

Goodmorning Bridge

Pula Bridge Festival Online Bulletin

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Dear Pula Players,

Unfortunately everything good has to come to an end and likewise also our festival.

This will be our last edition of bulletin for this year and I hope you all first and foremost had fun, played some great bridge, and now will enjoy free Sunday to go sightseeing or finally go to the beach to relax.

Weather for Sunday should be sunny and warm like it was for the whole week.

You already know the winners since you have been watching closely the final, but I will write them here any way. Winners of Open Teams are Team Otravez. Very well played, congratulations!

So before we declare winners for BRK Open pairs we have expanded our pool of winning nationalities by two, and also we have stretched to two continents!

So after eight tournaments played so far we already have winners from ten nations: Poland, England, Croatia, Italy, Netherlands, Serbia, Sweden, Portugal and USA. It pleases us greatly to have winners from various continents.

If you plan to stay few more days and hang out with us on additional tournaments we are reminding you again that registrations will stay only [online](#) and will close approximately two hours before the start of tournaments. It will be more relaxed atmosphere but 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.

Additional tournaments will be pairs event on Sunday 5 p.m., and team event on Monday noon.

I would like to thank all festival staff through this editorial so big THANK YOU for: people running this festival, TDs, computing and hands preparing team, prize-giving and registration officials, event managers, bulletin, BBO team, social networks and web editors, and technical support.

Also if you remember some hand or some great

story which you forgot to mention, or maybe something funny or nice that happened on your trip home, feel free to email me at any time, we will save your story and publish it next year.

This is the end of main part of the festival, so have a safe travel home and see you next year!!



Open Team 2024 Winners

Pula 2025 will start on

September 13th

Please contact Tihana for

bookings (tihana@pilar.hr) as

this is most important

for the festival.

RESULTS

OPEN TEAM

A Final

1	OtraVez	António Palma (POR) Simon Hult (SWE) Ola Rimstedt (SWE) Mikael Rimstedt (SWE)	221.44
2	Copenhagen	Sabine Auken (GER) Roy Welland (GER) Katrine Martensen-Larsen (DEN) Flemming Poulsen (DEN)	194.48
3	Radkov	Zahari Ferov (BUL) Dobromir Lazarov (BUL) Mark Andonov (BUL) Petar Ivanov (BUL) Grozdan Rusinov (BUL)	186.37
4	Senator	Bogdan Szulejewski (POL) Mariusz Kowalski (POL) Stanisław Pająk (POL) Piotr Kucharski (POL)	185.99
5	Tosca	Rob Lindeman (NED) Jan Jansma (NED) Tim Verbeek (NED) Steven De Donder (BEL)	175.48
6	Stojanov izbor	Stojan Vazic (SRB) Ivan Bilušić (CRO) Emanuel Evačić (CRO) Marko Seizović (SRB)	171.16
7	Tubi Determined	Orsolya Rettegthy (HUN) Levente Kaderjak (HUN) Daniel Bako (HUN) Attila Viktor (HUN)	157.36
8	FC Marcinek	Aleksandra Gorska (POL) Arkadiusz Majcher (POL) Wojciech Bak (POL) Franciszek Kurlit (POL)	155.87
9	CNC JURCZAK SILESIA	Marek Czerepak (POL) Jarosław Cieślak (POL) Marek Pieczka (POL) Krzysztof Kujawa (POL)	136.22
10	Seba	Sebastian Rawlik (POL) Damian Mazurak (POL) Janusz Hliwa (POL) Jerzy Pośrednik (POL) Elżbieta Lis (POL) Tomasz Freitag (POL)	128.08

B Final

11	BOURGOGNE	Leo Huvers (NED) Roel Piket (NED) Simon De Wijs (NED) Bauke Muller (NED)	148.69
12	Claire	Claire Alpert (USA) Francisco Bernal (COL) Alfredo Versace (ITA) Sjoert Brink (SUI) Katarzyna Dufurat (POL)	148.62
13	Fresh dentist	Eric van Valen (NED) Oscar Nijssen (NED) Tim Van de Pavverd (NED) Anam Tebha (USA)	147.74
14	Bastion Smaku	Marcin Bartoszewski (POL) Tomasz Kuś (POL) Roman Kierznowski (POL) Zbigniew Rogowski (POL) Mirosław Makatrewicz (POL)	140.87
15	Skaffatar	Sibrand van Oosten (NED) Adam Kaplan (USA) Xavier Friesen (NED) Ronald Goor (NED)	140.56
16	Team Funbridge Yellow	Abragi Andreas (SWE) Léo Rombaut (FRA) Finn Kolesnik (USA) Andrea Nilsson (SWE)	138.03
17	Galim	Gergely Dombi (HUN) Peter Talyigas (HUN) Martin Vodička (SVK) Péter Gál (HUN)	137.53
18	Pravda za Holo Bolo	Mate Meštrić (CRO) Matko Ferenc (CRO) Ognjen Staničić (CRO) Filip Katušić (CRO) Toni Vidović (CRO)	135.86
19	Angels	Zsolt Argay (HUN) Mark Kemeny (HUN) Gyorgy Kemeny (HUN) Peter Trenka (HUN)	131.99
20	Flo- Rida	Michael Gamble (CAN) Gigi Simpson (USA) Michael Cappelletti (USA) Allison Cappelletti (USA)	129.98
21	Turisti	Evgeniya Racheva (GRE) Borislav Rizov (GRE) Krasimir Simeonov (BUL) Hristo Myahov (BUL)	128.62
22	RAGLOT Fundacja	Dariusz Morawski (POL) Elżbieta Jakoniuk (POL) Robert Kwiatkowski (POL) Bogusław Kruczek (POL)	126.97
23	Pepsi	Kiki Ward-Platt (USA) Jacek Pszczola (POL) Vasileios Vroustis (GRE) Krzysztof Buras (POL) Michal Nowosadzki (SUI) May Sakr (USA)	125.38
24	Hungary U58	Csaba Czimer (HUN) Gyula Argay (HUN) Julia Hegedus (HUN) Daniel Biborka (HUN)	125.00
25	Sudo Reper	Faruk Masic (BIH) Milovan Milovic (ITA) Drazen Martinovic (CRO) Igor Novosel (CRO)	124.99
26	Tarnów	Dariusz Sosin (POL) Andrzej Hycnar (POL) Maciej Kita (POL) Mariusz Kita (POL)	124.97
27	Zip	Kiril Marinovski (CRO) Vedran Zorić (CRO) Dimitraki Zipovski (SRB) Goran Radišić (SRB)	122.34
28	Tokidoki	Janka Jalsovszky (HUN) Mate Vagi (HUN) Benjamin Zabradi (HUN) Kende Barnabás Dezső (HUN)	121.63
29	Palatinus	Katalin Mezei (HUN) László Honti (HUN) Hanka Lajos (HUN) Peter Hodosi (HUN)	116.76
30	The Bidding Brigade	Wouter Van den hove (BEL) Ines Meersman (BEL) Elke Van Laethem (BEL) Wim Vanparijs (BEL) Jens Jossaer (BEL)	114.16
31	NPC Vittorio	Clemens Wanha (AUT) Ursula Wanha (AUT) Markus Knob (AUT) Gerhard Hornischer (AUT)	112.52
32	AIJAN	Ödön Dienes (HUN) Földi József (HUN) András Kovács (HUN) Karoly Kelen (HUN)	98.08

OPEN TEAM**C Final**

33	Massimiliano	Margie Cole (USA) Ale Bianchedi (ARG) Ben Handley-Pritchard (CRO) Maggie Knottenbelt (ENG)	140.42
34	Team Funbridge Red	Federica Dalpozzo (ITA) Alessandro Carletti (ITA) Margaux Kurek-Beaulieu (FRA) Sofie Sjodal (NOR)	134.67
35	Connector	Cezary Serek (POL) Bartek Chmurski (POL) Piotr Tuczyński (POL) Piotr Walczak (POL)	133.96
36	KWaSS	Ireneusz Kowalczyk (POL) Tomasz Wisniewski (POL) Ewa Sobolewska (POL) Tomasz Sielicki (POL)	128.25
37	DJ's MOTB NSČA	Darko Parezanin (SRB) Marko Mladenovic (SRB) Jovan Poljački (SRB) Vuk Trnavac (SRB)	125.03
38	LOLa	Barbara Drinovec Drnovšek (SLO) jože sadar (SLO) Bogdan Rašula (SLO) Tomaž Adamič (SLO)	122.69
39	SaX	Ksenija Čare (SLO) Žiga Debeljak (SLO) Aleksandra Jeseničnik (SLO) Tolja ORAČ (SLO)	121.93
40	Fundacja B24	Patryk Patreuha (POL) Jakub Patreuha (POL) Grzegorz Narkiewicz (POL) Piotr Marcinowski (POL) Wojciech Niewiadomski (POL) Maciej Raczkiwicz (POL)	119.72
41	U26 Women Poland	Ewa Bagrowska (POL) Matylda Brzyzka (POL) Dominika Lucka (POL) Natalia Suszanowicz (POL)	117.49
42	GONZO	Jerzy Goralczyk (POL) Robert Piechota (POL) Maciej Krzywka (POL) Grzegorz Kula (POL)	103.49

D Final

43	HunBel	Anke Van den Bergh (BEL) Nic Van den Bergh (BEL) Agnes Zalai (HUN) Orsolya Hegedüs (HUN)	128.50
44	bridgepard	Goran Borevković (CRO) Karlo Brguljan (CRO) Aljoša Čakić (CRO) Miro Tesla (CRO)	122.65
45	Cold wind	Marco ter Laare (NED) Linda Molle (NED) Lars Erik Thomassen (NOR) Lisbeth Eide (NOR)	122.32
46	E sad Kulovic	Laila Gumhalter Malić (CRO) Sandra Probst (CRO) Viktor Leskovar (CRO) Joško Đilović (CRO)	119.09
47	Vicuna	Maria Sainz de Vicuna (ESP) Almudena Martorell (ESP) Massimiliano Di Franco (ITA) Andrea Manno (ITA)	118.72
48	Flame	Elena Prahin (USA) Michael Prahin (USA) Iakov Kats (GER) Vladimir Belfermann (GER)	117.60
49	Plovac Ploški	Jurica Carić (CRO) Goran Čekol (CRO) Srđan Katušić (CRO) Zlatko Unetić (CRO)	114.62
50	Olgxford	Olga Simic (SRB) Ana Zorana Brajovic (SRB) John Våge (NOR) John Helge Herland (NOR) Laszlo Szilagyi (HUN) Andrea Stanković (CRO)	110.85
51	once again	Gorana Mitic (SRB) Geir Engebretsen (NOR) Pavel Bobrov (GER) Frank Dethlefsen (GER)	109.33
52	Geen porum	Sharmila Ramsoekh (NED) Frank van de Paverd (NED) Felix Leufkens (NED) Dries Olgers (NED)	103.91

E Final

53	BI-VENETO	Guerrino Saina (ITA) Dario Kuhar (ITA) Nicola Mele (ITA) Gianni Ottogalli (ITA)	126.79
54	Bridge babes	Carolyn Bitetti (USA) Selena Pepic (SRB) Jovana Zoranovic (SRB) Juan Felipe Cuervo (COL)	118.25
55	Kospov	Robbie de Koster (NED) Eva Poppe (NED) Koen Poppe (NED) Cisca Vorselman (NED)	117.56
56	Dana	Danuta Kazmucha (POL) Rafał Mania (POL) Piotr Suchodolski (POL) Sławomir Czech (POL)	116.03
57	OSIR Lidzbark	Ryszard Kirkowski (POL) Jerzy Czeszewski (POL) Andrei Kavalenka (LTU)	114.91
58	Bin	Marek Giża (POL) Tomasz Latos (POL) Bohdan Pliszka (POL) Mariusz Grabowski (POL)	109.27
59	RO MANIA	Florin Dumitrascu (ROU) Codrin Marcu (ROU) Gabriel Dinescu (ROU) Cristian Raducanu (NED)	107.71
60	Thor	Karl-Heinz Heine (GER) Helga Alisch (GER) Paul Gibbons (ENG) Sharon Bayne (ENG)	106.48
61	Postojna	Igor Požar (SLO) RAIKO Čeh (SLO) Janez Pavšek (SLO) Duilio Gruner (ITA) Marko Baša (SLO)	102.96
62	THORPEDO	Renate Adelsberger (AUT) Heimo Adelsberger (AUT) Stefan Thorpe (AUT) Andreas Babsch (AUT)	90.18

OPEN TEAM**F Final**

63	Kraków	Grzegorz Superson (POL) Giorgi Zedginidze (POL) Marek Jaworski (POL) Wojciech Strzemecki (POL) Jakub Kowal (POL) Agata Kowal (POL)	122.03
64	Doki	Kata Vass (HUN) Laszlo Klein (HUN) Csaba Ráduly (HUN) Tamás Fodor (HUN)	116.68
65	Duck You	Manuel Jindra (AUT) Eduard Schnöll (AUT) Sophie Hermann (AUT) Patricio Crisafulli Sádaba (AUT)	111.11
66	Europe u12	Jakub Korzeniowski (POL) Krzysztof Świątkowski (POL) Matthew O'Farrell (IRL) Antone Huang (SCO)	109.43
67	ROMA	Marianne Linden (NED) Rein Van Dijk (NED) Arie Teeuw (NED) Otto van Schravendijk (NED)	105.60
68	TIJA	Irena Rukavina (CRO) Jack Kranenburg (NED) Aurel-Marian Dragulescu (ROU) Alexandru Toma (ROU)	102.95
69	Kriminalci	Darko Šeremet (CRO) Ratko Šimić (CRO) Kristijan Stefanec (CRO) Milko Pravdić (CRO)	101.82
70	Pawiany z Ghany	Łukasz Kasperczyk (POL) Michal Stasik (POL) Zakrzewski Andrzej (POL) Witek Marek (POL) Laszczak Tadeusz (POL) Maciej Betliński (POL)	101.01
71	ROBbing Pula	Rob Jagroop (NED) Wim van Luijk (NED) Joris van Gool (NED) Jamie Westlake (NED)	95.70
72	Volatile	Frank van Gorp (NED) Esther Grootnibbelink (NED) Ruud Verhoef (NED) Guus van Boven (NED)	79.01

G Final

73	Bili	Marshall Lewis (CRO) Renata Muller (CRO) Sandra Havliček (CRO) Tomislav Šašek (CRO)	116.99
74	Monte Magno	Luigi Paolo Maffei (CRO) Goran Jukic (CRO) ervin sagmeister (SLO)	102.24
75	Piknik	Andrea Keszthelyi (HUN) Csenge Földesi (HUN) Laszlo Meszegeto (HUN) László Földesy (HUN) Máté Mráz (HUN)	99.78
76	Optimisti	Antra Ilzina (LAT) Ivars Zarumba (LAT) Jaanis Ozols (LAT) Andrejs Timofejevs (LAT)	97.43
77	Bavaria	Brigitte Melzer-Lena (GER) Helmut Lena (GRE) Maria Leutbecher (GER) Roland Leutbecher (GER)	96.93
78	AL-RO	Alessandra Zecchini (ITA) Roberta Zannini (ITA) Alfo Rossi (ITA) Enrico Bonanomi (ITA)	95.50
79	Ivica i stevica	Ivica Kikić (SRB) Stevica Kikić (SRB) Nenad Popović (SRB) Miloš Starčević (SRB) Nebojsa Terzic (SRB) Milica Radenković (SRB)	92.28
80	Saturn	Igor Mandalinić (CRO) Djordje Poljak (SRB) DJuro Opačić (SRB) Milan Milošević (SRB) zaprinka angelova (BUL) Aleksa Milićević (SRB)	92.06
81	Outsiders	Michael van Schooten (NED) Luckje Terhell (NED) Nel van Norden (NED) Hanneke Steenman (NED)	67.36
82	Ispomoc	Petra Kovacic (CRO) Lea Grebenar (CRO) Antonia Vladimir (CRO) Matija Andričić (CRO)	0.00

All you need to know

Registrations

All players have to be [registered](#) for the festival. If you did not register so far, please do it immediately at pulabridgefestival.com. Once you are on registration list, you get Pula ID (first column on the list), and this is the number to put in bridgemates.

For each event, the [registration](#) deadline is 6 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 120 pairs or 60 teams, we have additional playing space in Casino.

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 1998 or later) get a discount in all pairs tournaments. In team tournaments, if team consist of juniors only the fee is reduced 50% (50 instead 100 per day per team). If there is one adult in the team, fee is 70 euro, two adults 80, and three adults 90.

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 ID card. Cups will be awarded at the Victory Ceremony on September 21st.

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 card is 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). You can either complain to TD, or send email to pulabridge@gmail.com. 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.

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 and feel comfortable even if s/he is just a beginner.

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.

DOUBLE IN A PASSOUT SEAT

By Milko Pravdić

My partner and I are a relatively new partnership and we are still fine-tuning our agreements. In passout seat, he says, with the right shape double regardless of strength. Sure, I agree.

Opportunities abound. Soon we are dealt:

♠ AQ8	
♥ J642	
♦ A5	
♣ J632	
♠ J1075	♠ 9
♥ A107	♥ KQ3
♦ KQ7	♦ 108642
♣ KQ4	♣ A1085
♠ K6432	
♥ 985	
♦ J93	
♣ 97	

After two passes, my partner, W, downgrades this and opens 1♣. 1♦ by me, South 1♠ (Croatsians may guess who it was). Father, North, shows a strong raise and the son, of course, signs off in 2♠. Down two. I missed the passout double, and my partner's arguments are convincing: ideal shape, after having denied four hearts. I have to agree.

Then next day:

♠ A3	
♥ AJ97	
♦ 64	
♣ J9432	
♠ K764	♠ J982
♥ 1084	♥ Q32
♦ J107	♦ KQ53
♣ 1087	♣ KQ
♠ Q105	
♥ K65	
♦ A982	
♣ A65	

E opens weak (12-14) notrump, pass, pass. We are not playing Woolsey defense, where double shows this 4-5 shape of my hand. I can show two suits, but I don't like it and let them play 1nt. We get it two down, vulnerable.

„Wouldn't you prefer to register +500?“ asks my partner.

It goes wilder:

♠ 1043	
♥ J9874	
♦ K4	
♣ K96	
♠ 5	♠ QJ98
♥ K652	♥ A
♦ QJ753	♦ A86
♣ 1087	♣ AJ432
♠ AK762	
♥ Q103	
♦ 1092	
♣ Q5	

S opens 1♠, N raises to two, and there I am in the passout seat, passing cowardly, hoping they missed a game. Far from that! „You see?“, says my partner, „and if you lead your trump, it's always two down.“ All right, next time I'll double and lead my singleton trump. (Well, there is a second, more realistic, chance for the trump lead, after two rounds of diamonds)

Declarer, Meštar, asks: Do these juniors tell you you don't double often enough? They keep telling me this.

Next round. In fourth seat I hold:

♠A1074 ♥843 ♦K875 ♣J3

It goes 1♥–pass–pass to me.

I learned the lesson. Double. I cannot again disappoint my partner who sits with trumps behind the opener. Anyway, if he doesn't, I have four spades, that makes it right shape, doesn't it?

The 0-4-points-responder runs to 1♠. Maybe I should double to confirm having four spades, but I prefer showing minimum by passing. Partner doubles. Responder, the professional, now bids 1nt. Partner doubles. You guess what follows. I pass, bewildered opener passes.

DOUBLE IN A PASSOUT SEAT (continued)

Partner doubles. Responder runs until he exhausts all the possible denominations to run to, settling for 2♦ doubled. He plays it well, guesses to play the queen on the trump lead, and scores an overtrick. At least it's not a game, says my always positive partner. How much nicer than „Wouldn't you like to register 100 or 200 instead of -380?“

♠ 2
♥ Q10972
♦ AQ2
♣ AK74

♠ A1074
♥ 843
♦ K875
♣ J3

♠ KQJ5
♥ AJ65
♦ J
♣ Q1092

♠ 9863
♥ K
♦ 109643
♣ 865

Heh, no, I made up this one for the sake of the story. At the table, I passed unimaginationally. Wild horses couldn't force me to make a weak double with xxx in their suit.

Bonus question
In bridge parlance, is Donald a Duck or a Trump?

Cheating in bridge
Are we done with it? Do we police the cheaters effectively? I think we do.

Let's go:
Every bid you make,
Every card you play,
Every lead you make, every trick you take,
I'll be watching you

DECEPTION

By Filip Katušić

♠ 76532
♥ Q1072
♦ K63
♣ 3

♠ 8
♥ K865
♦ 8754
♣ J764

♠ KQ104
♥ AJ3
♦ Q109
♣ 952

♠ AJ9
♥ 94
♦ AJ2
♣ AKQ108

N(Bibi)	E	S(Srfić)	W
2♣*	pass	2NT	pass
3♣**	pass	3NT	all pass

*both majors weak or any strong
**minimum

I decided against finding the 53 spade fit despite the potential to ruff a heart in my short trump hand. It seemed to me that the hand was more so about having too many losers rather than too few winners. So I settled in 3NT. Heart lead went to the jack and the 4 of spades through. Well things seem bleak at this point. I called for the 9. To my surprise that held the trick and it was time for a new plan. Evidently we cannot establish the spades so it was time to go after clubs. And now when west took the fourth round of clubs it was evidently over for the defence. The defence now cashed the ace of hearts and exited a spade. Now we can just cash a club, cross to a diamond and throw in west so we don't need the diamond finesse any more (or he can just give us the high heart). I was quite surprised at the small spade shift at the table, but it seems to me that it's the right play now. It is only wrong when I have exactly this spade holding, at that seems like a holding which will try to get to 4♠. So well played to the opponents it was a fun match.

ANOTHER DECEPTION

By Filip Katusić



<p>♠ A9743 ♥ J865 ♦ 72 ♣ 83</p> <p>♠ QJ105 ♥ 732 ♦ KQJ ♣ KJ6</p> <p>♠ K2 ♥ 9 ♦ 1096543 ♣ A1074</p>	<p>♠ 86 ♥ AKQ104 ♦ A8 ♣ Q952</p>	<p>N E(Srfić) S W(Laila)</p> <p>– 1NT pass 3NT</p> <p>pass pass pass</p>	
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I think im quite liberal with the way i open no trumps but this was a bit rich even for me. But thats what i love about BAM. You can take a risk and if it doesnt work out, it's not the end of the world. I decided to open since it seemed to me that with this types of hands there will be a similar number of tricks in a major suit contract and no trumps. The lead was the 10 of diamonds and we have 3 top losers. We're definetly in a good spot since in 4♥ we'll have the same losers. But if we can maybe decieve the opponents while establishing our tricks maybe we can do even better. So i overtook the diamond with the ace and played a club to the jack. The theoretically correct play is to probably play a heart at this point. I decided for a spade. Once south took the king i felt good about convincing her i had the ace of spades. She returned a diamond. This time i relented, heart to the queen, ace of hearts and when hearts broke badly now a club up. At this point it's hard for south to see that a spade is right and not just a passive diamond to force me to play everything myself. So a spade dissapeared on a diamond and the rest was high. If south doesn't fly ace the north will get endplayed in spades for the same +2.

FIN(N)E DEFENCE

By Peter Talyigas

I was told that when you misplay a hand you should advertise that. I was also told that the hero of the hand has his self-confidence enough not to raise it any more, but still, may worth to introduce him and his nut play.

Playing against Finn Kolesnik is fun. Not only because he speaks continuously and is funny, but he is polite at the same time and a good opponent by any means. He had these cards defending against my four spades:

♠Q8 ♥K854 ♦A5 ♣K9876

I opened 1♠, Finn doubled (would not have been my choice, but what do I know?), my partner bid 2NT – four card fit invitational or better, and he raised to four when I only bid 3 spades with my shitty hand.

Finn led the Ace of Diamonds and this was the dummy:

♠A943 ♥3 ♦K1092 ♣QJT5

Andrea Nilsson played the eight of diamonds, which is discouraging or odd number of diamonds or maybe hearts? Who knows? I, as the declarer, contributed the six. What would you play next?

You definitely do not want to risk a club at this phase, that can be a disaster if declarer holds the ace of the suit. Spade is not promising, so you either continue the diamonds (which – honestly is not very promising, neither) or you scramble into the hearts – a little blindly.

What is your card now? Did you decide?

Finn played the king of hearts and it had a very sad effect on me. This was the whole hand:

♠ Q8
♥ K854
♦ A5
♣ K9876

♠ KJ765
♥ AJ106
♦ Q6
♣ 32

♠ A943
♥ 3
♦ K1092
♣ QJ105

♠ 102
♥ Q972
♦ J8743
♣ A4



Now I happily thought that the hand is over. I cashed the Queen of Diamonds and went for the known ruffing finesse in hearts. Jack, a surprising low from Finn and after I parted from a club, Andrea won the trick with the queen to my horror, and now the hand was really over. Yes, I know that after two rounds of trumps I can throw one of my clubs on the King of diamonds, ruff a diamond and play the jack of heart to ensure ten tricks, but honestly – this was not my plan how I wanted to tackle the spades. I actually completely misread the hand, thinking that Finn had five diamonds to the ace and went for the diamond ruff of his partner (why he did not continue then? Asks the article writer from the declarer, but we will never get an answer – very typical).

“PRE-EMPTS WORK” -- AN EXCLUSIVE ‘GONZO JOURNALISM’ SERIES FOR PULA “GM BRIDGE”: Part 2

By Marshall C. Lewis

Overture

This is the second installment in a special series on Pre-empts, EXCLUSIVE to this revered mind-sports seasonal publication -- which as of 2024 you are still able to access readily, until negotiations conclude with powerful gatekeeper moguls in Brussels and on Wall Street which will allow Pula’s “GM Bridge” to transition into a publicly-traded LLC concern producing a pay-per-view boutique web-commodity. (Explanatory link for the benefit of any GMB readers not familiar with the term “Gonzo Journalism”:https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gonzo_journalism.)

To recap – the initial article in this series reported a deal which exhibited two very different kinds of pre-empts. One was the boring every-day kind whereby somebody (no prizes for remembering who, even if you are a senior) made a higher bid than necessary in order to obstruct the adversary [snore]. The second one however was of a far more interesting, maybe even downright profound, character. Given our present journalistic context, it was a truly ‘meta-level’ pre-empt, in that it showcased a fine player – who is also an eminent bridge journalist – acting immediately to spread, via word of mouth, the story of a defensive gaffe before anyone else had a chance ... even though the focus of his ‘scoop’ featured his own abashed self in an “OOPS so sorry, partner, a cow flew by” pivotal role on defense.

Today we will take a look at more deals which actually have quite a lot in common with that opening exhibit – except for the journalistic ‘meta-pre-empt’ angle, since it seems unlikely that today’s hapless hero(in)es have been circulating these rueful tales. Thus as far as I know you will be learning of these incidents here for the first time. Like before: (a) All deals are drawn from my own eyewitness table experience; (b) All are taken from recent major international MP pair events; (c) All of course involve pre-empts (either by our own side or the opponents); (d) All feature disastrous defensive shockers by ‘Apex Achievers’ in bridge – indeed, our star performers are multiple medalists at the WBF/EBL levels.

As in the prior article, strict anonymity is preserved. This is partly due to gallantry, partly compassion, and partly because I am too easy to find – but also because the real topic here is NOT how somebody unaccountably went so far astray (let’s face it, we all have equally grim skeletons rattling in the closet) but rather: How to determine whether or not a given incident should be seen as providing support for the familiar cliché “Pre-empts Work” ... which is after all, as alert readers will recall, the theme of the whole series. OK OK OK ... in the spirit of full disclosure, it must be acknowledged that another major goal of this series is Entertainment -- and for the most part, the reading public tend to derive gleeful

amusement from the uncharacteristic atrocities somehow occasionally committed by elite superstars of our game. So if you are one who shares this guilty (or unrepentant) pleasure, the sacred anonymity policy in effect here gives you the gift of allowing you to imagine anyone you please as perpetrator(s).

Exhibit A -- WASTED AWAY AGAIN AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

Our opening episode today comes from the very first board of its session – curiously, just like the deal from last time, which may or may not be purely coincidental. I was playing with a first-time partner, as is so often true – for reasons we don’t really need to go into, do we? Anyhow in fourth chair with all vulnerable I picked up this collection: AQ3 T84 T76 QJ65. Dealer to my left opened 1D and partner jumped to 3H. Next hand passed, as did I -- and dealer re-opened with 3N, which bought the contract. Now my thus-far-excellent partner led an inspired H-A, getting us off to a brilliant start as you can see:

		NORTH			
S					
All		♠ J8764			
		♥ J9			
		♦ 8532			
		♣ K2			
WEST				EAST	
♠ 1095				♠ AQ3	
♥ AQ76542				♥ 1083	
♦ -				♦ 1076	
♣ 1097				♣ QJ65	
		SOUTH			
		♠ K2		Lead:♥A	
		♥ K			
		♦ AKQJ94			
		♣ A843			

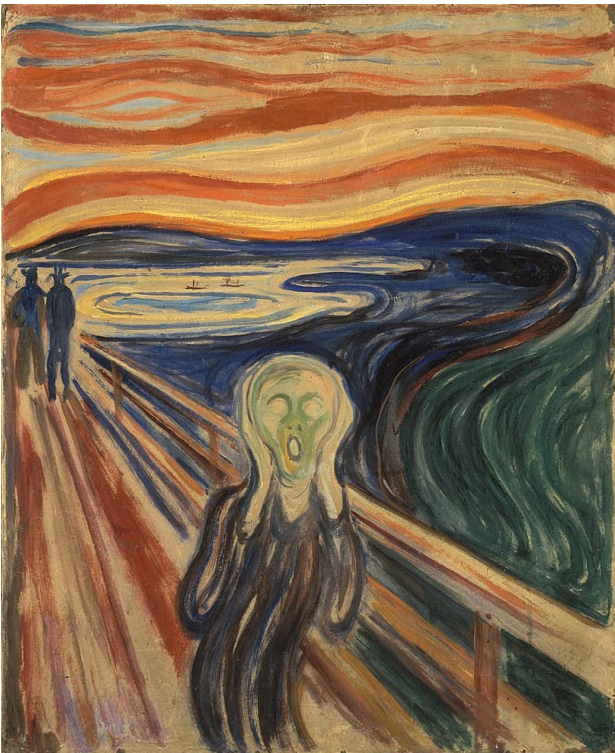
Bidding goes:

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♦
3♥	pass	pass	3NT
pass	pass	pass	

My ecstatic delight at seeing partner’s ♥A strike the table did not distract me from my humble duty of unblocking the 10-spot, and when W followed with ♥Q it was equally trivial to contribute ♥8, while declarer of course showed out. Now however there followed one of the most surprising and mysterious trances of my entire bridge career -- for two or three minutes, if not more, W alternated amongst pondering, cogitating, ruminating, and other supposedly cognitive processes.

“PRE-EMPTS WORK” -- AN EXCLUSIVE ‘GONZO JOURNALISM’ SERIES FOR PULA “GM BRIDGE”: Part 2

Meanwhile on the other side of the table I was simulating calm impassive composure, although a glimpse behind my inscrutable façade would have revealed – rather unsurprisingly – that I was mentally, emotionally and spiritually seething with an inner furor that would make the excruciating shriek in Edvard Munch’s agonized anti-portrait seem like angelic harp music by comparison, while sinister whispering voices seemingly from nowhere kept hissing: “This is exactly what hell will be like”.



What in bloody blazes could my genius partner possibly be thinking about? Well it could hardly matter I reflected morosely, since we all know from bitter experience that when partners huddle forever in a blindingly obvious situation, it is inevitable that they will go horribly wrong – and indeed, they usually even find the most impossibly absurd option as a crowning touch. Here however that did not happen, as when partner emerged from that interminable communion with the Muse, mercifully hearts were in fact continued. Not quite so mercifully, however, partner’s chosen emissary to trick 3 was ... the DEUCE. We had now banked approximately 43% of the heart tricks we were in principle entitled to, and when I next cashed ♠A we had speedily achieved ‘book’ on the first four tricks. Unluckily, further defensive spoils were no longer accessible to us, and as S claimed the following amiable dialogue got underway:

W: SO VERY sorry, partner, I failed to notice which spot-card dummy had played at trick 1.

E: Completely understandable -- such things do so rarely matter.

W: I thought you had been dealt T98.

E: Clearly so. Just a couple questions, though First -- if as you say, you didn’t notice dummy’s card on the first trick, then perhaps it COULD have been the nine, so maybe you could cater to that?

W: Well, what I did see was that you contributed the 10-spot, so it seemed that was top-of-sequence.

E: I get it, I should’ve started with the eight. Oh gosh yes, my bad. I mentioned though that there are TWO things I wanted to ask ... SO – even if you thought that the hearts were blocked, couldn’t you just maybe have led some spot-card OTHER than the DEUCE? I mean, you say you thought hearts were blocked, but then you yourself went far far far out of your way to block them.

W: Well you see, I decided the most useful thing I could do at that point was to give suit preference.

E: (After tortured huddle of his own) I’ll tell you what is “the most useful thing you could do” NOW -- Take out \$50, give it to this opponent holding the BridgeMate, and beg him to enter 5D just in.

So now we come at last to the central thematic question of this series: Did partner’s Pre-Empt Work? If one were to judge by the table result, one would perhaps reply: “Mmm, not so triumphantly well.” On the other hand, the barrage bid deprived NS of valuable bidding space, thereby posing a difficult problem which they failed to resolve correctly on the actual layout. They certainly did nothing stupid, but without committing any a priori error or dubious gamble, they still got the deal horribly wrong. One is tempted to say then that the pre-empt itself worked superbly, and it was only the subsequent technical execution by the pre-empting side that went abysmally and almost inexplicably awry. Quite generally speaking, this is a potentially crucial kind of distinction to be kept at the forefront of one’s mind when objectively assessing the efficacy of any given pre-empt. NEVERTHELESS thing might not always be as simple as this basic dichotomy might suggest. Before exploring those further themes, though, it will be in our interest to examine the next lurid little incident on the docket.

Exhibit B -- TEMPO-RARY INANITY

In another major pair event with yet another first-time partner, you are in second position with only your side vulnerable, holding this modest lot:

♠T84 ♥7632 ♦Q4 ♣A962.

“PRE-EMPTS WORK” -- AN EXCLUSIVE ‘GONZO JOURNALISM’ SERIES FOR PULA “GM BRIDGE”: Part 2

Dealer passes and you do as well, whereupon LHO opens 3N. This is alerted and explained to your inquiring partner as Gambling, some long solid suit – typically a minor – and willingness to take a shot at 3N (undoubled, at least) opposite a suitable hand. Your fledgling partnership has no agreements for this situation, so when partner now Doubles the associated range of hand-types is a bit murky. Anyway your passed-hand RHO flees to 4♣, which you in turn Double – you are not exactly sure how partner will interpret it, but showing some values in Clubs seems better than passing, if for no other reason than lead direction given that Opener is likely to have bits and pieces in his side suits that may present partner a problem if on opening lead.

Meanwhile if partner thinks it is Responsive, your holdings in the Majors are not horrible – especially since partner is rather more likely to take the Double out into 4♥ than 4♠ (unless holding a one-suiter). LHO now corrects to 4♦, and partner does indeed bid 4♥. When the Dealer now competes further via 5♦ you are not disappointed, as your hand is decidedly on the thin side for offense and there seems to be a good chance they have taken a phantom save – moreover, it is not unlikely that your side can get 300 here, which will score very well if you do not have game. So you make the obvious Double, hoping for the best – or at least, Not-The-Worst. So the final contract is 5♦x, and partner leads king of Hearts.

This time there will be a short delay before revealing the full layout – in order that you may share the sublime experience of living through a few of the most anguished moments of my life, all you get for the moment is a look at dummy (with our hand and the auction repeated for convenience), which is:

	NORTH				
S					
All	♠ A973				
	♥ 95				
	♦ 953				
	♣ KJ73				
		EAST			
		♠ 1084			
		♥ 7632			
		♦ Q4			
		♣ A962	Lead: ♥K		
West	North	East	South		
-	pass	pass	3NT		
X	4♣	X	4♦		
4♥	5♦	X	all pass		

In our methods -- and for the moment, this includes you - the lead of the King instructs third hand to give a Count signal, and we play “Reverse” signals, i.e. following up-the-line shows an even number of cards in the suit. So your contribution to trick 1 is the Deuce, for maximum clarity as regards even-vs.-odd. When partner follows with the Ace, you follow smoothly with the Three – corroborating Club values.

Much to your surprise, consternation, dismay and torment, there now follows yet another of the most bewildering huddles you have ever had to endure. Had you not doubled both 4♣ and the final contract you could assume partner wasn’t sure which black suit to switch to – for example if holding something like ♠KJ9x, and whatever in clubs, a spade switch could be necessary to extract the full toll out of 5♦x. In the actual circumstances though, this should be an absolute no-brainer – EITHER of the two Doubles made by E makes it inconceivable that he/you/we lack the ace of Clubs, and as if this were not already more than enough evidence, the hearts we selected on the first two tricks leave no room whatever for even an iota of doubt. Furthermore, we cannot have the queen of Spades or we would have given suit preference for that suit instead of Clubs. So we sit there in baffled incomprehension – unable even if our life depended on it to fathom what partner’s hallucinated chimera of a problem could possibly be.

Eventually we are put out of our misery as partner emerges from that inexplicable trance and plays a card -- which mercifully is not a spade, and just as mercifully solves the mystery of the weird huddle. Unfortunately we are also put out of our wits – because a good deal less mercifully, partner’s card is another heart. That’s right, declarer gets a ruff-and-discard, and partner’s “problem” was deciding if we had two Hearts or four of them. Just to twist the knife to the maximum, moreover, declarer holds:

♠Q6 ♥87 ♦AKJT8762 ♣Q.

Dummy now ruffs the third heart while declarer discards the QUEEN OF CLUBS. Now the ruffing finesse in clubs is taken – at any rate it is nice to know that SOMEBODY at the table was aware we had the ace – so there is now no spade loser either, and the opponents inscribe a merry +550 into their scorecard. Not bad for a sacrifice -- and especially one that is trivially down off the top.

As it happens, a very close friend of mine was kibitzing that round, and afterwards wished to have a word or two with me about this deal – in his dual capacity as comrade-in-arms and also top American professional, he wanted to give me the benefit of his insights. Before he could start in, I impatiently fulminated: “HOW WAS THAT HUDDLE EVEN POSSIBLE? HOW WAS THAT DEFENSE EVEN POSSIBLE? HOW COULD DECLARER, WHO OPENED GAMBLING 3N, POSSIBLY HAVE FOUR HEARTS ON THE SIDE?”

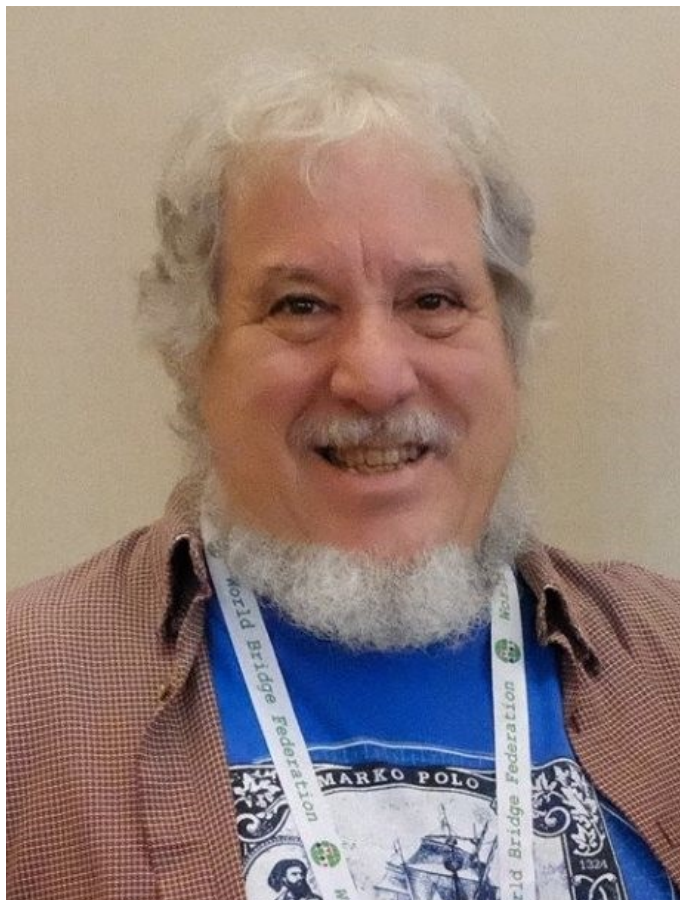
“PRE-EMPTS WORK” -- AN EXCLUSIVE ‘GONZO JOURNALISM’ SERIES FOR PULA “GM BRIDGE”: Part 2

My friend said: “You don’t get it. YOU made this happen.” I calmly aired a few choice expletives and asked what the **** he meant by that. He continued: “You see, your partner was conflicted – on the one hand there was all the evidence that you had the Club ace and not the Spade queen, and it was of course absurd to imagine S could have a side suit. On the other hand, however, you played your two hearts in PERFECT TEMPO. In some places, for some players, that unequivocally shows a doubleton.” This was not something I would ever have considered, given the identity of my partner, and I said so. “Fine” – said the omniscient kibitzer – “Your alternative is to believe your partner cannot figure out a trivially simple defensive position. Take your pick of the only two possible explanations.” I said it was still unthinkable. My friend closed proceedings with: “You obviously haven’t been around the block as many times as I have.” BLOCK? DID HE JUST SAY BLOCK?? HOW ON EARTH DID HE KNOW ABOUT MY EXHIBIT A???? DID I JUST CALL HIM OMNISCIENT?? THE DUDE IS BLOODY PSYCHIC.

OK we now return at last to the central theme of this series: DID THIS “PRE-EMPT WORK”? To judge by table result alone, YES this will do until a proper success comes along – but we have already seen that such a superficial criterion can be extremely misleading. The most appropriate way to assess efficacy is in regard to the question: “Did the pre-empt greatly inconvenience the enemy?” The answer is NO, not really – it may well have pushed us into a cold game we might have stayed out of if S had instead masked his hand with a 1♦ opening. That would probably have enabled the Dealer to chime in with 1♠ (over either 1♥ or else X). In that sequence E would Pass and S would rebid diamonds, and now EW might or might not reach game. A further twist, though, is that pushing EW into game here turns out OK if the opening side then sacrifice in 5D, which costs only 100 and is thus a great score even if EW stopped in a heart partial. Yet another reason why table results can be such a treacherous indicator.

As is so often the case, it is not easy to say what would have happened in the parallel universe where an alternative call is chosen instead of the pre-empt (and quite often, there are multiple alternatives that might have been chosen instead). Here the most likely scenario after 1♦ is probably a low-level intervention by W and then 1♠ by the passed-hand Dealer, followed by a Pass from E and a jump to 3♦ by the Opener. This would put NS in an excellent position to compete to 4♦ which is cold, or else to find the same profitable sacrifice if EW forge on to 4♥. Thus it is very likely that the pre-empt actually had no real effect on the final contract, and as we have noted earlier it did nothing at all to inhibit EW. Accordingly the most judicious analytical verdict to reach is that the pre-empt neither succeeded nor failed but more or less probably broke even.

Ah but there may be more things in heaven and earth,



Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy. So far in this series, we have seen three instances where a multiple EBL/WBF medalist faced a simple defensive position -- yet went into an interminable trance, and ultimately made an inconceivable play. What could possibly ever account for such aberrations? Perhaps we should consider the possibility – however irrational it might seem – that there IS in fact a potential Cause-&Effect relation between a pre-empt and a horrific blunder by the other side, EVEN WHEN THERE IS APPARENTLY NO REMOTELY PLAUSIBLE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TWO. This counter-rational hypothesis would be based on the GENERALLY DE-STABILIZING EFFECT of pre-emption, particularly when it occurs at the 3-level or higher – perhaps it produces some sort of cognitive shell-shock, leading to “intra-traumatic stress syndrome” and an acute disruption of normal ratiocinative thought processes. Opposing pre-empts typically raise the stakes, while giving our side the uncomfortable sense of being at a tactical disadvantage – this in turn tends to heighten the ambient tension, activate counter-productive emotions, and may provoke dysfunction at the subliminal level. In short, sometimes exploding pre-empts may keep even veteran warriors from thinking straight just by their very sudden violent nature.

And if so, then yes indeed – PRE-EMPTS WORK.

62ND PULA BRIDGE FESTIVAL



FRI, SEPT 13TH	4 P.M.	WELCOME PAIRS: single session: 24-26 boards
SAT, SEPT 14TH	8 P.M.	IMP PAIRS: single session: 26-30 boards
SUN, SEPT 15TH	12 P.M.	MIXED & NON-MIXED TEAMS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
	4.30 P.M.	MIXED & NON-MIXED TEAMS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
MON, SEPT 16TH	12 P.M.	BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS: 4 rounds of 6 boards
	5 P.M.	BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS: 3 rounds of 6 boards
	9.30 P.M.	MADHATTER'S MIDNIGHT KARAOKE PARTY Restaurant Boschetto (Boškarin)
TUE, SEPT 17TH	8 P.M.	LARA MIXED & NON-MIXED PAIRS single session: 26-30 boards
WED, SEPT 18TH	12 P.M.	OPEN TEAMS - QUALIFIER: 3 rounds of 8 boards
	4.30 P.M.	OPEN TEAMS - A & B GROUPS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
THU, SEPT 19TH	12 P.M.	OPEN TEAMS - A & B GROUPS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
	4.30 P.M.	OPEN TEAMS - MORE GROUPS: 3 rounds of 8 boards
	9.30 P.M.	PUBridge Quiz (venue to be announced)
FRI, SEPT 20TH	11 A.M.	OPEN TEAMS - FINALS GROUP A: 3 rounds of 8 boards
FRI, SEPT 20TH	4 P.M.	BRK OPEN PAIRS - 3 SESSIONS of 10 boards
SAT, SEPT 21ST	1 P.M.	BRK OPEN PAIRS - 3 SESSIONS of 10 boards
SAT, SEPT 21ST	9 P.M.	VICTORY CEREMONY & AFTERPARTY

NUMBER OF PLAYERS IS LIMITED

REGISTRATION ONLY ONLINE AT: pulabridgefestival.com



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Histria/Horizont - Pula center: car 15 euro, by mini van 25 euro

car is comfortable for four persons, mini van for eight persons



Restaurant Boschetto

Very nice, friendly place near the tennis courts, 500 meters from the venue. Decent food and reasonable prices. This restaurant will probably 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.

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 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 room. 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.

Konoba Volme

This place is a bit further away, in Banjole, but it is worth visiting. It is a very nice restaurant with big terrace, very local and homey. Food is authentic Croatian, delicious and prices are in a lower range. You will need a car to get there. To make sure you get your table make a reservation +385 (98) 818265.



Restaurant Batelina (Gaultmillau review)

Restaurant Batelina is actually an old tavern in Banjole, a small town near Pula. It is not particularly decorated, nor does it have any advantages such as a garden, a special view or an interesting interior design, yet it is incredibly popular and it is very difficult to get a reservation. The first reason is the always fresh fish and seafood, but also the reduced working hours. An additional reason is certainly their famous chef David Skoko, a cook that appears almost every day on TV. Although he does not cook at Batelina on a daily basis, he is the one who creates the menu. The appetizers are varied and they serve 6 or 7 of them in small bowls or little plates: marinated sardines, sardines in savor (fried and marinated) , sea bass ceviche, pickled vegetables, salads... Our favourite was the gran-



igula, a delicious crab that is harder to find in restaurants these days. All dishes are based on a traditional and simple method of preparation. First of all, there are raw or grilled scampi, as well as various fish, depending on the day's catch, but also traditional cuttlefish brodetto, squid noodles with fried onions, which are definitely to recommend. If you expect top-quality dishes, prepared with imaginative culinary techniques, paired with wines, and all this in an elegant space – well, you won't find it here. Rather, we would say that Batelina is a tavern of "raw passions", basic, simple and traditional. Important notice: in Batelina they don't accept credit cards.

Sophia, Grand Hotel Brioni

Named after Sophia Loren who was frequent visitor of Brioni islands as a guest of ex-Yu president Josip Broz Tito, this place is a real gem.

Sophia restaurant is a premium meat specialist. Dine on the highest quality matured cuts of beef, including favourites like classic American steaks, but also local like Istrian Boskarin.

The atmosphere of this restaurant quickly puts a spell on their guests. Subdued lighting and darker color scheme create a mood that invites them to lower their guard and simply let the restaurant's specialties sweep them away. Expensive, but worth it.





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MECSEK KUPA

January 2-5, 2025, Pécs, Hungary

Following a long-standing tradition, this historic international tournament will once again be held at the beginning of 2025. The venue will be the recently renovated Laterum Hotel, conveniently located near the city center of Pécs. Participants will have access to the hotel's wellness facilities throughout the day, enjoy seated lunches and dinners, and benefit from free parking. In addition, we will be organizing city tours and other social events, allowing you to extend your New Year celebrations in bridge player style.



Location: Laterum Hotel
Address: 7633 Pécs, Hajnóczy utca 37-39, Hungary
Website: www.laterum.hu
Director: Ádám Magyar
Organizer: Péter Fehér
Email: peter.fehér101@gmail.com
Phone: +36 20 946 3129 / +36 20 496 8057

Times:

Teams:

Round 1: Thursday, January 2nd, 2025, 19:00 to 24:00. Dinner: 18:00.

Round 2: Friday, January 3rd, 2025, 14:00 to 22:00. Lunch: 13:00. Dinner: 18:00.

Mitchell Pairs:

Round 1: Saturday, January 4th, 2025, 15:00 to 19:30. Dinner: 19:30.

Round 2: Sunday, January 5th, 2025, 10:00 to 14:00. Lunch 14:30.

Entry Fees and Prizes:

Tournament	Entry	First Prize
Teams	HUF 40.000/team	HUF 120.000/team
Mitchell Pairs	HUF 25.000/pair	HUF 100.000/pair

Additional prizes will be awarded depending on the number of participant.

Juniors receive a 20% discount on the entry fee, and discounted rooms upon availability.

Accommodation and Meals:

Room Type	Price	Meals	Price
Single/night	HUF 19.000	Lunch	HUF 4.800/person
Double/night	HUF 25.000	Dinner	HUF 4.800/person

Please submit your entries by November 15, 2024, as we need to inform the venue of the final number of participants.

Registration:

Hotel Reservation: <https://forms.gle/YZRNCsRdEiZm8EY56>

Teams Registration: <https://forms.gle/TWaYkgBstXssUPLI7>

Pairs Registration: <https://forms.gle/yQaxFmrur491B32n9>

or go to: www.bridzs.hu/en/

Looking forward to playing against you!

Péter Fehér

Organizer

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS TOURNAMENT

6th-7th-8th DECEMBER 2024

MEMORIAL

ARTURO FRANCO
e DANO DE FALCO

CITTÀ DI MILANO

QUARK HOTEL MILANO
VIA LAMPEDUSA 11/A - MILANO (MI)

NATIONAL STUDENT PAIRS TOURNAMENT

7th DECEMBER 2024

MEMORIAL

FRANCO DI STEFANO

SCHEDULE

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Friday 6th	10,00 - 14,00 14,30 - 19,15 21,40 - 23,55	registrations 4 rounds 2 rounds
Saturday 7th	10,00 - 12,15 14,00 - 20,00	2 rounds 5 rounds
Sunday 8th	10,00 - 12,35 14,15 - 15,25	2 rounds 1 round

prize-giving ceremony to follow

NATIONAL STUDENT PAIRS

Saturday 7th	10,30 - 14,15 14,30 - 19,35	registrations 2 sessions
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prize-giving ceremony to follow

ACCOMODATION


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	DOUBLE ROOM	€ 149,00 (per night)
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	Buffet Dinner 6/12 - 7/12	€ 35,00
	Served Dinner 3 courses	€ 45,00

Cafeteria and Snack Bar available in the playing area

 Starred Chef during the whole catering

Free parking available

Indoor Garage (on request)
€ 10,00 per day



QUARK HOTEL MILANO

Via Lampedusa 11/a - 20141 Milano (MI) tel +39 02 847391
info@quarkhotelmilano.com - www.quarkhotelmilano.com

REGISTRATIONS

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Participation is allowed to FIGB members and members of any other NBO in good standings with their NBO (WBF or EBL).

ONLINE (within 3 dec 2024) € 300 per team
www.federbridge.it
Banner "Torneo Città di Milano"



FRONT DESK € 330 per team

JUNIOR TEAMS FREE ENTRY
(each player have been born in 1999 or later)

At the time of registration, please specify your team's category in order to gain access to the special prizes.

NATIONAL STUDENT PAIRS

Participation is allowed to FIGB students only

EMAIL to gare@federbridge.it or FRONT DESK € 20 per pair

Information: Gianluca Frola
gare@federbridge.it - +39 329 5609977

PRIZE POOL

FINAL A	FINAL B	OTHER FINALS 6 teams per group
1 st € 4000	1 st € 750	1 st € 350
2 nd € 2500	2 nd € 600	
3 rd € 1200	3 rd € 500	
4 th € 900	4 th € 450	
5 th € 700	5 th € 400	
6 th € 600		
7 th € 500		
8 th € 400		

SPECIAL PRIZES (€ 350 each, not cumulative)

- 1st team of 2nd/3rd cat./NC (min 3 teams)
- 1st Junior team (min. 3 teams)
- 1st Mixed team (min. 5 teams)
- 1st Ladies team (min. 5 teams)
- 1st Foreign team (min 5 teams)

The prize money will be awarded after legal taxes are deducted.
For foreign residents, the taxation is 30%.

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS TOURNAMENT
6th-7th-8th DECEMBER 2024



NATIONAL STUDENT PAIRS TOURNAMENT
7th DECEMBER 2024

TITLE HOLDERS



2019 Winners

K1

Ivan Nanev, Julian Stefanov, Vladimir Mihov, Rosen Gunev

ORGANIZATIONS

ITALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

Chief Organizer

Pierfrancesco Parolaro

pierfrancesco.parolaro@federbridge.it - +39 347 6869896

Technical Director

Gianluca Frola

Chief Tournament Director

Roberto Zaleri

ONLINE PLATFORMS



RUNNING SCORES of the
“Città di Milano” International Teams Tournament
will be available
on a dedicated section of the FIGB website

www.federbridge.it

or download



the official FIGB App
available for Android and iOS on dedicated stores

Each match of table 1 (group A)
will be broadcasted on BBO vugraph.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Teams can be composed of maximum 7 players including the captain.

For each match, 8 boards are to be played. Scoring: centesimal VP 20/0 scale, integral carry over. Pre-dealt boards will be played in each round.

First session of play - Friday, December 6th. All the teams will play as a single group 6 rounds (swiss movement). The organization will set up the matches of the first round.

Second session of play - Saturday, December 7th. According to the final ranking of the first session, the teams will be divided into 2 groups. In each group, 4 rounds will be played (swiss movement).

Third session of play - Saturday, December 7th. The teams will be divided into 3 groups. In each group, 3 rounds will be played (swiss movement).

Fourth session of play - Sunday, December 8th. The teams will be divided into 4 groups. The teams will not anymore be able to move from one group to another one. In each group, 3 rounds will be played (if technically possible, 2 rounds with swiss movement. And 1 round with Danish movement). Screens in Final A.

Details on the composition and number of groups and on promotion/relegation criteria will be communicated on Friday before the start of the afternoon session.

The technical organization has full power to modify the time schedule, the number of matches and the formula for the best outcome of the tournament.

FIGB RULES APPLY



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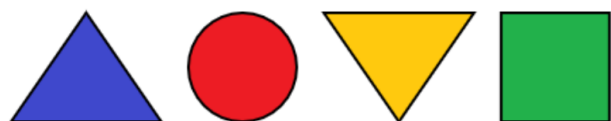
Have you ever asked yourself - how a top
player would bid or play this hand?
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Reminders:

- 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.

PULA BRIDGE FESTIVAL DECLARATION (2019)

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

