

TOURNAMENT REPORT

From 18th to 22nd of August in Jurmala was held annual international bridge tournament Riga Invites to Jurmala 2010.

The first tournament Riga Invites was held in 2004 in Riga's Bridge Club. It was just by invitations and was made as a friendship tournament between Riga and other cities of former USSR, but also with participants from Finland and Sweden.

Since 2007 the tournament is held in Jurmala, it is open for everyone and consists of three tournaments – Invitation pairs, Open Teams tournament and Open Pairs tournament. The program is the same all years – Invitational pairs (scoring is on IMPs) on Wednesday, the Teams tournament consists from 9 rounds by Swiss system, with semi finals and finals on Friday evening, Open Pairs (MP scoring) are played on Saturday and 3rd session on Sunday.

The venue and playing is great: Baltic Beach Hotel is located at the sea shore and the players can enjoy good climate, fresh air, professional tournament directors from Russia, friendly atmosphere and enough time in-between the sessions.

Jurmala – the largest resort city in the Baltic States is well-known for its natural treasures – the mild climate, sea, healthy air, curative mud and mineral water. The attraction of Jurmala hides in its almost 33 km long white sand beach, the large pine forest and the natural border of the city – the river Lielupe. You can taste delicious and healthy food in Jurmala's restaurants and cafes, walk along the central promenade of Jomas street, explore the eco-trails in Kemer National Park and Ragakapa National Park, visit the famous concert hall Dzintari or simply watch the sunset on Jurmala beach!



Baltic Beach Hotel – the Venue of the tournament

But the tournament is not just for relaxing – every year the tournament is getting bigger and stronger and it's getting tougher to win. So let's move to some boards and decisions.

INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Invitational tournament was played on Wednesday evening. 24 pairs played 7 rounds by 4 boards, Swiss system. First and second table was broadcasted on BBO and many people could see a lot of slams in one session.

Board No. 3 was first big decision time:

DLR: S

VUL: EW

♠AKQ983		
♥3		
♦K972		
♣62		
♠--		♠J76
♥AQ10752	3	♥KJ9
♦AQ8		♦J64
♣AJ93		♣KQ74
♠10542		
♥864		
♦1053		
♣1085		

After W opens 1♥ or 1♣ (playing strong club or Polish club), N leaps to 4♠. Now it is very hard for EW reach 6♥ and the slam was bid on only half of the tables.

Not every day you pick up such a beautiful hand: ♠AKQJ; ♥AK64; ♦A942; ♣A. Sitting on the 4th hand maybe you start to fantasy about your strongest opening, but RHO breaks your dream with 5♣ opening! What should you do and why? The full deal:

DLR: W

VUL: None

♠105432		
♥Q107		
♦Q653		
♣J		
♠976		♠8
♥J9532		♥8
♦K107	8	♦J8
♣Q10		♣K98765432
♠AKQJ		
♥AK64		
♦A942		
♣A		

Most of the pairs doubled and later took just four aces and +300 in 5♣x. Those who had take-out double available or who bid 6♣ as a take-out, reached 6♠ and 11 IMPs.

On board 13 there was one more slam again:

DLR: N

VUL: Both

♠A64		
♥J54		
♦J9854		
♣J6		
♠Q98		♠5
♥KQ973		♥A106
♦Q	13	♦AK106
♣KQ32		♣A9875
♠KJ10732		
♥82		
♦732		
♣104		

Both 6♣ and 6♥ are makeable, but 6♣ are much better, but were reached only by Ben Hayes -Janis Neimanis and Maija Romanovska - Karlis Rubins. Karlis, sitting on W, had rather easy decision, because he knew that partner has at least 5 clubs, exactly 3 hearts, 14-15 points and singleton in spades. After checking the aces, he could bid best slam in clubs. It would be much harder to make proper decision, if the scoring was on match points. Anyway, they lost one IMP for safety, but gained +5 against the field.

After 6 rounds, the first and second place was tied between Russians Dmitrij Prokhorov - Vadim Kholomeev and Latvians Maija Romanovska - Karlis Rubins. All 4 boards were tough and had both good and bad decisions. At first, what would you bid, holding: ♠AJ52; ♥A842; ♦KJ3; ♣74, and the bidding goes?

You are vulnerable against not, RHO opens the bidding:

RHO	You	LHO	Partner
2♠ *	Pass	3♠ **	Dbl ***
pass	?		

2♠ = ♠&minor, 7-10

3♠ = not invitational

Dbl = take-out

Russians made big pressure and it was hard for Maija to make the best decision. She tried 4♥, but the winner was 3NT... The full deal:

DLR: N

VUL: EW

♠KQ974			
♥10			
♦10962			
♣K105			
♠3			♠AJ52
♥KJ7			♥A842
♦A875	25		♦KJ3
♣AQ982			♣74
		♠1086	
		♥Q9653	
		♦Q4	
		♣J63	

9 IMPs and the lead for Russians. But not so fast.

After aggressive and fast bidding you have to decide what to lead, holding: ♠10765; ♥10983; ♦8; ♣AJ104.

Both are vulnerable, Partner opens the bidding:

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
pass	4♠	5♥	5♠
Pass	6♠	All pass	



Feeling that opponents probably have void in hearts, Karlis anyway led small heart and soon later was back on track, because this lead made a trump trick or the heart trick for the defense and gained 12 IMPs for the Latvians and the lead in tournament. Whole hand:

DLR: E		VUL: Both
	♠AQJ4	
	♥--	
	♦KQJ63	
	♣KQ95	
♠10765		♠--
♥10983	26	♥AKJ7542
♦5		♦82
♣AJ104		♣8632
	♠K9832	
	♥Q6	
	♦A10974	
	♣7	

Of course, Latvians were a lucky, that dummy had high spade honors, but they did deserve this result. Probably Prokhorov's bid of 6♠ was too optimistic.

After one aggressive, but low scoring (+1 IMP for Russians) boards, it was time for the 28th board and the greatest lead of the Tournament. Kholomeev, long lasting member of the Russian National team, holding ♠J10976; ♥63; ♦108; ♣AQ73, heard following bidding:

You are vulnerable, RHO opens the bidding:

RHO	You	LHO	Partner
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♥	All pass

2♥ weak two
2♠ relay
3♦ short spades

What would you lead?

DLR: W		VUL: NS
	♠J10976	
	♥63	
	♦108	
	♣AQ73	
♠8		♠AQ5
♥AQ875	28	♥K102
♦J73		♦AKQ4
♣10865		♣J94
	♠K432	
	♥J94	
	♦9652	
	♣K2	

Vadim found the only lead which gives problems for the declarer – small club! Yes, he led ♣3 from this combination and continued clubs also after taking ♣A and ♣Q. Now Rubins had almost impossible guess how to play trumps. After mathematically correct ♥10, the contract was over. Of course, Rubins could pass and not open off-beat 2♥, probably Romanovska could not investigate potential slam, what helped Kholomeev to find this lead, but those 10 IMPs were well deserved and made Kholomeev – Prokhorov the winners of the Invitational tournament.



Vadim Kholomeev

TOP 10 PAIRS

Rank	Players	Country	IMPs
1	Dmitri Prokhorov - Vadim Kholomeev	Russia	61
2	Evgeny Gladyshev - Mikhael Krasnosselski	Russia	54
3	Maija Romanovska - Karlis Rubins	Latvia	45
4	Mart Maastik - Jaan Linnamagi	Estonia	42
5	Ksenia Nekrasova - Ivan Volozhenin	Russia	34
6	Vytautas Vainikonis - Woitek Olanski	Lithuania	34
7	Ugis Jansons - Maris Matisons	Latvia	23
8	Andrejs Milgravis - Gints Rubenis	Latvia	22
9	Ilya Feranchuk - Igor Godun	Belorussia	20
10	Peteris Bethers - Uldis Bethers	Latvia	16



Dmitrij Prokhorov and Vadim Kholomeev enjoying the winner cups from tournament organizers Maija Romanovska and Karlis Rubins

TEAMS TOURNAMENT

The teams tournament was played on Thursday and Friday. Seventeen teams were fighting for four places in semi-finals. After 8 rounds eight teams still had a chance to qualify. Great result (21:9) against tournament favorites team "DYRET" (Dag Tore Roseng, Jan Olav Roseng, Geir Helgemo, Jorgen Molberg, Erik Salensminde and Lars Froland) in round No 9 for the team "EKSPROMT M" (Andrey Shudnev, Bruno Rubenis, Janis Bendiks and Sergei Volkov) was not enough and they finished just one victory point behind team "FINLAND" (Kauko Koistinen, Clas Nyberg, Lasse Utter and Osmo Parviainen).

Other two semifinalists were team "REAL" (Evgeny Gladish, Mikhael Krasnosselski, Vadim Kholomeev and Dmitriy Prokhorov) and team "OMANIK" (Tanel Koivupuu, Mart Maastik, Jaan Linnamagi and Hannes Linnamagi).

Team standings after Round No 9

Rnk	Team	VP
1	REAL (Russia)	164,00
2	DYRET (Norway)	164,00
3	OMANIK (Estonia)	156,00
4	FINLAND (Finland)	147,00
5	EKSPROMT M (LAT / RUS)	146,00
6	SWEDEN O/Y (Sweden)	143,00
7	EVIIJA (LAT / RUS)	143,00

The first team has the rights to pick the opponent for the semi-final and REAL picked OMANIK. It was DYRET Vs FINLAND in second semi-final.

While the semi-finalists were playing just one set of 12 boards to reach the final, rest of the teams were already enjoying banquet with live broadcast on BBO.

In the first semi-final, REAL had a rather easy victory against OMANIK – 58:18.

The other semifinal turned out to be very tough - after 7 boards there results was 14:10 in favor of FINLAND.

As you remember, the semi-final is just 12 boards and you cannot lose concentration in any of them. Looked what happened in board No 8.

DLR: W

VUL: None

♠Q64		
♥KQ1064		
♦AQ73		
♣6		
♠1072		♠AKJ8
♥J832		♥97
♦J5	8	♦K42
♣J1042		♣KQ53
		♠953
		♥A5
		♦10986
		♣A987

The bidding:

W	N	E	S
Pass	1♣*	1NT	Double
All pass			

Koistinen – Nyberg, members of Finland's National team, play "Magic Diamond" system and the opening showed 12-16 unbalanced (including 5332 with a major) or 15-17 NT. Nyberg's double of natural, balanced 1NT ended the auction and he found good lead of the ♦10.

This lead with precise defense could lead to just 4 tricks for the declarer and +500 for defenseman, but good start was spoiled.

After Kauko played ♦A and returned small diamond, Erik ducked, took the 3rd trick with ♦K (discarding small spade) and played ♣K, ducked. Salensminde continued with small club to the 10 (Koistinen discarding ♠6 – trying to discourage this suit). And this position arrived:

DLR: W		VUL: None	
	♠Q4		
	♥KQ1064		
	♦7		
	♣-		
♠107		♠AKJ8	
♥J832		♥97	
♦-	8	♦-	
♣J4		♣Q5	
	♠953		
	♥A5		
	♦9		
	♣A9		

Now declarer could take 7 tricks, but he continued clubs one more time and Nyberg ducked again (Koistinen discarding ♠4)!

This time it was enough for Erik, who played spades from the top and collected +280 and very lucky 6 IMPs to give DYRET 2 IMP lead in the match.

On board No 10 Norwegians showed better hand evolution: holding ♠J9; ♥AQ9; ♦732; ♣AKQJ10 Salensminde upgraded the hand and open 1♣, later showing 18-19 balanced, while Parviainen opened heavy 1NT. Parviainen's opening ended the auction in the Open room, while Norwegians reached little lucky, but unbeatable 3NT.

Last board could give some hope for team FINLAND, as Koistinen – Nyberg bid and made 6♦, but this result was duplicated in the Open room too and DYRET had a well deserved victory against FINLAND 25:14.

It was DYRET Vs REAL in the Final and OMANIK Vs FINLAND for the 3rd place.



That's the guy who made 1NT doubled! Team DYRET in banquet after the final

FINALS

In the low scoring match for the 3rd place, OMANIK lost only one IMP and defeated FINLAND 15:1.

The FINAL was much more interesting and I asked Dmitrij Prokhorov to share some boards and emotions with us. So this is his story:

“This year with luck and deemed appropriate amount of local frothy drink, we reached the final. The opponents at our table were Geir Helgemo and Erik Salensminde.

The tactics how to play against them thought Vadik – “Geir has played all possible deals in this world and he knows what to do in any of these boards. That’s why we will try to orientate on his behavior. For example, if he did not bid game it means, that there is no game and we will not bid sacrifice.” If you did not understand much in those mind constructions, don’t worry, because I didn’t too☺.

A little bit bewildered I sat on North and found very friendly and liberated atmosphere around the table. And when in the first board, where I was declarer, I asked Erik for the good lead, Geir immediately replied “Don’t worry!”☺

The key board came on board No 4. I was sitting on the second hand, holding: ♠A32; ♥103; ♦Q62; ♣KJ1098.

All are vulnerable, W opens the bidding:

Geir	Dmitrij	Erik	Vadik
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	2♣	3♠	4♥
Pass	?		

Vadik and I play popular in Russia system “Berjozka”, which is very similar to Polish club. That meant that Vadik has showed 17+ HCP and 5+♥, I showed 5+clubs and my bid was not forcing. It looked like opponents had at least 9 spades – so my partner should have singleton. Of course, he was under pressure and he could be just minimum, but after some five minutes of thought I decided that I have enough values for

the 5th level and bid 4♠. Vadik had a good hand: ♠10; ♥AQ8652; ♦AJ10; ♣AQ2.

After such bidding with his regular partner Yuri Khiouppenen, he could directly bid 7NT, because my bidding would show ♠A; ♥K and ♣K. But looking closer who is sitting in front of him, Vadik decided not to hurry and asked about aces in heart game. The answer disappointed him – it was one ace missing. And in that moment he felt scary doubts No 2 – does my partner have a support? And Vadik made elastic bid of 6♣.

Complete bidding:

Geir	Dmitrij	Erik	Vadik
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	2♣	3♠	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All pass			

1♣ - weak NT or 17 + any

2♣ - natural, NF

3♠ - preemptive

4♠ - cue-bid

4NT – RKCB

5♣ - 1 or 4 aces (including ♥K)

Moor has done his job and can leave. So I was sent for beer. Two mugs for the opponents, two mugs for us, kibitzers kindly refused. I was away for ten minutes, but when I came back, there were just two cards played (one trick for us and one for the opponents), and Geir tensely was thinking about the continuation. He took the beer, relaxed and the fatal card dropped – the queen of spades.

First three tricks:

Geir	Dmitrij	Erik	Vadik
♠K	♠A	♠4	♠10
♥K	♥3	♥7	♥Q
♠Q	♠3	♠5	♠Q

The complete deal:

DLR: W		VUL: Both
♠A32		
♥103		
♦Q62		
♣KJ1098		
♠KQJ87		♠9654
♥KJ94	4	♥7
♦95		♦K8743
♣74		♣653
		♠10
		♥AQ8652
		♦AJ10
		♣AQ2

Board No 8 increased REAL's lead:

DLR: W		VUL: None
♠AKJ9543		
♥K3		
♦K105		
♣K		
♠76		♠Q10
♥J974	8	♥A65
♦63		♦Q82
♣Q10532		♣AJ986
		♠82
		♥Q1082
		♦AJ974
		♣74

After the 3rd trick, Vadik took three trumps and worked on hearts, using diamond finesse for communications.

Just made and +1370. There were 4 hearts double for -790 from the other table, so we earned 11 IMPs on this board.

That's the whole story, but our thoughts of Geir play in the 3rd trick (he could play a heart to defeat the slam) are different. Vadik: "Geir, seeing only his hand and the dummy, found the best play, which I didn't find myself – take the first lead with the ace, play a heart to the ace, then small club to the table and a heart again. It's almost impossible to get down. Geir didn't play for my mistake and decided to continue passively and play a spade."

Good theory, Vadik. But I know who brought the beer to Geir and I know what did the crow in the fable, when she could not hold the cheese and perform its favorite business."

That's how the match started from the view of the players. REAL took good lead, but there were still action to come. DYRET recovered 3 IMPs on board 5 and 12 IMPs on board 6, so it was 21:17 after half of the match.

Open Room:

Helgemo	Prokhorov	S-minde	Kholomeev
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣*
Pass	4♠	All pass	

Closed Room:

K-selski	Molberg	Gladish	Roseng
Pass	1♠	2♣	double
5♣	5♠	All pass	

The action in Open Room was slow and precise – at first Prokhorov showed weak balanced or any strong hand, then spades, then strong hand with spades and then more longer spades, ending the action, after Kholomeev showed both suits natural and asked for club stopper. After helpful defense Prokhorov took 11 tricks.

The real action was in Closed room, where Gladish found 2♣ overcall and Krasnosselski jumped to 5♣. Molberg could double and collect 500 or 800 on the defense, but he tried 5♠. He played the spades from the top, but finessed diamonds wrongly and took just 10 tricks, losing 11 IMPs in the board.

Board No 10 was last chance for DYRET:

DLR: E

VUL: Both

♠1074	
♥J872	
♦Q94	
♣874	
♠KQJ3	♠A54
♥1093	♥AKQ4
♦853	♦K7
♣K102	♣AQ63
♠986	
♥65	
♦AJ1062	
♣J95	

10

for Helgemo – Salensminde turn to bid the slam from the right hand and make it.

Open Room:

Helgemo	Prokhorov	S-minde	Kholomeev
		2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♠	All pass		

2NT showed 22-24 balanced hand and 3♦ showed hearts. Then Helgemo invited slam and Salensminde accepted it, letting Geir pick the best slam. The trumps were good and maybe Geir would make the slam, but this time Prokhorov made the killing diamond lead and the match was over.

Russians in the Closed Room played 3NT from East hand, taking 12 tricks. So it was time

Team REAL showed good, aggressive and imaginative bridge and defeated DYRET in the Final of the Teams Tournament by 47:17.



Teams Tournament trophy goes to Russia too!

PAIRS TOURNAMENT

Altogether there were three sessions in the Open Pairs tournament – two sessions in Saturday and the last one on Sunday. 40 pairs played the tournament (two pairs participated only in the last session) and the scoring was on Match Points with regular Mitchell moving.

Latvians Martins Lorencs, who recently finished the second in European Junior pairs championship, and his partner Janis Neimanis had a huge first session and took the lead with 64,73%. There is a board which showed that Martins still is in good shape after the silver in Croatia:

DLR: W		VUL: All	
		♠10984	
		♥ AJ10	
		♦ 1042	
		♣632	
♠ A3		♠7652	
♥ K64		♥ Q97	
♦ A973	4	♦ QJ86	
♣ KJ98		♣74	
		♠ KQJ	
		♥8532	
		♦ K5	
		♣ AQ105	

The bidding:

W	N	E	S
1NT	Pass	Pass	Double
All pass			

1NT was 15-17 and double showed points (15+).

After the ♠10 lead, Martins ducked the first trick and took the second. Now he spend some time to think about his prospects:

It was quite hard to place North with both ♦K and one of aces, it might be that he has ♦K and ♣Q, but in this case nothing much can be done about the contract. He would always lose 3 spades, 2 clubs, 1 diamond and heart.

Most probably North has one of aces and might have ♥J. So he chose to play ♦A and small diamond to South king.

After cashing third spade (Martins discarded diamond), South switched to a low club. If North has the queen, there is nothing he can do; however the question is who has ♣10 and ♣A. He decided to play jack which hold the trick; still not being able to be completely sure about the position of the club ace.

He ran diamonds, and now both North and South were squeezed, meaning they had discard cards which would lead to their endplay. North chose to discard 2 hearts, while South discarded club.

DLR: W		VUL: All	
		♠10	
		♥ AJ10	
		♦ -	
		♣63	
♠ -		♠7	
♥ K64		♥ Q97	
♦ -	4	♦ 8	
♣ K98		♣7	
		♠ -	
		♥853	
		♦ -	
		♣ AQ10	

To a lead of ♦8, North discards club, and South discards heart. So it seems that South holds AQ of clubs while North ♥A. He now led a club taken by South. Now whatever he would return he

could play to the ♥Q and throw in North with 7 of spades. Well done and deserved 89% on the board.

Janis Bendiks reports one lovely deal, which shows that you can get great results by following basic rules: lead 4th best from your longest and strongest against no trump contracts and keep counting the hand!

DLR: S

VUL: EW

	♠J654		
	♥965		
	♦42		
	♣K632		
♠10		♠K987	
♥AJ8732		♥104	
♦QJ8	19	♦AK973	
♣Q97		♣105	
	♠AQ32		
	♥KQ		
	♦1065		
	♣AJ84		

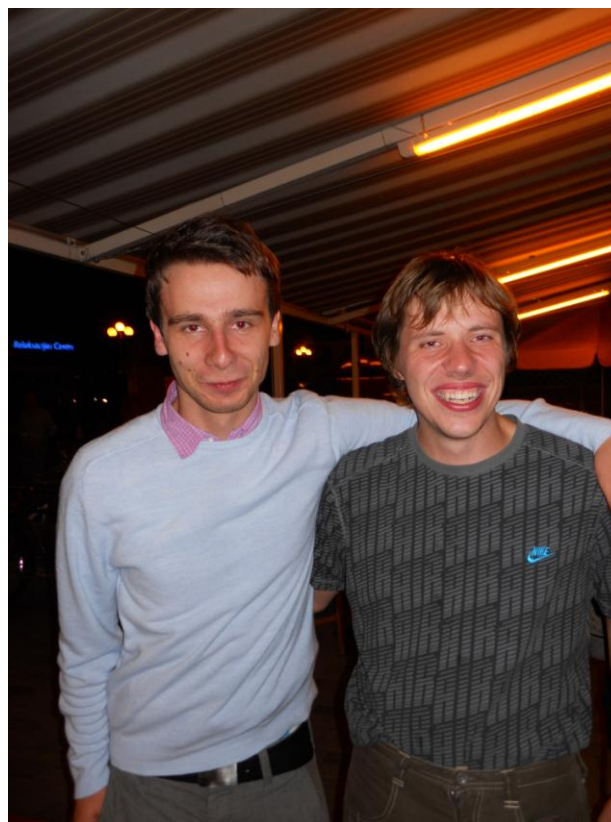
The bidding:

S	W	N	E
1NT	All pass		

After S opens the bidding with 1NT (15-17), Janis thought about bidding hearts, but passed due to bad vulnerability and not so good heart suit. 1NT was passed and Bendiks followed the rule – lead 4th best from your longest and strongest - ♥7. Declarer took the first trick with ♥Q and played a club to the king and club to the jack and queen. Seeing 3 hearts on the table, and knowing that partner had two clubs, Janis was almost sure, that Gints Rubenis – Janis partner – has two hearts too, because with five-five in spades and diamonds or even with 4 spades and 6 diamonds he would balance. So there was no need to find the switch and he played ace of hearts! Excellent news and 11 tricks for the defense and complete Top on the board!

Session 1, results

rk	Players	Country	%
1	M.Lorencs – J.Neimanis	Latvia	64,73
2	I.Rubenis – J.Alfejeva	Latvia	59,01
3	B.Korkeviciene – M.Korkevicius	Lithuania	58,08
4	E.Vainikonis – A.Orlovich	Lithuania	56,57
5	V.Vainikonis – W.Olanski	Lithuania	56,36
6	M.Matisons – U.Jansons	Latvia	55,68
7	D.T.Roseng – J.O.Roseng	Norway	55,55



Martins Lorencs and Janis Neimanis in banquet just before winning the 1st Session

The 2nd session showed flying Finns in action – three places from first four were occupied by players from Finland. And they had a chance to establish who is who, when Kauko Koistinen – Clas Nyberg met Lasse Utter – Osmo Parviainen in the 6th round:

DLR: S

VUL: None

♠ 10875		♠ AK4
♥ KQ9853		♥ 642
♦ AK		♦ 754
♣ 7		♣ AJ5
♠ QJ963		
♥ 10	11	
♦ Q3		
♣ KQ842		
♠ 2		
♥ AJ7		
♦ J10986		
♣ 10963		

After South passed, Kauko was able to open aggressively again – his opening of 1♠ showed 4+ spades with possible longer minor. Fast and aggressive bidding by Kauko and Clas

let them steal the deal in 4♣, which where unbeatable (you can defeat 4♠ by leading top diamonds, heart to the ace and diamond again).

As North – South are cold for 5 hearts, letting their opponents play four clubs was not a great result – only 22 % on the board and second place in the session, letting Koistinen – Nyberg take the first.

Session 2, results

rk	Players	Country	%
1	K.Koistinen – C.Nyberg	Finland	66,9 8
2	L.Utter – O.Parviainen	Finland	63,5 3
3	I.Rubenis – J.Alfejeva	Latvia	61,5 9
4	K.Patana – M.Salomaa	Finland	59,2 8
5	L.Brikmane – J.Balasovs	Latvia	57,0 0
6	K.Nekrasova – I.Volozhenin	Russia	56,7 0
7	D.Uljanovs – K.Beliakov	Latvia	56,3 9



Kauko Koistinen and Janis Bendiks laugh about some new convention, while Clas Nyberg is trying to write it all down

As this is three session tournament, you need to play sound all the time and that's what Latvians Jelena Alfejeva and Ivars Rubenis showed. Having 59,01% in first session and 61,59% in the second, they scored "only" 55,37% in the third, but that was enough to win the tournament! Not being regular partners, they played precisely trusting each other and there is a board, which showed their good performance and understanding:

DLR: S		VUL: All	
	♠105		
	♥9654		
	♦AJ6		
	♣AK72		
♠A762		♠QJ9	
♥KJ102		♥873	
♦8	23	♦Q10543	
♣Q653		♣J8	
	♠K843		
	♥AQ		
	♦K972		
	♣1094		

Ivars could open the bidding in 1st seat with 1NT, showing 12-15 balanced, but he had complete minimum and no extras, so he made a good decision by passing. When Jelena opened 1NT in third seat, he made one more, good pair's tournament decision – he invited the game, not just blindly jump to 3NT.

Complete bidding:

S	W	N	E
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	All pass		

After the lead of small diamond, Lena played Ace, king and small club to the ten and queen; East discarded seven of hearts. Now West returned club, because heart or spade return would give the contract (East discarded

small diamond and there was small spade from the dummy). Now declarer tried heart finesse, West took the king and returned small heart. After diamond to the ace, Jelena read the position correctly again and throw West in with small heart – so he had to play spades, giving eight trick for the declarer and 76% on the board.

Session 3, results

rk	Players	Country	%
1	M.Romanovska – K.Rubins	Latvia	64,58
2	E.Gladish – M.Krasnosselski	Russia	61,07
3	D.T.Roseng – J.O.Roseng	Norway	59,54
4	K.Nekrasova – I.Volozhenin	Russia	58,99
5	L.Brikmane – J.Balasovs	Latvia	58,99
6	J.Rotomskyte – S.Bodrenkova	LTU / BLR	57,89
7	E.Vainikonis – A.Orlovich	Lithuania	56,25

Ranking after session 3

rk	Players	Country	%
1	I.Rubenis – J.Alfejeva	Latvia	58,66
2	M.Lorencs – J.Neimanis	Latvia	57,22
3	K.Koistinen – C.Nyberg	Finland	55,86
4	V.Vainikonis – W.Olanski	Lithuania	55,08
5	E.Vainikonis – A.Orlovich	Lithuania	54,73
6	L.Brikmane – J.Balasovs	Latvia	54,73
7	S.Bech – F.Alfredsson	Sweden	54,35



Jelena Alfejeva and Ivars Rubenis – winners of the Open Pairs Tournament

If you liked this report, but have not been in Jurmala yet – do not hesitate – take your favorite partner and come to Riga Invites to Jurmala 2011! The format will be the same as always, the atmosphere will be great and full details will follow soon on www.rigainvites.com



Welcome to Jurmala – the city on the wave!