

## 2020 FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIP MIND SPORTS ONLINE

### DAY 1

After months of preparations, the day has finally come! I am very pleased to announce that today is the day of the 2020 FISU World University Championship Mind Sports online official opening.

I am also glad that despite the global COVID-19 pandemic it was possible to organize the event in the online format. Switching the championship to an online formula attracted great interest and has met with the approval of both chess and bridge environments. 551 participants representing 40 countries have registered in the event: 151 competing in bridge and 400 in chess.

On behalf of the whole Organizing Committee I would like to wish you all many sporting emotions and atmosphere!

Good Luck!

Katarzyna Domańska

The President of the Organizing Committee



### CHESS

The first FISU World University Mind Sports Championship online has finally started!

The beautiful city of Bydgoszcz in Poland is going to host the biggest chess event in the history of the International University Sports Federation. 78 teams from 32 countries. 400 players from 4 continents began to participate on chess website Tornelo.com

After the first three days and nine rounds of play, top 16 teams will be promoted for the exciting play-off stage! Many experts see Armenia and China as favorites for gold medals.

All games are broadcasted live and commented on live broadcast at FISU TV. Our world class chess commentators, grandmasters Keti Tsatsalashvili and Marcin Tazbir are revealing for you all the secrets of the Kings Game daily from 2.30PM CET.



The first day of the competition brought us lots of interesting games. Favorites lost some games to underdogs which shows that the level of the competition is very even.

Team Poland 1 started the competition with a perfect result! Three wins in three matches! Anna Kubicka, the Polish University Women's Champion plays an important role as a captain of a team.



In this position from the 3<sup>rd</sup> round, Nicolas Curtolo (black) played Bg7 to protect the King. Anna Kubicka (white) decided to sacrifice the rook on g7! Black captured back with the rook, but a little pawn, the weakest warrior on the chessboard, was ready for it! With a move h6(!!) it was clear, that white will get the rook back and score the full point for the team.



Another interesting position we saw in the game:

Akhmetov (KAZ) vs Suarez (ESP)

After getting his king checked on h2, white gave up.  
Do you know why?

What would happen if:

- a) Kings moves to h1 (find mate in 1 move)
- b) King moves to f1 (find mate in 2 moves)

We are sure you will find the best moves. Good luck!

After the first day there are five leaders with the perfect score 6/6!

These are Poland, Malaysia, China, Serbia and Belarus! Very exciting games are coming tomorrow, since leaders will face each other!

## BRIDGE

2020 FISU WUC Mind Sports online has officially started. 26 bridge teams representing 13 countries. 151 participants have begun to compete on Bridge Base Online. The bridge teams played first 5 rounds of qualification Swiss. Currently at the top are teams from Poland, China, and Italy:

1.POLAND 3	78.48 VP
2.ITALY 1	75.47 VP
3.CHINA 2	71.84 VP

However, there are still ten matches to play before 8 best teams will start knock-out for the medals.

Best individual performance was shown by:

Imp/board	Boards	Player	
5.56	16	Jakub Bazyluk	POLAND 1
5.54	24	Jakub Andruszkiewicz	POLAND 3
5.54	24	Edward Sucharda	POLAND 3

Here is the most interesting board of today: **ITALY 1 and POLAND 5** – Prepared by Jakub Wojcieszek

Board 1.		None/North					
♠ AK10987	♥ J	♠ Q6543	♥ 95				
♦ 8542	♣ 32	♦ K76	♣ 954				
<table border="1"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">E</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">W</td> <td style="text-align: center;">S</td> </tr> </table>		N	E	W	S	♠ J	♥ AK4
N	E						
W	S						
		♦ AQJ3	♣ AQJ86				
		♠ 2	♥ Q1087632				
		♦ 109	♣ K107				

W	N	E	S
Donati	Baldysz	Porta	Zalewska
2♠	pass	2♣ <sup>1)</sup>	2♥
3♠	pass	2NT	pass
4♥	pass	3NT	pass
		6♠	all pass

<sup>1)</sup>artificial, strong; forcing to game, any distribution.

After a long day of play I have found an opportunity to speak with Giovanni DONATI (giova007), Italian professional player. I remember him from a few years ago when we both were juniors and fought against each other at the bridge table. Although being under 16 years old, he made a huge impression on me. I asked him about one particular board where he made a nice guess about cards layout today.

After 2♣ strong opening, Joanna Zalewska (Asia) overcalled with 2♥ and EW pair reached a spade slam. Zofia Bałdysz led ♥5 (Polish leads – low from doubleton). Giovanni took the first trick with the king in dummy, and played jack of trumps, overtaken with the king. Now he cashed spade ace and spades split 5-1 revealed. He decided to play spade for the third time. Zofia took this trick with the queen and played tricky ♣9. At that moment Giovanni knew that K of diamonds should be on right side (with diamonds spots Zofia would surely play dummy's shorter suit) or both kings are in Asia's hand.

He took a club trick with ace, discarded club on ♥A and played queen of clubs for ruffing finesse. Asia covered it immediately with king, ruffed it in hand. He cashed trumps but had to discard something from dummy.

He knew that Zofia had 5 spades and 2 hearts. If clubs are 4-2 and Kx of diamonds is on side, he has to discard the club but if there are 3 clubs and 3 diamonds in North hand he needs to preserve 3 clubs in dummy. After long analysis he decided to discard diamond and made his slam, earning 11 IMPs for his team in the very first board of the match.

The right guess was based on psychological clues. Giovanni told me that 9 of clubs looked suspicious to him – he assumed that with 109xx Zofia, reigning European woman champion from Ostend, would try to mislead him, leading low. Well played!

Tomorrow next 5 rounds of Qualification Swiss will be played. Round 6 starts from the match ITALY 1 – CHINA 2 at the table 1. Draw to the next rounds will be announced before each one.