

**Thursday 25**  
**Dennis Stuurman**

**Semi-finals first half**

The quarterfinals of the White House Juniors mostly went according to plan. Sweden, Norway and Poland beat Germany Red, Netherlands White and England Red respectively and rather big. The match between Netherlands Red en Netherlands Blue was much closer however and in the end Netherlands Blue won by 82-61. A few boards from that match:

1. EAST: ♠ AKQT832 ♥ Q ♦ QT5 ♣ K8

You are non-vulnerable against vulnerable and North opens 1♣, 2+. How high do you go?

2. EAST: ♠ KJ9875 ♥ - ♦ T7642 ♣ Q8

Both sides vulnerable. What do you open?

1.

Spel 5  
N/NZ

♠ J764  
 ♥ AK8  
 ♦ AKJ  
 ♣ Q107

♠ 9  
 ♥ J9753  
 ♦ 43  
 ♣ J6542

♠ AKQ10832  
 ♥ Q  
 ♦ Q105  
 ♣ K8

♠ 5  
 ♥ 10642  
 ♦ 98762  
 ♣ A93

West	North	East	South
C Westerbeek	Mendes de Leon	R Westerbeek	Sprinkhuizen
-	1♣	4♠	pass
pass	DBL	ap.	

Ricardo Westerbeek for Netherlands Red overcalled 4♠ and got doubled. ♣ Ace lead, but no mistakes thereafter, so down three. NS +500.

West	North	East	South
<i>Coppens</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Donkersloot</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
-	1♣	1♠	DBL
pass	2NT	ap.	

Bob Donkersloot for Blue took the low route and found himself on lead against 2NT. He started with some top spades and set up the suit. When declarer tried to clear diamonds, Donkersloot could cash his remaining spades. Down two, NS -200 and 12 IMPs to Netherlands Blue.

2.

**Spel 10**  
O/A

♠64  
♥KQ98  
♦KJ93  
♣A103

♠10  
♥A10742  
♦AQ8  
♣J542

♠KJ9875  
♥-  
♦107642  
♣Q8

♠AQ32  
♥J653  
♦5  
♣K976

West	North	East	South
<i>C Westerbeek</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>R Westerbeek</i>	<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>
-	-	3♠	pass
pass	DBL	ap.	

Ricardo again chose an aggressive opening with 3♠ and got doubled again. Down three again, NS +800.

West	North	East	South
<i>Coppens</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Donkersloot</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
-	-	2♦	pass
2♠	DBL	ap.	

Bob Donkersloot again chose the lower route and was doubled a trick lower. Only +500 for NS and 7 IMPs to Blue, contributing to a 53-24 half time lead that could not be overcome in the second set.

## Semi-finals

**Spel 4**  
**W/A**

♠ A6  
♥ A7  
♦ KQ72  
♣ 96542

♠ 1084  
♥ KQ1083  
♦ 83  
♣ AKQ

♠ KJ32  
♥ 2  
♦ AJ1065  
♣ J107

♠ Q975  
♥ J9654  
♦ 94  
♣ 83

W O Z N

Sweden got to play Netherlands Blue in the semi-finals with Norway playing against Poland in the other match.

West	North	East	South
<i>Coppens</i>	<i>Gullberg</i>	<i>Donkersloot</i>	<i>Ekenberg</i>
1♥	pass	1♠	pass
1NT	DBL	RDBL	pass
pass	2♣	pass	pass
DBL	ap.		

Gullberg made a take-out DBL for the minors at his second turn, but paid a big price for it. Donkersloot could RDBL to show points and Coppens in turn could DBL for penalties. Heart lead to the Ace and a top diamond to the Ace. Donkersloot now returned a club to West's Queen. Coppens cashed the Queen of hearts and also played the King, ruffed and overruffed. Donkersloot again exited a club to West, who returned a diamond and Gullberg ducked this to the ten. East returned another diamond for West to ruff and West could lead a spade through. Down three, NS -800.

At the other table Hult and Ekenberg reached 3NT with the East-West hands. That went one off. 14 IMPs to Netherlands Blue.

**Spel 8**  
**W/-**

♠ A109  
♥ 10  
♦ K8632  
♣ J942

♠ 864  
♥ AK84  
♦ Q954  
♣ 53

♠ KJ32  
♥ QJ53  
♦ A  
♣ AQ86

♠ Q75  
♥ 9762  
♦ J107  
♣ K107

W O Z N

After East-West bid 1♣ - 1♥ - 4♥ Daniel Gullberg chose the lead of the nine of spades. That went to the Jack and Queen and Gronkvist returned a heart won by the Ace. Coppens now took a club finesse and South could win to play a second heart. Declarer won with the eight and played Ace of clubs and ruffed a club. Diamond Ace and another club ruff gave South a chance to pitch a spade. Coppens now played up a spade, but the defense could not go wrong anymore when Gullberg took the Ace. A diamond set up a long trump in the South hand and a spade just gave a ruff. One down, NS +50. That looked like a nice result coming from that lead.

At the other table Hult was declarer in the same contract, but from the East hand after a transfer response to the 1♣-opening. Sprinkhuizen led the Jack of diamonds. Hult crossed to dummy with a trump to take the losing club finesse and Sprinkhuizen returned a trump. A club ruff and spade to Jack and Queen gave South a chance to play another trump. North-South could now cash a club and score another trump trick. Down two, NS +100.

The Swedes scored well on the part score hands, picking up quite a lot of IMPs there. But the Dutch took another game swing at the end of the first set:

**Spel 14**  
O/-

♠875432  
♥J643  
♦J10  
♣2

♠96  
♥K52  
♦A5432  
♣K98

W N  
Z O

♠AKQ  
♥A9  
♦Q76  
♣A7643

♠J10  
♥Q1087  
♦K98  
♣QJ105

West	North	East	South
<i>Ekenberg</i>	<i>Mendes de Leon</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Sprinkhuizen</i>
-	-	1♣	pass
1♠	pass	2♦	pass
2♠	pass	2NT	pass
3NT	ap.		

Hult and Ekenberg bid to 3NT from the East side, again after a transfer response to 1♣. Sprinkhuizen chose a small heart to the Jack and Ace. Declarer started on clubs, but the 4-1 break showed nothing good there. Hult then switched his attention to diamonds, but again no luck there. The defense set up their hearts and cashed 2 down. NS +100.

West	North	East	South
<i>Coppens</i>	<i>Gullberg</i>	<i>Donkersloot</i>	<i>Gronkvist</i>
-	-	1♣	pass
1♦	pass	2NT	pass
3NT	ap.		

A natural sequence to the same contract. Gronkvist led the Ten of clubs (high from two honors, 3rd from 3 honors) and that gave declarer a tempo to set up the suit. 10 tricks and NS -430 and 11 IMPs to Netherlands Blue.

In the match Norway - Poland the same score line developed. Poland took the small IMPs, Norway the big ones. On board 14 the Poles overbid to slam:

West	North	East	South
<i>Marks</i>	<i>Eide</i>	<i>Majcher</i>	<i>Grude</i>
-	-	1♣	pass
2♠	pass	4♣	pass
6♣	ap.		

2♠ showed 10-11 or 18-19 balanced. 4♣ seemed to be natural, expecting some club support. 6♣ had no play and went 3 off. With 3NT +1 (club lead also) that meant 11 IMPs to Norway.

The final scores of the first set were

**Sweden - Netherlands Blue 25 - 37**

**Norway - Poland 29 - 27**