

**IBPA Personality Of The Year
Thomas Bessis (FRA)**



Thomas Bessis and IBPA President Patrick Jourdain

The personality of the year award is at the discretion of the executive committee. In the past few years the award has sometimes gone to players, sometimes to organizers, or to people who have contributed to the good of the game.

This year we have selected as our candidate a player who has excelled in the Junior game, the open game, as a coach and captain, and who has also proved himself as a journalist.

Thomas Bessis came to fame as a player with his brother Olivier, but he has also played successfully with his mother, Veronique, he has had huge success with his father, Michel, (including this year's Vanderbilt Trophy) and has coached and captained the women's team. He won the Junior European championships last year as well as many other junior titles.

Additionally, he has won an IBPA award for best-played hand by a Junior, and has proved himself to be popular, well-mannered and generous — a true renaissance man.

Thomas Bessis' recent wins:

- 3rd EUROPEAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, Antalya 2007 - Open Teams
- 38th WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, Shanghai 2007 - Transnational Teams
- 22nd EUROPEAN YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, Brasov 2009 - Junior Teams
- 9th EUROPEAN YOUTH PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS,

Wroclaw 2008 - Junior Pairs 1

- 49th EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, Pau 2008
— Women's Teams (Coach of FRANCE)
- 2010 SPRING NABC, Reno - Vanderbilt Teams
- 2010 CAVENDISH INVITATIONAL, Las Vegas - John
Roberts Teams
- 50th EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, Pau 2010
— Women's Teams (Coach of FRANCE)