

# World Bridge News



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## Uncertainty and Obligations

Sadly, I must reiterate that the state of the world today remains dreadful. The economy is tottering, exchange rates are unstable and terrorism is still rife.

For all that, should we give up and allow ourselves to be submerged by the prevailing pessimism? Or, on the contrary, should we react vigorously and show that we are prepared to fight to overcome the undeniable difficulties that we face?

For my part, I would like to believe that, even if World Bridge is suffering from this harmful climate, our proactive approach will bear fruit eventually, provided that everyone becomes aware of the need for solidarity.

More than ever, we must accept our differences but smooth them over as much as possible in order to attain our common objectives.

We will continue to fight to enable our National Bridge Organisations to gain admission to their National Olympic Committees. This is no dream, as nearly half of them have already succeeded, as have two-thirds of the Chess federations. The International Olympic Committee and its President, Jacques Rogge, favours this strategy. At the same time, the IOC continues to examine the feasibility and medal structure of the Intellympics (so called by our great friend Marc Hodler), a project comprising Bridge, Chess, Draughts and Go that the WBF and GAISF suggested to the IOC. These efforts will confirm that we are doing our part to make Bridge even more popular.

In order to do this, I cannot repeat often enough how

vital it is to teach bridge to children in school and to young people in college and university. In this way we will not only gain our future players for the generations to come but also we will immediately capture the attention of parents and public authorities. For these reasons it is of the utmost importance to participate in the next Olympiad in all categories – Open, Women and Seniors – as well as in the Universities Championships under the aegis of FISU (Fédération Internationale de Sports Universitaires).



We also need more exposure in the media. In this regard, good news came from our last World Championships in Monaco where, at last, it appears that the finals (and indeed the entire Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup) were widely followed on the Internet on the Bridge Base Online (BBO) and e-bridge sites in particular.

Today we are negotiating contracts that will link broadcasts on the Web to televised programs (on B-Sky-B in particular).

This is why the question of the understanding of Bridge is crucial and must overcome the controversy surrounding the use of highly unusual methods (HUM) and unfamiliar, largely obstructive (Brown Sticker) conventions, which can destroy Bridge and ruin all our efforts.

Thus, we do not consider that we are dogs chasing our tail. We do our bit – the other actors on the World Bridge stage should do theirs

*José Damiani*  
WBF President

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Monte Carlo, Monaco, November 2-15 2003

# The 2003 World Bridge Championships



Fabulous Monte Carlo, even in November, is still fabulous. The gorgeous vistas from every part of the tiny principality of Monaco are something special, and despite its reputation as a wildly expensive enclave for the rich, it was possible to live very well at reasonable cost during the two weeks of the World Bridge Championships. During the opening ceremony at the spectacular Hotel de Paris, José Damiani's remarks included a rare reference to the continuing expectation of fair play from everyone, a message inspired by the inadequate documentation and late filing of some Brown Sticker conventions. On a brighter note, the WBF President expressed his delight that all the players had made it to Monaco, some of them despite serious obstacles: "I think it is little short of a miracle that we are all here." Indeed. And there would be more miracles to come.

The Bermuda Bowl (22 teams) and Venice Cup (18 teams) would be run in parallel at the Sporting d'Hiver, where the Vugraph show would also be staged. In order to complete the round robins in six days, the Conditions of Contest stipulated 16-board matches, the shortest for many years. In the Seniors Bowl (15 teams), which was played in the Salle Bellevue at the Café de Paris, matches would be longer, 24 deals played in halves. The relatively gentle schedule permitted participants to enjoy the many fine restaurants in the area and take advantage of the generally pleasant weather.

Apart from pre-tournament favourites, Italy, USA I and Norway, there were more than a dozen teams in the Bermuda Bowl with legitimate hopes of reaching the quarterfinals, a condition that augured well for exciting play in the first stage of the event. In the Venice Cup the main contenders to qualify included China, Chinese Taipei, South Africa, and all eight teams from Zones 1 and 2, so

there figured to be several teams on the bubble on the sixth day of the round robin.

On the brink of Day Six the three Bermuda Bowl favourites and Poland were sitting pretty, but there were still eight teams in serious contention for four qualifying places, with 12<sup>th</sup>-place USA II only 8 VP behind 8<sup>th</sup>-place Canada. In the Venice Cup the top four - both American teams, China and Netherlands - were virtually even, well ahead of the pack. There were eight teams still in the hunt, with a 12-point gap between 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> place.

The picture became clearer in the Bermuda Bowl when Chinese Taipei, Bulgaria and Australia fared well in their last three matches to nail down qualifying places. Sweden, China and Indonesia faded badly to drop out of the hunt, so the real battle was for 8<sup>th</sup> place, between Canada and USA II. In Round 19, Canada crushed USA I 23-7 while USA II lost 14-16 to India, which left Canada with a 17-VP cushion

with two matches to play. The Canadian team, which included junior stars Gavin Wolpert and Vincent Demuy, had been in contention most of the way and had held their own against the upper echelon teams. The Americans, in contrast, had started brilliantly but then had fallen on hard times, including a day in which they had been blitzed by both Monaco and Canada and lost 10-20 to Bulgaria. The momentum favoured the Canadians although their draw for the last two matches was more daunting. In Round 20, Canada defeated Spain 19-11 but lost ground when USA II bested China 23-7. Canada's lead was still 13 VP, and even a modest loss to Poland would be enough to ensure qualification. Although Canada bowed 11-19 to Poland in Round 21, it would take an American blitz of New Zealand to affect the final rankings. That required a 42-IMP win over 16 deals, no small achievement, but the Americans pulled it off, winning 44-1 after a critical 9-IMP gain on the penultimate deal. With those 25 VP, USA II slipped past Canada to finish 8<sup>th</sup> by 1 VP. Who ordered a miracle?



**The final Bermuda Bowl Round Robin Rankings (21 matches)**

1	Italy	405
2	USA I	385.5
3	Poland	371.5
4	Norway	364
5	Chinese Taipei	356.5
6	Australia	351.5
7	Bulgaria	351
8	USA II	339
9	Canada	338
10	Indonesia	323.5
11	Egypt	318
12	China	309
13	Sweden	305
14	Monaco	296
15	Spain	288
16	New Zealand	282
17	Uruguay	278
18	Brazil	274
19	India	271
20	Pakistan	270
21	South Africa	232
22	Bermuda	161

The strong showing of the host nation was one of the positive surprises of the tournament, but at the other end of the scale were the unexpectedly poor performances of Sweden, Egypt, and India.

The last day of the Round Robin was less dramatic in the Venice Cup, the teams in 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> places holding off the challengers down the stretch. Indonesia, on the strength of a big final day, just missed qualifying, falling 2 VP short, with England, a pre-tournament favourite finishing a disappointing 10<sup>th</sup>, 2 VP further behind.

**The final Venice Cup Round Robin Rankings (17 matches)**

1	China	318
2	USA I	309
3	USA II	308
4	Netherlands	286
5	Germany	282
6	Chinese Taipei	273.5
7	Canada	267
8	Sweden	255
9	Indonesia	253
10	England	251
11	Italy	246
12	Brazil	242
13	Venezuela	228.5
14	India	225.5
15	South Africa	224
16	Australia	219
17	Egypt	188.5
18	Pakistan	175

**THE QUARTER FINALS**

**BERMUDA BOWL**

As the round robin leaders, Italy (Norberto Bocchi / Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria / Alfredo Versace / Fulvio Fantoni / Claudio Nunes, npc Maria Teresa Lavazza, coach Massimo Ortensi) earned the right to select its opponents from the teams finishing 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. Italy opted for Australia (Bobby Richman / Matthew Thomson, Ishmael del'Monte / Robert Fruewirth, Theo Antoff / Al Simpson, npc John Roberts) with a carry-over of 6.5 IMPs. Italy scored early and often and won by over 100 IMPs although Australia won two of the six sets by a combined 34 IMPs.

Italy	6.5	57	77	46	30	57	19	292.5
Australia	24	13	45	49	15	34	180	

USA I (Richard Freeman / Nick Nickell, Bob Hamman / Paul Soloway / Jeff Meckstroth / Eric Rodwell, npc Sidney Lazard, coach Eric Kokish) chose Chinese Taipei (Patrick Huang / CH Wu / WC Chiu / HL Yang / DM Yen / SR Wu, npc Sydney Chow) with a carryover of 16 IMPs. A huge second set broke open the match and the Americans coasted home after that.

USA I	16	33	92	46	50	42	44	323
Chinese Taipei	20	14	61	9	14	30	148	

Poland (Piotr Gawrys / Krzysztof Jassem / Bartosz Chmurski / Mariusz Puczynski, Marcin Krupowicz / Slawek Sawislak, npc Wojtek Siwiec) preferred to face USA II (Steve Landen / Pratap Rajadhyaksha / Dan Morse / Bobby Wolff / Doug Doub / Adam Wildavsky) rather than Bulgaria, with a small (4-IMP) carryover advantage. The wisdom of that decision had to be questioned after the first two sets, in which the Americans gained 59 IMPs. Although Poland stopped the bleeding in the third set, the rest of the match favoured USA II and the final margin was certainly convincing.

Poland	4	24	28	40	20	29	11	156
USA II	62	49	34	49	29	39	262	

That left 4<sup>th</sup>-place Norway (Geir Helgemo / Tor Helness / Boye Brogeland / Erik Saelensminde / Terje Aa /

Glenn Groetheim, npc Rolf Olsen, coach Per-Ove Grime) to face Bulgaria (Kalin Karaivanov / Roumen Trendafilov / Rosen Gunev / Jerry Stamatov / Vladimir Mihov / Ivan Nanev, npc Angel Vanchev, coach July Popov) with Norway starting 4.5 IMPs ahead. Norway won four of the six sets, two of them by wide margins, and won the match by 69.5 IMPs, the smallest margin in the four quarterfinal matches.

Norway	4.5	44	60	35	64	32	22	261.5
Bulgaria	36	17	48	35	12	44	192	

**VENICE CUP**

China (Hongli Wang / Wenfei Wang / Ling Gu / Yalan Zhang / Liping Wang / Yu Zhang, npc Xiaojing Wang), the round robin winners, selected 8<sup>th</sup> place Sweden (Pia Andersson / Jessica Larsson / Jenny Evelius-Nohren / Ylva Karlsson-Uisk / Catharina Forsberg / Maria Gronkvist, npc Anna Jarup, coach Bror Bjerner) and started with a 10-IMP carryover advantage. China built the lead to 66 IMPs after two sessions and salted the match away with a big fourth set, winning 266-187.

China	10	56	54	28	53	37	28	266
Sweden	31	23	38	17	53	25	187	

USA I (Betty Ann Kennedy / Kathie Wei-Sender / Jill Levin / Sue Picus / Janice Seamon-Molson / Tobi Sokolow, npc Kent Massie) had to choose from three dangerous teams and decided on Chinese Taipei (HY Chang / CS Ho / FW Gong / SF Hu / LC Liu / WC Tsai, pc CS Ho), in some measure due to a 16-IMP carry-over edge. Chinese Taipei wiped out its carryover deficit and built a 22-IMP lead after two sets before the Americans rallied. USA I took the lead in the fourth segment and added to it down the stretch to win by 66 IMPs in a match that felt much closer the final margin.

USA I	16	22	24	53	66.5	58	32	271.5
Chinese Taipei	40	44	40	30.5	26	25	205.5	

USA II (Cheri Bjerkan / Sue Weinstein / Renee Mancuso / Becky Rogers / Stasha Cohen / Pam Wittes, npc Sheri Winestock) opted to face Canada (Brenda Bryant / Dianna Gordon / Barbara Clinton / Joan Eaton/Francine Cimon/Beverly Kraft,



npc John Carruthers) with a 16-IMP carry-over. When Canada won the first segment 52-15, there was reason to second-guess that choice, but the Americans gained 76 IMPs in the next two segments to build a handsome lead at the half. Although Canada won two of the last three sets the final margin of 59 IMPs was a fair reflection of how the teams had performed.

USA II	16	15	61	57	24	38	23	234
Canada	52	28	14	27	25	29	175	

That left the Netherlands (Carla Arnolds / Wietske van Zwol / Marijke van der Pas / Bep Vriend / Jet Pasman / Anneke Simons, npc Ed Franken, coach Chris Niemeijer) to face arch-rival Germany (Sabine Auken / Daniela von Arnim / Andrea Reim / Pony Nehmert, Elke Weber / Ingrid Gromann, npc Cristoph Kemmer, coach Michael Yuen). The Netherlands enjoyed a 6-IMP carry-over, which must have provided some comfort as the match was close all the way. Although the biggest margin in any segment was only 24 IMPs (to Germany), the Netherlands lost only one other set (by a small margin) and won four, three by significant amounts, to prevail by 37 IMPs.

Netherlands	6	41	40	41	20	37	47	232
Germany	44	25	20	44	31	31	195	

## THE SEMI-FINALS

### BERMUDA BOWL

As both American teams had survived to the final four, the Conditions of Contest state that they must face one another. Italy had earned the right to select its semi-final opponent from any of the other three quarterfinal matches, but had to do so before play began in the knockout phase. Although Italy has long had its difficulties with Norway, the Italian choice was the winner of Norway vs Bulgaria. Even though the semi-final draw would be forced if both American teams won their matches, Italy had strategic reasons for its quarterfinal choice, believing that Bulgaria stood a chance of upsetting Norway while Poland might beat USA II and then give USA I a good run, if it came to that.

Norway started with a small 1.7-IMP carryover advantage, but a strong first set gave Italy a substantial lead. By the halfway mark, the Italian lead had reached the mid-sixties and it seemed that Italy was going to exorcise the demons remaining from the semi-final loss to Norway in the Paris Bermuda Bowl in 2001. But then Norway rallied to cut its deficit to just 14 IMPs with 16 boards to play. The deals were not lively, which suited both Italian pairs, who played their best bridge of the match in breaking the Norwegian momentum. The final margin was 35.3 IMPs.

Italy	41	38	49	36	28	31	223	
Norway	1.7	12	39	9	51	66	9	187.7

USA I started with a 13.5-IMP carry-over advantage and the match stayed close until the halfway mark. USA I broke the match open with a 67-5 fourth segment and won in comfort by 87.5 IMPs, holding USA II to less than an IMP and a half per board to reach the final against arch-rival Italy.

USA I	13.5	41	21	27	67	21	31	221.5
USA II	17	34	34	5	19	25	134	

sessions to nail down their place in the final. The final margin was 72.5 IMPs.

USA I	9.5	28	31	45	54	49	35	251.5
USA II	24	41	17	20	23	54	179	

## PLAYOFFS FOR THIRD PLACE

Although these anticlimactic matches are often half-hearted efforts by the disappointed semi-final losers, this year's Bronze Medal Playoffs were both spirited affairs that were effectively decided by one big session. Congratulations to USA II (Bermuda Bowl) and the Netherlands (Venice Cup) for their perseverance.

### BERMUDA BOWL

Norway	8	35	8	32	83
USA II	32	35	37	104	

### VENICE CUP

USA II	6	32	26	16	80
Netherlands	34	32	55	121	

### VENICE CUP

The same scenario developed in the Venice Cup as both American teams survived the quarterfinals. That left a forced draw featuring China vs the Netherlands, with the Dutch enjoying a slim 1-IMP advantage. China won the first five segments, two of them by wide margins and won convincingly by 77 IMPs to reach the final.

China	32	53	44	74	54	22	279	
Netherlands	1	30	19	32	27	52	41	202

The All-American match went the way of the US Women's International Team Trials. USA I started with a 9.5-IMP carryover lead that was reduced to 3.5 IMPs after two segments, but USA I gained 88 IMPs over the next three



USA II, Bermuda Bowl Bronze Medalists



Netherlands, Venice Cup Bronze Medalists

## THE FINALS

### BERMUDA BOWL (128 BOARDS)

The top two finishers in the round robin would meet in the final, something that does not happen every year. When the two teams faced one another in the last match of the round robin both had clinched their places in the quarterfinals and the Italians had locked up first place. Perhaps Italy was looking ahead to its first knockout match and perhaps the Americans were more conscious of the significance of their head-on match, but in any case USA I won by 39 IMPs and as a result would carry forward one-third of that margin into the final. Although there was a separate wagering line on whether the carryover would decide the match, the players themselves appreciated that 13 IMPs was not an insignificant number in a long match between the two best teams in the event. Much later, the Italian press would denigrate the carryover concept, but the timing for those remarks was rather unfortunate.

Italy stormed ahead in the second set and led by 32 after three segments. USA I turned the match around in Set Four and extended its lead to over 60 IMPs midway through the penultimate set, but then Italy rallied and after a remarkable run reclaimed the lead in Segment Eight and built it to 21 IMPs with just two deals to play.

Board 127  
Dealer South  
N/S Vul.

♠ 7 6 5  
♥ 7  
♦ A 9 6 5 2  
♣ 8 6 3 2

♠ Q 8 4 3 2  
♥ -  
♦ K Q 10 3  
♣ A Q 10 4

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Lauria	Soloway	Versace
1♠	Pass	3♦ (1)	Pass
3NT (2)	Pass	4♥	All Pass

(1) Strong jump shift in hearts  
(2) No heart fit, negative opinion about slam

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rodwell	Bocchi	Meckstroth
1♠	Pass	2♦ (1)	Pass
2♥ (2)	Pass	2♠ (3)	Pass
3♣ (4)	Pass	3♦ (3)	Pass
3NT (5)	Pass	5♥ (6)	All Pass

(1) 5+♥, game force unless responder's rebid is 3♥  
(2) 4+♠  
(3) Artificial game force, relay  
(4) Specifically five spades and four clubs  
(5) 5=1=3=4 or 5=0=4=4  
(6) Too strong to settle for 4♥

Even 4♥ was not laydown, but there was no realistic losing line and Paul Soloway came to 10 tricks on a diamond lead and spade switch by winning the ace, cashing ace-king of trumps, and reverting to diamonds to discard the ♠J as South ruffed: +420.

Despite the warning signs, Norberto Bocchi could not bring himself to sign off at 4♥ with a hand worth nearly nine tricks. As the "shape" information was not crucial, Bocchi might have done better to describe a strong hand with hearts and initiate a more co-operative auction. Against 5♥, Eric Rodwell led ♦A, diamond to dummy's jack. Giorgio Duboin played three rounds of trumps. Jeff Meckstroth won and had to play a club now to give Duboin a problem, and he did the right thing, switching to the ♣5. The only winning play for Duboin on the lie of the cards was to finesse the ♣Q, but he had two other options in the spade finesse or a third diamond. He elected to win the ♣A, then took the spade finesse for the contract, but lost to Meckstroth's king for one down, -50. Although it was unlucky to fail in 5♥, the odds favoured stopping at the four level once it appeared that slam would be marginal at best. 10 IMPs to USA I, reducing the margin to 11 IMPs, Italy leading 303-292.

After all the long runs, significant leads and dramatic changes of fortune, some brilliant moments and more of the other kind, the 2003 Bermuda Bowl had come down to the last deal, with the match still in doubt. Although 11-IMP swings don't grow on trees, this had been a match in which both teams had recorded unlikely significant gains from thin air, so the American supporters could dare to be hopeful.

Board 128  
Dealer West  
E/W Vul.

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

♠ J 10  
♥ 5 4 2  
♦ A 7  
♣ K 10 7 6 4 2

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

♠ K Q 9 8 7  
♥ 7  
♦ J 3  
♣ Q J 9 8 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Lauria	Soloway	Versace
Pass	1♦	2♦ (1)	Dble (2)
2♥	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♥	5♦	Dble	All Pass

(1) Hearts and spades  
(2) Cards

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rodwell	Bocchi	Meckstroth
Pass	1♦ (1)	2♦ (2)	Pass
2♥	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

(1) Precision, 2+♦  
(2) Hearts and spades

The Closed Room result was a poor one for Italy. Duboin did not think he could be hurt by competing to the three level, but Bocchi refused to hang a trick short of a vulnerable game on the last deal of the World Championship although his decision meant that his partnership could not stop in 3♥ after stopping in 2♥. Bocchi was lucky that Meckstroth didn't double on the strength of his black-suit holdings and the sound of the auction.

Rodwell led the ♦Q, knocking out Duboin's ace while the clubs were blocked. Duboin led a trump to the king, cashed the ♣A, and led a low spade from dummy. Meckstroth won the queen and led over to the ♦K. Rodwell returned the ♥9 and Duboin won with the queen, got the disappointing news, and tried to cash the ♠A. Rodwell ruffed with the jack, cashed the trump ace, and exited with a diamond. Duboin could take only dummy's remaining trumps and



Italy, Bermuda Bowl Silver Medalists

lost all of those small spades to Meckstroth for four down, -400.

Now the Americans needed +100 from Hamman / Soloway to tie, +200 or more to win. But how could they achieve any plus score with the E/W cards? Lauria / Versace, not vulnerable, were unlikely to get higher than 3♦, and if E/W competed to 3♥, the terrible breaks would be impossible to overcome.

Sure enough, Lauria / Versace came to rest at 3♦, which no one could double, and which only two early rounds of trumps would beat (East will get endplayed to allow declarer a second heart trick for just one down). So the Americans could not win and were unlikely to tie by passing out 3♦. **Bob Hamman**, like Duboin, protected with 3♥, which is what he needed to do to give his team a chance to survive.

Now all **Lorenzo Lauria** had to do to ensure that Italy would win its first Bermuda Bowl in 28 years was pass. But he had bigger things in mind. As he knew **Alfredo Versace** would be short in hearts, he thought his chances were excellent to buy a dummy with three trumps and a black ace, and he might well have something else of value. Backing his judgement and perhaps sensing that Italy needed one more big result to win the match, Lauria shocked the world (there were more than 5000 watching live webcasts on Bridge Base Online and e-bridge) by jumping to 5♦. Remarkably, Lauria's delayed decision to bid game when his side had stopped in a partial duplicated Bocchi's undisciplined action in the Closed Room.

Soloway doubled 5♦ and led the ace of clubs. Hamman followed with

the seven, hoping Soloway would read this as a neutral card and stay away from a costly switch to either major. Two rounds of trumps now would have led to -300 or -500 and an American victory, but while Soloway was deciding what to do, Versace stood up and left the room, leaving Lauria

to play both his own cards and dummy's. Soloway switched to the ♥Q, seven, deuce (attitude). Lauria won the ace and returned the ♥J, ruffing Soloway's king in dummy as part of a plan to bring down the tripleton ten in Hamman's hand with another ruff. He ruffed a club with the ♦8 and ruffed the ♥3 with the ♦J, Hamman following up the line on the two heart ruffs in dummy. At this point Lauria was "sure" to go two down and the Italian supporters had been reduced to a near-catatonic state of disbelief. Lauria reached over to dummy and extracted the king of spades, jack, deuce, ace.

Everyone "knew" that Soloway would cash the ♥10 now and that the ace of trumps would provide the second undertrick for -300... but Soloway had not made the apparently obvious play yet. If Hamman's carding in hearts were to be believed, Lauria was out of those. On that basis it couldn't hurt to play a spade as Hamman might be ruffing it, and if he couldn't, then declarer would be 1=3=8=1. But would declarer have

bid this way with the same high cards and 2=3=7=1? And would Hamman have bid this way and played the ♣7 at Trick One with 1=4=2=6? That didn't add up, but Soloway was tired and perhaps put off by Lauria reaching across the table to play dummy's cards, and so he went with Hamman's carding in hearts and played... a spade. Lauria would be able to discard his heart loser on the ♠Q and get out for -100. The match would be tied and the teams would have to play another eight boards!

But that is not what happened. Lauria, either because he was expecting Soloway to be cashing the ♥10 or because he simply didn't see what Soloway had played, reached out and detached the seven of spades as his discard from dummy. We know this to be true because we saw it on the Bridge Vision screen and because Babette Piganeau, the card caller in the Open Room, named that card on the microphone for everyone to hear. Hamman, followed suit and then Lauria saw what had happened. He tried to replace the ♠7 with the king, but the Tournament Director, after satisfying herself that the facts were not at issue, ruled that the ♠7 was a played card, as declarer had detached it with the intent of playing it. It was an unfortunate mental error, but the ruling was a clear decision on a point of law. Lauria had to lose the ♥3 after all and was down 300.

USA I, 28 IMPs ahead to start the final session, gained 12 IMPs on the final deal and came from 21 IMPs behind with two boards to play to win the



USA I, Bermuda Bowl Gold Medalists

## VENICE CUP (96 BOARDS)

The form chart held in the Venice Cup also, with the top two teams in the round robin reaching the final. As Kathie Wei-Sender had been instrumental over the years in training Chinese teams this match would have an interesting secondary



China, Venice Cup Silver Medalists

Bermuda Bowl by a single IMP, 304-303. Italy had won the final segment by 27 IMPs, 60-33, to fall cruelly short after a gallant comeback effort of their own. Although Italy appealed, the Appeals Committee upheld the Director's ruling that the table result would stand. That made it official: another Monte Carlo miracle had been added to the record book.

Seemingly headed for victory, Italy saw the match slip away at the eleventh hour under the most bizarre circumstances. Italy has won everything worth winning in recent years, but not the Bermuda Bowl, which has eluded its grasp since 1975. Although 1983 (Stockholm) had been a heartbreaker for Italy there will never be a more disappointing defeat for Italy than this one.

Italy	43	45	23	31	31	34	38	60	303
USA I	13	32	14	20	77	40	46	29	304

story line. And for Betty Ann Kennedy, who had won the first Venice Cup 30 years earlier, there was a special incentive to win this one. For both these American players this would be their last Venice Cup as they had resolved to retire regardless of the outcome.

The teams proved evenly matched, each winning three of the six sets by similar margins. USA I won the 96-board final by 14 IMPs and their carryover increased their margin of victory to 19.3

China	45	38	17	48	21	41	210	
USA I	5.3	33	41	44	21	49	36	229.3

Both teams played well below their standard in the final, committing a variety of errors that they would not have made earlier in the tournament, again due to the twin demons of fatigue and stress. There were some very good moments, too, of course, for both teams, and the match, never one-sided at any point, made for good drama, especially with the outcome in doubt in the late stages.

Board 86  
Dealer East  
E/W Vul.

♠ A J 2  
♥ 10 6  
♦ A Q J 3 2  
♣ Q 10 3

♠ 10 7 6 4  
♥ K J 2  
♦ 10 6  
♣ K 9 6 5

♠ -  
♥ 8 3  
♦ K 8 7 5 4  
♣ A J 8 7 4 2

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

N  
W E  
S

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Levin	Hongli	Picus	Wenfei
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣ (1)	Pass	6♠
All Pass			
(1) Fast Arrival			

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Liping	Molson	Zhang	Sokolow
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	5♣ (1)
Pass	5♠ (2)	Pass	6♥ (3)
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

(1) Exclusion RKCB for spades  
(2) Two key cards, no ♠Q  
(3) Intended as asking for second-round heart control  
(4) Interpreted as asking for third-round control

The featured match on Vugraph was the final session of the Venice Cup and the Chinese supporters took heart when the Closed Room result appeared: Sokolow / Molson had reached 7♠ based on a disagreement about the meaning of South's 6♥ grand slam try. **Janice Molson** believed that **Tobi Sokolow** would have tried 5NT instead to look for a specific *king* and so treated 6♥ as an inquiry about *third-round* heart control. Indeed, using 6♥ to inquire about *second-round* heart control would not suit the South hand very well because South really needs the *king of hearts* and not a singleton, as there might well be too much ruffing to do. In this case both second-round controls would not be equally useful. **Liping Wang** led a trump and Sokolow won with the jack to take the losing heart finesse. Now she could ruff the third round of hearts cheaply to get out for one down, -50.



USA I, Venice Cup Gold Medalists





Italy, winner of the World Transnational Open teams

In the Semi-finals (also 32 boards) Jansma drew Lavazza and lost a close match, 45-55, while Zhuang convincingly eliminated Brachman 91-40.

The last deal of the Jansma/Lavazza match could have altered the outcome...

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
De Wijs	D'Avossa	Muller	Ferraro
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♥
Pass	3♥	3♠	4♦
4♠	All Pass		

Lavazza led 46-45 with just this deal to play. **Guido Ferraro**, after involving his partner with a delicate 4♦, was content to sell out to 4♠, which went one down on the lead of the ♣6: -100. The only thing he might have done better would have been to double to back his judgement, but it's easy to see why he didn't do that.

Jansma, Netherlands (Jan Jansma / Louk Verhees / Bauke Muller / Simon de Wijs) defeated Gamrath, Denmark (J. Gamrath / H. Ron / P. and U. Zeeberg) 99-71.

Brachman, USA (Malcolm Brachman / Mike Passell / Eddy Wold / Eric Greco / Geoff Hampson) decimated De Botton, England (Janet de Botton / Nick Sandkvist / Jason and Justin Hackett / David Burn / John Holland) 111-18.

Zhuang, China (Zejung Zhuang / Haojun Shi / Zhong Fu / Jack Zhao / Weimin Wang / Fei Gao) edged Milner, USA (Reese Milner / Marc Jacobus / Sam Lev / Bobby Levin / Zia Mahmood) 49-37.

Lavazza, Italy (Guido Ferraro / Mario d'Avossa / Leandro Burgay / Carlo Mariani / Andrea Buratti / Massimo Lanzarotti) came back from 27 down to defeat Lasut, Indonesia (Henky Lasut / Eddy Manoppo / Franky Karwur / Santje Panelewen / Stefanus Suhendro / Santoso Sie) 68-56.

Dealer West E/W Vul.		♠ 9 8 7	
		♥ A K 9 2	
		♦ 4	
		♣ K Q J 9 2	
♠ J 4 3		♠ A K Q 10 2	
♥ 10		♥ J 5 3	
♦ J 9 8 6 2		♦ A 7	
♣ 10 5 4 3		♣ A 8 7	
		♠ 6 5	
		♥ Q 8 7 6 4	
		♦ K Q 10 5 3	
		♣ 6	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lanzarotti	Verhees	Buratti	Jansma
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♥
Pass	3♥	3♠	4♦
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

At the other table, in exactly the same situation, **Jan Jansma** had the opportunity to win the match by doubling 4♠ or by passing and leading a trump, but Jansma went on to 5♥, a decision that would have been the winner had either 4♠ or 5♥ been making. 5♥ doubled went two down for -300. Lavazza gained 9 IMPs and moved on to the 48-board final against the Chinese Bermuda Bowl team.

Lavazza's troops won the first set 45-29 and effectively ended the match in the second segment by shutting out Zhuang while scoring 56 IMPs themselves to take a 72-IMP lead. Zhuang got a few IMPs back in the final stanza but Lavazza won the Fourth Transnational Open Teams Championship in style, 122-53. ■

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Saint-Cloud (Paris), France, August 19-28 2003

# The 2003 World Youth Championships



It's been really amazing in the past 15 years or so to be one of the best young bridge players in a country willing to support a youth program. Apart from the encouragement and assistance provided by National Bridge Organisations, there is the possibility of qualifying to compete in the World Youth (Teams) Championships, which have provided participants with the opportunity to see the world and visit some exotic venues (Bali and Mangaritiba come to mind). For the 2003 edition, the kids had to settle for the City of Light, with the sponsorship of the Société Générale. The Championships were held at the French Bridge Federation Headquarters on the banks of the Seine in St-Cloud, while the players were accommodated a bit closer to the centre of Paris, giving them easier access to the delights of the great city.



José Damiani and Hugues Le Bret, Director of Communication Société Générale

Thierry Dehesdin, Société Générale



Six of the eight WBF Zones were represented in the 16-team field, with Europe (five teams), North America and Pacific Asia (three teams each) being in the best position to take full advantage of their allotted quotas. Whether financial restrictions or limited numbers of young players prevented the Asia / Middle East and Central America / Caribbean zones from participating, is an issue that ought to be addressed long before the 2005 Championships. As both those zones send teams to the Olympiad, the Bermuda Bowl, the Venice Cup and the World Bridge Championships, it's in their best interests and that of the World Bridge Community to encourage and develop a new crop of young players who will be the international players of the future.

The first stage of play was a complete round robin of 20-board matches to qualify four teams for the 64-board semi-finals, leading into the 96-board final. Although there was quite a gap between the less experienced teams and (this year) those from the more populous zones, there were enough upsets and lapses from the contenders to make the round robin a competitive affair, with the qualifiers in doubt until very near the end. The French supporters (most of the parents of

the team members are established players themselves) were disappointed to see their favourite sons fall just short. The final round robin rankings:

1	Denmark	299
2	USA 2	290.5
3	Italy	286
4	Poland	275
5	France	269
6	Norway	264
7	England	241
8	Canada	235
9	China Hong Kong	220
10	Thailand	199
11	Egypt	194
12	Chinese Taipei	187
13	USA 1	164.5
14	Australia	159
15	Chile	142.5
16	Uruguay	99.5

Denmark (Kare Gjaldbaek / Martin Schaltz / Boje Henriksen / Andreas Marquardsen / Bjorg and Jonas Houmoller, npc Jacob Ron, coach Lars Walter Petersen) earned the right to select its semi-final opponent and chose fourth-place Poland (Krzysztof Buras / Piotr Lutostanski / Jacek Kalita / Jan Sikora / Jakub and Krzysztof Kotorowicz, npc Wlodzimierz Krzysztofczyk, coach Leszek Nowak), enjoying a 16-IMP carry-over advantage. Poland cut its deficit to just 7 IMPs at the half but trailed by

27 with 16 deals to play. Denmark hung on to win by 28 IMPs.

Denmark	16	53	26	51	48	194
Poland	30	58	31	47	166	

The defending champions, USA 2 (Joe Grue / John Kranyak / Kent Mignocchi / Kevin Bathurst / John Hurd / Joel Wooldridge, npc Bob Rosen, coach Andy O'Grady) vs Italy (Furio and Stelio Di Bello / Fabio Lo Presti / Francesco Mazzadi / Stefano Uccello / Ruggiero Guariglia, npc Gianpaolo Rinaldi, coach Andrea Pagani), with members of the winning 1999 team in its ranks, figured to be a battle royal, and so it was. The Americans started with a small carryover, but by the halfway mark they found themselves trailing by 91.5 IMPs. With just 32 deals remaining, it was difficult to imagine USA 2 moving on to the final and, although the Americans had a strong third quarter, they were still 60.5 behind with 16 to play. What ensued defied credulity. The American rally continued virtually unabated, but with two deals left and the once-impregnable Italian lead down to 16.5 IMPs, it was still heavily odds-against that the trailing team could pull out the match. This was the penultimate deal:

Dealer South  
N/S Vul.

♠ 9 5 3  
♥ 4  
♦ Q 8 6 4  
♣ 9 7 6 4 3

♠ A Q 4  
♥ Q J 7  
♦ K J 10 2  
♣ Q J 10

♠ 8  
♥ A K 10 8 3 2  
♦ A 7 5 3  
♣ A K

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

for a moment and passed his brother's three-level transfer: +170. the swing was 16 IMPs to USA 2, who trailed now by just half an IMP.

Remarkably, the final deal was also a grand slam for the same two pairs, one that was by no means easy to bid with their opponents jamming the auction.

Given what had happened to them on the previous deal, the di Bello brothers showed remarkable poise in doing what needed to be done to save the match for Italy. With this deal flat at E/W +2210, Italy hung on to win the match by the tiniest of margins. Whether they would be able to slow down their heart rates in time to contest the final was another matter.

USA 2	4.5	20	26	64	82	196.5
Italy		54	88	33	52	197

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Bathurst	Lo Presti	Mignocchi	Mazzadi
2NT	Pass	4♦ (1)	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT (2)	Pass
5♣ (3)	Pass	5♦ (4)	Pass
6♦ (5)	Pass	7♥	All Pass

(1) Hearts  
(2) RKCB for hearts  
(3) One key card (or four)  
(4) Ask for the ♥Q  
(5) ♥Q and the ♥K

---

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Furio	Hurd	Stelio	Wooldridge
2NT	Pass	3♦ (2)	All Pass

(1) Multi  
(2) Hearts

Dealer West  
E/W Vul.

♠ 5  
♥ 7 3 2  
♦ A J 9 6 2  
♣ K 9 6 5

♠ Q 10 8 7 4 2  
♥ A Q 9 8 6  
♦ -  
♣ A 4

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

♠ J  
♥ J 5  
♦ K Q 10 8 7 3  
♣ Q 8 7 3

Whatever the Italian brains trust cooked up overnight for its charges seemed to work well, for Italy came to the table(s) prepared to play and defeated Denmark convincingly to win the 9th World Youth Team title by nearly 90 IMPs.

Italy	3.7	57	30	53	35	59	34	271.7
Denmark		28	16	33	52	15	40	184

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Bathurst	Lo Presti	Mignocchi	Mazzadi
1♠	Pass	2NT (1)	3♦
5♦ (2)	6♦	6♥ (3)	Pass
7♠	All Pass		

(1) Forcing spade raise  
(2) Exclusion RKCB  
(3) Two key cards outside diamonds

---

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Furio	Hurd	Stelio	Wooldridge
1♠	Pass	2♥ (1)	4♦
Pass (2)	5♦	5♠	Pass
5NT (3)	Pass	7♠ (4)	All Pass

(1) Relay, or natural  
(2) Forcing  
(3) Grand Slam Force in spades  
(4) Two of the top three honours

Meanwhile, USA 2 recovered from its heartbreaking defeat to best Poland 203-176 in the Bronze Medal Playoff.

## THE TWO-DAY SWISS PAIRS

Eighteen pairs, several of them transnational entries, participated in the two-day Swiss Pairs. The winners were Rashane Chongteerachote / Patnarin Kitchakarn of Thailand, with Gareth Birdsall (England) / Michael Wilkinson (Australia) second and Kwok-Fai Mak / Fei-yeung Ng of China Hong Kong third. ■

Although Kent Mignocchi could not count 13 tricks, there were many different cards in West's hand that would make seven either cold or playable: +1510. Whether or not the di Bello brothers would have reached seven became moot when Furio lost his concentration



Italy wins the 9th World Youth Team Championships



Tata, Hungary, July 2003

# The 2003 World Junior Pairs



The Junior Winners

The venue for the fifth World Junior Pairs (in July, 2003) was Tata in Hungary, situated 65 kilometers outside Budapest. The location was an Olympic Sports camp – excellent facilities and very comfortable surroundings. The organizers had endeavored to ensure that everyone who wanted to play could afford to do so by holding the championship in a relatively inexpensive venue in a country that was easily accessible from most of Europe, and as a result there were nearly 200 pairs from 27 countries and three WBF zones participating. Scoring was by Barometer, so everyone played the same deals at the same time, and the updated results were available after every four deals.

The World Junior Pairs Championship is the natural supplement to the World Youth Teams competition for the Ortiz-Patiño Trophy, and a necessary part of the WBF program for the development of bridge among young people worldwide. It is designed to be a massive event in order to promote as much friendly contact between Juniors as possible. This is accomplished by not limiting the number of entries from any country, allowing the participation of transnational pairs, and by not splitting the competition into diverting stages.

A lot of action took place in Tata. This deal, featuring Daniel Ortmann-Nielsen, produced an interesting ending against the Turkish pair, Anter / Ozbek, who were at that point in the top 10.

West	North	East	South
O-N	Anter	Gjaeldbaek	Ozbek
2NT	Pass	3♦ (1)	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass
(1) Hearts			

Daniel, West, won the club lead in hand and unblocked the hearts, then ducked a diamond to South. Now was the right time to play back a club but, reasonably enough, Ozbek tried a second top diamond. When Nielsen found the bad news there, he led the ♠10 out of his hand. It was critical for the defense to break declarer's communications, but Ozbek won his ♠K and played a third diamond. Declarer won in hand and crossed to the ♣K to cash out the hearts. This was the ending:

On the last heart South had to discard a spade to keep diamonds guarded. Daniel could throw his diamond away now, and squeeze North in the black suits. +460 was a superb result.

When the event was completed, the provisional scores showed that the Israeli pair Azizi/Yener (who had led by two tops with eight deals to play) had been caught at the wire by Jérôme and Guillaume Grenthe of France. However, the numbers were so close that the scores were re-checked, and a scoring error reversed the result. In third place were Bas and Bob Drijver of the Netherlands, the latter a 16-year old playing his first serious international tournament, while in fourth place, less than one top out from the Gold Medal, were Americans John Kranyak and Joe Grue.

Deal 15  
S/N-S

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

N
E  
W
S

♠ K 7 3	♠ 7 3
♥ 10 9 7	♥ -
♦ Q J 8 7 2	♦ 8
♣ Q J	♣ -

♠ A 2	♠ Q J	♠ 9
♥ -	♥ -	♥ 2
♦ 4	♦ -	♦ -
♣ -	♣ 10-	♣ 8

N
E  
W
S

About one quarter of the field consisted of players up to 20 years old who constitute the 'Schools' category of young bridge players. The first Schools (up to 20 years) pair of the competition was Jacco Hop and Vincent de Pagter of the Netherlands who ended up in a very creditable fifth place in the overall classification of the championship. They were followed by a transnational combination, 11-year old Shivam Shah of England and 17-year old Argentinian Agustin Madala (21st overall), while the third place went to another French pair, Jean-François Grias and Romain Tembouret (37th overall).



Vargesztes, Hungary, July 2003

# The 5<sup>th</sup> World Junior Camp

The World Junior Pairs was a four-session event, finishing on Sunday evening, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003. The next morning, 154 juniors from 21 countries of the 400 or so juniors who had competed in that event moved down the road from Tata to the villa-park of Vargesztes, which was beautifully situated, with temperatures constantly in the 20's, a cool breeze and no humidity. The park was made up of a series of communal living spaces, each large enough for four or more juniors. There were separate bedrooms and communal showers, with a kitchen if you preferred to fend for yourself, but a large camp dining room if you wanted to take meals with your colleagues. There was a range of sports available to everyone throughout the week, with an informal competitive event every morning, Bridge lectures in the early afternoon, and tournaments in the afternoon, evening, and very late for the hooked generation.



Why do we run Camps? The aim is very simple - it is basically to bring together young people with a common interest in the game of Bridge and then to teach them more about the game and about each other. The Camps are aimed at helping the younger generations of bridge players to make new friends and to develop and strengthen the ties already established between older friends, under the umbrella of their common interest.

The Camps do not exist for expert players, such as those competing in

the championships. Rather, they are for young players with enthusiasm for the game, who wish to learn more and improve their standard. Naturally, such players would not normally have the chance to participate internationally, and these Camps provide an ideal opportunity for these youngsters to travel to other countries and meet young players from all over the world.

Obviously there is a great deal of bridge played in these Junior Camps - after all, that is their *raison d'être* - but winning is not the first consideration. All Junior Camps have the rule that no player may partner another person of his or her own nationality, and thus a wonderful mixture of language, bidding systems and - as a result, friendship - is created.



WBF Youth Awards Winners

Ethics, sportsmanship, consideration for others, interna-

tional spirit - these are just some of the qualities encouraged and appreciated during a Camp. This year, the WBF Youth Awards for the campers who contributed the most to the camp went to **Kare Gjaeldbaek** of Denmark, **Ben Green**, England, **Philippos Karamanlis** of Greece, and **Joel Wooldridge** of the USA.

So what are the possibilities for future camps? Well the most attractive prospect ever, in the world of junior camps, will be coming up in 2004. The ACBL is organising the Summer North American Bridge Championships in New York City. At the tail end of the NABC there will be the first ever World Junior Individual, on 14-16 July. Then, following the NABC, ACBL will be organising its first-ever World Junior Camp (previously these camps were not under the auspices of the WBF) in Nyack, about a half-hour north of the city. The whole experience promises to be a memorable one; we encourage you all to persuade any junior you know to try the experience. ■

1	AZIZI Adi / YENER Yuval	ISR - ISR	60.44 %
2	GRENTHE Guillaume / GRENTHE Jerome	FRA - FRA	60.36 %
3	DRIJVER Bas / DRIJVER Bob	NED - NED	59.94 %
4	GRUE Joe / KRANYAK John	USA - USA	59.68 %
5	HOP Jacco / PAGTER Vincent de	NED - NED	59.48 %
6	KOTOROWICZ Krzysztof / KOTOROWICZ Jakub	POL - POL	59.42 %
7	BREDE Lukasz / KAPALA Szymon	POL - POL	59.32 %
8	ARASZKIEWICZ Konrad / WITTENBECK Pawel	POL - POL	59.17 %
9	JOHANSSON Patrik / MORIN Henrik	SWE - SWE	58.98 %
10	DONN Joshua / WALDRON Scott	USA - USA	58.91 %



The Schools Classification Winners



# New York event

**Juniors, get ready, for the 1<sup>st</sup> World Junior Individual & the 6<sup>th</sup> World Junior Camp**  
**The Individual will be held in New York, July 14-16, and will be followed by**  
**the 6<sup>th</sup> World Junior Camp, also in the New York area, July 17-24.**

The flagship competition of the WBF youth program is the World Youth Teams Championship for the *Ortiz-Patiño Trophy*, a top-level event reserved for the most talented Junior players. In addition, every other year the *World Junior Pairs Championship* and *World Junior Camp*, are held in Europe. These are events for all young players, whether bridge is their first hobby or just one among many others.

Now, the time has come to balance this program with another event, also calling for the participation of all Junior players. The **World Junior Individual Championship** will be launched this summer in New York City, USA. It will be followed by the first **World Junior Camp** ever to be held in North America.

## THE NEW EVENTS

The *World Junior Individual Championship* will be played with a common simple system of bidding and card play that everybody can understand. Such a championship requires competitors to be able to team up with players who may have a completely different level or cultural background. Dominated by the social element, the competition, therefore, supports qualities that are most valuable in life itself. The *Junior Camp* is probably the most advanced event the WBF provides to our youngsters, cultivating long-lasting friendly relationships under the umbrella of our sport.

In cooperation with the *American Contract Bridge League*, the WBF

Youth Committee has planned these events to be technically excellent while keeping the cost for the participants at a particularly low level.

The *World Junior Individual Championship* will be played with the barometer system which allows competitors to know their exact score as the tournament progresses. Thus, Bridge is no longer singled out as, possibly, the only sport where participants do not know - but can only speculate - how they are performing. The championship will be hosted at the *New York Hilton*, in the middle of Manhattan, which is the site of the *North American Bridge Championships* this summer. Accommodation will be provided in suitable smaller hotels and hostels nearby, at a cost that will not exceed \$70 per person per night, full-board (i.e. with breakfast, lunch and dinner included). The entry fee is \$100 per person for the entire four-session tournament, and includes the Victory Dinner and Prize Giving, which will be an exclusive occasion - a real showcase for bridge. The greatest names of bridge administration from the WBF President and President Emeritus to Zonal Presidents and International Executives will be in New York to honour the young players, and so undoubtedly will, many of the world's greatest players. A great effort is being made to have public dignitaries, the press and other media also attending.

Details on the Junior events are available through the WBF website at [www.worldbridge.org](http://www.worldbridge.org)

Once the championship is over, Juniors will be offered transportation to Nyack, a picturesque village on the shore of the Hudson river, some 37 km north of Manhattan, where the

*World Junior Camp* will take place in the premises of the local College. For one week, our youngsters will be able to learn and practice both bridge and their friendly relationships with people from many different backgrounds - religious, financial, cultural, political, etc. Qualified teachers will be delivering lectures daily, and bridge tournaments of all kinds will be available for training and international competition. The program also includes physical sports and recreation, and, of course, a lot of fun. Over the past 30 years, Camps have played an important role in Junior bridge, providing a unique alternative to thousands of players; the rule seems to be that whoever comes to a Camp once, comes back again and again, as often as possible! The cost of the Camp is \$425 per person for the entire eight-night stay, including full-board accommodation.

The WBF Youth Committee is inviting all Zones and NBOs to do whatever is possible to help Juniors to attend these events. They advised:

“First, give to the events the best *publicity* possible, through the local media available to them. Then, offer *administrative* support with travel arrangements, entries, visas (if required), etc. Finally, a *financial* subsidy is very important for many Juniors who are not yet self-supporting. Even if the Bridge organisation is unable to offer such subsidy, it is possible that a fund-raiser could be organized or a sponsor found.

We need to do our utmost to help the Juniors – those we already have in our bridge family as well as those who will join us, influenced by events like the ones introduced this year.

We all know how important Junior bridge is for the future of our sport. Let us support our belief with our actions. Let us do something, now! Our young members will be grateful. Our organisations will be grateful. Bridge will be grateful”.



# Women's Committee Report



Anna Maria Torlontano was awarded the Gold Medal of the World Bridge Federation in Monte Carlo by WBF President Jose Damiani. In addition to her ongoing efforts as Master of Ceremonies at WBF events, Anna Maria was honoured for her distinguished service to WBF in committee work ranging from hospitality to promotion and publicity to women's activities.

general; articles about personalities in the field; information about competitions organised for women; additional resources such as example posters to advertise events, sample newsletters, sample press releases.

Anna Maria reports that she writes regularly to all NBOs, as she believes strongly that regular communication is vital to the success of the development of bridge.

She reminds everyone that, as the past President of the International Olympic Committee, Mr Juan Antonio Samaranch, stated "Bridge is a Sport", and that within the Olympic Movement all Sports are divided into separate events. Therefore, it is very important that the women in all Sports develop in their own fields, and so it should be within our Bridge Family. But the policy of the IOC is not only based on the practise of the Sports themselves. The IOC is very interested in promoting the integration of women into the decision-making process, in the field of Public Relations, and in the general administration of the Sports Organizations at the same level as men.

In conclusion, Anna Maria adds that, within the WBF, the competitions organized for women are:

■ **IOC Trophy:** 3 years in Lausanne and 1 year in Salt Lake City.

■ **Venice Cup:** World Women's Teams Championship every 2 years.

■ **World Women's Pairs Championship** every 4 years.

■ **McConnell Trophy:** World Women's Teams Championship every 4 years.

■ **World Olympiad Women's Teams Championship** every 4 years.

■ **Generali World Women's Individual:** By invitation, usually every 2 years.

■ **World Transnational Mixed Teams** every 4 years.

In the current year, 2004, there will be:

■ The **World Olympiad Women's Teams Championship** and **World Transnational Mixed Teams**, held in Istanbul, Turkey from 25 October – 06 November 2003.

■ In Europe there will be the **Transnational Women's Festival**, to be held in Austria from 20 – 25 July 2004; is open to women from all over the world.

■ The **Generali World Women's Individual**, to be held in Verona, Italy in September.

Anna Maria Torlontano, Chairman of the WBF Women's Committee, reports that a meeting of the committee was held during the World Championships in Monte Carlo. Zonal representatives presented reports on the activity of Women's Bridge within their domain.

The representatives concurred that in addition to recruiting new women players, it is also extremely important to try to provide good training facilities to enable the women players to improve and develop their game, and to give more of them the opportunity to compete at the top level.

It was also agreed that National Federations should be encouraged to follow the IOC guidelines with regard to the appointment of women within the administration and to provide good training facilities for women wishing to pursue courses in tournament directing and teaching.

The WBF Website will be developed to cover women's bridge with various specialised areas: contact details for the WBF Women's Committee Members, Zonal Delegates and, in due course, national Women's delegates; articles on the development of women's bridge in

The current members of the WBF Women's Committee are:

**Anna Maria Torlontano**  
Chairman, Zone 1

**Joan Gerard**  
Vice Chairman, Zone 2

**Ernesto d'Orsi**  
Zone 3

**Mazhar Jafri & Rehana Saigol**  
Zone 4

**Mimi Bernazzini**  
Zone 5

**Chen Zelan & Tadayoshi Nakatani**  
Zone 6

**John Wignall**  
Zone 7

**Lily Khalil**  
Zone 8



6-7 June, 2003

# Worldwide Bridge Contest

One of the highlights of our year is the annual Worldwide Bridge Contest. It is an opportunity for bridge players from all over the world to compete in a contest that knows no boundaries...

they just go to their local club, and play the set of boards provided.

Then it is time to go home, or perhaps to the office the next day, and switch on the computer to watch as the scores start appearing.

As each club finishes play, the organiser will score up as normal, then upload their results to our central server located in England, where their local club result is dynamically re-scored together with all the other clubs, to give a final, across-the-field ranking. We enjoy watching as the first results start to appear from New Zealand and Australia, and we can then track the progress across the world... results coming in from Japan, China and the Far East, across through India and Pakistan and over to the Middle East and countries like Jordan and Egypt. Evening falls (we are in England watching all this, remember), and just before we think about going to bed, the results come pouring in from the participating countries in Europe. After snatching a few hours sleep, we watch in amazement as the American results start arriving, tracking them from the East to the West coast... the last one is usually from Alaska and we know it is nearly finished! But that is only the Friday session of course – as the last results come through from America, the first ones for the Saturday event are trickling in from New Zealand and Australia and it is all starting again.

There are always one or two hiccups, of course, and a few oddities to be sorted out (one club last year managed to put in a score of +36660 which we felt to be a bit unlikely!), but we aim to have it all finalised within about 48 hours, and the winners known. Then it is time to sort out the results and Master Points. You might think we can relax then, but oh no! It will be time to deal the boards for next year, and get the show on the road for the 2005 WWBC.

Many people ask us who selects the hands... the answer is that no one does. These are straight computer deals, not

hands used in previous events. We hope that players find them challenging and interesting, and certainly the highly entertaining and informative commentary done each year by Eric Kokish seems to bear this out... witness this hand from the 2003 Saturday event:

Board 23  
Game All  
Dealer South

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

Although the South hand is neither a textbook 1♥ nor a 4♥ opening, very few players will see any advantage in passing initially and those two actions will be the most popular alternatives.

Put yourself in West's place after a 4♥ opening on your right. Sure, you think you're a favourite to beat 4♥ but for most modern players a double would be for takeout in any case and would normally deliver serious high card strength, not just trump tricks. Meanwhile, a few cards in the right places would enable you to make 4♠, so stepping in at the four level has to be a real consideration.

Put yourself in North's place after a 4♠ overcall of 4♥ on your right. Sure, you think you're a favourite to beat 4♠, but you

wouldn't be shocked to discover that you couldn't and your side might be cold for 5♦ opposite little more than some secondary length in your long suit. What's a guy (generic term, girls) to do? As you can see, it will be far better for North to double 4♠, which can be beaten three tricks as long as the defenders lead trumps at Trick One or Trick Two; it's not important for North to lead a low trump – a high one will do. There will be plenty of minus 800s for E/W and some minus 500s.

Meanwhile, 5♦ will probably be doubled by East, and declarer can't quite make it. However, if he decides to play East for five trumps and cashes only the ace before going about his business, taking one heart ruff in hand, he will eventually be able to catch East in a trump endplay and escape for one down and minus 200. Some triumphs are smaller than others.

As for 4♥, that will go two down on a spade lead, one on any other lead, for minus 100, 200 or 500.

Where South starts with 1♥, West will overcall 1♠ and East will raise to 2♠ over North's 2♦. South would dearly love to bid out his hand but will have reason to fear a misfit. Still, how can he pass after opening that distributional freak? I suspect that most will try a hopeful 3♥, planning to bid clubs next, but it's much more likely that North will commit to at least 5♦ whether or not West keeps bidding spades.

Although I don't anticipate many Souths declaring 5♣, that contract can be made on any lead as long as declarer plays West for only one trump or, after a trump lead, for the ace-king of hearts. It's an interesting contract to play and I suggest you try it on a trump lead when you have a free moment. On a spade lead and trump switch declarer wins the ace in hand, ruffs a heart low, cashes dummy's four winners, ruffs a diamond, and ruffs a heart with the ♣K. Declarer loses only a heart in the end after this sequence of plays.

That's our most delicious taste of the high life for the session, a deal sure to produce its share of stories.





# RANKING

# 2003 World Ranking

## WBF Women's Top 50, 2003

**Shawn Quinn**  
First in 2003  
Women's ranking



Name	First name	NBO	CAT	M.P.
1 Quinn	Shawn	USA	WGM	2737
2 Auken	Sabine	DEU	WGM	2691
3 Vriend	Bep	NLD	WGM	2609
4 Meyers	Jill	USA	WGM	2517
5 Arnim	Daniela Von	DEU	WGM	2453
6 Van Der Pas	Marijke	NLD	WGM	2332
7 Sokolow	Tobi	USA	WGM	2322
8 Breed	Mildred	USA	WGM	2266
9 Bessis	Véronique	FRA	WLM	2164
10 Nehmert	Beate Pony	DEU	WGM	2144

11 D'Ovidio	Catherine	FRA	WLM	2088
12 Sanborn	Kerri	USA	WGM	2069
13 Pasman	Jet	NLD	WGM	2004
14 Simons	Anneke	NLD	WGM	1991
15 Van Zwol	Wietske	NLD	WGM	1872
16 Reim	Andrea	DEU	WGM	1828
17 Gu	Ling	CHN	WLM	1808
18 Wei-Sender	Kathie	USA	WGM	1807
19 Deas	Lynn	USA	WGM	1800
20 Zhang	Yalan	CHN	WLM	1800
21 Willard	Sylvie	FRA	WLM	1781
22 Wang	Wen Fei	CHN	WLM	1740
23 Levitina	Irina	USA	WGM	1720
24 Montin	Randi	USA	WGM	1712
25 Picus	Sue	USA	WGM	1708
26 Cronier	Bénédicte	FRA	WLM	1686
27 Seamon-Molson	Janice	USA	WGM	1563
28 McCallum	Karen	USA	WGM	1510
29 Levin	Jill	USA	WGM	1461
30 Palmer	Beth	USA	WGM	1443
31 Wang	Hongli	CHN	WLM	1431

32 Kennedy	Betty Ann	USA	WGM	1414
33 Smith	Nicola	ENG	WGM	1337
34 Erhart	Maria	AUT	WGM	1300
35 Sun	Ming	CHN	WLM	1286
36 Gordon	Dianna	CAN	WGM	1261
37 Weigkricht	Terry	AUT	WGM	1252
38 Fischer	Doris	AUT	WGM	1228
39 Radin	Judi	USA	WGM	1156
40 Cimon	Francine	CAN	WLM	1144
41 Sutherlin	Peggy	USA	WLM	1109
42 Hamman	Petra	USA	WLM	1062
43 Pollack	Rozanne	USA	WGM	1046
44 Zhang	Yu	CHN	WLM	1005
45 Jackson	Joan	USA	WLM	989
46 Dhondy	Heather	ENG	WLM	983
47 Klar	Robin	USA	WLM	945
48 Mancuso	Renee	USA	WLM	929
49 Wang	Liping	CHN	WLM	906
50 Arnolds	Carla	NLD	WGM	887

## WBF Grand Masters 2003 Women's Category \*

Name	First name	NBO	P.P.
1 Deas	Lynn	USA	29
2 Meyers	Jill	USA	28,5
3 Auken	Sabine	DEU	28,5
2 Sanborn	Kerri	USA	28,5
5 Arnim	Daniela Von	DEU	27,5
6 Wei-Sender	Kathie	USA	25,5
7 Smith	Nicola	ENG	25
7 Landy	Sandra	ENG	25
9 Quinn	Shawn	USA	24,5
9 Radin	Judi	USA	24,5
11 Picus	Sue	USA	24
12 Mitchell	Jacqui	USA	22,5
13 McCallum	Karen	USA	22
14 Vriend	Bep	NLD	21,5
15 Greenberg	Gail	USA	20,5
15 Nehmert	Beate Pony	DEU	20,5

15 Kennedy	Betty Ann	USA	20,5
18 Palmer	Beth	USA	20
19 Sokolow	Tobi	USA	19
19 Davies	Pat	ENG	19
21 Breed	Mildred	USA	18,5
22 Van Der Pas	Marijke	NLD	17,5
23 Truscott	Dorothy	USA	17
23 Fischer	Doris	AUT	17
25 Erhart	Maria	AUT	16,5
25 Weigkricht	Terry	AUT	16,5
27 Montin	Randi	USA	16
27 Levitina	Irina	USA	16
29 Reim	Andrea	DEU	15,5
29 Sanders	Carol	USA	15,5
31 Levin	Jill	USA	15
31 Farell	Mary Jane	USA	15
33 Brock	Sally	ENG	14,5

33 Chambers	Juanita	USA	14,5
35 Pollack	Rozanne	USA	13
36 Van Zwol	Wietske	NLD	11,5
36 Pasman	Jet	NLD	11,5
36 Johnson	Marilyn	USA	11,5
36 Simons	Anneke	NLD	11,5
36 Bianchi	Marisa	ITA	11,5
41 Gordon	Dianna	CAN	11
41 McGowan	Elizabeth	SCO	11
43 D'andrea	Marisa	ITA	10,5
43 Capodanno	Luciana	ITA	10,5
43 Arnolds	Carla	NLD	10,5
46 Letizia	Marinesa	USA	10
46 Schulle	Kay	USA	10
46 Osberg	Sharon	USA	10
46 Seamon-Molson	Janice	USA	10

\* ranked by Placing Points

## WBF Open Top 50, 2003

**Bob Hamman**  
First in 2003  
Men's ranking



Name	First name	NBO	CAT	M.P.
1 Hamman	Bob	USA	WGM	4104
2 Meckstroth	Jeff	USA	WGM	4071
3 Rodwell	Eric	USA	WGM	3750
4 Lauria	Lorenzo	ITA	WGM	3172
5 Duboin	Giorgio	ITA	WGM	3093
6 Versace	Alfredo	ITA	WGM	3043
7 Stansby	Lew	USA	WGM	2822
8 Bocchi	Norberto	ITA	WGM	2778
9 Martel	Chip	USA	WGM	2739
10 Chagas	Gabriel	BRA	WGM	2738

11 Nickell	Nick (Frank)	USA	WGM	2540
12 Freeman	Dick	USA	WGM	2528
13 Soloway	Paul	USA	WGM	2500
14 Pszczola	Jacek	POL	WGM	2291
15 Zmudzinski	Adam	POL	WGM	2241
15 Balicki	Cezary	POL	WGM	2241
17 Kwiecien	Michal	POL	WGM	2238
18 Weichsel	Peter	USA	WGM	2001
19 Rosenber	Michael	USA	WGM	1886
20 Mahmood	Zia	USA	WLM	1875
21 Mouiel	Hervé	FRA	WGM	1852
22 Gawrys	Piotr	POL	WGM	1852
23 Sontag	Alan	USA	WGM	1757
24 Helness	Tor	NOR	WLM	1749
25 Levy	Alain	FRA	WGM	1744
26 Wolff	Bobby	USA	WGM	1723
27 Branco	Marcelo	BRA	WGM	1697
28 Helgemo	Geir	NOR	WLM	1678
29 Jassem	Krzysztof	POL	WLM	1637
30 Chemla	Paul	FRA	WGM	1627

31 Tuszynski	Piotr	POL	WGM	1618
32 Brogeland	Boye	NOR	WLM	1592
33 Lasut	Henry	IDN	WLM	1551
34 Saelensminde	Erik	NOR	WLM	1542
35 Berkowitz	David	USA	WLM	1482
36 Manoppo	Eddy	IDN	WLM	1451
37 De Falco	Dano	ITA	WGM	1419
38 Lindkvist	Magnus	SWE	WLM	1387
39 Sacul	Denny	IDN	WLM	1371
40 Martens	Krzysztof	POL	WGM	1369
41 Cohen	Larry	USA	WLM	1357
42 Fantoni	Fulvio	ITA	WLM	1356
43 Ferraro	Guido	ITA	WLM	1355
44 Karwur	Franky	IDN	WLM	1340
45 Nunes	Claudio	ITA	WLM	1339
46 Fredin	Peter	SWE	WLM	1306
47 Katz	Ralph	USA	WLM	1267
48 Groetheim	Glenn	NOR	WLM	1242
49 Aa	Terje	NOR	WLM	1191
50 Kowalski	Apolinary	POL	WLM	1148

## WBF Grand Masters 2003 Open Category \*

Name	First name	NBO	P.P.
1 Hamman	Bob	USA	92,25
2 Garozzo	Benito	USA	75,5
3 Wolff	Bobby	USA	69,25
4 Forquet	Pietro	ITA	58
5 Meckstroth	Jeff	USA	44,25
6 Rodwell	Eric	USA	43,75
7 Chagas	Gabriel	BRA	40,5
8 Soloway	Paul	USA	38,25
9 Stansby	Lew	USA	35,5
10 Branco	Marcelo	BRA	34,5
10 Martel	Chip	USA	34,5
12 Lauria	Lorenzo	ITA	27,5
13 Chemla	Paul	FRA	26
14 Eisenberg	Billy	USA	25,5
15 Lawrence	Michael	USA	23,5
16 Perron	Michel	FRA	23
17 Freeman	Dick	USA	22,25

18 Ross	Hugh	USA	22
18 Versace	Alfredo	ITA	22
20 Nickell	Nick (Frank)	USA	21,75
21 Balicki	Cezary	POL	21,5
21 Zmudzinski	Adam	POL	21,5
23 Mouiel	Hervé	FRA	21,5
24 Szwarc	Henri	FRA	19,5
24 Mari	Christian	FRA	19,5
26 Rosenber	Michael	USA	19
27 Label	Michel	FRA	18,5
28 Franco	Arturo	ITA	18
28 Bocchi	Norberto	ITA	18
28 Duboin	Giorgio	ITA	18
31 Weichsel	Peter	USA	17,5
32 Cintra	Gabino	BRA	17
33 Martens	Krzysztof	POL	16,5
33 Rubin	Ira	USA	16,5
35 Mello	Roberto	BRA	15,5

36 Levy	Alain	FRA	15
36 Passell	Mike	USA	15
38 Sontag	Alan	USA	14,5
38 Assumpcao	Pedro Paulo	BRA	14,5
38 De Falco	Dano	ITA	14,5
41 Gawrys	Piotr	POL	14
41 Kantar	Edwin	USA	14
43 Hamilton	Fred	USA	13,5
44 Kwiecien	Michal	POL	12
44 Pszczola	Jacek	POL	12
46 Branco	Pedro Paulo	BRA	11,5
47 Tuszynski	Piotr	POL	11
48 Fonseca	Christiano	BRA	10
48 Deutsch	Seymon	USA	10
48 Multon	Franck	FRA	10
51 Kreijns	Hans	NLD	9,5
52 Delmouly	Claude	FRA	7,5
53 Siniscalco	Guglielmo	ITA	4

\* ranked by Placing Points



# World Bridge Olympiad

## Istanbul - Turkey

### 23 October - 6 November 2004

Istanbul - a fabulous city where East meets West, the bridge between Europe and Asia, a thriving metropolis of 12 million people – exotic yet distinctly western. Istanbul has been the seat of three great empires – Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman and a meeting place for peoples of many religions and cultures who came together and learned to live in peace and harmony. Ultra-modern amenities, the splendours of the Ottoman past and the honoured traditions of Turkish hospitality combine to make Istanbul a fascinating city, one that will impress all visitors with treasured and lasting memories. Istanbul will reward you with the comfort of home while offering sights, sounds and smells that carry you swiftly to another culture, another time.

This vibrant, exciting city is readily accessible from all part of the world, served by more than 50 airlines. Every major European Airport is 2-3 hours away. There are frequent non stop or direct flight to Istanbul from most European cities, and all the important cities in the world. Istanbul is a treasure trove of sight seeing possibilities, and has many wonderful places that should not be missed – for example Tokapi Palace: the residence of the Sultan for 4 centuries, a city within the city; the Blue Mosque; St Sophia; the Basilica Cistern; the spice market; Rumeli Castle and many other historic monuments – followed, of course, by a shopping expedition to the Grand Bazaar.

#### The World Bridge Olympiad will be held in Istanbul at the **Grand Cevahir Hotel and Convention Centre**

which is a truly luxurious deluxe hotel. It combines a state of the art convention centre with an extremely comfortable hotel, ideal for such a prestigious Championship. Accommodation will also be available in hotels nearby which will include 2 and 3 star hotels as well as the more expensive 4 and 5 star hotels, so that as wide a range of rates as possible can be offered to players coming to the Championships.

Five major Championships will be staged during the course of the two weeks, with the most important being the 12<sup>th</sup> **Open and Women's World Teams Olympiad**. The 2<sup>nd</sup> **Seniors International Cup** will be held during the first week as will the 2<sup>nd</sup> **World University Teams Bridge Cup**. The 3<sup>rd</sup> **World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship** will be held during the second week, enabling players eliminated from the Olympiad as well as participants from the Seniors and University teams to participate in this enjoyable and challenging event. Details of these events are as follows:



## 12<sup>th</sup> World Teams Olympiad Open and Women's Series

Please note that it is extremely important for each NBO to send a team to enhance our Olympic image and also to ensure that all NBOs will be eligible to qualify for the 2005 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup.

- **Entry fees: US \$3,000 per team.**
- It is anticipated that the Round Robin stage will initially be organized with different groups and NBOs are requested to confirm their participation as early as possible but in any case no later than **15 May 2004** in order that the draw can be made early, which will be of advantage to all participants.
- **Names of the players** will be needed by **01 July 2004** in order that the programme can be prepared.
- **The Round Robin stage** will be played from **Sunday 24 October to Saturday 30 October**.
- Players eliminated from the World Teams Olympiad may play free of charge in the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Seniors International Cup

- **Entry fees: US\$ 3,000 per team** (includes the entry fee to the World Transnational Mixed Teams held during the second week.)
- This event is for national teams who will compete in a **Round Robin** to be played from **Sunday 24 to Saturday 30 October** (i.e. during the first week of the Olympiad.)
- **Each WBF Member NBO** is entitled to send one national team to compete in the Seniors International Cup.
- **Players** competing in the Seniors International Cup must be at least 55 years of age on the first day of this competition.
- NBOs are requested to confirm that they will be sending a team to participate in the Seniors International Cup by **15 May 2004** and names of the players must be submitted to the WBF no later than **01 July 2004**.
- Players who participated in the Seniors International Cup may play free of charge in the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> World Transnational Mixed Teams Championships

This event has been a successful and exciting Championship since its inception in Rhodes when 86 teams competed. We feel sure that many players would enjoy participating in this challenging event, which gives them the opportunity of pitting their bridge skills against some of the greatest players in the World as well as having the chance to watch the exciting final stages of the World Teams Olympiad on the expert View-Graph presentation.

### ● Entry fees:

- > free for the eliminated players
- > US \$800 for a new team.

If a team is composed of players eliminated from the Olympiad, or players from the Senior or the University championships together with players who have not competed in these events, the players who have not competed will be charged US \$150 per head if it is a team of six, or \$200 per head if it is a team of four.

● Teams must consist of at least **two women and two men** from any country, playing in Mixed partnerships.

● The Transnational Mixed Teams will be played during the **second week of the Championships** starting on either Monday 01 or Tuesday 02 November. The exact dates will be announced as soon as they are known. The knock out phase will start on either Thursday 04 or Friday 05 and finish on Saturday 06 November.

● Teams wishing to enter this event should contact their NBO as soon as possible to request nomination. In any event entries should be made before **15<sup>th</sup> August 2004**, although late entries may be accepted provided there is sufficient space at the venue.



Photo: DR

## 2<sup>nd</sup> World University Teams Bridge Cup

It is very important that each of the main NBOs should make every effort to send a team to this tournament as the staging of this event is an important part of the WBF strategy in support of its IOC policy and its aim to obtain Government and Olympic Committee recognition for bridge as a sport in as many countries as possible.

● Played under the auspices of the **FISU** (Fédération Internationale des Sports Universitaires.)

● Entry to World University Teams Bridge Cup is **free**.

● This event is for University teams who will compete in a Round Robin to be played from

**Saturday 30 October to Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November** (i.e. during the second week of the Olympiad.)

● Minimum **age** 17, maximum 28.

● **Accommodation:** very inexpensive accommodation will be arranged for this event.

● NBOs are requested to confirm that they will be sending a team to participate in the World University Teams Bridge Cup by **15 May 2004** and names of the players must be submitted to the WBF no later than **01 July 2004**.

**Please assist us by ensuring that you respect the deadlines for entries, team names and payments of entry fees which are as follows:**

Entry of Teams for the <b>Olympiad Open and Women's Series</b>	15 May 2004
Players names for the <b>Open and Women's Series</b>	01 July 2004
Entry of Teams for the <b>Seniors International Cup</b>	15 May 2004
Players' names for the <b>Seniors International Cup</b>	01 July 2004
Entry of Teams for the <b>World University Teams Bridge Cup</b>	15 May 2004
Players' names for the <b>World University Teams Bridge Cup</b>	01 July 2004
Entry of Teams for the <b>World Transnational Mixed Teams</b> (including registration of players names) (late entries will be accepted provided there is sufficient space at the venue)	01 September 2004
Payment of entry fees for the <b>Teams Olympiad and Seniors International Cup</b>	01 August 2004
Payment of entry fees for the <b>World Transnational Mixed Teams</b>	01 September 2004

All NBOs are reminded that national teams should be selected in accordance with the WBF Eligibility Regulations published in the WBF Directory, on the WBF Website at [www.worldbridge.org](http://www.worldbridge.org) and on [www.ecatsbridge.com](http://www.ecatsbridge.com). Both these Websites will carry updated information about the Olympiad as it becomes available.

**Entries for all events must be made through the National Bridge Federations and sent to:**

Mr José Damiani  
President, World Bridge Federation  
40, rue François 1<sup>er</sup> - 75008 Paris - France

Or by fax to: +33 1 40 70 14 51

Or email to: [cfrancin@worldbridgefed.com](mailto:cfrancin@worldbridgefed.com)

**Payment of entry fees should be made by bank transfer to:**

Banque de Baccque Beau - 30118 - Ag 00001  
75009 Paris - France  
Account No. : 03203 Q 1065  
IBAN: FR94 3011 8000 0300 3203 Q 106 574

If bank transfer is not possible, please contact Mrs Christine Francin at the WBF office, who will discuss possible alternative arrangements for payment.

A  
full list of hotels,  
together with details of  
how to make reservations,  
will be published on the  
WBF Website and any  
other associated  
websites in due  
course.

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