



DAILY BULLETIN

Editor: **Brian Senior** • Ass. Editor: **Sue Grenside** • Layout: **George Georgopoulos** • Photography: **Maria Ploumbi**

Issue No. 6

Friday, 4 August 2006

CHAMPIONS TAKE LEAD

Defending champions USA1 moved into the lead in the Junior Championship with 218 VPs. They are followed by Poland on 214, Israel 212 and France 211. Singapore lost to both American teams but recovered to win their third match of the day and stay in fifth. There were two 25-0s on the day, Brazil over Jordan and Canada against Japan.

Israel stretched its lead even more in the Schools competition despite losing to USA Blue by 13-17. The Israelis also had a 25-0 win, against

Indonesia. They lead with 235, from Poland 200, Latvia and Australia 199 and USA Red 191. Then there is a gap to USA Blue 179. Lower down the rankings, Pakistan had a great day, with three wins and 62 VPs.

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Junior Series – ROUND 13 – 10.00
USA2 v Egypt

Schools Series – ROUND 12 – 14.00
USA Red v Poland

Junior Series – ROUND 15 – 17.30
USA1 v Israel



Contents

Today's Program	2
Results	3
World Junior Championship 6 (1997)	4
Today's Play Problem	6
Chile Junior Team Profile	6
Junior Series – Round 10 – Poland v Hungary	7
Schools Series – Round 9 – Sweden v Latvia	10
Schools Series – Round 8 – Sweden v USA Red ..	13
Australia Junior Team Profile	15
Solution to Today's Play Problem	16
Australia Schools Team Profile	16
Schools Series Ranking	16



TODAY'S PROGRAM



JUNIORS SESSION 13

1	JORDAN	NORWAY
2	ISRAEL	CHINA HONG KONG
3	HUNGARY	BRAZIL
4	USA1	THAILAND
5	USA2	EGYPT
6	CANADA	POLAND
7	FRANCE	CHILE
8	ITALY	SINGAPORE
9	AUSTRALIA	JAPAN

SCHOOLS SESSION 12

41	USA BLUE	INDONESIA
42	CHINA HONG KONG	AUSTRALIA
43	CHINA	ITALY
44	CHINESE TAIPEI	SWEDEN
45	THAILAND	ISRAEL
46	CANADA	LATVIA
47	USA RED	POLAND
48	PAKISTAN	NORWAY

JUNIORS SESSION 14

1	CHILE	JORDAN
2	POLAND	SINGAPORE
3	EGYPT	JAPAN
4	THAILAND	AUSTRALIA
5	BRAZIL	ITALY
6	CHINA HONG KONG	FRANCE
7	NORWAY	CANADA
8	ISRAEL	USA2
9	HUNGARY	USA1

SCHOOLS SESSION 13

41	INDONESIA	PAKISTAN
42	NORWAY	USA RED
43	POLAND	CANADA
44	LATVIA	THAILAND
45	ISRAEL	CHINESE TAIPEI
46	SWEDEN	CHINA
47	ITALY	CHINA HONG KONG
48	AUSTRALIA	USA BLUE

JUNIORS SESSION 15

1	JORDAN	HUNGARY
2	USA1	ISRAEL
3	USA2	NORWAY
4	CANADA	CHINA HONG KONG
5	FRANCE	BRAZIL
6	ITALY	THAILAND
7	AUSTRALIA	EGYPT
8	JAPAN	POLAND
9	SINGAPORE	CHILE

PLAY SCHEDULE

10.00–12.50	Juniors, Round 13
14.00–16.50	Juniors, Round 14
	Schools, Round 12
17.30–20.20	Juniors, Round 15
	Schools, Round 13

Team Profiles

We would like to publish team profiles in the Daily Bulletin of all 34 teams at this Championship. This is not only of interest to others present in Bangkok or reading the bulletins on the internet, but is valuable material for bridge journalists around the world. Ideally, we would like to receive the profiles in electronic form, however, handwritten is OK, but only if your handwriting is more legible than mine.

Thank you

Public Computers

The computers which we have made available for the players' use, and also the internet connections, are for emails only. Please respect this. If you use them for other purposes you take up essential bandwidth which is required for the smooth running of the tournament.

There is a Business centre on the 18th floor and several internet cafes nearby for other purposes.

Thank you for your understanding.



RESULTS



JUNIORS SESSION 10

Match		IMP's		VP's	
1	ITALY JORDAN	73	18	25	4
2	AUSTRALIA FRANCE	32	93	3	25
3	JAPAN CANADA	9	96	0	25
4	SINGAPORE USA 2	42	57	12	18
5	CHILE USA 1	31	35	14	16
6	POLAND HUNGARY	34	22	17	13
7	EGYPT ISRAEL	71	21	25	5
8	THAILAND NORWAY	38	76	7	23
9	BRAZIL CHINA HG KG	42	66	10	20

SCHOOLS SESSION 9

Match		IMP's		VP's	
1	INDONESIA ISRAEL	10	123	0	25
2	SWEDEN LATVIA	51	36	18	12
3	ITALY POLAND	16	83	2	25
4	AUSTRALIA NORWAY	68	46	20	10
5	USA BLUE PAKISTAN	37	48	13	17
6	CHINA HG KG USA RED	36	53	11	19
7	CHINA CANADA	50	92	6	24
8	CHINESE TAIPEI THAILAND	65	30	22	8

JUNIORS SESSION 11

Match		IMP's		VP's	
1	JORDAN BRAZIL	3	112	0	25
2	CHINA HG KG THAILAND	44	66	10	20
3	NORWAY EGYPT	42	39	16	14
4	ISRAEL POLAND	55	42	18	12
5	HUNGARY CHILE	66	25	23	7
6	USA 1 SINGAPORE	75	44	21	9
7	USA 2 JAPAN	56	32	20	10
8	CANADA AUSTRALIA	28	49	11	19
9	FRANCE ITALY	28	27	15	15

SCHOOLS SESSION 10

Match		IMP's		VP's	
1	ITALY INDONESIA	87	20	25	2
2	AUSTRALIA SWEDEN	81	38	24	6
3	USA BLUE ISRAEL	50	41	17	13
4	CHINA HG KG LATVIA	10	55	6	24
5	CHINA POLAND	26	93	2	25
6	CHINESE TAIPEI NORWAY	55	68	12	18
7	THAILAND PAKISTAN	44	83	7	23
8	CANADA USA RED	37	62	10	20

JUNIORS SESSION 12

Match		IMP's		VP's	
1	JAPAN JORDAN	80	21	25	4
2	SINGAPORE AUSTRALIA	64	37	21	9
3	CHILE ITALY	47	68	11	19
4	POLAND FRANCE	26	60	8	22
5	EGYPT CANADA	35	35	15	15
6	THAILAND USA 2	32	73	7	23
7	BRAZIL USA 1	60	38	20	10
8	CHINA HG KG HUNGARY	54	34	19	11
9	NORWAY ISRAEL	31	41	13	17

SCHOOLS SESSION 11

Match		IMP's		VP's	
1	INDONESIA CANADA	18	81	3	25
2	USA RED THAILAND	119	18	25	0
3	PAKISTAN CHINESE TAIPEI	68	36	22	8
4	NORWAY CHINA	55	38	19	11
5	POLAND CHINA HG KG	71	27	24	6
6	LATVIA USA BLUE	76	28	25	5
7	ISRAEL AUSTRALIA	77	39	23	7
8	SWEDEN ITALY	71	29	24	6

JUNIORS RANKING AFTER SESSION 12

1	USA 1	218
2	POLAND	214
3	ISRAEL	212
4	FRANCE	211
5	SINGAPORE	208
6	EGYPT	202
7	ITALY	199
8	USA 2	199
9	NORWAY	198
10	BRAZIL	192
11	CHINA HONG KONG	190
12	CANADA	184
13	HUNGARY	156
14	CHILE	153
15	AUSTRALIA	143
16	JAPAN	137
17	THAILAND	121
18	JORDAN	60

WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP 6

(1997)

The 1997 Championship was held in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada and there was a new record field of eighteen teams. European teams dominated the round robin, with three taking their place in the semi-final, along with one of the two home teams.

1.	Russia	322.4
2.	Norway	312
3.	Canada Red	308.5
4.	Denmark	307
5.	USA2	292.5
6.	China	287.5
7.	Canada White	271
8.	Israel	262.5
9.	Japan	247.5
10.	Australia	242.5
11.	Brazil	237
12.	Chinese Taipei	236.5
13.	India	225.5
14.	Martinique/Guadeloupe	220
15.	USA1	201.6
16.	Argentina	196
17.	Colombia	187
18.	Pakistan	146

As winners of the round robin, Russia selected Denmark as their opponent in the 64-board semi-final. The Russians had a 12-IMP carry-over advantage but Denmark won the match, though not until they gained a swing on the final deal of the match to retake the lead; 164-159. That left Norway to meet Canada Red, with the Canadians having a tiny carry-over edge of 0.7 IMPs. Norway came through by 173-138.7 to set up a 96-board final between the two Norse countries.

Denmark had a 13.7-IMP carry-over advantage but Norway had leveled the match after 32 deals. However, from then on Denmark gradually took control, winning each of the last four sets to run out winners by 247.7-178 and erase the memory of some near misses in previous championships.

Meanwhile, Canada Red started the 64-board third-place play-off with a 10-IMP carry-over, but the Russians won all four quarters to claim the bronze medal, winning by 193-152.

Defence is the theme for our selected deals from this Championship, beginning with this exhibit featuring the Lund Madsen brothers in the round robin.



Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
-	Morten		Lars
-	-	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Against the same contract in the other room, the lead was a low diamond, so the Danish declarer had an easy ride. Morten Lund Madsen started rather better, choosing a heart, but he still had a lot of work to do to defeat the contract.

Declarer won in dummy and led the ace then queen of diamonds, ducked by Morten. Now declarer switched his attention to clubs, running the ten, and again Morten ducked. A second club was won by the queen and Morten led a heart to declarer's queen. Declarer took the spade finesse then cashed the ace. Morten completed the good work by unblocking the jack and king of spades, so that there could be no endplay, and declarer was powerless. The right lead, two ducks and a double unblock – not bad!

India finished below half-way in the round robin but they were competitive and had some excellent moments, including the following against Denmark:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

♠ 4 2
♥ 5
♦ K J 10 8 7
♣ K 7 6 4 2

West	North	East	South
Lars L-M	Thakral	M L-M	Avasthi
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♥	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Avasthi led his heart against 3♠ and Sandeep Thakral won the ace then, despite the diamond tenace in dummy, promptly switched to his singleton diamond. Morten Lund Madsen won dummy's ten and played a trump. Thakral won the ace of trumps and played the eight of hearts, forcing Avasthi to ruff. The king of diamonds was led to the ace and ruff, so Avasthi had a diamond to cash when he got in with the king of clubs; two down for -200.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Dble	Saur	2♠
All Pass			



This one comes from Norway's round robin match against Israel. Boye Brogeland led his king of diamonds to dummy's ace as Oyvind Saur dropped the jack. A small spade went to the seven and nine and Brogeland switched to the queen of clubs.

It was not impossible that the ace of clubs was onside so declarer tried the king, losing to the ace, and the nine of diamonds was covered by the queen and ruffed. Brogeland now led a heart to declarer's king and won the spade continuation with his now bare ace. His next play was one that few players would have tried – a low club to Saur's nine! Saur could draw dummy's last trump and cash a diamond before returning a club for the third undertrick; +300 and 5 IMPs to Norway, as Israel had made +130 in clubs at the other table.

Brogeland was also the hero of our final board from Norway's match with Pakistan.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West for Pakistan was declarer in 6♠ after East had shown a powerful hand with clubs and spades. A heart lead would have given declarer a chance to succeed by judging to take a club ruff in hand rather than two club finesses. However, Saur found the lead of a low diamond, giving the defence a chance.

Declarer won the diamond in hand and immediately played a club to the nine. Brogeland won the king and switched to a heart. That was the only way to break the contract. If Brogeland returns anything other than a heart, declarer can ruff a club and draw trumps then run the club winners. North is squeezed in red suits and, if declarer reads the ending correctly, he makes his slam. After the heart return, the communications for the squeeze were broken and there was no way home.

1. Denmark (Freddi Brondum, Jacob Ron, Lars and Morten Lund Madsen, Mik Kristensen, Mikkel Nohr, NPC Kirsten Steen-Moller, Coach Nicolai Kampmann)

2. Norway (Boye Brogeland, Thomas Charlsen, Espen Erichsen, Christer Kristoffersen, Njorn Morten Mathisen, Oyvind Saur, NPC Sten Bjertnes)

3. Russia (Arseni Chour, Jouri Khiouppenen, Jouri Khokhlov, Dmitri Lobov, Alexander Petrunin, Boris Sazonov, NPC Michael Rosenblum)

Today's Play Problem

by John Carruthers

When Zia Mahmood gives you a problem, you'd better be on your toes, because it is sure to be subtle, difficult and instructive. See how you would do on this deal from the semi-final of the Spingold.

Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ A K 8 6

♥ A 10

♦ K 10 7 3

♣ K J 4



♠ 10 4 3 2

♥ 9 8

♦ A Q 9 8 3

♣ Q 6

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♥

All Pass

Partner leads the five of spades to dummy's ace, your four, and declarer's seven (you play fourth best leads and high from you is discouraging or an odd number/ low would be encouraging or an even number).

Declarer continues with the king of spades to the two, ♦6 and nine, then ruffs a spade with the ♥5 as you follow with the three and partner with the jack. Next comes the ♣3 to the two, king and six, followed by the ♣4 to the queen, five and seven.

You are on play with the queen of clubs. How do you defend and, more importantly, why?

Teams and Players' Photos Schedule – Friday August 4th

- 13.00 France/Juniors
- 13.00 Hungary/Juniors
- 13.00 Israel/Juniors
- 13.45 Italy/Juniors
- 13.45 Norway/Juniors
- 13.45 Poland/Juniors
- 17.00 Israel/Schools
- 17.00 Italy/Schools
- 17.00 Latvia/Schools
- 17.15 Norway/Schools
- 17.00 Poland/Schools
- 17.00 Sweden/Schools



All the above teams (including the captain and the coach) are kindly requested to be present at the specific time outside of the building.

Please make sure that you wear your badge and national uniform.

Maria Plubi – WBF Photographer

Chile Junior Team

This is the third consecutive world junior championship in which a Chilean team is present with almost the same members. This year the team is composed of four players, all college students in the area of management science, economics and civil engineering. They belong to the internet generation, learning, playing and discussing over the web.

Joaquin Pacareu, 19

Joaquin is the youngest at 19 years old, alias 'paca1987' on BBO. He is a fearsome player with the mouse, but with the cards in hand he is very friendly. He needs a computer monitor near the table to get concentrated.

Benjamin Robles (21)

Benjamin is partner to Joaquin. He is a cold-minded player, also his nick at BBO 'hechizero' tells us that the web has been the place where he got his bridge expertise. If you want to meet people on the web, please call hechizero, he will easily introduce you into any particular group.

Jack Smith (24)

Jack is a strong and high competitive player, he started playing tennis almost at the professional level, but having lost several pro matches he switched to bridge. He only considers the win option, and he can do anything in a crisis situation in order to put the match in his favour.

The last player to integrate with the team is very new in these matters, **Rodrigo Borgono (25)**

Rodrigo's bridge is advancing very fast but still he needs to draw trumps before playing the side suits. The four players are very good students at their universities and play bridge only as amateurs.

Jose Manuel Robles

Jose Manuel, the captain and Benjamin's father, is another amateur bridge player, who has been representing Chile in international events for the last 35 years. He is a business man and also the dean of a school on engineering. His main recommendation for the team is to play as 'intelligent animals, believing in their natural and first instinct. For Borgono, the strategy is different, 'try to be rational and count up to 13'.

JUNIORS

Round 10

POLAND v HUNGARY

by Sandra Kulovic-Probst

In Round 10 the leaders in the Junior Championship, the Polish team played against Hungary. The match had a rather slow start with just 7 IMPs exchanged in the first five boards. Board 7 gave the Poles a chance for a swing.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marjai</i>	<i>Araszkievicz</i>	<i>Minarik</i>	<i>Buras</i>
			Pass
INT(i)		All Pass	
(i)	11-14 balanced		



Gabor MINARIK, Hungary

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Szabo</i>	<i>Sikora</i>	<i>Honyek</i>
			1♠

All Pass

In the Open Room, Marjai found himself in a rather slim INT. He received a heart lead, which was won by the ten on his right. Buras cashed the ace of hearts and played a spade. North won the king and cashed all his heart winners then played another spade. Declarer couldn't find more than four tricks and went -300. As North doesn't have a bid and in the Closed Room One Spade went one light, Poland just banked 5 IMPs.

Board 8 was the highlight in most matches and caused a swing in seven out of nine matches in the Junior competition.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marjai</i>	<i>Araszkievicz</i>	<i>Minarik</i>	<i>Buras</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Szabo</i>	<i>Sikora</i>	<i>Honyek</i>
4♥	All Pass		

Open Room Australia v France

West	North	East	South
<i>T.Bessis</i>	<i>Feiler</i>	<i>Gaviard</i>	<i>Williams</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	2♣
4♥	4♠	Pass	5♣
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

In the Poland v Hungary match, the deal was as boring as North's hand. The contract made with overtricks at both

tables. In the match Australia v France, however, the bidding took a completely different turn. South managed to introduce his club suit, which got things in motion and indeed Five Clubs is a good save against the heart game. When Bessis bid Five Hearts, Feiler doubled and led the ♠A. A diamond lead beats the contract, but there were eleven or more tricks made at every other table in the Junior field. The spade lead had let the contract through, at least in theory, but Feiler wasn't willing to give up just yet, so he fished out the ♦9! Bessis thought for a few minutes and couldn't go right. When he rose with the ace he was one down and 11 IMPs went to Australia.

Poland were still looking for a swing to increase their lead in the round robin. By Board 10 only 20 IMPs had been exchanged. Board 11 didn't look like much, but maybe someone could find the game and turn it into a swing?

Board 8. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Marjai	Araszkiwicz	Minarik	Buras
			Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Dble	Pass	3NT
All Pass			



Krzysztof BURAS, Poland

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Szabo	Sikora	Honyek
			INT(i)
Dble	Pass(ii)	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

- (i) Weak
- (ii) Forcing

The Polish pair did indeed find game, unfortunately the wrong one and with the wrong hands. In the Closed Room Three Spades made 10 tricks for +170. 3NT on the other hand didn't play very well and went three off. One IMP went to Poland as nobody dared to double.

Board 14 looked like a chance for both sides to make their mark.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Marjai	Araszkiwicz	Minarik	Buras
		1♣	Pass
1♦	3♥	Pass	4♥
5♥(i)	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Dble(ii)	Pass	6♥
Dble	All Pass		

- (i) Cuebid
- (ii) Take-out

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Szabo	Sikora	Honyek
		2♣(i)	Pass
2♦(ii)	4♥	5♣	Pass
5♥(iii)	Pass	6♣	All Pass

- (i) Precision
- (ii) Relay
- (iii) Cuebid

Open Room Australia v France

West	North	East	South
T.Bessis	Feiler	Gaviard	Williams
		1♣	Pass
1♦	4♥	5♣	Pass
7♣	Dble	All Pass	

In the Polish match both E/W pairs found the club slam. Araszkiwicz found an excellent save. Six hearts went for 800 and 4 IMPs to Poland. In the Australia v France match the auction was much less elegant. Bessis bid the grand and Feiler doubled with his ace. Bessis thought for a long time, because the right thing to do might be to convert to Seven No Trump (which happened in their Closed Room). Bessis passed to put pressure on South to find the lead. He didn't and a diamond lead gave him 13 tricks and 17 IMPs.

The Poland v Hungary match started to look increasingly peaceful and friendly as after 18 boards the match was still pretty low-scoring.

Board 19 gave Poland a chance to change all of that.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Szabo</i>	<i>Sikora</i>	<i>Honyek</i>
1♥	1♠	Dble	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

In the Open Room, 3NT was passed out and failed by two tricks on a spade lead. In the Closed Room, E/W took a better view of their hands and played in the optimum contract. The reward was 13 IMPs.

The match still finished with a very friendly low score of 34-22 IMPs or 17-13 VPs for Poland.



The Old-fashioned Way by Barry Rigal

Sometimes, without the aid of Deep Finesse, you need to do things the old-fashioned way and work out for yourself the fate of a contract. Such was the case on this deal from the Round 6 vugraph encounter between Norway and Chile in the Junior Series.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Robles</i>	<i>Ringseth</i>	<i>Pacareu</i>	<i>Berg</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦(i)	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2♠	3♥	All Pass	

(i) Four-card Drury

In 3♥, Ringseth won the lead of the queen of spades with his ace and led a diamond, the natural play. East, Joaquin Pacareu defended well by winning the ace of diamonds and shifting to a trump. West, Benjamin Robles, won the queen and returned a club but, when he next got in with the king of diamonds, returned a low heart. Declarer now had eight tricks but had to lose two hearts, two diamonds and a spade, as he could only ruff twice in dummy.

The question now is, can 3♥ be made? Before consulting Deep Finesse I thought that the answer was no but, if DF tells you otherwise, and he does, then it's time to revisit the hand.

This is the solution. Declarer must win the ace of spades at trick one then play a spade to the king and ruff a spade with the ♥8. Next he plays three rounds of clubs, ruffing low. When you now lead a diamond and East hops up to play a heart through, you must also hop up with your ace, ruff the remaining spade with dummy's last trump, and exit with a diamond. West wins the diamond but, in the three-card ending, he has ♥KQ5 and declarer has ♥1063, which is worth a trick – declarer's ninth.

SCHOOLS

Round 9

SWEDEN v LATVIA

by Sue Grenside

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Imsa</i>	<i>Bech</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
	1♥	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Lead: ♥ 10

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balasovs</i>	<i>C.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>
	1♥	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, the lead of the ♥ 10 made 12 tricks easy for Fryklund; +490.

The Latvian East/West found their way to 4♠. Celia Rimstedt led the ♣K, all following, and the ♣A was led next followed by the ♥A and then switched to the ♦2. Now West knows North has only two clubs because of their opening lead style.

If Balasovs wins with the ♦A, plays the diamond king then ruffs a diamond, he can finesse the spade and has his ten tricks. However, that is not what happened, declarer choosing to ruff a club to hand instead, perhaps not believing



North's carding, and Sweden gained 11 IMPs as North could over-ruff for one down.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Both sides reached 3NT played by East. In the Closed Room, Lorencs led the ♦ 2 to the five, six and queen. Fryklund called for the ♥Q from dummy, all playing low. Next came the ♥8 around to North's king. North played the ♦ 8 to king, ace and seven. South returned the diamond four, won in dummy with the jack of diamonds. Declarer played the two of clubs and lost to North's queen. The defenders now had two diamond tricks, ace and king of spades, queen of clubs and king of hearts for down two.

In the Open Room, Sandra Rimstedt led a low spade to the ace and back came a second spade to the jack and king. She played a third round and declarer had two spade winners so did not require the club guess; nine tricks for +600 and 13 IMPs to Latvia.



Sandra RIMSTEDT, Sweden

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 8 ♥ AKQJ542 ♦ Q8653 ♣	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q973 ♥ – ♦ AJ10742 ♣ 864 ♠ J10654 ♥ 987 ♦ – ♣ AQJ109
N					
W E					
S					

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Imsa</i>	<i>Bech</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
1♥	Dble	1♠	2♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	5♣
5♦	Dble	All Pass	

Lead: ♠A

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balaso</i>	<i>C.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>
4♣	Pass	4♥	All pass

On this board the two sides had completely different bidding styles. In the Closed Room, Fryklund started with One Heart. The table got into the bidding mood and everyone had their say. West finally won the auction and North looking at his hand liked all those good cards so doubled but found that there was no defence; +650 as the double made it easy to pick the trumps successfully.

In the Open Room, Balaso decided to show a single suited heart hand which went no further, when Bethers simply completed the transfer and made all the tricks for +510 but 4 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 107 ♥ 102 ♦ AJ97 ♣ AKJ62 ♠ KQ654 ♥ K543 ♦ K103 ♣ 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ J9832 ♥ QJ7 ♦ Q ♣ Q875 ♠ A ♥ A986 ♦ 86542 ♣ 1094
N					
W E					
S					

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Imsa</i>	<i>Bech</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
1♠	1♦	Pass	1♥
All Pass	2♣	3♠	4♦

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balaso</i>	<i>C.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>
2♥(ii)	1♦	1♠(i)	INT
	Pass	2♠	All Pass

(i) Hearts and diamonds or spades and clubs, 6-11

(ii) Pass or correct

The interesting thing about this hand is the overcalling style of the Latvian pair. Both sides have a partscore, so the question is do you push on and, if so, how far?

The loose nature of Celia Rimstedt's 1♦ opening made it more difficult for her sister to compete and the Swedes therefore sold out to 2♠, while the Latvian N/S pair were on firmer ground and could compete to the four level.

Both contracts made in comfort, Bethers making an over-trick, so that was +130 and +140 to Latvia and 7 IMPs to their cause.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ J2 ♥ A8 ♦ AKQ854 ♣ A53	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A65 ♥ KJ765432 ♦ 6 ♣ 2 ♠ KQ8 ♥ – ♦ J92 ♣ KQ109876 ♠ 109743 ♥ Q109 ♦ 1073 ♣ J4
N					
W E					
S					

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Imsa</i>	<i>Bech</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
2♦	4♥	2♣	Pass
5NT(i)	Pass	5♣	Pass
		6♣	All Pass

(i) Explained as RKCB, but not sure

Lead: ♥9

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balaso</i>	<i>C.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>
2♦	4♥	2♣	Pass
5♥	Pass	5♣	Pass
6NT	Dble	6♥	Pass
7♣	Pass	7NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Lead: ♥9

In the Closed Room, East had an easy play of the hand and made plus one for 940.

However, the Open Room had an unfortunate sequence of events. The declarer, as you can see, is West. However,

South led the ♥9 out of turn, (the screen was opened and it was suggested that declarer incorrectly lifted the screen) the lead was accepted by declarer in the knowledge that North held the ♠A. The Law on leads out of turn with screens states that, if the declarer deliberately lifts the screen, the director is empowered to award an adjusted score, which was the case in this instance. An adjustment of 7NT doubled minus one was made. If, however, South had lifted the screen after leading out of turn, declarer would have made his contract, as the normal leads out of turn law applies. Now declarer would happily accept the ♥9 lead. Thus 7NT doubled would make. This change of fortune resulted in a 27 IMP turnaround, as Sweden gained 14 IMPs instead of losing 13 had the contract been allowed to succeed.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fryklund</i>	<i>Imsa</i>	<i>Bech</i>	<i>Lorencs</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♥
4♠	All Pass		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balasovs</i>	<i>C.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Bethers</i>	<i>S.Rimstedt</i>
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Dble	4♥
All Pass			

Lead: ♥A

The Swedes bid confidently to 4♠, which turns out to be a good sacrifice when it avoids a double. Simon Bech was two down for -200.

Celia could open 2NT to show a weak hand with both minors and Sandra showed her hearts in response. Three Spades showed heart support and the good game was reached. Though Bethers took the opportunity to double 3♠, the vulnerability dissuaded Balasovs from saving. The contract made twelve tricks for +480 and 7 IMPs to Sweden.

In the end, Sweden came out on top by 51-36 IMPs, 18-12 VPs.

Turning The Knife

by Barry Rigal

Schools Round 6 – Norway v USA Blue

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

When Sue Grenside covered this deal in Wednesday morning's bulletin,, she referred to 3♣ redoubled making +1240 – an unusual number and not a bad one for East/West. Of course, if Matt Meckstroth had really wanted to turn the knife in the wound (and it would have been very relevant to anyone playing in 5♣), he would have tried for eleven tricks. This was safe on a diamond lead:

The line is to win the ten of diamonds and ruff a heart, cash the ace of clubs and cross to the ace of diamonds. Now ruff a second heart, cross to the jack of clubs, ruff a heart, and pitch the last heart on the king of diamonds. Declarer knows from the auction that the spades are five-one, so can exit with a low spade now, not caring which defender wins the jack or queen. If it is South, he will be forced to give a ruff and discard, while North will have the alternative open to him of cashing the ♠A and establishing the king. And that would have been the even rarer score of +1640.

Incidentally, only one declarer attempted 5♣, and he went down on the lead of the ace of hearts – of course, he did not have the benefit of the third diamond winner.



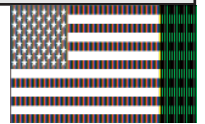
SCHOOLS

Round 8

SWEDEN

v

USA RED



by Sandra Kulovic-Probst

In Round 8 of the Schools Championship, Sweden played USA Red. The first board was very promising as both sides can make five of a major.

Cecilia Rimstedt got a small heart lead to the ace. She won the diamond switch, drew trumps and finessed clubs. Plus 650 looked like the top score for E/W.

In the Open Room, E/W were too passive and let their opponents play Five Hearts, making, so that was 15 IMPs for Sweden – an excellent start.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

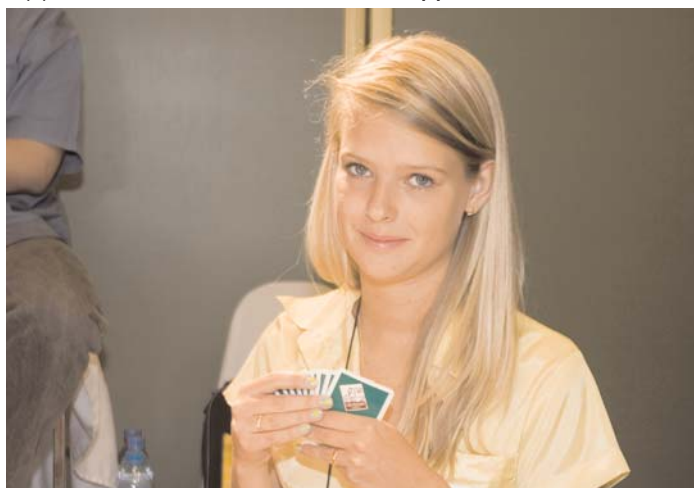
West	North	East	South
C. Rimstedt	Banh	Fournier	Beck
2♠	1♦	Pass	1♥
5♠	4♥	4♠	5♥
All Pass	Pass	Pass	Dble

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Owen	Sjoberg	Dwyer	Fryklund
2♠	1♦(i)	Pass	1♥
Pass	2NT(ii)	4♠	Pass
	5♥	All Pass	

(i) 13-16 balanced or 4+♥ and 5+minor

(ii) Maximum and four-card support



Cecilia RIMSTEDT, Sweden

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
C. Rimstedt	Banh	Fournier	Beck
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣(i)
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, Sweden found the normal 4♠ contract, which made with an overtrick. 3NT just has no play and drifted one off on a club lead for another 13 IMPs to Sweden.

By Board 6, Sweden was leading by 35-0 IMPs and looking very strong. Board 7 would start a new trend in the match and put USA Red on the scoreboard for the first time.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
C.Rimstedt	Banh	Fournier	Beck
Pass	INT	Pass	Pass
Pass	2NT(ii)	Pass	2♥(i)
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♣

- (i) Shortness and super accept
- (ii) not in system

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Owen	Sjoberg	Dwyer	Fryklund
Pass	1♠	Dble	Pass
4NT(i)	Dble	5♦	4♠
			All Pass

- (i) Minors

4♠ is not a challenging contract and made with two over-tricks. 5♦ on the other hand is a really good save for E/W, although I am unsure where West found his 4NT bid, which was explained as showing minors. The contract went only one off so 11 IMPs for USA Red.

The new trend was set and USA Red started scoring on almost every board. By Board 16 they were leading by 13 IMPs despite the bad start.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ K 8 4 2 ♥ Q J 10 6 5 3 ♦ 4 ♣ 9 4	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q J 3 ♥ 8 2 ♦ A J 9 3 ♣ Q 8 6 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ A 10 9 7 ♥ K 7 ♦ Q 8 7 5 ♣ J 10 7											

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
C.Rimstedt	Banh	Fournier	Beck
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Owen	Sjoberg	Dwyer	Fryklund
2♥	All Pass		

3NT should not make, so after the bidding it looked like a flat board. It was played on a club lead and the defence would not admit how they gave declarer the ninth trick. Let's just assume it wasn't a good defence. 2♥ made in the Open Room and 11 IMPs went to USA Red.

USA Red won the match by 74-55 IMPs or 19-11 VPs, which proves that not giving up after a bad start and trying on every board really pays off.

Forcing Or Not?

Sweden defeated Canada in the third round of the Schools Series, with this piece of good fortune contributing a lot of IMPs to their cause.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K 10 7 6 ♥ 10 9 7 6 ♦ K J 8 ♣ Q 8	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 8 5 2 ♥ A 8 ♦ 10 9 ♣ A K J 6 5 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ A J 4 3 ♥ K J ♦ A 6 4 2 ♣ 7 3 2											

West	North	East	South
Fryklund		Beck	
Pass	Pass	INT	Dble
Rdbl	All Pass		

Simon Beck's INT opening showed 9-12, a bit of an underbid but we are all allowed a little flexibility when facing a passed partner. Erik Fryklund's redouble showed at least four-four in either the minors or the majors and a hand that wanted to escape from INT doubled.

North had a problem and asked a few questions, including 'Are you allowed to pass it?' To which East replied with a big shrug. Finally, North did the normal thing when he passed. Beck knew that his screen-mate had a problem, and that his own hand offered the possibility of making seven tricks facing very little. He decided to gamble out a pass and, when dummy went down, must have been delighted by what he saw.

South led a low spade to the ten and queen and North returned the ♠9, which was run to dummy's king. After running the clubs, it was not too difficult for Beck to get the diamonds right so he had nine tricks and a rather handy +960.

As the Swedish North made a peaceful 2♦ at the other table, that was worth a 14-IMP swing to the Swedes.



Bid Badly, Play Well

With a bidding style like Norway's Haakon Bogen, you get to be very good at declaring bad contracts. Here is an example where the normal contract of 3NT would have been easier to play than the partscore which he actually played.

Schools Round 8 – Latvia v Norway

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

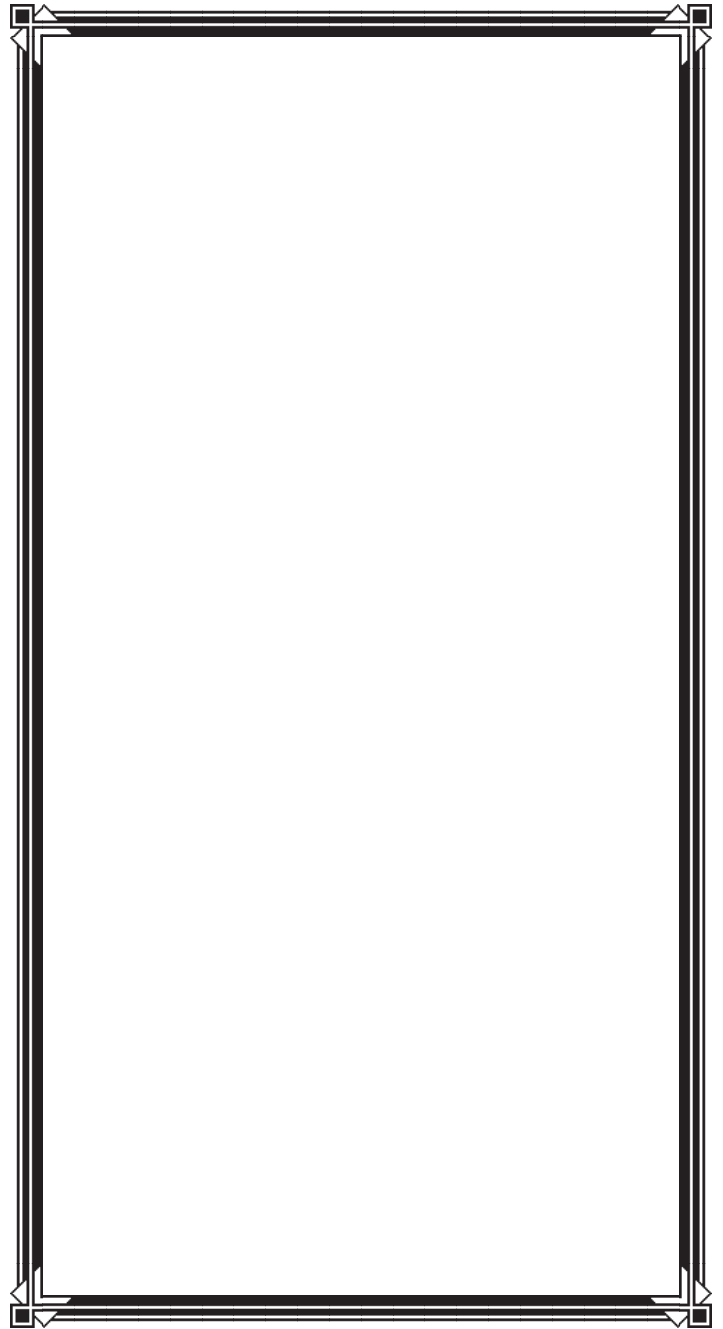
	♠ K 6 3					
	♥ K 7 3					
	♦ A J 7					
	♣ A 10 9 2					
♠ Q 7 4 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A J	
N						
W E						
S						
♥ Q J 4		♥ A 9 8 6				
♦ Q 10 5 4		♦ K 3 2				
♣ Q 5		♣ K 7 4 3				
	♠ 10 9 8 5					
	♥ 10 5 2					
	♦ 9 8 6					
	♣ J 8 6					

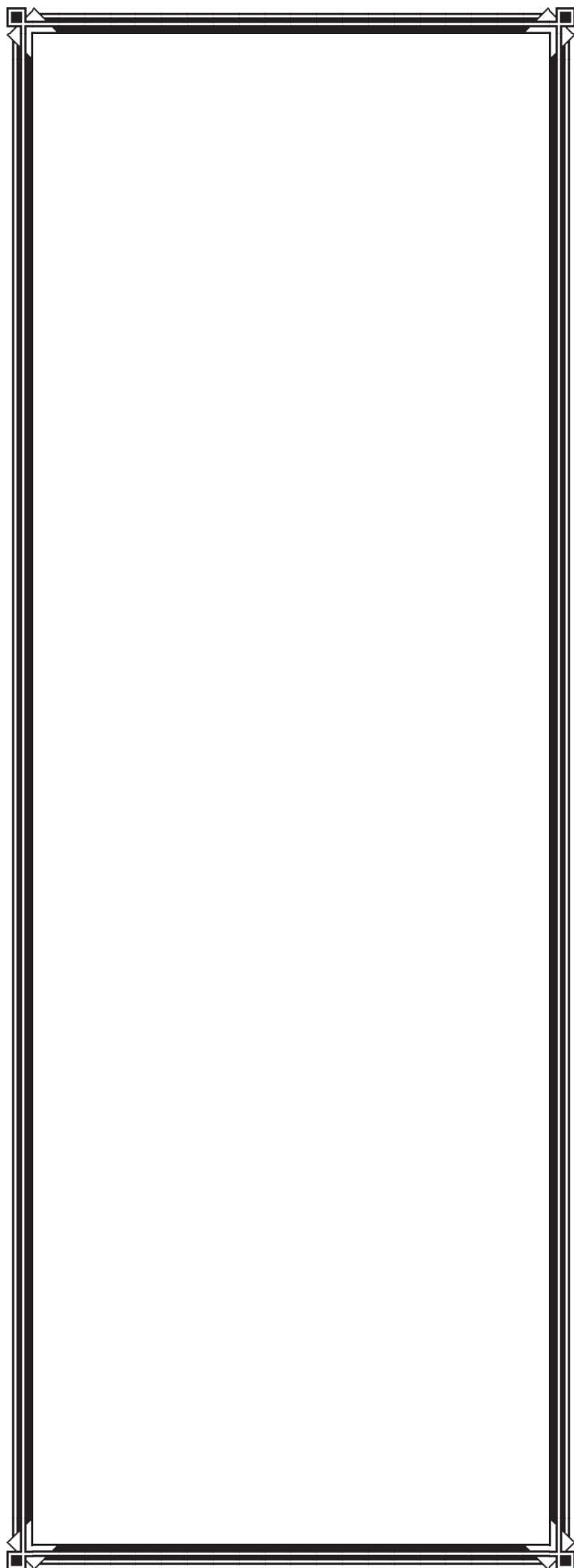
West	North	East	South
Bogen			
INT(i)	Dble	2♣(II)	2♠
All Pass			

- (i) 11-15
- (ii) Clubs, or diamonds and a major

North led a spade to the jack and Haakon tried a club to the queen and ace. Back came a spade to dummy's bare ace. Haakon cashed the ♣K then ruffed a club, and ran the queen of hearts which was, correctly, not covered. Now Haakon got off lead with the queen of spades, pitching a diamond from hand, and North was endplayed.

North could cash his club winner and ace of diamonds. When dummy tried to follow low to the diamond, Haakon insisted that he throw the king. Now, when North continued with another diamond, he could win in hand and play the winning thirteenth diamond. All South could do was to ruff with his last trump but now it was his turn to be endplayed. The forced heart return gave declarer the last two tricks and his contract. That was a hard-earned push as Haakon's teammates were two off in INT at the other table.





SCHOOLS RANKING AFTER SESSION 11

1 ISRAEL	235
2 POLAND	200
3 LATVIA	199
4 AUSTRALIA	199
5 USA RED	191
6 USA BLUE	179
7 NORWAY	178
8 SWEDEN	177
9 CHINESE TAIPEI	175
10 CHINA HONG KONG	171
11 CANADA	146
12 PAKISTAN	141
13 ITALY	125
14 CHINA	97
15 INDONESIA	93
16 THAILAND	81

Solution to Today's Play Problem

by John Carruthers

To have a chance to defeat 4♥ you must assume that declarer has six hearts and four clubs. If that is the case, you will win the ♦A, ♣Q and ♣A, and the fourth defensive trick will have to come from either hearts or clubs. Declarer will not have only three clubs as he would not have played this way, so assume that he has four. He cannot have ♣10953 or he would have drawn trumps, so partner must have either ♣A972 or ♣A1072. Which is it?

If declarer has the ♣10, you should return a spade and hope that partner has the queen of hearts. If partner has the ♣10, a trump is required.

Dealer North. E/W Vul.

	♠ A K 8 6										
	♥ A 10										
	♦ K 10 7 3										
	♣ K J 4										
♠ Q J 9 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 10 4 3 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 7 6 2		♥ 9 8									
♦ J 5		♦ A Q 9 8 3									
♣ A 10 7 2		♣ Q 6									
	♠ 7										
	♥ K Q J 5 4 3										
	♦ 6 4										
	♣ 9 8 5 3										

As you can see, you must return a trump. Zia's point was that, with ♣A972, partner would have played the nine on the second round to deny possession of the ten. Therefore, when the nine does not appear, partner must have the ten. I told you he was subtle.