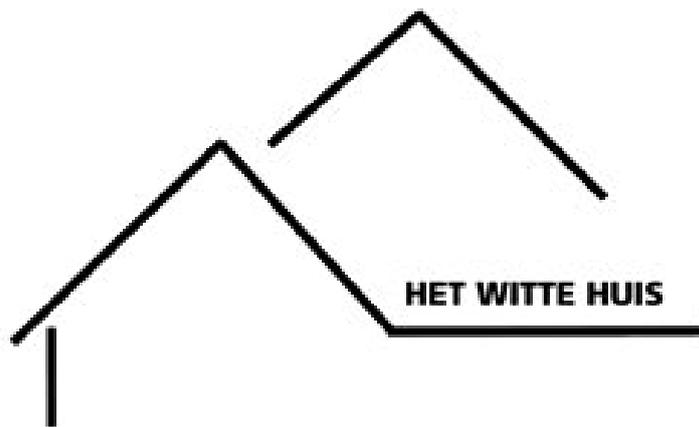


# **White House Junior Internationals 2018**

## **Info and programme**



**25 – 30 March 2018**

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## Introduction

Dear players, sponsors and staff,

After a quarter of a century, Kees has decided to retire from organizing the White House Junior tournament. Once started as an international youth tournament in 's Hertogenbosch (in the "Carrousel" discotheque: play during the day, party at night) the tournament has evolved to one of the most important benchmarks voor youth bridge worldwide, thanks to Kees' efforts.

However, the man can't live without his beloved bridge youth, so he'll be attending the tables as a kibitzer this week. We as ex-juniors want to thank him for his determination and persistence, since there's probably no ex-junior who is currently playing in the highest ranks that hasn't attended the WHJ once or more.

We also want to thank Anneke Simons, Agnes Snellers, Wubbo de Boer, Hans Kelder, all BBO volunteers and the practical support of Hans van Staveren, Jacob Duschek, Bram Ziegeler and Gabriel Kusters for their efforts of making this tournament a success.

Obviously, this tournament can't be held without the help of main sponsors Max Abram and Herman Drenkelford. Their continuous support during the past decade has been very valuable for the development of international youth bridge. Of course, lots of others have contributed to the continuation of the WHJ as well. Their names are listed on the next page.

Finally, we want to wish everyone the best of luck. Be nice, be fair and foremost: Have Fun!

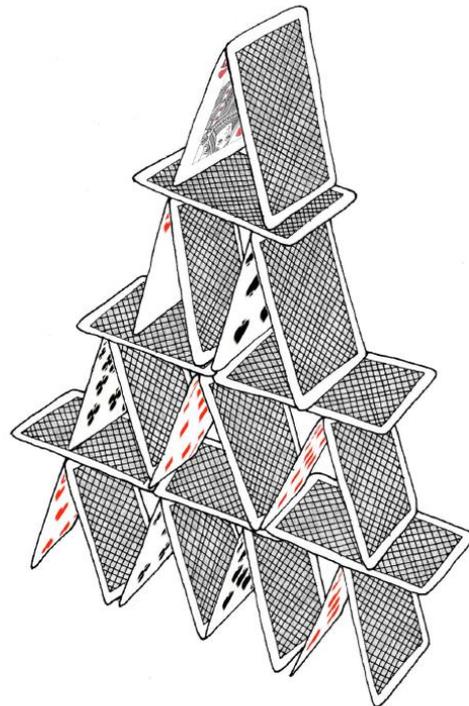
Bob Drijver and Tim Heeres

## Sponsors

Max Abram  
Herman Drenkelford  
Eveline Kamerbeek (Alpha Bridge)  
Andor van Munnen (Vin Munnen)  
Dennis Dijkstra (Flow Traders)  
Joop van Zanten  
Anne Schoonen  
Onno Janssens  
Jan van Gool  
Hans Grauw  
Hans van Woensel  
Andries van der Vegt  
Jeroen Bruggeman  
Rick Schouw  
Joke Gotink  
Mas Koekenbier  
Gerard Schuijt  
Rolf Schreuder  
James Gerritsen  
Cees Sint  
Jet Pasma & Chris Niemeijer  
Jessica van der Wiel  
Rob & Petra Kaas  
Peter van der Gaast  
René Stienen  
Bep Vriend & Anton Maas

Danny Molenaar  
Merijn Groenenboom  
Niek Brink  
Rob Donkersloot  
Meike Wortel  
Petra Erne  
Elly Schippers  
Ricardo Westerbeek & Carla van Rooijen

And all sponsors who played the sponsor drive



## Programme

### SUNDAY March 25

11.00 Het Witte Huis opens, reception of participants & guests

12.00 Welcome speech and opening of WHJI-2018

12.30-17.00 Patton Team Tournament

### MONDAY March 26

10.30: Captains Meeting (comments and suggestions can be e-mailed in advance)

#### Qualification

11.00 - 12.25	Match one (ten boards)
12.35 - 14.00	Two
14.10 - 15.35	Three
15.45 - 17.10	Four
17.20 - 18.45	Five
18.45 - 19.30	Dinner

*Qualification: 11 matches of 10 boards in two groups of 12 teams; the groups are of equal strength based upon ranking in previous junior European/World events.*

### TUESDAY March 27

#### Qualification

11.30 - 12.55	Six
13.05 - 14.30	Seven
14.40 - 16.05	Eight
16.15 - 17.40	Nine
17.40 - 18.40	Dinner
18.40 - 20.05	Ten
20.15 - 21.40	Eleven

*Teams that finish 1-6 of their group progress to intermediate final A (12 teams), results of the matches against teams from their own group are carried forward, six matches of ten boards against the teams from other group: 1 till 7 qualify for the quarter-final. Teams that finish 7-12 in their group progress to intermediate final B (12 teams), results of matches against teams of their own group are carried forward; six matches of ten boards against the teams from the other group. Winner of B earns quarterfinal place .*

## WEDNESDAY March 28

### Intermediate finals A and B

11.30 - 12.55	Match One
13.05 - 14.30	Two
14.40 - 16.05	Three
16.15 - 17.40	Four
17.40 - 18.40	Dinner
18.40 - 20.05	Five
20.15 - 21.40	Six

## THURSDAY March 29

**Finals B/C/D/E** (3 matches of 14 boards),  
*in groups of four determined by vips after 17 matches*

11.30 - 13.30	Match one
13.45 - 15.45	Two
16.00 - 18.00	Three
18.00 - 19.30	Dinner

**Quarter Final** (two sessions of 14 boards)

Q1: 1A may choose from 5A/6A/7A/1B

Q2: 2A may choose from 5A/6A/7A/1B(except team chosen by 1A)

Q3: 3A may choose from 5A/6A/7A/1B(except teams chosen by 1A and 2A)

Q4: 4A plays the remaining team

11.30 - 13.30	Session one
13.45 - 15.45	Session two

*(Facultative: losing QF-teams can choose to take the evening off or play consolation matches with same boards as in SF)*

**Semi Final** (two sessions of 14 boards)

winner QF 1 versus winner QF 4, winner QF 2 versus winner QF 3

*(two teams from the same country will play each other)*

16.00 - 18.00	Session one
18.00 - 19.30	Dinner (plus some prizes and presents)
19.30 - 21.30	Three

**FRIDAY March 30**

**Final (3x14)**

(Facultative : Play-off for third place)

11.00 - 13.00	Session one
13.15 - 15.15	Session two
15.30 - 17.30	Session three

**Matchpoint Pairs tournament**

13.15 - 17.00	all participants as well as captains, coaches and guests, transnational partnerships are welcome to play
17.30 - 19.00	distribution of Carrousel Cup for the winners



**Wine bar & Wine shop**  
Thu-Sun from 12:00 onwards

info@meestersinwijn.com  
+31 43 8528017  
St. Pieterstraat 52A  
Maastricht

## Group distribution

### Group Diamonds

Sweden  
Singapore  
Czech Republic  
Japan  
Norway  
England White  
Germany  
Finland  
Ireland  
Israel White  
Netherlands Red  
Netherlands White

### Group Hearts

Poland  
England Red  
China  
Greece  
Latvia  
Austria  
Denmark  
Hungary  
Belgium  
Israel blue  
Netherlands Blue  
Netherlands Orange



## **Rules and Regulations**

### **Seating rights in Quarter Finals, Semifinals and Finals**

- The higher ranking team may choose one session to have rights, in which case their opponents get the other session(s).
- Alternatively the higher ranking team may pass this choice to their opponents, who then get one session of their choice, and the higher ranking team gets the other(s).

### **Tiebreaker**

- In Qualification and IF: result in mutual match. If it's still a tie: higher imp balance.
- In QF, SF and Final: the team with the higher vip total in the Swiss wins.

### **Systems**

- All systems are allowed. Red and Yellow agreements have to be announced a day before play to the tournament directors.
- Every pair is requested to print and bring two completely filled in convention cards and hand these over to the opponents before start of play.

### **Appeal**

There is no possibility to appeal a decision by the tournament directors. They will take their decision after extensive consultation with each other, the coaches and expert players.

### **BBO**

We would like it if the participants agree to play on BBO. The teams playing on BBO will be announced as soon as possible. However, if you have any problems with playing on BBO, please let your captain announce this to the tournament director.

### **Drinks and food in The White House**

- It is not allowed to bring drinks or food from outside to Het Witte Huis. There are three consumptions (non-alcoholic, one of the coins for a toast) for free per person per day.
- Alcoholic beverages at the table during the matches are not permitted.

## 25 years is a junior's life time - Kees Tammens

### Early beginnings

It all started in October 1992 with that phenomenal telephone call "I have a million guilders and I heard you know how to spend it for junior bridge". Jan Rijnaarts en Fons van Bokhoven kicked off the first International Youth Bridge Festival 's-Hertogenbosch with a bang. In the next twelve years juniors from over 30 countries travelled to this beautiful city in the southern part of the Netherlands. Roland Rohowski, Alfredo Versace, Bartosz Chmurski, Andrei Gromow, Boye Brogeland, Fredrick Nystrøm, Joe Grue and Simon de Wijs are only a few of the juniors (the impressive list is too long to fully publicize) that participated in Den Bosch and carried on to win international titles in the 'real' bridge world. In the first edition in 1993 Germany took the victory.

Of course bridge was the main dish, but juniors have a great imagination and succeeded in creating many awkward situations. A Greek junior was not satisfied with the bridge results of his team and took the train to Brussels to try his fortune at the blackjack table. Did his luck change? Not at all, in the middle of the night the organisers got a startling phone-call. "Please pick me up, all my money has disappeared!". No problem at all, the organiser jumped in his car, drove to Belgium and the junior made it on time for the next bridge session.

A semi-final in 1994 between Italy and Great Britain got to a horrifying ending:

West/All	NORTH	
	♠ 9 5	
	♥ 10 9 6	
	♦ 9 6	
	♣ A K Q 7 6 3	
WEST		EAST
♠ J 8		♠ K 10 7 6 4 3 2
♥ K J 8 7 2		♥ --
♦ 4 2		♦ K 8 7 3
♣ 9 8 5 2		♣ J 10
	SOUTH	
	♠ A Q	
	♥ A Q 5 4 3	
	♦ A Q J 10 5	
	♣ 4	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♣	1♠	2♥
pass	3♣	pas	3♠
pass	4♥	pass	4♠
pass	5♣	pass	6♥
double	pass	pass	6NT
pass	pass	pass	

Not wishing to blow a ♠-trick, the Italian junior as West (who would develop to become one of the most successful bridge players in the world, with many European and World titles to his credit, nowadays playing for Monaco) elected the ♦4 as his lead, diamonds being the only unbid suit. This became costly when East decided to put up ♦K and thus providing declarer a valuable entry (♦9) to dummy. Declarer gave up a club and had enough tricks for +1440.

The foundation 'Stichting Bridgestad Den Bosch' also took care of the youngest of bridge-players that played minibridge (bridge without bidding). Then eleven year young Bas Tammens assisted the organiser and asked a Dutch junior as partner for the opening pro-am. In the very first board he acted as a bridge player, he suffered an enormous blow.

North/NS

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♦	pass	2♦

The first bidding lesson South got instructed to him was to support an opening bid by partner as soon as possible. he picked up ♠ 8 4 3 ♥ 5 4 ♦ Q 10 8 4 3 ♣ Q J 3, needing 6-9 points for a single raise of 1♦ to 2♦. South borrowed one point and responded bravely with 2♦. The next bid by his partner made the youngster tumble from his chair:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♦	pass	2♦
pass	6♦	pass	pass
pass			

With some reluctance South placed his hand as dummy on the table: "Thank you very much, you look beautiful!" sounded the comment, which made the mini bridge player very happy, after which North (♠ -- ♥ A 7 3 ♦ A K 9 5 2 ♣ A K 8 6 5) in quick tempo, to great astonishment and joy of South, took all thirteen tricks.

In 1999, Frankie, a Dutch junior, announced that due to exams in his scientific university studies, he would not be available for the international junior tournament in 's-Hertogenbosch. He would however be present in the pro-am preceding the event. It became late that evening and he stayed in the house of Jan and his wife Mia. Next morning one of the Dutch juniors had a delay with his transport so Frank duly stepped in as a substitute. After two sessions Frank had done his duties and we all expected to see him leave the premises. One of the Czech girls was not feeling well and it would be impolite for Frank to decline the invitation to fill that empty spot. To make a long story short: Frank stayed and played in all sessions until the last match on Friday, dividing his time between as much as six different countries. In the meantime Mia and daughter Soof went to shop for clean shirts and underwear so Frank would at least look decent. It came as no surprise that Saturday night, very late during the closing party, Frank was still seen dancing away. And his exams? He turned out to be a fine student finishing his studies in time.

The junior internationals in the Netherlands are only possible with the support of many sponsors and cosponsors as well as the assistance of enthusiastic bridge lovers. Numerous guest-parents that hosted the juniors in 's-Hertogenbosch, the captains and coaches from all countries that accompany the teams, the staff onsite and the input of many bridge friends. One of them was Tommie Nooij who almost on his own, in the middle of the night – while everybody else was partying - in the kitchen of café 'Het Veulen' prepared the final bulletin. His own moment of glory:

East/NS	NORTH	
	♠ Q	
	♥ A K Q 6 5 2	
	♦ 6 4 2	
	♣ Q 4 2	
WEST		EAST
♠ 7		♠ J 10 9 4 2
♥ 3		♥ 10
♦ A K Q J 9 8 3		♦ 5
♣ A K J 3		♣ 10 9 8 7 6 5
	SOUTH	
	♠ A K 8 6 5 3	
	♥ J 9 8 7 4	
	♦ 10 7	
	♣ --	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		pass	2 ♦
5 ♦	double	pass	pass
pass			

Tommy overcalled the multi-2♦ with 5♦, maybe fearing to have missed a slam. North, a former world champion, lead was ♥A and switched to a trump. Declarer took three rounds of diamonds followed by ♣A (disappointment that South did not follow suit), ♣K and ♣J for ♣Q in North who tried to cash ♥K. That was +550 for EW, increased by +1860 when West tried to cash ♣A against 6♥ doubled.

A Dutch junior showed in 2004 his own view on a certain bidding situation:

East/all

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		2 ♦	double
redouble	pass	pass	??

SOUTH: ♠ Q J ♥ K 7 2 ♦ K 8 2  
♣ K Q 7 3 2

Dutch South to Polish East:  
 “What does redouble mean?”  
 East: “He wants to play 2♦ redoubled. What does your partner’s pass show?. Our hero on the south spot bit his tongue and replied with a cheerful “He also”. Only to find out that after the ♣K-lead East made all thirteen tricks. South went after his junior period (gold in Jesolo, 2007) for a career in options trading and did very well in that respect, so the – 2760 he lost in the above mentioned board he can now easily afford.



The Carrousel Cup is what it's all about. Established in 2002 and named after a famous and by juniors frequently visited discotheque in 's-Hertogenbosch. Which country may engrave its name in the 2018 edition of WHJI?

### **Continuation in Café 2♣**

2004 was the last festival (finally the immense money bag was emptied) in 's-Hertogenbosch and the international junior team tournament seemed to end there. However Giovanni Falavigna, the founder of bridge and chess pub '2♣', the place where the author of this introduction spends much of his time in playing different sorts of card-games and even sometimes bridge, came to the rescue and invited the juniors in 2005 to his café in the centre of Amsterdam.

Koos Nobel (of Nobel, van Dijk & partners; although nobody ever saw this person van Dijk and also never met any of the partners) had already been filling the junior purse for quite some time, made this team tournament financially possible, albeit with only eight countries due to limited playing space. Not one junior objected about this move, especially due to the fact of many coffee-shops situated in the environment of '2♣', with nice but strange smelling substances for sale.

Giovanni himself, in his younger days a fine cook, took on the job of feeding a group of 60 always hungry juniors every day. In the morning he went to the food market to buy meat, fish and vegetables. He spent the whole afternoon in the kitchen, preparing delicious meals. And to make things even better: he took care himself of the cheque for all those dinners!

The juniors enjoyed playing in '2♣' but were extremely happy when Max Abram and Herman Drenkelford came with an offer nobody could or would refuse: "We saw that the junior internationals in 2♣ lacked the for a bigger tournament necessary space. We have a bridge-home in Amsterdam called 'Het Witte Huis' that offers enough room for 24 teams, come and play there!"



**Herman & Max**

## Het Witte Huis

So in 2006 we saw the birth of the White House Junior Internationals and in 2018 we celebrate the 13-th edition of WHJI which has grown to a famous name amongst junior bridge players from all over the world, the 26-th consecutive international junior event in the Netherlands.

During all those fabulous years we remember some very curious moments.

In 2008 the semi-final between Netherlands Red and Netherlands Blue ended after 42 boards in a draw: 55-55, and two extra boards were required. History repeated itself quickly when also the final between Israel and the Netherlands Red ended in 52-52, and again a tiebreaker of two boards was needed to decide about victory: Israel won.

From 2009 onwards a special couple joined the junior bridge community: Agnes Snellers and Wubbo de Boer adopted the Dutch juniors as if they were children of their own. Not only do they organise the junior scene but also were very success-full as captains during world junior championships (gold in Taicang 2012, silver in Istanbul 2014) and even better as teammates productive in a foursome with Dutch juniors: look at the impressive win in the 2015 Cavendish Teams in Monte Carlo.

Winning White House Junior Internationals is a great achievement and gives a big edge in next championships: in 2010 Israel won WHJI as well as the world championships in Philadelphia, the Netherlands repeated this double victory in 2012 (Taicang) and Norway kept in pace with the win in WHJI-2014 as well as in Istanbul, while Poland could not stay behind with first place in Amsterdam-2016 and the world title in Salsomaggiore. Which country will follow this good example in 2018?

The final of WHJI-2017 was nail-biting and exciting with a strong Poland leading with a pretty margin for almost all boards. The Netherlands fought back and closed the gap on the next to last board:

South/all NORTH  
 ♠ Q 9 2  
 ♥ 10 6 4 2  
 ♦ 4  
 ♣ A J 9 7 2

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

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

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1 ♠
2 ♦	2 ♠	pass	4 ♦
pass	4 ♥	double	redouble
pass	4 NT	pass	5 ♦
pass	6 ♠	pass	pass
pass			

South, Michel Schols, gave an optimistic view with 4♦ and the redouble after 4♥ (North, Ricardo Westerbeek, had a super maximum for his 2♠-raise and threw in a 'last train'- 4♥ cuebid). ♣Q behaved well and the Netherlands won +13 imps against 680 at the other table to tie the match 105-105. And the +1 imp on the last board on an overtrick settled the match in Dutch advantage.

With Bob Drijver (2006-2011) and Tim Heeres (2003-2008), in parenthesis their junior years, White House Junior Internationals found a great duo to overtake the organisation. Anneke Simons, without who the first 25 years never would have been possible and yours truly will gladly play the pro-am, are planning to watch matches live at the table in het Witte Huis and without any doubt will follow BBO all week long. As special treat we will provide WHJI-2018 with an abundance of stroopwafels (Marek Markowski, don't fear). We are convinced that Bob and Tim will do a great job. Juniors, let's play cards!

Kees Tammens

## Former winners

### **International Youth Bridge Festival ´s Hertogenbosch(1993-2004)**

1993: Germany	Runners up: England
1994: Denmark	Runners up: England
1995: Norway	Runners up: Belgium
1996: Russia	Runners up: Netherlands
1997: Italy	Runners up: Norway
1998: Norway	Runners up: Netherlands
1999: Canada	Runners up: Norway
2000: Austria	Runners up: USA
2001: Norway	Runners up: Canada
2002: Netherlands	Runners up: USA
2003: Netherlands	Runners up: Denmark
2004: USA	Runners up: Norway

### **Twee Klaveren Junior Internationals, Amsterdam**

2005: Poland	Runners up: England
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### **White House Junior Internationals, Amsterdam**

2006: Norway	Runners up: Poland
2007: Norway	Runners up: Israel
2008: Israel	Runners up: Netherlands
2009: Israel	Runners up: Poland
2010: Italy	Runners up: France
2011: Israel	Runners up: France
2012: Netherlands	Runners up: Israel
2013: Argentina/Uruguay/Norway	Runners up: Hungary
2014: Norway	Runners up: Germany
2015: Sweden	Runners up: Poland
2016: Poland	Runners up: Netherlands Blue
2017: Netherlands	Runners up: Poland



