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**WORLD BRIDGE
OLYMPIAD**
ISTANBUL 2004

DAILY BULLETIN

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WELCOME TO ISTANBUL

A record number of teams have converged on Istanbul, one of the world's great cities, for the 12th World Bridge Olympiad and three other major bridge competitions.

The Open series will be contested by 72 teams. In the Women's event, 43 teams will vie for the world championship. In the 2nd International Senior Cup, 29 teams are waiting for the first match, set for Sunday, when all competition begins.

In addition to the Olympiad and Senior competitions, there are two other major events on the schedule: the 3rd World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship and the 2nd World University Teams Championship.

In the Open series, Italy will attempt to defend the championship they won in Maastricht, Netherlands, in 2000. Four members of that squad, which defeated Poland in a close final match, will return. They are Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria and Alfredo Versace.

In the Women's series, the defending champions are from the USA, but the line-up for this year's team is completely different from the squad that defeated Canada in the final in Maastricht. One member of this year's team, Jill Meyers, was a member of the winning squad in the Mixed Teams in Maastricht.

DAMIANI HONOURED BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT



WBF President **Jose Damiani**, left, receives Legion of Honor Insignia of Officer at the Automobile Club of France from **Antoine Bernheim**, president of the Generali Group.

While players were getting ready for the competition, WBF President José Damiani was still accepting congratulations on his appointment earlier this month as Officier de la Legion D'Honneur, one of the highest honours to be bestowed on civilians in France.

Damiani was already a member of the Legion of Honour. The latest appointment represents a promotion within that rank.

The award was announced by French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin and was presented by Antoine Bernheim, President of the Generali Group, on October 14 at the Automobile Club of France in Paris.

The Legion of Honour is meant to recognize outstanding achievement in the national interest of France. Damiani has been involved in bridge administration for decades, as president of the European Bridge League and, since 1994, as World Bridge Federation president.

Since Damiani took over as WBF president, bridge has made significant advances in recognition by the International Olympic Committee and has been declared a sport by that body.

Damiani helped organize a special bridge match in Salt Lake City on the eve of the 2000 Winter Olympic Games, and he has been determined in his quest to have bridge become a part of Olympic competition.

Anti-doping Regulations – Open & Women’s Teams

Please note that it is mandatory for participants in these events to comply with the WBF Anti-doping Regulations as contained in Appendix 5 of the General Conditions of Contest which states:

The full list of prohibited substances can be found on the World Anti-doping Agency Website at www.wada-ama.org.

Dress Code

Please note the Dress Code requirements as stated in the General Conditions of Contest as follows: NBOs are asked to take note of the recognition of Bridge as a Sport by the IOC and requests that players should, at all times, be dressed appropriately; this is particularly the case at the Opening Ceremony and at the Prize Giving Ceremony or Victory Banquet, when it is expected that teams should at least be uniformly dressed even if a team uniform is not available. During play appropriate dress would, for example, be an open-necked shirt, or a smart polo or sweatshirt worn with trousers or skirt as appropriate. Shorts and open-toed sandals may not be worn during play.

Restrictions in the Playing Areas:

Smoking and Alcohol

Smoking and the consumption of alcoholic beverages of any nature in the playing area is prohibited. No player may leave the playing area in order to smoke or consume alcohol before the end of his match.

Any player or team official smoking or consuming alcohol before, during or after the session in the areas designated below will result in his team being fined 2 VP. Constant violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing and in the team official not being admitted into the playing area.

Smoking is also prohibited in ANY lobby area other than the area by the Hotel Main Reception Desk, or in any of the areas of the Congress Centre, including the Press & Bulletin Rooms, the WBF Main Office, Secretariat and WBF Meeting Room, the Scoring and Results Room and the Vugraph Auditorium.

This restriction applies to anyone visiting the Championships as well as to all participants.

Mobile Phones, Pagers and other electronic equipment

Mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic equipment may not be brought into the playing area. Any player or team official bringing such an item into these areas will result in his team being fined 2 VP or, in the case of pairs events, will result in his partnership being fined 25% of the match points available on a board during the session. The penalty is mandatory. Constant violation of this regulation will result in the player being prohibited from playing and in the team official not being admitted into the playing area.

The Chief Tournament Director may, at his discretion, prohibit a player from bringing other equipment into the playing area.

Anyone entering the playing area may be required to comply with procedures put in place by the WBF for the detection of such electronic equipment.

Attention is drawn to the following regulations:

1. Law 16 - During the auction, when playing with screens, a breach of tempo may be identified by the slowness or speed with which the tray is returned. The players who receive the tray are the ones who can speak to any abnormality. Consequently it is an infraction if a player on the side of the screen where the breach occurred is the first to draw attention to it and the player forfeits for his side its non-offending status. It is not considered that a delay of some 20 seconds is sufficient to convey unauthorized information.

2. Psyching of Conventional or Artificial Opening Bids. The psyching of conventional or artificial opening bids is prohibited in any Category 3 event (i.e. the Round Robin stages of the Open & Women’s Team Olympiad, the WSIP, the WTMTTC and the WUBTC), in any pairs events and for any match of sixteen boards or less. This provision overrides the current systems policy.

Note that section 21.1 of the supplemental conditions of contest, detailing the special conditions regarding qualification for Master Points, also applies to the awarding of Medals.

Changes to the Groups

Team Captains should note that, in the Open Series, San Marino will play in Group C and, in the Women’s Series, Kenya will play in Group A.

Badges:

Players and officials are requested to wear their badges at all times for reasons of identification and security.

VUGRAPH

Today's Vugraph Matches

10:00	Bulgaria – Turkey	(Open Group B)
14:00	France – Brazil	(Open Group D)
17:30	New Zealand – Netherlands	(Open Group A)

New TD

Tournament Director Jean-Louis Pennec is working at this tournament but is not listed in the program.

Senior Teams:

Times of play Sunday 24 October – Saturday 30 October

10.45 – 12.30
13.30 – 15.15
15.45 – 17.30
18.00 – 19.45

Open and Women's Teams:

10:00

Sunday 31 October:
To be advised

Playing Rooms:

Open Teams:	Ballroom, Lobby 2
Women's Teams:	
Group B Open & Closed Rooms	Ballroom, Lobby 2
Group A Open Room	Ballroom, Lobby 2
Group A Closed Room	Sofia room, Lobby 1
Senior Teams:	Lobby 3

Food and drink

We have been advised that the hotel Grand Cevahir will not permit anyone to enter the hotel with any food or drink bought from outside that they are intending to consume within the hotel, whether in the privacy of their rooms or in the lobbies or other public areas.

You are, therefore, kindly requested to abide by these rules in order to avoid any unpleasantness as the hotel has indicated to us that they will confiscate all food and drink that guests try to bring in.

We thank you for your cooperation.

It's A Hard Life

By Brian Senior

Many people see the life of a bridge bum as one long holiday. Of course, these are people who have never actually played professionally themselves. While I have been to many countries for bridge tournaments and had a very pleasant time, there is also a considerably less glamorous side.

A couple of weeks ago there was a simultaneous pairs event in England. My wife, another bridge pro, had to go to a town about an hour's drive away to play with one of her weaker clients. For obvious reasons he must remain anonymous, so let's call him Tim. Alas, on the evening in question my wife was ill and so, being a noble, self-sacrificing soul, I agreed to fill the gap. One deal summed up what we poor long-suffering pros have to handle.

I picked up a 4-4-3-2 23-count and opened 2♣, receiving a 2♠, natural positive, response. Now we cannot use cuebidding in this partnership and my wife insists that Tim has about a 30% success rate at giving the right response to Key Card (my previous experience suggests nearer to 50%, but you see the problem). Nonetheless, Key Card seemed the most practical approach and I duly received a 5♠ response, two plus the trump queen. Which was a bit of a worry, as I was looking at the trump queen myself.

Now you might try to convince me that Tim had great spade length, so was making an intelligent bid on the basis that the trump queen would not be required. Clearly, you have never played with a Tim. After some thought, I came to the conclusion that the most likely explanation was that he was counting the trump king as an ace but responding as if to normal Blackwood, showing three aces. And so, after further contemplation, I jumped to 7NT. That passed off without even the tiniest of hitches from either opponent and so, as both appeared to still be awake, it was reasonable to conclude that at least no ace was missing.

Naturally enough, LHO asked some questions before leading and I told her that Tim had shown two key cards plus the queen of spades but that, as I held said queen myself, he had got something wrong. At which point, Tim butted in to say, 'Oh, two with the queen, I meant two without the queen.'

That was not the greatest of news, as it was clear that we were missing the ♠K and some luck would be required. But Tim put dummy down and it contained both missing aces and the king of trumps, giving me 14 top tricks and an 80% board. So, our hero had forgotten to count the trump king as a key card, then forgotten the response to show two key cards without the queen of trumps. No, his comment about making the wrong response was not a joke. And you wonder why the average bridge pro is either losing their hair or at the very least going prematurely grey.

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

ROUND 1

GROUP A

1	Argentina	Serbia/Mngro
2	Bangladesh	Scotland
3	Belgium	Russia
4	Canada	New Zealand
5	Chinese Taipei	Netherlands
6	Georgia	Morocco
7	Guadeloupe	Mauritius
8	Hong Kong	Latvia
9	Iceland	Italy

GROUP B

10	Australia	USA
11	Bulgaria	Turkey
12	Chile	Tunisia
13	China	Switzerland
14	Croatia	Singapore
15	Estonia	Norway
16	Germany	Martinique
17	India	Luxembourg
18	Kenya	Lebanon

GROUP C

19	Austria	Venezuela
20	San Marino	Romania
21	Denmark	Reunion
22	Egypt	Poland
23	England	Philippines
24	Finland	Mexico
25	Fr Polynesia	Malaysia
26	Hungary	Cyprus
27	Ireland	Israel

GROUP D

28	Bermuda	Wales
29	Bosnia	Sweden
30	Botswana	Spain
31	Brazil	South Africa
32	Costa Rica	Portugal
33	Jordan	Pakistan
34	Czech Republic	Lithuania
35	France	Japan
36	Greece	Indonesia

ROUND 2

GROUP A

1	Argentina	Russia
2	Bangladesh	New Zealand
3	Belgium	Netherlands
4	Canada	Morocco
5	Chinese Taipei	Mauritius
6	Georgia	Latvia
7	Guadeloupe	Italy
8	Hong Kong	Iceland
9	Scotland	Serbia/Mngro

GROUP B

10	Australia	Singapore
11	Bulgaria	Norway
12	Chile	Martinique
13	China	Luxembourg
14	Croatia	Lebanon
15	Estonia	Kenya
16	Germany	India
17	Switzerland	Turkey
18	Tunisia	USA

GROUP C

19	Romania	Austria
20	Reunion	San Marino
21	Poland	Denmark
22	Philippines	Egypt
23	Mexico	England
24	Malaysia	Finland
25	Cyprus	Fr Polynesia
26	Israel	Hungary
27	Venezuela	Ireland

GROUP D

28	Japan	Bermuda
29	Indonesia	Bosnia
30	Greece	Botswana
31	France	Brazil
32	Czech Republic	Costa Rica
33	Wales	Jordan
34	Sweden	Lithuania
35	Spain	Pakistan
36	South Africa	Portugal

WOMEN'S TEAMS PROGRAM

ROUND 1

GROUP A

40	Australia	Kenya
41	Austria	Turkey
42	Brazil	Switzerland
43	Bulgaria	Sweden
44	Canada	Spain
45	China	Scotland
46	Egypt	Russia
47	Finland	Pakistan
48	France	Mexico
49	Hungary	Jordan
50	India	Italy

GROUP B

	Argentina	Bye
51	Croatia	Wales
52	Denmark	Venezuela
53	England	USA
54	Germany	South Africa
55	Greece	Reunion
56	Indonesia	Poland
57	Ireland	Norway
58	Israel	New Zealand
59	Japan	Netherlands
60	Korea	Morocco

ROUND 2

GROUP A

40	Pakistan	Australia
41	Mexico	Austria
42	Jordan	Brazil
43	Italy	Bulgaria
44	India	Canada
45	Hungary	China
46	France	Egypt
47	Kenya	Finland
48	Turkey	Russia
49	Switzerland	Scotland
50	Sweden	Spain

GROUP B

51	Norway	Argentina
52	New Zealand	Croatia
53	Netherlands	Denmark
54	Morocco	England
55	Korea	Germany
56	Japan	Greece
57	Israel	Indonesia
	Bye	Ireland
58	Wales	Poland
59	Venezuela	Reunion
60	USA	South Africa

SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM

ROUND 1

	England	Bye
61	Italy	Ireland
62	Turkey	Scotland
63	Sweden	Venezuela
64	Australia	Spain
65	China	Pakistan
66	Poland	Guadeloupe
67	Germany	Austria
68	Canada	Portugal
69	Netherlands	New Zealand
70	Japan	Wales
71	Denmark	Belgium
72	Usa	Switzerland
73	France	Chinese Taipei
74	Israel	Costa Rica

ROUND 2

61	Spain	Israel
62	Canada	Germany
63	Switzerland	New Zealand
64	Portugal	England
65	China	Poland
66	Wales	Usa
67	Turkey	Denmark
68	Japan	Netherlands
69	Ireland	Belgium
70	Costa Rica	Chinese Taipei
71	Australia	France
	Bye	Austria
72	Scotland	Italy
73	Venezuela	Guadeloupe
74	Pakistan	Sweden

ROUND 3

61	Austria	Portugal
62	Chinese Taipei	Spain
63	England	Canada
	Germany	Bye
64	Belgium	Scotland
65	Guadeloupe	Pakistan
66	Usa	Japan
67	New Zealand	Wales
68	France	Costa Rica
69	Italy	Turkey
70	Netherlands	Switzerland
71	Israel	Australia
72	Denmark	Ireland
73	Sweden	China
74	Poland	Venezuela

ROUND 4

61	Sweden	Poland
62	Belgium	Turkey
63	New Zealand	Japan
64	Israel	France
65	England	Germany
	Portugal	Bye
66	Guadeloupe	China
67	Pakistan	Venezuela
68	Italy	Denmark
69	Wales	Switzerland
70	Scotland	Ireland
71	Spain	Costa Rica
72	Usa	Netherlands
73	Chinese Taipei	Australia
74	Austria	Canada