



KOC  
UNIVERSITY

# 15<sup>TH</sup> WORLD YOUTH BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Koc University Istanbul Turkey 13<sup>th</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2014

## DAILY BULLETIN

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Bulletin No. 8

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## TWO HURDLES TO GO

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

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

N  
W E  
S

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

♠ A K J 3 2  
♥ A J  
♦ Q 9 6  
♣ K 7 6

Board 56, Dealer West, North-South Vulnerable

The quarterfinals are now in the history book and we look forward to the semifinals.

Looking briefly at those quarterfinals, in the Girls division, China, Italy and the Netherlands had easy victories. In contrast, the match between Australia and France had everyone on the edges of their seats. Before the last 14-board set, Australia led by 27 imps. But with one deal to go, France were in front by 7 imps. However, that final board was of the type that teams ahead do not want to see. North-South had a very tempting six-spade slam that was destined to fail.

Then the closed room result came through. The Australian East-West pair had bought it in four hearts, going two down – a magic result. If the North-South pair from Down Under stayed out of the slam, Australia would win by 4. But they were tempted, bid the slam, and went down, giving France 5 imps. If North-South had stopped in four spades, Australia would have gained 11 imps to win by 4.

Two of the Youngsters matches were not close, Norway and Sweden winning comfortably.

France led Poland by 30 imps with one set to be

played. Then Poland started a seemingly inexorable recovery. It effectively came down to Board 50. Both Norths were in two hearts. The French defended perfectly to defeat the contract. The Poles were less careful and allowed through two overtricks. The swing was 6 imps and France held on to win by ... 1 imp.

China led over USA1 for the first 39 boards. Then the Americans moved in front and were 26 imps ahead with only three boards to go. But then China gained a 14-imp swing. Board 55 was flat, so it all rested on that infamous board. The Chinese pair had stopped in four spades. So, if the US pair bid the slam, the match would be a tie and six more boards would have to be played. But they stopped in game to ice the match.

None of the Juniors matches was close. There were comfortable victories for Poland, Norway, the Netherlands and France.

Correction: There was an error on yesterday's front page. The Netherlands and the United States were invited to send teams for the Kids Championship, but both countries declined.



## PROGRAM TODAY

**10.00 - 12.00**

### SEMIFINALS SESSION 1

VG: ITA - FRA Girls  
BBO2: POL - NOR Juniors  
BBO3: FRA - NED Juniors  
BBO4: FRA - USA1 Youngsters  
BBO5: SWE - NOR Youngsters

**BAM CONSOLATION**

**13.00 - 15.00**

### SEMIFINALS SESSION 2

VG and BBO matches are to be announced

**BAM CONSOLATION**

**15.20 - 17.20**

### SEMIFINALS SESSION 3

VG and BBO matches are to be announced

**BAM CONSOLATION**

**17.40 - 19.40**

### SEMIFINALS SESSION 4

VG and BBO matches are to be announced

**BAM CONSOLATION**



## RESULTS - JUNIORS - YOUNGSTERS - GIRLS

JUNIORS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
POL	11	48	59	37	96	26	122	52	174
TUR	0	13	13	23	36	35	71	20	91

JUNIORS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
USA1	9.5	27	36.5	26	62.5	4	66.5	48	114.5
NED	0	31	31	44	75	64	139	34	173

JUNIORS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
CHN	11	33	44	30	74	11	85	20	105
NOR	0	21	21	25	46	52	98	36	134

JUNIORS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
FRA	6	32	38	40	78	28	106	46	152
SWE	0	0	23	23	23	32	55	25	80

YOUNGSTERS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
SWE	11	57	68	36	104	34	138	15	153
NED	0	15	15	15	30	39	69	43	115

YOUNGSTERS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
CHN	11	30	41	48	89	13	102	26	128
USA1	0	21	21	47	68	45	113	28	141

YOUNGSTERS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
NOR	0	50	50	45	95	41	136	33	169
HKG	5.67	29	34.7	22	56.7	22	78.7	34	112.7

YOUNGSTERS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
POL	7	25	32	29	61	23	84	37	121
FRA	0	60	60	18	78	36	114	8	122

GIRLS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
ITA	11	60	71	69	140	62	202	15	217
HUN	0	23	23	28	51	3	54	20	74

GIRLS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
NED	11	28	39	37	76	26	102	84	186
USA	0	28	28	28	56	22	78	17	95

GIRLS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
AUS	0	38	38	36	74	28	102	10	112
FRA	6	34	40	14	54	21	75	49	124

GIRLS		QUARTERFINALS							
	c/o	1	Tot	2	Tot	3	Tot	4	Total
POL	0	28	28	33	61	8	69	5	74
CHN	1.67	27	28.7	39	67.7	15	82.7	61	143.7



## SEMIFINALS

### JUNIORS

	c/o	SEATING RIGHTS			
		1	2	3	4
POLAND	1.5		x		x
NORWAY	0	x		x	

	c/o	SEATING RIGHTS			
		1	2	3	4
FRANCE	0	x		x	
NETHERLANDS	11		x		x

### YOUNGSTERS

	c/o	SEATING RIGHTS			
		1	2	3	4
FRANCE	0			x	x
USA1	4.5	x	x		

	c/o	SEATING RIGHTS			
		1	2	3	4
SWEDEN	1.5	x		x	
NORWAY	0		x		x

### GIRLS

	c/o	SEATING RIGHTS			
		1	2	3	4
ITALY	0	x			x
FRANCE	2		x	x	

	c/o	SEATING RIGHTS			
		1	2	3	4
CHINA	0	x			x
NETHERLANDS	6.5		x	x	

## RESULTS - BAM

### FINAL RANKINGS

Rank	Team	VPs
1	EHAA	62.80
2	CZECHOSLOVAKIA	57.80
3	THE BOYZ	57.40
4	CZECH REP.	50.40
5	FINLAND	49.40
6	HUDSON	48.40
7	FRANCE KIDS	47.40
8	TURKEY GIRLS	44.80
9	BUUS THOMSEN	43.40
10	SUPERFIT	41.40
11	CONTRACT KILLERS	39.80
12	SINGAPORE	38.40
13	TBC	36.40
	TEAM FUDGE	36.40
	CHINESE TAIPEI GIRLS	36.40
	NORWAY GIRLS	36.40
17	SPADES	34.40
	TURKEY YOUNGEST	34.40
19	ARGENTINA	33.40
	TURKEY MIX	33.40
21	DENMARK KIDS	28.40



**QUARTERFINAL 1 GIRLS - ITALY vs HUNGARY** by Maurizio Di Sacco

Italy won the qualification phase rather easily, and picked Hungary as its quarter-final opponent. The Italians started with a carry-over of 11 IMPs.

The first board was flat, but didn't lack interest, especially in the closed room. All green, RHO deals and opens three spades, and after two passes your partner bids four hearts. Your cards:

♠ A 8 4 3   ♥ 8 5 3   ♦ K Q   ♣ K Q 8 6

Federica Buttò passed it, and missed a playable slam:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vulnerable.

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

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

Open Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Ersek</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>Fischer B.</i>	<i>Costa</i>
	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♥	2♠	4♥	All Pass

Closed Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Burgio</i>	<i>Fischer A.</i>	<i>Buttò</i>	<i>Beko</i>
	3♠	Pass	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

The same happened in the other room, when Brigitta Fischer too hurriedly simply raised her partner's two hearts to four.

The second board gave Hungary a swing that got them to within 2 IMP. Let's start with the crucial problem of the deal, faced by Giorgia Botta in the Open Room. Vulnerable versus not, LHO deals and opens two spades, showing five of those and a minor, and after two passes you have to pick an action holding:



♠ A Q J 9 7  
♥ --  
♦ 10 7  
♣ A K 9 6 3 2

It is hard to blame the Italian player for her pass, but this time the price



**The Italian Girls Team**  
By the end of the match they prevailed.

was 9 IMP, because this was the full deal:

Board 2. Dealer East. N-S Vulnerable.

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

Open Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Ersek</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>Fischer B.</i>	<i>Costa</i>
		2♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Closed Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Burgio</i>	<i>Fischer A.</i>	<i>Buttò</i>	<i>Beko</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	2♥	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Two spades failed by four tricks, an inadequate compensation for a vulnerable game easily bid in the other room, where Buttò's system did not allow her to replicate her counterpart's opening bid.

The following board was flat, but in a not particularly fancy way: both teams stretched to a rather ugly three no-trumps, with a total of 22 HCP evenly divided and no fit, which encountered the fate it deserved: two down.





Then Italy started to pull away, thanks to a misunderstanding that eventually led Burgio-Buttò to bid a bad slam, which just happened to make.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vulnerable.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ersek	Botta	Fischer B.	Costa
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Burgio	Fischer A.	Buttò	Beko
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the Italian auction, in principle East had shown 1=4=3=5 distribution. So West thought her cards were working and indicated a high club. Now East realised she had misbid and tried to sign off in four notrumps, but the damage was done. In six notrumps, Burgio won the club lead and immediately advanced the nine of diamonds. She was soon claiming twelve tricks.

As easy and straightforward as it looks, I do not think declarer's play is best, since it leads to immediate defeat if diamonds don't behave. And leading the nine, rather than low to dummy's ten, would have worked badly if South had held queen-jack-doubleton. There is a good alternative represented by the hearts.

At some other tables, the same slam was bid, but declarer played more accurately. After the same lead, he crossed to hand with a spade to play a heart to the eight, and only when South won with the nine did he turn his attention to diamonds eventually to score up his contract. However, South lost the chance for brilliancy prize, which would have been awarded to him had he found the play of winning the heart with the queen(!) before continuing with a low diamond. Now, only a declarer with a crystal ball would play low!

A more aggressive defense by Buttò, which was the only one to

give her side the chance to defeat the opponents' three notrumps, cost an overtrick IMP to Italy. However, Hungary didn't score any more IMPs in the subsequent six boards, while Italy piled up 39.

The first 14 IMPs came in a weird way. But before we have a look at the whole deal, I offer you a problem. You are dealer, vulnerable versus not, and hold:

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

You can pick among pass, one club, one spade and two spades (spades and a minor). My choice would be one spade, but neither of the two players in our featured match agreed.

Board 6. Dealer East. E-W Vulnerable.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ersek	Botta	Fischer B.	Costa
Pass	4♥	2♠	Dble
		All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Burgio	Fischer A.	Buttò	Beko
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

This time, the weak two-suited opening bid failed to do its job, when it helped the Italians to find the best suit in which to play, even though at a too-high level. In the other room, Buttò passed, and this left North-South up to a task that proved too difficult for them. Actually, I believe that South should have shown her queen of hearts over three diamonds.

To add sugar to honey, the four-heart contracts were allowed to make when Brigitta Fischer, after having led the king of spades, switched to diamonds, and Botta gratefully won and disposed of one of her losing spades on a club honour; furthermore, Burgio found a double over five diamonds and scored 500. That was a double disaster for Hungary, at the total price of 14 IMPs. Eleven more went in the same direction immediately afterward.





Board 7. Dealer South. All Vulnerable.

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

Open Room

<i>West</i> <i>Ersek</i>	<i>North</i> <i>Botta</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Fischer B.</i>	<i>South</i> <i>Costa</i>
			1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

<i>West</i> <i>Burgio</i>	<i>North</i> <i>Fischer A.</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Buttò</i>	<i>South</i> <i>Beko</i>
			1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

I really don't understand Zsofia Beko's three-spade bid, where pass looks obvious, but that was not the only expensive action by the Hungarian players on this deal, and even Margherita Costa did not shine.

The lead was the king of clubs in both rooms, and each declarer won with the ace. Then, play diverged. At this point, eight tricks are easy, since declarer is still in control, and has the time to duck a trump, cash the ace after the force, and run diamonds thanks to the finesse. However, Costa played a heart to the king at trick two, giving away a vital tempo. Now the force would have been fatal, but Fischer won and did the declarer's job by leading a spade. Costa did not err any further, and came to eight tricks.

Beko did much worse. At trick two she cashed the ace of spades, then led toward the king of hearts with more justification than her counterpart, since she was called upon to make a trick more. After that lost to her ace, East should have simply continued on either clubs or hearts, but she decided first to draw a round of trumps, extracting her partner's last spade, before continuing with a club. Beko ruffed it, played a diamond to the king, then ran the jack of diamonds! The roof fell in, and Beko ended up four down.

A flat board followed -- nine rather easy tricks for everybody in the normal three notrumps. Italy scored 2 IMPs when Buttò was given a couple of generous overtricks in her otherwise normal one notrump. Then something more significant occurred, in a quite ugly way.



The Hungarian Girls Team

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vulnerable.

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

Open Room

<i>West</i> <i>Ersek</i>	<i>North</i> <i>Botta</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Fischer B.</i>	<i>South</i> <i>Costa</i>
		1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room

<i>West</i> <i>Burgio</i>	<i>North</i> <i>Fischer A.</i>	<i>East</i> <i>Buttò</i>	<i>South</i> <i>Beko</i>
		1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Burgio's bid of two no-trumps would not have been my choice. However, although I could live with that, three notrumps looks overly optimistic, especially when there was an easy three-heart bid available as an alternative, three diamonds by East having suggested a weak 5-5. Still, West's enterprise paid off. North led what looked like a harmless eight of clubs, but South erred twice: first, when she won with her ace, giving away the whole suit; second, when she continued clubs. Declarer could now have just cashed out, but she decided, quite reasonably, to finesse the nine of clubs, and the defense had a further chance. It was not to be, though, when Andrea Fischer persevered with a third club, and the deal was over. That was 10 IMPs away instead of at least 5 in, since two hearts was an easy make in the other room.



 **Caterina Burgio**

Italy ended its streak in the following deal with 2 more IMPs, thanks to a nice defense by Burgio in one room, which held declarer to eight tricks in one notrump, while in the other room Botta-Costa managed to play in the better spot of three spades, a touch and go contract that made despite the 5-1 trump split.

After a long time, Hungary finally added to its score with an overtrick IMP in a normal three notrumps. Then came its only double-digit swing of the set.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vulnerable.

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

Open Room			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Ersek</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>Fischer B.</i>	<i>Costa</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Closed Room			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Burgio</i>	<i>Fischer A.</i>	<i>Buttò</i>	<i>Beko</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Against Botta, the lead was a club. Declarer lost a heart finesse, and West found the effective spade switch. When North finessed again in trumps the defense cashed out, for one down.

Buttò selected a trump lead, which ran to West's king. Had Burgio continued spades, North would have been in the same position as Botta, but West played a diamond, and her partner won and continued hearts. Now declarer

could have won with dummy's ace and scored eleven tricks, but when she played low -- safe against king-fourth in East -- she had to be content with ten winners, still worth the same 12 IMPs.

Italy ended on a positive note, but, once again, the swing could, and probably should, have gone the other way.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vulnerable.

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

Open Room			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Ersek</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>Fischer B.</i>	<i>Costa</i>
		Pass	1♠
2♣	Dble	4♣	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♣	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Closed Room			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Burgio</i>	<i>Fischer A.</i>	<i>Buttò</i>	<i>Beko</i>
		Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	2♣	3♠
4♣	4♠	5♣	5♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

It is up to you to decide whether you like more Burgio's pass or Laura Ersek's two clubs over one spade, but I hope you'd join me in putting a "not like" over the same Italian's four clubs, which looks inadequate. Five clubs drifted two off, but would have resulted in a small gain had Beko been able to make her five spades. However, declarer won the opening club lead in her hand and advanced the queen of diamonds! There was no rescue from that odd play, and the favourite team had scored 8 further IMPs to end the segment ahead by 48, 71-23.



 **Zsafia Beko**



## THE FOUR SPADE MAVENS

by Phillip Alder

The last two rounds of the juniors round robin could not affect who qualified for the quarterfinals, only when the top three would get to select their opponents. But that did not stop an interesting couple of boards arising in the final round.

Board 6. Dealer East. E-W Vul.

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

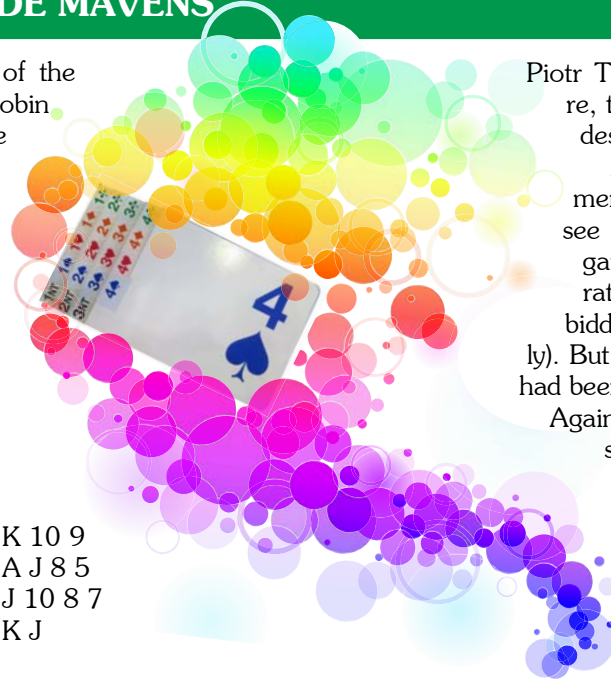
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Z. Grossack	Jassem	A. Grossack	Wojcieszek
1♠	1NT	1♦	1♥
3♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
		Pass	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Kaplan	Tuczynski	Brescoll
Dble (b)	Redble	1♣ (a)	1♥
2♠	Pass	1♠	2♥
		Pass	Pass

- (a) Natural or balanced outside the range for a one-notrump opening up to 23 points  
 (b) Four or five spades



Piotr Tuczynski, under no pressure, took eight tricks in two spades.

As a BBO commentator mentioned, it was surprising to see Zach Grossack making a game-try (with three clubs) rather than a game try (by bidding four spades immediately). But, admittedly, the opponents had been noticeably active.

Against four spades, Pawel Jassem led the queen of hearts. Declarer won in the dummy and played a diamond to his queen. North won and led another heart. West ruffed, played a low club to dummy's king, and continued with

the jack of clubs. North won and returned a diamond to his partner's ace, giving this position:

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

When South led the nine of hearts, how did declarer continue?

Playing perfectly, Zach ruffed with his queen of spades, led a low trump to dummy's nine, discarded a club on the ten of diamonds, ruffed the eight of diamonds, and crossruffed the last three tricks for a magical plus 620 and 11 imps to USA1.

That was beautifully played, but did you spot the defence's one chance? When declarer led the first club from his hand, North had to win with his ace and play a diamond to his partner's ace. Then a heart through declarer gives him two losing options. If he pitches or ruffs low, North overruffs for one down; or if West ruffs high, North discards his remaining club.



The two Zachs





This was the next deal:

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Z. Grossack	Jassem	A. Grossack	Wojcieszek
Pass	2♥ (a)	Pass	3♦ (b)
Pass	3♥ (c)	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

(a) Transfer

(b) Four spades and a concentration in diamonds

(c) Retransfer

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Kaplan	Tuczynski	Brescoll
Pass	1♦ (b)	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Dble	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

(a) Artificial and strong

(b) Artificial and weak

In the open room, Zach led a diamond. Adam took the trick with his ace and switched to the four of hearts. West won with his ten and returned the suit to East's queen and South's ace. Now Jakub Wojcieszek had to play the trump suit without loss. He led a low spade to dummy's ace -- one down.

At the other table, Michal Klukowski led the seven of clubs, second-highest. Zach Brescoll almost immediately won with his ace and led the queen of spades from his hand! Plus 620 and 12 imps to USA1.

How did he find this play, which required East to have the singleton jack, rather than adopt Wojcieszek's line, which would have worked if either opponent had a singleton king, so is mathematically twice as good?

Table presence.

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BIDDINGBOX	KING
BOARD	MICHAELS
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X	R	E	W	I	D	Y	S	K	P	S	W	B	C	R
O	P	L	E	K	W	R	J	Y	A	R	L	N	U	Z
B	T	P	W	F	X	S	A	I	Z	Z	B	S	E	L
G	T	N	I	O	P	Y	R	O	T	C	I	V	B	W
N	S	E	D	A	B	S	B	I	B	H	U	Z	I	U
I	X	U	D	I	S	A	L	R	U	F	F	T	D	P
D	L	E	V	A	R	L	D	B	Q	W	F	D	V	Z
D	S	X	P	E	I	E	Q	U	A	M	L	B	R	G
I	U	J	X	Z	U	D	C	Y	M	E	Y	V	O	N
B	N	C	Z	S	V	E	A	T	T	R	E	L	A	I
G	A	A	K	O	N	E	D	R	O	C	E	Z	I	K
I	G	M	I	C	H	A	E	L	S	R	I	B	T	X
E	O	H	C	P	M	F	M	I	A	Q	G	Z	I	X
A	B	E	O	U	W	M	O	D	D	F	Y	N	O	J
M	G	R	J	S	F	B	P	F	G	P	I	D	K	I



## QUARTERFINAL 2 YOUNGSTERS

### NORWAY vs CHINA HONG KONG by Barry Rigal

The set started with Norway having a handy lead of 50-35, but this was still the closest of the Youngsters' matches.

The first deal saw the opponents' pre-emption causing both Souths a problem. Opener with:

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

had bid one diamond and heard two hearts to his left, double from partner, and three hearts to his right. Vinci Wan bid three spades and played there facing a 4=3=2=4 pattern. Espen Flaatt doubled (surely the textbook call here) and his partner bid three notrumps. Both contracts were dependent on setting up tricks from ♠ 9-8-7-6 facing ♠ K-Q-4, but with the suit 5-1 onside three notrumps had eight winners, three spades only seven.

That was three undertrick imps to Norway, but the favour was returned on the next deal when China Hong Kong were somewhat unlucky. They bid two hearts (both majors)-four hearts down one, while in the other room the two-suiter passed and then sacrificed over five diamonds, down two, which could easily have been 500 rather than 200.

The next deal saw an inconsistent auction from the closed room, but one that nearly scored a huge goal.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

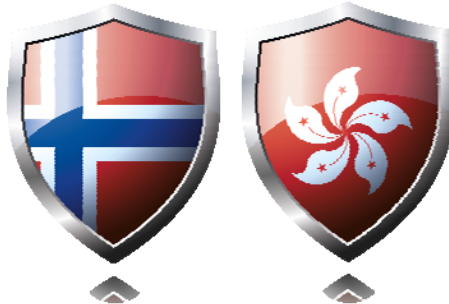
West	North	East	South
Ng	Bakke	Chan	Flaatt
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Saether	Tsang	Scheie	Wan
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠ (a)
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

(a) Three controls

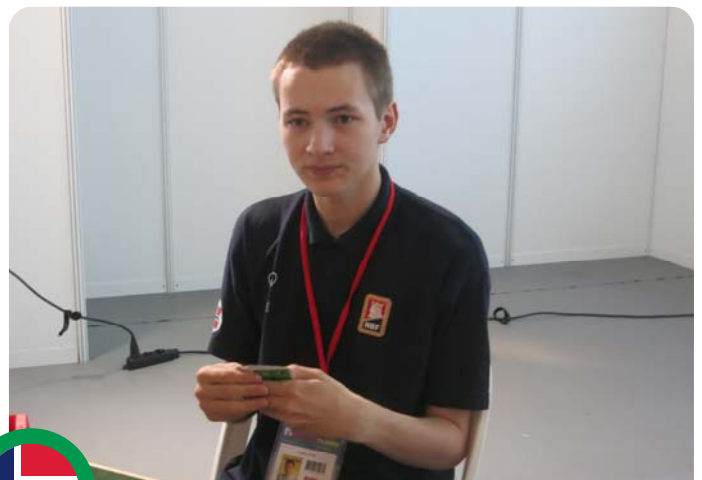
It doesn't feel logical for North to bid on over three no-trumps here since partner might well do more than bid three notrumps if he had any extras himself. Maybe North's four notrumps should be quantitative – if so maybe South should bid on with six diamonds?



Slam here is not a thing of beauty, but six diamonds cannot be defeated (ruff out the spades and bring home the diamonds with the aid of the finesse and 3-3 break). By contrast six no-trumps seems to need either the clubs to play for five tricks, or the clubs to play for four tricks with the queen of diamonds onside (approximately a

combined 40% chance by my rudimentary mathematics). But it has one other thing going for it, as a glance at the 52-card diagram will show. On a blind auction, might East lead a club? Absolutely – but Marcus Scheie was equal to the task, putting the two of hearts onto the table (yes, pedants might argue that the ten was the right heart spot-card, but we will ignore them). After a spade lead it was Norway who had the 11 IMPs and not China Hong Kong, as would have been the case on a club lead.

Tsang got those IMPs back, and with interest, on the next deal.



Christian Bakke



Board 18. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

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

Open Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Ng	Bakke	Chan	Flaatt
		Pass	Pass
2♠	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Saether	Tsang	Scheie	Wan
		2♦	Pass
2♠	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Both Norths followed route one to goal, but in the Open Room Flaatt passed, worried that his partner might have a skewed pattern and hoping that his spade honour would bolster his side's holding on a spade lead. Right up to a point, but East was less likely than usual today to lead a spade ... after a diamond lead and continuation, declarer needed only the queen of hearts to fall to bring home his game. But when it didn't, the defenders ran diamonds and held declarer to five tricks. Down 400.

In the other room Wan scored a goal when he decided his partner rated to be balanced, and did transfer to hearts (four hearts by South goes down on the spade ruffs). After two rounds of diamonds Tsang won and played three rounds of hearts. East won to lead a third diamond, ruffed in dummy. This was the position:

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

What would you discard from hand on the third diamond, and what is your plan?

Jackson Tsang counted out the deal and established to his satisfaction that West had six spades, three diamonds and two hearts, thus a doubleton club. He pitched a spade from hand and led a club to his jack. When Scheie ducked, Tsang saw his plan through by continuing with the king of clubs to pin the queen. Beautifully done, since had he pitched a club from hand, he could have been defeated. And had he run the ten of clubs, West would have played low, and then, when he followed low (yes the jack would have allowed him to recover), East would have won and played back a club to lock declarer in his hand.

That was 14 IMPs to China Hong Kong, down 64-51 now.

The next deal also offered both sides decent chances of a swing though the result was a wash:

Board 19. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

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

Both tables reached four hearts after a strong notrump by South.

On a blind auction Mark Ng led the jack of diamonds and the defenders were still in the game. What should East do?

At the table Francis Chan won with his ace of diamonds. (You can see why since he was worried that if he ducked, declarer with, say, the king of diamonds and king-queen of clubs, would pitch his diamonds on the clubs.) Now when Chan continued with a low diamond, West was completely endplayed. Whatever he did would have given the contract; his choice of a third diamond looks best since partner might well have been the one with the doubleton, but a spade would actually have left the defenders with a chance to succeed. On the diamond play, declarer ruffed in hand, unblocked the ace of clubs, drew a trump, ruffed a club, then drew a second trump, and led the queen of clubs ... covered by West. End of story.

Yes, East could have shifted to a spade at trick two or continued with the queen of diamonds perhaps? But my guess is that encouraging the diamond at trick one is as good as anything.

In the other room North produced a Texas Transfer of four diamonds over one notrump, and East (culpably?)



did not double, with a hand where the only suit that he would expect not to cost a trick if his partner led it was diamonds. Naturally East did not lead a diamond against four hearts. His choice of a club went to the jack and queen. Now it was declarer's turn to fall from grace. The winning line is easy enough: unblocks clubs, come to hand with a trump, and lead a club to pitch a diamond when West follows low. The defenders can score a diamond and an overruff but that is all.

Declarer actually unblocked clubs, cashed both top hearts, and led a third club and ruffed it in this ending:

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

When East overruffed the club, declarer could use his trump entry and king of spades to set up the fifth club. But had East not overruffed, the jack of hearts is not a re-entry and declarer must go down.

The Norwegians added to their lead when Chan held:

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

His side bid unopposed 1♣-1♦-1♠-2♥, and he elected to rebid three clubs, getting his side to five clubs facing a 2=3=5=3 pattern. This wasn't a terrible spot, but it needed either a club finesse or a spade finesse and got neither. By contrast three notrumps was nearly a claim and duly made comfortably enough. That was 13 IMPs to Norway, now up by 75-51.

When China Hong Kong mangled a defence to one no-trump (not leading their five-card suit and not cashing it out), the lead went up to 81-51. But they did earn back a partscore swing by buying the contract in both rooms successfully.

Then on the last deal Norway got unreasonably and undeservedly lucky.

Board 28. Dealer West. N-S Vul.

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

The ideal contract here is seven clubs; the commentators decided that after a spade lead, one should simply draw two rounds of trumps and claim if they split, but play to ruff a diamond if they do not. Now you make if hearts behave or there is a red-suit squeeze. Ruffing two diamonds in dummy is a plausible alternative.

The Hong Kong pair bid to seven hearts, not a bad spot by any means, but down three after a spade lead when declarer went after trumps at once, as one would. (And, yes, in six hearts after a spade lead, we won't name the declarer who ruffed then went down by failing to spot that running the nine of hearts gives declarer almost a claim for 12 tricks. But you know who you are!)

In the other room, East-West for Norway bid 1♣-(1♠)-2♥-(2♠)-3♠-4♥. White feathers may no longer be handed out for cowardice in the face of the enemy, but that was still 12 highly undeserved IMPs for Norway, leading 95-57 at the half.



Playing bridge outside



## ISTANBUL EXPRESS

by Mark Horton

Surfing the Internet, my attention was drawn to a video: Istanbul Express: London to Istanbul by train in 12 minutes. It records a three-day trip that takes in Paris, Zurich, Zagreb, Ljubljana, Belgrade, Sofia and Plovdiv before the train reaches its destination.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVuOtalD1Rk>

With time to stop in Belgrade and Sofia, it would be an interesting way to travel across Europe.

When the Editor suggested that I write an article, I opted for the Round 19 clash between China -- pretty much sure of a playoff spot -- and Canada, who needed a win to stay in the hunt.

Some tricky deals meant it took me rather more than 12 minutes to compile my report.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Tao	Huang	Tang
Pass	Pass	Dble (b)	All Pass

- (a) 13-15 balanced, 5M, 6m, singleton honour OK
- (b) Take-out

West led the jack of clubs. Declarer won with dummy's king and played a club to hand, East discarding the three of hearts. A diamond to the jack lost the queen and East switched to the king of spades. He continued the suit when declarer ducked. Winning with dummy's ace, declarer played a diamond and East took the ace and played a spade. When declarer ruffed (he can save a trick by discarding), West overruffed and returned a low heart to the king and ace (declarer does best to play low, but West could have played the queen or ten). East continued with a spade (better to cash the queen of hearts first) and this time declarer did the right thing, pitching a heart. He could ruff the heart continuation and score the queen of clubs for three down, minus 500.

Hard to see for declarer, but playing a diamond from dummy at trick two gives him a measure of control. If East wins and plays a top spade, declarer ducks, wins the next spade, and plays a diamond. If East wins and plays

spades, declarer pitches hearts and should come to six tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liu	Tsang	Zhang	Macaulay
2♥	Pass	2♦ (b)	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♦ (c)	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) 11-14, (4333) or (4432) or 5m(332)

(b) 4-4+ majors

(c) Game-try presumably with 5-4-3-1 or 5-4-4-0 distribution (short clubs)

East had a penalty double available, but preferred to show the majors, before making a game-try of three diamonds.

North led the eight of diamonds. Declarer won with dummy's queen, cashed the ace, ruffed a diamond, and ran the queen of hearts. He drew trumps and knocked out the ace of spades for eleven tricks, plus 200, but 7 IMPs for Canada.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Tao	Huang	Tang
3♥	4♣	Pass	1♣ (a)
Dble	Pass	Pass	5♠

(a) 16+ points

The generally accepted strategy when you have a good hand following an opposing strong-club opening is to pass on the first round, intending to bid on the next. However, perhaps worried that the bidding might be at a high level next time around, West came in at once. East bounced, and when South bid five spades, West found a brave double.

He led the king of hearts and when that survived, he switched to the two of clubs for the nine and ace. He won the queen of spades return with the ace and played the seven of clubs, declarer winning in dummy and pitching a diamond. When declarer ran the queen of dia-



monds, West's king was the setting trick, plus 200. Assuming the clubs are 3-3, running the queen of diamonds works when East has  $\diamond$  K-x or  $\diamond$  K-6-3 (leaving West with  $\diamond$  10-9).

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

<p><math>\spadesuit</math> 6 4  <math>\heartsuit</math> 10  <math>\diamond</math> Q J 4 2  <math>\clubsuit</math> K Q 8 6 4 3</p> <p><math>\spadesuit</math> A 9  <math>\heartsuit</math> A K Q 8 5 3 2  <math>\diamond</math> K  <math>\clubsuit</math> J 7 2</p>	<p><math>\spadesuit</math> 8 3  <math>\heartsuit</math> J 9 7 6  <math>\diamond</math> 10 9 6 3  <math>\clubsuit</math> 10 9 5</p> <p><math>\spadesuit</math> K Q J 10 7 5 2  <math>\heartsuit</math> 4  <math>\diamond</math> A 8 7 5  <math>\clubsuit</math> A</p>
--	--

Closed Room

West Liu	North Tsang	East Zhang	South Macaulay
1 $\diamond$ (b)	Dble	3 $\heartsuit$	1 $\clubsuit$ (a)
5 $\heartsuit$	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	5 $\spadesuit$	All Pass	

- (a) Strong, 15+ any shape
- (b) Four-plus hearts

North might have passed South's double of five hearts.

Here West led the ace of hearts before switching to a club. Declarer won and played the king of spades to West's ace. Back came a club and declarer won in dummy, pitching a diamond, and cashed another club for a second discard. Needing only to avoid a diamond loser, he ran the queen of diamonds for one down, minus 100 giving Canada 3 IMPs.

There are three points to ponder:  
 How considerate was it of West to put declarer in dummy?

Suppose West leads the king of diamonds at trick one? Then he can underlead his hearts when in with the ace of spades and secure a diamond ruff.

Should declarer have divined the diamond position (especially when doubled)? Rabinically speaking, perhaps the answer is yes.

Board 3. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

<p><math>\spadesuit</math> Q J 9 4  <math>\heartsuit</math> Q 7 3  <math>\diamond</math> K Q 9 7  <math>\clubsuit</math> 7 6</p> <p><math>\spadesuit</math> 10 7 6 5 3  <math>\heartsuit</math> A K 9 8  <math>\diamond</math> 10 6 3  <math>\clubsuit</math> 5</p>	<p><math>\spadesuit</math> —  <math>\heartsuit</math> J 10 4  <math>\diamond</math> A J 5 4 2  <math>\clubsuit</math> A J 9 3 2</p> <p><math>\spadesuit</math> A K 8 2  <math>\heartsuit</math> 6 5 2  <math>\diamond</math> 8  <math>\clubsuit</math> K Q 10 8 4</p>
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Open Room

West Walsh	North Tao	East Huang	South Tang
Pass	2 $\diamond$ (b)	Pass	2 $\clubsuit$ (a)
Pass	3 $\spadesuit$	Pass	2 $\spadesuit$
Pass	Pass	Pass	4 $\spadesuit$

- (a) 11-15HCP, 6+  $\clubsuit$  or 5  $\clubsuit$ +4M
- (b) Relay

If West had read a copy of Tiger Bridge, he would certainly have doubled after North-South's tentative auction to four spades.

With East turning up with a couple of aces, declarer had to lose five tricks, two down, minus 100.

Closed Room

West Liu	North Tsang	East Zhang	South Macaulay
Pass	1 $\spadesuit$	Dble	1 $\heartsuit$
2 $\heartsuit$	2 $\spadesuit$	All Pass	Redble

The well-judged auction saw North-South stop at what should have been a safe level.

East led the jack of hearts. West won and returned a trump, declarer winning in hand as East pitched the two of diamonds. Declarer played a heart and West won and returned a second spade to dummy's nine, East discarding the ten of hearts. Declarer played a club to the king, a heart to the queen and a club, putting up the queen when East ducked. West ruffed and played a third spade to declarer's king as East pitched a diamond. Declarer played a diamond to the king, West following with the six, and East won and tried the ace of clubs, West discarding the ten of diamonds. All declarer had to do now was ruff and cash a diamond, but he discarded and when East continued with the jack of clubs, West could pitch a diamond and declarer was a trick short, one down, minus 50, and 2 IMPs to Canada.



The match





Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

<p>♠ A 9 7 4 ♥ A 10 4 ♦ 9 8 ♣ K J 8 5</p> <p>♠ Q J 6 3 ♥ 6 5 3 ♦ Q 7 6 4 ♣ 6 2</p>	<p>♠ K 10 ♥ Q 8 2 ♦ K 10 5 3 ♣ A Q 10 7</p> <p>♠ 8 5 2 ♥ K J 9 7 ♦ A J 2 ♣ 9 4 3</p>
--	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Tao	Huang	Tang
Pass	Pass	1NT (a)	All Pass

(a) 15-17

When North downgraded his hand, East upgraded his (although it is only worth 14.50 on the Kaplan-Rubens hand evaluator).

South led the seven of hearts and the defenders cashed four tricks in the suit, declarer parting with a club from each hand as North pitched the four of spades. A club to the king and ace was followed by the king of spades and a spade, and North won and returned a club. Declarer put in the ten and when it held, it was clear to cash the queen of clubs and play a low diamond -- North had already turned up with the ace of spades, ace of hearts and king-jack of clubs -- so he was plus 90.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liu	Tsang	Zhang	Macaulay
Pass	1NT (a)	Dble	Pass
Pass	Redble	Pass	Pass
2♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

(a) 11-14, (4333) or (4432) or 5m(332)

It looks as if South's pass asked North to redouble.

North led the eight of clubs. Declarer put in dummy's queen and played the king of spades. North took the ace and switched to the four of hearts. South won with the jack and the defenders cashed two more hearts, South exiting with a spade to dummy's ten. When declarer played a diamond to the queen, he was one down, minus 100 and 5 IMPs to Canada.

South had done well not to double two diamonds, which would have pointed declarer in the right direction.

With the score at 17-0, Canada was on the right side of the tracks, but they were soon to discover that it is all too easy to go off the rails.

Board 5. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Tao	Huang	Tang
Pass	1♠	3♦	3♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

When East came in with a weak jump overcall, South had to choose between a negative double and three spades.

East led the eight of hearts, and West won with the queen, cashed the ace and played a third heart. Declarer won in dummy, pitching a diamond from hand, cashed the ace of spades and continued with the ten of spades, covered by the jack and king.

The situation looks hopeless, but declarer tried a low diamond from hand. When East withheld the king, dummy's jack won the trick and the seven of hearts took care of the queen of diamonds, plus 140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liu	Tsang	Zhang	Macaulay
Pass	1♥ (a)	Pass	1♠ (b)
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) 10-14, 4♠ 5m or 4144 or 5+♠

(b) Relay, weak or game-invitational or game-forcing

After the artificial (Moscito) start to the auction, two diamonds was natural.

West led the three of clubs. Declarer won with dummy's ace and tried a spade to the ten. East won with the jack and returned a club. Declarer won with dummy's ace and played a diamond, going up with the ace as West pitched a heart. A spade to the ace revealed the bad break, and declarer continued with a spade to the king and a low diamond. East went in with the king and returned the eight of hearts. Declarer tried the king, but West took the ace, cashed the queens of spades and hearts, and had only to continue with a heart for three down. When he preferred the queen of clubs, declarer ruffed in dummy and East, down to the jack of hearts and ten-nine of diamonds, was squeezed, so declarer escaped for two down, minus 200 and 8 IMPs for China.



Board 6. Dealer East. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Walsh</i>	<i>Tao</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Tang</i>
2♠	3♦	Pass	1♦
Pass	Pass	4♠	5♦
		Dble	All Pass

According to the convention card, West's overcall was weak.

West led the king of spades and switched to the queen of clubs. Declarer went up with dummy's king, drew trumps ending in dummy, and ran the ten of clubs, claiming nine tricks when West returned the ten of hearts, minus 300.

Closed Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Liu</i>	<i>Tsang</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Macaulay</i>
1♠	2♥	4♠	1♦ (a)
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass

(a) 10-14, 4♥ 5m or 4♥(441) or 5+♥



Results, online bulletins, photos, videos and more on

[www.worldbridge.org](http://www.worldbridge.org)

North led the queen of hearts. Declarer won in dummy, drew trumps, and played the ten of hearts for the jack and king. When he led the eight of hearts, South failed to cover, so declarer threw a club and claimed an over-trick, plus 990 and 12 IMPs to China, handing them the lead.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Walsh</i>	<i>Tao</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Tang</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥	Dble
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

I'm not sure doubling and bidding two spades does justice to the South hand. Perhaps a second double followed by a spade bid is best, but it would still be asking a lot for North to raise.

West led the eight of diamonds for the four, jack and ace. Declarer played the king of spades, West taking the ace and switching to the king of hearts. East overtook it and switched to his club, but declarer won, cashed the queen of spades, played a diamond to the ten, led a club to his hand, cashed two diamonds, discarding a club from dummy, and ruffed a club. That added up to eleven tricks, plus 200.

Closed Room

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Liu</i>	<i>Tsang</i>	<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Macaulay</i>
Pass	Pass	2♥ (a)	Dble
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) 5♥+ 4+m, 6-10

East led the two of clubs, and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the king of spades. West took the ace and returned the queen of clubs. East ruffed, returned the three of hearts, and ruffed the club return for one down, minus 100 and 6 IMPs to China.

All declarer had to do to ensure the success of his contract was to cash three top diamonds, pitching a club from dummy, and play a fourth diamond, ruffing when West discards. That restricts the defenders to one club ruff, as dummy's jack of spades can be used to ruff a club.





Board 9. Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Tao	Huang	Tang
	1NT (a)	Pass	2♥ (b)
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	5♣ (c)
Pass	5♦ (d)	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (a) 13-15 balanced, 5M, 6m, singleton honour OK
- (b) Transfer
- (c) Exclusion Roman Key Card Blackwood
- (d) 0 key cards

I am guessing about the meaning of five clubs and the reply (their convention card does not mention Exclusion, but does say that they play 30-14, not 14-30, RKCB answers. When East led a spade, declarer won in his hand, cashed the ace of clubs, pitching a diamond, and continued with the queen of clubs, covered by the king and ruffed. Declarer came to hand with a trump, threw a diamond on the jack of clubs, ruffed a club, and played king of hearts, ace of hearts, jack of hearts, pitching a diamond. Then he claimed as East won with the queen, plus 980.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liu	Tsang	Zhang	Macaulay
	1NT (a)	Pass	2♣ (b)
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠ (c)
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Dble	5♥	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- (a) 11-14 points
- (b) Stayman, but perhaps the start of a relay
- (c) Game-forcing relay

[Ed. I used to play the Symmetric Relay that is the basis of Moscito. So, I believe with two notrumps and three hearts, North showed 3=2=3=5. Then he announced three controls (an ace and a king, or three kings). But five hearts has me baffled, given that he has no high diamond honour.]

West led the ace of diamonds, and when East followed with a standard high-encouraging ten (which isn't so standard these days), West continued the suit, plus 50 and 14 IMPs to China.

There are many ways to approach the South hand. One possibility if you are using transfers, not relay, and can

bid this way with both majors, is 1NT-2♥\*-2♠-3♥-3♠-4♣, hoping North can control-bid four diamonds.

On the next deal both East-West pairs attempted six spades with

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

but North held ♠ 10 5 4 2 ♥ 10 ♦ K 8 7 4 ♣ 9 8 6 4, and although declarer was able to ruff a diamond, that was at the cost of a trump trick, one down, no swing.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Walsh	Tao	Huang	Tang
	1NT (a)	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (a) 13-15 balanced, 5M, 6m, singleton honour OK

East led the eight of spades, and when West put in the nine, declarer won with his queen and played the jack of diamonds. When that held, he continued with a diamond for the king and ace, took West's club switch with the ace, cashed the ace of spades, and took his winners for plus 380.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Liu	Tsang	Zhang	Macaulay
	1NT (a)	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	2♦
Dble	2♥	Dble All	Pass

- (a) 11-14

East led the jack of clubs. Declarer won in hand and played a trump to the ten and queen. West switched to the king of spades. Declarer won with the ace and played a second heart, West winning with the nine and returning the nine of spades. Declarer won with dummy's jack and ran the nine of clubs. When it held, he played the two of diamonds and West went in with the ace and switched to the queen of clubs, covered by the king and ruffed. East returned a spade for West to ruff. The ace of hearts was the setting trick, one down, minus 200 and 11 IMPs to China, convincing winners, 58-17 in imps and 18.53-1.47 in victory points.

You can replay all the deals from this match at:

[http://www.bridgebase.com/tools/handviewer.html?bbo=y&linurl=http://www.bridgebase.com/tools/vugraph\\_linfetch.php?id=34998](http://www.bridgebase.com/tools/handviewer.html?bbo=y&linurl=http://www.bridgebase.com/tools/vugraph_linfetch.php?id=34998)



## DEVILISH DEFENSE BY STOKKA

by Micke Melander

In round 19 of the junior teams, almost all tables played in three notrumps on Board 14. If you check the 22 results, you will see that half of the field made the contract while the other half went down, some even by two or three tricks. This was declarer's mission:

Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ekenberg	N. Edgtton	Hult	A. Edgtton
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣ (a)	Pass	2♦ (b)	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

- (a) Any 16-plus points or six-plus hearts
- (b) 8-plus points, game-forcing opposite 16-plus

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Williams	Gullberg	Thompson	Stokka
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The defenders started with three rounds of diamonds. Declarer won the third round and discarded a club from dummy. The king-queen of spades and ace of clubs were cashed by declarer, everyone following suit. What are the possibilities for declarer?

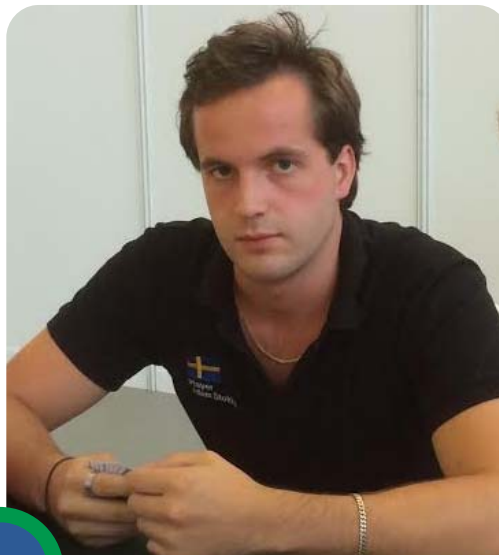
- i) Jack of spades drops
- ii) Hearts might be set up without letting North in to cash his diamonds
- iii) A club finesse wins and the queen later falls

Alternative iii) alone is not enough for declarer, who would still need some of the other two to make the contract. (Yes, the queen of clubs might be doubleton, but that was unlikely.) The nasty blockage in spades and bad communication in general toward dummy limits the way to play a little.

Simon Ekenberg led a heart to dummy's queen and South's ace. Adam Edgtton in South now returned a club. Ekenberg went up with the king and had virtually nothing to play for except trying to get the jack of hearts to fall under his king. When it did, he had his nine tricks. A heart to the ten, instead of the queen, would have been a better play, especially with the actual layout. It would have given declarer an entry to dummy to try spades before playing on hearts or taking the club finesse. In the open room, Stephen Williams declared in the same contract and got a nasty defence against him. Again three rounds of diamonds were played, and declarer cashed the king-queen of spades and ace of clubs before leading the four of hearts. By playing sin this way, Adam Stokka (South) was pretty sure that declarer held the king of hearts and the king of clubs. And that placed partner with the jack of hearts because declarer had promised a balanced 18-19 in the bidding and had already shown 19. Stokka also knew that if declarer got his hearts running, he would have nine tricks. So when declarer called for the queen of hearts from dummy, Stokka ducked in tempo!

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

Declarer now cashed dummy's ace of spades, hoping for a 3-3 break. When that didn't work, he ran the ten of hearts, trying to finesse South for the jack. The devilish duck by Stokka hit the jackpot for Daniel Gullberg (North), who now was able to cash his diamonds. Later, South got a trick with the ace of hearts to bring the contract two down.



Adam Stokka



## GRABBING VICTORY FROM THE JAWS OF DEFEAT by Phillip Alder

There are some deals where Deep Finesse tells you a specific contract can be made, but only if you play with x-ray vision. On more deals, you will seem to be going down, but can occasionally suddenly snatch success from the jaws of defeat.

This deal was played during the last round of the juniors round robin.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West Koclar	North Edgtton	East Suzer	South Edgtton
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room

West Williams	North Altindag	East Thompson	South Kapusuz
1♥	Pass	1♣	Pass
	Pass	1NT	All Pass

Now back to the real world. Suzer led a club from the dummy and took North's king with his ace. Then a low spade brought out the ace. East took the third diamond with his king and unblocked his queen of spades to give this position:

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

Now declarer, knowing that North had the ace of hearts, went for his one chance: He played a heart to dummy's eight. When that pulled out the ace, the contract was home. Suzer took three spades, two hearts, two diamonds and two clubs.

Very nicely done, and not surprisingly, Suzer was the only player to take nine tricks in the whole field (two others were in game).

Finally, to stem the flood of e-mails, no doubt you noticed how South could have defeated the contract. When in with the ace of spades, he had to lead his second club, with North playing low. Then the defenders would have taken five tricks. That play is not impossible to find, I guess, especially if presented on a piece of paper, but tough at the table.

The auction in the closed room probably happened several times. And Jamie Thompson won seven tricks exactly.

Two aggressive actions, Nabil Edgtton's 11-point opening and Ugurcan Suzer's one-notrump overcall, led to East being in three notrumps.

Adam Edgtton led the jack of diamonds, which declarer ducked. East took the next diamond and played a spade to dummy's jack.

Deep Finesse will tell you that to make the contract, declarer must lead a low spade from the dummy and play low from his hand, bringing down the ace. Right!





## MEET THE SWEDES by Swedish National Teams



(back) Mikael Rimstedt, Sanna Clementsson, Simon Hult, Johan Säfsten, Ola Rimstedt, Ida Grönkvist, Teo Bodin, Daniel Gullberg, Simon Ekenberg, (front) Alexander Sandin, Mikael Grönkvist, Adam Stokka, Erik Hansson

As Sweden didn't qualify for this summer's World Cup (and Brazil didn't make it here), we have taken the opportunity to bring a piece of the football glamour to the real world championships. It's of course a complete coincidence that we identify ourselves with several of the winning Germans.

### Junior Team

**Mikael Grönkvist**, 21 – Neymar, Brazil

The divo of the Swedish team was very upset when he realised that his room here in Istanbul didn't have air conditioning. He is yet to cry before a match, but it's only a matter of time before it happens.

**Daniel Gullberg**, 23 – Lionel Messi, Argentina

To those who aren't aware of his competence, he may come across as a random, humble and somewhat pale guy. Those who have met him, however, won't be fooled by his appearance and will treat him with the respect he deserves.

**Simon Hult**, 19 – Hulk, Brazil

Simon is stronger than most – if you don't believe us, challenge him to some arm wrestling – and an offensive power to count on. Hopefully he will carry us to victory on his sturdy shoulders.

**Simon Ekenberg**, 22 – Steven Gerrard, England

Being loyal as few others, Simon would be an asset on any team. We know we'll never walk alone as long as we have him with us!

**Adam Stokka**, 21 – Luis Suarez, Uruguay

Every team has its bad boy – Adam is ours. There haven't been any biting incidents (yet), but if you are unlucky enough to have to share a room with him, you'll never know if you'll be able to sleep there or not ...

### Youngster Team

**Ola Rimstedt**, 19 – Cristiano Ronaldo, Portugal

There is one player who wakes up hours before everyone else just to be able to do his hair properly before game time – and it's Ola. But as long as his bridge results look as good as his hair, we're ok with his divo manners.

**Johan Säfsten**, 19 – Andrea Pirlo, Italy

Johan is "Il professore" of the Swedish team. His speciality, though, is not sweeping passes, but rather advanced relay sequences. With Johan as your playmaker, nothing can go wrong.

**Mikael Rimstedt**, 19 – Manuel Neuer, Germany

With Mikael/Manuel on your team, you don't need any more defence. Risking it all with his 3-/4-/5-/6-level (!) pre-empts, he comes out on the right side of things most of the time. Hopefully we can soon call him a world champion too.

**Ida Grönkvist**, 19 – Miroslav Klose, Germany

Being the oldest (this was apparently very important for her) and most experienced player on the Swedish youngster team, she has earned the title of veteran. We hope she will break the record for most imps scored at a world championship the same way her German counterpart did this summer.

### Kids Team

**Sanna Clementsson**, 14 – James Rodriguez, Colombia

Coming out of nowhere (Södra Sandby), this girl had no pressure on her before the tournament. She has already exceeded all expectations and we know she will continue to do so – watch out!

**Alexander Sandin**, 13 – Paul Pogba, France

Pogba won the award for the best young player at the World Cup and Alexander could be the pick at this one. He made seven notrumps the other day on a squeeze!

**Erik Hansson**, 14 – Guillermo Ochoa, Mexico

With a huge amount of spectacular saves, this guy has won all of our hearts and, maybe more importantly, frustrated the opponents.

**Teo Bodin**, 15 – Julian Green, USA

Just like this American rookie, Teo scored the moment he entered his first championship. We feel certain there will be many more to come.

**Per Leandersson**, NPC – Joachim Löw, Germany

Per is the leader of the Swedish version of the "Die Mannschaft". We hope that we will be as successful as that squad. Whether he picks his nose before he shakes hands with the opponents is, however, unknown to us.

**Tom Gärd**s, Coach – Fabio Capello, Russia

This relaxed coach of ours has performed some tactical miracles during the tournament. His choice of attire (especially the headwear) on the other hand is not always as classy as the Italian's.

**Hans-Ove Sandin**, Coach – Miguel Herrera, Mexico

If Tom is cool, Hans-Ove shows more emotions and celebrates wildly after our victories. He also has the most powerful high-fives of the pre-game ring.