



Łódź, Tuesday 2 September 2008 Bulletin nr 1



Witamy w Łodzi

For the second time in history, the University Championships have come to Poland (Wrocław hosted the European University Championships in 2003).

The International University Sports Federation (in French that abbreviates to FISU) organises these championships for the fourth time. 21 teams from 15 countries on 3 continents will be competing in Łódź.

In six days of competition, these teams will strive to succeed Denmark, Poland and China as World University Champions.

The opening ceremony will be held on Wednesday at 15:00 in the playing area. All team members will have to be present at the entrance to the building at 14:45. They will need to designate two of their players for special tasks: one will carry the flag, another will carry the board with the team name. (remember the Olympics? - we don't have enough pretty chinese girls for that particular job)

Program	
Wednesday :	
09:00-10:30	Registration
13:30	Technical Meeting for Captains
15:00	Opening Ceremony
17:00	Matches 1-2
20:30	Dinner
Opening Ceremony	



Geert Magerman welcomes all players and officials in the name of FISU

Wellcome

Dear students and delegates,

I am very happy to welcome you on behalf of FISU In Łódź, for the fourth World University Bridge Championships. As for previous editions, you came very numerously to Poland from all parts of the World!

With 21 University teams, I'm sure we will have a nice competition with an intense schedule and a high level of our sport bridge. We count on you to participate in these championships with the best university spirit. There will be lots of possibilities in the evening to meet your friends from other parts of the world.

I really hope that you will enjoy this FISU championship!

Geert Magerman
Chairman Technical
Committee Bridge FISU

Would you like to know something about Łódź ?

First of all, pronounce the above sentence in a southern US accent. Now just listen to the first word. Woudj. That's (almost) how you pronounce Łódź.

By the way, this city causes me great trouble. I'm one to always try and write names correctly - you'll never catch me writing Warsaw or Antwerp, and that includes the completely correct spelling. But sadly, most fonts give up after the Ł and the ó. For the Z with an acute accent you need Unicode, and that is simply too cumbersome to use for a

whole bulletin. So, Łódź it will have to be.

Łódź is the third largest city in Poland, (since last year - they used to be second but Krakow passed them) with 750,000 inhabitants. The city was first mentioned in 1332 and received city rights in 1423. Before 1820 it was a small city, but then industries came from all over Europe and it grew into the big city we see today.

If you look at the arms of the city, you'll notice a boat, for the simple reason that łódź means boat in Polish.

Łódź has three universities as well as a film school and an Academy of Fine Arts.

Łódź is called the "city of four cultures", for the peaceful coexistence of Polish, German, Russian and Jewish cultures. Let's hope that Spades, Hearts, Diamonds and Clubs will also bring four (and more) cultures from around the world together this week.

And last but not least, the university team from Łódź became the very first University team champions of Europe, in 2005.



The team from Łódź in 2005

The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007

Every ten years or so, the World Bridge Federation re-writes the international lawbook. The previous such issue dated from 1997, so in 2007 a new set of laws saw the light.

Gradually in 2008, more and more countries started applying the new code, but in many European countries the adoption date was the first of September, so for many of you it will be the first tournament they'll play under the new laws. A small introduction might be in order.

First of all, let us assure you, players, that nothing much will change. Most of the changes are only obvious to Directors. They will need to learn a few new words, like System Card in stead of Convention Card, and some new concepts (there is now something called a clarification period, between the final pass and the facing of the opening lead). They will also need to find existing articles in new places, but most of the rules themselves are unchanged. Don't be too disturbed if a Director fails to find the appropriate Law within the time interval you were used to.

One important change will please the Americans here. The international laws have been (re-)aligned with American practice, and it is now allowed to ask a partner if he does not have a card in the suit lead, when he shows out. Previously this was not allowed, but the penalty was worse than the crime. Now it is allowed, but you should still not do it, because when it means you are surprised that declarer has more of the

suit than you expected, this is unauthorized information to your partner and he may not be able to use it and play the best possible defence. That advice also counts towards the Americans, actually, because even they cannot fail to sound surprised - unless they truly **always** ask when partner shows out.

Some real changes have been brought to the laws, most notably in the revoke law and in dealing with insufficient bids. But since you never revoke anyway, and it is very difficult to have insufficient bids behind screens, we may best remain silent about these.

One last piece of advice: call the Director. For whatever reason - he is there to help you. Calling the Director does not mean you accuse your opponents of anything, and having the director called by your opponents is no accusation.



**Chief Tournament Director
Slawek Łatała will be happy to help**

Just to show you the kind of articles we are looking for, here's one that was published recently about the tournament at Brugge last year:

A String of Pearls

By Wiel Gielkens



We can't stress often enough that with a good double fit you can make one or two tricks more

than one might expect from high card points alone.

Dealer West. E/W Vuln.

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

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♥	2♠
2NT	Pass	5♦	All Pass

The Czech East rightly considered that with his distributional hand he was better off in 5♦ rather than in 3NT. When the dust had settled, he had made 12 tricks because he could throw two clubs on the hearts and ruff a trick for his twelfth trick. He did not even need the ♣K.

The Czech team were very eager to learn and they looked at their -Dutch-coach. If a slam can be made so easily,

they rightly thought it should be possible to bid it as well.

Ine Gielkens had her analysis ready. She pointed out to East that partner only needed the ♦A and the ♥A for ten tricks, because you can ruff the fourth heart. Having shown 16-18 in the bidding, he might easily have 4 aces and the ♥J, in which case the grand slam is on. Of course you should not expect him to have all the good cards, but you should not exclude the possibility either. Therefore, she concluded, you should not jump to 5♦, but rather invite to slam with 4♦. If partner does not feel like it, you stop in 5♦, but when, as now, all those little cards are true pearls,, he'll insist.

Two days and five matches later, the analysis bore fruit:

Dealer North E/W Vuln.

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

West	North	East	South
	1♥	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♠	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

After 3♠, South did not jump to 5♣, because if North would have as much as ♣K, ♦A and ♥KQ, the heart honours would bring in twelve tricks. Would a

slam invite with 4♠ then not be better? So she bid 4♠, showing something there and suggesting something in hearts too. North had excellent cards for slam: nothing but honours, a singleton in ♠ and an extra trump. When he heard two key-cards plus the ♣Q, he was confident in bidding 6♣, claimed after the lead. "I had all these pearls for you", he confessed to his partner -and girlfriend. Nearby tables reacted excited, especially the ladies. They too would have wanted a boy-friend like that.

All contributions to the Bulletin will be very welcome. Don't worry if English is



not your first, second or even fourth language. Herman is fluent in many languages, and translating from and to bad English is second nature to him



The Czech team and their coach