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12th European Youth Bridge Pairs Championships

Burghausen, Germany 12 – 16 July 2014









Daily Bulletin

Sunday, 13 July 2014

# FULL METAL JACKET



Preparing to move up to the Front Line at the Burgfest

At the half way point of the Mixed Pairs Championship the leading pairs are closely grouped together. Leading the way overnight are Moshe Meyouhas and Adi Asulin from Israel, followed by Jakub Vojtik and Renata Lapcikova of the Czech Republic. Thomas Paske and Sarah O'-Connor of England are in third place, ahead of Florian Alter and Marie Eggeling, the leading pair representing Germany. They are pursued by another German pair, Paul Gruenke and Katharina Brinck and the top six is rounded off by Michael Botur and Lucie Kohutova from the Czech Republic.

With so many boards to be completed it will be fascinating to see how many of the leading pairs can maintain or improve their positions as play unfolds today.

Today's Schedule		
Mixed Pairs		
10:00 - 11:30		
11:45 - 13:15		
14:30 - 16:00		
16:15 - 17:45		
18:00 - 19:30		



# **Results - After Session 5**

1		. MEYOUHAS Moshe	
2		. LAPCIKOVA Renata	
3	PASKE Thomas	. O'CONNOR Sarah	ENG - ENG 60.45
4	EGGELING Marie	. ALTER Florian	GER - GER 60.28
5	GRUENKE Paul	. BRINCK Katharina	GER - GER 60.18
6	BOTUR Michael	. KOHUTOVA Lucie	CZE - CZE 59.59
7	KRALIK Jan	. JANIKOVA Jitka	CZE - CZE 58.78
8	ZMUDA Justyna	. WITKOWSKI Lukasz	POL - POL 58.59
9		. DLUGOSZ Olga	
10		. GANDOGLIA Alessandro	
		. WACKWITZ Janneke	
		. SZYMASZCZYK Pawel	
		. BUUS THOMSEN Emil	
		. MARCINOWSKI Piotr	
		. DEHEEGER Colin	
		. RODIN Erika	
		. JAROSZ Aleksandra	
		. MACZKA Stanislaw	
		. CHUDY Agnieszka	
		SROKA Joanna	
		. ROPER William	
		. STRECK Lauritz	
		. KALWA Loretta	
		. COVILL Laura	
		. VAN DELFT Doris	
		. KAMPERMANN Mareille	
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	. FLIERL Vanessa	
		. NEGREANU Carina	
		. NAKAMARU-PINDER Jun	
		. GRAUER Stefanie	
		. BRUIJNSTEEN Merel	
		. FISCHER Brigitta	
33	DE LUTIO Caterina	. FAGOTTO Federico Filippo	ITA - ITA 48.53
		. SUPERSON Krzysztof	
35	KRALIK Frantisek	. STRBOVA Barbora	CZE - CZE 48.10
36	WADL Raffael Daniel	. CHARKOW Tamara	AUT - AUT 48.03
37	MOSZCZYNSKA Zuzanna	. MARKS Rafal	POL - POL 47.96
38	CASPERSEN Soeren Veel	. CHRISTENSEN Malene Holm	DEN - DEN 47.57
39	LAM Kyle	. HOLMES Helen	ENG - ENG 46.75
40		. TODD-MOIR Victor	
41		. GUINAND Zoe	
		. TASINATO Gianluca	
		. WIAZECKA Anna	
44		. EDER Felix	
45	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	GORMALLY Hugh	
. •		. MILNE Jake	
47		. ARSENTYEVA Elizaveta	
48		. HOLZNER Michael	
49		SMART ALICE	
. •		NIESSEN Julia	
		. DRESEN Melina-Marie	
		BOLZ Sophia	
	Jenvelining Jaspei	. υστε συριπα	

### **Mixed Pairs Session I**

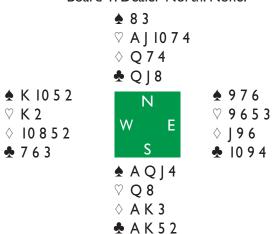
by Patrick Jourdain

52 pairs, a considerable increase on the numbers entered a month earlier, took their seats on time. The first six boards of the championship proved a real test of skill.

Your reporter decided to follow a home pair, Florian Alter & Marie Eggeling of Germany, who play 5-card majors and strong notrump. Two weeks ago Marie was representing her country in the Women's team in the Opatija Europeans. Alter is reported to be one of the more promising German juniors.

Their first opponents were the Irish pair, brother and sister combination Hugh and Niamh Gormally who we will refer to by their first names. The first deal was a test of slam bidding for North-South:

Board I. Dealer North. None.

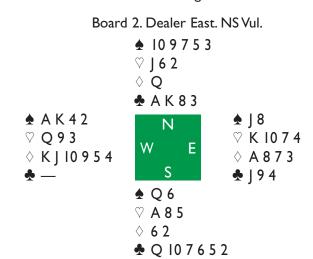


West	North	East	South
Hugh	Eggeling	Niamh	Alter
	Pass	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2◊*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3◊*	Pass	3♡
Pass	4NT	All Pass	

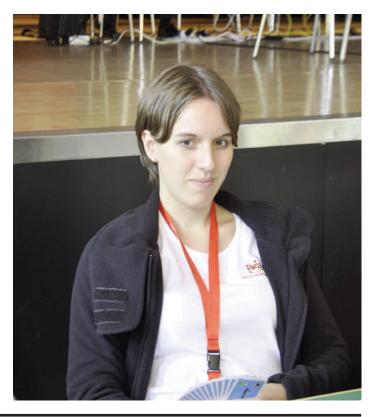
Unopposed auctions involving a natural 2NT should preferably have a point range of 2, and at most 3, but Alter's was reported by his partner as 22+. Eggeling showed her five hearts with a transfer and then bid a natural, invitational, but non-forcing 4NT in case partner had only 22. His poor 23 count caused the Pass. (A point for some pairs to sort out is that, after 2NT, a transfer followed by 4NT is natural, and you need another way to set a 6-card major as trumps and then use 4NT as an ask.)

Many tables will have reached the excellent 33-point 6NT by South. The spades are protected from a damaging lead and any normal division of hearts produces the necessary tricks. It looked like a shared bottom for the Germans but when Alter led the heart queen West failed to cover and so all 13 tricks were made. That meant NS had the consolation of beating the pairs not in slam, but only 12/38 in matchpoints.

The next board was a judgement matter for East-West. Although 12 tricks can be made in diamonds that depends on the heart guess and avoiding a trump loser so those in 50 should be happy with their auction. However the Irish auction was not ambitious enough



West	North	East	South
Hugh	Eggeling	Niamh	Alter
		Pass	Pass
I♦	Pass	I 🛇	Pass
I♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2◊	All Pass		

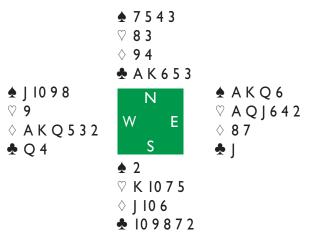


The hands fit well but West's secondary support for hearts should encourage him to do more over INT.A jump to  $3\Diamond$  would produce a raise to  $4\Diamond$ , West can then try  $4\heartsuit$  and East signs off in  $5\Diamond$ .

Again it was a case of bad news, good news. East-West had missed an excellent game, but declarer guessed the hearts correctly to make 12 tricks and recover some points from those who had made 11 tricks in a diamond partscore. Indeed they were on the right side of the traveller with 29/21.

All pairs were moving but your reporter stayed with the German pair for two more rounds. On Boards 3 and 4 they faced the first pair from Wales to enter an EBL Youth event since Riccione: Stephen Loat and Alice Smart. The third prospective slam in four deals came their way:

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.



West	North	East	South
Loat	Eggeling	Smart	Alter
			Pass
$  \diamond  $	Pass	$I  \heartsuit$	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♡	Pass
5	All Pass		

Six Spades is excellent. The Welsh pair started on the right road. If East relies on the raise of her second suit as showing four-card support, then over three spades a bid of 4. would indicate slam interest and the club control. When instead East showed her extra length in hearts West could not know they were not missing two high clubs. He might have done better to return to Four Spades and hope East took control but the 50 call gave East a dilemma. She knew there was a club loser. What about the red suits? In Pairs scoring playing in a minor suit game when you have found a major suit fit is rarely a successful choice. East had to correct to spades. Loat quickly wrapped up 12 tricks in his diamond game but it scored poorly, just 17/33.



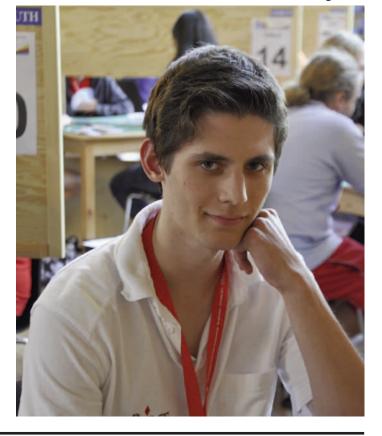
The next deal was a tricky play problem, not solved by our declarer:

West	North	East	South
Loat	Eggeling	Smart	Alter
I 🛇	Dble	I♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

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Four Spades should make in comfort provided declarer avoids starting the trumps with the ace. Many Wests will have opened I and reached the game with no opposition bidding leaving a problem for declarer. In teams you might safety play the trumps but in Pairs you cannot afford that. And it looks natural to start with a trump to the ace.

However, Loat chose  $I^{\heartsuit}$  as his start which encouraged Eggeling into the auction with a take-out double. The opening lead was a club to the ace and a diamond return to the ten. North's take-out double should have guided



declarer to start the trumps with the king as North might hold four but South could not. But declarer began with a spade to the ace and it was a shock when South showed out.

Could declarer recover from this error? It is possible and she began on the right route by eliminating the clubs, cashing the club queen throwing a heart, and ruffing a club. It is best to unblock the diamond queen next but declarer actually led a heart off the table. Eggeling spotted the danger and went up with the ace and exited with a heart to declarer's queen.

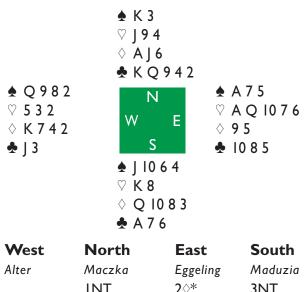
Suppose first declarer had earlier cashed the diamond queen. Then she could now cash the remaining diamonds with North following suit and in the three-card ending duck a trump to endplay North. But declarer crossed to dummy's diamond and led the third round of hearts too early. Eggeling took the chance to ruff high and still had a diamond to exit. That guaranteed her the setting trick.

It looks odd but declarer could even have recovered from not unblocking the diamonds. When she was on play with the heart queen it is good enough to eliminate the diamonds by playing ace, king and a ruff. North and East are down to three trumps, West has two trumps and a heart. When the heart is led North has no answer.

-100 was worth only 14.60/35.40 for EW.

On the next round the Germans met one of the highly-competent Polish pairs Stanislaw Maczka of Warsaw University and Anna Maduzia. Maczka showed his skill on what appeared to be the first quiet deal of the event:

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.



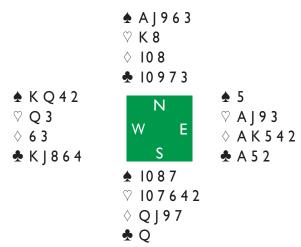
Maczka upgraded his 14 points to open a strong notrump. Eggeling, playing MultiLandy, overcalled 20 to show one major and Maduzia raised to game.

The opening lead was the  $\heartsuit 7$  so the eight won in dummy. Maczka immediately led the queen of diamonds. West gave this a short look but covered. Maczka won, rattled off five club tricks, and when the nine of diamonds appeared next claimed the overtrick that would not have been possible had West played low on the first diamond. +630 was a huge

score, 44/6.

Board 6 was a difficult 3NT and many failed. Your reporter had been planning to report more deals from the first session but as the first six were all of interest there was enough copy from these to fill an article. This was the play problem on the last of the six:

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.



West	North	East	South
Alter	Maczka	Eggeling	Maduzia
		I ♦	Pass
I♠	Pass	2♡	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Eggeling had just enough to reverse and West bid a gameforcing fourth suit before passing 3NT.

A spade lead would have probably given declarer no chance. North had not doubled the club bid but South still decided to lead her club queen. Declarer won the ace and led another club, ducking when South threw a small heart. North won and made the natural play of a diamond, though had he been confident of East's singleton spade, a switch to the spade jack would have been impressive.

Declarer won the diamond switch and I thought she might try a low heart next. That would not have worked as North wins and clears diamond tricks for partner. As the heart finesse is winning it works to play spades first while there is communication with dummy. However, declarer actually cashed the clubs next cutting herself off from the spade trick.

Two diamonds were discarded on the clubs and then declarer led the queen of hearts, covered by the king and ace. A spade went to North's ace. Had North played another diamond at this stage South would have been easily endplayed, but Maczka correctly switched to a heart. Now Eggeling had to read the ending in which she held three hearts and two diamonds.

South had come down to two hearts and three diamonds and declarer could have set up a heart trick. But East must have thought it was the other way round as she went up with the heart jack and cashed the top diamond, leaving South with three winners. 3NT was one down.

# The Road To Bridge Mastery Deception

One of declarer's weapons is the gentle art of deception. After all he can see his sides combined assets while the defenders have a harder task. Look at it like this: when a defender plays a card he has to keep in mind the information that he is giving to partner. Declarer on the other hand owes no such obligation to the dummy!

There are many situations where the play of the right card can lead a defender astray. Before we look at some examples from play let's check out a few standard situations that come up on a regular basis.



If you win with the queen it will be clear to West that you must have the king as well. If you take the trick with the higher honour West will not be sure who has the queen.



This simple little situation contains a number of possibilities. If you decide to duck the first round of the suit – as you might well do if playing in no-trumps – then you should win the second round with the ace leaving East in the dark as to who has the king.

If you decide to win the first trick then the king is a better card to play than the ace because no self-respecting declarer would use his only stopper on the first round of the suit unless he had to.

The correct use of the spot cards is every bit as important. It can be really easy to divert a defender from the right path.



If West, having bid this suit, now leads against a suit contract you should follow from your hand with the six. If

West notices the two is missing he may place his partner with a doubleton and continue the suit.

This is the reverse situation:



This time when West leads the suit he has bid you can see that East's three must be a singleton. If you play one of your intermediates the only card West will know his partner can have is the two and he will continue the suit. You should play the two, hoping West will place his partner with three cards in the suit.

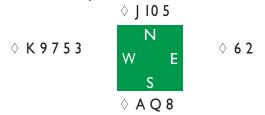
The easy way to remember these positions is to play as if using the signalling methods of the defenders. If this is standard, play a high card if you want to tempt the defender into continuing the suit but play a low one if you are trying to persuade them to switch.

There are many plays designed to persuade an opponent to do what you want. This is a well-known stratagem:



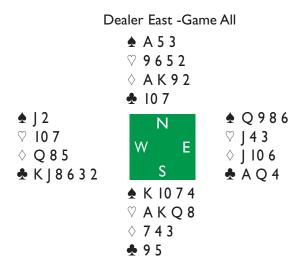
In no-trumps if you have one suit wide open and know you may have to lose a trick to West – say a finesse has to be taken into his hand – then you may elect to win with the ace! If West does gain the lead he will surely place his partner with the queen and underlead his king.

Our next example is a variation on the same theme.



If West leads this suit you can try to encourage West to continue it if he regains the lead by playing the jack from dummy and the queen from hand – but it is unlikely to work if your opponents are using any sensible method of signalling.

It is not often that a brilliant play is made on VuGraph but in the Junior European Championships in Vienna in 1998 the capacity crowd saw a beautiful deceptive move by Grzejdziak in the match between Norway and Poland.



West	North	East	South
		Pass	♣
Pass	I	Pass	2♡
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

East was on lead, and chose the eight of spades.

It is impossible, I think, for anyone to find a legitimate winning line of play. But Grzejdziak found an excellent deceptive play that really made it difficult for East to find the killing defence. The first trick went spade 8-4-2-3! Cashing the ace of clubs could have been a disaster on a different layout, so East continued with the six of spades. North took West's jack with the ace, played three rounds of hearts and later finessed in spades and threw a club loser on the fourth spade. A club ruff made a total of 10 tricks thanks to a very imaginative deception.

## **Social Programme**

Want to relax after the bridge? Here are some possibilities:

#### Sunday 13 July

20:30

Public viewing for a certain football match - entry fee 3 Euros which includes one drink

Location: In the New City Market Hall

#### Monday 14 July

20:00

Sightseeing tour at the castle - English language spoken by the guide. A group of 30 people maximum - please apply at the registration desk. Meeting point will be at the castle.

20.30

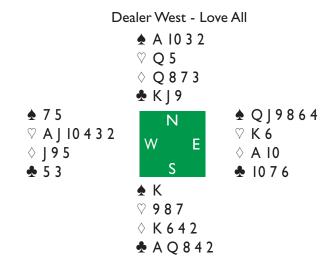
Organ concert in the church in the old town - free entry

#### Tuesday 15 July

20:30

Disco evening in front of the Jugendherberge - free entrance - drinks to be paid for

Here is a variation on an old theme that has caught out many a defender. It was played in the Junior European Championships in Cardiff in 1996.



West	North	East	South
	Brink		Brink
Pass	I ♦	2♠	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

A lot of players would have made a weak two bid on the West hand.

Against Three No-Trumps East led the queen of spades taken by dummy's king.

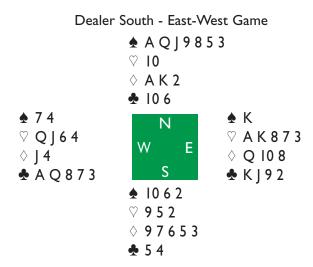
With only seven tricks on top declarer needed to find two more and avoid what would almost certainly be a fatal switch to hearts.

Niel Brink found a neat way to discourage a heart switch. At trick two he played a heart to his queen!

East won with the king and naturally gave no thought to returning the suit. His actual choice of a small spade gave declarer one of the extra tricks he needed and all he had to do now was steal a trick in the diamond suit.

If West held the ace of diamonds he would be odds on to follow it with a torrent of hearts so Niel played a small diamond towards the king. When that held he quickly ran for home.

Here is another ploy of a type that works over and over again. It comes from the 1997 Venice Cup played in Tunisia.

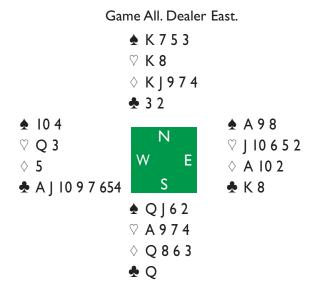


West	North	East	South
	Auken		von Arnim
			Pass
Pass	4♠	Double	Pass
4NT	Double	5♣	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	5♠
Double	All Pass		

South faced a tough decision when her partner doubled Five Clubs and she took out insurance.

East started with her top hearts so Sabine Auken ruffed the second round and cashed the ace of spades. When the king appeared she continued smoothly with the two of diamonds! West won with the jack and completely taken in returned the suit! Now after drawing the last trump and unblocking the diamonds Sabine was able to reach dummy with the ten of spades and dispose of her losing clubs on the diamonds.

My final example pitted four of the finest players in the world against each other. Jeff Meckstroth was the man who stole a contract. The then Norwegians Geir Helgemo and Tor Helness were the victims, a role they are not used to.



The contract was 5♣ by West (yes, 3NT is much easier!) Helness led a low diamond, and Jeff played the ten from dummy! Of course Helgemo's queen held the trick. Now South, played back a diamond. Suddenly there was no longer any efficient defence!

Meckstroth discarded a heart on the ace of diamonds and led a heart to his queen. Helness won this and fired back a spade – but it was too late. Meckstroth rose with the ace and played the  $\heartsuit$ J. South had to put up the ace, which Meckstroth ruffed in hand. He cashed the  $\clubsuit$ A and crossed to the  $\clubsuit$ K, and the  $\heartsuit$ 10 took care of his spade loser.

## **Championship Diary**

In 1990 Neumunster played host to the 12th European Youth Team Championships, which were won by Norway (who included one Geir Helgemo). More significantly for out hosts that was the last time that Germany won the World Cup, defeating Argentina 1-0 in a final that has been cited as the most cynical and lowest quality of all World Cup Finals. Argentina had two players sent off and the game was decided by a dubious penalty award.

We are back in Germany for a European Youth Championship, Germany meet Argentina in the final of the World Cup. If Germany win then perhaps the Deutscher Fussball-Bund will sponsor Junior events in World Cup years.

(We must quote England's Gary Lineker, Golden Boot winner for the most goals at the 1986 World Cup, 'Football is a simple game. Twenty-Two men chase a ball for 90 minutes and at the end, the Germans always win.')



Tourist Office Director Sigrid Resch (pictured with the Editor) and her staff are ready to make your stay in Burghausen a memorable one.

Sweden's PO Sundelin is here to assist you as our éminence grise. If you have a problem (perhaps with your bidding) just ask PO. If you would like advice about the best way to play a hand - just ask PO. If you have an interesting story - just tell PO. If you have a Convention Card problem - yes, you guessed it, just ask PO.

## **All That Jazz**

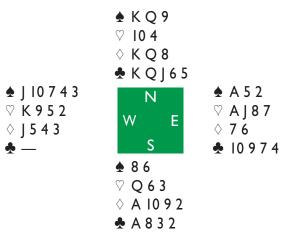
by Mark Horton

All That Jazz is a 1979 musical film directed by Bob Fosse. The screenplay by Robert Alan Aurthur and Fosse is a semi-autobiographical fantasy based on aspects of Fosse's life and career as dancer, choreographer and director. The film was inspired by Bob Fosse's manic effort to edit his film Lenny while simultaneously staging the 1975 Broadway musical Chicago.

Given that Burghausen stages one of the best International Jazz Festivals every year and that our Layout Editor, Fotis, is trying to juggle a large number of balls at the same time, a title linked to this genre of music seems appropriate.

My intention for Session 3 had been to follow the play at table 6, but for technical reasons I was only able to watch this deal before switching to table 7:

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.



West	North	East	South
Streck	Kralik	Morgiel	Janikova
		Pass	Pass
Pass All Pass	INT	Pass	3NT

East led the seven of hearts and after giving the matter some thought West followed with the two. Declarer won with the ten and played five rounds of clubs. West parted with the seven and ten of spades, the five of hearts, the four of spades and finally the jack of spades. On the fifth club East pitched a diamond and dummy a spade. Declarer cashed three diamonds and when the jack did not fall played a spade. East won, and returned a heart and West won with the king, cashed the jack of diamonds and played her last heart to partner's ace, +600 and only 23/27 for NS.

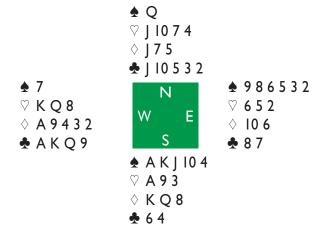
Suppose East had started with a passive club lead against 3NT? On a low club lead declarer can only get home by putting in dummy's eight and then running the ten of diamonds. Not likely.

At trick two declarer will surely play a spade to the king and ace and now If East finds the play of switching to the jack of hearts 3NT will be defeated. Difficult, but by no

means impossible.

Finally, if declarer simply plays off five rounds of clubs then as long as West keeps three hearts it will still be possible to defeat the contract.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.



West	North	East	South
Niessen	Kralik	Peter	Janikova
			I ♠
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

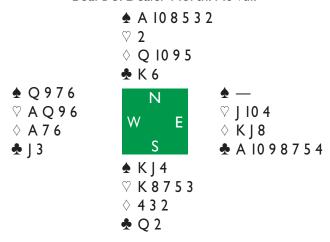
How should I describe West's overcall? Let's just say that it looks odd when a take out double is available.

When South reopened with a double North decided to play for a penalty.

South overtook the spade lead and switched to a trump. Declarer won with the ace, cashed the ace of diamonds and then played three more rounds of trumps. North won and played a diamond and it was not difficult for the defenders to take all the remaining tricks, four down and - 1100, a complete top for NS, 50/0.

Declarer could have escaped for -800, but it would not have saved a single point.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.



West		North	East	South
Gandoglia		Szczypczyk	Chavarria	Superson
		2◊*	3♣	3♡*
3NT		All Pass		
2◊	Multi			
3♡	Pass or	correct		

North led the five of spades and South won with the king and returned the jack, covered by the queen and ace and North continued with the ten of spades, declarer pitching in turn a heart, a diamond and a club from dummy.

When North switched to a heart declarer took South's king with the ace and played the jack of clubs for the king and ace. He could force out the queen of clubs for +400 and 38/12 matchpoints.

With West as declarer 3NT is unbeatable, but imagine, unlikely as it is, that South was on lead. Do you see the only card to defeat the contract?

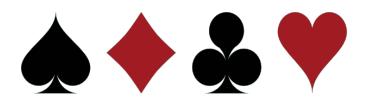
Of course you do - the jack of spades!

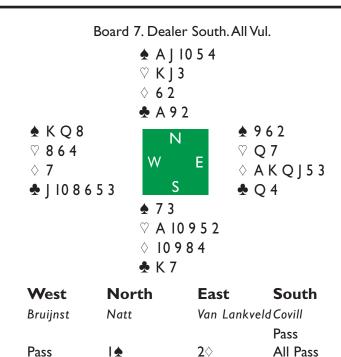
Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul. **♠** A | 7 ∇ K Q J 10 9 ♦ 43 ♣ K | 8 ♠ 106543 **★** K Q 2 N ♡ 42 ♡ A 8 W ♦ 82 ♦ Q J 10 9 9762 ♣ A 10 5 4 **♦** 98 ♥ 7653 ♦ AK765 **♣** Q 3

West	North	East	South
Gandoglia	Szczypczyk	Chavarria	Superson
		INT	$Dble^*$
2♡*	Dble	2♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♡
All Pass			

2♥ Transfer

It looks as if South's double was designed to show a single suited hand. Had South passed the double of 2\(\Delta\) a significant penalty would have been recorded. As it was NS failed to reach the routine heart game and +170 was worth only 14/36

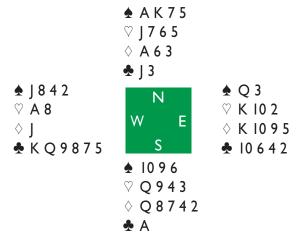




They say matchpoints is a bidders game, and South paid a heavy price for not coming in over East's overcall. Having already passed  $2^{\circ}$  would not be forcing and if for some reason you didn't fancy that there is always a negative double to fall back on.

Declarer scored a spade and six trumps, one down, -100, but 42/8 for EW.

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.



West	North	East	South
Charkow	Niajko	Wadl	Jarosz
	♣*	Pass	ΙŸ
2♣	2♡	3♣	3♡
3♠	Pass	4♣	All Pass

At this vulnerability West was taking a chance bidding 3\(\text{\phi}\) (notice that NS are unlikely to take more than eight tricks in hearts) and I was a little surprised that North did not take a shot at 4\(\frac{1}{2}\).

That lost the obvious four tricks for -100, which was worth 28/22 for NS. +200 would have collected 47/3 while defending  $3^{\circ}$  would have been worth at least 29/21 for EW.

## Herzlichen Glückwunsch sehr geehrter, lieber Präsident des Deutschen Bridge Verbands

# **Ulrich Wenning**

Es gibt viele Gründe, Ihnen heute zu gratulieren, doch als Erstes wünschen wir Ihnen alle zu Ihrem heutigen 65. Geburtstag viel Gesundheit und Schaffenskraft, damit Sie alle Ihre Pläne durchsetzen und durchführen können. Dazu viel Freude und Erfolg beim Bridgespiel.

Es ist keine Selbstverständlichkeit, dass an der Spitze eines erfolgreichen Bridgeverbandes auch ein erfolgreicher Bridgespieler steht. Mit Ihren Erfolgen in Deutschland und International, wie auch durch die Einsätze als Nationalspieler haben Sie dies immer wieder unter Beweis gestellt.

Die Arbeit im Deutschen Bridge Verband nimmt viel Zeit in Anspruch, natürlich vermindert sich dadurch Ihre Freizeit ganz erheblich. Das muss die gesamte Familie mittragen.

Der Spruch: hinter jedem starken Mann steht eine noch stärkere Frau, kann man bei Ihnen sicherlich nachvollziehen, daher auch an Ihre Frau, Karin Wenning, herzlichen Dank, dass sie die ganzen Mühen, Arbeiten und Probleme erträgt.

Erzählen Sie uns bitte ein wenig über sich selbst.

Soweit wir wissen, üben Sie trotz des erreichten "Pensionsalters" noch einen Beruf aus?

U.W.: Ja, innerhalb einer Anwaltskanzlei bin ich weiterhin Vollzeit beschäftigt.

Wie schaffen Sie es, das mit Familie, Hobby und Verband in Einklang zu bringen?

U.W.: Meine gute Konstitution, Spaß an der Arbeit und, was für mich sehr wichtig und ausschlaggebend ist, eine sehr intakte Familie.

Seit wann spielen Sie Bridge und wie sind Sie zu diesem Spiel gekommen?

U.W.: Seit 1974. Durch meine Bekanntschaft mit Robert Koch wurde ich auf das Spiel aufmerksam; er war damals Nationalspieler im DBV.

Wer sind Ihre Lieblingspartner und welche Systeme spielen Sie am liebsten ?

U.W.: Hans Frerichs, Reiner Marsal und natürlich meine Frau. Am liebsten spiele ich ein System mit starker 1 Treff-Eröffnung.

Einen weiteren Glückwunsch möchten wir zur Durchführung der 52. Junioren-Paar-Europameisterschaft in Deutschland anfügen. Es ist das zweite Mal, dass Deutschland Gastgeber dieses Turniers ist. 1990 fand die Meisterschaft in Neumünster statt, ganz im Norden Deutschlands.

Auch damals waren Sie Präsident unseres Verbandes. 2014 ist wiederum der DBV Gastgeber, und Sie stehen wieder an der Spitze des DBV – ist das Zufall, oder liegt Ihnen die Jugend besonders am Herzen?

U.W.: Beides, als Vater von drei Kindern, ist für mich alles rund um die Junioren besonders wichtig. Als Vorsitzender des Verbandes schätze ich die sportliche Herausforderung der internationalen Meisterschaften sehr. Dazu kommt, dass dadurch die Jugendlichen Kontakte zu anderen Nationen knüpfen können, was ich in der heutigen Zeit für wichtig halte.

Wie schätzen Sie die Chancen unserer Jugendlichen bei dieser Europameisterschaft ein?

U.W.: Wir haben chancenreiche Spieler mit internationaler Erfahrung dabei, aber wollen auch dem Nachwuchs eine Möglichkeit bieten, internationale Erfahrung zu sammeln.

Neben unseren versierten Spielern, die Deutschland schon in anderen Wettbewerben international vertreten haben, sind – wie Sie sagen – auch Nachwuchsspieler hier anwesend, die noch keine Erfahrung im internationalen Bridge haben. Können Sie uns sagen, wie diese Jugendlichen zu Bridge kommen und durch den DBV gefördert werden?

U.W.: Durch Unterricht an verschiedenen Schulen, die der DBV durch Lehrer-Material, aber auch finanziell unterstützt. Wir übernehmen auch gerne Kosten zur Teilnahme an anderen internationalen Wettbewerben, Camps, Kadertraining und natürlich die Chance, hier mitzuspielen.

In Deutschland wird an verschiedenen Schulen Bridge unterrichtet. Sehen Sie eine Chance, dies als "normal" an allen Schulen durchzusetzen?

U.W.: Leider noch nicht, aber durch die Erlangung der Gemeinnützigkeit haben wir jetzt eine größere Möglichkeit, an den Schulen in Arbeitsgemeinschaften Bridge zu unterrichten. Auch durch Projektwochen wird die Publizität erhöht. Und durch diese Meisterschaft hoffen wir auch, auf Bridge als Sport aufmerksam zu machen.

Herzlichen Dank, Herr Wenning, dass Sie sich die Zeit für uns genommen haben. Wir wünschen Ihnen noch einen wunderschönen Geburtstag und eine gute Heimreise.

