



INCORPORATING THE 8th EUROPEAN YOUTH PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

6th WORLD YOUTH BRIDGE PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

JUNIOR & SCHOOLS SERIES

PIESTANY, SLOVAKIA • 30 June - 2 July 2006

WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION

The change of cycle in the WBF Youth Programme has delayed this biennial event for one year, but now it makes a strong come back. The 6th **World Youth Pairs Championship** is the first to be run in two series: for **Juniors** and **Schools** players. In *Tata 2003*, one quarter of the 378 young participants belonged to the Schools category (up to 20 years old), and this is enough to justify a separate series and world title.

The World Youth Pairs Championship is the natural supplement to the World Youth Teams competition for the *Ortiz-Patiño Trophy*, and a necessary part of our program for the development of bridge among young people worldwide. The World Youth Pairs Championship is designed to be a **massive** event in order to promote **friendly contact** between Juniors as much as possible. This is accomplished by not limiting the number of entries from any country, allowing the participation of transnational pairs, and by not splitting the competition into diverting stages.

The *World Youth Pairs* is a biennial tournament, conveniently held in conjunction with the *World Junior Camp* on consecutive dates and at the same or nearby places. This arrangement follows the successful European format, and we wish to thank the *European Bridge League* and the *Slovak Bridge Association*, this year's hosts, for their support in our effort. We are confident that all NBOs will encourage and support their Junior players to participate in the World Youth Pairs Championship and we look forward to welcoming them to Piestany.

• VENUE

PIESTANY (pop. 30,000) is a spa town, situated on the banks of river Vah and lake Slnava, 80 km north-east of Slovakia's capital Bratislava.

Except for cure facilities, Piestany offers a variety of tourist attractions, while its green surroundings feature many hiking routes, etc., and are particularly well known to sports- and nature lovers.



The Championship will be held in Hotel **Sorea Slnava**, which lies in a quiet and colorful environment on the outskirts of the town, some 2 km from the center of Piestany. Free **transportation** will be provided from Bratislava airport and Bratislava and Piestany railway stations to the venue and vice versa.



All rooms have en-suite facilities (bathroom with shower), balcony, colour TV, radio, telephone, etc. Breakfast is served from a buffet, while there is a choice of various dishes for lunch and dinner, including a vegetarian menu.

Sports facilities available on site include, an indoor swimming pool, sauna, jacuzzi, fitness centre, mini-golf, badminton, table tennis and billiards. Nearby there are tennis courts, a squash hall, fields for volleyball, mini-football, etc. Nature lovers can rent mountain bikes and enjoy the unique surroundings.



• FORMAT

The Championships will be played in two series - for **Juniors** and **Schools** players - run concurrently, in **four** sessions. If the number of entries in the Schools series is not adequate, then all players will compete in one series but a separate classification will be issued for the Schools players.

Scoring is by match points across the field, according to the *barometer* system whereby running scores are published during play, every few rounds.

Computer dealt hands and bid boxes, but no screens, will be used.

• PROGRAM

The Opening Ceremony will take place on **Friday 30 June 2006**, at 7 pm, after dinner.

The Victory Dinner and Prize giving Ceremony will start at 8 pm on **Sunday 2 July 2006**. Participants are expected to depart on Monday 3 July, after breakfast.

The Championships' four sessions will start at **8 pm Friday, 2 pm** and **8 pm Saturday**, and **2 pm Sunday**.

• SYSTEMS

All systems of bidding and card play may be used, provided they comply with the *WBF Systems Policy* (available at www.worldbridge.org/departments/systems/policy.asp).

The tournament is a Category 3 event; accordingly, no HUM systems and no brown sticker conventions are allowed.

Each pair must complete a **WBF Convention Card** and lodge it with the Appeals Committee upon arrival.

• ENTRIES

The Championship is open to all member countries of the WBF.

Each country may be represented by an **unlimited** number of pairs in each series. With the consent of both NBOs involved, **transnational** pairs will be accepted.

Age limit: Players must have been born on or after **1 January 1981** (Junior series) or **1 January 1986** (Schools series).

Participation is by invitation only. Applicants are requested to submit the full name and the exact date of birth of each player for consideration by the *Credentials Committee*. Upon arrival, players will be asked to present their passports for verification of the age eligibility.

The **Entry Fee** to the tournament is **€200** (two hundred Euros) per pair. If not paid on site, the fee will be charged directly by the WBF to the NBOs of the players after the tournament.

Entries should be made electronically through the WBF's website, using the form available at www.worldbridge.org/tourn/Piestany.06/PairsReg.asp

All entries will be automatically forwarded to the Zone/NBO of the applicant, and are subject to their approval.

Deadline: Applications submitted after **15 June 2006** will be accepted only if technically convenient. Withdrawals of accepted entries *must* be acknowledged by email to the WBF Youth Committee by the same deadline, to avoid payment of the entry fee.

WBF Youth Committee

Tel.: +30-210-864 3139

Fax: +30-210-861 3740

Email: youth@worldbridge.org

• ACCOMMODATION

All players are offered accommodation at the venue hotel, in double and 3-bedded rooms. A small number of single rooms is also available.

Rates: room rates per person per night have been negotiated at **SKr 1,740** (Slovak koruna) in a double room and **SKr 1,550** in a 3-bedded room. Single rooms cost **SKr 1,935**.

Three meals a day (breakfast, lunch and dinner) will be served to the participants. The cost of food is included in the above accommodation rates.

Reservations: Participants should reserve their rooms directly through the local organizers.

Entering the tournament does not cater about accommodation and vice versa.

• PRIZES

Silver Cups & Medals will be awarded to the first three pairs of the final classification in each series. **Souvenir Gifts** will be given to the top five pairs of each series.

Master Points will be awarded in accordance with the WBF Master Points plan.

Information & Registration

www.worldbridge.org/tourn/Piestany.06/PairsMain.htm

The Venue

Hotel Sorea SLNAVA

Hlboka 47, SK-921 01 Piestany, Slovakia
Tel.: +421-33-77 260 71 / Fax: +421-33-77 253-71

Room Reservations

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