



# 2017 YEH BROS CUP

3rd-7th July, 2017 Tokyo JAPAN

**Bulletin Editors:** Barry Rigal and David Stern ♦ **Co-Bulletin Editor:** Andy Hung ♦ **Bulletin #6 Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

## WINNING ISN'T EVERYTHING...IT IS THE ONLY THING

After five solid days of bridge, the 2017 Yeh Bros Cup has been won by Team Kokish: Eric Kokish, Fred Gitelman, Huub Bertens and Curtis Cheek beating Team Pepsi: Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco, Jacek Pszczola, Josef Blass, Jacek Kalita and Michal Nowosadzki.



*2017 Yeh Cup Winners - Team KOKISH: Eric Kokish, Curtis Cheek, Huub Bertens, Fred Gitelman*

Playing as a four-person team in an event of this standard is no mean feat, especially when, as Kokish-Gitelman did, you were establishing a new partnership and, for one player, having to learn a new system. The welcome respite of being able to take yesterday afternoon off as the undefeated team certainly would certainly have given the squad a chance to regroup.

Kokish led by 33.5 IMPs after 16 boards, 31.5 after 32 boards and had established a final margin of 18.5 at the end of the 48 board match.

In the Bronze Medal Playoff, the 'young guns' Kranyak Team: John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, John Hurd and Joel Wooldridge defeated the seasoned Monaco Team: Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Pierre Zimmermann, Krzysztof Martens, Lorenzo Lauria and Alfredo Versace by 108 IMPs to 89. With Kranyak leading by 45 IMPs with 16 Boards to go, but only by 19 at the end, Helness commented "Another 16 boards would have made it much more interesting"!

The Swiss Pairs was won by Bauke Muller-Simon de Wijs from Frederik Nystrom-Johan Upmark and Fu Zhong-Li Jie. With one round to go, our sponsor Mr Chen Yeh was leading the event, but being the generous host that he is, he made way for the Dutch to take home the event.

In the Swiss Pairs Consolation Bas Drijver-Sjoert Brink won from Mikael and Ola Rimstedt and Hackett-Hanlon third to make it a Dutch Double(ton).

## THANK YOU

A world-class tournament like the Yeh Bros Cup relies on the vision and generosity of people like Chen Yeh. But in addition to that, it requires the commitment of the hosting NBO – in this case the Japanese Contract Bridge League and a huge number of staff. That includes the organiser, managers, directors, IT staff, scorers and caddies. Without that commitment the vision of Chen Yeh could not be fulfilled as it was here in Japan.

The Bulletin staff have been extremely well looked after this tournament from having results delivered almost instantaneously to having all files in a prepared format in order to make our work more time-efficient.

And we must compliment the setting which provided our photographs and interviews with some excellent photographic opportunities (thanks Chrstina!). If our prose was uninspired then we can't blame the venue.

Barry and David would like to thank EVERYBODY associated with this tournament for allowing us to be associated with this amazing event.





2017 Yeh Bros Cup Runners Up – **Team PEPSI**: Eric Greco, Josef Blass, Michal Nowosadzki, Jacek Pszczola, Jacek Kalita, Geoff Hampson

## FINALS

Team	C/O	Seg 1	Seg 2	Seg 3	Total
<b>KOKISH</b> : Eric Kokish, Fred Gitelman, Curtis Cheek, Huub Bertens	6.5	47	23	45	<b>121.5</b>
<b>PEPSI</b> : Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco, Jacek Pszczola, Josef Blass, Jacek Kalita, Michal Nowosadzki	0	20	25	58	103.0

## 3<sup>RD</sup>/4<sup>TH</sup> Playoff

Team	C/O	Seg 1	Seg 2	Seg 3	Total
<b>MONACO</b> : Krzysztof Martens, Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Pierre Zimmermann, Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace	0.5	21	26	42	89.5
<b>KRANYAK</b> : John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge	0	68	24	16	<b>108.0</b>



2017 Yeh Bros Cup 3<sup>RD</sup> Place – **Team KRANYAK**: Joel Wooldridge, Vincent Demuy, John Hurd, John Kranyak

2017 Yeh Bros Cup 4<sup>TH</sup> Place – **Team MONACO**: Tor Helness, Geir Helgemo, Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace (absent: Pierre Zimmermann, Krzysztof Martens)



## RESULT of OPEN PAIRS FINAL

Rank	Score	Players	
1	87	Simon de Wijs	Bauke Muller
2	84	Fredrik Nystrom	Johan Upmark
3-4	77	Fu Zhong	Li Jie
3-4	77	Inon Liran	Ehud Friedlander
5	34	Chen Yeh	Ya Lan Zhang
6-7	-32	Espen Lindqvist	Boye Brogeland
6-7	-32	Mukherjee Sumit	Majumder Debabrata
8	-58	Shugo Tanaka	Kotomi Asakoshi
9	-116	Huo Shiyu	Chen Jun
10	-121	Frederic Volcker	Thomas Bessis



*Open Pairs Winners:  
Simon de Wijs and Bauke Muller*



*Open Pairs Runners Up:  
Johan Upmark and Fredrik Nystrom*

## CONSOLATION SWISS PAIRS RESULTS

Rank	IMPs	Players	
1	312	Bas Drijver	Sjoert Brink
2	198	Ola Rimstedt	Mikael Rimstedt
3	109	Paul Hackett	Tom Hanlon
4	103	Patrick Huang	Zhao Yanpei
5	61	Frederic Wrang	Johan Sylvan
6	20	Deng Zhuodi	Liu Yinghao
7	-14	Jason Hackett	Alex Hydes
8	-53	Tadashi Teramoto	Hiroaki Miura
9	-89	Edward Yeh	Mou Chen
10	-102	Dawei Chen	Diego Brenner
11	-272	Ron Pachtman	Piotr Zatorski
12	-273	David Yang	Jiang Gu



*Bas Drijver and Sjoert Brink*

## RESULT of OPEN PAIRS SEMI-FINAL

Rank	Score	Players		No.	
1	462	Huo Shiyu	Chen Jun	C5	Q
2	445	Shugo Tanaka	Kotomi Asakoshi	C8	Q
3	379	Fredrik Nystrom	Johan Upmark	B1	Q
4	359	Frederic Volcker	Thomas Bessis	B10	Q
5	171	Simon de Wijs	Bauke Muller	B7	Q
6	77	Espen Lindqvist	Boye Brogeland	B6	Q
7	47	Mukherjee Sumit	Majumder Debabrata	C6	Q
8	-30	Fu Zhong	Li Jie	C4	Q
9	-74	Inon Liran	Ehud Friedlander	C2	Q
10	-79	Jason Hackett	Alex Hydes	B3	
11	-89	Patrick Huang	Zhao Yanpei	C10	
12	-105	Edward Yeh	Mou Chen	B4	
13	-136	Piotr Gawrys	Michal Klukowski	B2	
14	-137	Tadashi Teramoto	Hiroaki Miura	C9	
15	-161	Ron Pachtman	Piotr Zatorski	C1	
16	-170	Ola Rimstedt	Mikael Rimstedt	B5	
17	-199	David Yang	Jiang Gu	B8	
18	-214	Paul Hackett	Tom Hanlon	C3	
19	-249	Bas Drijver	Sjoert Brink	C7	
20	-297	Dawei Chen	Diego Brenner	B9	



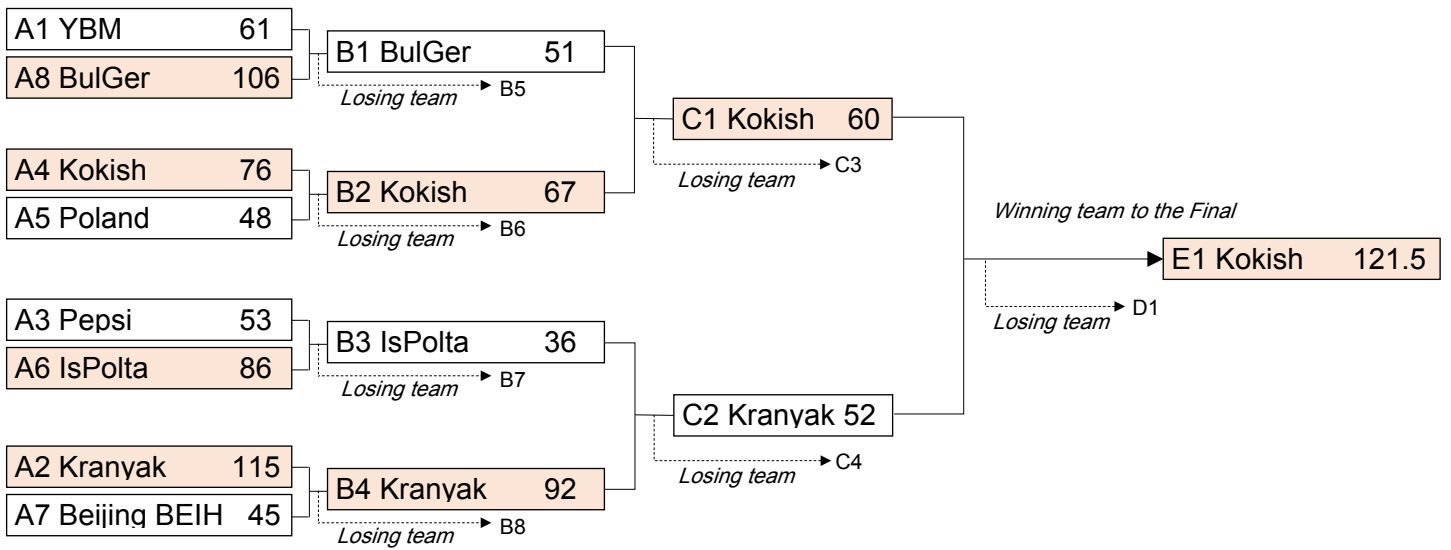
*The fantastic behind the scenes staff!*



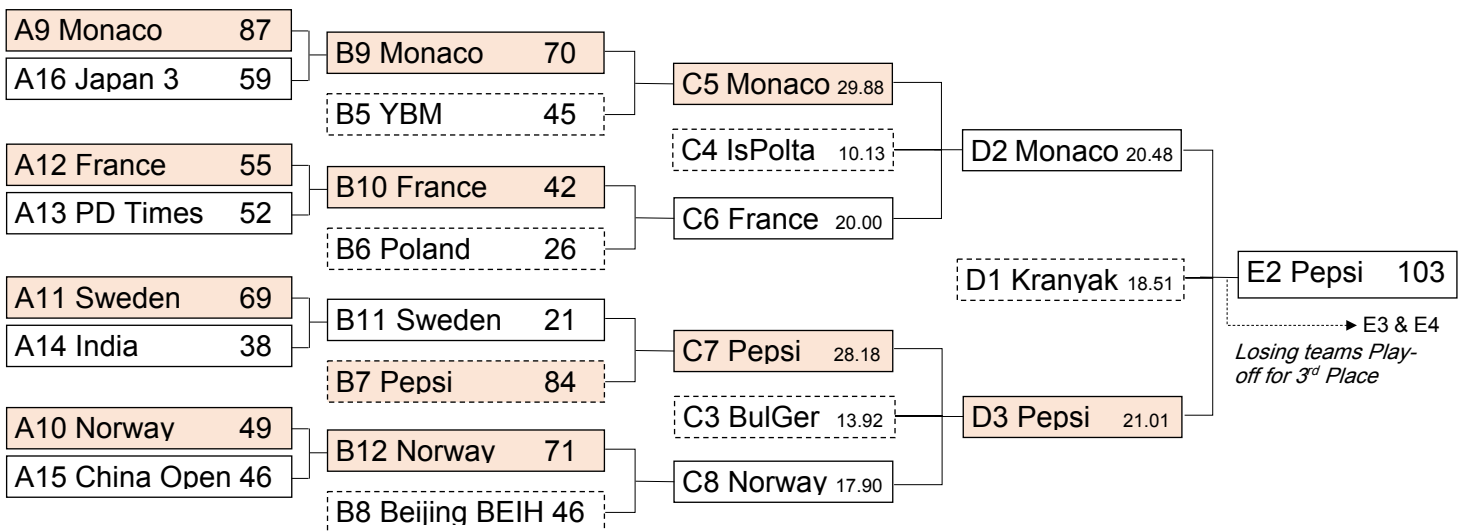
*Mr. Yeh surrounded by bridge players and friends!*

# KNOCKOUT BRACKETS

## UPPER (Undefeated) BRACKET



## LOWER (One-Loss) BRACKET



## CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL & THIRD-PLACE PLAYOFF

Teams	c/o	Segment 1 (1-16)	Segment 2 (17-32)	Segment 3 (33-48)	Total
E1 Kokish	6.5	47	23	45	121.5
E2 Pepsi	0	20	25	58	103.0
E3 Monaco	0.5	21	26	42	89.5
E4 Kranyak	0	68	24	16	108.0

## THREE-WAY MATCH TO DECIDE THE SECOND FINALIST PART 1 OF 2

Kranyak Vs. Kokish Vs. Pepsi

Going into the final 16 deals of the last triangle, Monaco had the edge over Kranyak, while Pepsi would probably need both some luck and a following wind from the other match. But as little as 20 net IMPs could ss of this report the open room is deemed to be whoever played the deal first, with deal one predating in time terms deal nine, and so on. Kranyak led by 11 here, but that lead all but vanished on the first hand.

Dealer: North  
 Vul: None  
 Brd 1

<p>♠ Q J 8 3                  ♥ 10 8 3                  ♦ Q 9 7                  ♣ A K 5</p>	<p>♠ 10 5 4 2                  ♥ Q                  ♦ J 10 8 5 4                  ♣ J 10 9</p>
<p>♠ 9 6                  ♥ K 7 6 4                  ♦ 6 2                  ♣ 8 7 4 3 2</p>	<p>♠ A K 7                  ♥ A J 9 5 2                  ♦ A K 3                  ♣ Q 6</p>

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Kranyak	Nowosadzki	Demuy
Pass	Pass	Pass	2NT
All Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT(5♥)
Wooldridge	Hampson	Hurd	Greco
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
-	2	-	2	NT
-	3	-	3	♠
-	2	-	3	♥
-	3	-	4	♦
-	1	-	1	♣

Hurd knew about spades in dummy, hearts in declarer's hand, and that his partner rated to have at most a king. Without the ♦Q you can see a case for going after a top club lead, (since declarer might have a source of tricks in diamonds) but here the tempo to set up spades might be critical. He selected a low spade; Greco put up the ten, ran the heart queen, then came to hand on a diamond and played hearts from the top, successfully pinning the ♥10 (real men always play to pin honours not for the drop – it is somewhere in the unwritten charter, if you read carefully). Now Greco had nine on top and the defenders had to be careful to prevent the overtrick.

Kalita guessed to lead the club ace and partner's encouragement left in no doubt as to what to do. Declarer won the third club pitching a spade and played for his best chance of the ♦Q doubleton. When that failed he gave up a heart and the defenders cashed out for down one.

Kranyak went back in front when Kalita invited a non-vulnerable game and took his partner to the three-level with ♠A973 ♥A4 ♦J86 ♣6432. That constituted a constructive simple raise for Wooldridge; eight tricks were the limit today – admittedly facing a 5332 ten-count... Another 3 IMPs went the same way here – but it could have been more.

Dealer: South  
 Vul: E-W  
 Brd 3

<p>♠ K 10 9 3                  ♥ J                  ♦ A J 9 8 5 3                  ♣ 9 4</p>	<p>♠ A J 8 4 2                  ♥ 8 7 3                  ♦ Q 4                  ♣ 6 5 3</p>
<p>♠ Q 6                  ♥ A 9 2                  ♦ K 7 6                  ♣ K Q 8 7 2</p>	<p>♠ 7 5                  ♥ K Q 10 6 5 4                  ♦ 10 2                  ♣ A J 10</p>

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Kranyak	Nowosadzki	Demuy
Pass	2♥	3♣	1♥
All Pass			3♥
Wooldridge	Hampson	Hurd	Greco
Pass	1♠	2♣	1♥
Double	Pass	2NT	2♥
3♦	All Pass		Pass

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
-	2	-	2	♥
5	-	5	-	♦
3	-	3	-	♣

As we shall see through this report “Twice blessed is he who has his quarrel just; thrice blessed is he who gets his blow in first”. In other words, your motto should be: bid first ask questions later.

Kalita refrained from overcalling at the two-level on a hand where I think even a sound bidder might contemplate action. When his partner pre-balanced with 3♥, was he supposed to bid 4♦ -- I’m sure he would have acted if South had passed, but that does seem a bit rich. The result was that E/W sold out and collected +50 against their 600 in 5♦.

That only cost 3 IMPs when Wooldridge exhibited the same restraint, but was allowed to get his diamonds in cheaper. Note Hampson’s decision not to compete in the nine-card heart fit. (Had that been wrong we’d all be laughing at him for the LAW violation so we should give him some credit here, right?)

The set finished with Kranyak a winner by 7 IMPs (12-8 in VPs give or take a decimal point – and who’s counting?).

On to our second match, where Kranyak trailed Monaco by 14 IMPs. On the first deal out, Lauria/Versace had a bidding misunderstanding which Kranyak worked out during the auction. However, his attempt to catch them speeding (by passing then bidding, as opposed to acting directly) resulted in his side missing a game, and the margin climbed to 21 IMPs.

Dealer: East  
 Vul: Both  
 Brd 10

♠ Q J 8 7 6  
 ♥ K  
 ♦ A K J 10 3  
 ♣ 8 3

♠ K 10 5 3  
 ♥ A J 9 5 3  
 ♦ Q 9  
 ♣ A 2

♠ ---  
 ♥ 10 8 7 6 2  
 ♦ 8 6 4  
 ♣ K Q 10 7 4

♠ A 9 4 2  
 ♥ Q 4  
 ♦ 7 5 2  
 ♣ J 9 6 5

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Helness	Hurd	Helgemo
1♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass
Versace	Kranyak	Lauria	Demuy
1♠	1NT	2♠	3♦(♥)
Double	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
3	-	3	-	♠
-	4	-	4	♥
-	-	1	-	♦
-	2	-	2	♣

The bulletin had remarked earlier about Daylight Robbery by Helgemo/Helness to play 2♠, when their opponents were cold for 3NT. What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander...here Wooldridge/Hurd played 2♠ unopposed against those same Monegasques, who were cold for 4♥!

Versace/Lauria covered the disaster somewhat when Lauria saved in 4♠x. The defenders cashed their hearts and clubs and led a third club. Versace ruffed with the eight, and Kranyak overruffed. But now Versace had seen enough high-cards to guess diamonds after drawing trumps. Down only one, but 7 IMPs back to Kranyak, and the lead had reverted to 14 IMPs.

That was still the score as the last deal hit the table:

Dealer: West  
 Vul: E-W  
 Brd 16

♠ K 9  
 ♥ A Q 10 8 4 3  
 ♦ 9 6 3  
 ♣ Q 7

♠ 8 7  
 ♥ J 5 2  
 ♦ J 10 8 5  
 ♣ J 8 5 3

♠ Q J 6 5 4 3 2  
 ♥ K 7  
 ♦ K 4 2  
 ♣ 4

♠ A 10  
 ♥ 9 6  
 ♦ A Q 7  
 ♣ A K 10 9 6 2

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Helness	Hurd	Helgemo
1♥	Pass	2♣	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♣	Pass
Versace	Kranyak	Lauria	Demuy
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	2♠
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Makeable Contracts				
6	-	6	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
6	-	6	-	♥
4	-	4	-	♦
7	-	7	-	♣



Of course the robbery wasn't confined to the Americans. Here slam isn't laydown for E/W but 6♣ is, for example, a perfectly reasonable spot, and we have all been in worse slams than 6NT or 6♥. Demuy's 2♠ call let Versace show his sixth heart, after which you could certainly argue Lauria didn't do enough. The auction in the other room wasn't easy for Hurd; but I guess both pairs open so light that a 17-count opposite an opening bid doesn't ensure game, let alone give play for slam.

The match ended at 13.5-6.5 in VPs; had the Americans bid the slam, Kranyak would have lost the match by one, to stand at 21.5 VPs or so, and finish in front of Monaco. As it was, they had only 18.5 VPs, with 20 average, and were out of contention.

On to our last instalment: With Monaco seven in front here, they needed simply to avoid losing more than 16 IMPs on the set to survive.

Dealer: South  
 Vul: E-W  
 Brd 19

♠ A 8 6 2  
 ♥ 10 7 6 5  
 ♦ ---  
 ♣ A J 10 5 4

♠ 9  
 ♥ A Q J 9 8 2  
 ♦ K 9 8 7 5  
 ♣ 8

♠ K J 7 4  
 ♥ 4 3  
 ♦ Q J 10  
 ♣ K Q 9 6

♠ Q 10 5 3  
 ♥ K  
 ♦ A 6 4 3 2  
 ♣ 7 3 2

West	North	East	South
Versace	Hampson	Lauria	Greco
			1♦
3♦(♦+♥) Double	5♦		Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	
Kalita	Helness	Nowosadzki	Helgemo
			1♣
1♥	Double	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
-	4	-	4	♠
3	-	2	-	♥
4	-	4	-	♦
-	5	-	5	♣

Against 5♦x Hampson cashed his black aces and Greco justified his double by taking a trump trick. With both 4♠ and 5♣ possibly makeable games, it was hard to tell whether this was a good, bad or normal result, but since you'd surely want to play 5♦ here till trumps split 3-0, you could hardly complain about the result.

In the other room Kalita went out on a limb with his choice of action. In a sense, he did well to jockey his opponents out of spades, and since flat boards were not what his side needed, you could say he got what he wanted. Did he like the result?

On any lead but the singleton spade, declarer has some awkward guesswork ahead of him. Kalita led his spade; Helgemo went right when he won the ace and led a trump to hand, but now needed to lead a high trump from hand. Had he done so he could have ruffed three diamonds while finessing twice in spades. He actually led a low club to dummy and now the spade blockage was too much for him.

♠ 8 6 2  
 ♥ 10 7 6 5  
 ♦ ---  
 ♣ A J 5

♠ ---  
 ♥ A Q J 9 8  
 ♦ K 9 8 7 5  
 ♣ ---

♠ K J 7  
 ♥ 4 3  
 ♦ Q J 10  
 ♣ Q 9

♠ Q 10 5  
 ♥ K  
 ♦ A 6 4 3 2  
 ♣ 7

Declarer is not out of chances. Best now would be for Helgemo to try leading the two or six of spades from dummy (when East must go up with the ten or queen to block the suit and prevent declarer

achieving a third re-entry to hand) or lead the eight, when East must duck! He tried a heart instead, and East could win to play the third trump. Down one and a sweaty 6 IMPs to Pepsi.

With two deals to go, the set was level as board 23 appeared on the table:

Dealer: South  
 Vul: Both  
 Brd 23

♠ 7 4  
 ♥ 9 6  
 ♦ K 10 5 4  
 ♣ K 10 7 6 5

♠ K 10 9 6 2  
 ♥ ---  
 ♦ Q J 9  
 ♣ A Q J 4 3

♠ A Q J 3  
 ♥ K Q 8 7 3  
 ♦ A 7 2  
 ♣ 9

♠ 8 5  
 ♥ A J 10 5 4 2  
 ♦ 8 6 3  
 ♣ 8 2

West	North	East	South
Versace	Hampson	Lauria	Greco
			1♣(16+)
1NT*	Double	2♥	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	
*Spades plus minor			
Kalita	Helness	Nowosadzki	Helgemo
			1♥
2♥	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Makeable Contracts				
-	2	-	2	NT
-	1	-	1	♠
-	2	-	2	♥
-	2	-	3	♦
-	1	-	2	♣

Neither North nor South had any reason to do any more in the Closed Room. Nowosadzki ran into club ruffs but emerged with one trick in each red suit and three trumps for down 300. An eye-of-the-storm result, since what happened in the Open Room would decide the deal, and who qualified.

Against 2♥x Hampson led his club, declarer finessed, and the defenders took a ruff, two diamond tricks, and a second club ruff. Now Hampson cashed ♠A and there were still two trump winners to come, for 800. Those 11 IMPs gave Pepsi the lead by .53 of a VP overall. They won 21.01-20.48; had they conceded one more IMP the margin would have been .05 of a VP in their favour -- basically, never in doubt!

## 2017 YEH BROS CUP FINAL: Boards 1-16 of 48

Kokish Vs. Pepsi

The last four days of qualifying have all come down to this. A 48 board final featuring Kokish (Eric Kokish, Fred Gitelman, Curtis Cheek and Huub Bertens) against Pepsi (Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco, Jacek Pszczola, Josef Blass, Jacek Kalita and Michal Nowosadzki) with \$US175,000 for the winners and \$US48,000 for the runners up.

The Bronze Medal Match would see Monaco play against Kranyak.

After a Mama-Papa 4♠ bid and made at both tables Board 2 was one of those hands where there don't appear to be many losers, but equally there aren't many winners. Deep Finesse tells us that you can make 12 tricks by ruffing out hearts, but the players don't have access to such technology.

Dealer: East  
 Vul: N-S  
 Brd 2  
 Yeh Final 1

♠ K J 5 3  
 ♥ A J 6 4 3  
 ♦ A  
 ♣ K J 8

♠ 8 7  
 ♥ K Q 8  
 ♦ J 10 6 5 4 2  
 ♣ 5 2

♠ Q 10 4 2  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ Q 9 7 3  
 ♣ A 10 6 4

♠ A 9 6  
 ♥ 9 7 5 2  
 ♦ K 8  
 ♣ Q 9 7 3

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
		Pass	Pass
3♦	Double	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
Kokish	Pszczola	Gitelman	Blass
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
-	3	-	3	NT
-	6	-	6	♠
-	3	-	3	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
-	4	-	4	♣

First blood came Pepsi's way when Cheek, South for Kokish, failed by a trick in 4♠ while Blass, South for Pepsi came home with 10 tricks in the Closed Room.

Cheek won the low diamond lead perforce with the ♦A, then played ♥A and ruffed a heart. He followed this with a club to the king and then, perhaps aided by the pre-empt, ♣J, covered with the queen and ace. He played the ♠10 which held and now (perhaps as a consequence of bad advice from the Bulletin yesterday, referring to Andrew Robson's bridge tip that if they pre-empt and lead their suit maybe they have a singleton trump?) he tried the ♣10, ruffed by West. That player continued with another low diamond, which declarer not unreasonably tried to run around to his queen – losing to East's king. With E/W already having two tricks in the bag, East played ♠A and another spade leaving declarer with another loser for one down.

In the Closed Room, West also led a low diamond, after which declarer cashed the ♣A and ♣K, played ♥A and ruffed a heart, diamond ruff, heart ruff and a diamond ruffed high and overruffed with the East's ♠A. At this point declarer had scored one diamond, two clubs, one heart, one diamond ruff and two heart ruffs for seven tricks and the defence could not deny him at least three more tricks in the form of three trump winners one way or another. That opened the scoring Pepsi 12, Kokish 0. In the bronze medal match, Kranyak also picked up 13 IMPs against Monaco when one table made 12 tricks and the other table made 9.

Board 3 was a laydown grand slam bid in both rooms:

♠ A K Q J 7 6 4  
♥ —  
♦ A K 9  
♣ 6 5 4

♠ 8 2  
♥ A Q J 8 7  
♦ Q J 8 4 2  
♣ A

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
			1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♥*	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Pszczola	Gitelman	Blass
			1♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

\*Exclusion keycard

Board 6 was perhaps more amusing for your editors than it might have been at the table.

Dealer: East  
Vul: E-W  
Brd 6  
Yeh Final 1  
♠ J 4 3  
♥ A K 2  
♦ K 9  
♣ Q J 10 8 2

♠ Q 10 6 5  
♥ 10 4 3  
♦ Q J 7 4 3 2  
♣ ---

♠ A 8  
♥ Q J 8 6  
♦ A 10 8 5  
♣ 9 6 3

♠ K 9 7 2  
♥ 9 7 5  
♦ 6  
♣ A K 7 5 4

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
		1♣	Pass
2♣	2♦	3♦	4♦
5♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
Kokish	Pszczola	Gitelman	Blass
		Pass	Pass
1♦ <sup>Precision</sup>	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

#### Makeable Contracts

2	-	2	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
-	1	-	1	♥
-	3	-	3	♦
4	-	4	-	♣

Since the partnership play 2♣ as natural and non-forcing by a passed hand, Kokish's 2♥ bid was intended to show big club support and extras, something which Gitelman didn't appreciate at the time. As you will note above, Deep Finesse suggests that N/S can make 7 tricks in hearts but on this occasion it was Kokish who outplayed DF by scoring 9 tricks – one spade, two hearts, one diamond and four clubs. That was in spite of the defence starting with a diamond to the ace and switching to hearts. Declarer ducked the heart, won the next and drew a third round of trumps to leave South with the master trump, then ran the clubs. That was still only seven tricks, but a slip in the end-game saw declarer emerge with two spade winners where nature had intended there to be none.

There were doubtless some wry smiles in the score-ups when Kokish-Gitelman said: "Sorry +140" and their teammates say "Win eight for beating 5♣ by two tricks". Kokish 10, Pepsi 12.

Dealer: South	♠ 8 4		
Vul: Both	♥ Q J 4 3 2		
Brd 7	♦ K 5		
Yeh Final 1	♣ 8 5 3 2		
♠ J 6 2		♠ A K 10 9 5	
♥ A K 10 8 5		♥ 9 7	
♦ 10 3		♦ 6 4 2	
♣ J 10 6		♣ A Q 7	
	♠ Q 7 3		
	♥ 6		
	♦ A Q J 9 8 7		
	♣ K 9 4		

West	North	East	South	
Makeable Contracts				
-	1	-	1	NT
2	-	3	-	♠
1	-	1	-	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
-	-	1	-	♣

On a good day, I guess you might find both the ♠Q and ♣K onside and make 10 tricks. But today was not one of those days as Kalita-Nowosadzki found out when they bid 4♠ on remarkably few values. (Kalita overcalled 1♥ over 1♦ then showed spade tolerance and Nowosadzki took a shot at game). After a heart lead, declarer played diamonds and the defenders took their ruff then played two more rounds of diamonds. Declarer had to lose a club at the end. Kokish-Gitelman played one level lower and brought home ten tricks when the defenders sacrificed their spade trick to try to kill the ruffs. 7 IMPs to Kokish, who took the lead 17-12; not for long however.

Board 8 proved what goes around comes around.

Dealer: West	♠ J 8		
Vul: None	♥ J 8 6 5 2		
Brd 8	♦ A 5 4 2		
Yeh Final 1	♣ 10 4		
♠ Q 10 5		♠ K 7 4 3 2	
♥ K Q 4 3		♥ ---	
♦ 10 7		♦ K Q J 9 8	
♣ K Q 7 6		♣ J 5 2	
	♠ A 9 6		
	♥ A 10 9 7		
	♦ 6 3		
	♣ A 9 8 3		

West	North	East	South	
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek	
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass	
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	
2♦	Pass	2♠	All Pass	
Kokish	Pszczola	Gitelman	Blass	
1♦	Pass	1♠	Double	
Redouble		2♥	4♠ All Pass	
Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
3	-	3	-	♠
-	2	-	2	♥
3	-	3	-	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

On this hand it was Kalita-Nowosadzki who took the low road, stopping in 2♠, while in the Closed Room, Gitelman, perhaps encouraged by the 2♥ bid and the likelihood that partner's assets might not be in that suit, leapt to 4♠. Had E/W held the ♠J instead of those pesky heart honours the contract would have been far more playable, and was not down in top tricks even now. But as it was, with ♠J offside, declarer had his work cut out. In fact Blass led diamonds and Pepsi shifted to clubs to arrange the ruff for his side to beat the game by force. +50 and +170 represented 6 IMPs to Pepsi and the lead at 18-17.

The next swing of note was on Board 10.

Dealer: East      ♠ 6 4  
 Vul: Both        ♥ J 9 4  
 Brd 10            ♦ A J 10 5  
 Yeh Final 1      ♣ J 7 5 2

♠ A 9  
 ♥ A K 10  
 ♦ Q 9 2  
 ♣ K 10 9 4 3

♠ K Q 7 3 2  
 ♥ 6 5 3  
 ♦ K 8 6 4  
 ♣ Q

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
		1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
Kokish	Pszczola	Gitelman	Blass
		1NT	2♠ <sup>♠+Minor</sup>
Pass	3♣ <sup>P/C Minor</sup>	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
3	-	3	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
4	-	4	-	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
4	-	4	-	♣

In the Open Room, Kalita for Pepsi played 2♥ after Crawling Stayman, and, with trumps and clubs behaving well that was comfortable for 10 tricks. Pepsi-Blass had what seemed to be a bidding misunderstanding and wound up in the 4-1 club fit.

Although no contract for N/S is attractive, this was not a happy spot. After three rounds of hearts Kokish cashed ♣A and led a fourth heart, ruffed and overruffed. Now to add insult to injury the defenders arranged a diamond ruff in the short hand, followed by a club through declarer's gizzard. Down 600; Kokish leading 27-18.



Jacek Kalita

Board 12:

Dealer: West      ♠ 10 7 4  
 Vul: N-S         ♥ A Q 5 3  
 Brd 12            ♦ Q 9 6 4 2  
 Yeh Final 1      ♣ Q

♠ A J 5  
 ♥ K J 6 4 2  
 ♦ A 3  
 ♣ J 10 7

♠ K Q 2  
 ♥ 9 7  
 ♦ K 8 5  
 ♣ 9 8 6 4 3

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
Kokish	Pszczola	Gitelman	Blass
Pass	Pass	1NT	All Pass

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

In the Closed Room Gitelman received the ♣8 lead and rose with the king, delighted to see the ♣Q drop. Next he tried the ♥10, with North stepping up immediately with the ace for a diamond through. That was won by South's king, and a second diamond was ducked by North, to clear the suit. Declarer sacrificed his third club trick by crossing to the A♣ to finesse the hearts. All in all he made one spade, two hearts one diamond and three clubs for +90.

In the Open Room however, Nowosadzki ducked the opening club lead (the ♣4 here) with a markedly different outcome. Bertens switched to a low diamond to partner's king and ducked the continuation, which set up three winners in his hand in that suit. Declarer now cashed the ♣J and played another club to dummy – the last time he would be there – and without cashing the last club winner played a heart. When the mist cleared he had scored one spade, one heart, one diamond and only two clubs, for -150 and 6 IMPs. Kokish now led 34-18.

But wait, there's more to come. Board 13 saw a slam swing to Kokish.

Dealer: North	♠ A J 10 9 6 2	West	North	East	South
Vul: Both	♥ A Q 6	Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
Brd 13	♦ 4 2		1♠	Pass	2♣
Yeh Final 1	♣ A 9		2♠	Pass	3♠
♠ 7 4 3			3NT	Pass	4♣
♥ J 7	♠ 5		4♥	Pass	4♠
♦ J 10 3	♥ 9 8 5 4 3 2		5♣	Pass	5♦
♣ Q 7 6 3 2	♦ A Q 9 7		6♠	All Pass	
	♣ J 5	Kokish	Pszczola	Gitelman	Blass
	♠ K Q 8		1♠	Pass	2NT*
	♥ K 10		4♠	All Pass	
	♦ K 8 6 5				
	♣ K 10 8 4				

Makeable Contracts				
-	6	-	6	NT
-	6	-	6	♠
-	1	-	1	♥
-	3	-	3	♦
-	3	-	3	♣

Slam after all does depend on the diamond ace being onside. There are a few other minor possibilities like a non-diamond lead together with the ♣QJ in a short holding. It is a slam you would probably want to be in, especially when it makes as it did here. That handed Kokish the 13 IMP slam swing, with the final score being Kokish 53.5-20 with 32 boards to go – including Kokish's 6.5 IMP carry over. In the Bronze medal match, Monaco also earned 13 IMPs for bidding the slam in one room when it was missed in the other. After 16 of the 48 boards in that match, Kranyak led Monaco 68-21.

## 2017 YEH BROS CUP FINAL: Boards 17-32 of 48

### Kokish Vs. Pepsi

With time at a premium for the reporters, we shall try to focus on deals of actual or potential excitement. After an unremarkable non-vulnerable game for the E/W pairs, the East players were faced with how high to aim facing a pre-empt.

With:

♠ J 6 4 3
♥ J 10 5
♦ A
♣ A 8 7 5 3

Nowosadzki faced an aggressive Multi 2♦ and bid 3♦ as a mild game-try, Kalita playing 3♥ down one when the trump finesse lost. Gitelman, facing a disciplined weak 2♥, raised to 4♥ and went two down. 2 IMPs to Pepsi.

A quiet game was followed by a marginal slam. 6NT by South is the best of the bunch. That doesn't lose out to heart ruffs, and protects the spade tenace, but still has only 11 tricks even when clubs break.

Dealer: West	♠ 2	West	North	East	South
Vul: Both	♥ K J 5 3	Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
Brd 20	♦ K 6		1♣	1♦	2♥(♠)
Yeh Final 2	♣ A K Q 9 3 2		3♣	Pass	3NT
♠ 10 9 7 4			Pass	Pass	
♥ A 10 8 6	♠ K J	Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco
♦ 9 7	♥ 9 7		1♣(16+)	1♦	1♠
♣ 7 5 4	♦ Q J 8 5 4 3		2♣	Pass	2♥
	♣ J 10 8		3♥	Pass	3♠
	♠ A Q 8 6 5 3		4♣	Pass	4♦
	♥ Q 4 2		4♠	Pass	5♦
	♦ A 10 2		6♣	All Pass	
	♣ 6				

Makeable Contracts				
-	6	-	6	NT
-	4	-	4	♠
-	5	-	5	♥
-	3	-	3	♦
-	6	-	6	♣

Once Hampson/Greco got past 3NT they were in severe jeopardy. Based on the alerts and subsequent comments there was at least one partnership confusion along the way.

But 6♣ was at least a playable spot – though had Gitelman fished out ♠J at trick one, I wonder what would have happened? There is probably a squeeze on East, assuming declarer reads the position.

At the table, after the trump lead declarer simply drew trumps, knocked out the ♥A, ran trumps and caught East in a show-up squeeze. 12 IMP to Pepsi tightened up the match considerably at 53-34.

Kokish opened the scoring on the set by defending a non-vulnerable partscore one trick better than their counterparts, for a 2 IMP swing. Next:

Dealer: South      ♠ A Q 9 8  
 Vul: Both        ♥ 10 8 3  
 Brd 23            ♦ K 10 5  
 Yeh Final 2      ♣ 7 6 4

♠ 10                      ♠ 6 5 4  
 ♥ A K J 6 5            ♥ 9 7 2  
 ♦ A Q                    ♦ J 9 6 4 3  
 ♣ K 10 8 3 2            ♣ 9 5

♠ K J 7 3 2  
 ♥ Q 4  
 ♦ 8 7 2  
 ♣ A Q J

West	North	East	South	
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek	
			1♠	
2♠	3♠	Pass	Pass	
Double	Pass	4♥	All Pass	
Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco	
			1NT	
2♥	Double	Pass	2♠	
3♣	Pass	3♥	All Pass	
Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	1	NT
-	2	-	2	♠
3	-	2	-	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

Greco's 14-16 no-trump gave him a problem at his third turn; was he supposed to pass 3♥ and violate the LAW with a very unattractive heart suit and a sub-minimum? Eight tricks are the limit in spades and 3♥ was by no means cold. However Hampson led a diamond (which one can sympathize with, however unfortunately it worked out). That meant declarer could ruff out clubs while remaining well in control on the hand, to emerge with +170.

In the other room, after a spade lead and continuation, declarer was locked in dummy to play clubs. South won cheaply and shifted to diamonds; Bertens took his ♦K and reverted to spades. After that, the cards needed to fall just right to allow Nowosadzki to escape for -100, but that was still a loss of 7 IMPs.

Dealer: West      ♠ A 10 5 4  
 Vul: None        ♥ A Q 9  
 Brd 24            ♦ 10 8  
 Yeh Final 2      ♣ J 9 6 4

♠ K 8 2                      ♠ Q J 3

♥ J 5 4 2                    ♥ K 7 6  
 ♦ Q 9 3                    ♦ K 7 2  
 ♣ A K 3                    ♣ 10 8 7 5

♠ 9 7 6  
 ♥ 10 8 3  
 ♦ A J 6 5 4  
 ♣ Q 2

West	North	East	South	
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek	
1♣	Double	1NT	2♦	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco	
1♦	Double	1♠*	Pass	
1NT	Pass	Pass	Pass	
* No Major				
Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
1	-	1	-	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
1	-	1	-	♣

The loose minor (and loose double thereof) worked out far better in the closed than open room here, when Cheek picked diamonds and was disappointed at the trump support he bought. Kalita led a top club and shifted to hearts, letting Nowosadzki move on to spades. The defenders had five side-suit winners and two trumps, for down two. That would have been fine if Hampson hadn't hit on the ♦10 (Rusinow no less) against 1NT. Kokish can hardly be blamed for running this to his hand and driving

out the club honours. But Hampson could win and continue diamonds, and that let Greco run his winners and play hearts, for down 100 here as well. 5 IMPs to Pepsi, down 62-39.

On the next deal Hampson/Greco achieved an unusual result for a pair using a strong club. Non-vulnerable they bid unopposed 1♣-1♦-1♠-2♣-All Pass. 2♣ showed 5-7 without spade support and Greco let 2♣ go with a 5-2-1-5 control-rich 16-count but with ♠KJxxx looking wasted facing likely shortage. Right he was; but they played 3♣ making +110 in the other room to flatten the board.

Dealer: East      ♠ A K Q 8 6  
 Vul: Both        ♥ A J 9 7 6  
 Brd 26            ♦ 8  
 Yeh Final 2      ♣ 10 9

♠ 10 3  
 ♥ Q  
 ♦ Q 10 9 7 6 3  
 ♣ A K Q 5

♠ 9 7 2  
 ♥ K 3  
 ♦ A J 2  
 ♣ J 7 6 4 2

♠ J 5 4  
 ♥ 10 8 5 4 2  
 ♦ K 5 4  
 ♣ 8 3

West	North	East	South	
Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
-	3	-	3	♠
-	3	-	3	♥
3	-	3	-	♦
3	-	3	-	♣

The 5 IMPs went right back when Hampson/Greco reached 4♥ in their ten-card fit, off three cashing winners in the minors when Hampson's singleton faced a wasted king-third. In the other room Cheek/Bertens sold out to their opponents ten-card diamond fit, and they went one down in 4♦ when they had ♥Q facing ♥Kx. The LAW is not concerned with such trifles.

Then a relative rarity: a full-fledged psychic response to a unlimited 1♥ opening bid. Bertens tried 1♠ with a 3-3-3-4 five-count including an ace. It worked both better and worse than he could have expected, since it stole the opponents' nine-card fit and 2♥ made his way. What was REALLY unlucky was that there were five cashing tricks against the 3♠ contract reached in the other room, plus the hand on lead was dealt a sequence in the critical side-suit to allow him to find the opening lead to beat the hand. Still 2 IMPs is 2 IMPs. The lead was 69-39.

Kokish added another IMP from reading a delicate 3NT contract precisely, then both tables ended in 3NT but via vastly different routes:

Dealer: North      ♠ A K J 7  
 Vul: Both        ♥ 8 6 3  
 Brd 29            ♦ 3  
 Yeh Final 2      ♣ Q J 7 4 3

♠ 8  
 ♥ J 10 4 2  
 ♦ A J 8 2  
 ♣ K 9 6 2

♠ Q 10 6 4 3 2  
 ♥ K 7  
 ♦ K 10 5  
 ♣ 8 5

♠ 9 5  
 ♥ A Q 9 5  
 ♦ Q 9 7 6 4  
 ♣ A 10

West	North	East	South	
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek	
	1♣	1♠	Double	
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠	
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco	
	2♦*	Pass	2NT	
Pass	3♣**	Pass	3♦	
Pass	3♥***	Pass	3NT	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
* Short diamonds    ** Minimum    *** 4-3-1-5				
Makeable Contracts				
-	2	-	1	NT
-	1	-	1	♠
-	1	-	2	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
-	2	-	2	♣

Be careful what you wish for...Bertens received a spade lead into his tenace, but that dislodged an entry to his hand. He won the ♠9 and played ♣A ♣10, overtaking to clear clubs. The defenders now had two clubs and four diamond tricks in due course, for down two.



In the closed room we can all see that the singleton spade lead would be the killer here. But Kokish led the fourth-highest ♦2 and now Gitelman won his ♦K and shifted thoughtfully to a low heart (other defences might work but this was best as the cards lay). Declarer finessed, unblocked clubs as Kokish ducked, then crossed to a top spade to clear the clubs.

Kokish won his ♣K and accurately underled in hearts to the king and Greco's ace. Declarer now had eight tricks and was not tempted to finesse in spades when he led the suit for a second time. The best Kokish could do was follow with the ♣9; right colour, wrong suit. Declarer cashed out his winners and played a third heart, hoping for a diamond endplay at the end, but West's hand was high.

Even so, that was 3 IMPs to Pepsi, and they added 2 IMPs more when a lead-directing overcall on ♥98763 bought Greco the hand at the two-level on a combined 18-count. He justified his action by bringing home +170 against the -100 from the other room, where Kalita/Nowosadzki had had an unopposed auction to 3♣, and ran into the equivalent unfavourable lie of the cards that had benefited their teammates in the other room.

Again, on the next deal, Pepsi did their best to throw up a smoke-screen by trying to win the auction at both tables. But this can be a double edged sword...

Dealer: South      ♠ J 10 6 5  
 Vul: N-S          ♥ A  
 Brd 31             ♦ 4 2  
 Yeh Final 2       ♣ A 9 8 6 5 3

♠ 9                    ♠ A K 8 7 3  
 ♥ J 8 7 6 3        ♥ Q 10 9 2  
 ♦ Q J 8 6          ♦ A K 7 5  
 ♣ 10 7 4           ♣ ---

♠ Q 4 2  
 ♥ K 5 4  
 ♦ 10 9 3  
 ♣ K Q J 2

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
			Pass
Pass	1♣	Double	Rdbl
2♠	Pass	4♣	Double
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	All Pass
Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco
			1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT*	Double	3♣
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
4♥	Double	All Pass	

\* Transfer to 3♣

When Hampson/Greco got as far as 2NT they had set up quite a roadblock. However Kokish, who couldn't act over 3♣, decided after Gitelman's second double that he now had enough for game.

A brave bid indeed; but Hampson thought two aces might suffice to beat it. Wrong! Greco knew his hand was waste-paper, but no one had redoubled so he sat it out, and the defenders collected their two trump tricks and that was it.

That made it 76-44, with Pepsi picking up an IMP on the last deal for – yet again – buying the contract in both rooms, at the three- and four-level this time. One made, one went down two, but the net result was that an exciting set had ended 25-23 for Pepsi. With one set to go they still needed to make up 31 IMPs.

In the bronze medal playoff match, Kranyak led 92 to Monaco's 47 with the same 16 boards to play.

Makeable Contracts				
-	1	-	1	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
5	-	5	-	♥
5	-	5	-	♦
-	2	-	2	♣

## 2017 YEH BROS CUP FINAL: Boards 33-48 of 48

Kokish Vs. Pepsi

Dealer: North  
 Vul: None  
 Brd 33  
 Yeh Final 3  
 ♠ J 8  
 ♥ Q J 6  
 ♦ 7 5 3  
 ♣ K Q 6 5 4

♠ 9 5 2  
 ♥ 8 5 3 2  
 ♦ K J 8  
 ♣ 8 3 2

♠ A K Q 10  
 ♥ A K 10 9 7 4  
 ♦ 6 4  
 ♣ 9

♠ 7 6 4 3  
 ♥ ---  
 ♦ A Q 10 9 2  
 ♣ A J 10 7

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
1♥	Pass	1♦	Double
Pass	Pass	3♣	All Pass
Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco
1♠*	Pass	1♦	Double
3♣	3♥	3♠	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

\* No Major

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
-	3	-	3	♥
4	-	5	-	♦
5	-	5	-	♣

As the cards lie, 5♣ is cold on the successful double diamond finesse but Kokish was reluctant to be pushed into a save with a slow trump trick. When Gitelman led the ♣A should Kokish have dropped the ♣K to ask for a spade shift? When he followed with the six, Gitelman could not be sure it wasn't his smallest. He played a diamond, and declarer claimed 10 tricks. Since 3♣ made 150, after West's psyche had discouraged N/S from competing further, this was a good start for Pepsi, trailing at 56-76. Both tables bid to a relatively straightforward 3NT and built their ninth trick in straightforward fashion on the next deal.

Then Pepsi created a swing almost out of nowhere:

Dealer: South  
 Vul: E-W  
 Brd 35  
 Yeh Final 3  
 ♠ A  
 ♥ A J 10 8 3  
 ♦ 9 7 5  
 ♣ J 9 5 2

♠ 5 4 2  
 ♥ 4 2  
 ♦ K 10 8 2  
 ♣ A Q 10 6

♠ K Q J 8 6 3  
 ♥ Q 6 5  
 ♦ A 4  
 ♣ 8 3

♠ 10 9 7  
 ♥ K 9 7  
 ♦ Q J 6 3  
 ♣ K 7 4

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
Double	2♥ <sup>as</sup>	Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	Double	2♠
All Pass			3♠
Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco
Pass	2♠	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	2NT
All Pass			3♠

Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
-	3	-	3	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
1	-	1	-	♣

Both tables played 3♠ on a low diamond lead to the eight and queen! Nicely done both Easts. In each case declarer won the ace and maybe Cheek took his eye off the ball, knowing he was comfortably placed. He played a top trump, and Kalita who had led ♦7 (2nd from three) won the ♠A to play a second diamond, the five. Declarer put in the ten, Nowosadzki won to play a trump, and got in with ♣K to cash out his side's heart tricks.

Greco did not relax at trick two. He played the ♥Q, and when a club came through he finessed the ♣Q. He could not be stopped from ruffing a heart in dummy for his ninth trick.

5 well-earned IMPs and the margin was 76-61 to Kokish.

Just when the momentum seemed to have shifted, along came a heart-breaker for Pepsi:

Dealer: West      ♠ Q 8 7  
 Vul: Both        ♥ A Q 10 9 7  
 Brd 36            ♦ 9 7 5 2  
 Yeh Final 3     ♣ 3

♠ 5 2              ♠ A 10  
 ♥ K 8 6 3 2     ♥ J 5 4  
 ♦ Q J 8 4        ♦ A K 10  
 ♣ J 9             ♣ A Q 10 5 2

♠ K J 9 6 4 3  
 ♥ ---  
 ♦ 6 3  
 ♣ K 8 7 6 4

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
Pass	Pass	1♣	2♠
Double	3♥*	3♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♣	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

\*Fit Showing

Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco
Pass	Pass	1♣	3♠
Double	4♠	Double	All Pass

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
-	2	-	2	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
2	-	2	-	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

Defending 4♠ on a trump lead Gitelman won his four tricks in aces and kings and couldn't work out declarer's heart void, so tried to cash a third diamond. That meant down only +200, but it cost only a couple of IMPs when teammates had them more than covered. Nowosadzki might just have bid 3NT over 3♠. When he tried to explore, he found himself in rarefied territory and doubled, to boot. The air gets thin quite quickly up here. After a spade lead and a club to the nine maybe it is best to cash two diamonds and exit in spades. But there don't seem to be more than seven or eight tricks easily available. When declarer played trumps early he had to abandon control, and finished up with four clubs, two diamonds and one spade. Down 1100 and the match margin was back to 31.

In a deal sure to gladden the hearts of all Gallic readers both N/S pairs then bid 1NT-3NT and put East on lead with:

♠ 9 6
♥ A 10 6 2
♦ 10 7 6 2
♣ 6 3 2

Any Frenchman who led a heart would be drummed out of the regiment; both Easts did so and found it cost a trick, a tempo and the contract.

To be fair, only a club lead sets the contract by force while a spade lead takes out partner's entry. But a diamond lead forces declarer to guess the play well. Partner has ♠A and ace-queen fifth of clubs over the king so it depends which ace declarer

tries to knock out as to whether he will succeed.

Dealer: East      ♠ J 8 2  
 Vul: E-W        ♥ K 10 8 5 3  
 Brd 38            ♦ Q 7 5  
                     ♣ 8 6

♠ Q 6              ♠ A K 9 4 3  
 ♥ A 9 4           ♥ Q 7 6 2  
 ♦ A J 8 4 3 2    ♦ ---  
 ♣ 9 3             ♣ J 7 4 2

♠ 10 7 5  
 ♥ J  
 ♦ K 10 9 6  
 ♣ A K Q 10 5

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
		1♠	2♣
2♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco
		1♠	2♣
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
2	-	2	-	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
-	-	-	-	♣


Even if 2♦ is non-forcing, as it was for Kalita, it still seems to me to be quite a position to pass it. But again, I suppose if you need swings, this is one way to get them. The defenders led ♣A and continued clubs, eventually coming to four trump tricks, two clubs and a heart. The defence to 2♠ started with three top clubs from South. Declarer ruffed low and was overruffed, but could now draw trumps and concede just one heart trick at the end. Those 8 IMPs made it 100-62 to Kokish.

There was still technically time for Pepsi to mount a comeback. They doubled Bertens in a solid 4-4 fit at the two level on his combined 22-count and took it down 500, but equally went for 500 by coming in

(sensibly over a strong club on what turned out to be a partscore deal), and with six deals to go the margin was 43 IMPs.

The IMPs flowed backwards and forwards from here on mainly in Pepsi's direction, but the die was cast (or the fat lady had warmed up – depending on your preferred cliché). Three big swings right at the end made the match look loser perhaps than it really was. The Kokish team had proved worthy winners, having only lost one match all week – and that was to Chen Yeh!


## 2017 YEH BROS CUP PAIRS FINALS/CONSOLATION

Dealer: East	♠ A Q 4	West	North	East	South
Vul: E-W	♥ A 9 7	Muller	Volcker	De Wijs	Bessis
	♦ Q 10 9 3			Pass	1NT
	♣ J 7 3	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
					
	♠ 7 5				
	♥ K 10 5 4				
	♦ A 8 7 2				
	♣ A K 4				

This deal decided the winners of the pairs event – in a strange way. Muller-De Wijs were supposed to be N/S here but due to some overheard/overseen information they played E/W against Volcker/Bessis. Bessis played 3NT on the auction shown.

Muller led ♠10; Bessis rose with the ace and played ♦A and another diamond, finding West with the singleton ♦J...yes we could have done better in the diamond suit, I agree. East wins ♦K as West pitches an (odd encouraging) ♣9, and shifts to ♣8. Bessis won the ace, lead a heart to the nine and jack, then took the next club (West following with the ten) and cashes off the diamonds. West pitches the ♠2 and ♠8. Now you lead a heart to the ace, and a heart back as East follows small. Do you finesse or play for the drop?

At the table declarer decided West had four clubs from the spots he had seen and that East had ♣865. Since he had only one diamond he rated to be 5-3-1-4. So he played the king from hand and West pitched a spade. This was the full deal:

Dealer: East	♠ A Q 4	West	North	East	South
Vul: E-W	♥ A 9 7	Muller	Volcker	De Wijs	Bessis
	♦ Q 10 9 3			Pass	1NT
	♣ J 7 3	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
♠ K 10 9 8 2		♠ J 6 3			
♥ 8 6		♥ Q J 3 2			
♦ J		♦ K 6 5 4			
♣ Q 10 9 6 2		♣ 8 5			
	♠ 7 5				
	♥ K 10 5 4				
	♦ A 8 7 2				
	♣ A K 4				

The curious aspect of this deal was that the result was not properly scored by the director as arrow switched, whereas it generated a game swing on cross-IMP's for the Dutch. It was only at the end where the scores were checked out in detail that they found the error, allowing them to rise from nowhere in the field to eventual winners.

## Lucky Number Three?

Eventually third in the main pairs were Fu Zhong and Ji Lie, while third in the consolation pairs were Paul Hackett and Tom Hanlon. Both Tom and Fu were faced with the same declarer play problem, see if you can match wits with them.

Dealer: North  
Vul: Nil

♠ A K 5  
♥ 5 4  
♦ J 9 7 6  
♣ A 8 7 4



♠ J 8 7 6 4 3  
♥ A Q 10  
♦ K 8  
♣ J 10

West	North	East	South
Hackett		Hanlon	
Lie		Zhong	
		1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Declaring 4♠ as East you are delighted to receive a heart lead, a third and low ♥2 which goes to the king and your ace. Can you see anything better than testing diamonds and trumps?

Both declarers advanced a club honour and passed it round to North, who won the queen and returned a heart. They won and played the ♣J, covered by South. That was good news, they cashed two top trump (no joy, South had three to the queen and north discarded a heart) ruffed a club to hand (no nine) and then took the heart ruff. When South produced the jack and North followed suit, it was crunch time.

South appeared to have jack-third of hearts and three spades, and three or four clubs, the nine not having appeared. Should you finesse diamonds or go for the endplay?

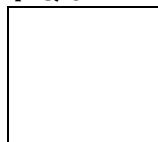
Both went for the big play: they ruffed a club to hand as South followed with the nine, then exited in trumps, and when South had nothing but diamonds left they were home no matter who had the ♦A.

The full story:

Dealer: North  
Vul: Nil

♠ A K 5  
♥ 5 4  
♦ J 9 7 6  
♣ A 8 7 4

♠ 10  
♥ K 8 7 6 3  
♦ Q 10 4 2  
♣ Q 6 2



♠ Q 9 2  
♥ J 9 2  
♦ A 5 3  
♣ K 9 5 3

♠ J 8 7 6 4 3  
♥ A Q 10  
♦ K 8  
♣ J 10

West	North	East	South
Hackett		Hanlon	
Lie		Zhong	
		1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

### THANK YOU

Let's take a moment to thank Chen Yeh and Yeh Bros in making this world class tournament possible, as well as the fantastic organisation of the JCBL.

## Not Just the Host with the Most!

Chen Yeh sat North on this deal and generated a huge swing for his side here.

Dealer: East	♠ 9 6 ♥ K 9 4 2 ♦ J 9 6 4 ♣ 10 8 6	♠ 8 5 4 ♥ 8 7 5 3 ♦ Q 5 ♣ A Q 9 3	West 1NT 2♦ 3NT	North Yeh Pass Pass All Pass	East Pass 2♣ 2NT	South 1♠ Pass Pass
	♠ A Q J ♥ Q J 6 ♦ K 3 2 ♣ K 7 5 4	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> ♠ K 10 7 3 2 ♥ A 10 ♦ A 10 8 7 ♣ J 2				

After an initial ♠9 lead runs round to the queen and declarer crosses to a club to lead a heart to the queen and king what would you do?

At many tables North continued spades. That was fatal as you can see.

At Chen Yeh's table he was warned off both spade and heart leads, so experimented with an initial diamond lead – the killer. This was against Fu Zhong and Jerry Li and put Chen in the lead until the final round of the event.

In the consolation event Drijver/Brink held the E/W cards and Brink could not bid 1NT over 1♠ since they play this as hearts and a minor. He doubled, and Drijver's 1NT response showed values not necessarily a spade stopper – they play all two-level actions as weak. So Brink bid what he thought he could make. That put South on lead to attack diamonds –and that was the ninth trick!



# 23<sup>rd</sup> RED SEA INTERNATIONAL

# Bridge FESTIVAL

EILAT - ISRAEL

NOVEMBER 9-19, 2017



## Tournament Program

Mixed Pairs	November 9,10
M.P. Pairs	November 11
National Simultaneous	November 12
IMP Pairs	November 13,14
Open Pairs	November 15,16,17
Teams	November 18

## Participants from All Over the World

Including European and World Champions.

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# KIDS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE BERMUDA BOWL

Christina Lund Madsen



It is a huge disappointment to bridge fans all over the world, and especially in the Netherlands, that the Dutch pair Sjoert Brink - Bas Drijver will not be playing in the Bermuda Bowl in Lyon this summer.

In 2016 the pair won the butler and the bronze medal at the European Championships in June, and in September in Wroclaw they won the World Bridge Games (former Olympics) and also the butler in the initial round robin-group play. In the past couple of years many of their peers consider the pair among the best 3 in the World (especially since some contestants are no longer in contention...) and by some absolutely unbiased players like Simon De Wijs even the best pair, though failing to qualify here in the Yeh Bros Cup is probably their worst result in recent years. However they recovered by winning the consolation swiss.

The Netherlands are one of the strongest bridge nations in the World, however the absence of Brink-Drijver is severe. In 2014 the open Dutch team played the European Championships without them, and they did not even manage to finish in the top-10, which meant that the Netherlands did not qualify for the Bermuda Bowl in 2015.

Some months ago the pair announced that they will not be playing for the Netherlands in Lyon, and it caused a lot of speculations as to the reasons, and many suspected that they would soon change their address to Monaco. However with the revelation that Lauria-Versace is the new Monaco pair, the jungle drums were wrong. We had a little talk with Bas Drijver about the real reasons behind their withdrawal from the team.

## **It didn't go so well in this tournament. What is your explanation for this?**

Bas Drijver: "Well, sometimes bridge goes well and sometimes it doesn't. It didn't really go our way and we also made a few mistakes. It definitely wasn't our tournament."

## **How does your team take it when it goes like this?**

"We are the best in defeat," he says with a firm voice.

## **There has been a lot of speculation as to the reasons why you and Sjoert Brink decided not to play the Bermuda Bowl. Can you tell us your reasons?**

"It is actually quite simple. It's super busy, the whole of July we are abroad and we both have two kids. The kids' holiday is exactly in those weeks so if we played in Lyon we wouldn't be able to go on holiday at all with our kids, and we feel it is a little more important in life to play the Bermuda Bowl."

## **So why don't you just not play some of the events in July instead?**

"Well, this event it is possible not to play, but the kids don't have vacation yet, and the other are part of the Chinese competition or American Nationals, and we cannot cancel that. For a bridge pro it is completely impossible to cancel that. Unfortunately for the Netherlands it is possible to cancel the Bermuda Bowl. We were not so happy we could not play it because we were always happy to play for the Netherlands, especially to play the Bermuda Bowl, but I think the calendar this time is really bad timing for us."

## **There was a lot of speculation especially on Bridgewinners about whether you were going to play for Monaco in the future...**

"I even got a call from America about it."

## **But now it has been revealed that Lauria - Versace will play for Monaco. Was there any truth to the rumours? Have you been negotiating with Monaco?**

"No, we have not. I have been negotiating with my kids. That is the only negotiation I have done."