



# 3<sup>rd</sup> TRANSATLANTIC SENIORS CUP

Julian Klukowski Memorial Trophy

Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> 2023



## FINAL BULLETIN

Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. 2023

Editors: Mark Horton, Marek Wójcicki, Artur Wasiak



### WINNERS: POLAND 1



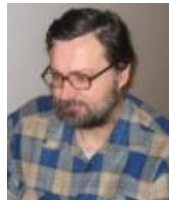
VICTOR  
MARKOWICZ



KRZYSZTOF  
MOSZCZYŃSKI



PIOTR  
BIZOŃ



MAREK  
BLAT



MICHAŁ  
KWECIEŃ



WŁODZIMIERZ  
STARKOWSKI



### 2. AUSTRIA



FRANZ  
TERRANEO



SYLVIA  
TERRANEO



KURT  
FEICHTINGER



ROBERT  
FRANZEL



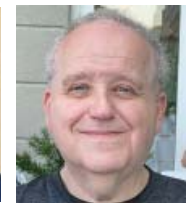
HEINRICH  
BERGER



SUSANNE  
GRÜMM



HANS-RICHARD  
GRÜMM



PETER  
ZELNIK



### 3. LITHUANIA



WOJCIECH  
OLAŃSKI



VYTAUTAS  
VAINIKONIS



BOGUSŁAW  
GIERULSKI



APOLINARY  
KOWALSKI



JACEK  
ROMAŃSKI



JERZY  
RUSSYAN



MAREK  
WITEK



JONAS  
DROBULIS

# FINAL BULLETIN, Sat., February 11th.

Dear Friends

After three weeks the tournament is over. Competition had the spirit of fair play and friendly atmosphere. We congratulate the winners and thank all participants for their efforts.

We hope that you have enjoyed the tournament and in a year we will meet again in the fourth Transatlantic Seniors Cup for Julian Klukowski Trophy.

Organizers:  
Canadian Bridge Federation  
Polish Bridge Union  
Tournament Staff

## TOP OF THE CUMULATED BUTLER

(qualification + 3rd place Swiss, number of boards only played at 3rd place Swiss)

1.38/60	Ch. Schwerdt	GERMANY 1
1.24/60	D.Laidig	GERMANY 1
1.10/40	G.Mittelman	CANADA M.
1.00/20	R.Lebi	CANADA M.
0.96/60	D.Jacob	CANADA W.
0.96/60	P.Klimowicz	CANADA W.
0.92/40	V.Vainikonis	LITHUANIA
0.83/60	I.Findlay	CANADA M.
0.73/60	W.Olański	LITHUANIA
0.71/60	R.Chamberlain	ENGLAND PR.
0.71/60	P.Shields	ENGLAND PR.
0.66/40	U.Finnsson	SWEDEN
0.66/40	B.Olofsson	SWEDEN
0.63/40	M.Axdorph	SWEDEN
0.63/40	B-E.Efrainsson	SWEDEN
0.62/80	D.Minwalla	SOUTH AFRICA
0.43/80	B.Shenkin	SCOTLAND B.
0.43/80	B.Spears	SCOTLAND B.

## IRONMAN - PLAYERS WHO PLAYED MOST

By number of the boards played

250	P.Cardwell	THE DUTCH MASTERS
250	T.Lucassen	THE DUTCH MASTERS
250	R.Walker	THE DUTCH MASTERS
250	J.Verhees	THE DUTCH MASTERS
250	A.Filip	SLOVAKIA
250	K.Lohay	SLOVAKIA
250	M.Henc	SLOVAKIA
250	E.Velecky	SLOVAKIA
230	M.Kwiecień	POLAND 1
230	W.Starkowski	POLAND 1
230	N.Selway	ENGLAND PENFOLD

By percentage of the boards possible played

100%	P.Cardwell	THE DUTCH MASTERS
100%	T.Lucassen	THE DUTCH MASTERS
100%	R.Walker	THE DUTCH MASTERS
100%	J.Verhees	THE DUTCH MASTERS
100%	A.Filip	SLOVAKIA
100%	K.Lohay	SLOVAKIA
100%	M.Henc	SLOVAKIA
100%	E.Velecky	SLOVAKIA
92%	N.Selway	ENGLAND PENFOLD
88%	M.Kwiecień	POLAND 1
88%	W.Starkowski	POLAND 1
88%	A.Kowalski	LITHUANIA



## TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS:

**KUBA**  
**KASPRZAK**

**OLO**  
**KRYCH**

Photos: Krzysztof Siwek, PBU website

Website of the tournament:  
<https://r.pzbs.pl/2023/tsc/web/>



## A View of the Bridge

Mark Horton

This tournament, conceived because of the pandemic by two of the great associations in world Bridge, the Polish Bridge Union and Canadian Bridge Federation, has become a permanent fixture in the calendar, bringing together players from around the world.

A few days before the event got under way John Carruthers sent me an email mentioning some of the distinguished players who would be competing in the third *Transatlantic Seniors Cup*:

*Karen Allison, Tommy Gullberg, Łukasz Lebioda, Andre Mulder, Ronnie Rubin, Tony Sowter and Rhoda Walsh.*

To fully appreciate the star quality that was on offer, you must visit the web site - TSC 2023 (<https://r.pzbs.pl/2023/tsc/web/players.php>) and study the list

of players. You will find it an interesting exercise to calculate how many World, European and National Champions it contains.

For me, part of the fun was looking to see how many of them I had sat opposite (or opposed) at the table and the recollection of results, both good, bad, and indifferent.

As far as I can tell the organisation was immaculate and the event was contested in great spirit. The play was at times outstanding – several deals are likely to be contenders for one of the International Bridge Press Association's Annual Awards.

Player or spectator, make a note to look out for the 2024 contest for the Julian Klukowski Memorial Trophy!

## FORMER MEDALISTS

### 2021

#### 1. TURKEY

Nafiz Zorlu, Mesut Karadeniz, Namik Kokten, Huseyin Avcioğlu, Mehmet Copur, A.Orhan Ekinci, Mehmet Ali Ince

#### 2. TEAM LEVINE

Bob Morris, Eddie Wold, Mark Lair, Mike Levine, Jeff Meckstroth, Mike Passell, Eric Rodwell

#### 3. ITALY

Andrea Buratti, Amadeo Comella, Giuseppe Failla, Sergio Freddio, Virgilio Gagliardi, Franco Garbosi, Gianpaolo Guermani, Bernardo Mancini, Aldo Mina, Ruggero Pulga, Stefano Sabbatini, Paolo Uggeri



### 2022

#### 1. LITHUANIA

Vytautas Vainikonis, Wojtek Olański, Apolinary Kowalski, Jacek Romański, Jonas Drobulis, Marek Witek, Bogusław Gierulski, Jerzy Russyan

#### 2. USA LUSKY

John Lusky, Alan Falk, Jeff Aker, Frank Merblum, Barry Rigal, Glenn Milgrim, Doug Doub, Drew Casen, Jim Krekorian

#### 3. POLAND MARKOWICZ:

Wiktor Markowicz, Krzysztof Moszczyński, Michał Kwiecień, Włodzimierz Starkowski, Piotr Bizoń, Marek Błat

## Mission Impossible?

Mark Horton

Austria went into the final day trailing Poland 1 by 28 IMPs. Could they turn things around?

<b>Board 2</b> East/NS	♠ KQJ1053 ♥ 43 ♦ 876 ♣ J8										
♠ 74 ♥ Q1095 ♦ Q952 ♣ Q95	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 6 ♥ A862 ♦ AKJ104 ♣ A102
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A982 ♥ KJ7 ♦ 3 ♣ K7643										

### Austria v Poland I

Open Room

W	N	E	S
Bizoń	Franzel	Blat	S.Terraneo
		1♦	dbld
3♦*	3♠	all pass	

3♦ Weak

East led the ♦A and switched to the ♥2. Declarer put up dummy's king and played a low club, but West was wide awake and went in with the queen to hold declarer to nine tricks, +140.

Followers of Meckstroth's Law, knowing that partner would have support for spades would have jumped to 4♠.

Closed Room

W	N	E	S
Berger	Starkowski	Zelnik	Kwiecień
		1♥*	pass
3♥*	pass	4♥	dbld
pass	4♠	all pass	

1♥ 4+♥, 11-16, canapé possible

South's delayed double turned a possible loss (4♥ has chances to make) into a potential gain.

East led the ♦A, then cashed the ♥A and continued with the ♥2. Declarer took dummy's king, ruffed the jack,

ruffed a diamond, came to hand with the ♠K, ruffed a diamond high, drew trumps and eventually played a club to the king for +620 and 10 IMPs, stretching the lead to 36 IMPs.

<b>Board 4</b> West/All	♠ 10832 ♥ K753 ♦ A1074 ♣ 10										
♠ J5 ♥ J10842 ♦ 965 ♣ J53	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ KQ ♥ AQ9 ♦ K3 ♣ KQ7642
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A9764 ♥ 6 ♦ QJ82 ♣ A98										

Open Room

W	N	E	S
Bizoń	Franzel	Blat	S.Terraneo
pass	pass	2NT*	all pass

2NT 20-21

Surprisingly, South led the ♦Q and North put up the ace and returned the four, declarer winning and playing a club to the jack and a club, South taking the ace, cashing two diamonds (North had pitched the ♦7 on the second club) and exited with the ♣9. Declarer won, played the ♠K and claimed, +120.

Closed Room

W	N	E	S
Berger	Starkowski	Zelnik	Kwiecień
pass	pass	1♣*	1♠
pass	3♥*	pass	3♠
all pass			

1♣ 16+

3♥ Mixed raise, 4+♠

The alternative approach to the immediate overcall is to pass, hoping to be able to make a strength showing bid on the next round. For example after 1♣-(Pass)-1♦ -(Pass)-INT South employs the partnership's defence to INT.

## FINAL BULLETIN, Sat., February 11th.

West led the ♠J and switched to the ♠5, declarer ducking East's queen, winning the spade continuation, cross-ruffing clubs and hearts and then playing two rounds of diamonds for 10 tricks, +170.

Note that on this layout you make 4♠ even if you remove North's ♥K.

<b>Board 7</b> South/All	♠ J1097 ♥ A ♦ QJ43 ♣ 10974					
♠ K5 ♥ QJ632 ♦ 92 ♣ AK83	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100px;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	♠ – ♥ K85 ♦ AK108765 ♣ Q62	
N						
W     E						
S						
	♠ AQ86432 ♥ 10974 ♦ – ♣ J5					

### Open Room

W Bizoń	N Franzel	E Blat	S S.Terraneo
dbl	4♠	6♦	3♠ all pass

South led the ♠A and declarer ruffed and cashed the ♦A. When South produced the ♠3 he knew his fate, the loss of a diamond and a heart meaning one down, -100.

### Closed Room

W Berger	N Starkowski	E Zelnik	S Kwiecień
pass	4♠	5♦	3♠ all pass

West had a lot of points facing an overcall at the five-level, but the ♠K was probably worthless, and his trump support was modest. Passing delivered 12 welcome IMPs to Austria.

<b>Board 8</b> West/None	♠ K72 ♥ J1097 ♦ K652 ♣ 107					
♠ 8 ♥ A86 ♦ 104 ♣ AKQJ983	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100px;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W     E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W     E	S	♠ J106543 ♥ 5 ♦ J7 ♣ 6542	
N						
W     E						
S						
	♠ AQ9 ♥ KQ432 ♦ AQ983 ♣ –					

### Open Room

W Bizoń	N Franzel	E Blat	S S.Terraneo
1♣*	pass	1♦*	1♥
3NT	4♣*	pass	4♦*
5♣	5♦*	pass	6♥
all pass			

### 1♣ Polish Club

1♦ 0-7 any or 8-11 unbalanced no major or 16+ balanced no major

### 4♣ Good heart support

4♦ Cue

5♦ Cue

Do you think there is a case for East to bid 7♣?

West led the ♥6 and it was not long before declarer was claiming, +980.

### Closed Room

W Berger	N Starkowski	E Zelnik	S Kwiecień
2♣*	pass	5♣	dbl
all pass			

### 2♣ 'Natural, clubs'

North led the ♥J and declarer won, drew trumps and played a spade, North winning and switching to the ♦2 for one down, -100 but a 13 IMP loss.

Austria won the set 28-17 to trail by 17 IMPs. Game on!

The first half of the last session saw both sides score 4 IMPs.

# FINAL BULLETIN, Sat., February 11th.

<b>Board 6</b> East/EW	♠ 863 ♥ AQ4 ♦ A542 ♣ J107							
♠ AK105 ♥ K3 ♦ Q876 ♣ AQ8	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ Q4 ♥ J109765 ♦ 103 ♣ K64
N		E						
W		S						
	♠ J972 ♥ 82 ♦ KJ9 ♣ 9532							

### Open Room

W Bizoń	N Franzel	E Blat	S S.Terraneo
		pass	pass
1♣*	pass	1♦*	pass
1NT*	pass	4♦*	pass
4♥	all pass		

1♣ Polish Club

1♦ 0-7 any or 8-11 unbalanced no major or 16+ balanced no major

1NT 18-20

4♥ Hearts

North led the ♣J and declarer won with the queen and played three rounds of spades discarding one of dummy's diamonds. He ducked a diamond, took the club return in dummy and played a heart to the king, soon claiming +620.

Was this a missed opportunity? If South happens to double 4♦ there is every chance the defenders will collect four tricks.

### Closed Room

W Berger	N Starkowski	E Zelnik	S Kwiecień
		pass	pass
1♣*	pass	1♦*	pass
1NT*	pass	4♣*	pass
4♥	all pass		

1♣ 16+

1♦ 0-bad 7

1NT 18/19 balanced

4♣ Hearts

Here too North led the ♣J so there was no swing.

Remarkably on the deal that followed both sides reached 4♠. South was on lead with

**♠QJ6 ♥65 ♦A965 ♣10542**

and knew that dummy was probably balanced with four spades and around 12-14 points. Here too, leading a diamond would have given the defenders four tricks but was impossible to find.

<b>Board 8</b> West/None	♠ 932 ♥ 852 ♦ A107532 ♣ Q							
♠ J ♥ AK109 ♦ Q98 ♣ A8752	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ AKQ84 ♥ Q43 ♦ 6 ♣ K1093
N		E						
W		S						
	♠ 10765 ♥ J76 ♦ KJ4 ♣ J64							

### Open Room

W Bizoń	N Franzel	E Blat	S S.Terraneo
1♣*	pass	1♠	pass
1NT	pass	2♦*	pass
2♥	pass	2♠	pass
3♣	pass	5♣	all pass

1♣ Polish Club

2♦ Game forcing

North led the ♦A and switched to the ♥5, declarer taking South's jack with the ace and playing a club to dummy's king. He followed that with a club to the eight and claimed the rest, +420.

### Closed Room

W Berger	N Starkowski	E Zelnik	S Kwiecień
1♥*	pass	2♣*	pass
3♣	pass	3♠	pass
4♣*	pass	4♦*	pass
4♥*	pass	5♣*	pass
6♣*	all pass		

1♥ 4+♥, 11-16, canapé possible

## FINAL BULLETIN, Sat., February 11th.

- 2♣ Game forcing, 4+♣, canapé possible
- 4♣ Aces optional
- 4♦ Interested in slam
- 4♥ Ace asking
- 5♣ 2 out of 5, no ♣Q

South led the ♦4 and North took the ace and returned the five, declarer ruffing in dummy and eventually cashing the ♣K. He then ran the nine for +920, setting up a grandstand finish as Austria closed to 6 IMPs.

<b>Board 9</b> North/EW	♠ 76 ♥ QJ96 ♦ A93 ♣ A1032										
♠ QJ1083 ♥ A7 ♦ KQ64 ♣ 95	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AK94 ♥ 3 ♦ J82 ♣ QJ864
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 52 ♥ K108542 ♦ 1075 ♣ K7										

Open Room

W	N	E	S
Bizoń	Franzel	Blat	S.Terraneo
4♠	1♥*	dbler	4♥
	all pass		

1♥ 11-16, 4+♥, canapé possible

South thought for some time before passing out 4♠. The case for bidding 5♥ is not only that it is likely to be a reasonable save but it might see the opponents push on to 5♠ (my guess is that West would have doubled 5♥). There was no way to defeat 4♠, -620.

Closed Room

W	N	E	S
Berger	Starkowski	Zelnik	Kwiecień
1♠	1♣*	pass	1♥
	2♥	4♠	all pass

1♣ Polish Club

No swing. Would the last board come to the rescue?

<b>Board 10</b> North/All	♠ 8 ♥ AKJ10852 ♦ K64 ♣ 105										
♠ KQ1065 ♥ Q ♦ A8 ♣ Q8432	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 93 ♥ 9763 ♦ Q532 ♣ AJ6
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ AJ742 ♥ 4 ♦ J1097 ♣ K97										

Open Room

W	N	E	S
Bizoń	Franzel	Blat	S.Terraneo
1♠	4♥	pass	pass
		all pass	

East led the ♠3 and declarer took dummy's ace and played a heart. When the queen appeared he drew trumps and played the ♦K, West winning and switching to the ♣3, declarer claiming when East put in the jack, +620.

Closed Room

W	N	E	S
Berger	Starkowski	Zelnik	Kwiecień
1♠	4♥	pass	pass
dbler	all pass	pass	pass

East led the ♠9 and having won with the ace declarer played the ♦J. If West follows with the eight and declarer runs it East wins and might find the winning defence of returning a diamond when West wins and switches to a club to secure a match winning diamond ruff.

We will never know, as West went up with the ♦A and exited with the eight, declarer taking the king and cashing the ♥A. In due course the ♣K became the game and match winning trick as Poland I claimed ownership of the Julian Klukowski Memorial Trophy!

## Battle for Bronze - the Last Round

Artur Wasiak

Two teams of last year's medalists, Poland I and Lithuania, had to play against each other in the round of 16. Poland I won this match and eventually went to win the whole tournament. Lithuania lost the chance to repeat their success from 2022 edition and had to content themselves with battle for bronze.

Before the last day, Lithuania had won all their 4 matches and, leading the tournament, was to play against Belgium to defend their place. Their lead was small, Lithuania could afford to lose by 5 IMPs at most not to be overtaken by Belgium. And of course such a result wouldn't guarantee success, as some of the teams from other tables could take the lead.

The match started peacefully with 7 push boards out of the first 8. The only swing came in board 4:

<b>Board 4</b> West/All	♠ QJ ♥ K97 ♦ J10876432 ♣ –										
♠ 82 ♥ AQ5 ♦ A9 ♣ KQ10432	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AK9765 ♥ 843 ♦ K5 ♣ 75
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 1043 ♥ J1062 ♦ Q ♣ AJ986										

### Lithuania v Belgium

Open Room

W	N	E	S
Engel	Russyan	Backes	Gierulski
1 ♣	pass	1 ♠	pass
3 ♣	pass	3 ♠	pass
4 ♦	pass	4 ♠	all pass

Closed Room

W	N	E	S
Olański	Kaplan	Kowalski	Polet
1NT	3 ♦	4 ♠	all pass

At both tables 4♠ was played after ♦Q lead. Double-dummy line was to draw ♠AK and play a club

to ♣10. In practice, both declarers played a club after taking only one top spade. Now the defence could succeed by ruffing this trick in North hand but both defenders went up with ♣A as South.

Then Gierulski and Russyan managed 2 ruffs (club to ♠Q, diamond to ♠3) and Gierulski exited with ♥2. Backes could take ♥A and discard two hearts on ♣KQ – but he wasn't sure where the last trump was – he decided to make the heart finesse. One down.

Polet played ♥J immediately in the trick 5, without taking the ruffs. Kowalski won with ♥A, played a spade to ♠K and finessed with ♣10 to discard his hearts on ♣KQ. One ovetrick and 13 IMPs to Lithuania.

In board 6, Olański and Kowalski bid aggressively to 6♦. This contract depended on taking 4 tricks in clubs. Having ♣AJ43-♣Q105 they needed 3-3 break with ♣K onside. Quite fortunately for them, unsuccessful finesse meant that also 3NT went down – on the other table of this match, and on most of the tables in the tournament.

One more slam came in board 9:

<b>Board 9</b> North/WE	♠ J73 ♥ K9 ♦ 4 ♣ AKQ8765										
♠ Q95 ♥ Q10864 ♦ 652 ♣ J2	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A10862 ♥ 753 ♦ J873 ♣ 9
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ K4 ♥ AJ2 ♦ AKQ109 ♣ 1043										

### Lithuania v Belgium

Open Room

N	S
Russyan	Gierulski
2 ♣	2 ♦
3 ♣	3 ♦
3NT	4 ♣
4♥	4 ♠
6 ♣	pass



# FINAL BULLETIN, Sat., February 11th.

2♣ Precision

2♦ relay

Backes could make the play hard for Russyan by underleading the ♠A. When he decided to lead the ace, making the slam was easy.

Closed Room

N Kaplan	S Polet
1♣	1♦
3♣	4♣
4♥	4NT
5♠	6NT
pass	

Playing from the South hand guaranteed no problem. After heart lead, Polet took an overtrick, giving Belgium their first 3 IMPs.

What would you bid with

♠ AQ103 ♥ Q75 ♦ AKJ ♣ K98

after (love all):

W You	N	E	S
			1♥
dbld	pass	2♣	2♥
?			

The board was:

Board 11 South/None		
♠ AQ103	♠ 8762	♠ 54
♥ Q75	♥ 96	♥ 32
♦ AKJ	♦ 10732	♦ Q654
♣ K98	♣ AQ5	♣ J10763
	♠ KJ9	
	♥ AKJ1084	
	♦ 98	
	♣ 42	

Olański chose 2NT and played there for two down. Engel doubled again, so the Belgian pair bid and made 3♣ for 5 IMPs.

Most of the IMPs in the match were exchanged in boards 13-15.

Board 13 North/All		
♠ K62	♠ A1053	♠ 87
♥ Q8765	♥ 1032	♥ AKJ
♦ K4	♦ J97	♦ A103
♣ AJ9	♣ 863	♣ KQ742
	♠ QJ94	
	♥ 94	
	♦ Q8652	
	♣ 105	

Engel and Backes play 1NT as (14)15-17 but Backes decided to upgrade:

W Engel	E Backes
	1♣
1♥	2NT
3♣	3♦*
3♥	4♣
4♦	4♥
6♥	pass

3♦ 5 clubs, minimum

Great slam when you play from the West hand. Engel easily made 12 tricks.

Kowalski opened 1NT and without any slam tries stopped in 4♥ – but from the East hand, therefore after ♠Q lead he could take only 11 tricks. 13 IMPs to Belgium.

Board 14 East/None		
♠ Q10	♠ 9732	♠ 86
♥ J9642	♥ Q105	♥ K8
♦ 542	♦ A97	♦ KQ63
♣ A104	♣ Q73	♣ J9852
	♠ AKJ54	
	♥ A73	
	♦ J108	
	♣ K6	

Against 4♠ played by South both West players chose the heart lead which went to the 10, K and A. Polet simply took the double finesse in diamonds and went down.

## FINAL BULLETIN, Sat., February 11th.

Gierulski did better. He won the first trick with ♠A, cashed ♠A and played a club to dummy's ♣Q. Then continued with a spade to ♠K and exited with a club to West. Engel played a diamond to Backes' ♦Q but it was too late. Gierulski won the heart return and ruffed a club to arrive in this ending:

	♠ 97 ♥ 5 ♦ A9 ♣ –		
♠ – ♥ J64 ♦ 54 ♣ –	N W     E S	♠ – ♥ – ♦ K63 ♣ 98	
	♠ J4 ♥ 7 ♦ J10 ♣ –		

Now declarer played his ♦J and after some thought won this trick with ♦A. Then Backes would be endplayed with ♦K, therefore he tried his last chance by unblocking ♦K under ♦A, so Gierulski simply took his 10th trick with ♦10, earning 10 IMPs for Lithuania.

<b>Board 15</b> <b>South/NS</b>	♠ 4 ♥ 1053 ♦ AKJ932 ♣ Q108		
♠ Q10752 ♥ AKQJ864 ♦ – ♣ K	N W     E S	♠ K9863 ♥ 9 ♦ 108 ♣ J9754	
	♠ AJ ♥ 72 ♦ Q7654 ♣ A632		

W Olański	N Kaplan	E Kowalski	S Polet
1♥	2♦	pass	pass
pass	3♦	pass	2♥
pass	4♦	all pass	3♥

After opponent's pass Olański opened the bidding with 1♥ but surprisingly didn't act again. 130 for NS.

W Engel	N Russyan	E Backes	S Gierulski
2♦	5♦	5♠	1♦
all pass			dbler

Here South opened the bidding and Engel chose to overcall with a two-suiter (showing spades and other suit). It was easy for his partner to bid on the 5 level. 13 IMPs to Belgium.

At this moment, Belgium was 11 IMPs up but after a few small swings the match ended with 34-34 tie. With the results of other matches favourable for Lithuania, their team finished as the winners of Swiss tournament which means ending up with the bronze medals of the whole event.

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**The Most Impressive**

Marek Wójcicki

During the tournament there were many interesting boards and plays, some of them surely worth mentioning, they might even qualify to take part in IBPA competitions for the *Best Hand of the Year*. Some of them were described in the bulletins.

But for me the most impressive was a hand from the semifinals, where the South player faced a first lead decision after a quite natural, but highly unusual bidding:

W	N	E	S
	pass	1♥	4♠
pass	pass	5♥	pass
pass	5♠	pas	pass
6♥	pass	pass	6♠
7♥	dbl	all pass	

What should you lead having:

♠ AK10843 ♥ 9 ♦ AKQ2 ♣ 43 ?

It seems obvious, and all the players I have asked, most of them being on an expert level, chose to go with ♦A.

After diamond lead declarer made the contract. However, at the table the lead was ♠A, turning out to be successful for down one.

You can find more details at Mark Horton article at Bulletin No. 12.

**INVITATION TO THE BIDDING POLL OF „BRYDŹ”**

I am not only editor of this bulletin, but also editor of the oldest Polish bridge magazine (est. 1956) „Brydź”. One of the most interesting features of it is bidding poll, in form similar to The Bridge World „Master Solvers Club”.

If anyone of you would like to join my group of the experts, please, send e-mail to me: [marek.wojcicki@bridge.com.pl](mailto:marek.wojcicki@bridge.com.pl).

*Marek Wójcicki*