his partner had the ace of hearts, could place North with the ace of clubs and probably the jack as well. So a club switch could not help. Instead Kitamura did very well, leading the queen of diamonds, giving declarer a "useless" ruff-and-discard.

North took the bait. Here was an opportunity to avoid the club finesse. He discarded his jack of clubs and ruffed in the dummy. But now declarer had to lose four tricks: one spade, two hearts and one diamond.

This looks like an error by North. If West did not have the king of clubs, surely he would have switched to that suit.

The next deal featured the biggest swing of the match.

Board 26 ♠ A K 10 6 4 2
 Dealer East ♥ 5
 All Vul ♦ A 10 9 5
 ♣ J 6

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

♠ J 9
 ♥ A Q 10 7 4 2
 ♦ Q
 ♣ A 8 5 3

| | | | |
|--------|-------|----------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Taşkin | Kido | Süzer | Koike |
| Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 1♥ |
| Pass | 3♦ | Pass | 2♥ |
| Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 3♥ |
| Pass | 4♠ | All Pass | 4♣ |

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|----------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Kitamura | Özgüng'dü | Sugimoto | Uluer |
| Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 1♥ |
| Pass | 2♦ | Pass | 2♣ |
| Pass | 2♠ | Pass | 2♥ |
| Pass | 4♠ | All Pass | 3♠ |

You may debate the merits of two clubs versus two hearts for South's rebid. Some argue that with a weak opening, you should bid the six-card major twice before showing the four-card minor. Others feel that it is silly not to show a suit economically when you have the chance.

At the first table, Süzer led the seven of clubs. Declarer Kido won with dummy's ace and ran the queen of diamonds. East won with his king, cashed the king of clubs, and played another club. North ruffed, trumped a diamond, cashed dummy's ace of hearts, ruffed a heart, and trumped a diamond to give this position with North having lost two tricks:

♠ A K 10 6
 ♥ —
 ♦ A
 ♣ —

♠ Q 8 7 3 ♠ 5
 ♥ — ♥ J 8
 ♦ — ♦ 8 6
 ♣ 9 ♣ —

♠ —
 ♥ Q 10 7 4
 ♦ —
 ♣ 8

North should have led the queen of hearts. If West discards, declarer throws his ace of diamonds, overruffs West on the next dummy lead, and loses only one spade.

If West ruffs, North overruffs and again loses only one spade.

Instead, though, declarer ruffed a low heart and cashed the ace of spades. To make the contract now, North had to lead his ace of diamonds, endplaying West. But declarer cashed the king of spades and lost the last two tricks to West: one down.

At the other table, East led his singleton trump, dummy's nine taking the trick. Declarer Özgüngördü also ran the queen of diamonds, which East strangely ducked.

North cashed dummy's ace of hearts, ruffed a heart, trumped a diamond, ruffed a heart, cashed the ace and king of spades, played a club to dummy's ace, and called for the queen of hearts. When West ruffed with the queen of spades, declarer discarded the jack of clubs.

North had to lose a diamond trick, but had come home with an overtrick.

Plus 100 and plus 650 gave 13 imps to Turkey-3 and the lead by 30-0.

Note that if East had taken his king of diamonds at trick two and shifted to a club, the 4-1 spade break would have been marked; otherwise, East would have led a second trump. The contract would still have made.

Japan finally got on the scoresheet with an overtrick imp on the next board.

The only other swing occurred on this deal:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Board 29 | ♠ 10 7 2 |
| Dealer North | ♥ 10 8 6 4 |
| All Vul | ♦ A K 4 |
| | ♣ K 8 6 |
| ♠ Q 4 | ♠ A J 6 |
| ♥ K J | ♥ A 9 7 5 |
| ♦ Q 9 8 2 | ♦ J 5 3 |
| ♣ J 10 4 3 2 | ♣ Q 9 7 |
| | ♠ K 9 8 5 3 |
| | ♥ Q 3 2 |
| | ♦ 10 7 6 |
| | ♣ A 5 |

| | |
|---|---|
| N | E |
| W | S |

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|-------|-------|----------|
| Taşkin | Kido | Süzer | Koike |
| | Pass | 1♣ | Pass |
| 2♦ (a) | Pass | 3♣ | All Pass |

(a) 7-9 points with five-plus clubs

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Kitamura | Özgüng'dü | Sugimoto | Uler |
| | Pass | 1♣ | Pass |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1NT | Pass |
| 2♣ | Pass | Pass | 2♠ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |

At double-dummy, Koike had to lead a minor-suit card to defeat three clubs, but he understandably chose a low spade. Declarer Süzer won with dummy's queen, played three rounds of hearts, ruffing the last, and gave up a diamond.

To defeat the contract now, North had to lead his last heart, on which South discards a diamond. Then South can get a diamond ruff and the defenders take two diamonds, two clubs and that ruff.

North, though, returned the ten of spades. Declarer, after winning with his ace, should have led the jack of diamonds to establish his trick in the suit. When he ruffed the jack of spades first, the same defence as just mentioned was available, but when North took the next trick with his ace of diamonds, he returned a diamond. East ruffed his last heart and lost only two trump tricks to make his contract.

Most pairs could not rebid two clubs like Kitamura, because it would be enquiry. Here, though, one notrump ought to fail and two clubs is cold. But when two clubs was passed around to Uler, he balanced with two spades.

This looks as if it will lose two spades, three hearts and one diamond. However, West led the king of hearts. Even if he had obtained a heart ruff, by the time East got in again, West would have been out of trumps and South's diamond loser would have disappeared on dummy's ten of hearts.

Plus 110 and plus 110 gave 6 imps to Turkey-3, when it would have been 5 the other way with accurate defense at both tables.

Turkey-3 had won the match by 36-1, which converted to 25-5 in victory points and moved Turkey-3 into first place.

How would the Japanese players react to their first defeat?



Takashi Matsuda

Penalty Passes

by Phillip Alder

There was a dynamite board in Round 8, made particularly explosive in the match between Netherlands Juniors and Ned-Rum.

Board 16 ♠ J 10 8 7 6
 Dealer West ♥ 3
 E-W Vul ♦ J 7 6 2
 ♣ Q 5 2

| | | | |
|------------|--|--------------|--|
| ♠ K 5 4 2 | <div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div> | ♠ A Q | |
| ♥ 9 | | ♥ A Q J 10 8 | |
| ♦ 10 8 5 3 | | ♦ A 4 | |
| ♣ J 10 8 6 | | ♣ A K 4 3 | |

♠ 9 3
 ♥ K 7 6 5 4 2
 ♦ K Q 9
 ♣ 9 7

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|---------|-------|-------|
| Nistor | Helmich | Agica | Hop |
| Pass | Pass | 2♣ | 3♥ |
| Dble | Pass | Pass | Pass |

| West | North | East | South |
|------------|---------|--------|----------|
| v Lankveld | Drijver | vd Bos | Wackwitz |
| Pass | 2♠ (a) | Dble | Pass |
| 2NT (b) | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass |

(a) Five spades, four-plus in a minor and a weak hand

(b) Lebensohl, usually indicating a very weak hand

When one side plays in the same strain at both tables, something is usually amiss — and this deal was no exception.

Gerbrand Hop (South for Netherlands Juniors) traded on the favourable vulnerability to overcall three hearts. Radu Nistor (West for Ned-Rum) doubled to show a few values, and Marius Agica (East) wished there was a “content” card in his bidding box.

West led the jack of clubs and continued with a club to his partner's king. East tried to cash the ace of clubs, but South ruffed. He led the queen of diamonds, East taking his ace, cashing his two spade winners, and returning a diamond.

Declarer won with dummy's jack and played a heart to his king. Now he needed to lead the king of diamonds to “escape” for five down. But he played another trump, so East claimed the remainder with four hearts and the ace of clubs.

Six down was minus 1400 the hard way (non-vulnerable).



Marius Agica

At the other table, Bob Drijver (North) unleashed a two-bid that enjoys considerable popularity, especially in the Netherlands and Belgium. This painted Berend van den Bos into a corner. He doubled, then when his partner showed a poor hand, he went with his five-card suit. (Three notrumps would have cruised home too.)

Ernst Wackwitz led the nine of spades. East won with his ace, cashed the ace of hearts, and continued with the queen of hearts. After taking his king, how should South have defended?

With this layout, South had to shift to a diamond to defeat the contract. East can win, overtake his queen of spades with dummy's king and pick up the clubs, but South ruffs the third club and taps declarer in diamonds to generate a third trump trick.

However, South led his second spade.

Declarer won with dummy's king, ran the jack of clubs, played a club to his ace, drew three rounds of trumps, and led the ace of clubs.

East claimed, saying that after South ruffed and led a diamond, declarer would win with his ace and cash his last club.

Plus 1400 and minus 620 gave Ned-Rum 13 imps on the board.

The companion of this deal happened in Round 9, in the match between Arg-Uru and Turkey-3.

Board 21 ♠ A 10 3
 Dealer North ♥ 10 9 8 2
 N-S Vul ♦ 8 6 4
 ♣ J 5 2

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

♠ K Q 7 6 5 2
 ♥ 6 4 3
 ♦ 2
 ♣ 10 7 6

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|-------|----------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Özgüng'dü | Garcia | Uluer | Crusizio |
| | Pass | 1♣ | 1♠ |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | | |

With four poor spades and 16 high-card points, both passes by Candaş Özgüngördü (West) look debatable, despite the prevailing vulnerability.

The defenders could have got 500 if they had first taken three hearts, one diamond and three clubs. Then East can lead a heart to promote a trump trick for West.

However, West, after leading the king of diamonds, continued with the queen. South ruffed, picked up the trumps and conceded one down.



Candaş Özgüngördü

What happened next door?

| | | | |
|----------|--------|------------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Ferro | Taşkin | Scanavino | Süzer |
| | Pass | 1♣ | Pass |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♥ | 1♠ |
| Dble (a) | Pass | 3♦ | Pass |
| 3♠ | Dble | Redble (b) | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5NT (c) | Pass |
| 7♦ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

- (a) Card-showing
- (b) First-round spade control
- (c) Confirming the spade void

North led a trump and Felipe José Ferro claimed immediately.

Minus 200 and plus 1440 gave Arg-Uru 15 imps on the board.



Advice wanted

A well known bridge player was discussing the play of a particularly interesting deal when approached by a novice who wanted his advice. The star reluctantly turned away from his company and flashed out his most charming smile: "Yes?"

"I've got this hand" the novice said, holding out his cards, "and I would like to know what would be a good lead."

Star: "OK, let us first look at the bidding."

Novice: "Bidding? Oh no, we haven't come to that yet."



A welcome diversion from the heat



You could not expect Herman to miss out on this opportunity!

Time Table

Day 3 – Wednesday August 24th

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|---|----------------|---|---------|
| 10.00-12.20 | KO Teams | - | Quarter Finals | - | 1st set |
| 13.30-15.50 | KO Teams | - | Quarter Finals | - | 2nd set |
| 16.10-18.30 | KO Teams | - | Quarter Finals | - | 3rd set |

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|---|---------------|---|-------------|
| 10.00-11.15 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 1st session |
| 11.30-12.45 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 2nd session |
| 13.30-14.45 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 3rd session |
| 15.00-16.15 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 4th session |
| 16.30-17.45 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 5th session |
| 18.00-19.45 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 6th session |

Day 4 – Thursday August 25th

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|---|-------------|---|---------|
| 10.00-12.20 | KO Teams | - | Semi Finals | - | 1st set |
| 13.30-15.50 | KO Teams | - | Semi Finals | - | 2nd set |
| 16.10-18.30 | KO Teams | - | Semi Finals | - | 3rd set |

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|---|---------------|---|--------------|
| 10.00-11.30 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 7th session |
| 11.45-13.15 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 8th session |
| 14.00-15.30 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 9th session |
| 15.45-17.15 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 10th session |
| 17.30-19.00 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 11th session |
| 19.15-20.45 | BAM Teams | - | Qualification | - | 12th session |