

Goodmorning Bridge

Pula Bridge Festival Online Bulletin

Editor-in-chief: Vjekoslav Žepić: vzepic@gmail.com



Dear Pula Players,

Here we are after three days of 60th international Pula bridge festival!

I hope you are already having fun enjoying seaside and playing some fantastic bridge!

So far we have played welcome pairs tournament, IMP pairs and mix teams tournament in parallel with mens team tournament.

The winners of IMPs tournament are Steven de Donder—Clovis Dehaye, the winners of Mixed teams tournament is team SMIT (Yke Smit, Ozlem Kandolu, Aarnout Helmich and Cheryl van der Toorn, and the winners of Non-Mixed Team tournament is team Team RADO (Marek Witek, Jonas Drobulis, Jacek Lesniczak, Bogdan Szulejewski).

So far this year we had winners from Ukraine, Georgia, Belgium, Turkey, Netherlands and Poland. It is a real success as we love to have winners from various countries.

I would like to repeat that from Tuesday on, we will also use another playing room which is in the ex-Casino. We can fit up to 30 tables there, and it is nice air conditioned space with its own bar :). You can enter it from outside and from the inside of hotel Histria, but much easier is from the outside, just follow signs.

For you who will only join us for teams tournament and/or pairs (why only for that?) I would also like to repeat that registrations will be available only [online](https://pulaonline.com) and will close few hours before the start of pairs and approximately two hours before the start of teams tournaments. Pairs/teams who register later will be allowed to play only if it is convenient for the organizer. Please help us by registering in advance, and in case you decide to cancel your registration please inform us immediately at pulabridge@gmail.com so we can organize the sections and maybe let someone else play. If you are looking for a partner or team-mates let us know.

Now that we finished with all this boring administrative information lets skip on siome fun stuff. Already tradition on Pula Bridge Festival there will be a karaoke par-

ty. It will be held today (Monday) starting at 10 p.m. at restaurant Boschetto. If you need directions to find this restaurant check last page of this bulletin.

As an addition to this years karaoke party (we are having a round 60th anniversary) there will be Madhatter's Challenge where teams will compete in various tasks not related to bridge.

Although you already know that all of our staff are extra friendly and if you have any questions, or require some assistance just ask anybody from the festival crew, they will be happy to help



Also if during any of the tournaments you notice an interesting hand, play, defense or just want to mention somebody, feel free to email me and we will put your story in bulletin.

We would also be happy to include a promotion of your tournament, happy birthday wishes to a friend or a love letter.

Even if you know any good jokes (even not bridge related if you must) send us, and we will publish that

We have seven more days of bridge and fun in front of us, so just enjoy

Results IMP tournament

	Steven de Donder - Clovis Dehaye	68.00	60	Fulvio Milić - Ognjen Škrebilin	0.00
2	Ines Meersman - Wouter Van den hove	47.00	60	Marjan Vezjak - Sebastjan Jeretič	0.00
3	Grzegorz Narkiewicz - Jacek Latowski	44.00	60	Janusz Kurdej - Leszek Tarnogrodzki	0.00
3	Wim van Lwijk - Rob Jagroop	44.00	64	Karen McCallum - Axel Johannsson	0.00
5	Allison Howard - Michael Cappelletti	42.00	64	Roland Leutbecher - Maria Leutbecher	-1.00
6	Tim Van de Paverd - Sibrand Van Oosten	41.00	65	Otto van Schravendijk - Arie Teeuw	-2.00
7	Ugo Boscardin - Paolo Clair	35.00	66	Aleksandra Jeseničnik - Tolja Orač	-3.00
8	Jyri Aava - Mikk Mirme	34.00	66	László Földesy - Máté Mráz	-3.00
9	Stefan Thorpe - Oscar Nijssen	31.00	68	Miroslaw Gielczyński - Tomasz Czekala	-4.00
10	Francisco Bernal - Alfredo Versace	29.00	68	John Dakin - Alan Maddock	-4.00
11	Elzbieta Waniurska - Piotr Waniurski	27.00	70	Kata Vass - Klára Makara	-5.00
12	Jerzy Stworzewicz - Lukasz Stworzewicz	26.00	70	Ken Horwedel - Carine Jeunen	-5.00
12	Buras Krzysztof - Wojciech Strzemecki	26.00	72	Tomasz Paluchowski - Grzegorz Superson	-6.00
14	Andrzej Kozikowski - Anna Gorska	25.00	72	Piotr Walczak - Janusz Kalida	-6.00
15	Stanislaw Pajak - Piotr Kucharski	24.00	74	Janka Jalsovszky - Máté Vági	-7.00
16	Marek Pieczka - Krzysztof Kujawa	23.00	75	Hana Rus - Gregor Rus	-8.00
17	Przemysław Zawada - Mariusz Kowalski	22.00	75	Mariusz Grabowski - Bohdan Pliszka	-8.00
17	Malene Christensen - Bas van Engelen	22.00	75	Kirsi Virtanen - Vesa Leskela	-8.00
17	Borys Shusterman - Ihor Tseitlin	22.00	75	hristo dunev - georgi georgiev	-8.00
20	Maciej Kita - Michal Krysa	21.00	75	Maria Boczar - Jerzy Boczar	-8.00
20	Richard Creamer - Graham Horscroft	21.00	80	Mate Meštrić - Marshall Lewis	-9.00
22	Filip Jelic - Andrea Stanković	20.00	80	Gorana Mitić - Siniša Kuruzović	-9.00
23	Maja Žabierak - Hubert Urban	18.00	80	Aleksandra Mierzwa - Patrick Bocken	-9.00
23	Zbigniew Słaby - Jerzy Lewkowicz	18.00	80	Sandeep Karmarkar - Marianne Karmarkar	-9.00
23	Milan Macura - Michaela Macurova	18.00	80	Branka Hadžić - Vasil Nenchev	-9.00
23	Oleksandr Bielov - Grigol Gogoberidze	18.00	85	Malgorzata Sawicka - Magnus B. Larssen	-11.00
27	Dražen Martinovic - Igor Novosel	16.00	86	Matea Grgurić - Jasminka Klanjscek	-12.00
28	Piotr Marcinowski - Andrzej Hycnar	15.00	86	Edvard Godnič - Darko Jevremović	-12.00
29	Regina Wolek - Zbigniew Krzepakowski	13.00	88	Hanka Lajos - Wisse Huvers	-14.00
29	Ilona Bobko - Aleksander Bobko	13.00	88	Wiesia Mirosław - Mariusz Ilnicki	-14.00
31	Marina Pilipović - Tvrtko Perković	12.00	90	Jacek Lesniczak - Bogdan Szulejewski	-15.00
31	Laila Gumhalter Malić - Sandra Havliček	12.00	90	Maciej Krzywka - Jerzy Madera	-15.00
31	Anneke v.d. Meer - Cheryl van der Toorn	12.00	92	Andrzej Dudzik - Krzysztof Kleinrok	-17.00
31	Laszuzak Tadeusz - Sierocki Darek	12.00	92	Andrew Clery - Eve Brenner	-17.00
35	Sanja Vištica - Davor Ruso	11.00	94	Anton Zegwaard - Peter Dekker	-18.00
35	Vuk Marković - Igor Mandalinić	11.00	95	Ireneusz Jagielski - Jan Stańczak	-19.00
35	May Sakr - Jacek Pszczola	11.00	95	Krzysztof Jordan - Mihael Dembinski	-19.00
35	Marion Ryndal - Ivar Kalma	11.00	97	Mirjana Bacalja - Robert Jurilj	-20.00
35	Kristian Sentić - Zorana Vidić	11.00	97	Marianne Linden - Rein van Dijk	-20.00
40	Marek Tekieli - Marek Jaworski	10.00	97	Jarosław Grabek - Stanislaw Wawszczyk	-20.00
40	Eva Bahníková - Petr Bahník	10.00	100	Roman Siwec - Aleksander Poznysz	-21.00
40	Ivan Bilušić - Tomislav Sasek	10.00	101	Aleksandra Dujmović - Djuro Opačić	-22.00
43	Jan De Ruiter - Rijk van der Krol	9.00	102	Momčilo Ignjatović - Sanja Lazić	-23.00
43	Srđan Katušić - Faruk Mašić	9.00	103	Krzysztof Dziekanski - Ewa Dziekanska	-25.00
43	Claire Alpert - Leonardo Fruscoloni	9.00	104	Renate Adelsberger - Heimo Adelsberger	-26.00
46	Patrick Cassidy - Billy Ronan	8.00	104	Aleksandra Klupś - Adrian Foltyn	-.2600
47	Grzegorz Antosz - Zdzisław Gebal	7.00	106	Silvana Rojko - Tina Drnovšek	-27.00
47	Sandra Krekel - Frank van Engelen	7.00	107	Peter Stewart - Joe Walsh	-28.00
49	Danuta Krupnik - Eugeniusz Seichter	6.00	107	Sylwester Cieślak - Ireneusz Głowacki	-28.00
50	Olga Simić - Branislav Protega	5.00	109	Zdzisław Baryła - Leszek Garbacik	-29.00
50	Leo Huvers - Niki Pfeiffer	5.00	110	Melanie Nieuwboer - Jack Kranenburg	-30.00
52	Aarnout Helmich - Dries Olgers	4.00	111	Kiril Marinovski - Georgi Hristov	-31.00
53	Ksenija Čare - Zoran Šimec	3.00	112	Brigitte Melzer-Lena - Helmut Lena	-33.00
53	Marek Witek - Jonas Drobulis	3.00	112	Piotr Kardasinski - Liliana Suflida	-33.00
53	Aoife Goodman - Peter Goodman	3.00	114	Andrzej Proczkowski - Jerzy Góralczyk	-34.00
56	Csenge Földesi - László Mészégető	2.00	115	Károly Kelen - Bence Kertész	-35.00
57	Eline Samson - Jens Jossaer	1.00	116	Janusz Kobylarski - Andrzej Osiński	-36.00
57	filip Katušić - Toni Vidović	1.00	117	Barbara Tuma - Krzysztof Tuma	-43.00
57	Jože Sadar - Bogdan Rašula	1.00	117	Małgorzata Żychlińska - Paweł Kańduła	-43.00
			119	ivan mladenov - valeri yovchev	-44.00
			120	Djordje Poljak - milutin kremic	-48.00

MIXED TEAMS (BEST 5 FROM 34)

- 1st **Smit Yke** Smit Ozlem Kandolu Aarnout Helmich Cheryl van der Toorn
- 2nd **Csapi KOVÁCS** András Klára Makara Kata Vass Péter Gál
- 3rd **XXXYXXXY** Katalin Mezei László Honti Renata Muller Marshall Lewis
- 4th **Apa Heili Downunder** Axel Johannsson Karen McCallum Peter Gill Liz Sylvester
- 5th **Poppeye** Robbie de Koster Eva Poppe Mark Thiele Renee Verdegaaal

NON MIXED TEAMS (BEST 5 FROM 26)

- 1st **RADO** Jonas Drobulis Bogdan Szulejewski Jacek Lesniczak Marek Witek
- 2nd **Steven & Co.** Steven de Donder Clovis Dehaye Milan PAVLIN Alfonz Šumer
- 3rd **Crash** Leo Huvers Wisse Huvers Stefan Thorpe Sibrand Van Oosten
- 4th **ROMAMIAM** Alfredo Versace Claire Alpert Francisco Bernal Leonardo Fruscoloni



UPCOMING EVENTS

OPEN MINI TEAMS

Board-a-match

Monday, noon

We continue our festival with another team event, board-a-match.

Board-a-match is a type of scoring where one could say that it is a team tournament scored like pairs. You compare your scores only with your teammates, but regardless of the difference in points you can only gain 2VP on every board. So on every board you can win the board (2VPs), tie the board (1VP) or lose the board (0VPs). Imagine you are playing pairs tournament on only 2 tables, so be alert and take all your tricks.

Last year we had 46 teams, and we also expect around 50 this year, but it seems that although we have over 500 participants at the festival, many prefer enjoying sun and sea to playing cards :). We are starting as all teams tournament at noon, and at BAM we will have short break about 4 p.m.

If you haven't registered already please do so, but you can only do it [online](#). If for some reason you are unable to register but would like to play please send us email to pulabridge@gmail.com. We will try to see if we can squeeze you in. Please do not forget to unregister if you decide not to play. If you cancel within 24 hours before the start of the tournament, also inform us by e-mail.

Couple of more reminders:

For all the tournaments you will pay at the table. Please prepare exact amount of money. For both IMP pairs entry is 25 euro/player (15 per junior).

You are responsible for entering the correct result into BridgeMate. If you, however, somehow miss-score, there is only very short time available to make corrections: one hour after the tournament. We cannot accept later complains so please, just check the result after every board. Soon after the tournament unofficial results will be published and you will have one hour to report an error. You have to do it by sending email to pulabridge@gmail.com.

Once you have registered, there is nothing much you should do before the tournament except arrive to the playing room 15 minutes before the start (11.45 a.m. for this tournament) and find your table. Positions will be displayed online one hour before the start (11 a.m.), again, at pulabridgefestival.com.

We will play 7 rounds, 6 hands per round. One round is 45 minutes and there is a small break between rounds.

It is the best to leave your mobile phone in your room, but if you take it with you it should be shut down, and left in a visible place near you. Be warned that having a mobile phone that is not openly displayed at the table is illegal, and so is looking at it at any point. Tournament directors will not be happy if they see you looking at your phone, and it could again cost you, guess what: VPs. If there is a real need for you to use a phone during the tournament you should ask TD and he/she will help.

We encourage you strongly to be friendly towards your partner, opponents, officials, bartenders and all other beings you encounter. Remember how lucky we all are that we can be all together here again and for a week worry only about IMPs and MPs.



BAM Winners 2021: XXXYXXXY Steven De Donder, Tine Dobbels, Marshall Lewis, Renata Muller of Belgium, Croatia and US

LARA MIXED AND NON-MIXED PAIRS

Tuesday, 4 p.m.

Mixed pair is a pair that consist of a man and a woman.. If for any reason you don't want to play with a partner of opposite sex we have a solution for you, you can play non-mixed pairs.

Last year we had 70 pairs in mixed pairs and 62 pairs in non mixed pairs so competition was fierce and we expect the same this year.

If you have any problem finding a pair/partner to play with, please post a message at the tournament registration page or just e-mail Tihana at tihana@pilar.hr.

In both mixed and non-mixed pairs, we expect to play 13 rounds of 2 boards. In between rounds there will be only 1 minute break so please don't wander off so we can keep playing on schedule.

Entries will be collected at the table, during the first round. You would make us a great favour if you collect have exact change and put it in an envelope.

So, it seems it is time to play now! I believe you have all relevant information, but in case you don't - please feel free to ask anyone from the tournament crew or send us email.

I wish you all good luck, lot of success and even more fun!



Model wearing Lara Tiara.



Non-mixed pairs Winners 2021: Przemyslaw Zawada and Wojciech Strzemecki



Lara mixed pairs Winners 2021 : Laslo Hon-ti and Katalin Mezei

Systems and alerting

By Adam Magyar

Pula is a friendly bridge festival with players from 5 continents (we did not yet have players from the Antarctica, but we are working on it) – that means a lot of different bridge cultures and alerting policies. In this article I'd like to tell you what are the rules here to help understand each other better at the bridge table. The most important thing is alerting, as all countries have different rules. The main purpose of alerting is to make the opponents aware that a bid does not have the „expected” or „normal” meaning, and there would be appropriate to ask a question about. As this festival is held in Croatia, the croatian rules apply.

So here you don't have to alert 1♣ if it promises at least 2, and 1♦ if it promises at least 3. (Cards, not points. Today a player complained if a 1♦ opening on 0 points is allowed here. Examining the system of the opponent we found out that the 1d opening really promises 0+, but not points, as the player thought, but diamonds.) You have to alert polish 1♣(and the negative answer to that, 1♦), and strong 1♣ also.

Concerning 1NT, if it's in the range of 14-17, you don't have to alert it. Having a 5-card major in 1NT is pretty standard nowadays, so you don't have to alert this neither. But if you play weak or mini NT, or your 1NT can systematically contain a singleton, you have to alert.

Doubles and redoubles have to be alerted only if they carry any special meaning. A normal take-out double, even at the fourth seat (1♣-pass-1♥-double) should not be alerted. But if your double or redouble has a special name (support, competitive, responsive, Lightner, or any other fancy name), you'd better alerting it.

There is one more important rule: without screens, it is forbidden to alert above 3NT. If, however, your table has screens, you have to alert everything, even after 3NT.

In this competition, you can only use green (like standard), blue (like precision), and red (like polish club) systems. Yellow systems and brown sticker conventions are forbidden, except at the teams final. If you have any doubt about your system's classification, please come to the directing staff, and we'll be happy to help you.

Madhatter's MIDNIGHT



KARAOKE



**WE ARE
BACK!**



Restaurant Boschetto
500 meters from the venue

**TEAM UP FOR
MADHATTER'S
CHALLENGES!**

MoonDay, September 12, starting 10 p.m.

DRESS CODE: Show your respect by wearing a hat

All you need to know

Registrations

All players have to be [registered](#) for the festival.

For each event, the [registration](#) deadline is 24 hours before the start of that contest. After that time, registrations will be possible only if it is convenient for organization. Starting positions will only be displayed online at [pulabridgefestival.com](#) -- no later than one hour before the start of the event. If you are looking for a partner or teammates, you can post your request online at the specific event, or contact the organizers (tihana@pilar.hr).

IMPORTANT: If you register for a tournament and later decide not to play – it is crucial to delete your names from the list of registered pairs/teams. If you decide not to play less than 24 hours before the start of the tournament please inform us immediately (pulabridge@gmail.com).

Venue

The venue is the Congress Center of Park Plaza Histria (same as in previous years). If we reach over 150 pairs or 70 teams, we have additional playing space in the casino of hotel Histria, which is only one minute walk from the Congress Center.

Entries/Prizes

The entries are 25 euro/play/day for all main events. (e.g. BAM teams 100 euro per team, Mixed pairs 25 euro per player, and Open teams 200 euro/team - since it is a 2-3 day event). You are kindly requested to put the entries in the envelopes on the tables before the start of the tournament. Juniors (born 1996 or later) get a discount in all pairs tournaments, and in team tournaments as long as there is no more than one adult on the team. Around 60% of the collected entries goes to the prizes for the best 10%-15% overall in a given event, and to the best in "special categories" (e.g. Mixed). Right after the entries are collected, prize amounts will be displayed at [pulabridgefestival.com](#). Prizes should be collected the next day at the venue, right after the end of that day's event – please bring an ID card. Cups will be awarded at the Victory Ceremony on September 17th.

Rules

We are playing this festival by The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017, as long as they do not interfere with common decency and gentlemanship. Chief TD is Mr. Adam Magyar. Convention cards are not obligatory, but it is highly recommended for your protection. Slow play cannot be tolerated since we have to follow a strict timetable – the official tempo allows 15 minutes per two boards at pairs, 65 minutes per 8 boards at teams, 50 minutes per 6

boards in BAM). Mobile phones MUST be switched off during the course of play in all events, otherwise automatic penalties apply. You are responsible for all results entered in the Bridgemate at your table. You should check all your results (online), and report any error, NO LATER THAN one hour after the end of every match (teams) or session (pairs). Later (but NOT more than 12 hours) complaints will be considered only if it was the organizers' fault.

Although the Pula Bridge Festival is very proud of our international TD team, we also still believe in Appeals Committees composed of players. If you think that a ruling was not right, you are entitled to appeal (you should inform the TD right after the match). Appeal tax is 50 euro and it will be returned unless the Appeal is judged by the AC to be "without merit".

Systems, Alerts, styles

HUM and most of Brown stickers are not allowed except in finals A of the Open Teams. Please check with TD if you are in doubt. 1 club opening should be alerted if it doesn't promise at least 2 cards. 1NT needs to be alerted if it is not in the range of 14-18, balanced or semi balanced.

Please use STOP cards for your own protection. Keep in mind this is a very international tournament (30+ countries) and opponents may not be familiar with your methods and "standards" - try to explain as good as possible.

Dress code

PLEASE do not dress as you go to the beach. Any casual or smart casual will do -- for example T-shirts are perfectly fine. Please don't be barefoot or bare-belly. We are happy that you love your body, and that you are fully relaxed in Pula, but these are firm rules set by the hotel, and we must follow them.

Mission

Please keep in mind that although many competitive, even world-class players gather in Pula, this is primarily a festival, a celebration, and not a battlefield. We nurture Pula as a venue for international, friendly games that every participant will enjoy.

Please do not ruin our effort by placing your killer instinct above a pleasant atmosphere -- we are sure you can win without making others miserable. Here, we are in a business of making memories -- we have been doing so for the last 60 years, and as always, I am expecting and gratefully counting on your full support.

Interview: Ivan Bilušić & Emanuel Evačić

Ivan and Emanuel (also known as Mimi & Bibi, you can guess which one is which) had an amazing summer bridgewise. First they were part of the Croatia U26 team that finished sixth in recent European junior championship in Veldhoven, and then they won bronze medal in youth pairs in Salsomaggiore. Ideal time to ask them a few questions:

So, you won bronze at Junior world championship this year? How do you feel about it, what was the best part? What were your expectations before the championship?

B: We didn't talk about our expectations, but I firmly believe that you should expect from yourself to win every time you do something and we knew there was no reason for us to feel otherwise. It is always nice to get a medal but I think I would have felt the same if we didn't get it. The best part are the lessons picked up along the way and during the tournament and I hope we build upon that knowledge and experience.

M: To date they haven't stripped us of our medals so it looks like I'm keeping it. I definitely feel better than I would've felt finishing fourth. Expectations were not to make fools out of ourselves too often.

When did you start to play bridge? Please describe your bridge career so far.

M: I started playing bridge exactly 6 years ago and formed a partnership with Bibi 4 years ago. Previous seasons had their ups and downs but this season was nice for both of us, even more for him qualifying for the Open Team. It started with winning the Tedeschi memorial, continued with earning a qualifying spot for WYTC and as a cherry on top - 3rd place in BAM and Pairs in Salso.

B: I started playing in 2017 with Emanuel as my first partner after learning some of the basics from a class held by Tihana, Toni and Sandra (forgive me if I left someone out). After that it has been a slow grind reading some books and playing a lot. At some point, impressed by the number of bids we can make and our unwillingness to pass, the mythical creature referred to as Meštar took us under his wing. From there we picked up his bridge philosophy, started working with him together and individually. We were fortunate enough to have great mentors like Meštar, Marshall, Baja, Vedran and others along the way each contributing in their own



Emanuel Evačić—Mimi

unique way. I managed to qualify for the open team with Baja and every part of that process was a great learning experience. I played two junior team championships and two open world championships with Emanuel.

What are your bridge plans and dreams for the future?

B: I would like to play big events soon and of course win. Hopefully Croatia qualifies for the Bermuda Bowl and we do our best there.

M: I would be thrilled if playing bridge became a regular thing for me but I'm bad at making plans for the future so I'll take it one step at a time and see what happens.

What is the most important thing in the partnership? What do you expect from a good partner? What are you offering?

B: The most important thing is that your partner has your interests (what is best for you) and the partnerships interest above his/hers. From there everything else is easy. I try my best to offer just that.

M: Never really thought about it, I don't think there is such a thing. To stay zen. Staying zen.

What is the best thing about bridge?

B: You can get various answers to this question depending on who you ask and that is probably the best part. There is some element for everyone, be it leisure, competition, socialising, traveling... Results come, tournaments pass but the connections with special people stay so that is probably the best part for me.

M: People.

Does bridge really matter? Why?



Ivan Bilušić—Bibi

B: Just playing the boards probably doesn't matter, you can get the similar effects from similar activities which equally don't matter. What matters is what you get out of every element of bridge and what you take with you through the rest of your life. Many things make up bridge, and you can ultimately get a lot out of it.

M: Everything matters to some degree, so does bridge. On the other hand, nothing matters too much..

Tell us something about yourself, what do you do when you don't play bridge?

M: I'm spending most of my time trying to learn the technique of how not to waste time.

B: I am very curious so I try to explore new things regularly. It is usually psychology, physics, sports and ways to earn a living while also making a positive difference.

What are the biggest problems of bridge as a game these days? How could we solve it?

M: 1. Rules and constraints 2. Bending the rules

B: Popularity of the game primarily. General lack of funding, sponsors and ways of monetisation for (semi)professional players and events especially in smaller countries which mostly comes from bridge not being very popular and accepted by masses. If bridge became more popular this and other things would follow. Chess has evolved over the last couple of years and bridge could follow its example. Better and wider marketing, especially on social networks, more accessible story telling, some people watch sports only partly because of the sport, they like the character of the sports player and follow the sport to see the characters development through the sport. We could make bridge more personalised, more interviews about non bridge topics which are shared in places non bridge players can access. I believe that the main focus should be on the social aspect of the game and the not on the playing side. The social part builds the base for the playing part. There are many things that I would like to see but that is a topic for another day. .

What would be your advice to a young player who has just started to learn bridge?

B: Do what you think is right. Ask yourself 'why' more often, if not every time. Bridge is not about taking tricks, its about taking points (then MPs or VPs).

M: It takes some time until all informations fall into their place. If you're not enjoying it something is wrong.

What is your best memory from Pula bridge festival?

B: All the time spent laughing with friends.

M: Too much of them to single one out but hanging with friends before and after tournaments.

Give us one interesting hand

B: It was in the goulash tournament against Baja and Refi. I picked up ♠AQxxxx ♥x ♦- ♣Kxxxxx in 1st position vul vs non vul. I opened 1♠, Baja bid 2♦, partner bid 2NT showing 4+ spades and invitational or better, and Refi bid some number of diamonds. After some bidding which I cant remember I bid 6♠, baja bid 7♦ and partner bid 7♠ which got doubled.

The whole hand is :

		NORTH	
		♠ Kxxxx	
N		♥ AJxxxx	
NS		♦ xx	
		♣	
EAST		WEST	
♠		♠ Jx	
♥ Kxxxx		♥ Q	
♦ KQxxx		♦ Axxxxx	
♣ Axx		♣ QJxx	
		SOUTH	
		♠ AQxxxx	
		♥ x	
		♦	
		♣ Kxxxxx	

LEAD: A♣

I ruffed out the ace of clubs and made easily, but do you see what is the optimal contract on the board? Yes, 7NT. As a sacrifice. It occasionally happens that NT is the top spot in goulash. It sometimes happens that something on the 7th level is a top spot. But I bet you will never see 7NT be a good sacrifice.



Mimi and Bibi representing Croatia

Introducing a World Champion: Sibrand van Oosten

By Herman De Wael

There are many world champions present here in Pula, several of them rather new, having won in Wroclaw last week. But here is one you may not yet know; Sibrand van Oosten.

Four weeks ago, the seventh Open Youth Transnational World Championship was played in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy. I was there as a Director.

During that tournament, no less than 14 World championships were contested (Teams and Pairs in U16, U21, U26, U26Women and U31, and two individuals – with two triathlons being calculated as a combination of the three separate competitions).

When the U26 pairs winners were announced, I remarked that at last the Dutch had a world champion from the other side of the bridge table: after Westra, Westerhof and Westerbeek, meet Sibrand van Oosten (yes, that does mean East). Sibrand won a gold, a silver and a bronze medal in Salsomaggiore.

While walking around during the final tournament, the individual, I noticed this, the antepenultimate board:

As it was far too late to make it into the final bulletin, we put it into the first Bulletin in Wroclaw, barely a week later. And it merits a repeat in Good Morning Pula:

		NORTH	
Bd.	18	♠	K4
E		♥	K109
NS		♦	Q1053
		♣	10753
		WEST	EAST
		♠	109
		♥	A3
		♦	AK9762
		♣	842
		SOUTH	
		♠	QJ875
		♥	J742
		♦	8
		♣	AQ6
LEAD: 8♦			

West	North	East	South
?	Van Oosten	Gabriel	Crone
-	-	1♣	1♠
2♦	pass	2NT	pass
3NT	dbl	all pass	

The main characters (I am sorry to see that the WBF website does not provide full play records – so I cannot find out who the fourth player was) were:

East and declarer: Richard Gabriel of Slovakia.

South and opening leader: Luca Crone of Ireland

West and main actor in this board: Sibrand Van Oosten of the Netherlands.



Sibrand van Oosten

Sibrand had won, earlier in the week, gold in the under-26 Open Pairs, and silver in the Open teams. This, together with his 25 th place in the Individual, would earn him the bronze medal in the Junior Triathlon. He would also, later that evening, be crowned as one of the Joan Gerrard Youth Award winners. Maybe he shall win something for his actions on this deal.

The whole hand:

Despite his light opening, Richard Gabriel felt he wanted to show his spade stopper, so he bid 2NT. East felt that her six-card suit might well provide the extra trick needed to make the game contract. Sibrand told me afterwards that he felt the contract would fail, and if doubling asked for a diamond lead, that would certainly not hurt. Luca Crone stated that he did interpret the double as asking the lead of dummy's suit, and he led the 8♦.

Declarer asked for a small diamond and Sibrand took his queen and immediately returned his king of hearts. Now, his 10 stopped the run of the diamonds, and dummy could no longer be reached to to enjoy the small diamonds.

A genuine Merrimac Coup, named after the ship that was deliberately sunk in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba during the Spanish-American war of 1898, trying to bottle up the Spanish fleet.

I met Sibrand a week later, in Wroclaw. From there, I drove straight here, and I arrived just in time to be able to play the opening tournament. Tihana was happy to see me, because she had 51 pairs and a single player looking for a partner. Guess who? Sibrand!

So we played together, and I must say that he is very mature for his young age (no wonder, he started when he was five!). In fact, I was the junior at the table, scoring the diamond seven in the last trick on the fourth board of the tournament.

One remarkable detail: In the second round, I noticed I had played as East in the first round; while, as de Wael, I always want to be West. And Sibrand of course favours playing Oost. We kept it up though, and finished 10 th . I don't play often in Pula, but I don't think I've ever scored 55% before. I think we shall hear a lot more of Sibrand van Oosten in years to come.

60th PULA BRIDGE FESTIVAL



FRI, SEPT 9TH	4 P.M.	WELCOME PAIRS: single session: 24-26 boards
SAT, SEPT 10TH	4 P.M.	IMP PAIRS: single session: 26-30 boards
SUN, SEPT 11TH	12 P.M.	MIXED & NON-MIXED TEAMS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
	4 P.M.	MIXED & NON-MIXED TEAMS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
MON, SEPT 12TH	12 P.M.	BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS: 4 rounds of 6 boards
	4 P.M.	BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS: 3 rounds of 6 boards
	10 P.M.	MADHATTER'S MIDNIGHT KARAOKE PARTY
TUE, SEPT 13TH	4 P.M.	LARA MIXED & NON-MIXED PAIRS
		single session: 26-30 boards
WED, SEPT 14TH	12 P.M.	OPEN TEAMS - QUALIFIER: 3 rounds of 8 boards
	4 P.M.	OPEN TEAMS - A & B GROUPS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
THU, SEPT 15TH	12 P.M.	OPEN TEAMS - A & B GROUPS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
	4 P.M.	OPEN TEAMS - MORE GROUPS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
FRI, SEPT 16TH	11 A.M.	OPEN TEAMS - FINALS GROUP A: 3 rounds of 8 boards
FRI, SEPT 16TH	4 P.M.	BRK OPEN PAIRS - 3 SESSIONS of 10 boards
SAT, SEPT 17TH	1 P.M.	BRK OPEN PAIRS - 3 SESSIONS of 10 boards
SAT, SEPT 17TH	9 P.M.	VICTORY CEREMONY
SAT, SEPT 17TH		PARTY
SEPT, 18TH -21ST	5 P.M.	DAILY ADDITIONAL PAIRS

NUMBER OF PLAYERS IS LIMITED
REGISTRATION ONLY ONLINE AT: pulabridgefestival.com



Taxi Goran +385 99 678 1913

Offers fixed price of transfers:

Airport - Histria: by car 250 Kn, by mini van 350 Kn

Histria - Pula center: car 100 Kn, by mini van 150 Kn

Horizont - Histria: by car 80 Kn, by mini van 120 Kn

- car is comfortable for four persons, mini van for eight
- 1 euro is cca 7.6 Kn



Restaurant Boschetto

Very nice, friendly place near the tennis courts, 500 meters from the venue. Decent food and reasonable prices. This restaurant will host us for Madhatter's Karaoke Party. They will stay open every day until there are guests (2 a.m.). So this is the place to go after the tournaments for dinner or drinks. Most of other places around close at 11 or 12. They accept only cash!

Restaurant Yacht Club

Only about 100 meters from the venue, down on the sea shore, one of Croatia best fish restaurants with breath-taking views. During the day you can also have a snack or just a cocktail and enjoy.

Reasonably priced for a restaurant of this level. For a bigger groups (especially in the evenings, booking is recommended.



Restaurant Kuglana

The closest restaurant to the venue, maybe 50 meters, between Histria and Park Plaza Verudela, right across the Histria Wing hotel. Lot of various dishes, from as simple as ham and eggs and pizza to Istrian and Croatian specialities. It is not expensive and you can get a decent dish for 100-150 Kn (15-20 euro). They usually do not take bookings as it is always crowded anyway. They also serve breakfast.

Ribarska koliba

This is a famous fish restaurant about 20 minutes walk from the venue, in marina. You can see Ribarska koliba from windows of the main playing. It is rather expensive and booking is usually required. Michelin Guide's Point Of View: This restaurant in the Ribarska Koliba Resort is situated near the Marina Veruda which can be admired through the large picture windows or from the restaurant's attractive terrace. Delicious Mediterranean cuisine takes pride of place on the menu, ranging from pasta-based starters to fish and seafood dishes made from the freshest ingredients, although a few meat-based specialities also feature.

Reminders:

- Please register on time;
- Find your position for every tournament - it will be published online - at the tournament webpage, one hour before the start of the tournament;
- Come to the venue 15 minutes before the start and find your table;
- All entries are paid at the table: Please prepare the exact amount of money or even better put the money for the whole team in one envelope.
- Switch off your mobile phone during the tournaments (you can turn it on between team matches);
- Respect the time (15 minutes per two boards in pairs tournaments, about 60 minutes for 8 boards in teams);
- Carefully check results in bridgemates;
- Once the session/match is over check the results (published online). Report any error immediately at pulabridge@gmail.com (you have one hour after the first results are published);
- Official results will be published approximately 12 hours after the tournament. If you won a prize you should collect it the next day at the venue, right after the end of that day's event;
- If you win a tournament, please either stay at the venue until we find you to take a photo, or take a photo yourself and send us.

Thank you,
The Crew

PULA BRIDGE FESTIVAL DECLARATION

Hereby I declare

While it may sound unconventional
That *Pula Bridge Festival*
Turns invitational.

Please accept my apologies
I am just too old for surprises.

To receive your invitation
Proceed with registration
You will get confirmation
Upon verification.

But, I sustain the right to send you home
If you are suffering from a cheating syndrome.

It's nothing personal
Just stay away.
Yes, we are all mad here
But mad in a good way

February, 2019

