

# Goodmorning Bridge

## Pula Bridge Festival Online Bulletin

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Dear Pula Players,

The festival has started and three days have passed in a blink of an eye. As you can see from smiling faces everywhere you look everybody is having fun and enjoying seaside and playing some phenomenal bridge!

We are happy to announce that few days ago we passed 500 registered players, and in all tournaments so far we have the roughly same numbers as in 2024.

It seems that weather will be warm throughout the festival, although there is a slight possibility of rain on Tuesday, other than that we are expecting lot of sun and daily temperatures of about 25 Celsius, and the sea is still warm, 23-24 Celsius.

As we have already printed in first edition of our bulletin winners of Welcome pair are Jack Kranenburg (NED) & Krzysztof Świątkowski (POL), congratulations once more.

IMP pairs tournament had 119 pairs playing with winners coming from Bulgaria and their names are Tzvetomir Gruev and Veselin Bochev. They destroyed competition and collected very respectful 67IMPs.

On Sunday two concurrent team tournaments were played. They are mixed teams and non mixed teams former having 36 register teams and latter having 27 teams. After the smoke cleared after 6 rounds of 8 boards winners are: Stanicic Software in mixed and Intercity in non-mixed. Full results are in following pages

So after three initial tournaments we already have winners from 5 nations: Poland, Netherlands, Croatia, Bulgaria, and Slovenia. It pleases us greatly to have winners from various countries.

We are reminding you again that registrations are available only [online](#) and will close six hours before the start of pairs and approximately two hours before the start of teams tournaments. Pairs/teams who register later will be allowed to play only if it is convenient for the organizer. Please help us by registering in advance, and in case you decide to cancel your registration please inform us immediately at



[pulabridge@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Gentle reminder that this Monday we will have off the table activities. Karaoke party that will be held in restaurant Boschetto (Boškarin) starting at 9:30 pm, and before that we will hold our annual Madhatter challenge where teams will compete in various tasks not related to bridge. Boschetto is around 500m from the venue (see the map on last page

Also if you want to be included in next editions of this bulletin with whatever you would like to be published, great bridge hand, birthday wishes, sending regards home feel free to email me on email address on top of this page

For the end i wish you all great time on and off the table, if you haven't won something already i hope you do in next couple of days and enjoy this beautiful festival!

# RESULTS

## IMP PAIRS

1	Tzvetomir Gruiev (BUL) - Veselin Bochev (BUL)	67.00	67	Tony Olech (ENG) - Prof John Philip Dakin (ENG)	-1.00
2	Doga Seker (CZE) - Marshall Lewis (CRO)	62.00	67	Roland Leutbecher (GER) - Maria Leutbecher (GER)	-1.00
2	Grzegorz Superson (POL) - Giorgi Zedginidze (POL)	62.00	69	Andrzej Huńka (POL) - Janusz Środa (POL)	-3.00
4	Katarzyna Stachowiak (POL) - Michał Dembinski (POL)	55.00	69	Sandra Probst (CRO) - Esad Kulovic (CRO)	-3.00
5	Thibo Sprinkhuizen (NED) - Sibrand Van Oosten (NED)	54.00	71	My Linh Nguyen-Kovacs (HUN) - Artúr Kovács (HUN)	-4.00
5	Marjan Jeretič (SLO) - Marjan Pavlija (SLO)	54.00	72	Rosi Kuntz (GER) - Josef Harsányi (GER)	-5.00
7	Mariusz Ilnicki (POL) - Wiesława Mirosław (POL)	53.00	73	Ákos Máramarosi (HUN) - Zsófia Nagy (HUN)	-6.00
8	Caroline van Valen (NED) - Rob Jagroop (NED)	51.00	74	Marjan Vezjak (SLO) - Sebastjan Jeretič (SLO)	-8.00
9	Linda Molle (NED) - Marco ter Laare (NED)	50.00	75	Christian Froehner (GER) - Pony Nehmert (GER)	-9.00
10	Faruk Mašić (BIH) - Milovan Milovic (ITA)	48.00	75	Kiril Marinovski (CRO) - Vedran Zoric (CRO)	-9.00
11	Marek PIECZKA (POL) - Roman Grzelak (POL)	42.00	77	Duško Katić (CRO) - Snezana Zigun (SUI)	-10.00
11	Anastasia Mironova (SRB) - Sergei Mironov (SRB)	42.00	77	David Longstaff (CAN) - Robert Griffiths (CAN)	-10.00
13	Aida Jansma (NED) - Jan Jansma (NED)	41.00	77	Siniša Kuruzović (BIH) - Jasmina Vignjevic (BIH)	-10.00
14	Ksenija Čare (SLO) - Oliver Sims (SLO)	38.00	80	Mikk Mirme (EST) - Jüri Aava (EST)	-11.00
14	Ana Zorana Brajovic (SRB) - Protega Bato (SLO)	38.00	81	Aurelio Coen (CRO) - Nina Vidaic (CRO)	-14.00
16	Lachezar Peychev (BUL) - GEORGI GEORGIEV (BUL)	35.00	81	Romeo Varga (SLO) - Ognjen Škrebilin (CRO)	-14.00
17	Sandra Havlicek (CRO) - Iva Mrkic (CRO)	33.00	81	Dóra Kontra (HUN) - Fruzsina Hegyi (HUN)	-14.00
18	Laura Lipman (USA) - Christina Lund Madsen (DEN)	31.00	84	Maria Lafchieva (BUL) - Angel Momov (BUL)	-15.00
18	Drazen Martinovic (CRO) - Igor Novosel (CRO)	31.00	85	Irena Rukavina (CRO) - Zlatko Unetić (CRO)	-18.00
18	Axel Johannsson (AUS) - Karen McCallum (AUS)	31.00	85	Koen Poppe (NED) - Cisca Vorselman (NED)	-18.00
18	Ewa Sobolewska (POL) - Aleksandra Świętkowska (POL)	31.00	87	Andrzej Proczkowski (POL) - Tadeusz Wieckewicz	-19.00
22	Marion Ründal (EST) - Marju Leppik (EST)	30.00	88	Piotr Nerka (NED) - Rinse Kappetein (NED)	-20.00
23	Miroslaw Milaszewski (POL) - Sophie Waksman (FRA)	27.00	88	Halina Swiech (POL) - Maria Krasowska (POL)	-20.00
24	Metod Gantar (SLO) - Tina Drnovšek (SLO)	26.00	90	Zdzisław Baryła (POL) - Leszek Garbacik (POL)	-21.00
25	Filip Katušić (CRO) - Olgu Seker (TUR)	25.00	90	Marijan Štimac (SLO) - Daroslav Habijan (CRO)	-21.00
26	Marek Mazur (POL) - Tomasz Walania (POL)	24.00	92	Petar Gvozdev (BUL) - Rumen Lazarov (BUL)	-22.00
26	Stawomir Zawislak (POL) - Krzysztof Kujawa (POL)	24.00	92	Jože Sadar (SLO) - Bogdan Rašula (SLO)	-22.00
26	Nikica Sver (CRO) - Marina Pilipovic (CRO)	24.00	94	Tadeusz Chmielowiec (POL) - Jacek Gąsiorek (POL)	-23.00
26	Stanisław Pająk (POL) - Bogdan Szulejewski (POL)	24.00	95	Fulvio Milić (CRO) - Igor Mandalinić (CRO)	-25.00
30	Jarek Grabek (POL) - Stanisław Wawarczyk (POL)	23.00	95	Mladen Ferenčič (CRO) - Mirjana Barisic (SRB)	-25.00
31	Hugh McAlister (NZL) - Diana McAlister (NZL)	22.00	97	Ewa Dziekanska (POL) - Krzysztof Dziekański (POL)	-26.00
31	Jeseničnik Aleksandra (SLO) - ORAC Tolja (SLO)	22.00	98	Janos Spielmann (HUN) - Balázs Imre Szalay (HUN)	-28.00
31	Fleur Beekman (NED) - Youp Caris (NED)	22.00	99	Maxim Šilin (USA) - Carrie Liu (USA)	-30.00
31	Eric van Valen (NED) - Anneke van der Meer (NED)	22.00	100	Mariusz Gawłowski (POL) - Sławomir Brodziński (POL)	-31.00
35	Leo Huvers (NED) - Otto van Schravendijk (NED)	21.00	101	Marek Kamelski (POL) - Bartłomiej Kamelski (POL)	-37.00
35	Katarzyna Żabicka-Bajon (POL) - Anna Lasocka (POL)	21.00	101	Sharon King (CAN) - Dianne Aves (CAN)	-37.00
35	Hana Rus (SLO) - GREGOR RUS (SLO)	21.00	101	Lea Grebenar (CRO) - Petra Kovacic (CRO)	-37.00
38	Robbie de Koster (NED) - Eva Poppe (NED)	20.00	104	Anton Zegwaard (NED) - Peter Dekker (NED)	-38.00
38	Zsuzsa HAMORI (HUN) - Csaba Czimmer (HUN)	20.00	105	Eduard Schnöhl (AUT) - Manuel Jindra (AUT)	-39.00
38	Tomislav Šašek (CRO) - Dubravko Diklić (CRO)	20.00	106	Stanislav Mandurić (BIH) - Velimir Zdjelar (BIH)	-40.00
38	Piotr Suchodolski (POL) - Arkadiusz Majcher (POL)	20.00	107	Kata Vass (HUN) - Tamás Fodor (HUN)	-41.00
42	Adriana Imsa (LAT) - Toms Straume (LAT)	19.00	108	Gorana Mitić (SRB) - Djorje Poljak (SRB)	-42.00
42	Csaba Ráduly (HUN) - Viktor Dániel (HUN)	19.00	109	Sanja Lazic (SRB) - Slaviša Marković (SRB)	-43.00
44	Kate Terry (NZL) - Rebecca Osborne (NZL)	18.00	110	Justyna Graniczny (POL) - Adam Olszewski (POL)	-44.00
45	László Földes (HUN) - Máté Mráz (HUN)	15.00	111	Milica Radenković (SRB) - Ivica Kikić (SRB)	-47.00
46	Iva Kasabova (BUL) - Petar Darakchiev (BUL)	14.00	112	Krzysztof Dzierżak (POL) - Rafał Bald (POL)	-49.00
47	Ivan Mladenov (BUL) - Kiril Smirnov (BUL)	13.00	113	Ana Petrovic (SRB) - Jurica Špoljar (CRO)	-52.00
48	Tadeusz Denisiuk (POL) - Witold Grochulski (POL)	12.00	114	Diane Bourdeau (CAN) - Sharon Boyd (CAN)	-57.00
48	Pavel Bobrov (GER) - Frank Dethlefsen (GER)	12.00	115	JOSIP ČOBANOV (CRO) - DOMAGOJ VIROVIĆ (CRO)	-59.00
50	Jacek Cebulski (POL) - Zbigniew Słaby (POL)	8.00	116	Mirek Derwojed (POL) - Krzysztof Bonowicz (POL)	-63.00
50	Mariusz Tatarczuk (POL) - Colin Jones (ENG)	8.00	117	Barbara Webster (CAN) - Lois Matton (CAN)	-69.00
52	Agata Kowal (POL) - Jakub Kowal (POL)	7.00	118	Zoran Sostarić (CRO) - Kristian Sentić (CRO)	-74.00
52	Krzysztof Świątkowski (POL) - Alex Cimr (POL)	7.00	119	Lajos Baranyai (HUN) - Peter Andras Simon (HUN)	-89.00
54	Brigitte Melzer-Lena (GER) - Helmut Lena (GER)	6.00	119	Edin Muftić (BIH) - Dragana Muftić (BIH)	-95.00
55	Elżbieta Waniurska (POL) - Piotr Waniurski (POL)	5.00			
55	Paweł Skrzypek (POL) - Jack Kranenburg (NED)	5.00			
57	Mihailo Simic (SRB) - Olga Simic (SRB)	2.00			
57	Bernd Donner (GER) - Hans-Peter Puck (GER)	2.00			
59	Evgeniya Racheva (BUL) - Lazar Aleshanov (BUL)	1.00			
59	Sanja Vištica (CRO) - Davor Ruso (CRO)	1.00			
59	Felix Odelga (AUT) - Ema Kurtovic (AUT)	1.00			
59	Magdalena Kapała (POL) - Milena Gryzlo (POL)	1.00			
63	Barbara Drinovec Drnovšek (SLO) - Tomasz Adamci (SLO)	0.00			
63	Jasminka Klanjscek (CRO) - Arie Teeuw (NED)	0.00			
63	Stefan Thorpe (AUT) - Julie Zhou (AUT)	0.00			
63	Mate Meštrić (CRO) - Srđan Katušić (CRO)	0.00			

# RESULTS

## MIXED TEAMS

1 Stanicic Software	Vedran Zoric (CRO) Nikica Sver(CRO) Sandra Havlicek(CRO) Dubravko Diklić(CRO) Marina Pilipovic(CRO) Ognjen Staničić (CRO)	89.22
2 Dutchies	Linda Molle (NED) Mark Thiele (NED) Marco ter Laare (NED) Renee Verdegaal (NED)	84.73
3 Palačinka	Gregor Rus (SLO) Hana Rus (SLO) Robbie de Koster (NED) Eva Poppe (NED)	82.26
4 Kuglana Unlimited	Tihana Brkljačić (CRO) Mate Meštrić (CRO) Olgu Seker (TUR) Doga Seker (CZE)	79.55
5 Mixed Snics	Jörg Fritsche (GER) Susanne Kriftner (GER) Christian Froehner (GER) Pony Nehmert (GER)	76.05
6 Global Warming	Elżbieta Waniurska (POL) Piotr Waniurski (POL) Agata Kowal (POL) Jakub Kowal (POL)	75.48
7 Fast Forward	Sanja Lazic (SRB) Igor Novosel (CRO) Anastasia Mironova (SRB) Sergei Mironov (SRB)	75.22
8 Bez ideje	Sandra Probst (CRO) Iva Mrkic (CRO) Josko Dilovic (CRO) Ante Mijić (CRO)	72.75
9 DeepPurple	Igor Mandalinić (CRO) Mirjana Barisic (SRB) Fulvio Milić (CRO) Halina Swiech (POL)	72.24
10 Kembridge	Miodrag Malović (SRB) Protega Bato (SLO) Mihailo Simic (SRB) Ana zorana Brajovic (SRB) Olga Simic (SRB)	71.89
11 Mamacik	Mariken Schoenmakers (NED) Mark Kaptein (NED) Koen Poppe (NED) Cisca Vorselman (NED)	69.23
12 Ruch Chorzów	K. Świątkowski(POL) Alex Cimr(POL) Dominika Lucka(POL) Paweł Skrzypek(POL) Magdalena Kapata(POL) Milena Gryzłó(POL)	65.80
13 Team ReDoubled	Stefan Thorpe (AUT) Julie Zhou (AUT) Tolja Orac (SLO) Jeseničnik Aleksandra (SLO)	65.41
14 Typewriter	Marieke Van der Valk (NED) Malou Sprinkhuizen (NED) Thibo Sprinkhuizen (NED) Sibrand Van Oosten (NED)	64.70
15 Mixed Across Borders	Maria Lafchieva (BUL) Angel Momov (BUL) Enikő Nagy (HUN) Vilmos Ferenc Sági (HUN)	63.78
16 London	Mirosław Milaszewski (POL) Maria Krasowska (POL) Peter Curlender (USA) Fifi French (ENG)	63.11
17 Filipine	Filip Katušić (CRO) Vedrana Vazdar (CRO) Petra Kovacic (CRO) Filip Jelic (SRB)	62.88
18 XXXXXYY	Lea Grebenar (CRO) Viktor Leskovar (CRO) Renata Muller (CRO) Marshall Lewis (CRO)	61.88
19 SJEDI 2	Zlatko Unetić (CRO) Irena Rukavina (CRO) Ana Petrovic (SRB) Dyorje Poljak (SRB)	60.41
20 Maske	Faruk Mašić (BIH) Majda Salaka (BIH) Zeljka Karaman Martinovic (CRO) Drazen Martinovic (CRO)	58.78
21 Barracuda	Aida Jansma (NED) Jan Jansma (NED) Anke Van den Bergh (BEL) Nic Van den Bergh (BEL)	58.10
22 Palatinus	Katalin Mezei (HUN) László Honti (HUN) Zsuzsa HAMORI (HUN) Csaba Czimmer (HUN)	56.01
23 Vass	Kata Vass (HUN) Péter Gál (HUN) Rosi Kuntz (GER) Karoly Kelen (HUN)	54.60
24 Lombard	Eric van Valen (NED) Anneke van der Meer (NED) Wim Van Luijk (NED) Caroline van Valen (NED)	54.08
25 Aurora	Oddveig Bakken (NOR) Geir Engebretsen (NOR) Gorana Mitić (SRB) Josef Harsanyi (GER)	51.15
26 Northerlands	Lisbeth Eide (NOR) Joris van Gool (NED) Youp Caris (NED) Fleur Beekman (NED)	49.92
27 Zadar	Aurelio Coen (CRO) Nina Vidaic (CRO) Duško Katić (CRO) Snezana Zigun (SUI)	49.24
28 TaX	Nenad Skitarelić (CRO) Tanja Gvozdenović (SLO) Ksenija Čare (SLO) jože sadar (SLO)	48.07
29 Mecu & Rosa	Katarzyna Żabicka-Bajon (POL) Rafał Bald (POL) Anna Lasocka (POL) Krzysztof Dzierżak (POL)	47.02
30 Kalmaar	Marion Ründal (EST) Marju Leppik (EST) Mikk Mirme (EST) Jüri Aava (EST)	44.52
31 BAYERN3	Maria Leutbecher (GER) Roland Leutbecher (GER) Brigitte Melzer-Lena (GER) Helmut Lena (GER)	43.40
32 Grand River	David Longstaff (CAN) Dianne Aves (CAN) Robert Griffiths (CAN) Diane Bourdeau (CAN)	42.20
33 LOLa	Tina Drnovšek (SLO) Barbara Drinovec Drnovšek (SLO) Metod Gantar (SLO) Tomaž Adamič (SLO)	40.69
34 DS	M. Ilnicki(POL) Wiesława Mirosław(POL) Ewa Dziekanska POL) K. Dziekański POL) J. Grabek(POL) Stanisław Wawszczuk (POL)	38.20
35 BUL	Evgeniya Racheva (BUL) Lazar Aleshanov (BUL) Iva Kasabova (BUL) Petar Darakchiev (BUL)	33.89
36 Apaheili Down Under	Karen McCallum (AUS) Axel Johansson (AUS) Maxim Silin (USA) Carrie Liu (USA)	33.54

# RESULTS

1 Intercity	Marko Šipuš (CRO) Bojan Ambrož (SLO) Kiril Marinovski (CRO) Stojan Ivanov (BUL)	88.05
2 Addictives	Laura Lipman (USA) Christina Lund Madsen (DEN) Espen Haugstad (NOR) Joakim Levnang Johansen (NOR)	82.29
3 Wessex lads	Colin Jones (ENG) Owen Leigh (ENG) Tony Olech (ENG) Prof John Philip Dakin (ENG)	77.85
4 Bulgaria 1P3A	Julian Stefanov (BUL) Ivan Nanev (BUL) Zhivko Draganov (BUL) Mark Andonov (BUL)	77.47
5 We made it	Tomislav Šašek (CRO) John Helge Herland (NOR) John Våge (NOR) Erik Eide (NOR)	75.13
6 SILESIA	Marek Pieczka (POL) Slavomir Zawislak (POL) Krzysztof Kujawa (POL) Roman Grzelak (POL)	74.88
7 BOBI	Georgi Georgijev (BUL) Lachezar Peychev (BUL) Ivan Mladenov (BUL) Kiril Smirnov (BUL)	74.54
8 Riga	Adrians Imsa (LAT) Toms Straume (LAT) Yke Smit (NED) Jack Kranenburg (NED)	70.21
9 Dspas	Wisse Huvers (NED) Jamie Westlake (NED) Stefan van Blitterswijk (NED) Leo Huvers (NED)	68.56
10 Topguys	Björn Wenneberg (SWE) Henrik Wegnelius (SWE) Rob Walker (NED) Ton Lucassen (NED)	66.85
11 Kiwi	Hugh McAlister (NZL) Diana McAlister (NZL) Kate Terry (NZL) Rebecca Osborne (NZL)	64.77
12 Mercury	Petar Gvozdev (BUL) Rumen Lazarov (BUL) Tzvetomir Gruev (BUL) Veselin Bochev (BUL)	60.25
13 Vozi Misko	Ivica Kikić (SRB) Zoran Burić (SRB) Slaviša Marković (SRB) Milica Radenković (SRB)	59.02
14 SYK	Ewa Sobolewska (POL) Tomasz Sielicki (POL) Grzegorz Superson (POL) Giorgi Zedginidze (POL)	57.36
15 Katapult	Fruzsina Hegyi (HUN) Dóra Kontra (HUN) My Linh Nguyen-Kovacs (HUN) Artúr Kovács (HUN)	55.93
16 Spławikami do burty	Radosław Szczepański (POL) Stanisław Pająk (POL) Bogdan Szulejewski (POL) Arkadiusz Majcher (POL) Piotr Suchodolski (POL) Mariusz Kowalski (POL)	55.23
17 Dirty Dozen	Andrea Keszthelyi (HUN) László Mészégető (HUN) Csenge Földesi (HUN) László Földesy (HUN) Máté Mráz (HUN)	55.16
18 De Denktank	Arie Teeuw (NED) Otto van Schravendijk (NED) Anton Zegwaard (NED) Peter Dekker (NED)	54.90
19 T-rex	Rex Brocken (NED) Rob Jagroop (NED) Piotr Nerka (NED) Rinse Kappetein (NED) Sonja Walther (NED)	54.63
20 ONLY STAFF	Jan Izwantowski (POL) Wojciech Tokarski (POL) Mateusz Mieszkowski (POL) Antek Danek (POL)	51.77
21 MTK-Koboldok	Balazs Imre Szalay (HUN) Janos Spielmann (HUN) Zsófia Nagy (HUN) Ákos Máramarosi (HUN)	51.70
22 Pucki	Hans-Peter Puck (GER) Bernd Donner (GER) Pavel Bobrov (GER) Frank Dethlefsen (GER)	49.08
23 Drury	Marek Mazur (POL) Tomasz Walania (POL) Andrzej Huńka (POL) Janusz Środa (POL)	45.85
24 Edi's little Angels ^_^	Ema Kurtovic (AUT) Felix Odelga (AUT) Manuel Jindra (AUT) Eduard Schnöll (AUT)	41.85
25 Big Gulyas	Jo Jarrold (ENG) Alison Pritchard (ENG) Lajos Baranyai (HUN) Peter Andras Simon (HUN)	41.85
26 Dworek Lidzbark W	Andrzej Proczkowski (POL) Mirosław Makatrewic (POL) Tadeusz Wieckiewicz (POL) Jerzy Poslednik (POL)	40.79
27 Lawrence	Steven Lawrence (CAN) Sharon King (CAN) Lois Matton (CAN)	36.03



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## OPEN MINI TEAMS

### Board-a-match

Monday, noon

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

Board-a-match is a type of scoring where one could say that it is a team tournament scored like pairs. You compare your scores only with your teammates, but regardless of the difference in points you can only gain 2VP on every board. So on every board you can win the board (2VPs), tie the board (1VP) or lose the board (0VPs). Imagine you are playing pairs tournament on only 2 tables, so be alert and don't let any tricks disappear.

Last year we had 57 teams, and this year we have 30 registered teams but there is still time to register and we know that bridge players like to postpone commitment until very end. Even so it seems that although we have over 500 participants at the festival, half of them enjoy sun and sea and took some break from playing cards :). We are starting as all teams tournament at noon, and at BAM we will have short break from about 4 p.m to 5 p.m.

#### Couple of more reminders:

For all the tournaments you will pay at the table. Please prepare exact amount of money.

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

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

We will play 7 rounds, 6 hands per round. One round is 50 minutes and there is a small break between rounds.

It is the best to leave your mobile phone in your room, but if you take it with you it should be shut down, and

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

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

#### Provisional Schedule:

12.00-12.50 1st round  
13.00-13.50 2nd round  
14.00-14.50 3rd round  
15.00-15.50 4th round  
Short Break

17.00-17.50 5th round  
18.00-18.50 6th round  
19.00-19.50 7th round

#### Best in BAM in 2024:

1	Claire	Claire Alpert (USA), Francisco Bernal (COL), Alfredo Versace (ITA), Sjoert Brink (SUI), Katarzyna Dufirat (POL)	60.00
2	Bastion Smaku	Marcin Bartoszewski (POL), Tomasz Kuś (POL), Zbigniew Rogowski (POL), Roman Kierznowski (POL)	54.60
3	Lombard	Eric van Valen (NED), Rob Jagroop (NED), Odd Egil Skodje (NOR), Wim van Luijk (NED), Mariken Schoenmakers (NED), Mark Kaptein (NED)	51.00
4	Connect	Cezary Serek (POL), Bartek Chmurski (POL), Piotr Tuczyński (POL), Piotr Walczak (POL)	50.00
5	OtraVez	António Palma (POR), Simon Hult (SWE), Ola Rimstedt (SWE), Mikael Rimstedt (SWE)	49.00

Last year famous international team under the name Claire won the BAM, and for some players on the team winnig events was not for the first time, silver was won by team from Poland, while bronze went to Dutch team. Fourth was again polish team, one could say that Poland players know how to play BAM. Fifth were combination of young Swedish players with a sprinkle of Portugal. Last year 8,57 IMPs per match were needed to win the tourney.

Hope you will enjoy this event!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## LARA MIXED PAIRS

Tuesday, 4 p.m.

**\*IMPORTANT\*** This year we start at 4 p.m. on Tuesday,

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

We expect close to 80 Mixed and about 30 in Non-Mixed Pairs, as a comparison last year we had 109 and 77 pairs so we expect some last minute registrations.

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

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

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

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

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

Lara mixed pairs are played in Memory of Lara Ruso, Croatian lady player, who died in 2013 few days before the beginning of the Festival, at age of 27. Lara was light of the festival, and to celebrate her life we award tiara to the best lady in Mixed pairs tournament.

Mixed Pairs Winners 2024:

1 Léo Rombaut (FRA) - Margaux Kurek-Beaulieu (FRA)	64.52%
2 Hanka Lajos (HUN) - Peter Hodosi (HUN)	62.18%
3 Michael Prahin (USA) - Elena Prahin (USA)	61.24%
4 Allison Cappelletti (USA) - Michael Cappelletti (USA)	61.20%
5 Mark Andonov (BUL) - Desislava Malakova (BUL)	60.85%

Non-Mixed Pairs Winners 2024:

1 Stojan Vazic (SRB) - Marko Seizović (SRB)	66.43%
2 Dimitraki Zipovski (SRB) - Goran Radišić (SRB)	64.19%
3 Marko Mladenovic (SRB) - Darko Parezanin (SRB)	63.34%
4 Frank van Gorp (NED) - Ruud Verhoef (NED)	62.12%
5 Mikael Rimstedt (SWE) - Simon Hult (SWE)	61.68%

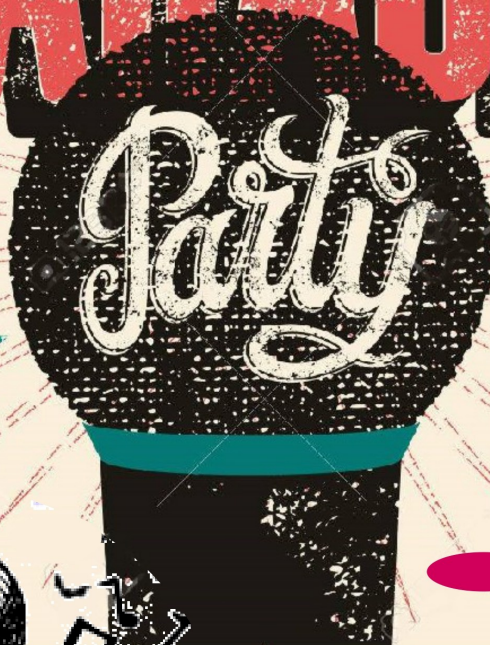
Last year France won the mixed pairs and Serbia non-mixed pairs. Non-Mixed pairs is obviously more challenging event, just as a fact you need more matchpoints to win it, over 66%!

So if you are not sure whether to play Mixed or Non-Mixed, we strongly recommend Mixed events!

# Madhatter's MIDNIGHT



# KARAOKE



Restaurant Boschetto (Boškarin)  
500 meters from the venue

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

MoonDay, September 15, starting 9.30 p.m.

DRESS CODE: Show your respect by wearing a hat



# Madhatter MIDNIGHT TRIATHLON



Madhatter invites brave squads of 4-8 persons for combined challenges in:

- BEER FOR PEACE
- BALOON MURDER
- NAUGHTY FLAMINGO

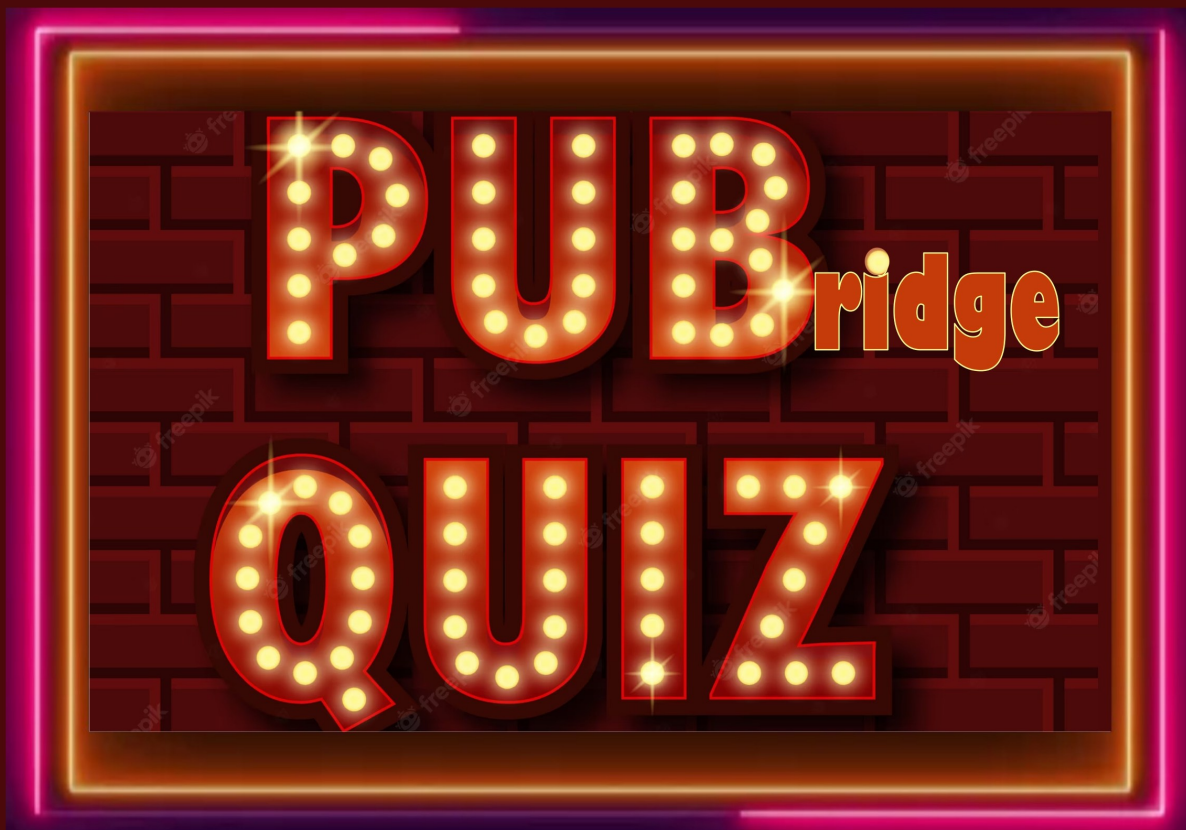


Restaurant Boschetto (Boškarić)  
500 meters from the venue

MoonDay, September 15  
Right after BAM  
before Karaoke Party  
Maximum 10 teams!  
Entries are free!

There are no prizes but there's lot of pride and even more shame involved.





Teams of 4-8 persons are invited to enter the competition: Find your team, choose a name and register by Thursday 8 p.m. online. No entry fees. Maximum 16 teams.

Bridge players and their family members/friends are welcome.  
It would be smart to make international teams.

**Your general and specific knowledge on Bridge, Bridge society, Pula Bridge Festival, Other Events, Cards, Play, and (semi)related concepts will be tested.**

Spectators are welcome.

Thursday, 18 Sept.  
@ Kuglana  
starting 9:30 p.m.

TEAM UP FOR  
PUBridge QUIZ!

it will not be possible to book a table, so come earlier to ensure a good position!

# 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](mailto: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 in the last 24 hours please inform us immediately ([pulabridge@gmail.com](mailto: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 events from Saturday to Tuesday. (e.g. BAM teams 100 euro per team, Mixed pairs 25 euro per player). For the main teams entry is 250 euro/team and for the BRK open pairs 60 euro/player. You are kindly requested to put the entries in the envelopes on the tables before the start of the tournament. Juniors (born 2000 or later) get a discount in all pairs tournaments. In team tournaments, if team consist of juniors only the fee is reduced 50%.

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). Once the entries are collected, prizes will be listed 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 21<sup>st</sup>.

## 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](mailto:pulabridge@gmail.com). Later (but NOT more than 12 hours) complaints will be considered only if it was the organizers' fault.

Although Pula Bridge Festival is very proud of its international TD team, we 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, as well as unusual systems 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.

# Interview: Christina Lund Madsen

In this issue of **Good morning bridge**, we bring you an exclusive interview with Christina Lund Madsen, Denmark best female player

*Yet another European, world, universe champion is with us today. Maybe you have noticed that we tend to interview women. It is true and there is a good reason for that - we prefer to keep our bulletin visually attractive. This is also descrete hint for all male players to put some effort into their appearance if they want to be interviewed.*

*So another beautiful woman it is. Welcome to Pula Christina,*

*How do you like it so far? Who are you going to play with, what are your expectations in terms of results and else?*

Firstly, I love the venue! I had very high expectations because Croatia might be my favourite country to travel in within Europe and I even went to Pula before I ever attended the festival (this is my first time) just to chck out the surroundings. This venue is no less than perfect for a bridge festival. I will be disappointed if there will not be at least one occasion when someone goes for a naked night swim...

I would like to say something nice about the organization, but since I just checked in and immediately had to answer 37 questions, I don't even know if there is a bar yet.

My partner here is Laura Lipman from USA, one of my favourite partners. I forced her to come here and she willingly accepted despite three flights and 6 hours of time difference.

I have no expectations in terms of results. I have learned many years ago that it is better never to have expectations. Just focus on playing well and see if the opponents are generous. Apart from that, our main goal in Pula is to have fun, not win trophies.

*Are you going to prepare a song for Karaoke? Did you bring an extravagant hat for a Madhatter's party, can we see it?*

Because of this question my partner Laura has designed matching hats for us. I will not reveal them before the party, so you have to wait and see... as for a song, I am rather spontaneous and have to wait and see how my voice is feeling after the first

couple of days. I don't normally spare it... I am secretly hoping for some sort of duet with Sibrand thought, but don't tell him!



*There are rumors in the bridge circles that you do not have golden boots, is that true? Please comment if the question is not too intimate and if it is, explain in details why it is so.*

Yet again a question that led me to desperate measures. I brought a golden skirt that I will bet is shorter than your boots... that will also not be revealed until the BAM.

I do not have golden boots, but I have a very good excuse for that. The last pair of boots I owned had a sad ending. I came home from an interesting night and was mildly intoxicated. I could not get one of my boots off, and being too drunk and too exhausted to sleep with the boot on, I decided it would be a great idea to simply cut it open down along the zipper.

Let's just say that didn't seem like such a great idea when I woke up the next morning...

*Would you rather go on a date with the jack of diamonds or the king of clubs, elaborate please. Where would you go, what would you do?*

I would pick the Jack of Hearts. Unlike most women I never liked powerful men, nor do I care much for diamonds. I am sure the jack of hearts would show me a much better time. We would probably go jumping off a cliff into the sea (which I know there are great spots for here in Verudela) and drink some cold wine in the sun. Actually we might begin with the wine, since I am scared of heights...



# Interview: Christina Lund Madsen

*You are a professional player. What does it mean? How does your work day look like? What are the upsides and what are the downsides of this unconventional profession?*

I will give you three answers and you can see which matches the best and what you think are the upsides and downsides:

I get up around 9 in the morning, I check the news on my phone, maybe do some laundry. If the weather is nice, I sit on my terrace in the sun and then I meet my friends for dinner and wine in the evening. I feel bad I didn't make any money that day, but after two glasses of wine I don't care anymore.

I get up around 9 in the morning. I bid a little on



cuebids, send some emails, go for a run and say hi to my kids when they come home from school. At 3 I play on BBO, then I cook for the kids and then I play again at 7 on BBO. I talk to my partner on the phone afterwards and the kids say: "Mom, you don't have to yell though she is in America. She can hear you through the phone."

I get up around 9 in the morning. My mixed partner has sent me an additional 5 pages to add to the 39 other pages of system notes I need to read before the morning match at 10. I skip breakfast and have a coke instead. I meet Bas and pretend I know the system. During the first match he sees I clearly

don't. We lose by 8 and now have to win all our remaining matches to qualify. I finally manage to remember the system, and we qualify in last position. We have team dinner in the evening and celebrate we qualified, and our captain Sjoert Brink claims we are going to win the tournament. We laugh at him and he wants to bet, and 5 days later one of our teammates has to dance Macarena in the restaurant because we won the tournament.

*Do you prefer playing with a man or a woman, are there any consistent differences or it is all the same?*

I don't have any preference playing with men or women. It is about the person, not the sex. All my partners have very different personalities, so I adapt to my partner. If you ask whether I think women are as good at bridge, the answer is no, and there are many explanations for that, which is a debate I will not enter here. Just shortly say it is partly cultural, partly the women's own lack of ambition and dedication.

That being said, there are definitely women as good as men and they are perhaps better partners. I have sometimes played both with and against men who don't have enough respect for women. I didn't go well for them on any occasion. If they underestimate me as their partner, it is wrong, and if they underestimate me as their opponent, that is wrong too.

*What is the most important thing you request from your partner and what is your own best bridge feature?*

That they trust and respect me. As for my own best feature, I think I would say that I am fearless.

*You are also bridge journalist and a quite successful one – here we are hoping you will write something for Good Morning Bridge too – but first, how did you start your journalist career? What do you like most about journalist work?*

Here I was hoping that if I respond to this interview with 4 pages I don't have to write anymore the rest of the time...

# Interview: Christina Lund Madsen

I have a university degree in journalism and did my master thesis on interviews. I very quickly got sucked into the bridge world so I didn't work long as a "normal" journalist though I liked it. People are the most interesting thing in the world. I don't write much anymore apart from occasional interviews with bridge players or when a friend of mine forces me to write something in their bulletin.

*What do you do when you don't play bridge, what are your interests and passions?*

Reading fantasy, dreaming about writing a book, dreaming about working out and usually just end up watching Netflix with my kids. I also do other things, but not sure it is suitable content for the bulletin.

*Please give us an interesting board from IMP tournament.*

Thank God you asked me to respond to this before I played a hand, cause I hate writing about bridge. (still, we managed to get a hand :))

I had  
♠QJ98  
♥Axxx  
♦Ax  
♣JTx

Opp to my right opened 2♠ spades plus minor. 2NT to my left, 3♦ showing 5-5, 3NT. Pass pass and I X! My partner led low spade from Axx. Dummy had KTxxx of spades, I won the 8, played back a spade and down 1. If we don't lead a spade declarer makes 10 tricks.

Board 13.

♠KT652

♥J5

♦QT854

♣6

♠A74

♥9832

♦76

♣9854

♠3

♥KQT

♦KJ93

♣AKQ32

↑

13

♠QJ98

♥A764

♦A2

♣JT7

	NTS	H	D	C	
N	8	8	7	10	9
S	8	8	7	10	9
E	5	5	6	2	4
W	5	5	6	2	4



“A-LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN”: ECCE MULLER (Part 2)

By Marshall C. Lewis

Welcome back to my 2025 Gonzo Journalism series, which features a Goodmorning Bridge exclusive –the first-ever lurid exposé of BICWAYTANA: Bridge-In-Croatia-When-All-You-Tourists-Are-NOT-Around.

Curated for your connoisseur palates are some of the most memorable hands from Croatian “A-Liga” - which means most memorable by me because I am the author, and they are most memorable because they were declared by my brilliant partner, because if I had been at the helm these articles would likely not be covering these deals at all. So once again in the spotlight will be Croatian luminary Renata Muller.

In the first episode of our series Renata brought home a touch-and-go 3N via a somewhat symmetrical pair of threatened throw-ins against each defender. Just a few boards later in the same match, she was again in 3N on the following layout after the auction shown below.

While the main focus is on her play, we first note she did VERY well in the auction -- 4♠ can fail on the lead of ♥10, and did in the other room (when the other declarer did not read the same ♥10 lead as a doubleton, and so did not duck ♥Q):



West	North	East	South
pass	1♣	pass	1♠
pass	2♣	pass	2♦*
pass	3♣	pass	3NT
pass	pass	pass	

\*Artificial one round force

After a revealing period of deliberation West eventually led ♥10, with East contributing the Queen. A host of possibilities had to be considered now with respect to possible heart layouts, location of the key hostile honors, prospects for suit development, combining chances, etc. At some point however she had to do something, so she eventually emerged from the rather dizzying whirl of technical possibilities with the simple plan of trying for a friendly lie in clubs. This in itself did not represent a massive percentage, but it nevertheless seemed to offer the single best hope of solving issues -- and also for reducing immediate analytical angst, with all that attendant cerebral wear-and-tear. So she led a club to the Jack, which held.

It was slightly tempting now to exit dummy with a low club, so as to avoid having to discard twice from her hand, which might compromise the trick-generating capacity of her spade suit if the clubs failed to cooperate -- and also to avoid setting up an extra winner for the enemy in that scenario.

NORTH	
W	♠ 10
	♥ 876
	♦ A105
	♣ AQJ863
WEST	EAST
♠ AJ4	♠ 975
♥ 105	♥ KQ932
♦ J972	♦ 643
♣ K974	♣ 105
SOUTH	
♠ KQ8632	Lead:♥10
♥ AJ4	
♦ KQ8	
♣ 2	



The obvious danger in that tactic, though, was that if the lead had been from K109x (or even fifth, though that seemed unlikely given how slowly the opening lead had appeared), RHO might be able to win a club pip and lead a heart through the Knave. Then if W had begun with ♣Kxx and the spade Ace along with ♥K109x, declarer would be going down in a contract that had been all set to make in cozy comfort once she had chosen to begin her campaign by attacking clubs.

Renata thus played Ace and another club to West, pitching spades while East threw a discouraging ♠7 on the third round. Assorted chances still remained, and declarer was happy to see LHO battle on with hearts. After winning with the King, though, East very revealingly abandoned that suit to advance ♠5, on which Renata played her King. It was painfully apparent to West that he would have no effective continuation if he won this trick -- a second spade to the Nine would be ducked to keep West off lead and thus strand ♣K, and meanwhile the rest of the spade suit would come in for declarer thus providing a ninth trick. Hence West smoothly ducked, but it was still totally clear which adversary had the Ace, given that spade shift by East who could instead presumably have established the hearts -- he was unlikely to have started with just two hearts for various reasons, such as the aforementioned suggestive huddle which had preceded the opening lead. In fact, West was unlikely on multiple grounds to have even as many as four hearts as well -- for example, East would almost surely have led a third heart to establish the long card in the West hand while his partner still held a spade entry. So here we all were at Trick 7, with this middle-game matrix left and lots of robust inferences at this point regarding the EW shape and high-card structure (as just reviewed):

NORTH	
♠ -	
♥ 8	
♦ A105	
♣ Q86	
WEST	EAST
♠ AJ	♠ 9
♥ -	♥ 932
♦ J972	♦ 643
♣ K	♣ -
SOUTH	
♠ Q86	
♥ J	
♦ KQ8	
♣ -	

In this position the defenders already had two tricks in, and still held the master club along with ♠AJ. Reading the position accurately, Renata now played ♥J with a view towards elimination and end-play. West discarded a small diamond on this trick, which very strongly suggested that the W shape was 3244 -- If holding only a doubleton spade West would surely have won ♠A on the first round of that suit, and also East would have been extremely unlikely to let go a spade (as he had done) from any even number of cards when he had a completely risk-free diamond discard available.

Sometimes in such situations one sees declarer play the low diamond intending to finesse dummy's 10, in hopes of creating an extra entry which would allow the long club to be both established and cashed.

There were at least three reasons for rejecting such a risky, desperate maneuver:

- (i) An alert West would insert ♦J on the trick if he held it, killing the finesse and the second entry
- (ii) If the West hand were in fact 4234 with ♦J, Renata could achieve a second dummy entry with zero risk simply by cashing a top diamond in her hand and then leading her other honor. This would extract ♦J, whereupon South could overtake and establish the thirteenth club, with ♦10 still there in dummy to reach it;
- (iii) In any case, though, assuming West is indeed 3244 with ♠A the hand was cold all along, because that third round of hearts had squeezed West out of a surplus winner, forcing him to part with the long diamond.

So just as in scenario (ii) Renata began with ♦K then the Queen, waiting to see what card West produced on the second round. When it was not the Knave, she called low from dummy and then led a third round of the suit. West was now all set up for a throw-in via ♣K, and also for a throw-up when he was obliged to yield the ninth trick to declarer's ♠Q at the very end -- in the two-card end position, West was on lead with ♠AJ while Renata had ♠Q8. (Note also that if West had followed to ♥J in the seven-card matrix, his most likely shape by far would be 3334, which allows Renata to polish him off in identical fashion.)

As noted in Part 1, Job Security is a fine thing. Ah but in truth these first two end-plays have merely been amuse-gueules.... For further plucky escapades in the BICWAYTANA wilderness, tune in again for Part 3.

# Away from bridge table

## A Taste of Istria: Where the Mediterranean Meets Central Europe

Istria, the heart-shaped peninsula in Croatia's northwest, is more than just a region of sunlit coasts and medieval hilltop towns—it's one of Europe's most exciting culinary destinations. Its food and drink culture reflects a rare blend of Mediterranean finesse and Central European heartiness, shaped by centuries of Venetian, Austro-Hungarian, and Slavic influence. For travelers, Istria offers not just meals, but a journey into tradition, terroir, and innovation.

What makes Istrian gastronomy special is not only the quality of its ingredients but also the philosophy behind them. Food here is seasonal, local, and deeply tied to the land and sea. A meal in Istria is never just about eating—it's about experiencing centuries of tradition, shared across generations, and served with genuine pride.

### Truffles: The Crown Jewel

Few regions in the world are as synonymous with truffles as Istria. The Motovun Forest, in the peninsula's interior, is home to prized white and black truffles. Autumn is truffle season, and visitors can join truffle-hunting tours with trained dogs before savoring their finds shaved over fuži (traditional Istrian pasta), scrambled eggs, or steak. White truffles, in particular, fetch global acclaim, placing Istria alongside Piedmont in Italy as a truffle capital.

### Olive Oil: Liquid Gold

Istrian olive oil has been praised since Roman times, and today the region consistently wins awards at international competitions. Small, family-run estates line the countryside, producing intensely green oils with peppery notes. Tasting routes allow visitors to sample oils straight from the press, often paired with homemade bread, prosciutto, and cheeses. Olive oil here is not just an ingredient but a marker of cultural pride and continuity.



### Wine: Malvazija and Teran

No Istrian table is complete without wine. Istria's vineyards thrive thanks to the Mediterranean climate, limestone-rich soil, and proximity to the Adriatic Sea. The signature white, **Malvazija Istarska**, is crisp, aromatic, and perfectly suited to seafood. On the red side, **Teran** is bold, earthy, and pairs beautifully with game and truffle-rich dishes. Many vineyards welcome guests for tours, often set among rolling hills that evoke Tuscany. Increasingly, young winemakers are experimenting with organic and natural methods, adding a modern twist to Istria's ancient viticulture.

### Medica and Hard Spirits: Sweet Traditions

Istria is also home to **medica**, a sweet honey brandy, typically made by infusing local honey into distilled grape brandy (*loza*). Served as a digestif, medica is both a treat and a nod to Istria's folk remedies, historically believed to aid digestion.

Other traditional Istrian spirits include:

**Loza:** Clear grape brandy, often enjoyed neat or infused with herbs and fruits.

**Rakija variants:** Distilled from plums, pears, or cherries, these spirits are a staple at local festivals, weddings, and family gatherings.

### The Sea on a Plate

Along the coast, seafood dominates. Freshly caught fish, scampi from Kvarner Bay, and cuttlefish find their way into grills, risottos, and pastas. One standout is **black risotto**, colored and flavored with cuttlefish ink—a dish as dramatic as it is delicious. Simplicity is key: fish is often served grilled with a drizzle of olive oil, garlic, and parsley, letting the Adriatic speak for itself.

### Hearty Inland Fare

Inland Istria tells a different story, one of rustic comfort food. **Maneštra**, a bean and vegetable stew, warms tables in colder months, while **žgvacet**, a slow-cooked chicken goulash, reflects Central European roots. Homemade pasta such as *pljukanci* and *fuži* forms the base of many dishes, often enriched with wild asparagus in spring or truffles in autumn.

### Sweet Endings and Spirits

For dessert, try **fritule** (small fried doughnuts, sometimes with raisins and brandy) or **kroštule**, crunchy pastries dusted with sugar. To end a meal, locals often turn to **biska**, a mistletoe-infused brandy, or **rakija** flavored with honey, herbs, or figs. These homemade spirits, offered with a smile in taverns and homes alike, symbolize Istrian hospitality.

# 63<sup>RD</sup> PULA BRIDGE FESTIVAL



<b>FRI, SEPT 12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>4 P.M.</b>	<b>WELCOME PAIRS:</b> single session: 24-26 boards
<b>SAT, SEPT 13<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>4 P.M.</b>	<b>IMP PAIRS:</b> single session: 26-30 boards
<b>SUN, SEPT 14<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>12 P.M.</b>	<b>MIXED &amp; NON-MIXED TEAMS:</b> 3 rounds of 8 boards
	<b>4.15 P.M.</b>	<b>MIXED &amp; NON-MIXED TEAMS:</b> 3 rounds of 8 boards
<b>MON, SEPT 15<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>12 P.M.</b>	<b>BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS:</b> 4 rounds of 6 boards
	<b>4.45 P.M.</b>	<b>BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS:</b> 3 rounds of 6 boards
	<b>9.30 P.M.</b>	<b>MADHATTER'S KARAOKE PARTY</b> (Boškarin)
<b>TUE, SEPT 16<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>4 P.M.</b>	<b>LARA MIXED &amp; NON-MIXED PAIRS</b> (26-30 boards)
<b>WED, SEPT 17<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>12 P.M.</b>	<b>OPEN TEAMS - QUALIFIER:</b> 3 rounds of 8 boards
	<b>4.15 P.M.</b>	<b>OPEN TEAMS - A &amp; B GROUPS:</b> 3 rounds of 8 boards
<b>THU, SEPT 18<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>12 P.M.</b>	<b>OPEN TEAMS - A &amp; B GROUPS:</b> 3 rounds of 8 boards
	<b>4.15 P.M.</b>	<b>OPEN TEAMS - MORE GROUPS:</b> 3 rounds of 8 boards
	<b>9.30 P.M.</b>	<b>PUBridge Quiz</b> (Kuglana)
<b>FRI, SEPT 19<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>11 A.M.</b>	<b>OPEN TEAMS - FINALS GROUP A:</b> 3 rounds of 8 boards
<b>FRI, SEPT 19<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>4 P.M.</b>	<b>BRK OPEN PAIRS - 3 SESSIONS</b> of 10 boards
<b>SAT, SEPT 20<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>1 P.M.</b>	<b>BRK OPEN PAIRS - 3 SESSIONS</b> of 10 boards
<b>SAT, SEPT 20<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>9 P.M.</b>	<b>VICTORY CEREMONY &amp; AFTERPARTY</b>
<b>SUN, SEPT 21<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>4 P.M.</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL OPEN PAIRS</b>
<b>MON, SEPT, 22<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>1 P.M.</b>	<b>TEAMS: CROATIA AGAINST THE WORLD</b>

REGISTRATION ONLY ONLINE AT: [pulabridgefestival.com](http://pulabridgefestival.com)



### 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.



### 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.



### 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 grancigula, 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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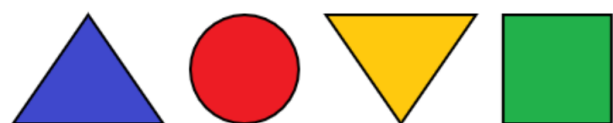


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## Reminders:

- Please register on time;
- learn your [Pula '25 number!](#)
- 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](mailto: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 to yourself and send to us: [vzepic@gmail.com](mailto:vzepic@gmail.com).

### 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

