

1st World Mind Sports Games Youth Team Championships

Beijing-China 3rd-18th October 2008

Chief Editor: Brian SENIOR
Editors: Micke MELANDER - Jan van CLEEFF
Layout Editor: Panagiotis PAPADOPOULOS
Photographer: Wattanai CHANAKOT

Bulletin 8

Sunday, 12 October 2008

FOUR TEAMS LEFT



We are down to four teams in each of the three championships. Today sees the semi-finals, three 20-board segments to see which teams will get a shot at the gold medals.

In the U28 championship, three of the top four qualifiers made it through the 48-board quarter-finals – Poland, France and China. The odd one out was Belgium, beaten by eighth-qualifiers Norway.

The top two qualifiers in the U26 event, Poland and Denmark made it through safely, but Australia lost narrowly to Chinese Taipei and Netherlands were defeated by Norway.

In the U21s, England and France won comfortably enough, while China won a close one against Norway. The semi-final line-up is completed by Bulgaria, who knocked out Chinese Taipei.

Meanwhile, the Pairs got underway yesterday with the first two sessions of the qualifying stage. The qualification stage is completed with two further sessions today.

Today's Schedule

- 10.00 U-28 Teams, Semi Final 1
- 10.00 U-26 Teams, Semi Final 1
- 10.00 U-21 Teams, Semi Final 1
- 10.30 Pairs, Qualifier Session 3 (Groups A-B)
- 13.50 U-28 Teams, Semi Final 2
- 13.50 U-26 Teams, Semi Final 2
- 13.50 U-21 Teams, Semi Final 2
- 15.30 Pairs, Qualifier Session 4 (Groups A-B)
- 17.10 U-28 Teams, Semi Final 3
- 17.10 U-26 Teams, Semi Final 3
- 17.10 U-21 Teams, Semi Final 3

RESULTS U-28 TEAMS

QUARTER-FINAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	C.O	Total
1 POLAND - CHINESE TAIPEI	60 - 6	64 - 35	38 - 24	12 - 0	124 - 65
2 FRANCE - ENGLAND	37 - 27	32 - 19	27 - 12	12 - 0	108 - 58
3 BELGUM - NORWAY	37 - 43	8 - 42	15 - 27	11 - 0	71 - 112
4 CHINA - ISRAEL	52 - 8	31 - 23	59 - 30	3 - 0	145 - 61

RESULTS U-26 TEAMS

QUARTER-FINAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	C.O	Total
1 POLAND - USA	46 - 19	42 - 36	20 - 56	12 - 0	120 - 111
2 AUSTRALIA - CHINESE TAIPEI	31 - 54	48 - 47	35 - 15	6 - 0	120 - 116
3 DENMARK - CANADA	44 - 31	30 - 39	44 - 14	12 - 0	130 - 84
4 NETHERLANDS - NORWAY	26 - 57	32 - 30	38 - 44	0 - 8.7	96 - 139.7

RESULTS U-21 TEAMS

QUARTER-FINAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	C.O	Total
1 NETHERLANDS - ENGLAND	21 - 41	21 - 36	26 - 53	0 - 12	68 - 142
2 USA - FRANCE	24 - 32	13 - 27	5 - 68	0 - 12	42 - 139
3 CHINESE TAIPEI - BULGARIA	30 - 56	27 - 28	4 - 20	0 - 7	61 - 111
4 CHINA - NORWAY	31 - 43	12 - 36	47 - 14	12 - 0	102 - 93

TODAY'S PROGRAM U-28 TEAMS

SEMI-FINAL

1	FRANCE	0 - 12	POLAND
2	NORWAY	0 - 7	CHINA

TODAY'S PROGRAM U-26 TEAMS

SEMI-FINAL

1	NORWAY	4,7 - 0	DENMARK
2	CHINESE TAIPEI	0,3 - 0	POLAND

TODAY'S PROGRAM U-21 TEAMS

SEMI-FINAL

1	FRANCE	12 - 0	BULGARIA
2	CHINA	0 - 12	ENGLAND

VUGRAPH MATCHES



France - Poland (U-28/Semi-Final I)	10.00
To be decided	13.50
To be decided	17.10





What do you prefer to play, in teams or pairs?



Clara Cellier, Guadeloupe

– I prefer to play in teams, because we are together in another way. And it feels more stimulating to compete that way. Also, comparing and winning together feels better.

Sara Sivelind, Sweden

World Champion in Youth Pairs

– I like all of them, both have their moments, so to say. In teams you can always play for the only chance to make the contract, while in pairs that can be a very costly affair. That means that you can't be as creative in teams, which can be really funny. But a really good safety play has its points too. (The rumour says, Sara has her birthday today – ask to find out!)



Ksenia Nekrasova, Russia

– I prefer to play in teams. I like safety plays more than hunting overtricks on the boards.

Sorada Panthaloet, Thailand

– I like teams best, it's more fun to compare the results and I like the competition better.



Cristina Giampietro, Germany

– I prefer teams, it gives more possibilities and it doesn't all belong to one particular board. I also think that it isn't so stressful and it's nice to have a chat with the players when you have learned to know them. In pairs you don't have the time, since you have to change for the next round all the time.



From Hero to Goat
by Marc Smith

During the course of a session, most of us do some good things and some dumb things. Rarely, though, does anyone go from hero to goat as quickly as the player on this deal from Wednesday morning's session in the Under-28 teams.

Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ 9 8 5 4 3 2											
♥ 10 9 5											
♦ 10 4											
♣ A 7											
♠ A Q J 10 6		♠ K									
♥ K		♥ 8 7 4									
♦ Q 9 6		♦ K J 8 5									
♣ J 10 6 5		♣ K Q 8 4 2									
	<table border="1" style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; text-align: center; width: 60px; height: 60px;"> <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		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ 7									
		♥ A Q J 6 3 2									
		♦ A 7 3 2									
		♣ 9 3									

West	North	East	South
–	–	–	1♥
1♠	Pass	2♣	2♦
2♥	3♥	4♣	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

E/W did well in the bidding, reaching their optimum contract and then doubling when N/S persisted.

West led the ♣J against Four Hearts doubled. Declarer won immediately and played two rounds of diamonds, West winning with the ♦Q to continue clubs. East overtook her partner's ♣10 and accurately switched to a trump. Declarer ducked this to the singleton king and I'm sure many West's would now have laid down the ♠A, but our hero found the excellent continuation of a third round of diamonds.

Stuck in dummy with only spades and one trump, declarer now had no way back to his hand in order to ruff his last diamond loser. He led a spade and East played the king perforce. I'd like to be able to tell you now that she exited with a trump and scored her diamond later to complete a perfectly bid and defended hand, but West thought he had to follow an excellent play with an awful one, so he overtook the ♠K with his ace in order to play a second round of the suit, allowing declarer to ruff his last diamond after all.

As I said at the start, we've all had sessions where we did good and bad things, but I don't recall seeing a player make an excellent play and then follow it immediately with a bonehead one on the very next trick. How quickly we can go from hero to goat.

U-21 TEAMS Quarter-Final 1



FRANCE



USA



“The Carnage Ending”

by Jan van Cleeff, foreword by Howard Weinstein

The first quarter of the U21 quarter-final between France and USA was shown on vugraph. France started with a carry-over of +12 IMPs.

Foreword by Howard Weinstein, non-playing captain of USA, U21

‘One of the great joys in captaining and kibitzing the junior teams is watching youthful exuberance in bidding. This hand occurred in the under-21 quarter-finals, with my team, USA (Zach Brescoll, Angela Collura, Matt Cory, Kevin Dwyer, Sam Katz, and Owen Lien) playing against France.

North (Kevin Dwyer) led a small diamond, and the French West judged well to start on hearts, North winning the second round with the king. Seeing all the hands, declarer now has seven tricks on top, and my mental scorecard was etched as losing 5 IMPs, thankful that at least they got to game rather than playing 2♥ for a likely 110.

North switched to ♣J and when the queen lost to the king four rounds of

diamonds followed. Declarer pitched a spade, two clubs and, not knowing hearts were splitting, finally a heart. South (Sam Katz – an offspring of the well known Ralph Katz and Matha Katz, a former junior world champion in her own right, though as Martha Benson) pitched ♣7, and finally his last small heart. North shifted to the spade queen, an excellent play, as an immediate club would look suspicious. Declarer won the spade ace and now had the option of cashing out for down three, not an acceptable result on the surface.

So declarer hooked ♣9 and, after South won the ten, two spades followed,

with North to be on play at trick 13. Declarer, now probably in shock, had to guess whether North had a heart or club remaining, and guessed wrong, pitching ♥Q.

Other than the last play, nothing was unreasonable, yet –600 was the end result, and my best guess of losing 5 IMPs turned into winning 5 IMPs.’

Thanks Howie, here are some more deals from your match. Board 8 required some good technique:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Fear is apparently not a quality fully developed at this age, often creating good results, but not always. In the Closed Room, East opened with 1♥ on his 5-5 9-count and was promptly launched into 3NT played by West, a contract with extremely little chance and undertricks going at 100 each.

After a small diamond lead, declarer played on clubs, ducking when North played the jack. The hand went downhill from there, the carnage ending with –400.

Watching the Open Room on vugraph, I was writing a loss of 5 to 11 IMPs on my mental scorecard. However, optimism pervaded the East/West pair here as well, as the auction proceeded:

West	North	East	South
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♠	2♦	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

♠ Q 4
♥ A 8 4
♦ Q 10 9 4 3
♣ Q 8 3

In the Closed Room, over North’s INT opener, East, interfered with a multi 2♦, showing a long major suit. In the Open Room, North opened INT and East overcalled 2♣, showing two majors. Neither approach affected South’s bid: 3NT, against which East, at both tables, kicked off with

♥K. Declarer ducked and East continued with the ♥Q for the ace. It is tempting to finesse in clubs. That would be an error though. East would come in, persist in hearts and later, in with ♦A, will cash his heart winners. At both tables declarer did the right thing by playing a diamond to the king at trick three. East won and returned a heart to North's jack. A diamond to the jack did the job: 3NT made at both tables.

A couple of boards later:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	South	East
<i>Brescoll</i>	<i>Canonne</i>	<i>Lien</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

With all cards open the spade game has a sporting chance (though DeepFinesse says no, you might get trump shortened on a club lead). All depends on how you tackle the heart suit: cash an honour and later finesse the jack. In the middle of the play North took a first round finesse in hearts and later did not finesse in hearts anymore. This led to down two; East/West +500. Alert double by the way by East.

Open Room

West	North	South	East
<i>Kilani</i>	<i>Dwyer</i>	<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>Katz</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Four Hearts would not be everybody's choice. Would you have any slam interest opposite an invitational hand? Or perhaps North proposed an alternative game. Anyway, the bid worked out well, since East was talked out of a double of 4♠. East led ♠A and continued the suit. Declarer won in dummy and – as in the Closed Room – made a first round finesse in hearts. Later Dwyer finessed the suit again: E/W +100 and 9 IMPs to USA.

Board 14 East faced a tough lead, holding:

♠ K 10
♥ A 9 3
♦ A J 8 4
♣ K J 5 4

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
–	–	INT	2♣(i)
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

(i) Both majors

Far from obvious. East tried a low club. Wrong, as this was the full deal:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Declarer won the first trick with the queen, losing a spade, a heart and a diamond only. The killing lead would have been ♦A (or a low diamond). Not easy.

In the Open Room it rested in 3♠, making four after the same lead; a net loss for USA of 6 IMPs. After the first quarter (16 boards) USA was trailing by 20 IMPs.



Kevin Dwyer – USA

U-28 TEAMS

Quarter-Final 2

AUSTRALIA

v

CHINESE TAIPEI

by Brian Senior

Chinese Taipei led Australia by 48-37 IMPs after the first set of their U28 quarter-final match. Set 2 saw three major swings, leaving the score with a set to play Chinese Taipei 87 Australia 67 – still all to play for.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

<p>♠ Q 10 8 4 3 ♥ J 10 4 ♦ 9 4 2 ♣ 6 3</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ 7 5 2 ♥ K 8 6 2 ♦ Q 10 6 ♣ 10 5 4</p>	<p>♠ J 9 6 ♥ 5 3 ♦ A 8 7 3 ♣ A Q 8 2</p>
	<p>♠ A K ♥ A Q 9 7 ♦ K J 5 ♣ K J 9 7</p>		

West	North	East	South
<i>Tsai</i>	<i>Griffiths</i>	<i>Wu</i>	<i>Gosney</i>
–	–	–	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
<i>Krochmalik</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Lin</i>
–	–	–	1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

<p>♠ 10 9 3 2 ♥ 7 6 5 3 ♦ Q 2 ♣ A Q 7</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ J 8 6 ♥ 9 ♦ J 10 5 4 3 ♣ J 10 4 3</p>	<p>♠ A K 5 ♥ K 10 8 2 ♦ A 8 7 6 ♣ 9 5</p>
			<p>♠ Q 7 4 ♥ A Q J 4 ♦ K 9 ♣ K 8 6 2</p>

West	North	East	South
<i>Tsai</i>	<i>Griffiths</i>	<i>Wu</i>	<i>Gosney</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Krochmalik</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Lin</i>
Pass	1♣	INT	Dble
2♣	Pass	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

For Chinese Taipei, Chih-Hung Lin opened a strong club, 14+, and Po-Han Wang's response showed a balanced positive with 5-7 Relay Points (A=3, K=2, Q=1). Lin used a series of relays to discover his partner's exact shape and controls then jumped to the good small slam. With everything well positioned for declarer, Lin had no problem in coming to 13 tricks for +1390.

When John Paul Gosney opened 2NT, 20-22, Aneurin Griffiths had the option of responding 3♠ to show both minors, but perhaps that would have shown more than just four-four distribution. If so, perhaps he took the practical approach by not trying to explore a hand for which he simply did not have the methods. His quiet raise to game meant that slam was not even in the picture; +690 but 12 IMPs to Chinese Taipei.

Having already watched his opponents bid to a making slam via their relays over a strong club, Griffiths Ware was not about to give them another free run when he had the vulnerability in his favour. His INT overcall showed at least nine cards in the minors. Lin showed values by doubling and Daniel Krochmalik gave preference to clubs. When that came back to Lin, he took one look at the vulnerability and jumped to 3NT, ending the auction. After the lead of the queen of diamonds Lin came to ten tricks for +630.

The Australians found the heart fit and, after what looks to be a very aggressive jump raise to 3♥, Gosney cuebid a couple of times then bid the small slam. Slam is a little bit worse than a well-positioned ace of clubs, but quite playable. Today, the club was offside and that meant

one down for -100 and 12 IMPs to Chinese Taipei.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ J ♥ 10 7 4 3 ♦ 8 6 5 ♣ A 8 5 4 3	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #2e7d32; 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	♠ 10 9 4 3 2 ♥ A K 9 6 5 ♦ Q 2 ♣ 10
N					
W E					
S					
	♠ K 7 6 ♥ J 8 ♦ K J 10 4 ♣ Q J 9 7				

West	North	East	South
<i>Tsai</i>	<i>Griffiths</i>	<i>Wu</i>	<i>Gosney</i>
-	-	Pass	Pass
Pass	INT	Dble	Rdbl
2♣	Pass	2♥	Dble
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Krochmalik</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Lin</i>
-	-	2♥	Pass
4♥	Dble	All Pass	

Griffiths opened a strong no trump and Yen-Hsuen Wu doubled to show one minor or both majors. Gosney's redouble showed strength and Kun-Hung Tsai bid 2♣, pass or correct. Wu duly showed the majors and Gosney doubled for take-out. He followed up with 3NT over 3♦, a contract with a rather obvious flaw. Griffiths had one life, when Wu led a low heart at trick one, however, when he played the king of clubs, Tsai wasted no time in winning and returning a heart, so the contract was down one for -50.

In the other room, Ware opened 2♥, weak with at least four-four in the majors, and Krochmalik raised the pre-empt to the four level, having no idea how sound this would prove to be. When his opponents chose to defend 4♥ doubled, he must have had some concern regarding the size of the penalty. He need not have been concerned. Lin led the queen of clubs to dummy's ace. Ware gave up a spade to Wang's ace and back came a low diamond to the queen and king followed by the jack of hearts. Ware crossruffed his way to ten tricks for an excellent +590 and 12 IMPs to Australia.

Had Lin not switched to the jack of hearts, he would have been able to ruff with that card in front of dummy on the fourth round of spades to defeat the contract.

Don't Mess With Meike and Marion

by Jan van Cleeff

At the beginning of the U26 tournament the Dutch had good hopes to win a medal. In fact they fielded their Junior EC squad. The Dutch Women's team even had to borrow Meike Wortel and Marion Michielsens for that reason. Well, the juniors did reach quarter-finals, but were eliminated by Norway. Rather disappointing for all the Dutch fans, especially for Marion's father and brother. They took the Trans Siberian Railway (Moscow-Novosibirsk-Ulan Bator-Beijing) to watch their daughter and sister. So the Dutch juniors were out at a rather early stage, but that did not automatically imply that one could freely mess with Meike and Marion:

Netherlands v Norway, QF2, U26

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 4 3 ♥ K J 3 2 ♦ K Q J 8 2 ♣ J	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #2e7d32; 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	♠ Q J ♥ A Q 10 4 ♦ 10 5 3 ♣ 10 9 8 7
N					
W E					
S					
♠ A K ♥ 8 7 5 ♦ A 9 7 6 ♣ A Q 5 4		♠ 10 9 8 6 5 2 ♥ 9 6 ♦ 4 ♣ K 6 3 2			

In the Closed Room the Norwegian East/West duly bid and made 3NT. More action from the Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Michielsens</i>	<i>Berg</i>	<i>Wortel</i>	<i>Reistad</i>
-	-	Pass	Pass
INT	2♦(i)	Dble(ii)	Rdbl(iii)
Pass	2♥	Pass(iv)	Pass
Dble(ii)	All Pass		

- (i) Diamonds and a major
- (ii) Take-out
- (iii) SOS
- (iv) Double would have been take-out

Two Spades would be a great escape of course. But 2♥ is much more sporting, especially when you play against two innocent looking girls.

Club to the queen, heart to the ten, club ruffed, ♦K for the ace, heart for jack and queen, ♥A. When the smoke had cleared declarer had made two diamond tricks and one trump; North/South -1400.

U-28 TEAMS

ROUND 17



ENGLAND



FRANCE



by Brian Senior

Going into the final round of the U28 Swiss qualifying stage, both France and England were sure of their places in the knock-outs. Did that mean that the match was of little or no consequence? Hardly. The conditions of contest made the position of qualification very important. Firstly, the top teams would have some selection rights for who they would play in the quarter-final and, perhaps, the semi-final. Secondly, if the two teams met at any stage in the knock-outs there would be a carry-over score from the direct match in the Swiss.

As it turned out, France had a very good match, winning by 61-21 IMPs, 24-6 VPs. That put them in second overall in the rankings and, when it came to their turn to choose their quarter-final opponents, they chose England – with a 12 IMP carry-over advantage in the 48-board match.

France had much the better of the match. For England, Duncan Happer and Ben Green bid and made a good slam on Board 3, missed by Olivier Bessis and Jerome Grenthe, only for the tables to be turned on Board 9, when Bessis/Grenthe bid and made a good slam missed by Green/Happer.

Brown chose to overcall INT to show the general hand-type and strength, not worrying about the lack of a club stopper as the French 1♣ would often be short. Susan Stockdale used Stayman then bid 3♠ over Grenthe's competitive 2NT.

Grenthe led a club to dummy's bare ace. Brown played a spade and Bessis split, putting in the queen. She won the ace, ruffed a club and played a heart to the king and ace to ruff another club, then played a spade up. Bessis won the ♠K and tried a diamond. Brown won the ace and ruffed her last club. She lost two tricks in the endgame; +140.

Seguineau preferred to double the 1♣ opening (though it was even more likely to be short at this table), and Happer doubled to show diamonds. Adrien Vinay passé for now but jumped to 3♥ at his next turn, suggesting distribution but so many high cards, and Seguineau went on to game. Happer liked his four trumps and spade void, so doubled, but found that there was no way to defeat the contract. Green led the king of spades to the ace and a ruff. Happer returned a club to the ace, but Vinay could pick

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Seguineau</i>	<i>Happer</i>
–	1♣	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
3♥	Pass	4♥	Dble
All Pass			
West	North	East	South
<i>Stockdale</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Grenthe</i>
–	1♣	1NT	Pass
2♣	Dble	2♠	2NT
3♠	All Pass		



Jerome Grenthe – France

up the trumps without loss then lead spades through Green to hold his losers in that suit to only one; ten tricks made for +590 and 9 IMPs to France.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Seguineau</i>	<i>Happer</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Stockdale</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Grenthe</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	1♠
Pass	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Grenthe led the ♠6 against 3NT. Fiona Brown won the jack and immediately tried a heart to the queen, king and ace. Grenthe exited passively with a club. Brown ran the clubs then played a spade to the ace and exited with the queen to Grenthe's king. Grenthe had only kept one more spade winner as he could not afford to bare the ♦A in case declarer read the position, and he needed a heart to get to partner's hand. However, that was all that he needed. Bessis had come down to two heart winners and queen-ten of diamonds. When Grenthe cashed the ♠8, away went the ♦10 and the defence had the rest with two hearts and the ♦A; down one for -50.

Happer also led the ♠6 to dummy's jack. Paul Seguineau cashed all the clubs, coming down to doubletons in the other three suits. Happer was squeezed, of course. He bared the ♥A to keep three spades, but three wasn't enough. Seguineau played the same endplay as Brown, ace then queen of spades, but without the early heart play this was successful. Happer could take two spades but, when Seguineau read the ending correctly and bared the ♥K to keep king-doubleton diamond, had to give declarer the last trick; a nicely played +400 and 10 IMPs to France.

Nordic Battle

by Micke Melander

In Round 16 it was more or less clear that neither Denmark nor Sweden would qualify for the quarter-finals in the U 28 series in Beijing. They needed more than a little luck from other match results and to score 50 in the last two matches to have a small chance.

Per-Erik Malmström, Sweden, thought that he needed to spin the wheel a little more to get their 25 VPs.

Sitting East, Per-Erik decided to psyche and opened with 1♠ in third seat.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

South was trapped and couldn't bid. West raised to 2♠ and North was afraid that, if he doubled, partner might bid 3♣, so 2♠ was to the final bid – not doubled.

Four down was a good board when the Swedish pair bid and made 4♠ at the other table. That was 9 IMPs to Sweden, who actually pulled off their 25 in that particular match. However, the overall results didn't go with them and they only got 8 VPs against Croatia in the last round.



Per-Erik Malmstrom – Sweden

Youth Bridge Heroes

by Micke Melander

There are 200 Chinese students working as volunteers in the Mind Sport Olympiad, most of them also worked at the previous Paralympics and the Olympiad. They are studying at Beijing Sport University, where their main subject is English. At the moment 6 of those 200 are appointed in the Bridge duplication room. They are the real youth bridge heroes since they more or less duplicate all the boards that are played in the Youth Bridge Championships here in Beijing.

– We don't know what we are going to work with in the future, but some of us might be interpreters, journalists or in that kind of work related to sports.

One of the biggest moments they can think of was when all the audience sang 'Happy Birthday to you' for Usain Bolt in the Birds Nest during the big Olympiad.

– We really enjoy taking part in all these big events and it's a good way to learn and practice our English. We also meet a lot of different people and cultures that are very interesting and fun.

Regarding Mind Sports, some of them play a little bit of Chinese chess but none of them have tried to play bridge as they think the game looks too complex. The good thing is at least that they might think about joining the bridge classes they have in school when they come back, a thought that never had occurred to them before.



Shi Yalin, Zhai Li, Li Rumeng, Wang Can, Zhao Xing Yun and Xie Zhen all students at Beijing Sport University.

Rewind

by David Greenwood

I watched an innocuous looking 3NT in Round 15 of the Under 28s Swiss from the vugraph auditorium. Let us look at it from South's perspective.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ K 8 2
♥ Q 4
♦ A K 4 3 2
♣ 9 8 6

♠ Q 7 6
♥ K 10 9
♦ Q 6 5
♣ K 4 3 2

With North/South silent, they defended 3NT after West had opened 1♣. East responded 1♦ and raised the INT rebid to 3NT via an artificial 2♣ relay which gave no information as to declarer's shape.

North, Ron Schwartz, led the fourth highest ♥5 to dummy's queen and South's king. The ♥10 was returned, which held, North providing the seven. Lotan Fisher as South thought for some time before switching to the ♣2. The full hand:

♠ A J 9 3 ♥ A 6 2 ♦ J 10 7 ♣ A 7 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 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 8 2 ♥ Q 4 ♦ A K 4 3 2 ♣ 9 8 6	♠ 10 5 4 ♥ J 8 7 5 3 ♦ 9 8 ♣ Q J 10 ♠ Q 7 6 ♥ K 10 9 ♦ Q 6 5 ♣ K 4 3 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Declarer, Ming Sheng, for China, won the ♣A and took the diamond finesse for down two.

There was a discussion, (I refrain from using the word 'analysis'), in the auditorium as to whether South should continue the hearts. Maybe the ♥7 on the second round had some significance but if partner had, say, ♥A)xx there was no rush to play a third round. On the actual hand, there was also some case for North to overtake the ♥10 and switch to a club themselves.

Of the 50 or so Wests that played 3NT on a heart lead (some on an attitudinal ♥7), only 20% were defeated. Were all these Souths as incisive as Fisher?

Let's rewind a second to trick one: how should declarer play? Surely ducking the heart is playing for a misdefence and potentially suffering defeat when hearts are 4-4. Susan Stockdale for England took the first heart and tried the diamond finesse, fearing a club switch but having the spade finesse in reserve when hearts behaved and the ♦Q was offside.

Other declarers may have done the same, so we will never know how many Souths found the switch.

PAIRS QUALIFICATION GROUP A

Name	1 st	2 nd	Total					
1 BALASOV - BETHERS	67,15	61,28	128,43	60	WHYTE - REW	50,69	49,23	99,92
2 FRANCHI - BOLDRINI	61,77	60,45	122,22	61	STUURMAN - VISSER	46,31	53,54	99,85
3 GRAINGER - SABOURIN	56,82	61,86	118,69	62	SORENSEN - PEDERSEN	40,08	59,32	99,41
4 SOLOVYEV - VESELOV	63,29	55,20	118,49	63	MOHOTA - DAS	44,57	54,81	99,38
5 BARONI - SANGIORGIO	58,92	59,33	118,25	64	SALOMONSSON - SIVELIND	50,13	48,81	98,94
6 GOTARD - ZIMMERMANN	57,55	60,67	118,22	65	EGE - ROHRBERG	62,83	35,96	98,79
7 DELLE CAVE - DI BELLO	53,42	64,80	118,21	66	LO - YEUNG	53,49	45,21	98,70
8 BETHERS - LORENCIS	57,22	58,31	115,53	67	ANDHANI - ARIYANI	51,94	46,68	98,62
9 ANTER - KIZILOK	60,08	55,35	115,43	68	GISLASON - SIGURDARSON	47,08	51,49	98,57
10 BARBOSA - BRUM	54,93	59,31	114,24	69	JASSEM - ZATORSKI	48,39	49,99	98,38
11 VROUSTIS - KARAMANLIS	53,03	60,64	113,66	70	RAMPEN - KOROMPIS	41,12	57,09	98,21
12 JOHANSSON - MALMSTROM	58,16	54,47	112,63	71	GU - LI	48,50	49,68	98,18
13 MURNIATI - SOEBROTO	58,77	52,79	111,56	72	SKIPPER - SKIPPER	47,53	50,19	97,72
14 WANG - ZHANG	52,37	59,02	111,39	73	LA ROVERE - CAMARGO	56,32	41,21	97,53
15 BIGLIERI - CRUSIZIO	49,40	61,89	111,29	74	LAI - YEO	52,22	45,11	97,34
16 GRANSTROM - PATANA	58,23	52,57	110,80	75	CHEN - YEO	45,47	51,78	97,25
17 MADALA - SMITH	46,76	63,32	110,08	76	OH - THAM	51,80	45,11	96,91
18 MOLENAAR - VERBEEK	57,00	52,84	109,84	77	HOPFLER - KAUTNY	49,22	47,67	96,88
19 DOBRIN - OSIPOV	56,58	52,50	109,08	78	SIKIOTI - DARKADAKIS	50,27	46,52	96,79
20 IGLA - MACHNO	57,63	51,38	109,01	79	GONCALVES - SILVA	43,13	53,64	96,77
21 HOLLANDS - MUNRO	57,80	51,15	108,95	80	FRYKLUND - THALEN	50,70	45,39	96,09
22 NISTOR - VULCAN	53,20	55,57	108,77	81	KUNKONGMEE - BOONMARK	49,33	45,93	95,25
23 KARHULAHTI - SAUVOLA	50,64	57,70	108,34	82	DAVID - ROSSI	48,53	45,47	94,00
24 BELGU - YILMAZBAYHAN	52,97	55,22	108,19	83	BJORNSDOTTIR - KRISTINSSON	40,62	53,25	93,87
25 JONES - DUNN	51,20	56,95	108,15	84	ZHANG - SHI	44,25	49,23	93,49
26 SORENSEN - MORTENSEN	55,19	52,91	108,10	85	BINA - SCHULZ	46,11	47,01	93,12
27 LIANG - QIN	54,57	53,50	108,07	86	EGGELING - MATTHIAS	49,77	43,14	92,91
28 CHABCHOUB - MEDDEB	49,67	58,04	107,71	87	FAGERLUND - FAGERLUND	48,14	44,45	92,59
29 BARONAITE - BIELSKIS	56,02	51,68	107,70	88	DESAI - KASHELKAR	49,86	42,64	92,49
30 NG - ZHANG	58,46	48,59	107,05	89	MARTIN - SYNNOTT	43,67	48,26	91,93
31 SANGHVI - DATTA	51,68	55,33	107,01	90	COOPER - HOWARD	43,60	47,89	91,49
32 DOXIADIS - KONTOMITROS	50,14	56,81	106,95	91	SAFTA - STAFIE	55,48	35,99	91,47
33 KOPECKY - MACURA	53,41	53,24	106,65	92	SHARKEY - FEEHAN	51,55	39,77	91,32
34 GOGOMAN - ISLAM	48,17	57,81	105,98	93	TEICHMANN - ZYLKA	39,58	51,50	91,08
35 GRUE - LALL	58,87	47,01	105,88	94	LAU - FUNG	44,46	46,56	91,02
36 KRAWCZYK - TUCZYNSKI	46,34	59,52	105,86	95	VEKSA - BRIKMANE	52,42	38,41	90,83
37 GODED M. - TKATCHV.	52,83	52,72	105,55	96	SAKIRLER - SEN	43,20	47,37	90,57
38 YOU - TAN	45,02	60,20	105,22	97	BLAZEVICIUS - KORKEVICIUS	51,32	39,04	90,35
39 MANNO - MONTANARI	50,22	54,84	105,06	98	SMYSHLIAIEV - TRUBA	48,10	41,92	90,02
40 GREENBERG - FELDMAN	58,84	46,01	104,85	99	KCHAOU - MESTIRI	48,22	41,26	89,48
41 HODEROVA - JANKOVA	58,15	46,22	104,36	100	CHEDIAK - GARCIA LUECHES	41,73	47,58	89,32
42 MO - IP	55,58	48,61	104,19	101	KOO - POON	48,46	40,74	89,21
43 KATERBAU - REHDER	52,45	51,59	104,05	102	KHARANFIL - KOLENCHENKO	44,51	44,24	88,75
44 FACHREZA - HUTAHAEAN	51,94	52,10	104,04	103	RAHIM - PURI	39,13	48,24	87,36
45 HEIM - ROWOLD	48,14	55,49	103,63	104	AKSUEYEK - WUITSCHIK	40,92	45,81	86,73
46 BRAGA - BRAGA	49,63	53,81	103,44	105	BENSON - MOLLOY	42,47	44,11	86,58
47 HORNIBROOK - WU	49,93	53,46	103,38	106	BOYD - DAVIS	41,50	44,62	86,12
48 JUS - JUS	61,61	41,71	103,31	107	SINLOYMA - PANTHALOET	47,31	38,23	85,54
49 SUMARAUW - TANGKUMAN	52,87	50,17	103,05	108	MAMBU - MARAMIS	50,79	33,85	84,64
50 DORAS - MINDRUTA	45,12	57,53	102,65	109	PRIU TOUS - SUNOL TORRES	34,80	49,56	84,36
51 PLATONENKO - PAVLUSHKO	49,43	52,56	101,99	110	MANSOOR - TEBHA	44,87	39,41	84,28
52 CEPONKUS - GRIGORAITIS	46,62	55,27	101,90	111	EVANS - HATFIELD	44,22	39,62	83,84
53 GONCALVES C. - GOMEZ H.	48,52	53,06	101,58	112	FELLUS - FELLUS	51,76	31,93	83,69
54 BARENDREGT - WORTEL	52,31	48,99	101,31	113	CELLIER - TAFFIN	43,52	39,91	83,43
55 ELLERBECK - GRUENKE	42,76	58,52	101,28	114	KULL - EWALD	38,60	44,78	83,37
56 DE GUZMAN - ENCONTRO	48,15	52,57	100,72	115	KUHAR - RUS	43,20	39,97	83,17
57 FERRARI - SBARIGIA	44,93	55,51	100,44	116	GIAMPIETRO - WUERMSEER	45,59	37,38	82,97
58 VOLOZHENIN - NEKRASOVA	48,55	51,55	100,10	117	MARGOT - AMIGUET	31,60	49,13	80,73
59 DOECKE - O'SHEA	55,31	44,75	100,06	118	MAKNI - BELLAZREG	40,76	37,13	77,89

PAIRS QUALIFICATION GROUP B

	Name	1 st	2 nd	Total					
					43	DASHJAMTS - ICHINKHORLOO	45,73	55,65	101,38
1	WHIBLEY - MILNE	62,23	62,56	124,79	44	BALDA - BALDA	48,45	51,84	100,29
2	MONTES DE OCA - SCANAVINO	62,34	57,99	120,33	45	LIIVAK - VIILUP	49,31	50,56	99,86
3	CEREK - KAYA	62,29	56,16	118,45	46	SIAREBRANY - HAPONAVA	51,07	48,77	99,84
4	CULVERWELL - GRYZAGORIDIS	59,46	57,73	117,19	47	ALFARO - MONTALTO	45,99	53,56	99,55
5	CHAYEUSKI - MIKHAILAU	66,93	49,83	116,76	48	PERSIVALE DENEGRI - WILLEVALLE	44,50	54,63	99,12
6	VINUEZA - CHACON	56,57	59,66	116,23	49	KOORENG - SEKGOMA	45,30	51,98	97,28
7	MACAULAY - MAGUIRE	53,10	61,79	114,89	50	XAVIER - KALIFA	52,35	44,73	97,08
8	ALBRYCHT - TOMCANI	63,68	50,97	114,65	51	ENKHAMGALAN - ELBEG	53,21	43,85	97,06
9	MOHARAM - SAWIRES	54,59	60,02	114,62	52	CUCHIAN - ERHARDT	49,47	47,45	96,92
10	ALONSO - FERRO	63,84	50,38	114,22	53	RUMBEA - PINOARGOTE	46,69	50,07	96,76
11	RAGHAVAN - SHARMA	59,46	52,84	112,30	54	SAR-SHALOM - LEANEZ	43,64	52,41	96,06
12	KANDIJO - MOGOT	59,62	52,61	112,23	55	ALUJAS - DEBARNOT	49,89	45,24	95,13
13	GUTHI - SRIRAM	55,77	56,11	111,88	56	RALIVOLOLOVA - RAMASINDRAIBE	41,35	53,73	95,08
14	BAILEY - COUTTS	58,28	53,57	111,85	57	MARSHALL - ROBINSON	44,76	50,19	94,96
15	EWINGTON - OWEN	55,77	54,38	110,15	58	HUMPHRIES - JACOB	44,82	49,58	94,40
16	STEPHENS - NAGEL	47,97	62,02	109,99	59	BULLARD E. - ROSELL M.	46,90	47,10	94,00
17	CHOWDHURY - RAHMAN	60,47	49,51	109,98	60	ROSEL - DARSIE	45,03	47,77	92,81
18	DAS - HAZRA	59,24	50,55	109,79	61	GARCIA DA ROSA - OCHOA	50,16	42,58	92,74
19	SEAH - MATHAVAN	56,94	52,06	109,01	62	NAKAYAMA - II	46,74	45,83	92,57
20	KIM - KO	59,03	49,81	108,84	63	CHACON - GUERRERO	48,56	43,02	91,58
21	HAQUE - HOSSAIN	52,88	55,92	108,80	64	ABEYWARDENE - WICKRAMASINGHE	47,38	43,43	90,81
22	GRIJALVA - GRIJALVA	50,64	57,96	108,60	65	AMPUERO - WRIGHT	46,63	44,04	90,68
23	RODWELL - HOWARD	52,51	55,80	108,31	66	IABONI - ZIND	53,58	36,28	89,86
24	MOEDI - MAFA	51,07	56,14	107,21	67	BRUNET - LASSERRE	44,76	44,14	88,91
25	ELLISON - ELLISON	53,95	52,45	106,41	68	KGOSIDIALWA - RAMARIBANA	47,33	40,77	88,10
26	KYRANIDES - TRIGEORGIS	47,44	58,57	106,00	69	AKMEEMANA - KARUNARATHNE	34,13	50,91	85,05
27	SINCLAIR - WILKINSON	52,24	53,15	105,39	70	McCOLL - WOOD	47,01	38,02	85,03
28	SHEDID - ZAYTOUN	59,46	45,75	105,20	71	KATSHENE - KGOSIETSILE	47,06	37,20	84,27
29	BALER - SCANAVINO	49,15	55,99	105,13	72	RAMIREZ - SEGURA	41,24	42,90	84,14
30	KUTSUK - KLEBANOVICH	48,99	55,94	104,92	73	KOPPLINGER - JEROLITCH	38,19	45,57	83,77
31	HYDER - SAEED	52,62	51,72	104,34	74	PAIRMAN - ROBINSON	46,85	35,83	82,68
32	YOKOI - TAGUCHI	56,52	47,75	104,27	75	KOH - SEAH	33,87	46,45	80,32
33	ABDELFAHATTAH - ELSHAZLY	54,43	49,16	103,59	76	KRAFT DEVLADAR - CUEVA CARO	35,36	44,94	80,30
34	ILLANGASINGHE - FERNANDO	41,29	62,12	103,42	77	GARCIA DA ROSA - BULSON	33,39	42,08	75,47
35	MANURUNG - YARHAM	57,96	45,32	103,28	78	KIM - MOON	34,19	37,66	71,85
36	SERRANO - SERRANO	54,91	48,30	103,21	79	CAMPBELL - BRYAN	40,65	30,68	71,34
37	KEMENOVA - SIDOR	50,05	52,52	102,57	80	DAVAASUREN - SUKHBAATAR	31,68	39,06	70,74
38	ORTEGA - HANTOS	43,75	58,26	102,01					
39	KROHN - SANDOVAL	45,62	56,38	102,00					
40	TARRE - MILANO	43,91	58,07	101,99					
41	LUKOTKA - MIKLIK	55,24	46,50	101,73					
42	VAN DER HORST - PONSON	50,59	50,97	101,55					