

# bridge club "dr.jurica tomljenović"



**Date:** 07.09.2009.  
**To:** all welcome  
**From:** tihana@pilar.hr  
**No:** 02 – PULA 2009

## goodmorning bridge

Dear friends,

First two days of the Festival are over (thanks God ☺), but there are still so many boards to be played, and things to be done and fun to be had (I love my English). For me, this is a great time, since by now every one of you have (or is supposed to have) his room or apartment, partner, teammates, knows how things work, so I am becoming useless which is a hell of a great feeling.

We are not exactly beating any records in the number of teams or pairs, but considering global recession, Bermuda Bowl and other things that do not go our way, I think we are doing quite well.



At IMP tournament that took place (time???) on Saturday evening we gathered 181 pairs, and I am really happy to congratulate the winners, Sandra & Laila, coming from Zagreb, Croatia.

53 teams played in Mixed teams tournament yesterday, and the winners are from Czech Republic, Team Praha: Bahnik, Bahnikova, Svoboda, Svobodova. Congrats!

Tomorrow is Mixed Pairs tournament, and we will play only in the evening, so we have whole day off. There are plenty of nice places to see in the area: City of Pula with its famous amphitheater, Brioni Islands, many small towns and villages around (we give you some suggestions in this bulletin).

I sincerely hope that you are satisfied with how things are going on, that you do find our staff members helpful, that even if we did not succeed in finding the perfect place for you, that you still know that we did our best, and that we are still trying (tx Kiki).

Again, Registration desk ladies asked me to remind you, to register in advance. You can register for all tournaments at any time when Registration desk is open, so please do it... and we still offer free Festival T-shirts for those who make it on time. If you are looking for partner or team-mates you should go to Partnership desk, but please, if you agree to come at some point of time to meet your partner, do it. Otherwise, somehow we are guilty if you do not appear.

I guess it is not too early to announce that after Victory ceremony (Saturday, 8.30) we will again have a party at Kavana (opposite the Reception of Histria Hotel), and everybody knows that is a great party, and you shouldn't miss it. So, do not make any appointments for Saturday evening or Monday morning ☺.

# Upcoming events

by Sandra

## Mini Teams – Board-a-match

Hello again. First two tournaments and days are behind us. Nice weather, lot of fun. Nice games. We had some very interesting boards in the past two days. We also couldn't avoid to notice some interesting partnerships yesterday in the mix team. Hopefully preparation for mix pair but maybe even more than that.

It wouldn't be very polite to talk loud but open your eyes, look around and you will be able to notice it by yourself. If you are that blind, what can I tell you, we are all human, we can always negotiate sensible price.

Today we shall play something what we like to call mini team or BAM. Hazarding is part of this tournament. But you should learn how to be a good gambler. Not that everyone is a good poker player and the rules are really easy. At the same time that means adrenalin is on a higher level and we will feel good and happy. At least during the play if not during comparing the results. It seems that you can't lose a lot, only 2 VP. Hmmmmm, welllll, you should try it yourself.

### Easy scoring rules:

When you are better you will score 2 points (and 430 is much better then 420).

When you are exactly the same like your opponent you will have to split the points 1:1.

When you have reversed first situation you have several opportunities but not one is good for you, sorry.

We will play six boards every round so your maximum is 12 VP.

Quick, short rounds, enough time for cigarette and beer and lot of interesting situations to comment afterwards, that are only few reasons why BAM is popular and we always have nice numbers of teams.

Register as soon as possible and you will not regret it. If you need a team please come to the partnership desk and we will help you to find one.

### Here is an orientation timetable:

03:00 – 03:50 PM 1<sup>st</sup> round (Swiss)

04:05 – 04:55 PM 2<sup>nd</sup> round (S)

05:10 – 06:00 PM 3<sup>rd</sup> round (S)

06:15 – 07:00 PM 4<sup>th</sup> round (S)

Dinner

09:00 – 09:50 PM 5<sup>th</sup> round (Danish)

10:05 – 10:55 PM 6<sup>th</sup> round (D)

11:10 – 12:00 PM 7<sup>th</sup> round (D)

Let's take a look at the mini teams results for the last five years:

### 2008

Zdzisiu – Buras, Jaworski, Jurek, Zmudzinski

Koperek – Kater, Kozyra, Ohrysko, Olech

Shanurin – Andreev, Ershov, Kuchanov, Shanurin,

Tatarkin

### 2007

Juls – Stefanov, Mihov, Nanev, Gunev

Garry – Gierulski, Michalek, Skrzypczak, Stworzewicz

Anna Kurnikova - Kater Kozyra Czeczko, Ohrysko

### 2006

RKK – G.Tislewoll, O.Berset, R.Kristiansen,

A.Gavricic

Pacific – Taciuc, Buras, Pilch, Narkiewicz

Garry – J.Michalek, B.Gierulski, J.Stwozewicz,

J.Sukow

### 2005

Olimp – Hristov, Marinovski, Ikov, Dobrodolski

Tesla – Tesla, Kulovic, Brouer, Bruggemann

Niko – Zipovski, Vlajnic, Šver, Pilipovic

### 2004

Vito – Roussev, Nanev, Mihov, Karaivanov

Niko – Diklic, Šver, Tesla, Pilipovic

Dumbovich – Dumbovich, Winkler, Szilagy, Honti

## Mixed pairs

Tournament starts at 08:30 PM. You have whole day to rest, enjoy sea and sun. You can ask your partner to join you for a coffee, cake, lunch, dinner or something, and settle the tactic or system.

The rules and regulations are the same as for any other pair event except that ladies should sit East and South.

We have been talking a lot about how romantic this lady/gentleman combination is, or how you will have opportunity to play in a calm, polite atmosphere but



we have never talk anything about any dress code. We, of course, do not have any dress code during Festival. It is just touristic event, unofficial and with the purpose to relax and enjoy. But I have to notice that most of ladies pays special attention to mix pair tournament. Most of ladies have their hair freshly done, nice clothes and make up. I think that reason for such behavior is not to become so very beautiful and irresistible to their partner. It is because it seems right to somehow respect the occasion, new partnership and this festival evening. So guys lets put some effort too. You have whole day to find your lost razors, long or at least decent trousers and clean shirt. I can not write that black tie is obligated but it would be nice to look around and see such amount of good looking people. I am sure that your partners self confidence and playing ability will improve together with your aftershave, perfume and effort you have shown.

Lets look again at the past:

### 2008

Urlike Schreckenberger – Michael Gromoeller  
Vesna Danilović - Nebojša Bogdanović

Zsuzsanna Kerekes – Laszlo Szilagyi  
Marina Gerasimova – Boris Shusterman  
Malgorzata Pasternak Zbigniew Sawicki

### 2007

Susanne Kriftner - Jorg Fritscher  
Zahatra Katnić - Marijan Katnić  
Steliana Ivanova - Petar Darakchiev  
Renata Muller - Vladimir Mihov  
Urlike Schreckenberger - Michael Gromoeller

### 2006

Ewa Miszewska - Apolinary Kowalski  
Vera Gudac – Pero Gudac  
Izvorka Petrovic - Bato Protega  
Jovanka Smeredevac - C Paesold  
Agnes Zalai – Gal Hegedus

### 2005

N Sver-D Diklic  
K Jazdrzyk -T Filaber  
M Pasternak-K Araszkievicz  
D Georgieva-S Georgiev  
Mitovska- Marinovski

### 2004

Mezei Honti  
Chodorowska I. Chodorowski  
N.Sver Du.Diklic  
Nanev Pilipovic  
S.Probst D.Blažencic

## Men's pair

What to say? The best sentence about men's pair has been published last year. So I will copy/past it. Sorry it is the best I can do. - "Unfortunately we still have more men then women. That is really a natural disaster by itself. I have editors restriction to publish explanation or any details about that natural disaster."

In fact that was 3 sentences.

Well, we shall organize men's pair tournament again. It seems smart to put them in one room, give them their director, close the door and have them all in one place and under control.

We shall even give them some price money, official announcement during victory ceremony and applause.

It seems to me that Brk becomes too soft in the past few years.

Well since I do not want to promote this event you will not see any past result, achievements, names or any record of that kind.

## Free day... where to go?

On Tuesdays tournament is only played in the evening, so if you arrived by car or if you can rent one, it would be a shame not to visit some of picturesque places around. We selected most attractive towns that are representative for this part of our country. If you do not have a car, we suggest a trip to Pula, where you can see some great monuments from Roman time, or go to the restaurant and taste local specialities.

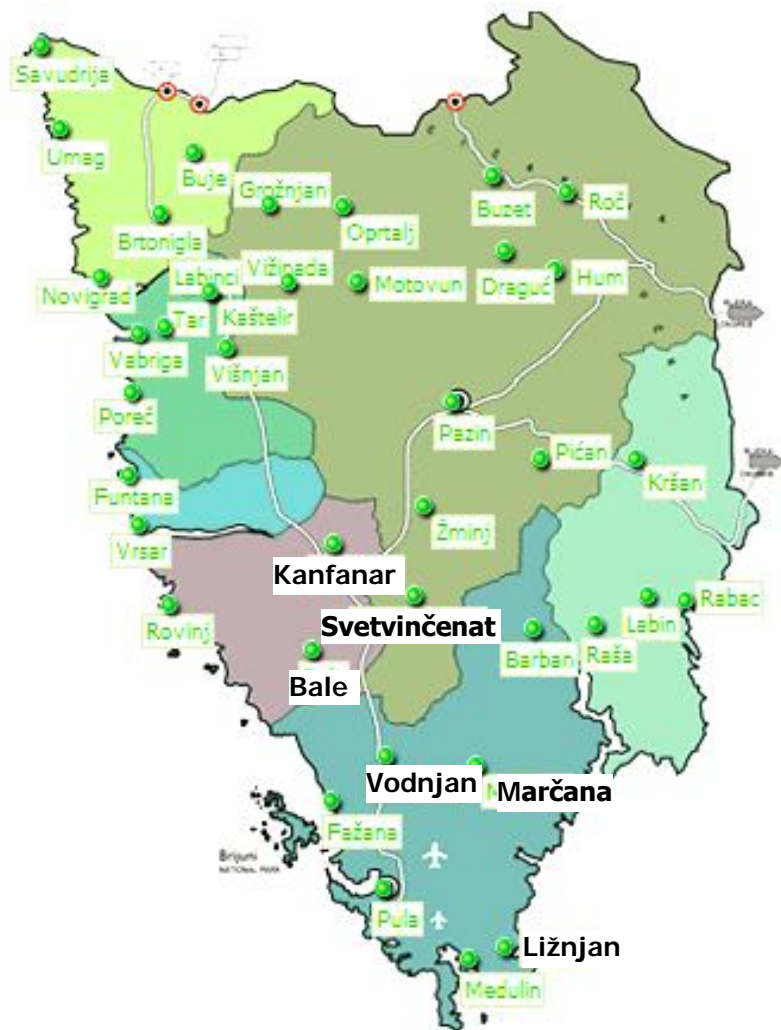
### Ližnjan

In the far south-east of Istria, among Mediterranean broom vegetation lies fishing and agricultural village Ližnjan whose hilltop overlooks the Kvarner bay and the islands of Cres and Lošinj. The Ližnjan district includes nearby villages Valtura, Muntić, Jadreški and Šišan.

The remote but palpable past of this area was written both in the remains of Roman town Vizače (Nesactium) not far away from Valtura, and in the church of St. Mary from Kuj in Ližnjan which bequeathed us the unharmed mosaic from the early Christian period.

The hidden part of unpolluted sea and indented coastline with its rocks and gravel reveals the beauty of 28 km long unsettled coast. A picturesque little port tells us that we are in a place that has always lived upon the benefits of the sea. Taste some of the sea-food dishes and have a sip of Istrian wines Malvazija and Teran - and you will experience a tiny part of the local life.

The significant feature of local fauna is a bird called bee-eater (*Merpos apiasters*) which belongs to an endemic and protected sort of birds that in summertime dwell in Marlera peacefully and undisturbed in its natural environment.



Horse centre Libora offers various services relating to horse-riding activities including horse-riding courses and for those who have passion for hunting there is a large hunting ground with hares, partridges, pheasants, does and wild boars lurking among dense oak wood.

### Vodnjan

The town of Vodnjan was once a large urban center so that nowadays it is most interesting as a cultural and tourist destination.

The old part of town has preserved many Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque buildings and palaces. The most interesting is the Bettica family Gothic palace, the popular 'Kaštel' built around 1300 which today houses a museum. One of the town's highlights is the Parish Church of St. Blaise with its 63 meters high bell tower being the tallest in Istria. The church also keeps mummified bodies of saints and a collection of reliquaries.

The neighboring village Barbariga is known for its remains of the Roman villa rustica with elaborate mosaics and also remains of an oil production structure. Vodnjan is even nowadays known for its fine olive oil.

## Svetvinčenat

The medieval town of Svetvinčenat, situated in the southern part of central Istria, is one of those Istrian jewels that has been discovered only recently. It offers a variety of tourist offer such as events taking place at extremely attractive historical sites of this town.

During the summer months the renovated medieval Morosin-Grimani castle becomes the venue for programs of Istraetnojazz festival, whereas the nearby magnificent central town square and surrounding areas are the stage for the traditional Festival of dance and non-verbal theater.

Svetvinčenat also has its local art group 'Šikuti machine' which often organizes exhibitions, concerts and performances. At the end of autumn the Festival of new wine is held here, a chance for the best winemakers of Istria to present their new wines.

## Bale

The town of Bale is situated at a height of 140 meters above sea level and lies at the intersection of roads leading to Rovinj, Pula and Trieste, only 5 kilometres from the sea. The town developed around the medieval castle of the Sardo and Bembo families in the 15th century and is mentioned in the earliest written documents as the Roman settlement Castrum Vallis.

It is yet another typical Istrian town built on a hilltop with narrow streets and stone houses that create a special atmosphere. The town is dominated by the bell tower of the Parish Church of St. Julian, built at the end of the 19th century. The Bembo Palace has recently been completely restored, nearby is a fine example of a town loggia, whereas the town centre is under protection.

At Colone Cove near Bale a very rich site of fossils belonging to several species of dinosaurs has been discovered.

## Kanfanar

In the 18th century Kanfanar takes on the role of municipal centre in the South West area of the Peninsula where the mild Mediterranean climate becomes one with the natural characteristics of the Istrian inland.

Discovering the beauties of Kanfanar area you can't go around the sacral monuments such as the church of St. Sylvester from the 13th century, the church of St. Mary from Lakuće from the 14th century and the church of St. Agatha from the 10th century, the most important cultural monument of worldwide cultural heritage – medieval town of Dvigrad which is dominated by the remains of the Roman basilica but also the legend on the undiscovered treasure of the British pirate Captain Morgan, Draga as the area of fertile plowfields, wooded slopes and the Mediterranean herbs, Romualdo's cave as the habitat of three thousand bats or Limski Channel as a protected nature reserve.

## Marčana

Marčana is a place situated North of Pula on the crossroads of Pula-Labin and Vodnjan-Krnica roads. It is the centre of the homonymous municipality. The historical sources give evidence of the dense population and tempestuous history of these areas during the ancient times. Marčana was first mentioned in writing in 1243 in the act of Pula's oath of loyalty to Venice. Specifically, Marčana was then a part of Pula area and afterwards in 1331 it came under the authority of the Republic of Venice. Since this area was affected by an outbreak of plague on several occasions during the 15th century, Marčana and its surroundings virtually lost all the inhabitants. During the next century previously mentioned the Republic of Venice is systematically being settled by the refugees running away from Greece and Dalmatia.

The centre of the place is dominated by the parish church of St. Peter and Paul from the 15th century with the bell-tower dating back to 1846. Marčana is also famous for the medieval church of St. Anthony of Padua widened in late 16th century and consecrated in 1709.



## BRIDGE IN TIME OF CRISIS

### By Srfa

While skating on cheap skates, I'm thinking how we, as bridge players, could contribute even more to overcome this annoying economic crisis. Here are some intriguing ideas:

Cost reduction measures have to be a key. Maybe we could reduce costs of most expensive contracts? I mean, 2220 is really high price for vulnerable 7 NT. No wonder it's declared rarely. I would discount it for at least 10% and see what is saved out of that. This will increase market for that contract and these things boost bridge economy! However, I would not discount costs for partial contracts as a measure of social awareness. Do not forget about poor people without honor points even for inviting non-vulnerable games...

Something could be saved also from amount discounts. My proposal is: every third undertrick should be free of charge. This will encourage players to bid 'saves' more often against opposing games and slams, and that's what we need in time of crisis, more savings!

We could save a lot with reducing a length of bidding sequences. Players should be encouraged to bid more simply and with less bureaucracy. If every notrump game would be bid via 1 NT- 3 NT, our bidding boxes would last longer! I would introduce taxing system that would discourage players from using long and boring bidding sequences. Here is how it could work: Crisis unaware North-South partnership is bidding:

1♥ - 4♣(splinter)  
4♦(cue)-4♥  
pass

Let's assume that ten tricks is the limit with North-South cards. Crisis aware partnership should bid it: 1♥-4♥-pass. Crisis unaware partnerships should be taxed out from 5% of their 620 score for unnecessary splinter bid by South. Full 15% should be paid for unnecessary cue bid by North - percentage is increased because its second unnecessary bid in same bidding sequence. I'll bet my cheap skates that North-South will be more concise when bidding next hand! And will do their splintering and cueing somewhere in woods, rather than at bridge table...

There must be saving possibilities also in play of the cards. Early claims are decreasing wearing-off of playing decks. Also, they are saving time that players could use for some extra job. Bonus system should be invented to encourage early claims. If declarer claims in 12<sup>th</sup> trick he should get just symbolic bonus. But if he claims on double-squeeze after 2<sup>nd</sup> trick he should be rewarded handsomely!

In time of crisis, its sheer luxury that dummy, after tabling his hand, remains sitting in his chair and has to obey to exact orders from declarer about which card to play, no matter what he thinks about it. Come to think of it, it's even humiliating for poor dummy. It's dummy harassment. Crisis-aware declarer should play dummy by himself. In mean time, dummy himself should do something more useful to bridge community for these 5 minutes. As example, he could work as a waiter. Or act as a tournament director for some other table. Or at least write bridge poetry.

I hope you get the idea. If you have some even better proposal how to kill crisis before end of our Pula bridge festival, bring your idea to 'Good morning' headquarters.

**Register in advance  
For upcoming tournaments**

**And get a T-shirt!**

## Konventionz und stuff

### By SchTsch

The two most common phrases you hear when you begin your bridge bidding education are „natural“ and „conventional“. Although at the first glance these phrases seem very understandable and clear, further development of your bidding knowledge will tend to make them as complicated as possible ending in endless debates whether some bid is natural, conventional, universal or just stupid. It is „the more you know the less you understand“ pattern and is very common in the bridge bidding.

If you wonder why that is so, just remember your first bidding sequences:

- *Natural bidding is very simple. You just need to bid your longest suit first, and then rebid your second longest suit if you have one, your longest suit again if it is really long, or notrump if you have something in each other suit. Simple and natural.*

*And what happens next? The trainee nods his head mounting the thought that bridge is not so complicated game after all and picks up xx QJxx x Kxxxx. His partner opens 1♦ and after RHO passes he bids... 2♣, of course. After all, it is his longest suit.*

- *Well, this is a mistake, you cannot bid your hand like that – teacher says – you must bid 1♥ with your hand.*
- *But you said that we bid our longest....*
- *Yes, of course but you must have at least 10HCP to bid 2♣ here, and you only have 6.*
- *So with 10HCP I should bid 2♣?*
- *Of course not. You should bid 1♥ with 10HCP. With this hand you need 13HCP to bid 2♣.*
- *But you just said...*

And so, after a few hundred exceptions and modifications, we finally got ourselves simple and natural bidding rules. Now you can use the phrase „natural bidding“ with confidence when you discuss your methods with some pick-up partner, and when

he uses the same phrase there is only one thing certain. You definitely won't play the same system. But the modern bridge has an answer for every problem you might stumble upon. Natural bidding is soooo out. Konventionz are soooooo in. Therefore, when discussing your methods, it is very fancy to use mere konvention names, even if just to show off.

- *Well, I play Jacoby, Stayman, Truscott, Kokish, Hamman, Greenspan, Lebensohl, Rubinsohl, Marisohl, Exclusion Roman Keycard Blackwood for Dummies and advanced turbo diesel injection cuebid.*
- *What about Sleeping Michaels and Vulture Raptor?*
- *Of course. Basis of the system is The Potato club with mustard and onion modifications.*
- *Great. Let's play your system.*

Don't doubt it, this new partnership will be a very successful one. On the board number two, one player will bid invitational stayman and the other one will pass the nonforcing stayman for a top because the field will go one off in 26HCP 3NT due to bad breaks. On the board number eight in Lebensohl sequence one player will bid forcing 3♦ and the other one will pass invitational 3♦ for 70% because the majority of the field will go off in a diamond slam due to the 4-1 trump break. And of course, on board 13 one player will bid 5♦ as a response to Blackwood showing 0 or 3 keycards, and the other one will bid a slam on 5♦ response showing 1 ace. The slam missing two aces will, naturally, make due to the alcohol intoxication of the defender on lead, giving our featured konvention masters pair another top. When tournament results come out they will discuss their 52% result concluding that it might be much better next time when they synchronize their konventions before the tournament, and not during it.

To conclude this little konventions poem, I will quote one of the great Samobor bridge philosophers:

- *Of all those konventions in the world today, it seems that I prefer the Alzheimer konvention. And at my age, all konventions are converging towards Alzheimer konvention.*

### 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...**



## RESULTS

### Open pairs IMP – top 20

1 Laila Gumhalter - Sandra Tomljanovic CRO	63	11Boriana Pancheva - Ivan Chernev BUL	46
2 Slawomir Olech - Jacek Ciechomski POL	62	Stanislaw Pajak - Krzysztof Kujawa POL	46
3 Hristo Chardazov - Veselin Velichkov BUL	60	Ewa Bahnikova - Petr Bahnik CZE	46
4 Steve de Ross - Steve de Donder BEL	57	Ferenc Zold - Gabor Marjai HUN	46
5 Sanja Zagajsek - Ljubica Caklovic CRO	55	Vjekoslav Zepic - Vesna Kuzmanic CRO	46
6 Olga Zabulewicz - Leszek Szkudlarek POL	52	16Istvan Gero - X Bartin HUN	45
7 Tatiana Dikhnova - Sergey Orlov RUS	50	Lukasz Brede - Bartlomiej Igla POL	45
8 Jerzy Skwark - Tomasz Pilch POL	49	18Andrzej Czech - J Szalaga POL	41
9 Roman Kmiecik - Andrzej Stankiewicz POL	48	Jelena Filipovic - Sisi Urosevic SRB/BiH	41
Tatiana Tazenkova - M Toprover RUS	48	Ewa Kater - Ewa Kozyra POL	41

### Mixed Teams

1 PRAHA	54	
2 HUNDE	51	
3 RUA	50	
4 PORTOROZ	49	
5 LARA	48	73 19
6 MECHO	48	73 18
7 JUSTYNA	46	
8 MOOO	45	62
9 NOWOSADZKI	45	47
10 PITE	45	43
11 WIEWIORY	44	55
12 CARAMBA	44	50
13 VAN HELSING	43	54
14 LAST TRAIN	43	40
15 OSA	42	

