

The Mind Sports Olympiad has come of age. In its third year, staged at the appropriately-named Olympia Conference Centre in London, the main event for the bridge, the four-session Pairs championship, attracted a good quality field with players from a dozen nations.

With £10,000 of prizes on offer the bookies were backing Paul Chemla of France & Zia Mahmood of the USA, or Ronnie Rubin of the USA & Matt Granovetter of Israel. In the event Espen Erichsen of Norway & Unal Durmus of London put together two big sets to be clear winners of the £3,000 prize ahead of Chemla & Zia. The teams was won by Andrew Robson's team also containing Erichsen, who partnered David Bakhshi. Robson partnered Michael Courtney of Australia. All are London-based.

The organisers, Mind Sports Organisation Worldwide, clearly have big money behind them, as the backers can have seen little change from half-a-million dollars over the 40 mindsports. The entrepreneurs behind MSOW are chess-players David Levy & Raymond Keene.

Their first try, ten years ago, was a failure. Their second in 1997, at London's Festival Hall, worked, but the bridge lacked credibility and clashed with Britain's biggest Congress event, Brighton.

Substantial money prizes for a low standard event with fewer entries than some club duplicates, had many bridge-players kicking themselves for not entering. The 1998 event clashed with Lille, but had approval from the English Bridge Union. Entries improved but were no more prestigious than a minor bridge Congress.

This year, without any real backing from the EBU, the event became something of note. The standard of the final was, for a British Pairs event, second only to the Macallan in terms of quality of the field.

Where does the money come from? In 1997 Levy & Keene were joined by Tony Buzan, the memory man, who found the Swedish firm Skandia as sponsor. In 1999 the backers are four Swedish individuals, but their names are not revealed in the publicity. I have it on good authority that these include a major individual share-holder in the car company, Volvo, recently the subject of a take-over bid.

David Levy told IBPA that MSO wants to work with the bridge authorities, and he will be seeing the President of the World Bridge Federation, José Damiani, about their ambitious plans for next year. The date for the MSO is 21-29th August. As the World Bridge Olympiad in Maastricht starts the weekend the MSO finishes one might expect that a Pairs or Teams event mid-week would attract several of the world's top players, particularly those acclimatising to the time zone, en route to Maastricht. Players can finish the US Nationals in Anaheim or the Brighton Swiss Teams on 20th August, transfer to London for the Mindsports Olympiad and then on to Maastricht for the World Bridge Olympiad.

As the venue for the MSO is London, the EBL's new National Federation, the English Bridge Union, should start taking the MSO much more seriously than it has done to date.

Patrick Jourdain - Editor

SUMMER NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS (contd)

San Antonio, Texas, July 21-31, 1999 From Daily Bulletins edited by Brent Manley & Henry Francis

We reported the Spingold win by Nickell's team in the last Bulletin. Here are some hands from the Daily Bulletin

The Board-a-match Mixed Teams was won by Zia Mahmood, Karen McCallum, Matt Granovetter & Lynn Baker.

Zia in Action

This deal is from the Spingold Teams where Zia was playing on Richard Schwartz's squad:

Dlr: South	A Q 4 2		
Love all	None		
	K J 6 3 2		
	J 6 5 2		
10 6		9 7	
A K J 9 8 7 2		6 5 4	
A 10 4		9 5	
4		A K Q 10 7 3	
	K J 8 5 3		
	Q 10 3		
	Q 8 7		
	9 8		

West	North	East	South
Zia			Pass
1	Dble	Redbl	2
4	4	5	Pass
5	Pass	5	All Pass

The defence cashed two spades and switched to a diamond. Zia won and laid down ace of hearts, discovering South had all three.

Next he boldly finessed the ten of clubs and ran the suit. South ruffed the third round, but Zia could over-ruff, and return to dummy by leading the two of trumps to six to enjoy the rest of the clubs and ditch his losing diamonds.

Fourth hand high

On this hand from the semi-final session of the Grand National Teams, Flight A, North had to look deeply into the hand to come up with the winning play against Steve Robinson and Peter Boyd. Fortunately for the declarer, Robinson, the defender sitting North did not find the winning play.

Dlr: East	J 10 8		
Vul: E/W	K 9 4		
	A 8 2		
	T 8 7 3		
	A K Q	6 4 3 2	
	A 7 3 2	Q J 6	
	J T 5 4 3	K 6	
	J	9 6 5 4	
		9 7 5	
		T 8 5	
		Q 9 7	
		A K Q 2	

West	North	East	South
Boyd		Robinson	
		Pass	Pass
1	Pass	1	Pass
2 (1)	Pass	2 (1)	Pass
2 (2)	Pass	2	All Pass

- (1) Artificial.
 (2) 15+ high-card points and three spades.

South led A and, opting to attack dummy's strong trumps, continued with K. Robinson ruffed and came off dummy with a low diamond. North rose with the ace and played another club, forcing another trump honour from dummy. Robinson played a diamond to the king and, perhaps surprising the defenders, ruffed his last club with dummy's A. Robinson then ruffed a diamond, happily noting that the suit split 3-3, and got out of his hand with one of his low spades.

South covered with the 5, a heart was discarded from dummy, and North had reached the crossroads. The winning play - not easy to spot - was to take the trick with the 10 and play the 8 to South's 9 for a heart switch. When North won the 8, the defense was finished. He had no minor suits left for exit cards and cashing his spades would be fruitless since dummy had two good diamonds. In practice, North got out with the K, but with that suit splitting 3-3 as well, Robinson had eight tricks.

Blame it on Rio

On this deal from the Grand National Teams, Flight A, Eric Rodwell described the situation he arrived at as a Rio de Janeiro squeeze, so named after being described by a Brazilian player. Rodwell and Jeff Meckstroth were representing District 9 in the GNT-A against District 6. The deal helped the Floridians to an impressive victory in the GNT semifinals.

Dlr: South	8 3
E/W Game	T 4

Q J 8 3
 Q 7 6 5 3
 K J 4 A Q 7 6 2
 J 7 5 3 None
 T 9 7 5 K 6 4 2
 9 2 K J 8 4
 T 9 5
 A K Q 9 8 6 2
 A
 A T

West	North	East	South
<i>Meckstroth</i>		<i>Rodwell</i>	
			1
Pass	1NT	2	3
Dbl (1)	4	4	Dbl
All Pass			

(1) Showing a spade fit.

South led A and continued with A, 10. Rodwell won the J and stopped to reflect on what he knew about the opponents' hands - in a word, everything. Rodwell read the A lead as a singleton, he knew North had at most two hearts and he correctly counted North for five clubs. He also decided that South's heart suit was headed by the top three honours (he probably would have bid 4 over 2 missing the Q). With these deductions in mind, Rodwell set about making life miserable for North. At trick three, Rodwell ruffed a club in dummy, ruffed a heart, played a spade to dummy's king, cashed the J and ruffed a second heart. This was the position:

 None
 None
 Q J 8
 Q 7
 None A
 J 7 None
 T 9 7 K 6 4
 None K
 T
 A K Q 9
 None
 None

When Rodwell cashed A, pitching a heart from dummy, North was dead. If he discarded a diamond, Rodwell could cash the DK and another diamond, establishing a long diamond as trick number 10 (North would have to put Rodwell in with a forced club return). When North actually discarded a club, Rodwell cashed his CK, stripping North's last club, and played a low diamond to dummy's 10, endplaying North to lead away from J 8 in the end. Plus 790 was good for a 12-IMP gain because Rodwell's team-mates at the other table were minus 50 in 4 .

Wrong impression right!

Maggie Shenkin managed to convey the wrong message to declarer on this deal from the Life Master Pairs first session.

Board 2. Q 4 3
 Dlr: East A 3 2
 Vul: N/S 9 6 2
 A K 7 3
 K J 8 7 6 10 9
 Q 9 7 4 J 8 6
 Q 7 A 8 5 4
 9 6 10 8 5 4
 A 5 2
 K 10 5
 K J 10 3
 Q J 2

West	North	East	South
<i>(Maggie)</i>		<i>(Barnet)</i>	
		Pass	1
1	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Barnet Shenkin led the 10, and declarer, who prefers to be anonymous although it was he who reported the deal, ducked to his queen as Maggie ducked. He led a diamond, and Barnet rose with the ace to lead a second spade. Declarer rose with dummy's ace since he was sure the suit was 5-2. After cashing four clubs and two hearts, he was faced with the decision about the Q. Maggie had pitched two hearts on the clubs, coming down to the Q and the rest of the spades. Declarer led a diamond and agonized. Finally he decided that Maggie was trying to give the "erroneous" impression that she had the missing queen, so he finessed. Disaster! The impression was NOT erroneous.

NOT RESTRICTED CHOICE

by Ib Axelsen and Søren Christiansen
Experienced players know this suit combination very well:

K 9 7 opposite A 10 8 6

You cash the K, and the Q is played by South. Should you play this to be singleton Q or doubleton QJ? At first it is usually difficult to convince a player that the probability for QJ must be halved, because South, with QJ, would have a choice between playing the Q and the J.

Later it becomes pretty much routine to play South for a singleton honour and finesse North for the J; however, there are situations where the odds favour doubleton QJ:

Dlr: South	Q J 8	
E/W Game	10 9 6 2	
	A 7 3	
	K 9 7	
76		10 9 5 4 3 2
Q J 8 5		K 7
K Q J 10 9		5
Q J		6 4 3 2
	A K	
	A 4 3	
	8 6 4 2	
	A 10 8 5	

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	2	Pass	2
Pass	3NT	All pass	

Declarer ducks the first diamond and takes the next with the ace in dummy. East discards, and the diamond distribution is settled. Declarer cashes AK, plays a small club to the king, and cashes the queen of spades. West discards, and the spade distribution is known. Fortunately, West played one of the honours, Q or J, in clubs. You need all four clubs. Finesse or play for the drop?

Calculations of probabilities are basically a question of counting the number of different possible hands. How many hands are there with an honour singleton and how many with doubleton QJ?

Only two types of distributions are possible for West:

A	B
76	76
yyyyy	yyyy
KQJ109	KQJ109
Q or J	QJ

In A there are 6 possibilities for the heart distribution (East has 1 of the 6 hearts). There are 2 possibilities for the blank honour in clubs, so the heart and club distributions can be combined in $6 \times 2 = 12$ ways.

In B there are 15 doubletons (For mathematicians: $(6!)/(4!)(2!)$)

(Denmark)

Hence the odds are 15 to 12 = 5 to 4 in favour of playing for the drop.

(Actually, the odds are even higher in favour of QJ because West would have probably overcalled if he held 5-5 in the red suits).

IBPA Ed: Non-mathematicians can skip the next bit!:

When you make the calculations with general combinatorial methods, a very simple principle for the odds pops up. You will find the mathematics interesting.

In general we have this situation:

QJ Q/J
max2max

Odds for QJ = Maximal number of cards in the fourth suit with the defender.

Odds for Q/J = 2 times the maximal number of cards in the fourth suit with his partner.

In the above hand, West has a maximum of 5 hearts, and East has a maximum of 2 hearts. Thus the odds are 5 against $2 \times 2 = 5$ to 4 for the doubleton QJ.

Try to use the max2max principle on this deal:

Dlr: South	A Q 10 4	
Love all	K 8 3	
	10 6 5	
	A 7 6	
9 7 6		8 5 3 2
Q J		6 5 4 2
A J 7 3		K 9 2
K 10 8 5		J 9
	K J	
	A 10 9 7	
	Q 8 4	
	Q 4 3 2	

West	North	East	South
			1
Pass	1	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All pass	

Take a look at the deal - these are not distributional hands like the first example!

West's opening lead is a small diamond, East-West take the first four diamond tricks and then West exits with a spade. After four spade tricks declarer cashes K, and West plays the Jack. Finesse or play for the drop?

The distribution of the spades and diamonds is known, West has either 5 clubs and the singleton J, or 4 clubs (leaving East with 2 clubs) and the QJ in hearts.

We use max2max on the club suit and again the odds are 5 to 4 for the drop.

If we have no knowledge about the second suit, we add the number of cards to the fourth suit:

Let's assume declarer doesn't test the spade suit before he makes a decision in the heart suit. West's maximal number of clubs + spades is 8, and for East it is 6. Odds 12 against 8 for the finesse - a more normal situation. But declarer should accumulate as much information as possible before making the big decision on the hand.

With no information about the non-hearts suits, we have maximal numbers 12 and 9, so the odds for using restricted choice are 18 to 12. These are the text book odds for this suit combination.

As the examples show, it is pretty easy to recognise the situations where the principle of restricted choice appears not to apply. Actually, the principle of restricted choice always applies - $\max_2 \max$ is the principle of restricted choice.

Bob Howes ?-1999

Bob Howes, who died in July, was General Counsel of the WBF since 1976. He was a familiar figure at World Championships and widely respected for his knowledge of Law, applied with intelligence, and combined with a great sense of humour.

This obituary was prepared in June but could not be included in the July issue which was the Malta Special. Tribute was paid to Alan Hiron at the General Meeting in Malta. The Editor regrets omission of the notice from the August issue.

Alan Hiron 1933-1999

Alan Hiron, who has died aged 66, was World Senior Pairs champion with Albert Dormer, when the event was staged for the first time in 1990 in Geneva. Hiron, who lived in Spain, was bridge correspondent of the Independent from its launch until his death. He was Editor of Bridge, Britain's oldest bridge magazine, from 1985-90. He leaves a widow, Maureen.

IBPA CLIPPINGS COMPETITION

All IBPA members are requested to send in any clippings mentioning the sponsor of the European Bridge Championships in Malta, **Generali**. Please give the clipping, the name of the publication, the date the clipping appeared, the name of the author, and the approximate circulation of the publication.

Each clipping submitted by an IBPA member will earn the member one ticket in a free draw. There will be five prizes of \$100 each. No member may win two prizes.

Clippings should be sent by the end of this month direct to Mr. José Damiani at:
40 Rue Francois Premier, 75001 Paris, France.

IBPA COLUMN SERVICE

These hands may be used without credit to either the author or IBPA. The author is Barry Rigal

113.

Dlr: South K 7 6 5 2
 Vul: N/S A 7 6
 Q
 A 6 5 2

 Q 10 8 8 4 3 2
 J 10 9 K 10 9 6 4
 8 7 5 3 2 Q J 10 9
 8 7 A J 9 4 3
 K Q 5
 A J
 K 4 3

South	West	North	East
1	Pass	4	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5	Pass
5	Pass	6	All Pass

North's splinter bid shows the values for at least game and a singleton diamond. South could follow a cue-bidding sequence, but should be happy enough to use Blackwood, since he has all the second round controls. With Roman Keycard Blackwood the bid of Five Diamonds asks for the queen of trumps and the Six Spades bid promises that card, or extra trump length, but denies any kings, so South settles for a small slam.

On the opening heart lead South should win and carefully lay down the K to protect against East having all the trumps. What should be a cakewalk turns into a real struggle when trumps turn out to be 3-0 offside. There is just one chance, but it is not a bad one. The only legitimate play is to find West with two or fewer clubs; to achieve the desired ending, cash the A, and then play the A and trump a diamond. Now take the K and play a club to the ace, followed by the remaining top hearts. At this point, throw West in with the

Q, when that player has only red-suit cards left. West must give a ruff and discard, allowing declarer to pitch the club from hand and ruff in dummy, and claim the rest.

114.

It is a truism that circumstances alter cases; however the play of a hand can sometimes follow dramatically different lines, depending on the circumstances of whether there has been any opposition bidding. For example, look at the following deal from the US Nationals in Chicago.

Dlr: West 2
 Vul: None A J 10 8 7
 A J 8 7 6
 Q 6
 4
 K Q J 10 7 6 K Q 9 5 4 3 2
 9 6 4 7 3
 10 A 9 8 5 3
 10 8 4 K 5

 A K J 9 5 2

West	North	East	South
2	Pass	Pass	5
Pass	6	All Pass	

Six Clubs is a perfectly decent contract for North-South, in the absence of any opposition bidding. You would probably play to ruff a couple of spades in dummy, and hope that the black suits behaved. However the opening bid by West to show a six-card spade suit (or possibly five good spades) makes that line impractical. You have to find a different plan of campaign on the lead of the ten of diamonds.

Curiously enough, the bad spade break is remarkably good news, if you think about it. It appears from the lead that West has short diamonds, and that therefore both clubs and hearts are likely to behave reasonably. However, you must take care at trick one to duck the diamond lead and ruff in hand, then play the A and trump a spade high. Now you draw all the trumps and lead the K followed by the finesse in hearts. When East wins, he has only red suit cards left, and must allow you to discard all your spade losers on the heart and diamond winners in dummy.

115.

This hand from the semi-finals of the 1998 USA International Trials shows how it is possible to cherish your partner, and cover up his errors. But consider for a second whether it is easier on the hand for the defence to beat 4 or 5.

Dlr: East 9 8
 Vul: E/W 2
 A K Q J 8 4
 J 10 8 4
 A 6 4 2
 Q 10 8 6 3 K J 9 7 5 4
 10 9 7 3 5 2
 A Q 9 K 2
 K Q J 10 7 5 3
 A
 6
 7 6 5 3

West	North	East	South
		Pass	4
All Pass			

Four Spades was the popular contract on this deal; for example Lew Stansby reached that spot in one bid. On a heart lead, declarer naturally hastened to cash out the diamonds to discard clubs. East ruffed in and was over-ruffed; now declarer led a low trump up. The West player could not withhold his A even if he wanted to, and had come to the crucial moment.

At one table West erred by leading another diamond, hoping to kill another discard and collect two club tricks at the end. Alas, dummy's 9 provided a late entry to dummy, and a home for the club losers. Bob Hamman saw the necessity of shifting to a club, but made the inferior play of the A. Not to worry; Soloway unblocked the K under it, and now Hamman could cash the Q and give his partner the club ruff, for down one.

In the other semi-final, Lazard as West was faced with a tougher problem when his partner had opened a weak-two in hearts. Lazard was defending Five Spades, after E/W had bid on to Five Hearts. Now the declarer, Mike Seamon, had no legitimate play for the contract on a heart lead. He did his best he could by leading a low trump at once, and Lazard won and cashed the A. Bramley followed on this trick with the 2 - unluckily for him he was playing normal signals. Now Lazard tried to give his partner a diamond ruff, so 5 made in comfort!

116.

On this deal from the quarter-finals of the Women's World Teams in Lille, nobody came very close to making a contract; but one declarer had the chance for a coup.

Dlr: West A J 8 7 3
 Vul: None A Q J 10 5 3
 5
 8
 10 9 6 5 4 K Q 2
 K 7 6 2 9 8
 K Q 4 6 3 2
 5 J 10 7 4 2

 4
 A J 10 9 8 7
 A K Q 9 6 3

South	West	North	East
1	Pass	1	Pass
2	Pass	2	Pass
4	Pass	4	Pass
5	All Pass		

While Four Hearts is probably the best spot for N/S, every table but one played a virtually hopeless minor-suit slam. It was bad luck for Bessis-D'Ovidio, the one pair able to exert enough restraint to stay low, that Five Clubs was put in danger by the unfriendly trump split. However after a spade lead, declarer should have taken the A and played to ruff a diamond in dummy, then ruff a spade back to hand, and test the trumps.

When the 5-1 trump split comes to light, declarer needs a very specific lie of the cards to succeed. She must take the heart finesse and then cash the A before ruffing a spade to hand, and then giving up a diamond. At this point East has impotently followed suit to two rounds of hearts, three rounds of spades, three diamonds, and two rounds of trumps and is down to the J-10-7 of clubs. In the three-card ending declarer has Q 9 and a diamond left, while West is on lead, with only spades and hearts to choose from. Whatever she does, declarer scores two more trump tricks in the ending (by discarding if East ruffs the plain suit high, or over-ruffing the 7) to make her contract.

Since the French lost the match by 11 IMPs, this was a costly slip.

THE IBPA GENERAL MEETING IN MALTA June, 1999

1. Apologies for absence: Albert Benjamin
2. The Chairman, Henry Francis, opened the Meeting. Members stood as tributes were paid to Trixie Simmons, Harold Franklin, and Alan Hiron, long-standing members who had died since the AGM in Lille.
3. Treasurer's Report Christer Andersson presented the accounts for the year to 31st December 1998 (see overleaf) and budgets. The cash flow figures had been sent to an auditor in Ghana. The figures had been agreed in total, but allocation of some items of expenditure between headings had yet to be agreed. Subject to this, the Meeting approved the Accounts, with final approval expected in Bermuda.
The introduction of credit card payments had meant some earlier receipt of payments for the year 1999, increasing the 1998 cash flow by some \$2,000. Future accounts would show payments in advance in a separate Account.
Advertising in the Bulletin was \$2000 more than expected. Travel costs to Lille had been less than budget. Hence the surplus shown of \$9,000. This was expected to become a deficit of \$7000 in 1999 if the costs of Bermuda were booked against 1999.
The AGM in Bermuda will vote on the Annual subscription for the year 2000 but meanwhile it was proposed that all those paying for 2000 prior to the AGM should do so at the same sterling rate determined for 1999, and would not have to pay extra if there was an increase in Bermuda. This was approved by the Meeting.
In response to questions the Treasurer said each credit card transaction cost IBPA about £2 to administer.
The Budgets presented (see overleaf) were approved.
4. The Generali Clippings Competition
Patrick Jourdain reported on the proposal by Mr. Damiani of \$500 prizes plus a full-page advertisement in the Bulletin.
Prizes would be five of \$100 each. Each clipping submitted mentioning Generali and authored by an IBPA member in good standing would earn that member one ticket in a random draw to be held in Bermuda. No member could win two prizes. Clippings must be submitted by the end of September.
5. The website edition of the Bulletin
Per Jannersten had launched the website. The Editor sent the finished Bulletin by e-mail to Jannersten for uploading. Tony Gordon

List of attendees not available at time of going to Press

requested that articles were sent when ready as they would then be available earlier.

The Editor would try to send some material early. Members outside Britain were receiving the Bulletin via the Internet much earlier than before, and, in particular, were receiving it at the same time as British members.

Mr. Gordon reported that the current Bulletin on the website had been corrupted, and Mr. Jannersten agreed to check this.

Heinz Guthwert wondered why the dates on Bulletins were not the first of the month. The Editor replied that the Bulletin was often event driven, with the Editor waiting for results from important events such as the American Nationals before completing publication.

The matter of the Column Service, the only paid contribution to the Bulletin, was raised. On a show of hands, at the meeting only one member said he used the service.

6. Copyright A letter from Frank Stewart complaining that work of his, originally published in bridge magazines, had been re-published in a book without acknowledgement or his agreement.

Mr. Jourdain read out the minute about good practice on the subject formulated at the AGM in Lille (see Bulletin 406). It was agreed this should be incorporated in the 1999 Handbook with this addition:

"When third parties ask the permission of an Editor to re-print published material, the editor should make it clear that the author's permission is also required unless the publisher clearly owns the re-print rights."

Mr. Francis reported that as a general rule fees for articles in a magazine were assumed to be for one-off use only unless otherwise agreed. If wishing to use material with a by-line it is advisable to seek permission.

Mr. Jourdain said this meant Daily Bulletins available on Internet should have a clear statement as to whether authority to re-print was given by the publisher and author(s).

Mr. Jannersten reported that about 60 members per month were using the website version of the Bulletin.

Mr. Pencharz, Legal Counsel to IBPA, said he supported the IBPA guideline on copyright developed in Lille and the addition suggested at this Meeting.

7. Mr. Pencharz, invited to address the meeting, welcomed Mr. Francis to Malta and added his tribute to the late Alan Hiron. He asked members to give publicity to the technological advances made by Professor Baldi for the EBL which allowed Viewgraph play and running scores from all matches to be transmitted to the website with little delay.

8. The Pressroom in Malta

Mr. Francis reported on shortcomings of which members had complained: delay in receiving results, lack of water and coffee, and use of equipment by non-members. Mr. Gordon reported that match records had recently arrived for matches played a week earlier. Jean-Paul Meyer said that results from the other hotel were taking three hours after the end of a match even though there was a computer link and results were entered within minutes.

9. Other matters

(a) Register for the Journalist Pairs in the Press Room;

(b) New members to collect complimentary copy of the 1997 World Championships in the Press Room;

(c) Members to check personal details for the 1999 Handbook with Mrs. Dennison and make corrections;

(d) Proposal that the annual subscription form for 2000 would request permission to give members' address details on Internet - all agreed that e-mail addresses could be given, but opinions varied on other details;

(e) Brian Senior's book of the championship was to be sent free to all players; would it be available at a discount to other IBPA members?

The IOC Grand Prix

For the Angelini Group Trophy
Lausanne 20/24 September 1999

Round-robin of 5 matches of 24 boards. The winner choose its opponent for the semi-final. For the semi-finals -36 boards- there will be a carry over (maximum 12 IMPs) won during the round-robin against the same opponent. The final -60 boards- will be played with a carry over (maximum 20 IMPs). A play off will determine the bronze medal over 24 boards with a carry-over (maximum 8 IMPs).

Prizes	1st prize	U.S. \$	25,000
	2nd prize	U.S. \$	15,000
	3rd prize	U. S. \$	10,000

China N PC :Mr Luo Yunhong
Cao Xueliang-Dai Jiamming; Liu Chuan-Shi
Haojun; Yang Lixin-Zhang Qiang

Brazil Ernesto d'Orsi (NPC)
Gabriel Chagas-Marcelo Castello Branco;
Miguel Villas-Boas-Joao Paulo A.P. Campos

France Philippe Cronier (NPC)
Albert Bitran-Marc Bompis; Thierry de Sainte
Marie-Jean-Michel Voltaire.

Italy Francesco Angelini
Andrea Buratti-Massimo Lanzarotti; Lorenzo
Lauria-Antonio Sementa-Alfredo Versace

The Netherlands Erik Kirchhoff
(NPC)

Huib Bertens-Bart Nab; Gert Jan Paulissen-
Roald Ramer.

USA
Peter Boyd-George Jacobs; Ralph Katz-Steve
Robinson; Fred Stewart- Kit Woolsey.

The Womens IOC

Europe v. North America

Format:4 matches of 24 boards in each session.
Each pair will play against the other 4 pairs.
The result of the whole contest will be
determined by adding the scores of all matches.

Prizes	1st prize	U.S. \$	10,000
	2nd prize	U.S. \$	5,000

Europe:
The Netherlands Marijke van der Pas-Bep
Vriend

Great Britain Pat Davis-Nicola Smith
France Véronique Bessis-Catherine D'Ovidio
Germany: Sabine Auken-Daniela von Arnim

North America
Mildred Breed-Shawn Quinn
Connie Goldberg-Carol Sanders
Lisa Berkowitz- Rozanne Pollack
Lynn Deas/ Beth Palmer

ITALY, USA, DENMARK TAKE MEDALS AT WORLD JUNIOR TEAMS

Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 9-18th August 1999
From Bulletins edited by Henry Francis

Italy added the title of World Junior champions to the European title they won in Vienna last year, by beating USA2 261-186 in a 96-deal final in Florida.

Italy: Bernardo Biondo & Riccardo Intonti, Mario d'Avossa & Andrea Mallardi, n.p.c. Giagio Rinaldi. Also in the team but playing insufficient boards in the final to qualify as world champions were Furio & Stelio DiBello.

USA2: Eric Greco & Chris Willenken; Tom Carmichael & Joel Wooldridge; n.p.c. Bob Rosen. Also in the team but not playing sufficient boards in the final to qualify for the silver medal were David Wiegand & Christine Carmichael (the sister of Tom).

The bronze medal went to Denmark on the last deal of the play-off against Israel. In the knock-outs there was a carry-over from the match when the teams met in the Round Robin (one-half if the team that won the match finished higher in the Round Robin, one-third if it did not). It was the tiny carry-over of 2.5 that swung the play-off to Denmark by 163.5-162.

Denmark: Gregers Bjarnarson & Anders Hagen; Kasper Konow & Mik Kristensen; Morten Madsen & Mikkel Nohr; n.p.c. Kirsten Steen Moller.

Chinese Taipei was disqualified at the end of the Round Robin after a check of passports showed that one of their players was over the age limit. The team was third in the Round Robin at the end, in place to go through to the knock-outs.

Sixteen nations competed in the RR:

1.	Italy	304
2=	USA2, Denmark	260
4.	Israel	243
5.	Norway	231
6.	Argentina	225
7.	Australia	218.5
8.	China	216.5
9.	CAC (Colombia, Venezuela, Martinique)	211.5
10.	Hong Kong	198.5
11.	Canada2	197.5
12.	Canada1	196
13.	Brazil	194
14.	Egypt	177
15.	USA1	176.5
16.	Chinese Taipei	Disqualified

At the end of the Round Robin Italy, as winner, had choice of semi-final opponent and chose Israel. The tie between USA2 and Denmark had to be split in order to determine

whether the carry-over would be one-half or one-third. USA2 won the split tie.

In the semi-finals:

Italy beat Israel	161.5 - 86
USA2 beat Denmark	236 - 102.3

Whilst the knock-outs were in progress a Swiss Pairs was played of those eliminated, where partnerships could be trans-national. The results were:

1. Boye Brogeland & Chris Kristoffersen (Nor) 249
- 1= Oyvind Saur & Mike Nadler (Nor/Can) 249
3. Yu Wei & Yi Ma (China) 247
4. Gunnar Harr & Thomas Charlsen (Nor) 228
5. Jay Wong & Eric Wu (Chinese Taipei) 223
6. Pablo Ravenna & Esteban Pugliese (Arg) 221

The youngest competitor was Augustin Madala of Argentina who was 13 on 2nd August. He had played since he was 8, longer than his partner who was aged 25.

In this deal from the final Mario d'Avossa tried a brilliant psychological coup but Chris Willenken saw through it:

Board 37	A 7
Dlr: North	A 3
N/S Game	A K 9 6 4
	Q J 8 7
10 6 5 3	J 9 8 4 2
K 9 4	J 10 7 2
Q J 10	3 2
10 6 3	A 9
	K Q
	Q 8 6 5
	8 7 5
	K 5 4 2

Both tables reached Three Notrumps by North (*IBPA Editor: no bidding given*) and East led a spade. Tom Carmichael tried the conventional line advocated by the IBPA Editor's BOLS Tip: setting up his eighth trick in clubs and then cashing them when in with the second spade. This would have worked if the same defender held K, three diamonds, and the fifth spade. With seven cards left West kept five red cards and so two spades. But when the diamond was ducked *East* had enough spades to beat the game.

D'Avossa tried a completely different line. At trick two he cashed his second spade (!), and

only then played his club. If the defence had fallen for his trap and cashed their spades, he would have succeeded, as West gets squeezed in the red suits by the rest of the clubs.

However, Willenken was so suspicious of declarer's play that he stopped to foresee the danger. When in, he switched to ♠Q. This defeated the game. (*IBPA Editor: I note that Greco is West on Board 41, and the Bulletin only says that West, Willenken found the ♠Q switch, without mentioning that he can only gain the lead if East underleads the third spade.*)

Note that even if East does not set the timing for the squeeze by cashing the fifth spade, once the defence cash the fourth spade they are finished, as declarer can safely set up a diamond trick.

A few boards later Eric Greco showed great skill in making a double avoidance play to come home in Four Spades, but he still lost 5 IMPs when the same contract made doubled at the other table on a less accurate declarer play and defence:

Board 41	Q 10 6	
Dlr: North	10 9	
E/W Game	K Q 5	
	K J 10 9 5	
A K 7 4 3 2	J 9 5	
J 4 3	A K 6	
A 4 3 2	10 9 8	
None	Q 7 4 2	
	8	
	Q 9 7 5 2	
	J 7 6	
	A 8 6 5	

West	North	East	South
Greco			
	1	Pass	1
1	Pass	2	3
4	All Pass		

IBPA Editor: The Bulletin has South responding 1♦ and East bidding 2♦ to show the spade raise, but also has North leading ♦10 which is impossible, so I have changed all three suit symbols to hearts.

North led ♠10. Greco won in dummy and at once led a diamond, running it to North. A second heart was taken in dummy, and again Greco led a diamond from the table, running it to North.

As North had no heart to play he tried a club. West ruffed, cashed two top trumps finding there was a loser, but could now play two more rounds of diamonds ditching his losing heart from dummy, and eventually ruff his losing heart.

At the other table the contract was doubled, and a heart was led. Declarer won and drew a round of trumps before playing ace and another diamond. If North had unblocked a high diamond under the ace the defence would have prevailed as North can win the second diamond to play another heart, and South can still get in with ♠J to cash the heart queen.

This deal from the Round Robin match between USA2 and Israel had some unusual features about tackling the danger hand's entry first:

Board 10	A K Q 5 3	
Dlr: East	9 7 6 3	
Game All	K J 4	
	9	
J 10 6 2	9 8 7	
K 10	Q 8 4 2	
A 10 9 8 3	7 5	
8 3	K Q 7 5	
	4	
	A J 5	
	Q 6 2	
	A J 10 6 4 2	

The report in the Bulletin does not give the bidding at either table but one can deduce that at the table where the Israeli North was declarer it had gone like this:

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge		Carmichael	
			1
2 !	2	Pass	3
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Tom Carmichael led a diamond which was ducked to declarer's jack. Declarer was conscious that he had to knock out West's entry, but it is double-dummy to see that this is in spades. It was more natural for declarer to start on clubs. East covered the nine and won the next club to lead another diamond. Now the game was doomed.

When declarer played low from dummy West carefully ducked again. This prevented ♠Q becoming an entry. The club suit did not break, and the game failed.

At the other table South, Chris Willenken, was declarer. West led a diamond. Willenken put up the king, which proved to be an error. He also began with the club nine, but it was difficult for East to realise he should cover, and so it won. Now declarer cleared the spades setting up his ninth trick. The only question was, could he reach all his tricks? When declarer played the fourth spade he had an awkward discard from dummy. He actually chose to throw ♠Q. This was the ending with West on lead:

	9 7 6 3	
	J 4	
	None	
None		None
K 10		Q 8 4
A 10 8 3		7
8		K Q 7
	None	
	A J 5	
	6	
	A J 10	

West cashed A and then switched to K, which Willenken allowed to hold. If West now switches to a club declarer must lose two more tricks. However, West played a second heart. Now Willenken found the winning line of cashing the third heart and exiting with a low club to endplay East.

Note that had declarer won the first diamond with the jack (preserving an entry to the spades), then when 9 wins he can simply duck a spade. The diamond king is entry to the spades, and the heart ace is entry to the dummy's club ace.

WBF Youth Awards 1999

Awarded at the Camp in Prague

Josh Heller, 19, of Canada breathes life into Junior bridge wherever and whenever he participates. His boundless enthusiasm has helped to advance the cause of bridge. His colourful nature has sometimes taken him to the point of controversy, but he has the spirit required in the Camp. He recently finished High School and is going to study commerce at Queens University.

Monika Miroslaw, 21, of Germany, a veteran of Junior Camps, has an outgoing personality that makes newcomers welcome. Always ready to help others, both fellow campers and organisers. She plans to take a Hotel Management Course near Frankfurt.

Kathrine Stensrud, 24, of Norway has the international character and charm that makes friends easily. Her skill at organising events combined with a sense of fun makes her wonderful spirit spread throughout the Camp. She is studying for a Masters degree in Mathematics.

Thomas Schonfeldt, 22, of Denmark has an enthusiasm that lights up the room when he enters. His warmth of personality combined with a naturally courteous, generous and helpful nature, make him popular with all.

He teaches bridge, and is studying to be a technical engineer.

Erichsen & Durmus Win Mind Sports Olympiad Pairs

Olympia, London 22-29th August 1999

Espen Erichsen & Unal Durmus were clear winners of the 4-session event.

Erichsen as a Junior was in the Norwegian team which won the Europeans in Cardiff in 1996 and took the silver medal in the World Junior Pairs (with Thomas Charlsen) and World Junior teams. Erichsen now lives in London trying to earn a living playing rubber bridge at TGR's.

Durmus, whose family is Turkish, has represented England at Junior level.

Format: 52 pairs played in a 2-session qualifier. Top 12 in each direction, with no carry-forward went through to a 24-pair final, all play all over 2 sessions.

Prizes: 1. £3,000; 2. £1,500; 3. £500.

1. E. Erichsen & U. Durmus (Nor-London) 63.95
2. P. Chemla & Z. Mahmood (Fra-USA) 56.60
3. R. Sheehan & T. Townsend (London) 56.15

Teams: Two sessions, 12 teams, straight IMPs

Prizes: 1. £600 2. £300; 3. £100

1. Andrew Robson & Michael Courtney; E. Erichsen & D. Bakhshi (London) +78
2. Nick Sandqvist (Sweden & London) +50
3. R. van Tol (Netherlands & London) +45

Pairs Prizes: 1. £300; 2. £150; 3. £50.

Other winners: Consolation Pairs: R. Rowlands & T. To (Surrey); Mixed Pairs: A. Thompson & S. Fenton (Middlesex & Staffs) Ladies Pairs: H. Schapiro & S. Sepahbodi (London); Mens Pairs: D. Smerdon & P. Tobias (Home Counties); Senior Pairs: T. Turnage & J. Cruickshank; Swiss Pairs: Mr & Mrs. R. A. Priday (London).

Swiss Teams: D. Smerdon & M. Hoffman; I. Miller & J. Harouni (England & USA).

There were also mini-bridge contests.

This spectacular deal, with several good stories, occurred in the Pairs final when the winners and runners-up met. One of Zia's gambits backfired and spectators were hoping his French was not good enough to translate Chemla's comments:

Board 13	K 10 6
Dlr: North	J 10 9 5 4
Game All	4 3 2
	7 4
3 2	A 9 7 5 4
7 6 2	None
None	J 9 7 6 5
KQ1098632	A J 5
	Q J 8
	A K Q 8 3
	A K Q 10 8
	None

West	North	East	South
Zia	Durmus	Chemla	Erichsen
	Pass	1	2 (1)
Pass!	4	Pass	6
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

(1) Michael's cue-bid showing 5 spades and 5 of an unspecified minor

Zia made a Lightner double of Six Hearts. Chemla could work out what was going on, except for one, literally, "minor" detail. His partner was void in dummy's minor but which was this? As Zia had omitted to tell Chemla which minor he held, Chemla did not know which was dummy's minor.

Chemla also decided that, as he had two aces, dummy might well be void in spades, so, in the end he led A. Durmus claimed his doubled slam at once. You can imagine Chemla's comments when he discovered Zia had eight clubs, and that a diamond lead would have put the slam two light.

Another good story arose at the IBPA Editor's table. We played the board about fourth and I also gambled Six Hearts. The auction began:
Pass-1 -Dble-3 (pre-empt)-3 -4 -Pass-6

With the club raise, I came to the conclusion partner must hold a top spade to justify his Three Heart call.

West failed to make a Lightner double and his partner began with ace and another spade, hoping for a singleton with West. My partner, David Kendrick, claimed. As North he opened the score slip and exclaimed in disgust "they've all made slam and been doubled. It's a bottom for us."

"Look closer," I advised. The slams were all Six Clubs doubled, making by West.

I heard two other good stories of the hand with similar features. At one table the auction began:

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1	Dble
3	Pass	Pass	4

West now made the clever bid of Four Diamonds, indicating the lead to his partner should the opponents play in hearts. This plan appeared to have gone awry when East Passed! However, South came to the rescue with a Fredin double, and West thankfully went back to Five Clubs. Unfortunately my informant had no more details other than that N/S failed in a heart contract, with East finally understanding his partner's lead-indicating bid.

Our last table featured three of IBPA's most illustrious members. The bidding began:

West	North	East	South
Harper		Hoffman	
	Pass	1	Dble
3	Pass	Pass	5 !

South, a current world champion, found the brilliant call of Five Clubs. This clearly meant he was void of clubs and wanted to play Six of a red suit if his partner controlled the spades. However, North, a former double European champion, had omitted to put on his glasses, and, thinking South had bid Five Diamonds, Passed!

Hoffman, fearing that South might not reach his 91st birthday (clue), now allowed North to have another go. North bid only Five Hearts, but West, Ross Harper, still doubled this. Failing to understand this double was Lightner, Hoffman tried two rounds of spades, and Five Hearts Doubled was made with an overtrick, prolonging South's life.

* *Larry Cohen reports that* Jesper Parnevik of Sweden, the golfer ranked 14 in the world, who has been selected for the Ryder Cup, is a bridge-player. Parnevik plays on the American golf circuit and often spends his evenings playing on OKbridge.

* *Andrew Robson reports that* Zia Mahmood is in a Challenge Individual against seven different computer programmes at Robson's new bridge club at 31 Parson's Green, London SW6 on 3rd/4th September. The eight players will form a two-table Individual with Zia partnering each of the computer programmes in turn for a \$10,000 prize. Contact the English Bridge Union for results.

Computer programmes: Microbridge, & Saitek from Japan, Q-Plus from Germany, Meadowlark & GIB from the USA, Oxford Bridge and Blue Chip from the UK.

* *Paul Hackett reports:* The Inter-cities tournament in Hong Kong was won by the national team of China who beat Hong Kong in the final. Forty teams representing either countries or Asian cities competed in a Round Robin followed by knock-outs. Hackett's team (Hackett x 3 + Brigitte Mavromichalis) won the Round Robin but lost to Hong Kong in one semi-final, whilst Shanghai lost in the other.

Results of the Jacques Maison Invitation Pairs held in Brussels at the end of August:

1. Jaap van der Neut & Kokkes (Netherlands)
2. Tony Waterlow & Paul Hackett (England)
3. J-C Quantin & Robert Reiplinger (France)
4. Paul Chemla & Alain Levy (France)

* *Barry Rigal, IBPA Awards Chairman, reports that* this is the last IBPA Bulletin which will be considered for the IBPA Awards to be made in Bermuda in January. All Daily Bulletins from the IOC Grand Prix will be considered, so the closing date is 25th September. If any member has a candidate for an award which has not appeared in the IBPA Bulletin, it should be sent at once to Rigal.

* *Christine Duckworth reports that* the Lederer Memorial Trophy will be held at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club in London on 6th and 7th November. The invited teams are the holders (Zia's Allstars), The British Ladies European champions, Norway, the Gold Cup winners, Ireland, the British Premier League and Spring Fours winners, and the President's team.

* *Knut Kjaernsrod of Norway reports this deal from one of the big summer tournaments on the south coast of Norway:*

After 40 years of bridge I thought I had encountered all possible types of squeezes and endplays, but this deal made me realize that I still had something left to experience:

	10 5 4 3	
	7 3	
	A 10 5	
	Q 9 6 2	
A 7 2		Q 9 8 6
9 4 2		A Q 6 5
4 3 2		9 8 7
A 7 4 3		J 5
	K J	
	K J 10 8	
	K Q J 6	
	K 10 8	

One of our top players, Pal Haga, was South at Game all. He opened 1NT (15-17) to end the auction.

West led a club to the jack and king. At trick two the eight of clubs was allowed to win, then West won the third club as East threw 6. West shifted to a heart to East's ace, and a second heart was won by South's jack. Haga cashed Q then crossed to dummy with A to cash Q.

Declarer can make ten tricks if he throws a heart and makes the right guess in spades, but Haga saw a way he might avoid the guess in spades. On the fourth club he threw the *spade jack*. He then cashed the remaining diamonds leaving himself with two hearts and the bare king of spades in hand. East had to keep two hearts and therefore only one spade. West, on the fourth diamond, had thrown a heart, and was down to all spades (A72) as was dummy.

At this point Haga exited with the king of spades. If East had the ace he would have been endplayed into leading a heart. When West won he was endplayed into leading into dummy's 105 of spades!

Ten tricks was a near top on the board.

IBPA Editor: Kjaernsrod calls this a double stepping-stone. It is a vice squeeze of sorts: dummy's spades could be weaker provided East held the intermediate spades. (It was important that West held the two.) It does not help West to keep his third heart. When he wins the spade ace he would have a choice of conceding tricks to declarer or dummy.