



THE BULLETIN

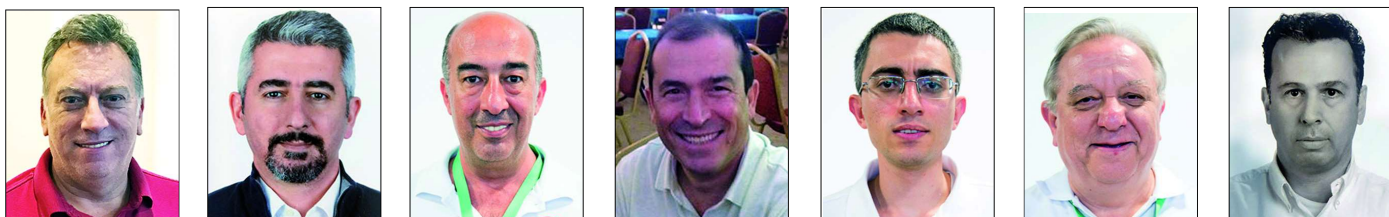
ALT BAM

JANUARY 11-15, 2021

editor: Jan van Cleeff / co-editor: Rosalind Hengeveld / journalists: Martin Cantor, Toine van Hoof, Mark Horton / e: jvcleeff@xs4all.nl / urls: netbridge.online, bridgeresults.org, bid72.com/events



TURKEY'S SALVO TAKES ALT BAM ON VERY LAST BOARD

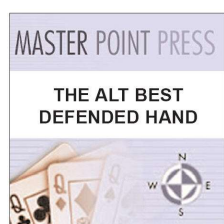


The winners, left to right: Sedat Aluf, Bülent Aslan, Enver Köksoy, Nezih Kubaç, Ali Ucar, Nafiz Zorlu, Ömer Umur (WBF images)



January 16, 2021. The kick-off of the new Alt season has begun with this week's BAM. The Bulletin presents you with hands from this Board-a-Match event, arguably the most challenging of bridge competitions, and brings you up-to-date on everything about its winners and losers. In spite of the virus - or perhaps because of the virus - 2021 is to become another very exciting online bridge year. Organizer Jan van den Hoek and his team spiced up the Alt concept with quite a few new features. First of all we welcome the New Alt Competition, a cycle of ten monthly team tournaments culminating in a grand final in December. These tournaments are alternated by other interesting Alt events like the BAM of this week and the Swiss Team Pairs in February. Below in The Bulletin we publish the full schedule. And...players of all Alts are automatically included in the **Triple F Alt Points Race!**

For each event there will be one bulletin issued, normally the Saturday after the relevant tournament finished. Lastly, we are proud to announce three awards: one for the **best play**, sponsored by BeBridge; one for the **best defense**, - sponsored by Master Point Press; and one for the **best bid hand**, - sponsored by bid72. Spectators and players are encouraged to nominate nice, interesting or funny boards by e-mail to jvcleeff@xs4all.nl. The only requirement is that these boards have been played in the 2021 Alt season. We have nice bridge gifts for the winners and will be happy to publish the stories in The Bulletin.



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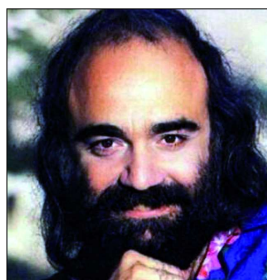
netbridge.online



Triple F

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ALT BAM, JANUARY 11-15, 2021 participating teams

Team "ALTSHULER"

Gilad Altshuler (giladalt)
Alon Birman (hatol)
Dani Cohem (cohen99)
Amir Levin (amiri)
Dror Padon (drorp)
Yossi Roll (sroch)

Team "AMATEURS"

Franco Baseggio (baseggio)
David Chechelashvili (dato)
Alex Kolesnik (Kolesnik)
Aitai Lo (aitail)
Bill Pettis (buffalo6)
Ahmed Solimen (rabie3)
Andrew Stark (astark)

Team "CALIFORNICATION"

John Carruthers (jgc)
Mitch Dunitz (dunitz)
Ross Grabel (rossg)
Allan Graves (algraves)
Martin Kirr (kirp)
Jill Meyers (jillm)
George Mittelman (mittmouse)
Kerri Sanborn (kerri)

Team "CANTOR"

David Burn (dburn)
Martin Cantor (cantorm)
Jonathan Davis (davisbiz)
Mike Graham (mdgraham)
Fredrik Jarlvik (freddy6)
Peter Lund (pelu)
Leif Nygaard (nyg)
Henrik Petersen (longrow)
Nick Smith (rogerhunt)
Tatyana Treendafilova (tuti)

Team "DONNER"

Per-Ola Cullin (pocken)
Gary Donner (gdonnersc1)
Joe Grue (joegrue)
Marion Michielson (lady007)
Brad Moss (brad)
Cecilia Rimstedt (cillar)

Team "GREECE"

Nikos Delimpaltadakis (nickd)
Dinos Doxiadis (rigas_karo)
Filippos Karamanlis (fifos7)
Kostantinos Kontomirois (zlatan)
Tasos Koukouselis (lelos)
Yankos Papakyriakopoulos (yankos)
Manolis Protonotarios (emprot)
Petros Roussos (peter1961)
Aristidis Sapounakis (asapou)
Vasilis Vroustis (bill123)

Team "GUPTA"

David Gold (dagold)
Naren Gupta (nareng)
Zia Mahmood (zia)
Bauke Muller (beukertje)
Simon De Wijs (sm1)

Team "KOEPEL"

Raluca Dobrescu (ralooka)
Ted Greenberg (ted greenb)
Okay Gur (okay gur)
Lynne Koepfel (lgkoepfel)
Mustafa cem Tokay (tokay1975)
Gokhan Yilmaz (yilmaz_g)

Team "MIXTURE"

Willem Alink (willemfbf)
Aris Bremer (arisbreem)
Hester Gast (hester02)
Jan van den Hoek (janonline)
Kees Rentes (7slaper)
Bas van Roosmalen (BasvRo)

Team "NETBRIDGE"

Kees Bouwen (kebosporto)
Thijs Hoebe (hoethi)
Victor Oranje (victornl)
Arjan Roelofs (arjannl)
Jan de Winter (winjan)
Marco Zomer (mczo)

Team "NICKELL"

Richie Coren (wambibird1)
John Diamond (dimebags)
Eric Greco (greco)
Geoff Hampson (ghampson)
Ralph Katz (ralphk)
Dan Korbel (dank)
Bobby Levin (levin)
Nick Nickell (fnickell)
Brian Platnick (bplatnick)
Steve Weinstein (stevo)

Team "RIPPEY"

Leonardo Cima (100dog)
Massimiliano Di Franco (m_difranco)
Andrea Manno (maqueda)
Piotr Nawrocki (nawrot)
Kamil Nowak (kamiln)
Mike Rippey (radiators)
Piotr Wiankoski (vino_e)
Piotr Zatorski (dzeronimo)

Team "SALVO"

Sedat Aluf (monk99)
Bulent Aslan (baylind)
Enver Koksoy (koksoy)
Nezih Kubaç (nezihk)
Ali Uçar (noweak)
Ömer Umur (ttlfb)
Nafiz Zorlu (begse)

Team "ULI"

Giovanni Donati (giova007)
Gabriella Olivieri (ollina)
Giacomo Percario (giacomop)
Federico Primavera (fuldiRe)
Ulrike Schuster (chrispe1)
Walter Schuster (schustmozz)
Antonio Sementa (llaria75)
Marcel Verhaegen (marcel_ve)
Gabriele Zanasi (zanna9)

HOW TO WIN A BOARD (PART 1) Salvo versus Koeppel

Round 1, Board 8

W/-	♠ A K Q 2 ♥ K 9 6 2 ♦ 6 5 ♣ 10 4 2		
♠ J 6 4 ♥ J 10 7 4 ♦ J 8 4 ♣ K J 5	<div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">N W O Z</div>	♠ 10 9 7 5 3 ♥ 3 ♦ A K 2 ♣ A 9 6 3	
	♠ 8 ♥ A Q 8 5 ♦ Q 10 9 7 3 ♣ Q 8 7		

West	North	East	South
Umus	Koeppel	Koksoy	Tokay
Pass	1♣	1♠	Dbl
2♠	Dbl	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Obviously Lynn Koeppel twice preferred to show her spade strength instead of introducing her four cards in hearts. After a somewhat shaky sequence it ended in 3NT, played by North. The contract had no chance at all and went three light. So Salvo was the favorite to win the board, were they?

West	North	East	South
Yilmaz	Aslan	Gur	Kubaç
Pass	1♣	1♠	Dbl
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Club lead to 10 and ace. Another club to the jack, followed by ♣K and a low trump from dummy. North took the queen and switched to a diamond. Gur won the ace, cashed ♦K and when declarer ruffed the fourth club with dummy♣s jack there were 8 tricks on the table - for EW that is.

Maybe not so subtle, but Koeppel did win the board: minus 150 versus plus 470.



Lynn Koeppel with her father, the late Alan 'Ace' Greenberg, a former Wallstreet tycoon and winner of the 1977 Vanderbilt Trophee.

HOW TO WIN A BOARD (PART 2) Koeppel versus Altschuler

Round 2, Board 7

S/All	♠ J ♥ A J 10 9 7 ♦ K J 8 ♣ J 10 7 6		
♠ K Q 8 6 4 ♥ Q 8 4 3 ♦ Q ♣ K 8 5	<div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">N W O Z</div>	♠ 7 3 2 ♥ 5 2 ♦ 10 9 4 3 2 ♣ Q 3 2	
	♠ A 10 9 5 ♥ K 6 ♦ A 7 6 5 ♣ A 9 4		

West	North	East	South
Roll	Yilmaz	Levin	Gur
Pass	2♦ ¹	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	2♥
Pass		Pass	Pass

1 transfer to hearts

Low spade lead for dummy♣s jack. Club to the 9, which was allowed to hold. Heart king, heart finesse, ♥A and heart for the queen. West tabled the ♠K won by Gur, who returned ♠10 and claimed eleven tricks. NS +660.

West	North	East	South
Koeppel	Birman	Tokay	Padon
Pass	2♦ ¹	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT ²	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	3♣ ³
Pass		Pass	Pass

1 transfer to hearts

2 club suit, game forcing

3 fit or waiting

Koeppel kicked off with the SK, won by declarer, who immediately attacked the heart suit. When West came in with the fourth heart, she returned a low club for queen and ace. At this point Padon advanced the ♣9. Lynn Koeppel won the king and rightfully cashed her ♠Q. That way declarer was held to ten tricks.

Minus 630 opposite plus 660 was a rather subtle way of winning the board.

DISCOVER THE NEW

BeBRIDGE

♥♦♣♠ by Le Bridgeur

THE JANUARY ISSUE
HAS JUST BEEN
RELEASED!



In this issue

The first 2021 issue of **BeBRIDGE** is packed with outstanding articles. **The Riddle of the Hands** updates you on the race to stamp out online cheating, while **The Online Contact Bridge League** offers an insight into some of the strongest online events. **David Bird's** Abbot is here with the latest instalment of the adventures of his bridge playing monks and **Alain Lévy** takes a penetrating look at 2 over one game forcing. Add to those all the regular articles that will maximise your bridge playing skills and fine tune your bidding systems it's an issue you must have.

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THE OPERATION WAS A SUCCESS, BUT THE PATIENT DIED

Looking for points in the Round Robin

Mark Horton

There can be little doubt that point-a-board (or if you prefer, board-a-match) is the most exciting and demanding form of the game. The scoring method, win, lose or draw on every deal is simplicity itself, and is certainly the one that best suits televised bridge. In order to be successful you have to be at your best, sharp in the bidding, accurate in defense (especially with your opening leads) and as declarer take every opportunity to secure an extra trick.

A star-studded field contested the ALT Invitational Board-a-Match - let's see if they were 'at the races'.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

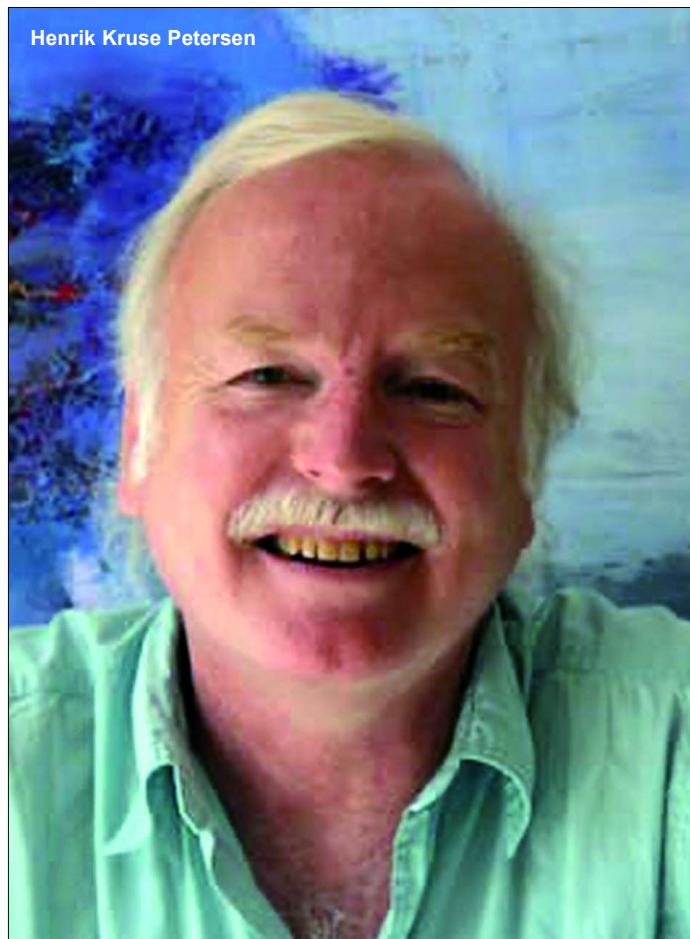
	♠ J 9 8 5 2		
	♥ 7		
	♦ J 4 2		
	♣ J 7 6 4		
♠ A Q 10 7		♠ K 4 3	
♥ A J 6 5		♥ K Q 9 8	
♦ A 9 6		♦ K 10 5 3	
♣ 9 2		♣ 10 5	
	♠ 6		
	♥ 10 4 3 2		
	♦ Q 8 7		
	♣ A K Q 8 3		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nygaard</i>	<i>Platnick</i>	<i>Petersen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
		Pass	1♦*
1NT*	Pass	3NT	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1♦ Limited, 2+♦
1NT 15-17(18)

One thing about playing Precision is that it can create potential swing situations on innocuous looking deals. On this one South suspects that his counterpart in the other room will have opened 1♣ which probably precludes a contract of 3NT. Assuming the opponents have most of the missing points they may have enough to collect 420 in a major suit game, and absent a club lead perhaps 430 in notrumps. Conventional wisdom has it that South's double asks for a diamond lead, but playing Precision you could argue that it is asking for a club. It might be that partner has say a five-card diamond suit headed by the ♦KQ10 and a couple of aces, but I suspect a simulation would lean towards a club. In any event it was a brave effort. North led ... (drum roll please) the ♦2 and when South put in the eight declarer won with the nine and finished with 11 tricks and +750.



The operation was a success, but the patient died.

In the aftermath North, Brian Platnick, took all the blame: 'I should have figured it out, since I had both minor jacks. It looked like Geoff had AKQxx somewhere. That was likely to be in clubs as declarer was rated to have a diamond stopper.'

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Katz</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
		Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	3♣*	Dbl
Rdbl*	Pass	3♥*	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

3♣ Asking for a five-card major
Rdbl No stopper, no five-card suit
3♥ 4♥

South led the ♣K, cashed the queen and switched to the ♠6. Declarer won with dummy's queen, played a heart to the king, a heart to dummy's ace and ran the ♦9, soon claiming ten tricks, +420.

You may have noticed that 4♥ can be defeated. It only happened twice - in the same match:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dobrescu</i>	<i>Grue</i>	<i>Greenberg</i>	<i>Moss</i>
		Pass	1♣
Dbl	Pass	2♣*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

South led the ♣K, continued with the queen and then switched to the ♠6 for the ten, jack and king. After a heart to the ace and a heart to the king declarer played a spade and South ruffed and exited with the ♥10. That left declarer with only nine tricks, -50. If declarer cashes the ♥Q before playing a spade it will not help South to ruff; he will then have to open up the diamonds (the ♦Q is perhaps the best shot) or give a ruff and discard. If South does not ruff declarer wins in dummy and can duck a diamond to South.

Derek Rimmington's Bols Bridge Tip

suggested that if you lead a king and then switch it could be to a singleton - that is potentially the winning defense here. If declarer does not draw trumps the defenders can arrange a spade ruff, but if he does then there are only nine tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Donner</i>	<i>Yilmaz</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Gur</i>
		1♦*	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1♦ 2+♦

North led the ♠8 and declarer won with the ten, cashed dummy's top hearts and then played the ♦3, ducking South's eight. When North led the eight hold, South led the ♣Q for the two, four and five. My guess is that the four was encouraging (showing the jack) and when South continued with the ♣8 and the jack won North lost no time in playing the ♠9 for one down and a flat board. Yes, after the spade lead declarer had ten tricks on top. Had North won the first diamond and given his partner a ruff then two down would have been possible.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A K J	♠ 10 7 6 3
♥ A 6 4	♥ Q J 10 3
♦ A 5 2	♦ J 8 6
♣ Q 10 5 2	♣ J 3
♠ Q 5 4	
♥ 9 8 5	
♦ K 10 9 7 3	
♣ 8 7	
	♠ 9 8 2
	♥ K 7 2
	♦ Q 4
	♣ A K 9 6 4

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nygaard</i>	<i>Platnick</i>	<i>Petersen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
			1♦*
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1♦ Limited, 2+♦
2♥ Artificial, 10--13 balanced
2♠ Relay to 2NT

West led the ♦10 and declarer had been gifted a trick, +490.

At this form of scoring leading away from a king is especially dangerous, but a diamond was the choice of five players.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Katz</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
			1♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1♣ 3+♣
2♦ Game forcing, 4+♣
2♥ Stopper

East led the ♥J and declarer was held to 11 tricks, +660.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

♠ 10	♠ 9 5
♥ Q J 10 7 3	♥ 6 4 2
♦ 10 9 8 5 2	♦ A Q J 6
♣ A 8	♣ Q 9 4 3
♠ A K Q J 3 2	
♥ 8 5	
♦ 7	
♣ K J 6 5	
♠ 8 7 6 4	
♥ A K 9	
♦ K 4 3	
♣ 10 7 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nygaard</i>	<i>Platnick</i>	<i>Petersen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Declarer lost two hearts and a club, +620.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Katz</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

When the defenders did not cash out, declarer eventually disposed of a heart on the $\heartsuit J$ for +200; on another day it might have won the point.

Rated at no less than 17.85 HCP by the K&R Hand Evaluator, West must be worth more than 2♠.

However, we must not overlook the fact that North might come in over 1♠:

West	North	East	South
<i>Donati</i>	<i>Soliman</i>	<i>Percario</i>	<i>Chechelashvili</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	2♠*	Dbl*	3♦*
4♠	Pass	Pass	4NT*
Dbl	5♦	Dbl	Pass
Pass	5♥	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♠	Hearts and a minor
Dbl	Values
3♦	Invitational in hearts
4NT	Takeout

East led the ♠9 and West won with the jack and switched to the ♦7, East winning with the ace and returning the queen, covered by dummy's king and ruffed. A club switch saw declarer win with the ace, draw trumps and claim eight tricks. -500.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Primavera</i>	<i>Baseggio</i>	<i>Olivieri</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	2♥	Dbl	2♠
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

+620 for the win.



Zia opened the West hand 4♠ - a win when matched against the 5♦ doubled reached by de Wijs-Muller after South opened a 9-12 INT and North bid 2♥ over West's Multi-Landy 2♦ and then bid 5♦ on the next round.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ AKQ9542
 ♥ KJ8
 ♦ A97
 ♣ -

♠ 7
 ♥ 32
 ♦ QJ1054
 ♣ Q9832

♠ J8
 ♥ 105
 ♦ K8
 ♣ AKJ10765

♠ 1063
 ♥ AQ9764
 ♦ 632
 ♣ 4

N
 W O
 Z

West	North	East	South
<i>Nygaard</i>	<i>Platnick</i>	<i>Petersen</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

North led the ♦Q and declarer played three rounds of the suit, ruffing in dummy, cashed the ♠J and tried to cash the ♣AK, South's second round ruff holding him to 11 tricks, +450.

Save for one pair, everyone else bid a slam (4 four went for 6NT) and they all made it, South having frequently overcalled 2♥.

Petros Roussos had to play 6♠ on the lead of the ♦Q with no bidding to guide him. He won with dummy's king, took two spades ending in dummy, ruffed a club, cashed three more spades, crossed to dummy with the ♦K and cashed the ♣AK pitching a diamond and a heart before playing a heart for +980. Naturally it was a loss, as Zia and David Gold bid 6NT in the other room.


West	North	East	South
<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Katz</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
4♦*	Pass	4♥*	Dbl
Pass*	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

4♦ Good 4♠ bid
4♥ Artificial slam try
Pass Encouraging

South's club lead saw North put up the queen which speeded up the play (otherwise North would have been squeezed in the minors) +510.

On day two I was hoping for a minimum of one newsworthy deal from each round.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

		<p>♠ A 5 2 ♥ K 4 2 ♦ K 8 6 5 2 ♣ A J</p>			
♠ J 10				♠ 9 8 7 4	
♥ Q 10 9 7 5				♥ A J 8	
♦ Q J				♦ A 10 7	
♣ 8 6 5 3				♣ 10 9 7	
		<p>♠ K Q 6 3 ♥ 6 3 ♦ 9 4 3 ♣ K Q 4 2</p>			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Soliman</i>	<i>Korbel</i>	<i>Chechelashvili</i>	<i>Levin</i>
	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East led the ♠9 and declarer won with dummy's king as West followed with the ace and played a diamond for the jack, king and ace, East deciding to switch to the ♥J (a passive ♠4 or a club should lead to two down). Declarer won with the king, unblocked the clubs and took his tricks, one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Diamond</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Platnick</i>	<i>Bassegio</i>
	1NT*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥*
Dbl	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1NT 15-17
3♣ Puppet
3♦ No five-card major, may have four
3♥ Spades

East led the ♥A and followed it with the jack, West overtaking it with the queen. When North ducked West played a third heart and declarer won, unblocked the clubs, crossed to dummy with a spade, cashed two clubs and then played three more rounds of spades to endplay East, +600 and a win. Having scored two heart tricks, West needs to find a diamond switch.

An interesting situation arose in another match:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hoebe</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Zomer</i>	<i>Grue</i>
	1NT*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1NT 15-17

East led the ♠9 for the king, ten and two and the next trick comprised the ♦4, ♦J, ♦K and ♦7. Declarer now cashed his winners before exiting with a spade, which left East on play with ♥AJ ♦A10. West had followed in clubs with the 5, 6, 8 then 3.

I was taught that when you had touching honors you played the highest second in hand, so perhaps East thought West had denied the ♦Q? If you count the points, the ♦Q would give declarer 14 and he might still have the ♥K. Whatever you make of that and West's play in the club suit, East's decision to exit with a heart did not turn out well and the board was lost.

David Burn and Simon de Wijs adopted a different strategy after the spade lead, winning in hand, unblocking the clubs and then cashing their winners before exiting with a spade. East, down to ♥AJ8 ♦A10, decided to exit with the ♥8 (right suit, but the ♥J works better) and when West put up the queen declarer could win and exit with a heart, scoring a diamond at the end for a win (in the other room one North was two down in 1NT).

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

		<p>♠ K Q 3 ♥ K Q 9 8 5 2 ♦ 8 3 ♣ 8 2</p>			
♠ J 7 6 5				♠ 8 4 2	
♥ A 10 7 6				♥ J 4	
♦ A 9 2				♦ Q 10 5 4	
♣ J 4				♣ K 10 6 5	
		<p>♠ A 10 9 ♥ 3 ♦ K J 7 6 ♣ A Q 9 7 3</p>			

Open Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Grue</i>
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2♣ Puppet to 2♦
2♦ Forced
2♥ Invitational

West led the ♠6 and declarer won in hand, played a heart to the king and when it held he continued with the ♥Q. West ducked, won the next heart with the ace and exited with a spade, but declarer could win in dummy and play a fourth heart, West winning and exiting with a diamond for the queen and king. Declarer could cross to dummy with a spade, cash two hearts and then take the club finesse for ten

tricks, +630 and a win; in the other room Muller-de Wijs bid 1♦*-1♥-2♣-2♥.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

<p>♠ A 9 7 5 3 ♥ K J 10 ♦ A Q 7 2 ♣ J</p>		<p>♠ 10 8 2 ♥ 8 7 6 ♦ K 8 4 3 ♣ 6 4 2</p>	
<p>♠ K Q J 6 ♥ Q 5 4 ♦ J 9 5 ♣ 7 5 3</p>			
<p>♠ 4 ♥ A 9 3 2 ♦ 10 6 ♣ A K Q 10 9 8</p>			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bremer</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>van den Hoek</i>	<i>Katz</i>
	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥*
Pass	3NT*	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2♣ Could be as short as 2♣
2♥ Fourth- suit forcing
3NT 15-17

East led the ♥8 and when West put up the queen declarer's worries were over, +1440.
Almost everyone else played in 3NT/4NT.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Gast</i>	<i>Platnick</i>	<i>van Roosmalen</i>
	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♦*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♦*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	5NT*	Pass	7♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2♣ Game forcing, any hand more or less
2♥ 14+
4♣ Cue bid for hearts
4♦ Cue bid, mixed
4NT Asking
5♦ 3 of 5
5♠ Asking
5NT No ♥Q, no kings

East led the ♣2 and declarer won with dummy's ace and played a heart to the jack. When it held she cashed the king, played a heart to the ace, a spade for the king and ace, ruffed a spade and settled down to the clubs. If West had held the ♦K (and possibly the ♠KQJ10) it would have been quite a story - alas, it was a loss.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

<p>♠ 9 ♥ 10 9 ♦ J 9 8 7 3 2 ♣ A Q 7 6</p>		<p>♠ 6 5 4 ♥ K J 4 ♦ A 10 6 4 ♣ 10 5 4</p>	
<p>♠ A K Q 10 8 3 ♥ A 8 5 3 ♦ - ♣ 8 3 2</p>			
<p>♠ J 7 2 ♥ Q 7 6 2 ♦ K Q 5 ♣ K J 9</p>			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Roelofs</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>Oranje</i>	<i>Katz</i>
	Pass	1NT	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♣*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3NT	Pass
3♦*	Pass		
Pass	Pass		

2NT Unbalanced, maximum 15, good six card ♠
3♣ Relay
3♦ singleton of void


South led the ♥7, won with the jack. East cashed six spades, crossed to the ♥K, took the ♦A and followed it with a heart to the eight for 11 tricks, +460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Coren</i>	<i>Bouwen</i>	<i>Korbel</i>	<i>de Winter</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Dbl
3♣	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

I could mention a well-known Law, which is connected with the holding of a six-card major which partner freely supports, but time is pressing.
North led a diamond (as did virtually everyone else defending a spade contract -, usually 4♠) and away went a club, declarer drawing trumps and playing a heart to the jack for ten tricks.

Board 6. Dealer east. EW Vul.

<p>♠ K J 9 7 ♥ A Q 6 ♦ A 9 7 6 ♣ K J</p>		<p>♠ A 5 4 ♥ K 10 ♦ Q 8 4 ♣ 10 9 5 3</p>	
<p>♠ Q 10 ♥ J 9 8 4 2 ♦ K J 5 2 ♣ Q 6</p>			
<p>♠ 8 6 3 2 ♥ 7 5 3 ♦ 10 3 ♣ A 8 7 4</p>			



Mitch Dunitz

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Diamond</i>	<i>Delimpaltadakis</i>	<i>Platnick</i>	<i>Vroustis</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	Pass
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

In these days of light responses 4♠ was not a universal choice, several players opting for 3♠.

West led the ♥4 and when declarer played low from dummy East put in the ten. When it held he switched to a spade and declarer took West's queen with the king and played a diamond for the ten and jack, West returning the ♥9. Declarer went up with dummy's ace, felling the king, cashed the ♦A, ruffed a diamond, came to hand with the ♣K and played his last diamond, ruffing when East discarded a club. A spade collected the ten, jack and ace and declarer soon had the rest, +420.

There is a winning defense, but it is hard to see: having won with the ♥10 East must continue with the ♥K! The threat of a heart ruff means declarer must set about the trump suit, but then there will only be nine tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Roll</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Baseggio</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	Pass
Pass	4♠	Pass	1♠
Pass		Pass	Pass

West led the ♥2 and when declarer played dummy's queen East won with the king and returned the ten. Declarer won with the ace and played a diamond for the ten and jack and West cashed the ♥9, ensuring a win.

4♠ looks tough -; you appear to have at least one heart loser and one diamond loser and must only lose one trump. You are also short of entries to hand. It's tempting to put in the ♥Q at trick one, but at this form of scoring it is very unlikely that West will be leading away from the ♥K. The only 100% line as the cards lie is to take dummy's ♥A at trick one. Then you play a diamond to the ten and jack and will be able to get to hand with a diamond ruff to play a spade.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K 3		
♥ J 7 4 3		
♦ A 8 2		
♣ K Q 10 7		
♠ 9 8 7		♠ Q J 6 4 2
♥ Q 8 5		♥ A 10 6
♦ 9 7 6 5		♦ J 10
♣ 6 5 3		♣ J 9 8
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W O Z </div>	
	♠ A 10 5	
	♥ K 9 2	
	♦ K Q 4 3	
	♣ A 4 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schuster</i>	<i>Dunitz</i>	<i>Primavera</i>	<i>Grabel</i>
Pass	1♣	1♠	2♠*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

3NT was the contract at every table, so the only thing at issue was how many tricks could declarer amass. When North was declarer East led a low spade no less than five times, gifting declarer a trick with the ♠10, which is what happened here. Declarer continued with a club to the king, a heart to the king and a second heart, East winning with the ten and exiting with the ♣J. When West pitched a diamond

on the fourth round of clubs declarer recorded 12 tricks +690 and a win. Leading a spade looks very dangerous, especially as partner did not double 2♠. The ♦J looks safer and that was chosen by Kubac and Oranje, declarer scoring 11 tricks.

Once East has overcalled it is highly likely that the ♥A will be onside. Suppose at trick two declarer plays a low heart to the jack! If East ducks you play a second heart to the king and will score three heart tricks. If East takes the first heart with the ace you are no worse off. I once had the pleasure of sitting opposite Brian Senior when he scored three tricks in the suit from just such a holding.

I must mention that Dror Padon also managed 12 tricks - and that was playing from the South hand on the lead of the ♠8 for the jack and ace. I think EW would prefer me to keep you in the dark as to how he managed it, but it did involve him in scoring three heart tricks.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 10 5 4	♠ -	♠ J 8 6
♥ K 9 7 4	♥ 10 5 2	♥ 8 3
♦ Q 10 8 7	♦ J 6 5 4 2	♦ A K 9 3
♣ 8 7	♣ 9 5 4 3 2	♣ A K J 6
	♠ A K Q 9 7 3 2	
	♥ A Q J 6	
	♦ -	
	♣ Q 10	

Only one pair stopped short of 4♠ on this deal. On a club lead East can play three rounds of the suit, promoting a trump trick which together with a heart will be one down. A club was led eight times against 4♠, but only Ralph Katz and Amir Levin played three rounds of clubs, the others trying to cash a diamond either at trick two or three.

Four defenders went with a heart (one of them selected a spectacular king!), not unreasonable when partner has opened 1NT and South has jumped to 4♠. I would love to know what David Bird and Taf Anthias's computer thinks is best -; all I will say is that leading a doubleton is underrated.

Board 7. Dealer south. All Vul.

♠ A J 10 3	♠ Q 8 5	♠ K 4
♥ 10 6 5 3 2	♥ K Q	♥ A 9 8 7 4
♦ J 10	♦ A K 9 6	♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 5	♣ K 4 3 2	♣ A Q J
	♠ 9 7 6 2	
	♥ J	
	♦ Q 5 3 2	
	♣ 9 8 7 6	

Only six pairs reached 4♥ on this deal. What should South lead after partner has opened a 15-17 1NT?

Given that the only suit in which you have any potential help for partner is diamonds I would try one of those and that ensures three tricks for the defense. One South was attracted by his club spots and went with the ♣8 which gave up a board losing overtrick.

BAM FEEDBACK AND MORE

To whom it may concern.

The Alt's first BAM has just finished. We hope you liked the format: the event as such, the time schedule, 4 x 8 boards per day, et cetera.

Apart from the BAM the Alt's main event this year is the NewCo (New Competition): ten monthly tournaments during the year. It is a competition with promotion and relegation, culminating in a Grand Final towards the end of the year. NewCo number one is held January 25-29.

As an organizer of team events we try all different kinds of formats, like the recent BAM and the upcoming Swiss IMP Pairs event, February 8-12.

To be clear: this Swiss IMP Pairs allows a team to consist of one or more pairs, but where only one

pair at a time is playing. So one pair suffices to join. We would like to hear your thoughts on the various formats we are developing and for instance are curious to learn if you would consider playing another BAM this season.

After taking stock of all the responses, we will make decisions. Your input is much appreciated; please send your feedback to info@netbridge.online.

Thanks for your answers and help.
The Alt Team

P.S.
To participate in our events just go to <https://alt.bridgeresults.org/>.



2020 Winners ALT Invitational Teams Events *Open Category*

March 26

Columbus Alt Invitational I LAVAZZA

Duboin, Madala, Bilde, Bocchi, Sementa, Cronier

April 10

Alt Invitational II DE BOTTON

de Botton, Charlsen, Hoftaniska, Hydes, Jason Hackett, Malinowski

April 24

Alt Invitational III GUPTA

Naren Gupta, Bertens, de Wijs, Muller, Bessis, Lorenzini

May 15

Alt Invitational IV BLASS

Blass, Pepsi, Kalita, Nowosadski, Brink, Drijver

May 29

Alt Invitational V GUPTA

Naren Gupta, Bertens, Bessis, Lorenzini, Cheek, de Wijs, Muller

June 12

Alt Invitational VI BLASS

Blass, Pepsi, Kalita, Nowosadski, Upmark, Nyström

June 23

MontreAlt Q LOMBARD

Geens, Philipsen, Chris Westerbeek, Spangenberg, Stuurman, van den Hove, von Seida, Dafyd Williams, Jasper Williams

June 26

Major Alt I GUPTA

Naren Gupta, Bertens, Bessis, Lorenzini, de Wijs, Cheek

August 7

MontreAlt GUPTA

Naren Gupta, Zia, Bessis, Lorenzini, Muller, de Wijs

September 7

MINOR ALT I GUPTA

Naren Gupta, Zia, de Wijs, Muller, Bessis, Volcker

September 25

Minor Alt II HARRIS

Harris, Igoe, Isporski, Ivanov, Malhasyan, Root, Tiholov, Trendafilov, Marusa Gold

October 16

Minor Alt III BLACK

Black, David Gold, Hallberg, Hult, McIntosh, Paske

November 20

Minor Alt IV MOSS

Sylvia Moss, Brink, Drijver, Kalita, Klukowski, Lee

November 20

TampAlt Q THE MUGS

Cooke, Preddy, Selway, Small, Williams

December 18

TampAlt CLEMENT

Amiry, Delimpaltadakis, Eidi, Maamarbachi, Papakyriakopoulos, Samir, Vroustis

December 21

Felines to the Rescue SUZANNE & HUGO

Brink, Drijver, David Gold, Kalita, Klukowski, Kriegel, Nowosadski, Lee, Weinstein

DECISIONS, DECISIONS by Martin Cantor

The prolific bridge author David Bird is famously scornful of reporting on low level contracts. In IMP contests there is generally less at stake - and so less excitement - in a part score than in a game or slam. This is much less true of matchpointed events where every deal, every overtrick and undertrick, count. And even more true in BAM where even the difference between 100 and 110 is zero to one. And so my first hand is a lowly 2♠ contract from the first match.

Brd 6, E/EW			
	♠ 6		
	♥ Q J 9 5 4		
	♦ 10 7 6 5		
	♣ A 9 2		
♠ Q 9 5 4	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W O Z </div>	♠ K 10 7 3	
♥ K 7 6 2		♥ A	
♦ J 4		♦ A 9 8 3	
♣ Q 10 5		♣ J 7 6 3	
	♠ A J 8 2		
	♥ 10 8 3		
	♦ K Q 2		
	♣ K 8 4		
West	North	East	South
<i>Nowak</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Zatorski</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
1♥	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
	Pass	Pass	Pass

1♦ was Polish Club, so 4+ cards in the suit, usually 5+, which ruled out leading that suit, and a trump from that holding is a non-starter, so I had to choose from the round suits. A club seemed favourite - quite apart from West's heart bid, my four trumps suggested a forcing defence, and the opponent's auction told me that North would hold some values. Peter Lund took my ♣8 lead with the ace and accurately switched to a diamond, the 7. Piotr Zatorski won with his ace and played a trump to the queen and a second trump to the 10 and my J, Peter discarding a heart. I cashed the ♠A, then ♦Q (to clarify the situation for partner), then played the fourth round of spades while Peter parted with a club and another heart. Declarer cashed ♥A and exited a club which I won, dummy's queen being unblocked, to leave this:

♠ -	♠ -		
♥ K 7 6	♥ Q J		
♦ -	♦ 10 6		
♣ 10	♣ -		
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W O Z </div>	♠ -	
		♥ -	
		♦ 9 8	
		♣ J 7	
	♠ -		
	♥ 10 8		
	♦ K		
	♣ 4		

I went wrong in this position. Peter's play in diamonds was consistent with either his actual holding, or with 10 7 6, in fact the three card holding is more likely, so I mistakenly placed the long diamond with declarer. What I had missed was Peter's play in clubs, which indicated a three card holding. I cashed the ♦K, and then simply have to exit a club. On dummy's 10, Peter has to discard a heart and I get the ten of that suit at trick 13 if declarer lets the ten hold, and Peter gets the ♦10 at trick 13 if declarer overtakes. If dummy had held my ♥10, a club would have effected a very rare suicide entry-shifting squeeze. But I led a heart so just one down. The story has a happy ending (sometimes it's better to be lucky than to be good); at the other table our teammates defended 3♥ and beat it by a trick. In fact 2♠ can make as it did at the other two tables where it was played, once when the defence played trumps, once when declarer got trumps right, finessing the nine on the first round.

The second match brought a hand that certainly would have excited David Bird. It excited me when I picked it up. It would have bidding interest at IMPs - small slam or grand - but bidding and, even more so play interest at BAM. With only the opponents vulnerable your RHO deals and opens 1♥ while you feast your eyes on this:

♠ - ♥ 9 ♦ A K Q J 6 ♣ A Q 10 8 5 4 3

Your options seem to include: 2♣ (this will never be passed out), planning to bid something like 4NT later to show 5-6+ in the minors; 2NT, praying that this will not be passed out (it's been known to happen). and planning to show extra strength and shape later somehow; or 4NT for both minors, hopefully shutting out the opponents' major suit fit(s), but leaving you unsure what to do over partner's five level preference. Peter and I had never discussed 4NT but I am confident he would have read it for the minors, but the hand is simply too good for that. I think it's close between 2♣ and 2NT, but because we play it as at least constructive I eventually - and happily - chose 2NT, as did most of my counterparts at other tables, just three opting for 2♣ and two for 4NT. My LHO passed and Peter jumped to 5♦. With the club finesse likely to be right after RHO's opening, I quickly raised him to slam. We missed the grand, as you can see from the full deal.

Maybe I should have bid 5♠ en route to 6♦, and Peter might now have bid the grand. Alternatively, as he said, he might have bid 3♠ which, although undiscussed, ought to show a good hand with a ♦ fit - although with my spade void I would have agonised a long time whether it was natural.

Brd 6, E/EW

♠ J 9 7 6 5 4 3	♠ A 10	♠ K Q 8 2
♥ J 10 8	♥ A Q 3 2	♥ K 7 6 5 4
♦ 10 2	♦ 9 8 7 4 3	♦ 5
♣ 9	♣ 6 2	♣ K J 7

Diagram:

N
W O
Z

♠ -

♥ 9

♦ A K Q J 6

♣ A Q 10 8 5 4 3

Peter quickly wrapped up 13 tricks. At the other table in our match the opponents were in 6♣, and made just 12 tricks finessing the queen on the first round of trumps. Playing BAM you should at least consider taking the deep finesse. Why? Because you can see that if the other table is in diamonds they will make 13 if the club king is onside, barring terrible breaks in both minors. Of course the other table might be in 7♦ and go down with an unlikely offside ♣K, or be in 7♣ and go down, in which case you want to play safe for 12. But otherwise you need to aim for 13 yourself. So you have to decide whether to play for East to hold Kx(x) or KJx.

To complicate matters still further, your decision has to take account of the opening lead. If a diamond, you have to consider the very real danger of a ruff, so it's probably right to finesse the queen. If a spade, you have a quick re-entry to dummy, so now you have more options. If you think there is a danger of West holding a stiff king, you can try the safety play of cashing the ace first, which also gives you 12 if East has KJx. Or, if you think there is a danger of East holding all four missing clubs, finessing the ten first gives you 12 tricks - the same 12 this play gives you against West's stiff king. Decisions, decisions, this is what makes BAM so hard; also why I prefer IMPs. Two pairs did manage to bid the grand in diamonds, with differing levels of conviction.

More tough bidding and play decisions on the first board of match 11.

Brd 1. N/-

♠ A Q 6 5	♠ K J 7 4 3 2	♠ 10 9 8
♥ 2	♥ -	♥ Q 6 5 4
♦ J 7 4	♦ K Q 10 9 3	♦ A 8 5
♣ K 9 8 7 3	♣ J 4	♣ Q 5 2

N

W O

Z

♠ -

♥ A K J 10 9 8 7 3

♦ 8 2

♣ A 10 6



John Carruthers (WBF)

West	North	East	South
<i>Carruthers</i>	<i>Lund</i>	<i>Kirr</i>	<i>Cantor</i>
	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦*	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Of course Peter opened the North hand, and naturally slam was now in the picture. 2♥ was automatic (unless you are one of the small minority playing strong jump shifts), and so was 2♠. The void in partner's suit was doing us no favours, but I was still looking at a four and a half loser hand, so chose to force with a semi-natural 3♣, which might even serve as an advance cue bid if the auction developed well. Peter's 3♦ was ostensibly fourth suit forcing, which from my side of the table sounded like a non-minimum (in the context of his 'minimum' rebid), but not a hand that wanted to bid 3NT. Which left me looking at a lot of potential losers, but still a lot of potential winners too. It seemed to me that my choices were either a timid 4♥, or a pushy 5♥. I chose the more aggressive option, hoping that Peter would read it as asking about a diamond control. Peter passed quickly and there the auction ended. Before he led John Carruthers asked me in private chat whether we had an agreement about what my 5♥ bid asked for, and I replied that, as a not very regular pairing, we had no agreement. JC led the ♦4, and as soon as he saw dummy sent me another private message: "Whatever you were asking for, he hasn't got it".

Now let's look at the play. The auction had taken quite some time, but the play took a lot longer, all three active players spending time in the tank. John first, for his lead, and now me. I suspected that the lead was from the ♦J, so putting the 10 in was an option. But I didn't want Martin Kirr to duck with the ace, and I certainly didn't want him to win with the jack if he had both honours. Anyway, I could always resort to the finesse against the jack later if I needed to - so I played the king and Martin won. Martin's turn

for the big think. In the fullness of time he chose the ♠8, but I had prepared for every eventuality and quickly discarded a club, allowing John to win his ace, before he re-entered the tank. But I could sit there confident that whether I would make or go one down depended almost entirely on whether the trump queen was doubleton, unless East held the ♦K. This last danger disappeared when that card was West's choice of exit card, but sadly for me there was still a trump loser, one down. I wasn't without hope that we might get a draw on the board, even conceivably a win, since on the surface there appear to be four losers, without help from the defence, in the shape of a trump, a diamond and two clubs. So if our team-mates could hold the contract to 9 tricks we had

chances. Heart contracts were played at 12 of the 14 tables, and made 10 tricks every time, including in our other room, where they only contracted for ten, so we lost the board. But the computer says best play holds it to nine. It took me quite a while staring at the deal double dummy before I found the solution that no-one found at the table. West has to lead a diamond (or a trump), so well done John. The killer play is that East has to duck the first diamond - which Martin Kirr certainly thought about, but that would be brave indeed, perhaps even foolhardy if the lead could be from four. It was an exciting match throughout with a number of very difficult boards, so apologies to our director for the late finish. Very enjoyable too, and it ended in a tie.

SIZE ISN'T EVERYTHING

Mark Horton

Looking for one last deal from this memorable event it was tempting to go for one of the 'big deals' but I decided to settle for this humble deal instead (David Bird -, if you are watching, look away now).

Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 4
♥ K Q 9 2
♦ A Q J 8 3
♣ Q 8 7

♠ A 6
♥ J 6
♦ K 9 5 4
♣ K 6 5 3 2

♠ K 10 9 8 5
♥ A 8 4
♦ 6 2
♣ 10 9 4

♠ Q J 7 3 2
♥ 10 7 5 3
♦ 10 7
♣ A J

W
N
O
Z

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	All Pass		

North leads a club and South wins and returns the jack, covered by the queen and ducked by North. Declarer now leads the ♦Q. If North ducks, declarer can play on hearts, taking four tricks in the suit by applying a well-known principle. This is the position as the fourth heart is cashed:

♠ 4
♥ K
♦ A J 8 3
♣ 8

♠ A 6
♥ -
♦ K 9
♣ K 6 5

♠ K 10 9 8 5
♥ -
♦ 6
♣ 10

♠ Q J 7 3
♥ 10
♦ 10 7
♣ -

W
N
O
Z

What can North do?

If he throws a spade declarer can exit in either black suit and score a useful overtrick; and if he parts with one of his winning clubs then declarer can also play two rounds of diamonds.

The safest defense is for North to win the second round of clubs and clear the suit. Then declarer is sure to take the diamond finesse and North can cash out for six tricks.

Don't Miss The Bulletin

Be sure to receive the Alt Bulletins on time. Just sign up for the **bid72 newsletter** and get all the bulletins when published.

Upcoming Alt events 2021

The Alt events will be played from Monday to Friday from 10:00 EST (16:00 CET) till 15:00 EST (21:00 CET).

11 - 15 January 2021	Alt Board a Match Invitational	Conditions of contest	Results	Participants
25 - 29 January 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 1	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
8 - 12 February 2021	Alt Swiss Pairs Invitational	Preliminary info	Apply for invitation	Participants
22 - 26 February 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 2	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
15 - 19 March 2021	Alt - to be announced...	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
29 March - 2 April 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 3	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
26 - 30 April 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 4	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
10 - 14 May 2021	Alt - to be announced...	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
24 - 28 May 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 5	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
7 - 11 June 2021	Alt - to be announced...	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
21 - 25 June 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 6	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
5 - 9 July 2021	Alt - to be announced...	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
9 - 13 August 2021	Alt - to be announced...	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
23 - 27 August 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 7	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
6 - 10 September 2021	Alt - to be announced...	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
20 - 24 September 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 8	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
11 - 15 October 2021	Alt - to be announced...	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
25 - 29 October 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 9	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
8 - 12 November 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 10	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
15 - 19 November 2021	Alt - to be announced...	Conditions of contest	Apply for invitation	Participants
13 - 17 December 2021	New Alt Competition - Event X	Preliminary info	Apply for invitation	Participants

MY FRIEND THE KING

Toine van Hoof

Petros Roussos, perhaps a distant relative of the famous Greek singer Demis Roussos ('Forever and Ever', 'My Friend the Wind' and 'Goodbye, My Love, Goodbye'), found a great lead on this hand from Round 9:

Round 9. Board 1. North/None

		♠ Q		
		♥ 7 6 2		
		♦ A K Q 6 3		
		♣ J 9 6 4		
♠ K 5 4 3			♠ J 9 6 2	
♥ K 8			♥ 10 9 4	
♦ 5 4 2			♦ J 9 7	
♣ A 7 5 2			♣ Q 10 8	
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W O Z </div>		
		♠ A 10 8 7		
		♥ A Q J 5 3		
		♦ 10 8		
		♣ K 3		

West	North	East	South
Roussos	Nickell	Doxiadis	Katz
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass

2♠ 4th suit GF
3♠ not alerted

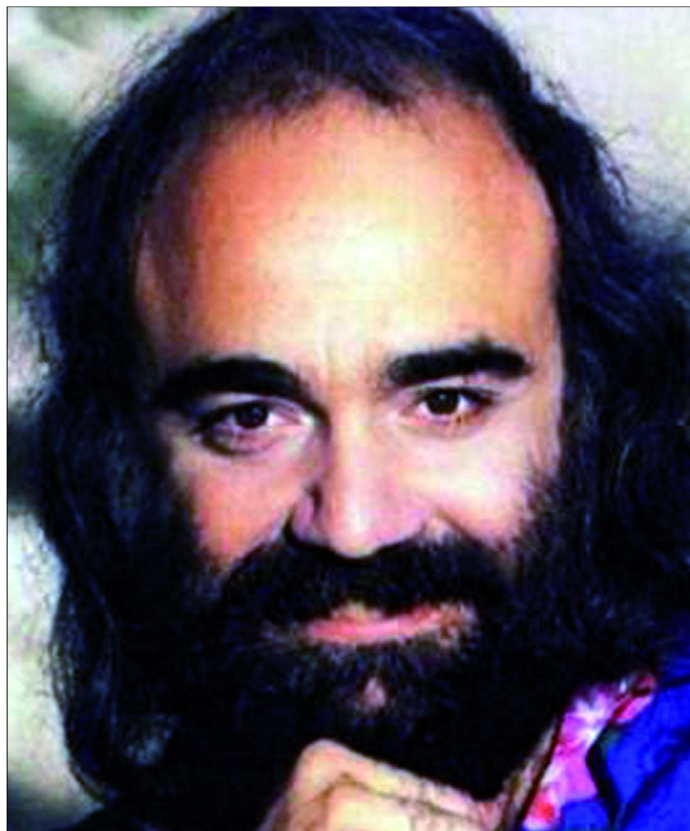
In the auction North had shown a singleton spade. Just in case this was the queen Roussos led the ♠K. The declarer, Ralph Katz, won with the ace, ruffed a spade in dummy and finessed in hearts. Roussos took the ♥K and locked declarer in dummy by continuing spades. Katz pitched his last spade on the ♦Q but then had to concede two more tricks: NS 420.

At the other table after a similar auction West led the ♣A. Declarer cashed the ♠A, ruffed a spade and took the heart finesse. West returned a heart and South made the rest of the tricks: NS 450. One point to Greece.

All NS pairs finished in 4♥ except for Kees Bouwen and Jan de Winter (Netbridge):

West	North	East	South
Gold	Bouwen	Gupta	De Winter
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

South's blunt bidding paid off when West led a small spade: NS 460.



Demis Roussos: 'My Friend the Wind'

In the replay Muller-De Wijs (Gupta) scored 450 in 4♥ after the ♣A lead.

A low spade was led against 4♥ at seven of the other ten tables. Declarer is now destined to make an overtrick. Mustafa Cem Tokay, though, only made ten tricks when he prematurely cashed his diamond winners.

Tatyana Trendafilova (Cantor) and Alan Graves (Californication) both hit upon the awkward lead of a low diamond. Marion Michielsen (Donner) won with the ♦A and took the losing heart finesse. Trendafilova played another diamond and this held declarer to ten tricks. Mike Rippey misplayed the hand after Graves' diamond lead and went two off.

The top score in NS was for Alon Birman and Dror Padon (Altshuler). Against 4♥ Ahmed Solimen (Amateurs) led a cunning ♣2. That ran to the king of Padon, who discarded his second club on the ♦Q and cross-ruffed to twelve tricks: NS 480.

PLAY OR DEFEND?

Mark Horton

It used to be quite popular to present problems where you were invited to choose between playing or defending. Victor Mollo's immortal Hideous Hog was very fond of striking bets with all and sundry about the outcome of a deal, first making the contract and then showing how it could be defeated or vice versa.

This deal from the semifinal offered chances for both sides:

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A K 5	♠ 4 3	♠ Q 10 6 2
♥ K Q 10 9	♥ A J 8 6 5 4	♥ 7 3
♦ K Q 3	♦ J 5	♦ 9 2
♣ 8 5 2	♣ A 10 9	♣ Q J 7 6 3

♠ J 9 8 7	W	♠ J 8 6
♥ 2	N	♥ 7 3
♦ A 10 8 7 6 4	O	♦ 9 2
♣ K 4	Z	♣ Q J 7 6 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Michielsen	Gold	Cullin
1NT	2♦*	Pass	2♥*
Dbl	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♦ Multi-Landy
2♥ Pass or correct

I recall a deal in the early eighties when, in an analogous situation, Tony Forrester, having opened a weak no trump, doubled a 2♥ overcall. I foolishly took it out - only to discover that he had started with ♥AKQJ10!

There was some speculation about the possible outcome of 2NT. If North leads a heart, playing on clubs leads to an overtrick. If North leads an inspired diamond then declarer is in serious trouble.

Against 3♣ South led the ♥2 and North won and after some thought switched to the ♦5. South won and returned the suit but declarer won and played a club and the defenders were helpless. North took the ace and played a heart but South's ruff was the last trick for the defense, +110.

If North returns a heart at trick two it is easy to see that the contract will fail, but there is way to get

+200. After ruffing South switches to a low spade and plays a second spade after getting in with the ♣K. North wins the second club and puts South in with the ♦A to receive a spade ruff.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Grue	De Wijs	Moss	Muller
1NT	2♦*	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♠	2♥*
Pass	Pass		Pass

2♦ Multi-Landy
2♥ Pass or correct

South led his heart and North won and returned the four, South ruffing, switching to the ♣K, cashing the ♦A and then playing a second club. North won and played a heart and East ruffed with the ♠Q and cashed dummy's top spades, claiming seven tricks, -100 and a loss.

KIBITZERS RULE

The kibitzers (you remember them?) were out in force for the final of the BAM, most of them making a beeline for the table occupied by the player who had just published an impassioned plea for the return of kibitzers.

Board 3 Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ K 5	♠ Q 7 4 3	♠ A 10 9 2
♥ 10 9 8 5 3	♥ 7 6	♥ 4
♦ 4 2	♦ A 9 8	♦ K 10 6 3
♣ 8 6 4 2	♣ A 10 9 3	♣ K J 7 5

♠ J 8 6	W	♠ J 8 6
♥ A K Q J 2	N	♥ A K Q J 2
♦ Q J 7 5	O	♦ Q J 7 5
♣ Q	Z	♣ Q

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Umur	De Wijs	Koksoy	Muller
Pass	1NT*	Dbl	1♥
2♣	Pass	Pass	Rdbl*
Pass	Pass	Pass	Dbl

1NT 4/5♠, NF, up to limit
Rdbl 3♠

North led the ♥7 and South won with the jack and returned the queen, declarer ruffing in dummy, playing a spade to the king, ruffing a heart (North discarding the ♦9) cashed the ♠A, ruffed a spade, ruffed another heart (North throwing the ♠Q) and played a spade. South ruffed with the ♣Q as North threw a diamond and moments later North was claiming the rest, two down, -500.

After ruffing a heart at trick two, declarer must play three rounds of spades, ruffing, and then play a club. Assuming North follows with the three, how likely is it that declarer will guess to play dummy's king?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zia	Zorlu	Gupta	Uçar
Pass	1♠	Dbl	1♥
2♣	Pass	Pass	Rdbl*
Pass	Pass	Pass	Dbl*

Rdbl ♠ support
Dbl Takeout

North led the ♥7 and South won with the jack and switched to the ♣Q. That ran to dummy's king and declarer played three rounds of spades, ruffing, ruffed a heart, ruffed a spade and played a diamond to the king, claiming when it held, +180 and an emphatic win.

It was the old story: when you know you have the opponents outgunned, a trump lead is frequently a good idea. If North starts with a club, declarer needs to put up dummy's king to escape for one down (assuming South switches to a diamond and North wins and plays two rounds of clubs).



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bid72			
dealer North vulnerability None NBW-02			
West		East	
♠ A 6		♠ Q 7 5 4 3 2	
♥ K 9		♥ 10 6	
♦ A 8 5 4 2		♦ K	
♣ K J 9 4		♣ A 8 6 5	
10 9 8			
4♣W	5♣W 4♠E	5♣W 4♣ 3♠ 3♣	
West	North	East	South
Marina72		Tobias	
—	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

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- 2♦ = Multi
- 2NT = game invitational or better
- 3♦ = minimum or medium weak two in spades
- 3♠ = sign-off opposite a minimum
- 4♠ = medium weak two

ZIA OR MISCLICK Final Highlights

Toine van Hoof

On the last three boards of the first set in the final team Gupta took a substantial lead (7.6-4.5 including 0.1 carryover) over team Zorlu.

Final 1. Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

	♠ Q 7 6 2	
	♥ Q 8 7 6 5	
	♦ 3	
	♣ K 6 4	
	<div>N W O Z</div>	
♠ K 5 4		♠ A J 3
♥ K 9 2		♥ A 4
♦ Q J 10 5 2		♦ A K 8 7
♣ Q 3		♣ A 10 9 7
	♠ 10 9 8	
	♥ J 10 3	
	♦ 9 6 4	
	♣ J 8 5 2	

West	North	East	South
Umur	De Wijs	Koksoy	Muller
4NT	Pass	2NT*	Pass

2NT 20-22

With a minimum is for his wide 2NT range Enver Koksoy passed the 4NT invite from Omer Umur. He will not have been pleased to see that on this lay-out twelve tricks were readily available: EW 690.

West	North	East	South
Mahmood	Zorlu	Gupta	Uçar
4NT	Pass	2NT*	Pass
Pass	Pass	6NT	Pass

2NT 20-21

Naren Gupta was a bit more optimistic, liking his top winners and intermediates in clubs. After the lead of the ♠10 to his jack 6NT suddenly was an excellent slam. Gupta cashed his winners in diamonds and then advanced the ♣Q, claiming when the king appeared: EW 1440.

On Board 11 Gupta found a good sacrifice against a rock solid 5♦ that Simon de Wijs was allowed to play at the other table. Zia went only one off in 5♠ doubled.

Team Gupta scored another point on the final deal of the first set:

Final 1. Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

	♠ Q 9 4		♠ K 10 8 6
	♥ J 7 6 2		♥ A
	♦ A K 9 3		♦ 8 7
	♣ A K		♣ Q 9 7 6 4 2
	<div>N W O Z</div>		
♠ A 7 2			
♥ 10 8			
♦ Q 10 6 4 2			
♣ 10 5 3			
	♠ J 5 3		
	♥ K Q 9 5 4 3		
	♦ J 5		
	♣ J 8		

West	North	East	South
Umur	De Wijs	Koksoy	Muller
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1NT 15-17
2NT good hand; ♥ fit
3♦ retransfer

East led the ♣4 to declarer's ace, won the next trick with the ♥A and continued with the ♣Q to the king. With the ♠10 in the East hand, the contract is likely to fail, but De Wijs thought otherwise. He drew the last trump, eliminated the diamonds and played a spade to his queen. Instead of the single chance of ♠10 with West he had two chances: ♠AK with West or ♠A10/K10 with East. When East won with the king and returned the ♠10 De Wijs claimed: NS 620.

As it happened, making 4♥ or going one down would not have made a difference as Mahmood-Gupta pushed their opponents to the five level and doubled them:

West	North	East	South
Mahmood	Zorlu	Gupta	Uçar
Pass	1NT	2♣*	2♥
2♠	3♣*	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	5♥
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

2♣ ♣ + major
3♣ max raise

Ali Uçar duplicated the play from the other table but was minus 200.

On continued heart leads 4♠ doubled would be four off, while 5♣ would go for only 300 (or 500 on a diamond lead).

After eight boards in the second set Gupta, with David Gold partnering Zia, still had a 3.1 lead. Zorlu needed to win all four last boards.

Final 2. Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

	♠ K J		
	♥ 7		
	♦ 6 2		
	♣ K Q 10 8 7 5 3 2		
♠ 10 8 6		♠ Q 5	
♥ K J 4		♥ 9 8 5 3 2	
♦ A K 9 8 5		♦ J 10 7 4 3	
♣ J 6		♣ A	
	♠ A 9 7 4 3 2		
	♥ A Q 10 6		
	♦ Q		
	♣ 9 4		

West	North	East	South
Aslan	De Wijs	Kubaç	Muller
	4♣	Pass	Pass

Pass

East led the ♣A and shifted to a diamond. West won the king and returned ♣J. Declarer now could set up the spades for a diamond discard: NS 150.

Mahmood and Gold grossly overbid:

West	North	East	South
Mahmood	Zorlu	Gold	Uçar
	1♣	Pass	1♠
2♦	3♣	5♦	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Zorlu led his singleton heart. The contract can go for 800 now but Uçar cashed ♠A and played a spade to partner's king. Plus 200 sufficed to win the board.

Final 2. Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

	♠ -		
	♥ J 5 3 2		
	♦ A Q 9 8 7		
	♣ 10 8 4 3		
♠ K 9 6		♠ A Q J 8 4 3	
♥ Q 10 8		♥ A 7 4	
♦ K 10		♦ J 5 4	
♣ K J 7 6 5		♣ A	
	♠ 10 7 5 2		
	♥ K 9 6		
	♦ 6 3 2		
	♣ Q 9 2		

West	North	East	South
Aslan	De Wijs	Kubaç	Muller
		1♠	Pass
2♣*	2♦	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

2♣ 2+

To protect his ♦K Bulent Aslan opted for 3NT. That was the right view because there were ten tricks available in both 3NT and 4♠. North led a heart to the king, South played a diamond to the queen, North cashed the ♦A and declarer claimed: EW 630.

West	North	East	South
Mahmood	Zorlu	Gold	Uçar
		1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

4♦ serious cue

With his Zia cue bid Gold managed to avoid the diamond lead. He got the ♥6 from South and could have made an overtrick. However, he inserted the ♥8 and ended with ten tricks: EW 620.

Final 2. Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

	♠ Q 5 3		
	♥ K 10 7 6 5 2		
	♦ 5		
	♣ J 6 4		
♠ A J 8 7		♠ K 4 2	
♥ A 4		♥ 9 8 3	
♦ K Q J 10 7 3		♦ 9 8 2	
♣ 7		♣ A K 5 3	
	♠ 10 9 6		
	♥ Q J		
	♦ A 6 4		
	♣ Q 10 9 8 2		

West	North	East	South
Aslan	De Wijs	Kubaç	Muller
			Pass
1♦	2♥	Dbl	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

After the 2♥ intervention by North Nezhir Kubaç had a nasty bidding problem. He decided to double, promising four spades, and of course his partner jumped to 4♠. This, however, was not a hopeless contract. On the contrary, when De Wijs hit upon the unlucky lead of the ♦5 and Bauke Muller switched to the ♥J, declarer even went for the overtrick: ♥A, ♣A-K, ♠K and a spade finesse. He ruffed the heart return and when both opponents followed suit in trumps he claimed the balance: EW 450.

At the other table, with over a thousand kibitzers watching, Zia made a real show out of the penultimate deal of the tournament.

>>



Zia Mahmood (WBF)

Final 2. Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

	♠ A Q 8 5		
	♥ A K 6 5 3		
	♦ -		
	♣ Q J 7 6		
♠ 9 3		♠ J 7 6 4 2	
♥ J 10 7 4 2		♥ 8	
♦ Q 10 9 4		♦ A J 3 2	
♣ 5 3		♣ 8 4 2	
	♠ K 10		
	♥ Q 9		
	♦ K 8 7 6 5		
	♣ A K 10 9		

This last board seemed to be designed for Muller-De Wijs. Left to their own devices they would undoubtedly have relayed to the club slam. However, protected by the vulnerability Kubaç and Aslan started bullying them around:

West	North	East	South
Aslan	De Wijs	Kubaç	Muller
Pass	1♣*	1♠	2♣*
2♥	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1♣ 15+
2♣ artificial GF (like T/O double)

Doubling 2♥ for penalties would have yielded 1400 but EW can 'escape' to 2♠ for 1100. Over 3NT Muller decided to bid 6NT. Had West led a diamond declarer would have made twelve tricks by finessing in spades. Aslan led the ♠9 and now declarer's only hope was that West had four or more hearts plus the ♦A. He cashed his black suit winners and then played a diamond from hand hoping to see the ace coming. Alas, West produced the queen and East took no chances. He overtook with the ace and cashed the ♠J for one off.

NS were less ambitious at the other table:

West	North	East	South
Mahmood	Zorlu	Gold	Uçar
2♦*	Dbl	Pass*	Pass
2♥	Dbl	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2♦ bad weak two in major
Pass neutral

Upon the lead of the ♠9 Uçar made eleven tricks to win the board and the match by 12.5 to 11.6.

West	North	East	South
Mahmood	Zorlu	Gold	Uçar
1♣??	1♥	2♥*	Dbl
Pass	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♥ not alerted (♣ fit)
4♥ not alerted (hoping for a spade cue?)

He opened with 1♣, which may have been a misclick but with Zia you never know. Perhaps he felt they needed a special result to win the match.

Gold showed serious support for clubs and now Zia had to find a safe haven. He could have bid 3NT, which double dummy can be made with two overtricks. Instead he launched a 4♥ cue bid, hoping his partner would join the cue bidding with 4♠.

Gold gave it a long view. What did he want? How can he pass in his second turn and now try for slam? What about our diamond control? In the end Gold shrug his shoulders and bid 4♠, swiftly passed by Zia. South led the ♥Q and Gold after a considerable pause made the excellent play of ducking. Though this was the only way to make the contract, he could no longer win the board. NS made the ♦A and the ♠Q : EW 420.

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1 500	1 400	1 300	1 200	1 400 10 50
2 450	2 350	2 250	2 150	2 350 11 45
3 400	3 300	3 200	3 100	3 300 12 40
4 300	4 200	4 150	4 75	4 250 13 35
5 200	5 100	5 100	5 50	5 200 14 30
6 100	6 75	6 50	6 25	6 150 15 29 etc.
			7 24	7 125 16 28 etc.
			8 23	8 100
			9 22 etc.	9 75

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2 David Gold (dagold)	350	Massim. Di Franco (m_difranco)	125	Aris Bremer (arisbreem)	45
Naren Gupta (nareng)	350	Andrea Manno (maqeda)	125	Hester Gast (hester02)	45
Zia Mahmood (zia)	350	Piotr Nawrocki (nawrot)	125	Jan van den Hoek (janonline)	45
Bauke Muller (beukertje)	350	Kamil Nowak (kamiln)	125	Kees Rentes (7slaper)	45
Simon De Wijs (sm1)	350	Mike Rippey (radiators)	125	Bas van Roosmalen (BasvRo)	45
3' Per-Ola Cullin (pocken)	300	Piotr Wiankoski (vino_e)	125	12 Nikos Delimpaltadakis (nickd)	40
Gary Donner (gdonnersc1)	300	Piotr Zatorski (dzeronimo)	125	Dinos Doxiadis (rigas_karo)	40
Joe Grue (joegrue)	300	8' John Carruthers (jgc)	100	Filippos Karamanlis (firfos7)	40
Marion Michielsen (lady007)	300	Mitch Dunitz (dunitz)	100	Kostantinos Kontomiros (zlatan)	40
Brad Moss (brad)	300	Ross Gabel (rossg)	100	Tasos Koukouselis (lelos)	40
Cecilia Rimstedt (cillar)	300	Allan Graves (algraves)	100	Y. Papakyriakopoulos (yankos)	40
4' Richie Coren (wambibird1)	250	Martin Kirr (kirp)	100	Manolis Protonotarios (emprot)	40
John Diamond (dimebags)	250	Jill Meyers (jillm)	100	Petros Roussos (peter1961)	40
Eric Greco (greco)	250	George Mittelman (mittmouse)	100	Aristidis Sapounakis (asapou)	40
Geoff Hampson (ghampson)	250	Kerri Sanborn (kerri)	100	Vasilis Vroustis (bill123)	40
Ralph Katz (ralphk)	250	9 David Burn (dburn)	75	13 Raluca Dobrescu (ralooka)	35
Dan Korbel (dank)	250	Martin Cantor (cantorm)	75	Ted Greenberg (ted greenb)	35
Bobby Levin (levin)	250	Jonathan Davis (davisbiz)	75	Okay Gur (okay gur)	35
Nick Nickell (fnickell)	250	Mike Graham (mdgraham)	75	Lynne Koeppe (lgkoeppe)	35
Brian Platnick (bplatnick)	250	Fredrik Jarlvik (freddy6)	75	Mustafa cem Tokay (tokay1975)	35
Steve Weinstein (stevo)	250	Peter Lund (pelu)	75	Gokhan Yilmaz (yilmaz_g)	35
5' Franco Baseggio (baseggio)	200	Leif Nygaard (nyg)	75	14 Kees Bouwen (kebosporto)	30
David Chechelashvili (dato)	200	Henrik Petersen (longrow)	75	Thijs Hoebe (hoethi)	30
Alex Kolesnik (Kolesnik)	200	Nick Smith (rogerhunt)	75	Victor Oranje (victornl)	30
Aitai Lo (aitail)	200	Tatyana Treendafilova (tuti)	75	Arjan Roelofs (arjannl)	30
Bill Pettis (buffalo6)	200	10 Giovanni Donati (giova007)	50	Jan de Winter (winjan)	30
Ahmed Solimen (rabie3)	200	Gabriella Olivieri (ollina)	50	Marco Zomer (mczo)	30
Andrew Stark (astark)	200	Giacomo Percario (giacomopr)	50		

* Points for semi- and quarterfinals are based on Round Robin result.



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At the end of a session the members of a team gather to compare scores. Each board is scored separately as a win (1), a tie ($\frac{1}{2}$) or a loss (0).

ROUND ROBIN RESULTS

Round 1. 8 boards. Monday, 11 January 2021, 10:00 EST / 16:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	ULI	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
2	ALTSHULER	DONNER	8	2	2			4.0	4.0
3	CANTOR	RIPPEY	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
4	SALVO	KOEPEL	8	2	2			4.0	4.0
5	AMATEURS	GUPTA	8	2	3			3.5	4.5
6	CALIFORNICATION	GREECE	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
7	MIXTURE	NETBRIDGE	8	4	3			4.5	3.5

Round 2. 8 boards. Monday, 11 January 2021, 11:20 EST / 17:20 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	DONNER	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
2	ULI	CANTOR	8	0	7			0.9	7.1
3	KOEPEL	ALTSHULER	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
4	RIPPEY	AMATEURS	8	2	3			3.5	4.5
5	CALIFORNICATION	SALVO	8	2	3			3.5	4.5
6	MIXTURE	GUPTA	8	1	6			1.5	6.5
7	NETBRIDGE	GREECE	8	3	3			4.0	4.0

Round 3. 8 boards. Monday, 11 January 2021, 12:40 EST / 18:40 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	CANTOR	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
2	DONNER	KOEPEL	8	6	1			6.5	1.5
3	AMATEURS	ULI	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
4	ALTSHULER	CALIFORNICATION	8	2	3			3.5	4.5
5	MIXTURE	RIPPEY	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
6	NETBRIDGE	SALVO	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
7	GREECE	GUPTA	8	2	5			2.5	5.5

Round 4. 8 boards. Monday, 11 January 2021, 14:00 EST / 20:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	KOEPEL	8	4	4			4.0	4.0
2	CANTOR	AMATEURS	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
3	CALIFORNICATION	DONNER	8	3	4			3.5	4.5
4	ULI	MIXTURE	8	4	4			4.0	4.0
5	NETBRIDGE	ALTSHULER	8	2	5			2.5	5.5
6	GREECE	RIPPEY	8	3	4			3.5	4.5
7	GUPTA	SALVO	8	3	4			3.1	4.9

Round 5. 8 boards. Tuesday, 12 January 2021, 10:00 EST / 16:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	AMATEURS	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
2	KOEPEL	CALIFORNICATION	8	3	5			3.0	5.0
3	MIXTURE	CANTOR	8	5	3			5.0	3.0
4	DONNER	NETBRIDGE	8	5	1			6.0	2.0
5	GREECE	ULI	8	3	1			5.0	3.0
6	GUPTA	ALTSHULER	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
7	SALVO	RIPPEY	8	3	1			5.0	3.0

Round 6. 8 boards. Tuesday, 12 January 2021, 11:20 EST / 17:20 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	CALIFORNICATION	8	3	4			3.5	4.5
2	AMATEURS	MIXTURE	8	5	3			5.0	3.0
3	NETBRIDGE	KOEPEL	8	3	4			3.5	4.5
4	CANTOR	GREECE	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
5	GUPTA	DONNER	8	1	3			3.0	5.0
6	SALVO	ULI	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
7	RIPPEY	ALTSHULER	8	4	2			5.0	3.0

Round 7. 8 boards. Tuesday, 12 January 2021, 12:40 EST / 18:40 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	MIXTURE	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
2	CALIFORNICATION	NETBRIDGE	8	4	1			5.5	2.5
3	GREECE	AMATEURS	8	3	4			3.5	4.5
4	KOEPEL	GUPTA	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
5	SALVO	CANTOR	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
6	RIPPEY	DONNER	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
7	ALTSHULER	ULI	8	3	3			4.0	4.0

Round 8. 8 boards. Tuesday, 12 January 2021, 14:00 EST / 20:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	NETBRIDGE	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
2	MIXTURE	GREECE	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
3	GUPTA	CALIFORNICATION	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
4	AMATEURS	SALVO	8	6	0			7.0	1.0
5	RIPPEY	KOEPEL	8	5	2			5.5	2.5
6	ALTSHULER	CANTOR	8	4	1			5.5	2.5
7	ULI	DONNER	8	3	3			4.0	4.0

Round 9. 8 boards. Wednesday, 13 January 2021, 10:00 EST / 16:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	GREECE	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
2	NETBRIDGE	GUPTA	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
3	SALVO	MIXTURE	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
4	CALIFORNICATION	RIPPEY	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
5	ALTSHULER	AMATEURS	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
6	ULI	KOEPEL	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
7	DONNER	CANTOR	8	3	2			4.1	3.9

Round 10. 8 boards. Wednesday, 13 January 2021, 11:20 EST / 17:20 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	GUPTA	8	3	1			5.0	3.0
2	GREECE	SALVO	8	2	6			2.0	6.0
3	RIPPEY	NETBRIDGE	8	5	2			5.5	2.5
4	MIXTURE	ALTSHULER	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
5	ULI	CALIFORNICATION	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
6	DONNER	AMATEURS	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
7	CANTOR	KOEPEL	8	5	1			6.0	2.0

ROUND ROBIN RESULTS (MORE)

Round 11. 8 boards. Wednesday, 13 January 2021, 12:40 EST / 18:40 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	SALVO	8	3	1			5.0	3.0
2	GUPTA	RIPPEY	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
3	ALTSCHULER	GREECE	8	3	4			3.5	4.5
4	NETBRIDGE	ULI	8	3	4			3.5	4.5
5	DONNER	MIXTURE	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
6	CANTOR	CALIFORNICATION	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
7	KOEPEL	AMATEURS	8	3	3			4.0	4.0

Round 12. 8 boards. Wednesday, 13 January 2021, 14:00 EST / 20:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	RIPPEY	8	4	1			5.5	2.5
2	SALVO	ALTSCHULER	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
3	ULI	GUPTA	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
4	GREECE	DONNER	8	0	4			2.0	6.0
5	CANTOR	NETBRIDGE	8	2	2			4.0	4.0
6	KOEPEL	MIXTURE	8	4	4			4.0	4.0
7	AMATEURS	CALIFORNICATION	8	2	2			4.0	4.0

Round 13. 8 boards. Thursday, 14 January 2021, 10:00 EST / 16:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	NICKELL	ALTSCHULER	8	1	5			2.0	6.0
2	RIPPEY	ULI	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
3	DONNER	SALVO	8	1	5			2.0	6.0
4	GUPTA	CANTOR	8	4	1			5.5	2.5
5	KOEPEL	GREECE	8	3	1			5.0	3.0
6	AMATEURS	NETBRIDGE	8	6	0			7.0	1.0
7	CALIFORNICATION	MIXTURE	8	3	2			4.5	3.5

Ranking after round 13

rk	team	VPs	Adj	WIN	LOST
1	AMATEURS Franco Baseggio, David Chechelashvili, Alex Kolesnik, Aital Lo, Bill Pettis, Ahmed Solimen, Andrew Stark	61.0		46	28
2	DONNER Per-Ola Cullin, Gary Donner, Joe Grue, Marion Michielson, Brad Moss, Cecilia Rimstedt	58.6		43	29
3	GUPTA David Gold, Naren Gupta, Zia Mahmood, Bauke Muller, Simon De Wijs	57.6		43	31
4	ALTSCHULER Gilad Altschuler, Alon Birman, Dani Cohen, Amir Levin, Dror Padon, Yossi Roll	54.5		40	35
5	SALVO Sedat Aluf, Bulent Aslan, Enver Koksoy, Nezir Kubac, Ali Ucar, Omer Umur, Nafiz Zorlu	54.4		39	35
6	RIPPEY Leonardo Cima, Massimiliano Di Franco, Andrea Manno, Piotr Nawrocki, Kamil Nowak, Mike Rippey, Piotr Wiankoski, Piotr Zatorski	54.0		40	36
7	CALIFORNICATION John Carruthers, Mitch Dunitz, Ross Grabel, Allan Graves, Martin Kiri, Jill Meyers, George Mittelman, Kerri Sanborn	53.5		38	35
8	NICKELL Richie Coren, John Diamond, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Ralph Katz, Dan Korbel, Bobby Levin, Nick Nickell, Brian Platnick, Steve Weinstein	53.5		39	36
9	CANTOR David Burn, Martin Cantor, Jonathan Davis, Mike Graham, Fredrik Jarlvik, Peter Lund, Leif Nygaard, Henrik Petersen, Nick Smith, Tatyana Treendaflova	53.0		40	38
10	ULI Giovanni Donati, Gabriella Oliveri, Giacomo Percario, Federico Primavera, Ulrike Schuster, Walter Schuster, Antonio Sementa, Marcel Verhaegen, Gabriele Zanasi	48.4		36	44
11	MIXTURE Willem Alink, Aris Bremer, Hester Gast, Jan van den Hoek, Kees Rentes, Bas van Roosmalen	48.0		40	48
12	GREECE Nikos Delimpafadakis, Dinos Doxiadis, Filippos Karamanlis, Kostantinos Kontomiros, Tasos Koukouselis, Yankos Papakyriakopoulos, Manolis Protonotarios, Petros Roussos, Aristidis Sapounakis, Vasilis Vroustis	46.5		33	44
13	KOEPEL Raluca Dobrescu, Ted Greenberg, Okay Gur, Lynne Koepfel, Mustafa cem Tokay, Gokhan Yilmaz	44.0		34	50
14	NETBRIDGE Kees Bouwen, Thijs Hoebe, Victor Oranje, Arjan Roelofs, Jan de Winter, Marco Zomer	41.0		29	51

KNOCK OUT RESULTS

QUARTERFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
AMATEURS	2.1	<u>4.5</u>	6.6	<u>1.5</u>	8.1
NICKELL	0	<u>3.5</u>	3.5	<u>6.5</u>	10

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
ALTSCHULER	0.1	<u>4.5</u>	4.6	<u>3</u>	7.6
SALVO	0	<u>3.5</u>	3.5	<u>5</u>	8.5

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
GUPTA	1.1	<u>5</u>	6.1	<u>4</u>	10.1
RIPPEY	0	<u>3</u>	3	<u>4</u>	7

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
DONNER	1.1	<u>5</u>	6.1	<u>3</u>	9.1
CALIFORNICATION	0	<u>3</u>	3	<u>5</u>	8

SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
SALVO	0.1	<u>6</u>	6.1	<u>2.5</u>	8.6
NICKELL	0	<u>2</u>	2	<u>5.5</u>	7.5

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
DONNER	0.1	<u>3.5</u>	3.6	<u>2</u>	5.6
GUPTA	0	<u>4.5</u>	4.5	<u>6</u>	10.5

FINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
GUPTA	0.1	<u>7.5</u>	7.6	<u>4</u>	11.6
SALVO	0	<u>4.5</u>	4.5	<u>8</u>	12.5

2800 kibitzers on BBO

Registration is open for the next two Alts:

New Alt Competition - Event 1
25 - 29 January 2021

Swiss Team Pairs
8 - 12 February 2021