



Bulletin 4

Thursday, 4 September 2008

# MIXED UNDER WAY



The second event of this festival is the Mixed Pairs - traditionally a very hard fought and unpredictable event. 92 Pairs participate this year in this event, which combines best both the competitive and the social aspect of our game, since in some of these pairs you can see combinations varying from husband and wife (normal) to father and daughter (much less common).

The first session was won by one of the husband-wife pairs, Velaitou-Papachatzis, with 67.63% followed by another husband-wife pair, Mamidaki-Roussos, all of them from Greece. After them we can see in high ranks most of the pre-game favorites, like Cuzzi-Fantoni and Bessis-Martens. Still there are no big gaps, so it can be anybody's day tomorrow.

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### THURSDAY'S PROGRAM

<b>Bridge Lesson with Fantoni</b>	<b>15.00</b>
<b>Bridge Tournament</b>	<b>16.30</b>
<b>Friendly nights Pairs</b>	<b>21.30</b>

## SESSION I RESULTS

1	VELAITOU P	PAPACHATZIS N	67,63%	47	RITSONI I	AVDOULOS S	49,36%
2	MAMIDAKI L	ROUSSOS G	66,20%	48	CANONNE C	LORENZINI C	49,28%
3	CUZZI M	FANTONI F	64,56%	49	JANOUSEK B	PEDICCIO V	49,20%
4	BESSIS V	MARTENS K	64,32%	50	MALAXOS S	POLITIS T	48,79%
5	VIGMOSTAD E	NORDBY H	63,78%	51	PAPANDREOU M	PAVLINERIS G	48,52%
6	GAEDE B	TISSOT F	60,96%	52	RIOLO I	MARIOTTI M	48,49%
7	TSIMPIDAKI E	MPONIS A	60,01%	53	BOBOLAKI M	BOBOLAKIS S	48,07%
8	NUNES A	SATALIA A	59,98%	54	ADELE H	ZIA M	48,06%
9	KYRIAKIDOU A	SAPOUNAKIS A	59,97%	55	PANAGAKI M	MILITSOPOULOS I	48,05%
10	VARENNE M	NATHANAIL D	59,88%	56	KARAGIANNI R	KAVALAKIS G	48,02%
11	KATAN A	BOYAGI E	59,72%	57	VROUSTI T	SIMATIS A	47,99%
12	LORDOS R	EHAKER N	58,94%	58	KAMTSIOUT	LAGOURANIS F	47,87%
13	THIZY A	LHUISSIER N	58,72%	59	ELAZEM F	KACHAMI G	47,74%
14	SYRAKOPOULOU CH	VROUSTIS V	58,52%	60	TZORTZAKAKI E	SKOULARIKIS F	47,41%
15	PUILLET C	LULARI A	58,21%	61	KOUROGENI A	LISSIS G	47,32%
16	MUFTI H	KANNAVOS P	58,00%	62	DOULGERI A	MAVRONIKOLAS I	47,03%
17	DELLECAVE O	DECHIARA R	57,72%	63	CHANTRE P	ROSSETI-SCOLARI	46,92%
18	MAALOUF M	RAHAL T	57,19%	64	AOUN G	MANAF A	46,49%
19	BARONI I	PRIMAVERA F	56,88%	65	NESTORA TH	YANNAS C	46,36%
20	PAPIRAKI M	PROKOPIOU I	56,68%	66	LIVERA R	SIDIROPOULOS S	46,10%
21	SYKIOTI CH	DARKADAKIS A	55,42%	67	PANAGIOTIDOU D	KONSTANTINIDIS	45,90%
22	VEINOGLOU HE	IKONOMOPOULOS	55,22%	68	MAKAREM L	WATTAR W	45,53%
23	IOANNOUT	GEORGIADIS G	55,06%	69	FAWAZ S	DOXIADIS K	45,46%
24	ANTONIOU I	WEINGOLD J	54,84%	70	SPIRIDOU D	KETEN A	45,45%
25	KARAMANLI A	KARAMANLIS N	54,23%	71	PERSIC A	ARECCO D	44,75%
26	DIPLOUDI M	KONTOMITROS K	53,66%	72	DOXIADI A	CHRISTODOULOU	44,10%
27	VAGIANOU M	KLITSAS G	53,62%	73	HATZILABROU A	AGOURATSIOS T	43,94%
28	DOVIDIO C	TISSOT G	53,49%	74	LIGINOU I	VAGIANOS G	43,72%
29	RAMADANY	TRABOULSI S	53,34%	75	MAVRIKOU I	P'CHRISTOFOROU	43,61%
30	MICHALAKOU K	STAMATIOU N	53,15%	76	FRESIA B	MEUS F	43,55%
31	KOTRONAROU A	KALLIFRONAS M	53,05%	77	KIRKBYE L	PARVANOV G	43,14%
32	LUPSAN O	LUPSAN C	52,89%	78	AYE T	MACBRIDE S	43,03%
33	RICCI I	MARTINI R	52,48%	79	MANTHOU E	PAPAKYRIAKOPUL	42,61%
34	CARBONNEAUX J	BESSIS A	52,37%	80	GHUBRIL M	GHUBRIL F	42,47%
35	NATOLI M	DELLECAVE G	52,30%	81	ZOVIGHIAN M	PAVLOU S	42,23%
36	BIKA E	FASOULAKIS A	52,09%	82	PAPAIOANNOU M	PAPAIOANNOU I	42,15%
37	PANOUTSAKOPOULU	KATRINIS M	51,86%	83	FILIPPOU A	KOUTSAKIS A	41,57%
38	ONEILL M	EIDE M	51,76%	84	PAPADAKI N	EFTICHIADIS D	40,30%
39	HATZIOANNOU E	PALIGIANNIS F	51,65%	85	ROQUETTE S	FRANCESCHETTI P	39,43%
40	GREY H	FASOULAKIS K	51,47%	86	KASIMATI A	ADAMAKIS A	38,26%
41	CHARALAMPIDOU S	PAVLOGIANNIS N	51,15%	87	NERATZI A	PAPAEMMANOUIL D	36,27%
42	STARACE A	STARACE A	51,07%	88	AVALLE N	DELLECAVE V	35,90%
43	NIKA V	SOFIOS M	50,82%	89	MACBRIDE C	WARREN D	35,82%
44	CHAUGNY C	LEBATTEUX A	50,82%	90	GALANOPOULOU A	PAPADOPOULOS	34,75%
45	TRICHAKI R	DOUKARELLIS A	50,16%	91	TSOUKATOU TH	AGAPITOU S	34,73%
46	BRUCALASSI CH	MARANI F	50,02%	92	VROUCHOU R	PETRIDIS V	32,73%

# Open Pairs Session 3

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A K J 9 8 7 ♥ 10 8 4 ♦ - ♣ K 10 8 5	N W     E S	♠ 10 6 4 2 ♥ A J 3 ♦ K 8 ♣ J 9 7 6	♠ 5 ♥ K 9 6 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 5 3 2 ♣ 3
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<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
3♦	4♠	All Pass	Pass

As is often the case in highly distributional hands, it is difficult to find two matching auctions; each of the players has his own views about the hand and this leads to quite different bids. In the specific hand, it is not at all clear that South will open 3♦, nor that West will bid 4♠ (3♠ would be much more normal), but in fact this is the bidding sequence that did occur in one of the tables.

After the normal lead of the ♦ J the contact can be made, although in a far from obvious way. Declarer cashes his ♠AK, enters dummy with a 3rd ♠, eliminates the ♦ K, and then just turns his attention to the ♣ suit. Now all that he needs to do is to make sure that he captures the last round of ♣ in hand, in order to play ♥ 4 to the J in the following end-position:

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

South will win this trick with the K but declarer will have the rest of the tricks, since obviously South can't have the other ♥ honor.

But let's see what might happen if N-S decides, instead of defending, to bid 5♦. In one of the tables West decided, after cashing the ♠A, to switch to ♥ 4 seeing no clouds in the horizon. No damage has been done yet, but East made

the fatal mistake of putting the ♥ A (the correct play would be ♥ J). Now declarer exploited to the maximum the gift, guessing to play West for a diamond void, thus making his impossible contract.

Board 12. Dealer West N-S Vul.

♠ K J 8 6 ♥ 7 2 ♦ Q 10 5 3 ♣ 10 7 4	N W     E S	♠ 5 4 ♥ K J 5 ♦ J 9 ♣ A Q J 5 3 2	♠ Q 7 2 ♥ A Q 8 6 3 ♦ 8 7 ♣ 9 8 6
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<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1♣	1♥	Dbl
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Let's suppose that the lead is 6♥, 4th best, followed by 10, 2 and 5. The rule of 11 shows that West must have exactly one card higher than the 6, and since he hasn't yet seen this card the suit must be split exactly 5-2. Accordingly declarer sees the risk involved in trying first to establish the diamond suit, and sets off immediately to the ♣ suit: he overtakes ♣K with the ♣A and proceeds to cashing his "easy" 10 tricks. Easy game!

On another table the bidding was different, due to systemic reasons, and that (combined with the fact that E-W were not playing 4th best leads) led Fulvio Fantoni to quite different conclusion, for a much worse result.


<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	2♣	2♥	Dbl
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♣ is the "precision style" ♣ opening, showing a long ♣ suit. Again East chose to overcall (but now at the 2 level) and again the final contract was 3NT by North. But now East led an attitude ♥ 3. How should North play the hand?

Given the overcall, it is now extremely probable that either East will have 6 hearts or he will have the ♦ Q. Accordingly declarer played immediately ♦ 2 from dummy, trying to establish his side suit, but in the specific deal that led to 5 easy tricks for the defense. Not without reason Fulvio was quite scornful for the 4th best leads when commenting this board in his lesson.

# Guessing is Sometimes Easy

Mixed Session 1. Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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


West	North	East	South
	1♦	1♥	INT
Dbl	2♦	2♣	3♦
3♠	All Pass		

The bidding needs some explanation. Double was for takeout, usually showing spades. This enabled East to find the 2♣ bid, establishing the major fit.

South led the ♦ 8, and North switched to a ♣ taken by South's Ace. Another ♣ was returned and now declarer has a full count of the hand: To justify his opening North should have the ♠Q, since ♥K is marked by the bidding in the South hand. This he must play the spades for the drop, finding in the specific case Q9 bare and making his contract.

Note that North should have returned a heart at trick 3, instead of a club. Now declarer may still play first ♣K, in order to count the hands, but his play involves some risks so he might alternatively try to guess first the ♠. One could argue that the most probable layout of the cards is still ♣A in the South hand and ♠Q in the North hand, but it would no longer be a safe bet.

Open Session 3. Board 19. Dealer South E-W Vul.


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

West North East South

Pass INT 2♥ All Pass  
This is a similar case like the previous one, where it is possible to deduce the location of the cards by observing the points shown by each of the players, South led the ♣K and declarer immediately sees that he need to find the ♦ Q to make his contract. Instead of trying just to be lucky, he first checks the position of the ♠ honors (after first cashing trumps).

Once the position in the black suits is clarified, declarer must now judge what is more likely: South opening with 1HCP and a very good ♠ suit, or North responding INT with a balanced 4 card count and no stopper in any of the red suits. My feeling is that the latter is much less likely than the former, accordingly North becomes the favorite to hold ♦ Q. This time there are no certainties, but even highly likely probability is usually good enough at bridge.

Open Session 3. Board 27. Dealer South None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♠
2♣	3♣	4♣	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♣	5♠

All Pass

West led the ♣Q, and declarer sees both that he has obviously made an error to bid 5♠ (5♣ doubled would score 500, for an excellent score), and also that if the ♠ finesse works there are 12 easy tricks for his side.

On the other hand, the 5♣ bid by East is extremely unlikely to have been made, at equal vulnerability, facing a potential trump trick. Thus West becomes in the eyes of declarer the favorite to hold the ♠K. Accordingly, instead of the normal finesse, South decided to play for a drop and was rewarded with an excellent score.

What do all these hands have in common? It is the fact that bidding provides extremely valuable information, that the attentive player owes to watch and note carefully, exploiting the slightest opportunity to see "through the back of the cards."