

World Bridge News

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Eric Kokish

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THE OFFICIAL MEDIUM OF THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

"Bridge - onward and upward"

by José Damiani



We have just celebrated the 75th anniversary of the birth of competitive bridge. During the 3rd IOC Grand Prix (for the Generali Trophy) held at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, in the presence of IOC President **Juan Antonio Samaranch** and our great friend **Marc Hodler**, we paid tribute to **Harold Vanderbilt**, who can be considered the founding father of our game as it is today.

The image of bridge has improved with the game's recognition as a sport and with dramatic advances in communications, thanks to modern technology - especially the Internet and the proliferation of new web sites dedicated to bridge, some of which combine video and text. This was very clearly the strategy that I proposed in order to better serve our members.

On 28th October in Monaco, the World Bridge Federation was admitted as a member of the GAISF (General Association of International Sports Federations - Olympic and non-Olympic) at the General Assembly of this association (each federation, be it football or golf, has one vote). I was invited to comment on this decision in front of all the delegates and I am proud to report that we were very warmly welcomed.

I believe that our actions and our efforts are being understood more and more, and are also appreciated both outside and within our bridge community. As a matter of fact, our last Congress in Maastricht unanimously approved our proposals and even decided to support our policy financially, although this did not go as far as I would have wished in terms of solidarity.

However, maintaining our impetus, I was given the opportunity to present bridge to the General Assembly of the European National Olympic Committees that was held in Warsaw from 17-19 November, under the presidency of **Dr. Jacques Rogge**, President of the European Olympic Committee, and of **Mario Pescante**, the General Secretary. This was due to the wonderful work of our friend and colleague, EBL President **Gianarrigo Rona**, who managed to get us invited to this big meeting where we were the only international federation authorised to speak. We must thank Gianarrigo and Mario Pescante for having arranged all of this, following our meeting last year in Rome.

It was a magnificent occasion at which to attempt to convince the National Olympic Committees to accept the national bridge organizations into their domains. Although nearly half of our NBOs have been recognized by their National Olympic Committee or their Ministries of Sports, it is our goal to do even

better. By increasing public awareness of the sporting character of bridge we can speed up the process and help our cause.

Being slightly provocative, I recalled the words of **Deng Xiao Ping**, who claimed that when the Chinese people saw him swimming, they were sure that he was physically healthy and when they saw him playing bridge, they were reassured as to his mental health. I added that many Olympic Committee members (who had been great sportsmen in their time) and the athletes of today owed their career and success as much to their mental capacities as to their physical qualities, the human body being a whole that is commanded by the brain.

It would seem that, on the whole, this introduction was well received by the meeting, as was the audiovisual part of the presentation on competitive bridge, which included its spectator aspect. Popular too was the conclusion of the presentation, which mentioned the contribution of bridge to peace («Bridge for Peace» being the motto of the WBF), where Chinese Taipei and China play against each other, as do Israel and Palestine.

Jacques Rogge, in his final comments, made known his wish to see the National Committees welcome bridge. I must confess that I am quite happy to see some results, such as Canada having already been accepted, while France, Great Britain and Sweden are in the middle of negotiations and have a good chance of success.

The further and final step, of course, would be for bridge to become an Olympic discipline. Again, we are working very hard and we are reasonably confident of being an attraction in Salt Lake City in 2002 before (we hope) becoming a medal sport in Turin in 2006. We have already had a first meeting concerning this with the President of the IOC Commission, **Jean-Claude Killy** (the three-time Olympic champion), and **Paolo Rota**, the Managing Director of the TOROC (Torino Organizing Committee), who were both quite sympathetic to our cause.

We must still fight to obtain the IOC's blessing and for that the modification of one of the rules, which stipulates that only sports that can be practised on snow or ice can be Olympic disciplines in the Winter Games.

In the meantime, we anticipate participating in some Olympic events, such as a zonal in Asia, or a special category event like the Youth festival in Europe.

The road is long — but hope springs eternal.

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Official WBF Site : <http://www.bridge.gr>



Maastricht, The Netherlands, 26 August-9 September, 2000

The 11th World Bridge Teams Olympiad

The first World Bridge Teams Olympiad was held in Turin, Italy, in 1960. **Claude Delmouly**, a member of the victorious French Open team, appeared at the 11th edition in the beautiful Dutch city of Maastricht, Capital of the province of Limburg, as a member of the French Seniors team. **Josephine Morcos**, a member of the unsung United Arab Republic team that won the Women's Series, was also in attendance at this 40th Anniversary of the Olympiad, but at 77 she was not quite ready for the Seniors: she competed as a leading member of the Egyptian Women's team. She has competed at every Olympiad, twice on four-handed Open teams that included **Omar Sharif**, one of her greatest supporters.

The first Olympiad drew 29 Open teams and 14 Women's teams. The 11th attracted 72 Open teams and 40 Women's teams, 24 national teams in the first Seniors International Cup, 22 entries in the first World University Teams Bridge Cup, and 68 teams in the second World Transnational Mixed Teams. 80 nations from five different continents were represented in the 2000 edition.

Of the first ten Olympiad Open titles France had won four, Italy three (in a row), Brazil, Poland and the USA one each. In the Women's Series, the USA had won three times, Italy twice, Sweden, Great Britain, UAR, Denmark and Austria once each. The Netherlands had hosted the Olympiad once before, in 1980, in Valkenburg, not far from Maastricht. Native son **Anton Maas** played on the Dutch Open team 20 years ago and had ear-

ned a Bronze medal. He was on the Open team again in 2000 and hoped to do even better. **Paul Chemla**, a member of the victorious French Open team in 1980, would be hard pressed to duplicate that result as a member of the 2000 team, two decades of battle experience notwithstanding.

The tournament, which was organized by the World Bridge Federation in cooperation with the Dutch Bridge Federation (Nederlandse Bridge Bond), was staged in the MECC Convention Center, a beautiful modern complex with everything under one roof, including two spacious Vugraph theatres.

At the opening festivities at the Theater aan het Vrijthof in Maastricht city center, the bridge world was introduced to the amusing but deliberately annoying magician **Richard Ross** and his ubiquitous cans of magic spray. These soon became regular fodder for the Daily Bulletin (typical item: «eight teams hope for magic spray»), but WBF President **José Damiani** had the irreverent trickster pegged perfectly when he said, «I definitely refuse to play rubber bridge with that guy.» This, moments before he and Deputy Prime Minister **Annemarie Jorritsma-Lebbink** were blanketed in streamers and confetti to conclude the «Let's have a party» theme of the evening. **Harry van de Peppel**, Chairman of the Dutch Organizing Committee, Mayor **Philip Houben** of Maastricht, and **Laurens «the Greatest» Hoedemaker**, President of the Dutch Bridge Federation also contributed to the light-hearted festivities, Jorritsma bringing

down the house with the advice: «When in doubt in leading against a grand slam with two aces, try spades.» (**Bob Hamman** could not help but agree). Hanging from nearly every wall of the Vrijthof were magnificent tableaux of bridge personalities from each zone, commemorating the history of the Olympiad. These were so popular that several players ordered expensive reproductions to take home with them.

Damiani recalled the contributions of the late **Andre Boekhorst**, **Wim Wagner**, and **Harry van der Helm** to the spread of the organization and the development of international bridge. He also expressed the view that «the history of bridge is being rewritten in Olympian leaps and bounds,» and that this was confirmed by the message he had just received from IOC President **Juan Antonio Samaranch**, who wrote:

«On behalf of the International Olympic Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to extend to you my very best wishes for the World Championship to be held in Maastricht, Netherlands. I trust this event will prove to be a successful and memorable occasion for the organizers, the competitors and the spectators.»

Damiani, whose outlook remains positive for the future of world bridge and for the inclusion of bridge as a sport at the Olympic Games, nonetheless expressed his concern that too many of the larger wealthy countries were not participating in the Women's Teams and the University Cup.

THE FIRST SENIORS INTERNATIONAL CUP

Thanks in large part to the efforts of WBF's energetic Seniors Committee Chairman **Nissan Rand**, this important new Olympiad event was initiated in the first year of the new millenium. That the youngest eligible players would have been born in the year that World War II ended might suggest that «Senior» and «old» are hardly one and the same thing.

According to Nissan, «It certainly can be stated that the first Seniors International Cup was a great success. Twenty-four teams competed in a Round Robin, which would determine the winners. Seventeen of those teams came from Zone 1 (Europe), with no other zone sending more than three teams (and that was Zone 5 - CAC). Zones 3, 4, and 6 did not participate, but the interest in this year's event is sure to be contagious and we hope that all zones will participate in the second edition.

«It was heartening to see so many great players competing in the Seniors. There were more than two dozen World or Zonal Champions in the field, players who were still perfectly capable of holding their own in open competition. As the only criterion for entry was a minimum age of 55, the attraction of participating in a World Championship proved very strong. Indeed, more than one observer remarked that the top Seniors teams were as strong as their countries' teams contesting the Open Series.

«The great movie star **Omar Sharif**, representing Egypt, attracted a huge gallery of spectators to his table, and helped to create a special atmosphere for the event.

«The medal-winning teams

representing USA, France and Sweden, demonstrated wonderful skills, but the 2000 Senior Champions from the USA were undoubtedly the best team in the event. They fielded three excellent pairs, who finished first, fourth and fifth in the Butler Ranking list.

«The Seniors International Congress in Maastricht exhibited the wonderful enthusiasm of the participating Senior players and officials. They were especially pleased to enjoy a wonderful WBF event, which produced a top-level competition and generated a great deal of respect for the ability of the Senior players, and that is highly valued by us all.»

Among the star players in the Seniors were Australians **Ron Klinger** and **Alan Walsh**, who had the following exchange with Dutch assistants **Monique Sanders** and **Ed Lakerveld** over lunch one day:

-Monique: «Ah, you are from Australia? You are doing very well.»

-Ron: «Not as well as the Australian Open team. We are from the Seniors.»

-Ed: «I have been at the Seniors venue. Around here everyone seems rather tense, but at the Seniors venue it is much more relaxed.»

-Alan: «Yes, when we used to play in the Open we were also tense. Now we are past tense.»



**Ron Klinger
& Alan Walsh
past tense**

1 USA	435.25
(Bobby Wolff/Dan Morse, Kit Woolsey/Steve Robinson, John Mohan/John Sutherlin: npc Betty Ann Kennedy).	
2 France	414.00
(Pierre Adad/Maurice Aujaleu, Christian Mari/Francois Leenhardt, Claude Delmouly/Jean-Marc Roudinesco).	
3 Sweden	412.25
(Hans-Olof Hallen/Lars Backstrom, Lars Alredsson/Sture Ekberg, Hans Gothe/Anders Morath).	
4 England	403.00
5 Australia	398.00
6 Germany	392.25



USA
**Betty Ann Kennedy (npc),
John Mohan, Dan Morse,
Steve Robinson, John Sutherlin,
Bobby Wolff, Kit Woolsey.**



France
**Pierre Adad, Maurice Aujaleu,
Claude Delmouly,
Francois Leenhardt, Christian Mari,
Jean-Marc Roudinesco.**



Sweden
**Lars Alredsson, Lars Backstrom,
Sture Ekberg, Hans Gothe,
Hans-Olof Hallen, Anders Morath**

THE FIRST UNIVERSITY TEAMS BRIDGE CUP

The idea to organize Championships for University Students originated with Lode Lambeets, of the University of Antwerp, inspired by the University Chess World Championship, which was held in Antwerp in 1992. He contacted **Paul Magerman**, then president of the ECBL (European Community Bridge League), and together they arranged the first European Union Bridge Championships. Both FISU (the International Federation for University Sports) and the University of Antwerp provided support for the initial venture and have maintained their support ever since. Recognizing that most students are only in school for a few years, the ECBL decided to make this an annual event. The ECBL evolved into the European Union Bridge League in 1995 and closed down in 1998, passing its assets to the European Bridge League. The EBL was delighted to inherit a going concern and continued the University Championships under its auspices. In 1999, the decision was made to turn the European University Teams Championships into World Championships in even-numbered years, and the WBF decided to incorporate the first of these championships into the 2000 Olympiad.

*«We (also) have a special affection for the youth of the world, and that is why we have created, in addition, the first University Cup, with the help of FISU, the International Federation for University Sports. I would like to thank President **George Killian** and Secretary-General **Roch Campana** of FISU, and Prof. **Kruseman**, Rector of the University of Maastricht for their support, with the participation of partners such as **Electrabel**, **e-bridge** and **World Bridge Productions**.»*

José Damiani



The FISU Delegation

Italy, the reigning World Junior Champion, was the morning line favourite in this one, but Austria, with only four players, was in superb form and held off the surging Italians down the stretch.

1 Austria	435
(Andreas Gloyer, Arno Lindermann, Bernd Saurer, Martin Schiffko, npc : Hamelone Thomasberger).	
2 Italy	430
(Mario d'Avossa, Stelio Di Bello, Bernardo Biondo, Riccardo Intonti, Stefano Uccello, npc : Gianpaolo Rinaldi).	
3 Denmark	377
(Gregors Bjarnarson, Anders Hagen, Kasper Konow, Anders Sigsgaard).	
4 The Netherlands	376
5 Czech Republic	375
6 France	373



Austria
Arno Lindermann, Andreas Gloyer, Martin Schiffko, Bernd Saurer, npc Hamelone Thomasberger.



Italy
Stelio Di Bello, Bernardo Biondo, Mario d'Avossa, Riccardo Intonti, Stefano Uccello, npc Gianpaolo Rinaldi.



Denmark
Gregors Bjarnarson, Anders Hagen, Kasper Konow, Anders Sigsgaard.

e-bridge's sponsorship of the University Teams Championship included a variety of awards, among them cash prizes for Best Played Hand (won by **Steven De Donder** of Belgium), Best Defense (won by **Leo Lasota** of USA), and Best Bid Hand (won by Denmark's **Anders Hagen** and **Anders Sigsgaard**), and (with World Bridge Productions) the Cavendish e-bridge Cup and a trip to the 2001 Cavendish Invitational in Las Vegas for the team gaining the most places in the second half of the event (won by France).

THE MSN GAMING ZONE WORLD COMPUTER BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

The event, which carried a first prize of \$1500, was staged and coordinated by **Al Levy**, with **Lorne Russell** from the MSN Gaming Zone on hand to congratulate the winners. **Meadowlark Bridge** defeated **Q-Plus Bridge** in the final. **GIB**, the perennial champion, was unable to participate.



WORLD TRANSNATIONAL MIXED TEAMS

68 teams competed in a 14-round Swiss of 10-board matches, with the top four teams when the music stopped surviving to the knockout phase. The remaining 64 teams were invited to play two more Swiss matches to determine the final overall rankings beginning with fifth place. There was no playoff for third, the Bronze medals going to the losing semifinalist finishing higher in the Swiss.

Like the Seniors, the Transnational attracted many strong players (an unofficial count revealed at least 31 World Champions), both professionals and amateurs.

The four semifinalists were teams e-bridge, Bessis, Wernle and Djunga.

e-bridge defeated Djunga and Bessis defeated Wernle, setting up a final between two of the strongest teams in the event. e-bridge looked unstoppable in the first of three segments, crushing their rivals 40-1, but in the second stanza Bessis turned the tables, 42-6. The third session was much more civilized and e-bridge won it 20-12 to win the match and the title, 66-55. Wernle earned the Bronze, and Hackett, winners of the Swiss on the strength of the two extra rounds, finished fifth, behind Djunga.

1 e-bridge: USA/Israel/Poland

(Piotr Gawrys, Sam Lev, Irina Levitina, John Mohan, Jill Meyers, Migry Tzur-Campanile, npc : Pinhas Romik).

2 Bessis: France

(Michel and Véronique Bessis, Paul Chemla/Catherine d'Ovidio).

3 Wernle: Austria

(Doris Fischer, Andreas Gloyer, Martin Schiffko, Jovanka Smederevac, Sascha Wernle).

4 Djunga: Belgium

(Valérie Carcassonne, Veronique Driessens, Frans Jeunen, Alain Labaere).

5 Hackett: England/France

(Sally Brock, Benedicte Cronier, Paul, Jason and Justin Hackett, Nicola Smith).



e-bridge Transnational Winners (left to right) : Migry Tzur-Campanile, Piotr Gawrys, npc : Pinhas Romik, Irina Levitina, Sam Lev, John Mohan, Jill Meyers.

WORLD WOMEN'S TEAMS

The 40 teams were seeded into two round robin groups, with eight teams in each group to qualify for the knockout stage. Inevitably, there were a few surprises, particularly in Group A, but there were few easy choices of opponents for the top finishers for the round of 16.

Round Robin Standings

Group A

1 USA	359.60
2 Austria	356.00
3 Norway	352.00
4 England	347.00
5 Chinese Taipei	333.25
6 Israel	316.50
7 Japan	308.00
8 Sweden	306.00
9 Denmark	304.50
10 Italy	294.50
11 Finland	291.00
12 Spain	259.00
13 Brazil	256.00
14 New Zealand	254.00
15 Indonesia	251.00
16 Croatia	242.25
17 Russia	232.40
18 Hong Kong	217.00
19 Ireland	211.00
20 Jamaica	138.00

Group B

1 Germany	373.00
2 France	368.00
3 Canada	356.00
4 The Netherlands	344.00
5 Poland	329.00
6 China	319.00
7 Scotland	310.00
8 South Africa	299.00
9 Greece	293.00
10 Czech Republic	278.00
11 Argentina	270.00
12 Mexico	264.00
13 Australia	259.00
14 Venezuela	252.00
15 Morocco	245.00
16 Egypt	242.00
17 Wales	234.00
18 Turkey	227.00
19 India	193.00
20 Pakistan	188.00

Round of 16 (64 boards)

Germany had first pick from Group A, selected Japan, and won in comfort, 197-80.

USA chose Scotland from Group B and played four tight quarters, squeaking through 132-125.

France selected Chinese Taipei and regretted it, bowing out 98-113.

Austria chose South Africa, much to their chagrin, losing 109-154.

Canada expected a tough match against Sweden but won handily 144-51 (over 48 boards).

Norway selected Poland and won 185-137.

England was left to face China, a tough draw, and China prevailed, 161-140.

Netherlands drew Israel, and had to come back from far behind to survive, 136-130.

Quarterfinals (80 boards)

Germany won all five sets against China, two of them convincingly, and coasted home 243-124.

Canada fell behind South Africa early but soon turned the match around and won going away, 172-137.

Norway, 35 down to Chinese Taipei after two sets, picked away at the lead and won a thriller, 200-195.

USA and Netherlands traded heavy blows early but USA struck hard in the fourth set to win 141-109.

Semifinals (96 boards)

USA (Mildred Breed / Shawn Quinn, Joan Jackson / Robin Klar, Petra Hamann / Peggy Sutherlin, npc : Bob Hamman) got off to a huge lead against Norway (Anne-Lill Helleman / Anna Malinowski, Solvi Remen / Siv Thoresen, Aase Langeland / Eva Lund Heitmann, npc : Per Bryde Sundseth, coach : Odin Svendsen) in the first segment and were 88 IMPs ahead after 48. Remarkably, this was Norway's debut in the Women's Series, and the team had enjoyed a fantastic

run, proving to their federation that they deserved to participate at the world level. There was too much ground to make up, however, and although they fought bravely until the end, they were eliminated 133.5-256.5.

Germany (**Sabine Auken/Daniela von Armin, Andrea Rauscheid/Pony Nehmert, Katrin Farwig/Barbara Stawowy**: npc **Christoph Kemmer**, coach **Krzysztof Martens**), with three seasoned partnerships, was probably the pre-tournament favourite, and had so far done nothing to disappoint their supporters. In contrast, Canada (**Francine Cimon/Martine Lacroix, Rhoda Habert/Beverly Kraft, Dianna Gordon/Katie Thorpe**: npc **Jim Green**), with two new partnerships and one player with no international experience whatsoever, had accomplished a great deal. The Canadians were clear underdogs but they were relatively loose going into the match. There wasn't much scoring in the first half, Germany leading by 17 IMPs after 48 deals, but Canada won the fourth set 54-18 to lead by 19. Germany recouped an IMP in the fifth set but Canada won the final stanza 36-10 and won the match 177-133 to reach the final for the first time.

The Final (96 boards)

The last time two North American teams met in the final of a World Bridge Championship was in the Beijing Bermuda Bowl in 1995. Curiously that match involved the spouses of three of the players in the 2000 Women's final.

After two low-scoring nearly even segments, USA made a strong move in the third, winning it 49-8. Another strong set built the American lead to

63 IMPs, and although the Canadians won the last two sets, they ran out of boards. USA won the Olympiad Women's Teams, 176-144. Bob Hamman, who had toyed with playing in the Seniors before accepting the captaincy of his wife's team, was delighted with the result but confessed that playing was much more fun.

Playoff for Third Place

Germany defeated Norway 140-84 to earn the Bronze medals



Gold : USA
Winners: Mildred Breed; Petra Hamman, Joan Jackson, Robin Klar, Shawn Quinn & Peggy Sutherlin.



Silver : Canada
Francine Cimon, Dianna Gordon, Rhoda Habert, Beverly Kraft, Martine Lacroix and Katie Thorpe.



Bronze : Germany
Katrin Farwig, Barbara Stawowy, Daniela von Armin, Sabine Auken, Andrea Rauscheid, Beate 'Pony' Nehmert., npc: Christoph Kemmer

WORLD OPEN TEAMS

The 72 teams in the Open Series were seeded into four 18-team round robin groups. With only four teams in each group surviving to the knockout stage, it was important to stay in touch with the leaders because the Victory Point scale made it difficult to make up significant deficits. As many countries field very different teams from one year to the next, it was not always easy to determine in advance whether a particular group was rich in contenders or pretenders, but here too there were some surprises.

Round Robin Standings

Group A

1 Poland	339.00
2 Austria	324.50
3 Belgium	316.00
4 Brazil	303.00
5 Denmark	296.50
Ireland	296.50
7 Croatia	284.00
8 Spain	266.00
9 Hong Kong	261.50
10 Slovenia	256.00
11 Canada	249.00
12 Switzerland	243.00
13 Wales	229.00
14 Pakistan	208.50
15 Colombia	204.00
16 Tunisia	181.00
17 Singapore	155.00
18 Tanzania	109.00

Group B

1 USA	346.00
2 The Netherlands	327.00
3 Russia	309.00
4 Australia	305.00
5 Hungary	283.00
6 Greece	274.00
7 Chinese Taipei	271.00
8 Finland	261.00
Scotland	261.00
Portugal	261.00
11 Lebanon	245.00
Liechtenstein	245.00
13 Romania	244.00
14 Luxembourg	211.00
15 Guadeloupe	209.00
16 Monaco	204.00
17 Bangladesh	165.00
18 Philippines	109.00

Round Robin Standings

Group C

1 England	350.00
2 Indonesia	334.50
3 Sweden	320.00
4 France	311.00
5 Israel	303.00
6 Germany	299.00
7 Japan	294.00
8 India	281.00
9 Yugoslavia	256.00
10 Czech Republic	250.00
11 Egypt	246.50
12 Mexico	217.00
13 Latvia	187.00
14 Venezuela	182.50
15 Uruguay	179.00
16 Cyprus	177.50
17 San Marino	176.50
18 Malta	121.00

Group D

1 Italy	358.00
2 Argentina	335.00
3 Norway	325.00
4 Iceland	313.00
5 New Zealand	301.00
South Africa	301.00
7 China	293.00
8 Bulgaria	270.25
9 Morocco	269.00
10 Turkey	262.00
11 La Réunion	234.25
12 Malaysia	227.00
13 Bermuda	217.00
14 Thailand	216.50
15 Martinique	193.00
16 Ukraine	187.00
17 Botswana	105.00
18 Palestine	67.00

Round of 16 (64 boards)

Here the crossover options were limited in each case to one of the four-team groups.

Italy selected Australia, a dangerous team that had slowed down after a fast start. Italy won 184-104.

USA chose Argentina rather than face Norway or Iceland. USA finished strong, 184-108.

Netherlands selected Iceland, not with much conviction, fell behind, and ran out of boards, 94-107.

The forced confrontation in this section was Norway-Russia. The Russians won three of the four sets small, but Norway won the second stanza 57-16 to prevail. 120-106.

England selected Belgium, fell behind by 46 IMPs, rallied, and rode a 54-11 final set to a 133-128 win.

Poland chose France and played four tight sets, winning nervously, 139-116.

Indonesia decided to play Brazil, with reservations. It was close all the way, Brazil surviving, 139-134.

That left Austria to face Sweden. In a slugfest filled with appeals Austria prevailed 153-149.

Quarterfinals (80 boards)

Italy and Brazil were close after three sets but the final two were all Italy: 232-140.

USA won all five sets against Austria, one of them significantly: USA, 215-143.

Poland won the first set against Iceland 68-4 and the last 57-9. The final tally was 210-129.

England built a 40-IMP lead against Norway, then survived a 34-55 finale to win 192-171. All four Group winners had reached the semifinal stage.

Semifinals (96 boards)

England (Colin Simpson/ Gunnar Hallberg, Glyn Liggins/ Joe Fawcett, David Burn/ Brian Callaghan: npc John Williams, coach David Bakhshi) was the surprise team of the tournament, perhaps even to the players themselves. Italy (Lorenzo Lauria/ Alfredo Versace, Norberto Bocchi/ Giorgio Duboin, Dano De Falco/ Guido Ferraro: npc Carlo Mosca, Maria Teresa Lavazza) would be their sternest test yet. It seemed that the English were up to the challenge when they won the first set 53-32, but Italy got

most of that back in the second and led by 26 IMPs with 32 deals remaining. The last two sets were all Italy, however, and the final score was 241-156.

Poland (Cezary Balicki/ Adam Zmudzinski, Michal Kwiecien/ Jacek Pszczola, Krzysztof Jassem/ Piotr Tuszynski: npc Jan Rogowski, coach Wojciech Siwiec) got off to a slow start against USA (George Jacobs/ Ralph Katz, Steve Garner/ Howard Weinstein, David Berkowitz/ Larry Cohen: npc Chip Martel, coach Jan Martel) but shut out their rivals 45 to minus 2 (penalties) in the second. Poland built its lead steadily after that and USA resigned with 16 boards to play. Poland, 205-101.

The all-European final would feature the two teams widely considered to be the best in the field.

The Final (128 boards)



Gold : Italy
Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin,
Dano de Falco, Guido Ferraro,
Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace,
npc: Carlo Mosca, coach: Maria
Teresa Lavazza.

Italy jumped out to a nice lead with a 35-8 first set and after a couple of tight segments scored heavily again (64-23) in the fourth to take a 62-IMP lead at the half. Poland refused to roll over, however, and outscored Italy 60-26 in the fifth stanza, cutting the deficit to 31. Italy stemmed the tide but Poland made another run in the seventh, 57-36. With 16 deals remaining, Italy's lead was

down to 19 IMPs, 233-214. Poland started brilliantly in the finale on a 30-1 run and took the lead 244-234, but three consecutive swings went the other way and Poland ran out of boards. Italy won the last set by 1 IMP and won the Olympiad Open Teams by 20, 269-249.

This was the one of the most interesting finals in recent memory and although there were plenty of errors, the overall quality of the bridge was high and showcased our game very well; the WBF's Olympic initiative should be well served.

Playoff for Third Place

USA defeated England 132-65 to win the Bronze medals.



Silver : Poland
Cezary Balicki,
Krzysztof Jassem,
Michal Kwiecien,
Jacek Pszczola,
Piotr Tuszynsky,
Adam Zmudzinski,
npc: Jan
Rogowski, coach:
Wojciech Siwiec

Bronze : USA
David Berkowitz,
Larry Cohen, Steve
Garner, George
Jacobs, Ralph
Katz, Howard
Weinstein, npc :
Chip Martel



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ZONE	DATE	Event and venue	Contact
Zone 7	17/29 January	<i>Canberra festival, Canberra Australia</i>	fran@nzcba.co.nz
Zone 8	7/12 February	<i>Cairo, Egypt</i>	ebf@egybf.com
Zone 2	15/25 March	<i>Nationals Kansas City - Missouri</i>	www.acbl.org
Zone 1	19/25 March	<i>European & Seniors Pairs, Sorrento - Italy</i>	EBL
	1/2 June	<i>World Wide Bridge Contest</i>	www.worldbridge.org
Zone 6	7/17 June	<i>Singapore, Meridien Hotel</i>	scba@1800-mail.com
Zone 1	16/30 June	<i>Tenerife, Canaries islands - Spain</i> <i>European Open & Ladies teams, Women's pairs</i>	EBL
Zone 2	19/29 July	<i>Summer National - Toronto - Ontario, Canada</i>	www.acbl.org
	6/15 August	<i>World Juniors Teams, Rio de Janeiro Brazil</i>	panos@bridge.gr
Zone 1	12/19 August	<i>European University Teams, Rotterdam The Netherlands</i>	EBL
	20 Oct/2 Nov	<i>Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup, Bali Indonesia</i>	cfrancin@worldbridgefed.com
Zone 2	18/27 Nov	<i>Fall North America championships, Las Vegas - Nevada</i>	www.acbl.org



Bill Gates: tournament bridge player !

A headline in the August 25th edition of The Wall Street Journal declared «Bridge is Cool». Around the same time a very positive Associated Press story about bridge was picked up by dozens of major newspapers across North America. Why does the North American media suddenly care about our game? It is largely due to the fact that **Warren Buffet** and **Bill Gates**, two of the most renowned businessmen in history, are both avid bridge players.

The rumors started early at the ACBL Summer 2000 NABC in Anaheim, California - Bill Gates and Warren Buffet would be showing up to play in the Masters Mixed Teams, a North American Championship event. It turned out that the rumors were half true as only Bill made it to Anaheim. Warren was unable to attend due to health problems - he is fine now. Both Bill and Warren seem to prefer to be called by their first names so there will be no «Misters» in this report.

Bill partnered two-time World Champion **Sharon Osberg** of San Francisco. It was through Sharon, a longtime friend and bridge mentor to both Bill and Warren, that I was first introduced to these men. The four of us had spent many enjoyable hours playing Internet and social bridge together. I was also scheduled to play on the Gates team with **Sheri Winestock** as my partner, but I picked a bad time to reach the finals of the Spingold and was thus unavailable. All of a sudden it seemed that every great player in the world wanted to play with Sheri as my replacement. Her choice was **Howard Weinstein**, who is both a first-class player and a complete gentleman; we suspected that he would get along well with Bill.

There was no shortage of bridge players seeking autographs, photographs, and handshakes from the legendary Bill Gates. Fortunately, almost all of these requests were made politely and many people expressed to Bill what an honor it was to have him attend the tournament. It appeared that Bill really appreciated this and he was very

generous with his time and signature. By the end of the tournament he did not stand out so much any more. Bill Gates had become a tournament bridge player, just like the rest of us, and he had made several new bridge friends.

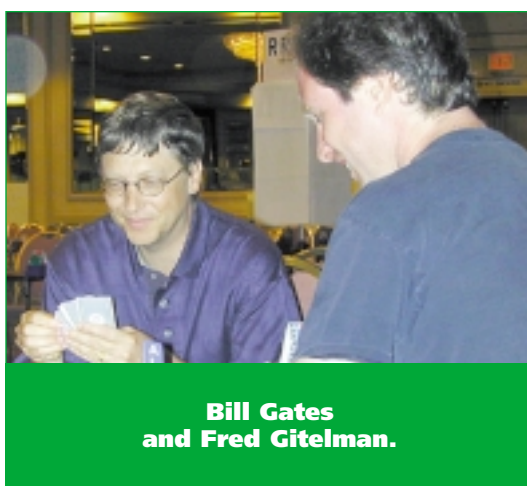
This true fairy tale does not have a perfect ending. My team lost in the final of the Spingold and, although Bill's team

qualified for the second day of the Masters Mixed Teams, they did not finish in the overall standings. Still, it was quite an accomplishment for Bill to get as far as he did. More important is that Bill had a great time. I suspect that Anaheim will not be his last major bridge tournament.

The smile on Bill's face while playing bridge that was captured by the Associated Press photographer told the whole world something we already know: not only is bridge fascinating enough to stimulate a

brilliant mind, but it is also a great deal of fun to play. Hats off to Bill and Warren for helping to spread the word !

Postscript: In early December Warren and Sharon teamed up with Bill and Bob Hamman at an ACBL Sectional tournament in Omaha, Nebraska. Sectionals are the lowest-level ACBL tournaments, but The Wall Street Journal didn't seem to mind, giving this tournament prominent coverage. Bill and Bob came second and fourth in two single-session pairs events in Omaha. The team finished well above average in the Swiss Teams event, just missing the overall placings.



**Bill Gates
and Fred Gitelman.**

**Bill Gates Team
(left to right) :
Howard Weinstein,
Sherry Winestock,
Sharon Osberg and
Bill Gates.**





The 5th Generali World Masters

The Fifth Generali World Masters was launched in splendor with welcome speeches by **George Karlaftis**, the President of the Hellenic Bridge Federation, **Aldo Castellani** representing The Generali Group, and **José Damiani**, the President of the World Bridge Federation, followed by a lavish Greek buffet.

The Fifth Generali World Masters Individual was without doubt an unqualified success. As is always the case in a Jose Damiani production, the players were treated very well - first class accommodations affording magnificent views of the Acropolis, delicious meals, excellent playing conditions at the Zappion Megaron, history around every corner, superb hospitality, the latest in modern technology; even the weather was delightful.

This unique event, held every second year, offers the invited players a chance to partner and oppose their peers on a completely level playing field. As everyone plays the same system, time-consuming explanations are not required and judgment and psychology in the auction are highlighted. Although the main focus in these barometer-scored contests is cardplay and defense there are still opportunities to gain heavily in the bidding, particularly by adopting an atypically aggressive or conservative approach on a given deal.

Generali awards cash prizes to the top half of the field in both the Men's (26 places) and Women's (14 places) events. The first Junior Individual was added to the roster this year. Twenty juniors competed over three sessions for a handsome silver cup and the special respect of their colleagues.

This was a special opportunity for the juniors, who were not only fully sponsored but also treated to a fabulous few days cruising the Greek Islands.

Going into the last session of the Men's event, Piotr Gawrys led the field, followed closely by Jon Baldusson, Antonio Sementa, Magnus Lindkvist and Andrei Gromov, with the pack not far behind. The race for the Women's title had become a two-horse affair between Benedicte Cronier and Jill Meyers, with Benedicte just a little ahead. The Junior event gave the partisan crowd the most to cheer

about because local boy Miltos Karamanlis was leading the field. The Vugraph theatre was packed for the final session and players worldwide followed the results via the Internet, service provided by Greece's Forthnet Inc, on the WBF Web Sites :

www.bridge.gr and www.bridgeplaza.com.

The final session was well played, with Italy's Sementa finally pulling ahead to become the first Italian to capture the title, ahead of Gawrys and Gromov.

The Women's event was won by France's Cronier, who attributed her victory to the fact that she played at a steady tempo, thereby putting all her partners at ease and enabling them to play their best. Meyers (USA) was second, and Martine Verbeek (The Netherlands) was third.

There was unbridled joy at the closing banquet, followed by dancing that spread into the streets of Athens, as Greek supporters celebrated the triumph of young master Karamanlis in the Juniors. He had remained in first place throughout the entire final session. Austria's Andreas Gloyer was second and Kit Lai of Hong Kong tied with Australia's Kylie Robb for third.

It remained for José Damiani to speak on behalf of bridge players everywhere at the prize-giving ceremony:

"Let me again thank Mr Rallis, the former Prime Minister, and the Greek Authorities for their help in holding this fifth edition of the Generali World Masters here in historic Athens. I am also particularly pleased to thank

Final rankings

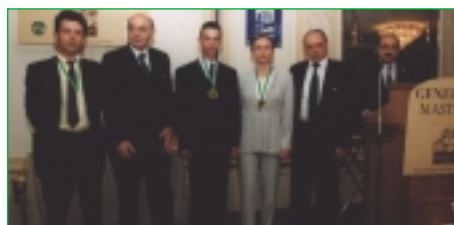
Men (52 players)		%	US\$
1	Antonio Sementa	Italy 57.15	10,000
2	Piotr Gawrys	Poland 55.51	6,000
3	Andrei Gromov	Russia 54.45	4,000
4	Michel Abecassis	France 54.21	2,000
5	Zia Mahmood	USA 54.13	2,000
6	Jacek Romanski	Poland 53.88	1,000

Women (28 players)		%	US\$
1	Benedicte Cronier	France 55.25	6,000
2	Jill Meyers	USA 54.53	4,000
3	Martine Verbeek	Nether. 54.12	3,000
4	Elizabeth Delor	France 52.37	2,000
5	Eva Harasimowicz	Poland 52.06	1,000

Juniors (20 players)		%	
1	Miltos Karamanlis	Greece 56.09	
2	Andreas Gloyer	Austria 53.95	
3	Kit Lai	Hong Kong 53.62	
	Kylie Robb	Australia 53.62	

Mr Alfonso Desiata, President of the Generali Group, and Mr Gantenbein, representing Generali here tonight for their tremendous support. All of us, and I speak for you the players, are extremely grateful to Generali for making this event possible.

"Together we demonstrate that bridge has really become a sport, and deserves its recognition by the International Olympic Committee of the WBF as an International Sport Federation. This was one of the main reasons for being here in Athens, the birthplace of the Olympic movement. For that we are especially thankful to Mr Nikolaou, President of the Greek National Olympic Committee, who honours us with his presence. Zappion has been the theatre for a great sports championship, and a great show with our bridge vision."



Left to right: Antonio Sementa, winner of Men category, President of the Greek Olympic Committee
Bénédicte Cronier, winner of Women's category,
Miltos Karamanlis, winner of Juniors category.



Mr Gantenbein of Generali Greece, A. Sementa, G. Rona



The 3rd IOC Grand Prix Generali Trophy

The magnificent Sydney Olympic Games were a tough act to follow, but with a precious opportunity available to showcase bridge for the International Olympic Committee, the game's brightest stars traveled to Lausanne to participate in the third IOC Grand Prix.

At the Opening Ceremony, WBF President Jose Damiani acknowledged the magnificent support of the Generali Group and the IOC and also let the invited players know that their participation in this very important event for the future of bridge was appreciated. **Juan Antonio Samaranch**, President of the IOC, wished the players and organizers every success, and the gathering also included IOC Vice-President **Marc Hodler** and IOC Sports Director **Gilbert Felli**.

The format for both the Open and Women's events was the same as in the previous year. The six Open teams played a three-day round robin, followed by a four-team knockout. The Women (teams of eight) played four sessions over two days with each North-South pair comparing with both their East-West pairs, IMPs converted to Victory Points.

The Open Teams

Round Robin (Five 24-board matches):

USA	95
Indonesia	82
Italy	82
Poland	81
China	59
France	46

France (**Chemla, Levy, Mouiel, Quantin, Cronier**) was expected to be a strong contender, but showed their best form only in the last round — too late. China (**Fu-Ju, Cao-Yang**), co-winners of the first IOC Grand Prix in 1998, lost heavily to the USA (**Nickell/Freeman, Meckstroth/Rodwell**,

Hamman / Soloway) in the first round and never recovered. The other four teams qualified quite comfortably for the semifinals. The Americans chose Indonesia (**Lasut / Manoppo, Sacul / Karwur**), against whom they would enjoy a significant carryover advantage, leaving Italy (**Lauria / Versace, Bocchi / Duboin, De Falco/ Ferraro**) to face Poland (**Kwiecien / Pszczola, Jassem / Tuszynski, Chmurski / Puszynski**) — a virtual replay of the Maastricht final.

Semifinal (36 boards):

	C/O				Total
USA	+12	0	11	27	50
Indonesia		36	24	5	65
Italy	+1.5	28	21	31	81.5
Poland		27	18	26	71

Indonesia wiped out the American lead early, shutting out their opponents in the first set and increasing their lead to 37 in the second. The Americans rallied but they were too far behind. Italy reached the final by winning all three sets by small margins.

Final (60 boards):

	C/O					Total
Indonesia						
+1	17	32	29	21	29	129
Italy						
C/O	26	18	13	32	30	119



The Indonesian Team: (left to right) Sacul, Manoppo, Karwur, Lasut.

The final was a close and exciting affair that went down to the wire. The match was tied with six deals to

play and Italy made a strong statement four boards from the end with a 16-IMP gain on a slam swing, pulling ahead by 11 IMPs. Indonesia reclaimed the lead with a vulnerable game swing on the next deal and tacked on two small gains to win the third IOC Grand Prix by 10 IMPs, 129-119. Indonesia will host the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup in Bali in 2001 and their federation and organizing committee were thrilled with their team's victory.

The Women's Teams

	Total
Europe	245
61 57 71 56	
N America	233
59 63 47 64	



**European Team
2000 IOC Women winners**

This match was decided in the third set, when the European all-stars (Holland's **Pasman / Simons**, Germany's **Nehmert / Rauscheid**, Norway's **Helleman / Malinowski**, and France's **Bessis / d'Ovidio**) had much the best of it against the North American 2000 Olympiad Gold and Silver medalists (**Breed / Quinn, Jackson / Klar, Hamman / Sutherland** (USA) **Habert / Kraft** (Canada)).

The event was covered comprehensively for the Internet by e-bridge in a presentation that includes Vugraph with analysis of every deal, biographies, photos, color commentary from guest experts, interviews (among them Juan Antonio Samaranch and Marc Hodler) and coverage of the first two IOC Grand Prix. Visit: www.e-bridgemaster.com for a guided tour.



June 2-3, 2000

World Wide Bridge Contest

THE 2000 WORLD WIDE BRIDGE CONTEST (JUNE 2-3)

For the first time the event was scored, not by pre-determined frequency, but across the whole field, using the Internet. Participating clubs used a (provided) scoring program for their local heat, then sent the files either directly to the server or by e-mail to the organisers. Their results were then scored across the field, together with the results from the hundreds of other clubs, to determine an overall winner.

The Web Site, at: www.worldbridge.org, generated a great deal of excitement as results came in and the scores were updated. The frequencies on each board could be examined in detail, and the commentary, written by Eric Kokish was displayed on the site, with players given the opportunity to add their own comments. Each player's personal scorecard was displayed, so anyone interested could see what the winning pairs did on every board.

All 8 of the WBF Zones participated in the event, with a total of 820 heats in **61 countries**, and over **31,000 players** taking part. Even the matchpoints available on each board seemed astronomical - a «top» in the Friday session was 7742!

The web server was actually a server «farm» based in England on a wide bandwidth connection. Statistics showed that, in the first 48 hours, the site received over 1.5 million hits. The organisers, Anna Gudge and Mark Newton, said that they had learned a great deal from

the experience, and hoped that this would enable them to run even more successful events in the future, giving participants exciting, challenging and enjoyable bridge competitions.

The winners of the Friday event were from Italy, scoring a total of 204,996 matchpoints, 73.38%. They were **Filippo Raffa**, a Business agent, and **Livio Treta**, a High School Physical Education teacher, playing a strong club system.



**Filippo Raffa (on left)
and Livio Treta
(on right).**

They said afterwards: «We found all the hands very interesting. Why? Because almost all of them produced good results for us, of course. Joking apart, we'd like to point out a couple of aspects. First of all, the technical one: accurate declarer play or defence was always rewarded with a good score, regardless of the opponents' actions. Then the tactical one: there were many hands suitable for preempts, which inevitably create problems for one side or the other. Busy players had many opportunities to create action, and this worked well for them more often than not.»

The Saturday winners were from China, **Lelin** and **Louwenchan** from Guangzhou, who scored 153,452 matchpoints, 75.23%

All the information about the event can be found at www.worldbridge.org, as can the results of the MSO World Wide Charity Simultaneous Pairs, which was also held under the auspices of the World Bridge Federation in August, 2000.

THE 2001 WORLD WIDE BRIDGE CONTEST (JUNE 1-2)

The World Wide Bridge Contest offers an exciting, enjoyable and challenging game to the participants. The rare opportunity to join a major event and compete with players from so many other countries provides a stimulating experience. Add to this the enjoyment of watching the scores change as new results come in and the fun of adding your own comments to the site and this becomes an event not to be missed.

The contest can contribute to the growth of bridge by offering organisers at every level a unique opportunity to attract media attention; this, in turn, will help to encourage more people to learn duplicate bridge in order to participate in tournaments in of this type.

For more information about the World Wide Bridge Contest, please go to www.worldbridge.org or contact:

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The Old Railway Station
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Suffolk CO10 9HN, England.
Tel: +44 1787 881920
Fax: +44 1787 881339
email: anna@ecats.co.uk



World news

THE WBF CONGRESS

The WBF Congress was attended by representatives from 75 of the 80 countries present at the 11th World Bridge Teams Olympiad. A new WBF Constitution and new WBF By-Laws were discussed and adopted at this important meeting, bringing the WBF in line with Olympic Regulations (Court of Arbitration and Anti-Doping Policy). A revised dues structure was also accepted by the NCBOs, a positive move that will allow the WBF greater flexibility in furthering its Olympic policy and the development of the sport as a whole.

WBF President **José Damiani** remarked that technology is playing an increasingly important role in the development of the WBF and the promotion of bridge as a sport, drawing attention to the four web sites covering the Olympiad. In addition to the WBF's own site : www.bridge.gr there is the special Dutch site for the event : www.bridgeolympiad.nl and the e-bridge site : www.ebridgemaester.com, both of which offer Vugraph coverage and many other features, and Canal-Web : www.canalweb.com, which features live video broadcasts.

TEACHING PROGRAM

The Congress was also treated to a demonstration of the teaching program being developed by the WBF for teaching bridge in schools, bridge clubs or private classes. This is a long-term project, the first stage of which is to provide a program that can be used by teachers and aspiring teachers who need detailed information about how to teach bridge to young people. The initial program contains 25 lessons, complete with illustrative deals. The program is based on the Minibridge System developed by the French Bridge Federation, and instructions are currently available in both French and English. It is intended that other languages should be added at a later date, and already Colombia has offered to provide the Spanish translation. Other NCBOs taking

similar initiatives are invited to send their translations to WBF for inclusion on the web site. The Teaching Program is available, free of charge, to all NCBOs.

Each lesson is divided into several components, with an overall view of the Lesson of the Day, together with at least one lesson deal, Advice of the Day, Definitions of Bridge Terms, and other useful information. The lessons also contain theoretical material and quizzes that can be printed and distributed to the students. Additional material will be developed and added over the course of the next few months. The second stage, offering a program for the students to progress, will follow. It is also envisaged that material for teachers wishing to start more advanced classes will be developed and provided.

New material will frequently appear on the web site, so please check back regularly to see what has been added. In due course the WBF will also arrange for CDs to be cut and distributed free to all NCBOs.

The teaching program is currently available on the Internet at:

www.worldbridge.org/teaching, and also at: www.wbfteaching.org.

For further information, or to be kept updated about the progress of the teaching program, please contact:

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Tel: +44 1787 881920

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e-mail: wbf@ecats.co.uk

PRESS CONFERENCE

Fielding the questions of the world's bridge journalists were WBF President **José Damiani**, NBB President **Laurens Hoedemaker**, Managing Director of Maastricht Tourist Information **Wilco De Jong**, WBF Executive Council Member **Panos Gerontopoulos**, IBPA President **Henry Francis**, and **Nico Tromp**, Press Director for the Olympiad.

President Damiani explained that the WBF's Olympic programme was progressing as planned, with excellent prospects for the future. He stressed the benefit of Olympic recognition for all countries, saying that this was undoubtedly the right way forward for the future of the sport of bridge.

In reply to questions raised by **Seamus Dowling** of the Irish Times concerning participation in the Olympic Games, President Damiani indicated that a change in IOC regulations meant that there were no longer «demonstration sports.» These have been replaced by «attraction sports,» but they would not be featured in the program unless they had been included when the site for the games was chosen. Although the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics would therefore not be accessible the local Olympic Committee may still grant the necessary permission: with the invaluable assistance of IOC Vice President **Marc Hodler** it is still possible that bridge will be featured in 2002. An exhibition match during the second week of the games is the most likely possibility. Bridge remains on course for participation in Turin in 2006.

Patrick Jourdain of the London Daily Telegraph asked for information about the drug testing in Bermuda and in Maastricht. President Damiani confirmed that 32 tests had been carried out in Bermuda, and 24 would be completed in Maastricht. Eight players from the University event were already tested, and the other sixteen would be drawn at random from among the eight semi-finalists. Although there had been one positive test in Bermuda, it involved a player using medication for a known condition, and had been passed by the IOC. Ireland's **Alex Montwill** received a positive response to his question concerning the availability to NCBOs of a list of substances to avoid.

Mr De Jong revealed that revenues for Maastricht hotels, restaurants, and shops accruing from the Olympiad were very significant, the figures suggesting that the host country for such events could be expected to benefit greatly.



RANKING

2000 World Ranking

Shawn Quinn Womack
First in 2000 Women's ranking



Name	First name	NCBO	CAT	M.P.
1 QUINN (Womack)	SHAWN	USA	WGM	2698
2 AUKEN	SABINE	DEU	WGM	2676
3 MEYERS	JILL	USA	WGM	2598
4 VRIEND	BEP	NLD	WGM	2555
5 ARNIM von	DANIELA	DEU	WGM	2455
6 BESSIS	VERONIQUE	FRA	WLM	2189
7 PAS van der	MARIJKE	NLD	WGM	2099
8 D'OVIDIO (SAUL)	CATHERINE	FRA	WLM	2065
9 SOKOLOW (Deutsch)	TOBI	USA	WGM	2049
10 GU	LING	CHN	WLM	1948
11 ZHANG	YA LAN	CHN	WLM	1935

12 BREED	MILDRED	USA	WGM	1903
13 DEAS	LYNN	USA	WGM	1824
14 SUN	MING	CHN	WLM	1804
15 NEHMERT	BEATE	DEU	WGM	1786
16 PASMAN	JET	USA	WLM	1750
17 SIMONS	ANNEKE	NLD	WLM	1729
18 GORDON	DIANNA	CAN	WGM	1637
19 FISCHER	DORIS	AUT	WGM	1628
20 ZWOL van	WIETSKE	NLD	WLM	1528
21 MONTIN	RANDI	USA	WGM	1465
22 SMITH	NICOLA	ENG	WGM	1464
23 WANG	WEN FEI	CHN	WLM	1457
24 CIMON	FRANCINE	CAN	WLM	1445
25 RAUSCHIED	ANDREA	DEU	WLM	1439
26 ERHART	MARIA	AUT	WGM	1413
27 FISCHEER	MARTINE	NLD	WLM	1396
28 ZHANG	YU	CHN	WLM	1387
29 SANBORN	KERRI	USA	WGM	1371
30 WEIGKRICHT	TERRY	AUT	WGM	1335
31 WILLARD	SYLVIE	FRA	WLM	1331

32 CHAMBERS	JUANITA	USA	WGM	1296
33 LANDY	SANDRA	ENG	WGM	1279
34 PALMER	BETH	USA	WGM	1244
35 GREENBERG	GAIL	USA	WGM	1238
36 WANG	HONG LI	CHN	WLM	1224
37 DAVIES	PAT	ENG	WGM	1217
38 WEI SENDER	KATHERINE	USA	WGM	1210
39 CRONIER	BENEDICTE	FRA	WLM	1175
40 MCGOWAN	ELIZABETH	SCO	WGM	1161
41 PICUS	SUE	USA	WGM	1145
42 SUTHERLIN	PEGGY	USA	WLM	1073
43 HABERT	RHODA	CAN	WLM	1069
	KRAFT	BERVERLY	CAN	1069
45 LEVITINA	IRINA	USA	WLM	1047
46 TZUR-CAMPANILE	MIGRI	ISR	WM	1019
47 HAMMAN	PETRA	USA	WLM	1004
48 BERKOWITZ	LISA	USA	WLM	978
49 REUS	SHARYN	CAN	WLM	962
50 MC CALLUM	KAREN	USA	WGM	957

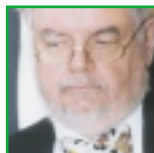
WBF Grand Masters 2000 Women Category

Name	First name	NCBO	P.P.
1 Deas	Lynn	USA	25
2 Landy	Sandra	ENG	25
3 Smith	Nicola	ENG	24
4 Meyers	Jill	USA	23,5
5 Auken	Sabine	DEU	23
6 Mitchell	Jacqui	USA	22,5
7 Arnim(von)	Daniela	DEU	22
8 Sanborn	Kerri	USA	21,5
9 Radin	Judi	USA	21,5
10 Quinn(Womack)	Shawn	USA	20,5
11 Greenberg	Gail	USA	20,5
12 Wei-Sender	Katherine	USA	19,5
13 Davies	Pat	ENG	19

14 Picus	Sue	USA	18
15 Vriend	Bep	NLD	17
16 Mc Callum	Karen	USA	17
17 Truscott	Dorothy	USA	17
18 Fischer	Doris	AUT	16
19 Chambers	Juanita	USA	16
20 Palmer	Beth	USA	16
21 Erhart	Maria	AUT	15,5
22 Weigkricht	Terry	AUT	15,5
23 Sanders	Carol	USA	15,5
24 Nehmert	Beate	DEU	15
25 Farrell	Mary Jane	USA	15
26 Kennedy	Betty Ann	USA	14,5
27 Brock	Sally	ENG	13,5

28 Pas, van der	Marijke	NLD	13
29 Sokolow (Deutsch)	Tobi	USA	13
30 Breed	Mildred	USA	13
31 Bianchi	Marisa	ITA	11,5
32 Johnson	Marilyn	USA	11,5
33 Gordon	Dianna	CAN	11
34 Montin	Randi	USA	11
35 MCGOWAN	Elizabeth	SCO	11
36 D'Andrea	Marisa	ITA	10,5
37 Capodanno	Luciana	ITA	10,5
38 Pollack	Rozanne	USA	10
39 Letizia	Marinesa	USA	10
40 Osberg	Sharon	USA	10

Bob Hamman
First in 2000 Open ranking



Name	First name	NCBO	CAT	M.P.
1 HAMMAN	BOB	USA	WGM	4026
2 RODWELL	ERIC	USA	WGM	3762
3 MECKTROTH	JEFF	USA	WGM	3714
4 CHAGAS	GABRIEL	BRA	WGM	2953
5 BRANCO	MARCELO	BRA	WGM	2610
6 LAURIA	LORENZO	ITA	WGM	2565
7 WOLFF	ROBERT	USA	WGM	2491
8 MOUIEL	HERVE	FRA	WGM	2456
9 BALICKI	CEZARY	POL	WGM	2455
	ZMUDZINSKI	ADAM	POL	2455
11 DUBOIN	GIORGIO	ITA	WLM	2436
12 VERSACE	ALFREDO	ITA	WGM	2354

13 STANSBY	LEWIS	USA	WGM	2320
14 BOCCCHI	NORBERTO	ITA	WLM	2283
15 MARTEL	CHARLES	USA	WGM	2281
16 LEVY	ALAIN	FRA	WGM	2198
17 CHEMLA	PAUL	FRA	WGM	2151
18 BERKOWITZ	DAVID	USA	WLM	1955
19 FREEMAN	RICHARD	USA	WGM	1891
	NICKELL	NICK	USA	1891
21 KATZ	RALPH	USA	WLM	1871
22 KWIECIEN	MICHAL	POL	WLM	1828
23 PSZCZOLA	JACEK	POL	WLM	1817
24 COHEN	LARRY	USA	WLM	1754
25 TUSZYNSKI	PIOTR	POL	WGM	1696
26 LINDKVIST	MAGNUS	SWE	WLM	1695
27 DE FALCO	DANO	ITA	WGM	1692
28 ROSENBERG	MICHAEL	USA	WGM	1683
	MARTENS	KRZYSZTOF	POL	1683
30 PERRON	MICHEL	FRA	WGM	1663
31 WEICHSEL	PETER	USA	WGM	1579

32 FALLENIIUS	BJORN	SWE	WLM	1576
33 MAHMOOD	ZIA	USA	WLM	1548
34 MARI	CHRISTIAN	FRA	WGM	1517
35 SOLOWAY	PAUL	USA	WGM	1498
36 VILLAS-BOAS	MIGUEL	BRA	WLM	1494
37 HELLNESS	TOR	NOR	WLM	1480
38 GAWRYS	PIOTR	POL	WGM	1477
39 MELLO	ROBERTO	BRA	WGM	1435
40 LASUT	HENKY	IDN	WLM	1411
	MANOPPO	EDDY	IDN	1411
42 SACUL	DENNY JACOB	IDN	WLM	1391
43 MULTON	FRANCK	FRA	WGM	1386
44 HELGEMO	GEOR	NOR	WLM	1384
45 CAMPPOS	JOAO PAULO	BRA	WLM	1373
46 SZYMANOWSKI	MAREK	POL	WLM	1314
47 FREDIN	PETER	SWE	WM	1287
48 NILSLAND	MATS	SWE	WLM	1280
49 AUSKEN	JENS	DNK	WLM	1279
50 MAAS	ANTON	NLD	WLM	1264

WBF Grand Masters 2000 Open Category

Name	First name	NCBO	P.P.
1 Hamman	Bob	USA	85,5
2 Garozzo	Benito	USA	75,5
3 Wolff	Robert	USA	68,5
4 Forquet	Pietro	ITA	58
5 Rodwell	Eric	USA	37
6 Chagas	Gabriel	BRA	36,5
7 Pabis Ticci	Camillo	ITA	36
8 Meckstroth	Jeff	USA	35,5
9 Branco	Marcelo	BRA	34,5
9 Soloway	Paul	USA	31,5
11 Stansby	Lewis	USA	29
12 Martel	Charles	USA	28
13 Chemla	Paul	FRA	26
14 Eisenberg	William	USA	25,5
15 Lawrence	Michael	USA	23,5
16 Perron	Michel	FRA	23
17 Ross	Hugh	USA	22

18 Mouiel	Herve	FRA	21
19 Mari	Christian	FRA	19,5
20 Szwarc	Henri	FRA	19,5
21 Balicki	Cezary	POL	18,5
22 Zmudzinski	Adam	POL	18,5
23 Lebel	Michel	FRA	18,5
24 Franco	Arturo	ITA	18
25 Lauria	Lorenzo	ITA	17,5
26 Cintra	Gabino	BRA	17
27 Rubin	Ira	USA	16,5
28 Rosenberg	Michael	USA	16
29 Freeman	Richard	USA	15,5
30 Mello	Roberto	BRA	15,5
31 Levy	Alain	FRA	15
32 Nickell	Nick	USA	15
33 Martens	Krzysztof	POL	14,5
34 Assumpcao	Pedro Paulo	BRA	14,5
35 Gawrys	Piotr	POL	14

36 Kantar	Edwin	USA	14
37 Schapiro	Boris	GBR	14
38 Hamilton	Fred	USA	13,5
39 Passell	Michael	USA	13
40 De Falco	Dano	ITA	12,5
41 Versace	Alfredo	ITA	12
42 Weichsel	Peter	USA	12
43 Branco	Pedro Paulo	BRA	11,5
44 Tuszyński	Piotr	POL	11
45 Multon	Franck	FRA	10
46 Deutsch	Seymon	USA	10
47 Fonseca	Christiano	BRA	10
48 Kreijns	Hans	NLD	9,5
49 Delmouly	Claude	FRA	7,5
50 Bourchtoff	Gerard	FRA	7,5
51 Siniscalco	Guglielmo	ITA	4



Looking forward to Bali

and the Lippo Bank World Bridge Championships



BERMUDA BOWL & VENICE CUP

SATURDAY 20 OCTOBER - 02 NOVEMBER 2001

THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE SATURDAY 20 OCTOBER, AND PLAY WILL START ON SUNDAY 21 OCTOBER. The Victory Banquet will be 02 November.

Bermuda Bowl	18 teams
Venice Cup	16 teams
Round Robin qualifying	8 teams

in each competition for 1/4 of final, 1/2 final and final.

The Championships will be held at the Bali International Convention Centre, Nusa Dua, located on the southern edge of Bali Island. This is the most exclusive area of Bali, where the five-star hotels are located.

The Convention Centre is extremely modern with excellent facilities and large playing areas. There are several five-star resort hotels in the resort, as well as an excellent shopping area, good restaurants, entertainment, a championship golf course and many other recreational facilities, all within easy walking distance.

The Convention Centre adjoins the Sheraton Nusa Indah resort and is adjacent to the luxurious Sheraton Laguna Nusa Dua Hotel. The hotel Putri Bali Nusa Dua, the Nusa Dua Beach Hotel and the Melia Bali Hotel are also nearby, while the three-star Novotel Benoa is not far away.

Venue:

The Bali International Convention Centre, Nusa Dua.

Transportation from overseas is direct from several international airports without the need to go through other airports in Indonesia.

Visas:

Please contact your local Travel Agent or Embassy to arrange visas **well in advance**.

More Information:

A new website is being constructed for the event and can be found at: <http://www.bridgeindonesia.com> and you will find some initial information there. Details will also be available on the WBF Web Site at www.bridge.gr.

The perfect opportunity for you to enjoy all the atmosphere and excitement of a great World Championship and to participate in the World Open Transnational Teams.

THE LIPPO BANK WORLD TRANSNATIONAL OPEN TEAMS IN BALI.

The 3rd World Transnational Open Teams Championship is a prestigious and most enjoyable event. It is a great opportunity for players to participate in a wonderful bridge tournament while at the same time having a unique opportunity to experience all the atmosphere and excitement of the final stages of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup and watch some of the greatest players in the world on the Vugraph presentation.

The Transnational Teams is open to teams nominated by their National Bridge Organisation and approved by the WBF Credentials Committee. Players wishing to compete in this championship are urged to contact their NBO and request nomination by early January.

There is no quota, and NBOs may nominate as many teams as they wish to compete in this great tournament.

Teams eliminated from the early stages of the Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup will also be able to enter the World Transnational Team free of charge.

The Lippo Bank World Transnational Open Teams will take place during the second week of the Championships, starting on Sunday 28 October 2001.

The schedule of play will be as follows:

Sunday 28 October:

3 matches, starting in the afternoon

Monday 29 October:

4 matches

Tuesday 30 October:

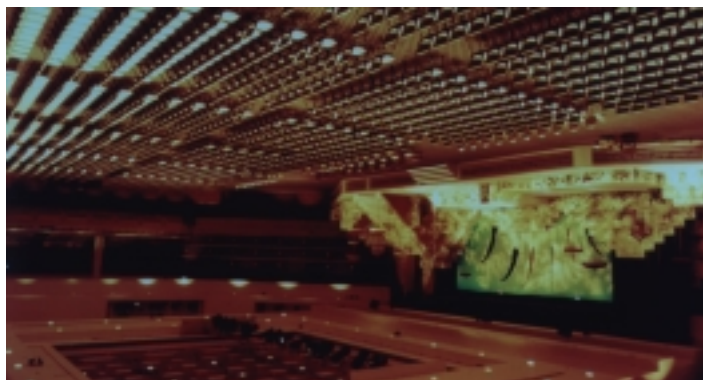
4 matches

Wednesday 31 October:

4 matches

Thursday 01 November:

Semi Final and first session of the Final





Looking forward to Bali

and the Lippo Bank World Bridge Championships



On Thursday 01 November, there will also be an **IMP Pairs** for participants who wish to continue to play bridge.

Friday 02 November:

Final and Victory Banquet

It is intended that, in the Semi Final and Final, participants in the World Transnational Teams will play the same boards as those played in the Bermuda Bowl.

It is probable that there will be a **senior Bermuda Bowl** in Bali, with one team from each zone being invited to compete. The event will be staged during the first week of the championship. If it is decided that this event is to be staged, it has been agreed that if zone does not send a team, then no replacement team from another Zone will be permitted.

<http://www.bridge.gr>

<http://www.bridgeindonesia.com>

<http://www.baliconvention.com>



The following registration dates are important and should be noted, although they may be subject to change :

Registration of teams

- Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup 1st July 2001
- World Transnational Open Teams 1st September 2001

Registrations of player's names

- Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup 15 July 2001
- World Transnational Open Teams 15 September 2001

Payment of Entry Fee

- Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup 15 July 2001
2500 US\$
- World Transnational Open Teams 15 September 2001
800 US\$ (free for Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup Players)

Registration of Systems

- Only for Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup 1st August 2001

Entry must be sent to :

WBF - 40, rue François 1^{er}
75008 Paris (France)

Entry fees for Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup must be sent to WBF by bank transfer to :

WBF - Banque de Baecque Beau - 30118 Ag 00001
3, rue des Mathurins - 75009 Paris (France)
Account number : 03203 Q 1065
Swift code BABOFRPP

Systems : The Conditions of Contest will give full details about systems regulations and registration, but players should note that it will be a requirement that all systems are registered in advance via email to Anna Gudge : anna@ecats.co.uk

Hotels & Rates :

Hotel	Room	Rates
	Single	Double
	US \$	US \$
Nusa Dua Beach Hotel *****	124	140
Melia Bali Hotel *****	124	140
Hotel Putri Bali Nusa Dua ****	100	120
Novotel Benoa (In Benoa) ***	85	100

All the above room rates are inclusive of breakfast, taxes and levy.

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