


Juniors, $1^{\text {st. }}$ POLAND - Marcin Bojarski, Maksymilian Chodacki, Wojciech Kazmierczak, Michal Klukowski, Kamil Nowak, Justyna Zmuda, Marek Markowski npc


GIRLS, 1 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ : NETHERLANDS - Natalia Banas, Merel Bruijnsteen, Magdalena Ticha, Maaike Van Ommen, Esther Visser, Janneke Wackwitz, Anneke Simons npc, Aarnout Helmich coach


YOUNGSTERS, $1^{\text {st }}$ ITALY-Francesco Chiarandini, Alvaro Gaiotti, Gianmarco Giubilo, Andrea Manganella, Federico Porta, Sebastiano Scatà, Gianni Medugno Npc, Dario Attanasio coach

On the final day of this delightful, well-run championships, Poland took the gold medals in the Juniors. Leading by 39 imps with two sets to be played, Poland gained 44 imps in the first session of the day and China conceded, down by $83 \mathrm{imps}, 175$ to 92.

The Netherlands fought off the spirited Australian team to win the Girls title by 228 imps to 134 .

The real excitement was reserved for the Youngsters. When the last day began, the Netherlands led by 42 imps . But Italy commanded the first set of the day, taking it by 70 imps to 0 ! The home team gained another 14 imps in the last session to run out winners by 217 imps to 175 .
spartactorod


JUNIORS, $2^{\text {nd }}:$ CHINA - Yanfeng Chen, Sili Liu, Shiyu Sun, Zhi Tang, Yong Tao, Hongji Wei, Jun Ji npc, Jun Ji coach


GIRLS, $2^{\text {nd }}:$ AUSTRALIA - Jessica Brake, Renee Cooper, Kirstyn Fuller, Francesca Mcgrath, Ella Pattison, Ian Thomson npc, Justine Beaumont coach


YOUNGSTERS, $2^{\text {nd }}:$ NETHERLANDS - Youp Caris, Pim Dupont, Oscar Nijssen, Sven Overvelde, Leen Stougie, Marc Stougie, Niek Brink npc, M. Schollaardt coach


Mikael Gronkvist from Sweden

Speech of
Ata Aydin
Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee

Mr Rona, President of The World Bridge Federation, Mr Fritelli, Mayor of Salsomaggiore, Mr Medugno, President of The Italian Bridge Federation,
Authorities, Colleagues,
Dear Guests,
Dear Young Friends,

We have reached the end of a most successful World Championship.

For ten days, teams from five continents, divided across four categories, have been competing in Salsomaggiore in a friendly atmosphere, where a healthy, competitive spirit reigned supreme at all times.

We can be proud of the fact that you have all demonstrated our motto once more to the world "Bridge for Peace".

To the Town of Salsomaggiore; Mr. Mayor, please accept our gratitude for your great co-operation and hospitality.

To the Italian Bridge Federation;
Dear President Medugno, thank you for this wonderful event that is without any doubt one of the best I have ever been involved in.

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JUNIORS, $3^{\text {rd }}$ : SWEDEN - Simon Ekenberg, Mikael Gronkuist, Daniel Gullberg, Simon Hult, Mikael Rimstedt, Ola Rimstedt, Martin Loefgren npc, Tom Gards coach


GIRLS, 3 rd: NORWAY - Katarina Ekren, Thea Hove Hauge, Thea Lucia Indrebo, Agnethe Hansen Kjensli, Sofie Grasholt Sjodal, Sven Olai Hoyland npc, Elisabeth G. Sjodal coach


YOUNGSTERS, $3^{\text {rd }}$ : HONG KONG - Chris T. H. Chan, Alfred Lam, Niko Man, Jackson Tsang, Sam Tseng, Michael Wu, Hing L. C. Lee npc


Susanna Broccolino from Italy, Renee Cooper from Australia and the Indonesian team: Gabriela Bindi Desai Eva, Yunita Fytry, Fransisca Tri Martanti, Elsya Saktia Ningtias, Ernis Sefita and Fortina Mora Sibuea

Continued from page 2
To Our WBF Staff; My Friends, you have done a perfect job, Congratulations and thanks for your efforts.

Dear Young Players, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your dedication to the sport of bridge, your enthusiasm and your courteous manners throughout the championships towards both your friends and rivals.

Those of you who will receive gold, silver and bronze medals in a few moments will have every right to be proud of your achievements. I wish all of those players the best of success in your future careers.

But even if you did not get a medal, you have every right to be proud of yourselves, for you have all represented your countries in the best possible way.

Especially after the highly successful integration of the Kids Series into the WBF youth program, we can all be confident that our wonderful sport of bridge is in good hands and we can rely on all of you to make the world a better place.

I thank all of you once more, and wish you all the best of luck.
Have a safe return home, and see you at the next youth event.

Thank you
Ata Aydin


BAM, 1st: USA JUNIORS - Zachary Brescoll, Adam Grossack, Zachary Grossack, Adam Kaplan, Benjamin Kristensen, Kevin Rosenberg


BAM, 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }}:$ FRANCE 1 - Julien Bernard, Fabrice Charignon, Baptiste Combescure, Clement Laloubeyre, Anne Rouanet-Labe


BAM, 3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}:$ ITALY JUNIORS - Alessandro Calmanovici, Margherita Chavarria, Giovanni Donati, Enea Montanelli, Giacomo Percario, Roberto Sau, Valerio Giubilo coach

Thank you very much!

I would like to thank all of the people who helped me to produce these daily bulletins.
First and foremost,
Francesca Canali, the world's best bridge bulletin layout artiste. She worked long hours every day with no complaints and is responsible for the great look to these bulletins.

The terrific regular contributors were Murat Molva, Barry Rigal, Ram Soffer and David Stern.

Hassan, our late-night photocopier.

However, my favourite article was the one about the Swedish muggles!

Phillip Alder
Editor of
the Daily Bulletins


The Bermuda team: Gianluca Cacace, Ruskin Cave, Tyler Irby and William Peniston

JUNIORS FINAL

|  | c.o. | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | tot. |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| POLAND | 0 | 1 | 55 | 31 | 25 | 63 | 0 | $\mathbf{1 7 5}$ |
| CHINA | 7 | 30 | 14 | 13 | 9 | 19 | 0 | $\mathbf{9 2}$ |


| GIRIS FINAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | c.o. | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ | tot. |
| AUSTRALIA | 0 | 24 | 19 | 20 | 42 | 5 | 24 | $\mathbf{1 3 4}$ |
| NETHERLANDS | 7 | 30 | 64 | 27 | 32 | 35 | 33 | $\mathbf{2 2 8}$ |


| FOUNGSIERS FINAL |  |  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | tot. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (1) | o. | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ITALY | 0 | 47 | 14 | 9 | 30 | 70 | 47 | 217 |
| NETHERLANDS | 16 | 28 | 38 | 23 | 37 | 0 | 33 | 175 |



BAM, Final B: 1st: CUTIES - Zsofia Beko, Zsuzsanna Beko, Brigitta Fischer, Csaba Konkoly, Hanna Revai, Daniel Tubak


## Junior Teams Final, Session 5

It is the very last day of the $16^{\text {th }}$ World Youth Teams Championships. Poland starts the penultimate segment of the Juniors final with a lead of 39 IMPs. After falling behind heavily in the opening segment of the match, the Polish players found their form and seem to be the favourites for the gold medal, prior to starting the last $2 \times 14$ board segments.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW vul.


| Open Room <br> West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tang | Klukowski | Tao | Zmuda <br> $1 \& 6$ |
|  |  |  | $2 \Omega$ |
| $1 \diamond$ | $1 \checkmark(a)$ | Pass | 20 |
| $4 \diamond$ | Dbl | Pass | $6 \circlearrowleft$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |


| (a) spades |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Closed Room |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Kazmierczak | Wei | Nowak | Sun |
|  |  |  | 24 |
| $2 \diamond$ | 34 | Pass | 60 |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

Partners must definitely agree on the number of times and the level a suit must be bid in order to "really" ask for the lead of that suit. In the Open Room, Tang (West) bid $1 \diamond$ first and then $4 \diamond$, at adverse vulnerability. But this did not convince Tao (East) to lead the suit and he opted for the safe-looking $\wp$ Q. Suddenly the slam was makable.

Klukowski took dummy's club ace. He then cashed
eight trumps and the club king, bringing everyone down to three cards. Tang, in desperation, bared his © K , but Klukowski read the position correctly and cashed the A to make his slam.
When West, Kazmierczak, started with a top diamond at the other table, $6 \bigcirc$ went down quickly. 14 IMPs for Poland.

Board 13. Dealer North. All vul.

- QJ 954
- Q 73
$\diamond 82$
\& A J 7

Open Room

| West <br> Tang | North <br> Klukowski | East <br> Tao | South <br> Zmuda |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1 \diamond$ | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $4 \diamond$ | $1 ヵ$ | $3 \diamond$ | $3 \wedge$ |
| $5 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 N T$ | Pass |
| 5 | Pass | $6 \diamond$ | All Pass |

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Kazmierczak | Wei | Nowak | Sun |
|  | Pass | $1 \diamond$ | Pass |
| $4 \diamond$ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

China was heavily outgunned in this segment, but this was their moment of glory. The Closed Room auction was not scientific, Kazmierczak collecting eleven tricks in $4 \triangle$, when the defence slipped and lost their spade trick.
In the Open Room, though, the Chinese pair TaoWang started with a strong club and soon reached a slam that was cold on the existing layout. 12 IMPs for China.
The segment ended 63-19 in favour of Poland, making their lead 83 IMPs: 175-92.
At this point, China conceded the match and Poland are worthy world champions.

## Message from Chodacki (POL)

In my yesterday's report about the first segment of Poland-China Final, Chodacki (POL) played in a 3NT, where he went down by not taking the $\diamond \mathrm{Q}$ finesse.

Juniors Final, $1^{\text {st }}$ segment, Board 5 .

- 1052
© 7432
$\diamond$ Q 862
\& 7
A Q 96
- Q J 105
$\diamond$ J 7
\& K Q 104


ヘ K J 43
$\checkmark$ AK 98
$\diamond 543$
\& 32

| West | North <br>  <br> $1 \diamond$ | Pass | $1 \diamond$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | | South |
| :--- |
| Dble |
| $2 \boldsymbol{6}$ |
| Pass |
| 2NT |

Chodacki explained that after South's takeout double of $1 \diamond$, he assumed that South, rather than North, figured to hold the $\diamond$ Q. He tried, by cashing all of his clubs, to strip-squeeze South. Hence, he did not have a blind spot but only a wrong placement about the location of the $\diamond \mathrm{Q}$. Apologies to Maksymilian Chodacki, and thanks for the clarification.


## TWO CHALLENGING DEALS

## RAM SOFFER

Everyone knows that one should be careful about doubling part-scores at IMP team events. But when the following deal appeared on Friday morning in the six medal matches, East-West made a doubled part-score at most tables. Even more remarkably, that contract could never have been bid voluntarily, without "help" from the opponents:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.
AA9743
$\bigcirc$ AKQ
$\diamond 8$
49742

| A J 852 |  | A K 10 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 10952$ | N | $\bigcirc 863$ |
| $\diamond$ - | W E | $\diamond$ AJ 10974 |
| \& K Q 1053 | S | \& A 6 |
|  | A Q 6 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ J 74 |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K 6532 |  |
|  | \& J 8 |  |


| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | $1 \uparrow$ | $2 \diamond$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | Pass | Pass |
| Redble | Pass | $2 \checkmark$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

This exact auction was duplicated at the four Junior tables: East had a normal two-level overcall, North had a standard reopening double with a diamond shortage, and South had a typical penalty pass. The problem was that West had just the type of hand that would like to rescue partner rather than let him suffer in his doubled contract.
The use of the "SOS redouble" commands partner to choose between the two unbid suits (unless diamonds are exceptionally strong). Every East did just that, bidding two hearts, and every North doubled.
Remarkably, North-South have no way to beat 20 even though they possess all of the top trumps (this is computer-checked). One by one, the North-South Junior pairs conceded -670 and only when comparing scores did they learn that no damage was incurred.
In the other categories, however, there were some deviations:
Philipp Pabst, sitting South for the German Youngsters, probably had a gut feeling of the impending disaster, and removed 20 doubled to $2 \uparrow$
(his partner was one down). However, his teammate at the West seat omitted the SOS redouble, so Germany lost IMPs on that board.
Even more remarkably, Andrea Manganella, North for Italy's Yougsters, simply passed out $2 \diamond$ (down three) for a swing of 14 IMPs after his teammates achieved the expected +670 .
Had this hand been given to panel of experts, I doubt whether anyone would have approved of this pass. So, should we attribute this swing to "beginner's luck", or did the Italian player discover something new about bridge? (Or maybe something is wrong with North's hand - too much power in hearts and too little in clubs.)

Finally, in the Girls title match, Magdalena Ticha (West for Netherlands) didn't care for an SOS redouble and conceded -500 . Result: ... +11 IMPs. Why? At the other table there was an SOS redouble, but East failed to take it out. I'm afraid this was a grave mistake by the Australian Girls, and a major reason why the Gianarrigo Rona trophy will stay in Europe.

Let us move on to the final deal played on the penultimate day. Actually it was the final deal for the three bronze medal playoffs.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.
A 1065
$\checkmark$ AK 2
$\diamond$ AK Q 102
$\% 6$

Which contract would you like to reach, looking at the North-South cards only? You have a nine-card diamond fit, and the only possible loser is the king of spades. So it is $7 \diamond$ on a finesse. Fifty percent grand slams should normally not be bid, unless your team is desperately behind, and the top contract is $6 \mathrm{NT}, 6 \diamond$ being a close second.

A naïve observer would expect that at the final stage of a world championship one would see mostly slams
in this deal. Perhaps some unlucky teams would go down in seven. However, the harsh truth was that the following banal auction was by far the most popular one:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | 1 NT | Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{\&}$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Pass | $3 N T$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

In particular, this happened at both tables of the Youngsters third-place playoff, and it was a pity that (by not bidding a small slam) Germany missed an opportunity for a fairytale ending, swinging the whole match their way on the very last board.
Why was it so hard to bid that slam? That question reminded me of George Rosenkranz, the former top Mexican player who is going to celebrate his $100^{\text {th }}$ birthday later this month, and his Romex system, which does not include a natural 1 NT bid (instead, within that system a 1 NT opening is an artificial, forcing bid). In his books, George claimed that balanced 1NT openings were poor and that opening those hands in a suit leads to much better results statistically due to the greater possibilities of finding a fit, in particular minor-suit fits.
Evidently, that claim has not been accepted by the bridge world, as (almost) everyone is playing balanced 1NT openings. However, the deal that is the subject of this discussion emphasizes some of the intrinsic weaknesses of natural 1NT openings (particularly in the slam department). Unless one uses special conventions, that 5-4 diamond fit would not be found.
Well, the Chinese Juniors are apparently equipped with such conventions, and they found the slam almost effortlessly (regrettably, I don't have the details of their system).

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nowak | Wei | Kazmierczak | Sun |
| Pass | $1 N T$ | Pass | $2 \wedge$ |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | Pass | $3 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass | $6 \diamond$ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |  |

Well done, China! However, the most interesting events happened at the other table of the same match:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tang | Klukowski | Tao | Zmuda |
| Pass | $1 \boldsymbol{4}$ | $1 \Omega$ | Dble |
| $2 \Omega$ | Dble | Pass | $3 \circlearrowleft$ |
| Pass | $4 N T$ | Pass | $6 \circlearrowleft$ |
| Pass | 6 | All Pass |  |

First of all, Klukowski-Zmuda do employ a natural 15-17 1NT opening. So why 1\% (Polish), showing either 12-14 balanced, $15+$ with real clubs or any 18+ hand? Evidently Michal Klukowski upgraded this extremely nice 16 -count and decided that it was too good for a 1 NT opening!
His LHO displayed remarkable creativity as well with a semi-psychic $1 \circlearrowleft$ overcall, and an unusual auction developed: South's double showed four-plus spades, while North's double over $2 \triangle$ showed exactly three spades. So far Zmuda hadn't promised more than 6 HCP, so she now cue-bid $3 \circlearrowleft$, forcing to game.
Her partner had a problem, because bidding 3NT at this stage would have shown the weak variety of the $1 \%$ opening. So he jumped to 4NT - not ace-asking, but just showing a strong balanced hand.
After partner had shown 18+, Zmuda wanted to be in slam, but wasn't sure which, so she bid $6 \odot$, and now came a very important moment. Many a good player would have been tempted to bid $7 \diamond$ at this point with the North cards, but Klukowski showed us why he is a Bermuda Bowl winner. He remembered that he had already overbid with $1 \boldsymbol{\rho}$, so it was time for cautiousness at the six-level. He chose a modest 6 bid (hoping to ruff clubs in his hand). True, 6NT was clearly better and a 5-1 trump distribution might have sunk 61, but eventually everything was okay and Poland even scored 2 IMPs on this board.
By the end of day Poland's lead was 39 IMPs, and it became a mammoth 83 IMPs by the end of the fifth session. Congratulations to the Polish team! Despite the many talented junior players coming out of Poland in the last few decades, they have just won the Jaime Ortiz-Patiño Trophy for the first time.


With only the opponents vulnerable, you (South) hold:

A 108
$\checkmark$ AQ96
$\diamond A K J$
\& K 973

The bidding goes:

| West | North | East <br> $1 \uparrow$ | South <br> Dble |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | Pass | Pass | Dble |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | $3 \uparrow$ | All Pass |

What would you lead?
Often at the end of a long tournament, the standard of play deteriorates because the players are tired. But surely the best defence of these championships, and perhaps of the year, occurred on the fourth board of the final set in the Youngsters final between Italy and the Netherlands.
This was the full deal:
Dealer East. E-W vul.
A 754
© J 10
$\diamond$ Q 10642
\& J 52
AJ3 2
○K8752
$\diamond 97$
\& Q 108

$\checkmark$ AQ 96
$\diamond$ AK J
\& K 973

The bidding was identical at both tables:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Caris | Manganella | Dupont | Scala |
| Giubilo | M. Stougie | Porta | L. Stougie |
|  |  | $1 \uparrow$ | Dble |
| $2 \boldsymbol{1}$ | Pass | Pass | Dble |
| Pass | $3 \diamond$ | $3 \uparrow$ | All Pass |

In the Open Room, Sebastiano Scala made the "normal" lead -- the ace of diamonds. After seeing the dummy, he switched to the ten of trumps ... too late. Pim Dupont won in his hand and led another diamond. South played his jack and Andrea Manganella (North) overtook with his queen to lead a second trump, but declarer won with his nine and ruffed a diamond in the dummy. After that, East had only two losers in the rounded suits, so made his contract for plus 140 .

In the Closed Room, Leen Stougie (South) found the trump lead at trick one! The declarer, Federico Porta, won with his spade nine and led a diamond. South took that trick with his king and led another spade. East won with his queen to lead another diamond, but South played the jack and his brother, Marc Stougie, overtook with his queen to play a third trump and kill the diamond ruff in the dummy. Now declarer had to lose one heart, three diamonds and one club to go one down.

That brilliant defence gained 5 imps for the Netherlands. But it proved to be too little too late, with Italy taking the title by 217 imps to 175 .

## GRAND FINAL

## PHILLIP ALDER

There are certain hands that basically cannot be bid scientifically, especially when the opponents burn up acres of bidding space.

On Board 17 of the fourth session on Friday, with neither side vulnerable, the West players held:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { \& A K J } 8 \\
& \diamond \text { Q J } 10832 \\
& \diamond \text { Q } 10 \\
& \& \text { A }
\end{aligned}
$$

After a pass by North, partner opens with one strong notrump. What should West do after South bids (a) three clubs or (b) four clubs or (c) five clubs?

Over three clubs, West can bid three hearts if it definitely forcing, or cue-bid four clubs. Over the higher interventions, though, some guesswork will be needed.

This was the full deal:
Dealer North. None vul.
4 652
$\bigcirc 965$
$\diamond$ K 85432
\& 2

| © A K J 8 | N | © Q 1097 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| © Q J 10832 | $W^{\text {N }}$ | $\bigcirc$ AK 4 |
| $\diamond$ Q 10 | W E | $\diamond$ A J 9 |
| \& A | S | \& Q 83 |
|  | -43 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 7$ |  |
|  | $\diamond 76$ |  |
|  | \& K J 109 |  |

As you can see, seven spades is the best contract. You win the club lead and draw two rounds of trumps. When they break 3-2, you draw the last trump and claim these thirteen tricks: four spades, six hearts, one diamond, one club and a club ruff in the West hand. If spades are 4-1, you take the club ruff earlier.
Seven hearts seems to need the diamond finesse, which admittedly is a favourite given that South has lots of clubs. However, just for curiosity, how could West make seven hearts on a club lead if he knew South had the king of diamonds, say doubleton? I will return to that at the end.

Let's look at the various sequences.

Youngsters, Italy vs. Netherlands
Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| L. Stougie | Manganella | M. Stougie | Scata |
|  | Pass | $1 \%$ | Pass |
| 10 | Pass | 1NT | 3\% |
| Dble | Pass | $3 \bigcirc$ | Pass |
| 4\% | Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| 4* | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 54 (a) | Pass | 60 | All Pass |

(a) Two key cards and the queen of hearts

If Leen Stougie had used Roman Key Card Blackwood over four diamonds, he would have learned that his partner had ace-king-ace in the red suits. If he had followed up with five notrumps, he would have learned that he had no minor-suit king. So, he presumably had both major-suit queens; but without knowing about the four-card spade suit, bidding seven would still have been a gamble.

Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Giubilo | Caris | Porta | Dupont |
|  | 20 (a) | 2NT | $4 \%$ |
| 5\% | Pass | 54 | Pass |
| 64 | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Gianmarco Giubilo uncovered the spade fit, but had no room to conduct a scientific sequence.

Both declarers took all thirteen tricks for a flat board.
Juniors Third-Place Playoff Sweden vs. Netherlands
Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C. Westerb. | Gullberg | R. Westerb.Gronkvist |  |
|  | Pass | 1 NT | $4 \boldsymbol{4}$ |
| $6 \circlearrowleft$ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O. Rimstedt | Polak | M. Rimstedt van Overb. |  |
|  | Pass | 1 NT | $5 \boldsymbol{\boldsymbol { q } _ { 0 }}$ |
| $6 \Omega$ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Another push.

Juniors Final China vs. Poland
Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tang | Klukowski | Tao | Zmuda |
|  | Pass | $1 \%$ | 3\% |
| 30 | Pass | 45 | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5\% | Pass |
| 5NT | Pass | 60 | Pass |
| 78 | Pass | Pass | Pass |

It was slightly surprising that Tang bid seven when his partner denied a minor-suit king, but perhaps he was thinking about seven notrump.

## Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Nowak | Wei | Kazmierczak | Sun |
|  | Pass | 1NT | $4 \boldsymbol{6}$ |
| $5 \boldsymbol{6}$ | Pass | $6 \boldsymbol{6}$ | Pass |
| 70 | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Nicely done ... sort of, for another flat board.
Now we get to the third-place playoff in the Youngsters: China Hong Kong vs. Germany.

Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Man | Alter | Tseng | Streck |
|  | Pass | 1NT | $5 \boldsymbol{\%}$ |
| $6 \%$ | Pass | 64 | All Pass |

That was bettered by one of my three favourite sequences: Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Vornkahl | Chan | van OostenTsang |  |
|  | Pass | $1 N T$ | $5 \&$ |
| $7 \Omega!!$ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Germany won 11 imps .
The two best squences occurred in the girls matches.
First, the unsuccessful auctions. Australia vs. Netherlands

Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ticha | Brake | Banas | McGrath |
|  | Pass | 1NT | $4 \boldsymbol{\&}$ |
| Dble | Pass | Pass | Pass |

This did not do so well, the contract only going four down, plus 800 to the Netherlands.

Indonesia vs. Norway
Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Hauge | Sibuea | Ekren | Ningtias |
|  | Pass | 1NT | $3 \boldsymbol{\alpha}$ |
| 4\& | Pass | $4 \boldsymbol{\uparrow}$ | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | $5 \boldsymbol{1}$ | Pass |
| 6 | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Now the "winners":
Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cooper | Bruijnsteen | Pattison | Wackwitz |
|  | Pass | 1 NT | 3\% |
| 4\% | Pass | 4* | Pass |
| 4NT (a) | Pass | 54 (b) | Pass |
| 5NT (c) | Pass | $6 \bigcirc$ (d) | Pass |
| 74 (e) | Pass | Pass | Pass |

(a) Roman Key Card Blackwood
(b) Two key cards and the queen of spades
(c) Anything extra?
(d) The king of hearts (and no minor-suit king)
(e) "Thank you, partner!"

Just perfect and a gain of 12 imps .
Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Eva | Sjodal | Martanti | Indrebo |
|  | Pass | 1 NT | 3\% |
| Dble | Pass | 3 | Pass |
| 4\% | Pass | $4 \diamond$ | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5 | Pass |
| 60 | Pass | 74 | All Pass |

So that was 11 imps to Indonesia.
Now let's look at the play when South has the king of diamonds.

A 652
$\checkmark 965$
$\diamond 875432$
42

| ¢ AKJ 8 | N | A Q 1097 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ¢ Q J 10832 | W E | $\bigcirc$ AK 4 |
| $\diamond$ Q 10 | W E | $\diamond$ AJ 9 |
| $\bigcirc{ }_{\sim} \mathrm{A}$ | S | \& Q 83 |
|  | - 43 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 7$ |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K 6 |  |
|  | \% K J 109 | 54 |

West in seven hearts can catch South in a crisscross squeeze. He wins with the ace of clubs, runs all of the trumps except one, then cashes the spades ending in the East hand. With the last one to come, this is the position:

On the last spade, what does South discard?
If he throws the six of diamonds, declarer cashes the ace and his hand is high. Or, if South pitches the jack of clubs, a club ruff establishes dummy's queen.
Pretty.


## THE STRANGEST RESULT

## PHILLIP ALDER

In the Youngsters final, Italy started the last day down by 42 imps but gained 84 to win by 42: 217175.

Perhaps this was the strangest Italian gain in the final set:

Dealer South. Both vul.
© J 108
© Q J 1086
$\diamond 765$
\& K 4
A A Q
$\bigcirc 954$
$\diamond$ A 108
\&) J 8762


AK97432

- K 2
$\diamond$ K 4
\&) 1093
The auction in the Open Room was short:

| West | North | East | South <br> Caris |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Manganella |  |  |

The result in the Closed Room was sweet for the Italians:

| West <br> Giubilo | North <br> M. Stougie | East <br> Porta | South <br> L. Stougie <br> $2 \diamond(a)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | $2 \bowtie(\mathrm{~b})$ | Pass | $2 \wedge$ |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | Pass |
| 3NT | Pass | Pass | Pass |

(a) Weak two-bid in either major
(b) Pass or correct

North led the jack of spades. Gianmarco Giubilo, aided by three winning finesses and the doubleton king of clubs, took all thirteen tricks: two spades, one heart, five diamonds and five clubs!
That was worth 12 imps to Italy.


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