

# bridge club "dr.jurica tomljenovic"



**Date:** 10.09.2005.  
**To:** all welcome  
**From:** tihana@pilar.hr  
**No:** 01 – PULA 2005

## goodmorning bridge

Hello everyone!

### Welcome to the 44<sup>th</sup> Pula Bridge Festival!

- ? ????? ????? ? ????, ??? ?? ????????, ?? ?? ?????????? ?!?
- ? Benvenuti a Pola, via auguriamo buon divertimento!
- ? Dobrodošli u Pulu, nadamo se da cete se lijepo provesti!
- ? Bienvenue à Pula où nous espérons que vous aurez un agréable séjour!
- ? Vitejte v Pule, doufame, ze si to zde uzijete!
- ? ?????????? ? ????. ?????? ?? ?? ??? ???? ???????!
- ? I sten hozta Önöket Pulában, reméljük, jól fogják érezni magukat itt!
- ? Welkom in Pula, wij hopen dat u het hier naar uw zin zult hebben!
- ? Velkommen til Pula, vi haaper du vil trives her!
- ? Willkommen nach Pula, wir hoffen, sie werden hier ihren Aufenthalt genießen !
- ? Witajcie w Puli, zyczymy przyjemnego pobytu!
- ? Bine ati venit la Pula, speram sa va simtiti bine aici!
- ? ????? ?????????? ? ????, ?????????? ??? ????? ??????????!
- ? ??????? ??????? ?? ????, ?????????????? ??? ??? ??????????????!
- ? Dobrodošli v Pulj, upamo, da se boste tukaj dobro imeli!

Players from Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia & Montenegro, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and United States will join us this year. We hope to have a really strong and international competition, but still a friendly and relaxing holiday atmosphere.

As always Enrolment desk will be open every day for few hours, so we invite you to make your entries for the future tournaments as soon as possible. Don't wait for the last

moment; it is just so much easier for us if we have registrations in advance. If you need a partner or teammates for any of the tournaments we will have Partnership desk open and will take care of finding a suitable player for you. This little bulletin will be issued every second day, starting with this Saturday issue. We are expecting your contributions like stories, photos, announcements etc.

Whatever question, request or remark you may have, please don't hesitate to find us at Enrolment desk or in Press room, or somewhere in the space between... You'll recognize us easily - we are wearing colourful badges meaning we are on a duty - and our duty is to make your stay comfortable - so make us useful!

Except from this regular stuff that we are offering to you every year, we have some specialities this year. First, we will have live broadcasting of Open Teams tournament on BBO. So run to your mobiles and call all the friends and relatives you can think of, to tell them to watch you on a big (ok, small) screen. Sure, I would like to thank our vuegraph operators who came from Poland to do this broadcasting for us, and of course BBO officials for making it possible. Second, we will try to arrange to present most of information about tournament on a big screen in a hall, so the information processing will probably be better.

Further, for every one of you we prepared a little present that you will receive when registering for the tournaments ... so hurry up with entries! Finally, this year we will try to organize parallel competition in Yamb - a dice game that lot of bridge players like (all details are on the last page). Brk hates it, so don't tell him about it.

And never forget to come to Press room when you feel like telling someone about what just happened to you... why tell it to one person when you can tell it to hundreds!

**We wish you marvellous time here and lots of good luck at the table!**

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## MORE WELCOMES

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HERE WE GO AGAIN (by Srfa)

So we are back again together in Pula bridge festival. How nice to see so many friendly familiar faces again, and some new ones just to add new spices to well known flavour!

Personally, I can barely wait to play some boards after summer abstinence. Be aware, kind of 'summer bridge detoxification' might make sense, but if you do not start playing in September, your brain will suffer!

I am always looking forward to tension of first board on opening Butler tournament. I remember one occasion where excitement had led me to think that ace of hearts is ace of diamonds. Luckily, partner was also excited and, after seeing my dummy, didn't even notice that I have opened 'canapé 1 diamond' with 3541!

Maybe you have noticed that nearly all my articles are related to self-inflicted catastrophes I have created on bridge table. If none of my articles appears in forthcoming bulletins, that will mean that I didn't create any of them this year. However, that would be vastly anti-percentage, so don't be afraid, well, unless you happen to be my partner!



Welcome to the oldest town on the east side of the Adriatic - the only and unique Pula, inhabited by the ancestors of the Croats 3 000 years ago. This relatively small seaside resort owes a great part of its beauty to the conquering nation (ancient Romans first, Venetians next). It is crammed with Roman ruins, (a well preserved amphitheatre, arch of triumph and a temple in the forum) and it has a 17th century Venetian citadel, which is altogether very scenic. The famous Pula Arena from the 3rd century of our era is the symbol of a town of monumental heritage, admired by Roman rulers, Renaissance poets and Venetian noblemen.

They left to Pula a rich heritage of their works of hands and mind, while nature gave it a mild Mediterranean climate and the sea proclaimed to be the cleanest one in the Mediterranean. Pula does not need to write an invitation card - its attractiveness speaks for itself.

Pula is quoted by the Italian poet Dante Alighieri in the "Divina Commedia": "come a Pola, presso del Carnaro ch'Italia chiude e i suoi termini bagna" ("as Pola, along the Quarnero, that marks the end of Italy and bathes its boundaries").

Among Croats Pula is synonymous to the Croatian annual film festival, held each year around end of July, at the aforementioned amphitheatre.

Another great thing about Pula is the proximity of the national park Brijuni that is an absolute must see. At the hotel reception, arrangements for excursions to Brijuni can be made for you.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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By Sandra Ruso

Hallo everyone! It is very nice to see you again. We are glad that you are all here and we hope that we shall have the opportunity to play against some really very good players like Fischer, Smederevac, Popova, Majatova, T. Terraneo, Harasimowicz, N. Šver, Pilipovic and Balicki, Kowalski, Szilagyi, Szalay, Honty, Babsch, Wernle and many more. As usual I have to apologise if I misspell someone's' name or forgot to mention some very important name. We shall definitely correct those mistakes in the next few days.

**BUTLER = TODAY!**

Today we shall start with a Butler tournament. Everything is already very well known:

- start at 21.00 sharp – to enable us to do so please enrol on time, 20.00 at the latest. We are at enrolment desk, waiting for your entry. Entry fee shall be paid at the table (for all pair tournaments, nice envelopes will wait for you at the table). So all you are asked to do is

- to fill in you names on small paper which you can find on the enrolment desk.
- 13-15 rounds, 2 hands per round
- I never know how to explain Butler scoring. Let's say that you are playing a pair tournament with team scoring, and you need team behaviour—or, well... You have to play well and have some necessary luck.

#### 2004

Razik Szutowicz  
Schneider Appelt  
Janowski Lucko  
Lyskawa Lassota  
Gierlusi Sukow



#### 2003

Weigkricht P.Vikor  
Brouwer Bruggemann  
Tomic Tesla  
Bahnikova Bahnik  
Stankowski Skakavci

#### 2001

Buze Laszczak  
Poklepovic Julius  
Vagi I. Weisz  
Tica Mašic  
Pasternak Araskiewicz

#### 2002

Jochev - Ivanova  
Barzlewski - Waluzak  
Kozyra-Ohryskox  
Vainikonis-Kowalski  
Caric J.-Petrovic Z.  
Kater-Jurek

#### 2000

Ilieva - Hristov  
Dolušic - Zoricic  
Martinovic - Novosel  
Palmieri – Tramonto  
Grzejdzia – Modrzejewsk  
Szalay – Szilagyi

## MIXED TEAMS – TOMORROW

#### 2004

1. **Reasonables** - Protega I.Petrovic T.Brkljadic Terraneo
2. **Nicola** - Matteucci Zecchini Paolini Martini
3. **Niko** - N.Šver Tomic M.Pilipovic Du.Diklic
4. **Independent** - Chodorowska Chodorowski Pasternak Araskiewicz
5. **Pulowniki** - Jarota Mscisz Jazdrzyk Filaber

#### 2003

1. **Marvin** - Loncar Zagajšek Filjar Refi
2. **Baby** - Furdzik Lepiarczyk Stankowski Kusion Dudzik
3. **Belan** - R. Muller I. Matijevic A. Mixich J. Caric Grahek
4. **PALS** - Vikor Daehr Babsch Weigkricht
5. **Cecylia** - Chodorowski Latala Chodorowska Rimon

#### 2002

1. **Nicola** - Zecchini Martini Matteucci Paolini
2. **Zubr** - Miszewska Bizon Pasternak Araskiewicz
3. **Team name** - Zagajšek Traub Refi Krautsak
4. **Panoramix** - Mezei Konti Kerekes Varga
5. **Poroshin** - Poroshin Zenkevich Maytova Bizer Zenkevich

#### 2001

1. **H + 3G** - Grzejdzia Harasimowicz Grzejdzia Gardynik
2. **MARNI** - Šver N. Tomic Mixich Pilipovic Brkljadic M.
3. **FATER** - Welker Szilagyi Hegedus Kemeny
4. **BRIDGE PLUS** - Juuri-Oja E. Honkavuori R. Juuri-Oja Honkavuori
5. **BUM – BUŠ** - Biondic Urli Miko Šurkalovic Lj. Brkljadic V. Oreškovic

#### 2000

1. **IKF** - Szilagyi Szalay Kerekes Nyaradi
2. **NICOLA** - Matteucci Paolini Mertini Zecchini
3. **DANIELA** - Loncar Filjar Principe Baldassin
4. **BMX2** - Bartis Beck Mackasy Marjai
5. **IZVORKA** - I. Petrovic T. Perkovic S. Ruso D. Ruso

For the Butler I really can't predict anything but for mix team tomorrow I can see few things from the past years. Almost every year we have two Croatian teams in the best five (go Croatia, go!). Many names are repeated several times. Nicola is definitely very dangerous. I heard that Reasonables are demanded to defend last year's crown but Nicola is here, too, and they will have very difficult job. Niko (Marni), or whatever name they will choose this year, are looking over their shoulders, so we shall have some very interesting mix day stuff. And if I can mention there is at least other 10 teams who are claiming that they will take the throne this year. Good luck to everyone. Let's see when and how we shall do it.

#### orientation time table:

1<sup>st</sup> round: 15:00-16:05;

2<sup>nd</sup> round: 16:20-17:25;

3<sup>rd</sup> round: 17:40-18:45

(dinner break)

4<sup>th</sup> round: 21:00-22:05;

5<sup>th</sup> round: 22:20-23:25;

6<sup>th</sup> round: 23:40-00:45

## Bridge club "Dr.Jurica Tomljenovic" – GOODMORNING BRIDGE

- entries will be accepted not later than 14:00 hours to enable us to start at 15:00? , entry fee shall be paid at the enrolment desk
- 6 rounds, 8 boards per round. First 3 rounds Swiss movement, second 3 rounds Danish movement.
- each team must consist of at least 2 mixed pairs, 4-6 players, ladies sitting S and E
- a team may introduce a substitute, a pair or player, after half of the match, but only in the open room
- a team may not enter later than 18:45, first bye (unplayed round) will be awarded 4VP (-7imps), and every additional unplayed round 5VP (-3imps). I have to mention that it would be at least strange to choose to join as at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> round and that you need to have the chief's (Brk) permission to do so, but it is possible.
- in the case of an identical number of Vps, the standing will be determined as follows: total imps, number of Vps won in the last 3 rounds, number of imps won in the last 3 rounds, vps won in the head-on matches, imps won in the head-on matches, equally placed shared places and awards (really people, you can not have all that exactly the same. I would give out prizes to both pairs in that case, but that is the one of the reasons why Brk is chief and not me).

If I can mention it is very important and nice to have pictures of all the winners. So please would you be so kind and try to find Lara (she will run around looking for you madly, believe me), or come to the enrolment desk to arrange your photo session.

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## TD's CORNER

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by Frano Jancic

Here are few remarks that will enable you to enjoy your bridge play here even more. Isn't info material for 44th International Bridge Festival Pula 2005 you can find a set of tournaments rules & regulations.

- ? always be on time!
- ? slow play will not be tolerated!
- ? remain seated at all times!
- ? follow the ALERT procedure!

Most of Croatian players follow a system called The Zagreb Club. It is natural system with five card majors and short club. It means that with 4-4-3-2 distribution and adequate number of points you are supposed to open 1 club. Range for one level opening is from 12 to 19 high card points. Stronger hands are covered by semiforcing 2 diamonds (20-22Hcp) and grand forcing 2 clubs. 2 clubs is usually followed by ace responses. Jump raises in uncontested auctions are strong, invite or game-forcing. All openings in a minor that promise less than two cards should be alerted. One note for home players: please alert non-forcing

responses in contested auctions. If your partner opens 1 diamond and RHO bid 1 spade then your 2 hearts bid should be alerted if it is NOT forcing!

Before the Auction Begins: Pre-Alerts

Partnerships with very unusual systems (such as canapé, in which two-suited hands are routinely bid by starting with the shorter suit rather than the longer suit) or agreements their opponents may wish to discuss (such as opening 2D with a variety of hand types), should inform their opponents of these methods before play begins in each round. If your opponents do this, you can ask them what methods they recommend in defense; in some cases they are required to have prepared suggested defenses which their opponents may choose to adopt and may refer to during the auction.

During the Auction: Alerts and Announcements

Throughout the auction, whenever a player makes a call, that player's partner may be required to make an alert in order to inform the opponents of an unusual meaning of the call. At your turn, you can ask the opponent who made the alert about its significance if you want to know more; you could also look at the appropriate section of their convention card instead of or in addition to asking.

In fact, at your turn you can always ask about any of your opponents' bids, even the ones that weren't alerted-- just ask the partner of the person who made the call if you want to know what it means, or refer to the opponents' convention card.

- ? 1 NT opening bid, if not 15 - 18 balanced, must be alerted!
- ? negative doubles and strong two-s must be alerted!
- ? do not ALERT after 3 NT!

If you play 1NT as natural strong opening bid with 15-17(18) balanced, you are not supposed to open it with singleton unless it is singleton K or A. However, if you do open this shape (4441 or 5431) with small singleton, you should alert that bid and explain all distributions it may include. If you fail to alert it, it is automatically treated as bluff in a strong opening that is not allowed.

Some calls, such as most ace-asking bids and responses, should not be alerted during the auction, but should be explained afterwards. The declaring side makes delayed alerts before the opening lead has been selected, while the defending side makes delayed alerts after the opening lead has been selected but before the declarer plays to the first trick from dummy. The declaring side should also correct any misinformation (including failures to alert and wrong explanations) before the opening lead is selected. The defending side should wait until the hand has been played, and then correct any misinformation. This can happen easily with new partnership! Home players often mix 2 diamonds semi forcing which they are taught from beginning and weak two in one of the majors, convention which they like to adopt as they rise in the ranks.

Please put yourself in home player's shoes and pick up: AQJ654-76-75-743. You open two diamonds as dealer. Partner alerts and when LHO (left hand opponent) asks, explains that bid is semi forcing showing unbalanced hand and 20 to 22 points. There are two situations: you play a 2 diamonds opening as a weak two bid and that 2 diamonds is semi forcing.

a) 2 diamonds opening as a weak two bid:

Law 75 (C) states that the opponents are entitled to an accurate description of your partnership agreements. Here there was an infraction of law, as partner did not convey to the opponents an accurate description of your agreement (you agreed to play weak 2 and partner indicated semi forcing). Law 75 (D) states that you must correct a mistaken explanation by partner. However, you cannot provide partner with any unauthorized information. You cannot correct the explanation until the auction is over (if you become declarer or dummy) or at the end of the play (if you become defender). Law 75 (D) also states that you are not entitled to the unauthorized information provided by partner's description (in our case the fact that partner thinks you have a semi forcing hand). At the appropriate time (before the opening lead or after the play is complete) you should summon the director and inform the opponents that partner provided an incorrect explanation. Follow up - Partner bids 2 hearts after LHO passes. The agreement is that 2 hearts is a pass correct. Since you are not entitled to the unauthorized information that partner is on a totally different page you must continue as though the conversation between partner and LHO had not occurred.

That's why you will have to bid two spades. If you have hearts instead of spades you would pass. Now partner bids 4NT. This is Blackwood. Tell partner how many aces you hold. Will all this yield a poor result for your side? Yes, probably. If the misinformation from partner causes damage to the opponents, then the director may award an adjusted score. You should accept the ruling without argument. Remember that your side created the problem.

b) 2 diamonds as semi-forcing which you simply forgot. Has there been an infraction of the law and what should you do?

Law 75 (C) states that the opponents are entitled to an accurate description of your partnership agreements. Here there was NO infraction of law as partner did convey to the opponents an accurate description of your agreement (you agreed to play semi forcing as partner indicated). The fact that you do not hold what you and partner agreed is not germane. However the same rules apply about unauthorized information. You must remove from your thinking the wake-up call that you heard when partner alerted and explained your bid. The alert and explanation were for the opponents not for you. That is information to which you are not entitled and you may not act on it. You should continue the bidding firmly rooted in the belief that you and partner are playing 2 diamonds as a weak two bid.

That is clearly what you thought prior to the alert and you have no facts (other than the unauthorized information) upon which to alter your opinion. Partner bids 2NT after LHO passes. Your agreement is that 2NT over 2 diamonds shows game forcing without slam interest and balanced hand. Your agreement is that over weak two bids 2NT asks for a feature. What should you bid? You must bid 3 diamonds to show spades with no feature outside. Once again follow up bids must be made from your understanding not taking into account the information that you received from the alert or subsequent explanation.

In either case to pass 2NT or to jump to 4 spades or any other rescue bid (clearly based both on your desire to save the result and on the unauthorized information) is inappropriate and unethical. The director should award an adjusted score (which might include a penalty for your side) if you act in such a manner. This is the price you pay in order to play a bidding system full of conventions. You must act without any information imparted from alerts or descriptions.

Let me close by commenting on the things from the other perspective. If your RHO opens 2 diamonds (which is alerted) and you do not intend to bid irrespective of the meaning, then PASS and ask for a description after the auction is over. This greatly simplifies and in many cases eliminates the problem.

- ? make your opening lead face down!
- ? use the STOP card, always or never!
- ? RULE of 18 IS APPLIED in all pair games first and second seat only! strong opening bids must not be psyched in any MP or IMP games!
- ? Highly artificial systems and "Brown Sticker" conventions are not allowed!

The following conventions or treatments are categorised as 'Brown Sticker':

a) Any opening bid of two clubs through three spades that could be weak (may by agreement be made with values below average strength) AND does not promise at least four cards in a known suit. Exception to the rule is that bid always shows at least four cards in a known suit if it is weak. If the bid does not show a known four card suit it must show a hand a king or more over average strength. (Explanation: Where all the weak meanings show at least four cards in one known suit, and the strong meanings show a hand with a king or more above average strength, it is not a Brown Sticker Convention.)

2 diamonds multi is allowed: A two level opening bid in a minor showing a weak two in either major, whether with or without the option of strong hand types, as described in the WBF Conventions Booklet.

b) An overcall of a natural opening bid of one of a suit that does not promise at least four cards in a known suit. Exceptions are: a natural overcall in no trumps, any cue bid suit that shows a strong hand and a jump cue bid in opponent's known suit that asks partner to bid 3NT with a stopper in that suit.

c) Any 'weak' two-suited bids at the two or three level that may by agreement be made with three cards or fewer in one of the suits.

d) Psychic bids protected by system or required by system.

None of the foregoing restrictions is applied against conventional defences against strong, artificial opening bids or defences against 'Brown Sticker' or HUM conventions.

? convention card is not obligatory!

Read this rule as that tournament director will not shoot you at the spot if you don't have it but he will take it against your partnership. Please take some time and fill it up. If you have a problem with filling it up please ask more experienced players!

? close the bidding boxes after the last game!  
? leave the boards, the bidding boxes and the travellers on the table!

Once again I am very pleased to welcome all of you players and guests to Pula bridge festival. This year we are holding the 44th edition of this great event. I am sure that all of us will do whatever it takes to ensure the success of tournaments and wish all of you to achieve your goals!

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A PARTNER  
OR TEAM MATES ???  
PUT AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN  
GOODMORNING BRIDGE



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## INTERVIEW

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by Dario Filjar

### Croatian No. 1

Male chauvinists who think that bridge is a "tough game for real MEN" would be surprised by the fact that among the top 10 Croatian players, according to official rankings, five are women. In fact, the No. 1 ranked player in Croatia is a young lady, Marina Pilipovic, who took over the thrown from another lady! Sexists apart, Marina's ranking is no surprise to those who know Marina. Though she is still a young player, she has been at the top level of Croatian bridge for years.

When interviewing a lady, a question about her age should normally be avoided, so I decided to start with her years in the game of bridge.

**GM:** Marina, we have been following you at the Croatian top bridge for many years. How long have you actually been playing the game?

**Marina:** I started to play sometime in 1992 with Iva Jurišić (another promising top bridge player - interviewer's comment). Our partnership lasted till 1997, when I started to play with Dubravko Diklic. He has been member of Croatian national team for years. After few years playing with Goran, Tonci, Tomislav and Titi, Brk finally decided to build a serious partnership with me. After two years I started new partnership with Nikica Šver. Since then I play regularly with both Brk and Nikica.

**GM:** So, who is actually your partner?

**Marina:** Brk and I play regularly pairs but my real partner is Nikica. She is the favourite partner of mine among all players who I played with. Very supportive, she is a very good player, never forgetting the system. She always struggles for the best result. She never surrenders. Those qualities that make her my favourite partner. Apart from the strict framework of game itself, we get along very well apart from the table.

**GM:** You have impressive record as a member of Croatian national teams. Can you list the main tournaments where you participated?

**Marina:** I played in European Juniors in Arnheim in 1994, Vienna in 1998 and Antalya in 2000. The list of European women championships is even longer: Vilamura 1995, Monte Cattini 1997, Tenerife 2001, Salsomaggiore 2002 and Malmo 2004. I also played in the Bridge Olympiads in 1996, 2000. And 2004.

**GM:** What is your best result so far?

**Marina:** with Nikica, I achieved an 8th place in Butler scoring after 440 boards, scoring 0.53 IMP per board. Last

year, we scored 0.91 IMPs per board after 320 boards at the Olympiad.

**GM:** What is your favourite tournament (regardless of result achieved)?

**Marina:** I liked the European Championships in Salsomaggiore three years ago the most-- so far. That was the first time we achieved really good result and we played well. It happened again in Istanbul, but the feeling was not so great as in Italy where I am always in a good mood. Apart from the European championship, one of the favourites is last years Pula pairs, where we ended second.

**GM:** What bridge tip of yours can you share with us?

**Marina:** Always respect your partner, always trust him. I personally do not like it when partner makes artistic bids, although I myself do the same. In one partnership, only one player, eventually, do that. You bet you know who is that person in my partnership :)

Having said the most important thing in partnership - trust - that is the reason why I like Nikica the most - she is so reliable, playing the best even when I am not on the same level. Perhaps we took the right stuff from chats with psychologists who worked with us before one of the major tournaments.

**GM:** dD you recall any interesting or funny hand?

**Marina:** The most craziest hand happened at my first European Juniors, where our captain Baja told us to always bid after opponents' open strong club to disturb them as much as possible. I took the advice seriously. At love all, I got a very good hand :) after RHO opened 1 club, strong:

? 5 2  
? 7 6 5 4  
? T 9 7 6  
? 9 7 6

so I bid 1NT, following the captain's advice. Iva, my partner at the table, was not surprised. The bidding proceeded:

1?     1NT     dble     2?  
Dble   2?     dble     3?  
dble.... all pass

As the luck is with the brave, I managed to down 500 against the non vul game.

But I think I'll stick to this advice - bridge is not the right game for cowards. Maybe Nikica and Brk are not happy with this motto at some occasions :)

**GM:** What do you think about bridge in Croatia?

**Marina:** The level of the game definitively improved after bringing P.O. (Sundelin) and Marcin Lesniewski to coach us for the Europeans in Salso. Their presence here certainly cause a shift in minds of serious bridge players in Croatia.

I think that bridge involves a lot of individual work, and they forced players at least to read some books and to form a clear and distinctive system with their partners. They inspired me to work harder.

After that, Ivica Miladin put a lot of work organizing camps, but, at least for me, some prepared "problems" were already known to me, and the opposition was not strong enough. That does not mean I am against organizing these camps, but the players that will participate in such events should be carefully selected.

**GM:** The question that usually pops up: bridge and Internet?

**Marina:** I like bridge at Internet, but I spend most of that time kibitzing rather than playing. BBO is useful for players who want to improve their game and to learn and improve the system. I prefer to play with well known partners, although it seems that lowers the quality of my game. I do not have a good table presence, and sometimes I make up bids. Generally, bridge on the Internet has a lot of advantages, but what is missing is direct contact with people, making it a bit anaemic.

**GM:** And finally, thoughts about our Pula festival?

**Marina:** this is my favourite tournament; it's always a lot of fun. There is the game here, but at the same time, enough time for getting together. Tihana makes a really great effort trying to do everything the best. As an improvement, I would extend the main pairs to three sessions, and to set up an individual event would also be interesting.



## YOUR HANDS

### HOW TO IMPRESS WORLD CLASS PLAYER

By Srfa

Biggest star playing oat 43rd International Bridge Festival – Pula 2004. was undoubtedly the Polish player Jacek Pszczola. Rather than enumerate his achievements at the top level of international bridge, I will give you an example of a hand, where it was enough to be recognized as world-class player to collect a fine score. Hand is from Open pairs – Mitchell tournament.

D: W, none vul

		Pszczola (Poland)		
		? 8 5 3		
		? A K Q 10 9 3		
		? J 10		
		? 10 3		
Srfa			Vanja	
? A Q J 7 4			? 2	
? 5			? 7 6 4 2	
? A K Q 4			? 9 8 6 5 3 2	
? K 6 4			? Q 9	
		Vitas (Lithuania)		
		? K 10 9 6		
		? J 8		
		? 7		
		? A J 8 7 5 2		
N	E	S	W	
Pszczola	Vanja	Vitas	Srfa	
-	-	-	1 ?	
2 ?	pass	pass	d'ble	
3 ?	pass	pass	d'ble	
pass	pass	pass		

Bidding looks like normal aggressive matchpoint sequence from both sides, with final pass from East being a bit questionable alternative to straightforward bid of 4?, and indeed it turns out that even game in diamonds is quite makable for EW. However, to pass and hope to score some spade ruffs against 3? doubled is also reasonable alternative. Vanja chooses to play for penalties and leads his singleton. I win with jack and have to admit that I don't see spade position clearly, partner lead being either singleton or from three small (we show count when leading partner suit), declarer obviously having opposite spade holding. I hate this situation that happens quite frequently. However, in either case, first priority for defense seems to be cutting down diamond ruffs on the table, so I return my singleton heart. Pszczola plays low from hand and wins on the table – well, it seems that partner's hearts are not too

much of a beauty. Inevitable singleton diamond is played from the table and I have to decide quickly what to do to. It looks that I will find myself endplayed if I naturally win one of my three diamond top honors, in case of singleton spade with declarer, and in any case I don't have trump to play to stop diamond ruff on table. Nasty thought crosses my mind – I could try to play small diamond and hope to find partner with a jack – obviously partner has some length in diamonds and is favorite to hold a jack. Even if he does not have that card, maybe Pszczola will just be lazy enough not to insert a jack if I play low in tempo? Let's try and see what happens, who knows, maybe I will impress Pszczola if it turns out that killing defence is indeed to play low from AKQx against singleton in dummy.

Well, what happens is that Pszczola does not have any problem to win unexpected diamond trick, and than to ruff his other and last diamond on table. When he then plays small club away from table, I am in enough of disorder to take my king, and try to cash some diamond tricks, but since there are no diamonds left in Pszczola's hand, he is soon claiming two doubled overtricks when it transpires that clubs are now running.

Well, this masterpiece of defense results in score of 730 for NS and you could see on frequency sheet which amount of matchpoints do we score for that brilliant effort – it's indeed nice rounded score. On reflection, I have to accept blame for this silly result. When I saw that partners heart holding is so weak, I should have played him for singleton spade. If I win my diamond trick and play a small spade for Vanja to ruff, and than he removes last trump from table, contract is down two for 300 and quite acceptable 68.80% of matchpoints for us, exactly 68.80% more than we actually got.

Score	Freq.	NS	EW
730	1	100,00%	0,00%
590	1	99,00%	1,00%
530	6	95,70%	4,30%
500	1	92,30%	7,70%
300	1	91,30%	8,70%
150	5	88,50%	11,50%
100	7	82,70%	17,30%
50	12	73,60%	26,40%
-50	1	67,30%	32,70%
-100	10	62,00%	38,00%
-130	9	52,90%	47,10%
-140	3	47,10%	52,90%
-150	12	39,90%	60,10%
-170	1	33,70%	66,30%
-300	4	31,20%	68,80%
-400	26	16,80%	83,20%
-550	4	2,40%	97,60%
-800	1	0,00%	100,00%

I am left with some doubts about level to which I have succeeded to impress Pszczola with this bold defense. Jacek, would you care to play with me some time? I promise I will take more care to win my aces, kings or queens ♠



## TWILIGHT ZONE

### THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

written, observed and participated in by **SchTsch**

«Go west» was always my favorite phrase. Throughout history there are many examples that show that people subconsciously try to obey that order. It seems normal to me that we are always dealing with the same problems because if we always go west we finish in a circle and come up nowhere. But you just can't help it. It's in our nature. The evidence is around us. We, for example, went west following our instincts and arrived at the Wild west. That was typical run&gun robbery action. But with cards. And bidding boxes. And stuff.

On that night in a saloon in the city, several people were wasting their time on booze, cigarettes, and cards. The Good and The Ugly were playing cards on one table against The Bad and The Sheriff. So when we omit The, Good and Ugly were nervous because they have lost almost all their money gambling and needed some cash badly, Bad and Sheriff are always anxious to earn some extra cash gambling, put that two together and you can feel the atmosphere heating up.

#### Matchpoints

W, NS Vul

N	E
? Axx	? x
? x	? Q J x x x
? KJ9xxxx	? A 8 x
? xx	? A x x x
W	S
? K Q J 10 x x	? x x x
? K 10 x x	? A 9 x
? Q	? 10 x
? K 10	? Q J x x x

W	N	E	S
Sheriff	Good	Bad	Ugly
1?	2? (1)	2?	pass
4?	pass	pass	X (2)
pass	pass	XX (3)	all pass

Lead: ?10

The auction had several turning points. Sheriff opened the auction with 1? as any law abiding citizen would do. Good thought that this is a good time for a diversion and bid 2? with 1.04 defensive trick but very poetic diamonds. This

was the first breaking point of the board, merely preparing the scene for the spectacular finish. Bad bid 2? and Ugly passed his ugly hand. Sheriff bid 4?, as any law abiding citizen would do, and it was passed happily-- up to Ugly. Now at the second turning point of the board Ugly knew that Good always has a good hand for a level two intervention and concluded that partner's overcall is enough to make this contract a tricky business. He decided that deception and good defence can make even a good contract go down so this is a right time for robbery. So he doubled. This was passed out to Bad who smelled an easy cash coming. So at the third turning point Bad redoubled and made that the final contract. Ugly led ?10 Good put the king and Bad took the ace. He played a heart, Ugly rose with the ace, North following with a small red card that looked like a heart. Ugly now «knew» that his partner has the ace of clubs so he returned ?Q.

Unfortunately, Bad took the ace of clubs and played a heart to the king, North following with a small red card that looked like a diamond. Bad played another trump back to his hand North following with a small red card that looked like a diamond. At this point Bad counted his tricks and came up with eleven which seemed like a pretty good profit. Then he realized that Good is playing small red cards only, but he wasn't sure whether they are hearts or diamonds. Let's see... this is a diamond, the one before was a diamond and the one before was a heart. Or was it a diamond? Well, there was only one way to find out. So he played a «control» trump. And found out that it was a heart. Then he played a spade to the king and ace. Good thought that this is not a timeo danaos et donna ferrentes situation and took her jack and nine of diamonds thus taking a setting trick.

RESULT: 4?XX, -1, -200

Hmm.... I wonder.... If I am on the North Pole... Or South Pole, whatever.... How can I go west? I guess the solution for our problems would be to go to the Poles because there we won't go in circles cause there would be no west to go to.

**Your partner is celebrating birthday (or anniversary or whatever) these days????**

**You want to thank your sponsors?**

**You say – we publish!**

**Just come to the Press Room**

## YAMB COMPETITION

All bridge players and their friends are invited to participate in Yamb tournament.

Here are the rules:

1. Everyone is welcome.
2. Entry fee is 20 Kn (10 Kn for juniors)
3. The prizes are as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> 50%
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> 30%
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> 10%
  - best junior - special prize
  - best lady - special prize
4. Simple Yamb with 5 dices, will be played on 4 columns table (up, down, free and prediction), without jokers and all that stuff.
5. Classic knock-out will be played in 6, 5 or 4 rounds depending on a number of participants (64,32,16)
6. Every round will be played on three games, except semi-finals and finals that are played on 5 games.
7. Winner is the player who wins more games. The difference in scores doesn't count. If it is a push, 1 additional round is played, until somebody wins.
8. Every player will draw a number that will determine his first opponent and his further "tree" in the competition.
9. Probably some players will not play the first round (because the number will probably not equal to 64, 32 or 16).
10. Players can choose any place they like to play this competition (try the pool ☞) and just report the results to Press room at the announced time.
11. As it might be a problem to find a player you are supposed to play against (if you don't know him) we will help you: We will have a meeting point in front of the press room, and a board where you should leave a message to your opponent. It would help if you leave your mobile-phone number but it is not obligatory.
12. Player who won the round is responsible for bringing the score to the press room in the announced time.
13. Both players are responsible for finding each other in order to play. If the round is not played the player who arrives to the Press room at the time when results are collected is a winner.
14. If no one in a pair comes to the press room, both players are disqualified.
15. Players should provide dices themselves. Official papers should be taken in Press room.



## Schedule:

**Registration** for the competition:

Sunday: 12.00 – 14.00

**Pairs for the first round will be announced:**

Sunday: 21.00

**Results of a first round should be submitted:**

Monday 13:00-14:00

**Results of a second round should be submitted:**

Tuesday 18:00-19:00

**Results of a third round should be submitted:**

Wednesday 13:00-14:00

**Results of a fourth round should be submitted:**

Thursday 13:00-14:00

**Results of a fifth round should be submitted:**

Friday 18:00-19:00

**Results of a sixth round should be submitted:**

Saturday 12:00-13:00

	down	up	free	predict
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
If sum in a column is >60 additional +30				
+ (max)				
- (min)				
(max-min) x (number of "1") for every column				
S (sequence)+20				
F (3+2) +30				
P (poker) +40				
Y (Yamb) +50				
F+S+P+Y				
Total sum of each column				
Total sum of all				
Winner:				

### You won a tourney ?

**Come to Press room or you will not be winning again soon ☞ !**

**We invite the winners of all tournaments to visit us in Press room.**

**We will not force you to write if you don't want to but photos need to be taken.**

### You didn't win a tourney ? ?HOWCOME?

**...you must come to Press room and tell us all about it...**