



Opatija, 25 August 2011

Bulletin nr. 4

Technology Moves On



New technology at work (see page 10)

The four quarterfinals were not that close, with two of the winners gaining almost their entire winning margin in the first of the three 16-board sessions. Arg-Uru was ahead of Turkey-1 by 13 imps and won by 14. France moved out in front of Italy-1 by 43 imps, before winning by 44.

In the other two matches, Ned-Rum was leading Turkey-3 by 21 and extended that to 63. Netherlands Juniors gained 38 imps on Japan and won by 61.

The Board-a-Match Teams is underway. After the first of four days, Australia-1 is leading by two points from Sweden, with Germany another five points back. The four

losing quarter finalists have dropped into the event, 17.5 points behind Australia-1. But after two more days of play, eight teams will qualify for the final and these four quarter finalists are only 4.5 points behind eighth. Those eight teams will be joined by the four semi finalists from the Knockout.

Semi Final Line-Up

ARG URU vs NED RUM
NETHERLANDS JUNIORS vs FRANCE

Results

Knock-Out Teams Quarterfinals

	ARG URU	0	41	41	24	65	31	96
	TURKEY 1	0	28	28	22	50	32	82

	TURKEY 3	0	24	24	10	34	29	63
	NED RUM	0	45	45	22	67	59	126

	NED JUNIORS	0	62	62	19	81	59	140
	JAPAN	0	24	24	41	65	14	79

	ITALY 1	0	24	24	35	59	57	116
	FRANCE	0	67	67	37	104	56	160

BAM-Teams – Ranking after Day One

1	AUSTRALIA 1	74.0
2	SWEDEN	72.0
3	GERMANY	67.0
4	ITALY GIRLS	66.0
5	AUSTRALIA 2	65.0
6	USA	64.0
7	USA U21	61.7
8	VICKYS VIKINGS	61.0
9	NED YOUNG	57.0
	POLAND	57.0
11	TURKEY 1	56.5
	TURKEY 3	56.5

	JAPAN	56.5
	ITALY 1	56.5
15	KATTBRIDGE	56.0
16	ITALY 2	53.0
17	CROATIA	51.0
18	AUSTRIA	48.0
19	TURKEY 2	45.5
20	VENEZUELA	43.5
21	IRELAND BLUE	32.0
22	IRELAND GREEN	29.0
23	CROATIA KIDS	22.0

Do not Jump to Conclusions

by Phillip Alder

Roger Lee of the USA team found a great piece of declarer-play in the first session against Germany.

Board 6 ♠ 8 2
 Dealer East ♥ 6 5 3
 E-W Vul ♦ K Q J 5 3
 ♣ Q 8 2

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

♠ A J 3
 ♥ A Q J 4
 ♦ A 7
 ♣ 9 7 6 5

West	North	East	South
	Wolkowitz		Lee
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠ (a)	Pass	3♣ (b)
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

(a) Range enquiry
 (b) Maximum

At the other table, South took the first heart trick and early on attacked diamonds, assuming they would run. But when they broke 5-1, he had to fail, going two down.

Lee realized that diamonds could wait. He won the ten-of-hearts lead with his queen and immediately ran the seven of clubs, losing to East's jack.

At double-dummy, to defeat the contract, East had to switch to a diamond or return his low club and West switch to his diamond!

Understandably, though, East tried a low spade. Declarer put in his jack, winning the trick. Suddenly he seemed to be up to nine tricks: two spades, two hearts and five diamonds. But Lee realized diamonds could still wait. He led another club, dummy's queen losing to East's ace. East led the king of spades, ducked by South, and another spade to declarer's ace, dummy discarding a heart.

Diamonds could wait no longer. South took his ace, played a diamond to dummy's king, and cashed the queen to give this position, with declarer needing three tricks:

♠ —		♠ —	
♥ 6		♥ 6	
♦ J 5		♦ J 5	
♣ 8		♣ 8	

♠ 9		♠ Q	
♥ K 9	N	♥ —	E
♦ —	W	♦ 9 8	S
♣ K		♣ 4	

♠ —
 ♥ A J
 ♦ —
 ♣ 9 6

On the last diamond, South threw a club, but what could West spare?

He had to pitch his last spade. But now a club exit endplayed West to lead away from the king of hearts.

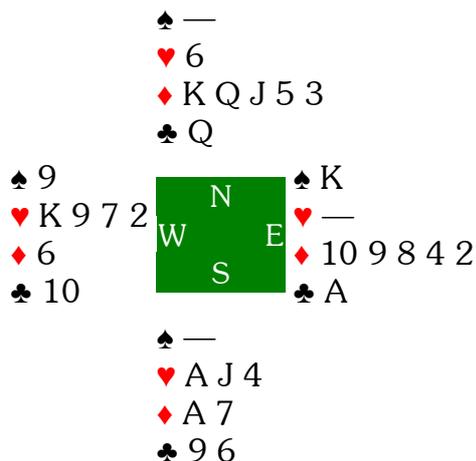
Beautifully done!



Roger Lee

Are you wondering what would have happened if West had won the second club trick with his king and led back the ten of spades?

Declarer would have ducked and taken the next spade to give this position:



Now South cashes his ace of hearts, squeezing East. He must let go of his spade, but declarer then leads a third club to establish his ninth trick there.

A Slam for Analysts

by Phillip Alder

There was a fascinating board in Round 9. Think about it for a while:



You reach six clubs after an uncontested auction. West leads the jack of clubs. You win with dummy's king and cash the ace, both opponents following. How would you continue?

The full story is on page 12

Leading Questions

by PO Sundelin

The system card requires you to:
 A - specify your general leading habits.
 B - clarify what combinations the lead of an ace, a king, a queen, etc., may be from.

I think by now we have established that “standard” is not a good clarification. What about 4th, attitude, 3/5 or 2/4?

“4th” says nothing about what you do with fewer cards, so the B-box should help. The same goes for “attitude”.

What you will discover is that some who announce “2/4” actually play just that; the second or the fourth from two low, or three low, or three to an honour, or an honour sequence. Other “2/4” announcers will lead low from three if the highest card is an honour (some include the ten), and the second-highest only from three or more low cards (followed by a higher with three = MUD). And definitely not the second from doubletons, which you might have been led to believe by reading the A-box.

On the other hand some “3/5” players, but far from all, might very well regard this to include the second from bad suits, and the third or fifth only from honours. And what about KJT suits (KT9,QT9)? For 2/4 players it is obvious: the jack. Among 3/5 pairs some consider the jack automatic, others who can count to three, lead the ten.

So remember that your opponents often speak a different “language” even if the words (and numbers) look the same – describe what you do without qualifying it in terms like standard or reverse or upside down. The same goes for signals: specify not only *when* it is a count or attitude situation, but also be careful to add *how*.

Goals and Own-Goals in Round 8

by Kees Tammens

After the first five matches of the short round robin, the teams had settled in their expected positions. But in a Swiss, teams not in the top eight still have a chance to climb into contention with some big wins.

With regard to the Dutch teams, the Netherlands Youngsters on 70 vps from five matches badly needed some big victories. The Ned-Rum combination at 91 vps and the Netherlands Juniors with 95 only needed an average day to qualify. But it looked as if those teams would meet on Tuesday.

It happened in Round 8, and with BBO and running scores, it was possible to follow the encounter board by board. Let us see how the match developed.

The Ned-Rum team consists of Bob Drijver and Ernst Wackwitz from the Netherlands and Marius Agica and Radu Nistor from Rumania. The team changes colours every day between yellow and orange.

The Netherlands Juniors team comprises Aarnout Helmich - Gerbrand Hop and Berend van den Bos - Joris van Lankveld.



Berend van den Bos

The winner of this match would almost certainly guarantee itself a place in the quarter finals. But since matches between fellow countrymen never develop smoothly, I sat

down to report through the eyes of the soccer commentator.

Board 11				♠ Q 10 8
Dealer South				♥ Q 7
None Vul				♦ A 5 4
				♣ K 10 5 4 2
♠ A J 9 5				♠ —
♥ K 6 5				♥ A J 9 8 3 2
♦ Q J 6				♦ 10 9 8 3
♣ Q J 8				♣ A 7 6
				♠ K 7 6 4 3 2
				♥ 10 4
				♦ K 7 2
				♣ 9 3
West	North	East	South	
v Lankveld	Drijver	vd Bos	Wackwitz	
			2♠	
Pass	3♠	4♥	All Pass	

Drijver-Wackwitz built a wall in front of their goal, but Berend van den Bos never even considered passing, and right he was when West had a perfect dummy. East had lifted the ball over the wall into the corner, unreachable by any goalkeeper.

However, there was no score because Nistor-Agica also found this game, Nistor (West) overcalling South's two-spade opening with two notrumps.



Joris van Lankveld

Board 12 ♠ 7 3
 Dealer West ♥ Q 8 5
 N-S Vul ♦ K Q 8 5 4
 ♣ J 10 4

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

♠ A K 10 4
 ♥ J 9 6
 ♦ J 6 3
 ♣ 7 5 3

Board 13 ♠ A K 9 7 5 3
 Dealer North ♥ J
 All Vul ♦ Q J 9 3
 ♣ J 8

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

♠ J
 ♥ A Q 4
 ♦ 10 8 7 5 2
 ♣ 9 7 4 3

Looking at the cards, we would all want to be in three notrumps East-West. But ...

West	North	East	South
Nistor	Helmich	Agica	Hop
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Opening one notrump with seven likely winners is not advisable. Partner will pass with many balanced seven or eight pointers that will supply an easy nine tricks. Open one club and rebid either two notrumps or three clubs, depending on partner's response.

This went two down.

West	North	East	South
v Lankveld	Drijver	vd Bos	Wackwitz
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♥ (a)	Pass	3♣	All Pass

(a) Both majors

This contract was never in danger, and when South did not find an early switch to diamonds, East collected two overtricks, losing only two spades.

The Netherland Juniors gained 6imps.

The bidding at the first table suggested a small gain for Ned-Rum:

West	North	East	South
v Lankveld	Drijver	vd Bos	Wackwitz
	1♠	Pass	1NT
2♠ (a)	Pass	4♥	All Pass

(a) At least 5-5 in hearts and a minor

Declarer lost two spades and two hearts to go one down.

However, it turned into a Netherlands Junior gain when Nistor and Agica had a bidding misunderstanding to end in three diamonds.

I always tell my players that that is not the intention of bidding (sorry Radu and Marius). 11-0 for Neth-Jun.

On Board 14 Drijver and Wackwitz did not miss a penalty kick, bidding and making an ice-cold six spades, while Helmich and Hop missed the goal by yards: 11-11.



Bob Drijver

Board 15 ♠ A 10 7 2
 Dealer South ♥ 10 5 4
 N-S Vul ♦ 5 4
 ♣ K 8 6 2

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

♠ Q J
 ♥ A 8 6
 ♦ A J 7 3
 ♣ Q 10 5 3

At the first table, Nistor, West, was two down in two hearts.

This was the other auction:

West	North	East	South
v Lankveld	Drijver	vd Bos	Wackwitz
1♥	Dble	Redble	1♣
2♥	3♣	All Pass	Pass

West led a low heart. Declarer ducked East's queen and took the second heart. South continued with the queen of spades, covered by the king and ace, a spade to his jack, and a club to dummy's king. East won with his ace and accurately switched to a low diamond. When declarer put in his seven, West won with his nine to give this position:

♠ 10 7
 ♥ 10
 ♦ 5
 ♣ 8 6 2

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

♠ —
 ♥ 8
 ♦ A J 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

West cashed the king of hearts. What should East have discarded?

Bos made the normal-looking pitch of his last spade, but that was fatal. West led the

queen of diamonds. South won with his ace, ruffed a diamond in the dummy, called for the eight of clubs, covered by the nine and ten, ruffed his last diamond, which East could not overruff, and played a spade. East had the seven-four of clubs left and declarer the queen-five. East's trumps were coupé.

Very nicely done by Ernst Wackwitz for a push.

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

♠ K 5 4 2 ♠ 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

On this deal several of the players were walking not just off side but almost out of the stadium.

Junior coaches may not have liked the developments and would have even considered drawing yellow or red cards; but spectators loved it.

The action was reported on page 12 of bulletin 3.

Ned-Rum now led by 24-11.



Ernst Wackwitz

On Board 17 both North-South pairs struck accurately, hitting the goal in six diamonds. Ned-Rum gained an overtrick imp.

On Board 18 everyone was passing the ball around, and after two partscores Neth-Jun won 4 imps.

Board 19 ♠ K 10 8
 Dealer South ♥ Q J 6 5
 E-W Vul ♦ A 8 4 2
 ♣ 9 5

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

West	North	East	South
Nistor	Helmich	Agica	Hop
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

The Rumanians hurt themselves with a flying tackle, going down in a 5-2 fit four spades. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
v Lankveld	Drijver	vd Bos	Wackwitz
			Pass
Pass	1♦	1♠	3♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

An aggressive reopening double by Berend van den Bos led to a difficult situation. Joris van Lankveld was trapped in a corner. Could he dribble his way out and get the ball into the net?

North led a diamond, won by South's king. To take the ball from his opponent, South had to switch to a heart, which surely not even Pelé or Beckham would have found.

South led back the jack of diamonds, queen, ace. North returned the eight of diamonds to declarer's ten. West played three rounds of spades, aided by the winning finesse and break, and suddenly had a clear path to goal with four spades, two hearts, one diamond and two clubs.

That gave Neth-Jun 13imps.

The last board was flat and the match ended 28-25 to Netherland Juniors, or 16-14 in vps.

Let's call it a draw, but not a dull, scoreless one.

Double-Dummy Play Problem

Solution

by PO Sundelin

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

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

In real life declarer won the heart lead in dummy and played a low spade to the queen. West took his ace and could have returned a spade to his partner. East would lead the king of diamonds and West would ruff South's ace, then exit with a club. There would be another three cashing tricks in dummy but not enough to get rid of all four diamonds. One down.

So the defenders get your vote?

Well ... perhaps not.

Say that declarer cashes the blocking queen of clubs and exits with a spade to the jack and king. Whether East returns a diamond honour for West to ruff, or a heart, which South can ruff and play a trump, West is endplayed, and must give dummy the four needed tricks. Ten tricks, just made.

Right, just what you thought from the start, declarer gets your vote.

Well ... perhaps not.

When South, after cashing the queen of clubs, continues with a trump, West inserts the ten. Ducking the ten is no good: club ruff, diamond ruff and the ace of spades will result in one down.

After declarer's spade to the ten, jack, and king, West will ruff the diamond continuation with his ace (!), and exit with his last spade to

East's eight and South's nine. Oops, three down.

Yep, you did suspect that of course. In reality you were going to support the defenders all the time.

Well ... perhaps not.

After the queen of clubs, let declarer continue with his other queen, the one in trumps. Now the king of spades, high diamond ruff and a trump exit from West won't work as dummy has the highest trump and can enjoy all the winners. A laydown contract – how many bets did you lose?

The Quarterfinals

by Phillip Alder

None of the quarterfinals was especially close. In the third session, Turkey-1 had closed to within 15 imps of Arg-Uru, when this deal occurred:

Board 44 ♠ 8 2
 Dealer West ♥ A
 N-S Vul ♦ 10 9 8 5 4 3 2
 ♣ K 9 2

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

♠ 6 4
 ♥ 8 7 5 4 3
 ♦ —
 ♣ Q J 10 7 5 4

West	North	East	South
Ferro	Ucar	Scanavino	Koclarc
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣ (a)	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	All Pass

(a) An enquiry

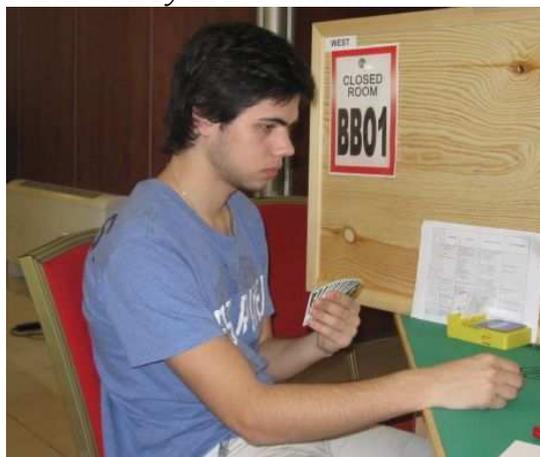
West	North	East	South
Uslupeh'n	García	Kurgan	Cruszio
1NT	Pass	4♦ (a)	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) Transfer to spades

When East was the declarer, South had to find a heart lead. But understandably Akin Koclarc led the queen of clubs. The declarer, Alejandro Scanavino, won with his ace, drew trumps, and knocked out the ace of hearts. North cashed a club, but East claimed the balance.

When West declared, North might have led the ace of hearts to see the dummy. But Rodrigo García da Rosa unerringly chose the ten of diamonds. The play went: diamond ruff, heart to the ace, diamond ruff and heart ruff for one down.

Plus 450 and plus 50 gave Arg-Uru 11 imps and victory in the match.



Rodrigo García da Rosa

Incidentally, we should congratulate Rodrigo, whose native Uruguay celebrates its "Día de la Independencia" today, the 25th of August.

3NT by everybody?

Some contracts require a positive attitude, and wishful thinking.

Could such a wish be fulfilled for all four players? In other words, is there a lie of the cards that makes three notrump unbeatable whoever declares?

Solutions should be delivered before midnight to either co-editor, perhaps with the exception of Herman, as the first prize is that he will study and learn the winner's national anthem, and sing it on the hotel terrace.

Big Brother is Watching You!

Early on Wednesday morning, the junior teams of Argentina/Uruguay and Turkey became the first players in official international play to test out a new piece of technology.

The system is under development and is due to be used at the Bermuda Bowl later this year in Veldhoven, the Netherlands.

It consists of two cameras, placed above the screen, which continually monitor the playing area, combined with some advanced optical recognition software that translates the images into bids and plays.

The system was developed by Thomas de Wolf and Guust Hilte from Eindhoven.

Let's have a closer look at how it works:

Above the screen, two cameras are mounted, each looking downward at its particular half of the table.



the cameras

At present, the installation is rudimentary, but there are plans to include the cameras in a nicely designed unit that can fit over any screen.

The table is a normal bridge table, with a few guidelines added to assist the software in recognising the compass directions and to avoid players tossing their cards anywhere on the table.

The tray is also a normal one, with some dots added, again to aid recognition. Players are asked to place their calls in the prescribed manner, starting at the far left and nicely overlapping. The software recognises the calls that are put on the tray, and can of course easily calculate the final contract. The program is able to deal with lazy players who do not bother with the final passes.

Next, the dummy will be put down, and there is a special card mat on which this has to be done:



the dummy mat

The reason for this mat is clear: while the cards from the other players are shown one by one, dummy's cards are all on view at the same time and the software needs to be able to distinguish which one is played, and a microphone (and additional speech recognition software) would carry the project too far. So recognizing which card is played from dummy is done by watching as the card is detached from the mat. It was deemed better to have a separate mat than to insist on the cards being placed in one particular place, so as not to bother the players too much.

The system will recognise all the cards that are played, and keep track of the number of tricks won.

When the system is up and running, no operators are needed. The computer can deal with everything, except one item: a claim. For this reason, a special version of the bridgemate will be in use at the table. One of the players will have to confirm the board number and final contract, which the software has recognised, and enter the final number of tricks.

The data gathered can be used for a variety of purposes: reporting, broadcasting, and as an aide to directors, who can now "rewind" the action and see what really happened, who hesitated and for how long ...

The aim is to have all tables at a major championship equipped with the system.

During the tests today, a few small errors were found and corrected. By the end of the day the system was able to produce full bidding and play for all of the deals.

City of Rijeka

No-one would accuse Rijeka of being a must-see destination, but it certainly has enough sights to keep a visitor busy for a few days.

The Austro-Hungarian buildings lining the city centre create an appealingly Old Europe atmosphere and there are a number of interesting churches and museums. Most impressive is Trsat Castle perched on a high hill overlooking the city. Try to come to Rijeka for the Rijeka Carnival (February) a splendid event and the largest carnival in Croatia.

Taking a walk

Head right to Korzo, Rijeka's pedestrian promenade that runs parallel to the port. There you will see Rijeka's most distinctive monument, the Clock Tower. As one of the few monuments to have survived Rijeka's devastating earthquake of 1750, it has a special place in the hearts of Rijekans. The still-functioning clock dates from the 17th century and was once part of the city gates. Go through the arch under the clock tower and you'll come to the Roman gate. Don't expect the kind of triumphal arch you'll see in Pula: this Roman gate is a simple affair just to mark the entrance to the ancient and now disappeared Roman fort.

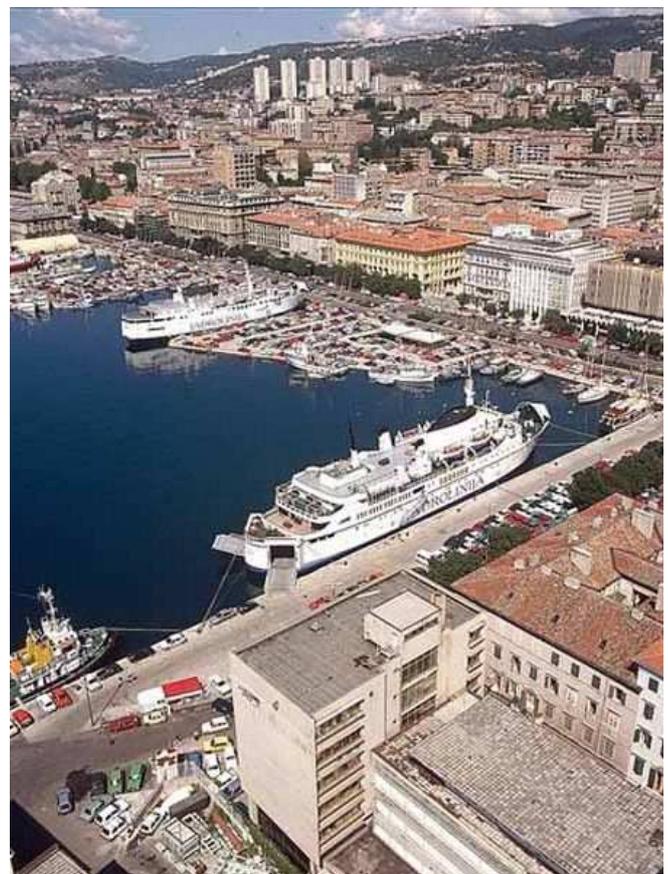
Now return to Korzo and head west to the Hotel Bonavia. Adjacent to the hotel are stairs leading to the former Governor's Palace. The building's architecture reflects its administrative importance as the residence of the Hungarian governor when Rijeka was under Hungarian control in 1869. If you like the architecture in Budapest, you'll love this impressive structure. The architect was Alajos Hauszmann, whose other works include the Buda Castle and the Palace of Justice in Budapest. Inside is the Naval & Historical Museum, with plenty of exhibits for maritime buffs. Also interesting are the rooms decorated in period style. A little further to the northeast is the Natural History Museum, an especially good stop if you have children. They'll love the new aquarium with its multimedia displays, and the botanical gardens make a cool retreat on a hot day.

Nightlife

An advantage of Rijeka is that you can reach almost every desired destination by foot.

For example, from Tunel, a cosy jazz club, to Arca Fiumana, an alternative club, you will not need more than ten minutes. It is important to mention that Arca Fiumana is actually a boat. Another boat-club just nearby is Nina 2. The music there is house, r'n'b and pop. Just across the street is Capitano with similar music to Nina 2. On the main street, Korzo, only two minutes away, you can find clubs El Rio and Pommery Bar. Entrance is free in all of the mentioned bars! A bit further away is a posh club, Terminal. It is probably the club with the most beautiful location in Rijeka.

A bus drive from Opatija to Rijeka takes 30 minutes. There is a direct line, number 32, and taxis are available all night in both directions.



A Slam for Analysts – the Full Story

by Phillip Alder

This was the deal in the six-club problem set on page 4.

Board 29 ♠ A 6 3
 Dealer North ♥ A 9
 All Vul ♦ A 10 3 2
 ♣ A K 8 2

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

The first match under our spotlight is Arg-Uru against Turkey-3.

West	North	East	South
Ferro	Taşkin	Scanavino	Süzer
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East led his fourth-highest heart, so declarer, Arda Can Taşkin, took his nine top tricks.

The bidding went higher at the other table:

West	North	East	South
Özgüng'dü	Garcia	Uluer	Crusizio
	2NT	Pass	3♣ (a)
Pass	3NT (b)	Pass	4♣ (c)
Pass	4♦ (d)	Pass	4♥ (d)
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

- (a) Puppet Stayman
- (b) No four- or five-card major
- (c) Natural
- (d) Control-bid

Although I believe a two-notrump opening bid should be a good 20 to 22, that 19-point hand is strong enough. If you count two points for each ace and one for each king, the average two-notrump opening will have seven points. This hand has nine, an excellent reason to upgrade. It also has fair

intermediates: one ten, one nine and one eight. Using both the Kaplan-Rubens and Pavlicek evaluators, this hand is worth 21 points.

Against six clubs, West led the jack of clubs.

Declarer, Maximo Crusizio, drew two rounds, discarded his seven of spades on dummy's ace of hearts, ruffed the nine of hearts in his hand, played a spade to dummy's ace, and led another spade from the dummy.

When East played the four, South put in his nine!

This worked well when West had to win with his king, giving this position:

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

If West had read the situation correctly, he would have led a heart, conceding a useless ruff-and-discard and forcing declarer to find the queen of diamonds. Of course, this would not have been hard, given that West was marked with two black-suit doubletons, but West's actual diamond switch made it even easier for South.

This gave 13 imps to Arg-Uru.



Maximo Crusizio

Now we move to Italy-1 against USA-under 21.

West	North	East	South
Failla	Tebha	Fruscoloni	Brescoll
	1♣ (a)	1♥	Dble (b)
4♥	Dble (c)	All Pass	

- (a) Strong club
- (b) 5-8 points
- (c) "Penalty"

South, Zachary Brescoll, might have pulled his partner's double, but he decided his hand was too soft. He led a diamond. North, Anam Tebha, won with her ace, cashed her two top clubs, and went back to diamonds.

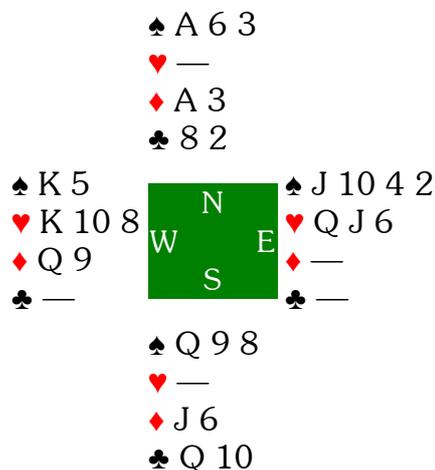
Declarer, Leonardo Fruscoloni, ruffed, drove out the ace of hearts, ruffed another diamond, drew the missing trump, and led the jack of spades. South correctly covered with his queen because North was marked with the ace from the bidding. So the contract went two down.

Again, there was more at stake at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Kaplan	Delle Cave	Grossack	Di Franco
	2NT (a)	Pass	3♣ (b)
Pass	3♥ (c)	Pass	3♠ (d)
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥ (e)
Pass	4♠ (f)	Pass	4NT (g)
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

- (a) 20-21 points
- (b) Puppet Stayman
- (c) No four- or five-card major
- (d) Puppet to three notrumps
- (e) Five clubs, a four-card major and slam interest
- (f) Control-bid with a club fit
- (g) An even number of key cards for clubs

West, Adam Kaplan, led the jack of clubs. Declarer, Massimiliano di Franco, won with dummy's ace, cashed the king of clubs, discarded the seven of spades on the ace of hearts, ruffed the nine of hearts in his hand, cashed the king of diamonds, and played a diamond to dummy's ten to give this position:



To make the contract now, South needed an opponent to have king-doubleton of spades, because if, say, East has king-third, he can win the second spade and play a third round, leaving declarer with a diamond loser. So, di Franco cashed dummy's ace of spades, planning to duck the second round of spades. But seeing the endplay coming, West threw his king of spades under the ace.

In the cold light of day, this was an error because if declarer was going to play his queen of spades on the second round of the suit, West could win with his king and return a diamond or a heart, leaving declarer with an unavoidable second loser.

After the ace of spades collected the king, declarer played a spade to his queen and led another spade to endplay East, Adam Grossack. On the forced ruff-and-discard, South's diamond loser evaporated.

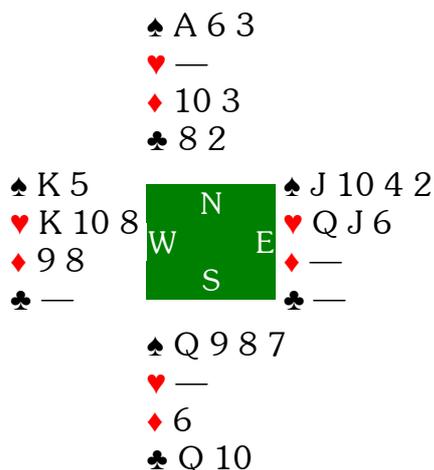
This was worth 13 imps to Italy-1.



Massimiliano di Franco

However, before we move on, let's think about the best play in six clubs.

You must guess diamonds correctly, but discarding a spade on the ace of hearts is definitely not correct. It is much better to throw a diamond. The play starts: two rounds of clubs, a diamond pitch, a heart ruff, the king of diamonds, and the jack of diamonds covered by the queen and ace, giving this position:



If diamonds had been 3-2, declarer would have had several options in spades. But with the 4-1 break, South cashes dummy's ten of diamonds, ruffs the last diamond in his hand, plays a spade to dummy's ace, and returns a spade to his queen. He makes the contract whenever East has the king of spades and, as here, when West has king-doubleton because he is endplayed. On the forced heart return, dummy's last spade is discarded and declarer ruffs in his hand.

Pairs Registration

Pairs registration will be open on Saturday 27th August from 10.00 to 18.00.

Pre-registered pairs must confirm their participation!

Time Table

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

Day 5 – Friday August 26th

10.00-12.00	KO Teams	-	Final & Play-Off	-	1st set
13.00-15.00	KO Teams	-	Final & Play-Off	-	2nd set
15.20-17.20	KO Teams	-	Final & Play-Off	-	3rd set
17.40-19.40	KO Teams	-	Final	-	4th set
10.00-11.30	BAM Teams	-	Qualification	-	13th session
11.45-13.15	BAM Teams	-	Qualification	-	14th session
14.00-15.30	BAM Teams	-	Qualification	-	15th session
15.45-17.15	BAM Teams	-	Qualification	-	16th session
17.30-19.45	BAM Teams	-	Qualification	-	17th session