Dutch Juniors Pairs Championship

The White House Juniors International Teams Tournament 2016 only starts today, but Juniors were invited to play in the Dutch Juniors Pairs Championship on Saturday in Utrecht. An incredible number of 20 foreign pairs joined the Dutch Pairs to double the field number.

In the early rounds of the Pairs Championship board 3 was interesting: Non-vulnerable against Vulnerable North held: ♠ KT943 ♥ 54 ♦ – ♣ AKJ932

Partner passes and you hear 1♠ on your right. What do you overcall? A junior coach would be proud of a junior player bidding 2♣ here. An opening with a six-card suit, just as you have here. Some players like to overcall on everything, even at the 2-level, but this hand is surely worth it. In the tournament I heared stories of a player passing this hand, while at other tables 2♣, 4♣ or even 5♣ were bid.

Spel 3
Z/OW

	♠KT943 ♥54 ♦- ♣AKJ932	
♠AQJ52 ♥AKJ82 ♦T2 ♣5	N W O Z	♠86 ♥T93 ♦AQJ9865 ♣6
	♠7 ♥Q76 ♦K743 ♣QT874	

Some of the bidding sequences:

South	*West*	*North*	*East*
pass	1♠	pass	1NT
2♣ *	DBL	2♦ *	4♣
4♥	5♣	5♠	pass
pass	DBL	all pass	

2♣ = Gazzilli; 2♦ = 8+, asking
Result: 5♠X -6, NS +1700 (100%)

South	*West*	*North*	*East*
pass	1♠	4♣	pass
5♣	DBL	pass	5♦
all pass			

Result: 5♦ -2, NS +200 (92%)

South	*West*	*North*	*East*
pass	1♠	2♣	3♦
4♣	all pass		

Result: 4♣ =, NS +130 (83%)

Many North-South pairs got to play in the normal 5♣ doubled for just 22%.

In the second session a brave East got rewarded for not letting North-South play too low.

Spel 7
Z/A

	♠A9 ♥J96 ♦AK9653 ♣T2	
♠T75 ♥KT82 ♦2 ♣KQ843	N W O Z	♠QJ86 ♥A7 ♦QJT8 ♣J95
	♠K432 ♥Q543 ♦74 ♣A76	

West	*North*	*East*	*South*
			pass
pass	1♦	pass	1♥
pass	2♦	pass	pass
dbl	pass	2♠	3♦
pass	pass	dbl	all pass

After the trump lead declarer lost 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and a club for -200 and only 8% for NS. Credits to West for balancing. 2♠ might just make (it was played once for 8 tricks) and East also earned a lot of points by doubling 3♦.

In the end Chris and Ricardo Westerbeek won the tournament, averaging 62%. Simon Ekenberg & Simon Hult took 2nd place with just over 60%.

Final results:

1.	Chris and Ricardo Westerbeek (NET)	61,97%
2.	Simon Ekenberg & Simon Hult (SWE)	60,40%
3.	Soren Christian Bune & Victor Todd-Moir (DEN)	59,64%
4.	Guy Mendes de Leon & Thibo Sprinkhuizen (NET)	59,01%
5.	Pim Coppens & Bob Donkersloot (NET)	58,88%

Winners of the Dutch Juniors Pairs Championship: Chris & Ricardo Westerbeek