



# THE BULLETIN

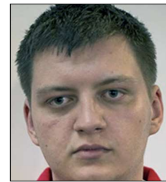
## ALT BAM 2

APRIL 12-16, 2021

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### RIPPEY TAKES IT ALL!

ftr: Michal Klukowski, Keith Balcombe, Piotr Nawrocki, Paul Thurnstorn, Kamil Nowak, Michael Rippey, Piotr Wiankowski



### MINIMAL MARGIN DECISIVE AT ALT BAM NO. 2

Rippey has won the ALT BAM II in a most efficient way. In the semifinals Rippey beat Huang with a difference of 0.1 point carryover. In the finals the team with on board superstar Michal Klukowski survived Quaranteam by the same minimal margin. In fact the tournament was decided on the very last board, when the opponents of Klukowski and his partner Kamil Nowak missed game.

In spite of the tension the atmosphere at the table stayed friendly and relaxed till the very end. As a proof just have a look at the conversation in the BBO chat function between the players on the last couple of boards of the finals.

*skrzat96?Table:*  
*fkolesnik?Table: given who we are playing against of course*  
*christianl?Table: I few more will come*  
*christianl?Table: A*  
*christianl?Table: Chicken*  
*fkolesnik?Table: see we have already scared off your partner*

*skrzat96?Table:*  
*christianl?Table: Lets flip a coin and stop the match now?*  
*christianl?Table: Sry for last*  
*christianl?Table: Prob makes on a spade lead*  
*ChristianL?Table: You shouldn't go to casino tonight*  
*Kamil*  
*kamiln?Table: totally*  
*skrzat96?Table: don't worry closed in poland?Kijkers*  
*ChristianL?Table: Sorry I forgot*  
*fkolesnik?Table: np*  
*fkolesnik?Table: thanks for the game guys, congrats if you won*  
*skrzat96?Table: thanks and same for you*  
*ChristianL?Table: Thanks guys! Well played not lucky but.. I gave you some here ??*  
*fkolesnik?Table: me 2, I have lots*  
*fkolesnik?Table: the usual*  
*fkolesnik?Table: gave\**  
*ChristianL?Table: You should always be friendly against poles Finn*



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Triple F

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## ALT BAM 2, APRIL 12-16, 2021 participating teams

### Team "AMATEURS"

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

### Team "BID72"

Kees Bakker (keesbak)  
Leo van den Brom (lbrom)  
Jan van Cleeff (imp\_jan)  
Pim Coppens (pimcop)  
John Lesmeister (jlesme)  
Gert-Jan Ros (rosgjw)  
Jan Timmer (janhamer1)  
Marina Witvliet (donkeym)  
Huub van der Wouden (kinkofklab)

### Team "CAN-AM"

John Carruthers (jgc)  
Neil Chambers (neilc)  
Mitch Dunitz (dunitz)  
Ross Gabel (rossg)  
Allan Graves (algraves)  
Martin Kirr (kirp)  
George Mittelman (mittmouse)

### Team "CANTOR"

Paul Barden (aardv)  
David Burn (dburn)  
Mike Graham (mdgraham)  
Fredrik Jarlvik (freddy6)  
Leif Nygaard (nyg)  
Stephen Peterkin (spil)  
Henrik Petersen (longrow)  
Sam Punch (puncher)  
Claire Robinson (geordiec)  
Tatyana Trendafilova (tuti)

### Team "DONNER"

Giorgia Botta (gio 89)  
Gary Donner (gdonnersc1)  
Zach Grossack (germs345)  
Joe Grue (joegrue)  
Jill Meyers (jillm)  
Sandra Rimstedt (sandra)

### Team "GUPTA"

David Gold (dagold)  
Naren Gupta (nareng)  
Daniel Korbel (dank)  
Zia Mahmood (zia)  
Bauke Muller (beukertje)  
Simon de Wijs (sm1)

### Team "HUANG"

Winston Huang (wshuang)  
Mak Kwok Fai (kfmak)  
Xiaoyi Li (lixiaoyi)  
Xin Li (jq\_sos)  
Baron NG Chi-Cheung (baron\_ng)  
Ming Sheng (kainsheng)  
Wenyi Wang (faiier)  
Hongji Wei (weihongji)  
Wei Zhang (zhangwei)

### Team "MIKADINHO"

Massimiliano Di Franco (m\_difranco)  
Andrea Manno (maqueda)  
Antonio Sementa (ilaria75)  
Marcel Verhaegen (marcel\_ve)  
Gabriele Zanasi (mikadinho)

### Team "NETBRIDGE"

Han Begas (hanb)  
Kees Bouwen (kebosporto)  
Aris Bremer (arisbreem)  
Thijs Hoebe (hoethi)  
Jan van den Hoek (janonline)  
Kees Rentes (7slaper)  
Jan de Winter (winjan)  
Marco Zomer (mczo)

### Team "PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO"

Dennis Dewit (hyperon)  
Hester Gast (hester02)  
Kevin Gotink (kefman23)  
Maria Mylläri (lucky 7)  
Bas van Roosmalen (basvanr)  
Emiel Vandewiele (blink128)

### Team "QUARANTEAM"

Finn Kolesnik (fkolesnik)  
Christian Lahrmann (christianl)  
Katherine Todd (kmtnyc)  
Asaf Yekutieli (tol123)  
Ami Zamir (zamir1)

### Team "RIPPEY"

Keith Balcombe (kbalcombe)  
Michal Klukowski (skrzat96)  
Piotr Nawrocki (nawrot)  
Kamil Nowak (kamiln)  
Michael Rippey (radiators)  
Paul Thurston (thurston)  
Piotr Wiankowski (vifon\_e)

### Team "SALVO"

Sedat Aluf (monk99)  
Bülent Aslan (baylind)  
Enver Köksoy (koksoy)  
Nezih Kubaç (nezihk)  
Erke Suiçmez (grundar)  
Ali Uçar (no weak)  
Ömer Umrur (ttlfb)  
Gökhan Yılmaz (yilmaz\_g)  
Nafiz Zorlu (begse)

### Team "SELIGMAN"

David Bakhshi (bakhshi)  
Boye Brogeland (boye)  
Espan Lindquist (stevieg)  
Martin Seligman (mseligman)

# Elvis Costello & The Attractions

lyrics by Toine van Hoof

## All This Useless Beauty



Board-a-match is certainly the most interesting form of tournament bridge. Never a dull moment. However, in BAM sometimes bidding, playing or defending beautifully can be completely useless because of the result reached at the other table. On his 1996 album Elvis Costello sang:

*What shall we do, what shall we do  
With all this useless beauty?  
All this useless beauty*

Well, the least we could do is to write about it.

Round 6. Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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



In a spade contract NS can be held to seven tricks by perfect defense: diamond to the king, club to the jack, diamond to the ace, club to the queen, ♣A and ♣3 ruffed with the ♠J for the uppercut. Only three out of twelve EW pairs found it.

West	North	East	South
Nygaard	Graves	Petersen	Chambers
-	-	Pass	1♠
Dbl	4♠	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Henrik Petersen and Leif Nygaard (Cantor) collected 500. Beautiful but useless. Plus 100 would have been enough as their team mates at the other table went one off in 3♠ after the lead of the ♠3 (!) for minus 50.

West	North	East	South
Manno	Van den Hoek	Di Franco	Bremer
-	-	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The plus 150 for Andrea Manno and Massimiliano Di Franco (Mikandinho) was overdone. In the replay EW for Netbridge went one off in 4♦.

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Ng	Yekutieli	Mak
-	-	Pass	1NT*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	3♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1NT 10-13  
2♥ transfer

Ami Zamir and Asaf Yekutieli (Quaranteam) made the best of it by defeating 3♠ two tricks. However, even letting the contract through would have made no difference. At the other table South was doubled in 3♠ and misplayed on a heart lead to go two off.

Round 7. Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wei	Verhaegen	Sheng	Zanasi
-	1♣*	1♥	1♠*
Pass	2♦	2♥	3♦
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1♣ 2+  
1♠ take-out, no spades

Against 3♥ doubled South led the ♦7 to his partner's ace. Back came the ♣Q to the ace. Declarer played the ♥7 to his queen. South won with the king and continued with the ♣K (a heart to remove dummy's entry would have been killing). Ming Sheng grabbed his chance. He ruffed and played a spade to the 8. North won with the 10 and exited with a diamond to South's king. The next diamond was ruffed and Sheng crossed to the ♥10 in dummy. He advanced the ♠Q which was covered by the king and taken by the ace. As hoped for, the jack dropped. A beautiful intra-finesse for plus 530. Useless. One down would also have won the board as in the replay EW went three off in 4♠.

Round 13. Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

On this last hand of the round-robin Kees Bouwen bluffed his opponents out of their game contract with a highly imaginative 3NT bid:

West	North	East	South
De Winter	Nowak	Bouwen	Rippey
1♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South led a deceptive ♣10 to the king and the ace. When North shifted to a spade for the king and the ace they were well on their way to collect eight down tricks. However, in the end North went astray and Bouwen was allowed to take the last four tricks for a mere minus 250. He would have won the board against nine other tables, whose scores varied from 420 to 480. However, his teammates were one of the four other pairs that missed game and scored 230 in 3♠ +3. All this useless beauty ...





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dealer East vulnerability None NBW-15

<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>
♠ A 10 7 6	♠ K 9 4
♥ A K 8	♥ J 10 7 4 3 2
♦ K J 9	♦ 3 2
♣ K J 4	♣ 7 3

10 4♥	9 3NT <sup>W</sup>	7 3NT <sup>E</sup>	6 3♥ <sup>W</sup> 2♥
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<b>West</b> Marina72	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b> Tobias	<b>South</b>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	Pass



- 2♦ = Multi (0-6 HCP)
- 2NT = game invitational or better
- 3♣ = minimum or medium  
weak two in hearts
- 3♥ = sign-off

### *Lesson to learn (after 3♣):*

- 3♦ = 'Last Train'
- 4♥ = good medium

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# FOUR JUICY, SWINGY BOARDS

by Martin Cantor

At board-a-match every deal is equal, in that you can win or lose the same amount. And as a result every board is fiercely competitive. But somehow the attitude of IMPs or rubber prevails, so that games and especially slams set the pulses racing. We had seen a few tight battles for part-scores in the opening round, but we didn't have to wait too long for the first 'big' board to appear. In IMP tournaments you can measure how swingy a board is by how many IMPs change hands across all the matches. In a BAM tournament the signal for a swingy board is how many teams win the full point. The Alt BAM II had some very swingy deals where from seven matches six full points were won.

Round 1. Board 5. N/NS

♠ A 8 5 4 2		♠ 10 9 7 6
♥ J		♥ 9 5
♦ 10 9 8 7 3		♦ K Q J 5 4 2
♣ J 3		♣ 6
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">             N W E S           </div>	
	♠ K Q	
	♥ Q 8 6 4 3 2	
	♦ A	
	♣ K Q 8 5	

The bidding started much the same at every table, with North opening 1♣ (or a Precision 2♣), East overcalling 3♦, South responding 3♥, and West raising the stakes with 5♦, or on a couple of occasions 6♦. 6♦ pretty much forced NS into bidding the small slam, and there it rested. Over 5♦ Norths were bidding 5♥ of course, leaving the last guess (for their side) to South, who mostly got it right by raising, and then one of East or West had to make the last guess for their side - four

of them got it right with 7♦, one of which strangely stayed undoubled - strangely but unimportantly, since the board was lost either way against the 6♥ at the other table. Only one match drew the board, the other six all saw a full point scored.

This one got the juices flowing too, and again we saw six tables swing the full point:

Match 2. Board 5. N/NS

♠ Q 9 3		♠ -		♠ K J 8 5 4 2
♥ A J 7 3 2		♥ Q 10 9 5		♥ 8 4
♦ -		♦ A Q 10 9 4 3 2		♦ K 6
♣ A K Q J 3		♣ 9 4		♣ 10 8 7
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">             N W E S           </div>			
		♠ A 10 7 6		
		♥ K 6		
		♦ J 8 7 5		
		♣ 6 5 2		

North has the first decision. Three passed (really?!), nine chose the relatively normal 3♦, one decided it was too good for that and bid 1♦, and one jumped in with both feet and opened 4♦. When North passed East got in with a weak two, which excited West - as who wouldn't be excited with such excellent trump support, a great source of tricks, and controls in all the side suits? In one case the weak two was a 'weak weak two' so West gave up on slam ambitions, but both the Wests who heard a normal weak two drove to slam. A touch unlucky perhaps; a half-decent trump break and a non-heart lead will see you home as long as there is no club ruff. The 4♦ opener saw his partner raise a level, then his RHO double, his LHO bid 5♠ and then, having put them to a guess, bid one more himself to

be doubled in 6♦ for a loss. In theory 5♦ is too expensive at two off doubled and vulnerable, but when East twice led a spade, a club loser went away for just 200. Congratulations to Neil Chambers of Can-Am who found a heart lead to take the full 500.

Here comes another juicy six-pointer.

Match 6. Board 1. N/None

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

The crux of this deal is how you handle overcalls, whether against you or by your partner. A few Easts passed the 1♥ opener, a couple produced a weak 3♣ bid, but the majority contented themselves with 2♣. Over this or 3♣ some Souths had a non-forcing spade bid (yuck - yuck to the agreement and a bit yuck to the bid even if I have the agreement), but now they always ended too high in that suit, losing between 300 and 800. Let's put the spotlight on the West seat (feel free to put yourself in the spotlight) after the auction has started 1♥-2♣-Pass. Many partnerships, even expert ones, don't have much flexibility in advancing over partner's overcall, and as overcalls have become ever more wide-ranging in recent years, the problem has become ever more acute. Direct raises are generally played as preemptive, and a cue bid of the opponents' suit is generally played as an invitational or better hand with a fit for partner, or if no fit then a very strong hand and game forcing. Jump shifts can be played as natural and strong or, perhaps more common nowadays, as a fit bid showing a good suit plus a fit for partner. Which leaves a lot of hand types not covered, thus putting a lot of strain on a simple change of suit, with agreements tending to be no more precise than 'to play' or 'non-forcing' or 'constructive' or 'forcing'. Enough theoretical preamble (for the record I like to play transfer advances, which, like most transfers, give you a lot more flexibility). Now back to practical reality, what are you bidding with the West hand? The majority chose 2♦, which was non-forcing for at least some of the pairs, as East passed, letting South creep back in to play 2♠. Other Easts with a nice stopper and now silent opponents chose to bid 2NT (I suspect for some at least 2♦ was forcing). Wests who retreated to 3♦ did the right thing. Those who raised to 3NT did the wrong thing, at least in theory, since a spade lead kills your entry to the diamonds and now eight tricks are, or should be, the limit. Twice 3NT was played, both times

on a spade lead, but it made once when in the endgame North got thrown in.

This next deal was typical BAM - a part-score with a lot of possible contracts and a lot of possible results in those contracts. As a consequence, once again a whole point was swung in six of the seven matches. Here is the deal:

Round 9. Board 2. E/NS

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

And here are the results:  
 2NT N = versus 1NT S +3  
 1♥X E -2 versus 1NT N =  
 1NT N +2 versus 2♠ W -1  
 3♠ W -1 versus 3♠ W -1  
 3NT N = versus 3♠ W =  
 3♠ W -2 versus 1NT S +1  
 2♣X W -1 versus 3NT S -1

Why were the contracts so varied when the opening bid was always 1♥ by East, followed by South's pass? Well, that is where the divergence started. The Wests who are among the modern light responders bid 1♠ which mostly shut North up, and then East raised to 2♠ or 3♠. One North doubled 1♠ for takeout, another could bid 1NT for 5♦s & 4+♣s, but East was still raising. If West passed, most Norths doubled, and I was surprised to see two Souths take this out to 1NT (yes you might have a vulnerable game your way, but just how much do you want to have before you pass?). When South passed the double, West could redouble getting their side to spades, but with NS often coming back in with notrump. One West unaccountably passed the double, another unilaterally took it out to 2♣; both of these paid the appropriate price. So much for the auctions, what about the play. For the most part, and for both sides, messy seems a fair description, with the lead, and the advantage, passing back and forth. The par is NS +90 from either 1NT or 2♦. On best play and defense NS can make seven tricks in hearts or clubs, while EW can make seven in spades. At the tables notrump made anything from 7 to 10 tricks, spades from 7 to 9. So a board with a lot of swing at BAM, while, with one exception, the IMP swings would have been between 0 and 5, the exception being Gupta who would have reaped 12 for de Wijs' 3NT= at one table and Zia's 3♠= at the other.



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# HAMLET'S CONUNDRUM

author: Mark Horton

Had the Bard played bridge then he might well have penned the line 'To Bid or not to Bid, that is the question'. It's a recurring theme in modern bridge and from time to time a player finds that bidding causes one 'to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune'. This was the opening deal of round 5:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 10 4	♠ J 5
♥ K J 10 7 6	♥ A Q 5 2
♦ Q 9 5 2	♦ A K J 10 6
♣ 7 2	♣ A 3
♠ A K Q 7 3	
♥ 9 4	
♦ 8	
♣ Q J 8 6 4	
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center; margin-right: 10px;">             N W E S           </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; background-color: #808000; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> </div>	
♠ 9 8 6 2	
♥ 8 3	
♦ 7 4 3	
♣ K 10 9 5	

How would you rate your chances in 6♠ or 6NT with no opposition bidding? Do you think your prospects are improved if North shows a weak hand with hearts? Perhaps, as now you can probably count on the heart finesse and also get some help with the distribution.

*Pitch & Putt Busslo v Bid72*

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van der Wouden	Gotink	Timmer	Mylläri
-	2♥*	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

2♥ 'Weak, can be five'

South led the ♥8 for the nine, ten and queen and declarer cashed the ♣A and played a second club to dummy's queen. When that held five rounds of spades were hard on North, who was squeezed in the red suits. He kept two hearts and three diamonds and declarer scored four diamonds via the finesse along

with the ♥A for +520. One can understand why South did not take the ♣K, but at this form of scoring perhaps you should.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gast</i>	<i>Lesmeister</i>	<i>Van Roosmalen</i>	<i>Ros</i>
-	2♥*	Dbl	Pass
2NT*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
6♠	Pass	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♥ Muiderberg; five ♥ and four+ minor

2NT Positive, 9+

4NT Quantitative

If you want to discover more about Muiderburg, the Editor might suggest you get a copy of *The Mysterious Multi*, not least because he wrote the chapter on Muiderberg.

North led the ♦2 and declarer put in dummy's ten and played two rounds of clubs. That saw North caught in the same red suit squeeze - this time he threw hearts, so declarer scored three tricks in the suit, +1020 and a win.

#### Mikadinho v Salvo

##### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Uçar</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Suiçmez</i>	<i>Zanasi</i>
-	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

North led the ♥J and declarer went up with dummy's ace, played the ♠5 to the ace and a diamond to the jack. After cashing the top diamonds he overtook the ♠J and played three rounds of the suit, South winning and exiting with a heart, leaving declarer with only nine tricks, +400.

##### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Manno</i>	<i>Köksoy</i>	<i>Di Franco</i>	<i>Aslan</i>
-	2♥*	Dbl	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4NT	Pass
6♣	Pass	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♥ 'Hearts with minor'

4♥ 5♠, game forcing

South led the ♦3 for the eight, queen and ace and declarer took four more tricks in the suit, then cashed five spades before taking the heart finesse, +1020 and a win.

#### Netbridge v Donner

##### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Botta</i>	<i>Van den Hoek</i>	<i>Z Grossack</i>	<i>Bremer</i>
-	2♥*	3NT	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♥ 5♥ + 4+♦/♣ weak; 4♥ Transfer

South led the ♥8 for the king and ace and declarer drew trumps and played a diamond to the jack. North had pitched a diamond so that was +1010.

##### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Winter</i>	<i>S Rimstedt</i>	<i>Bouwen</i>	<i>Donner</i>
-	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1♦ 4+♦; 3♣ 4th suit

South led the ♣5 and when dummy's queen held declarer played a diamond to the jack and cashed the ♦AK. With no bidding to act as a guide declarer gave up a diamond for +490.

#### Gupta v Amateurs

##### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Soliman</i>	<i>Korbel</i>	<i>Chechelashvili</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
-	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♥*	Dbl	Pass*	Pass
Rdbl	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2NT 'Good 19-21'; 3♥ Transfer; Pass 'No fit I hope'

The Kaplan-Rubens Hand Evaluator rates East's collection at 21.40, so 'good' is spot on. South led the ♥8 and declarer took North's king and drew trumps. North pitched a diamond so the finesse gave declarer all the tricks, +510.

##### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Baseggio</i>
-	2♥	3NT	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

4♥ Transfer



South led the ♠2 and declarer took four rounds pitching two hearts, played a heart to the queen and then played three rounds of diamonds, claiming when North took the jack with the queen, +980 and a win.

#### *Seligman v Can-Am*

##### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Chambers</i>	<i>Seligman</i>	<i>Graves</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
-	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

2♠ '5 spades, undisclosed strength'

3♣ 'Naturalish'

South led the ♥8 for the nine, ten and queen and declarer cashed five spades pitching two hearts and a club and took the diamond finesse for 12 tricks, +490.

##### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Kirr</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Carruthers</i>
-	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

2♠ 'Forcing one round'

3♣ 'Forward going in some way'

3♠ '2♠'

South led the ♣K and declarer won with the ace and cashed the spades pitching two hearts and a diamond. North parted with a diamond - not that anything would have helped - so the finesse meant a rapid claim, +520 and the win.

#### *Cantor v Quaranteam*

##### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Yekutieli</i>	<i>Burn</i>	<i>Zamir</i>	<i>Graham</i>
-	2♦*	Dbl	Pass
4♦*	Pass	6♥	Pass
6♠	Pass	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South led the ♦3 for the queen and ace and after cashing the diamond and spade winners declarer took the heart finesse for +1020.

##### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Trendafilova</i>	<i>Todd</i>	<i>Jarlvik</i>	<i>Lahrman</i>
-	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♥*	Pass	1♠*	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1♣ '16+ any, but not 16/22-23 balanced'

1♥ '8-11 unbalanced no 4+M or 12+ any'

1♠ Asking

1NT 12+ any

2♦ 5+♦

North led the ♥10 and declarer won with dummy's queen, took five rounds of spades and played a diamond to the jack for +490.

#### *Huang v Rippey*

##### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Balcombe</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Thurston</i>	<i>Mak</i>
-	2♥*	2NT	Pass
3♥*	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

2♥ '5♥+♦/♣ or 6+♥ preempt'

3♥ Spades

South led the ♥8 declarer winning with the queen and playing two rounds of clubs. When South ducked North was caught in the familiar red suit squeeze for +520.

##### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Nowak</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Rippey</i>
-	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♥*	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♥*	Dbl	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1♣ 16+

1♥ 5+♠, 8+

1NT Relay

2♠ 4+♣

2NT Relay

3♥ 5♠5♣

Once again South led the ♥8 and having won with the queen declarer played two rounds of clubs. When the queen held, a diamond finesse was followed by the ♦AK and five spades, North eventually throwing the ♦Q, +520 for a tie, the only one of the board.

## What is BAM?

Board-a-Match Teams is the toughest type of event in tournament bridge.

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).

The reason why the game is so tough is that every board is equally important. Some boards in Swiss and Knockout events are not all that important-very little may be at stake. But every board in a Board-a-Match game is worth one full match-point, and a high degree of concentration is necessary throughout every board of a session.



## THE ALT BEST HANDS AWARDS

We **encourage** kibitzers, players and journalists to nominate interesting or beautiful hands from Alt events, season 2021, for one of these awards:



bid72 Best Bid Alt Hand



BeBridge Best Played Alt Hand



Master Point Press Best Defended Alt Hand

You can e-mail your contributions to [altbesthands@gmail.com](mailto:altbesthands@gmail.com).

When you do so, you run the risk that your nomination will be published in The Bulletin. Award winners and their nominators will be rewarded with nice prizes such as Master Point Press vouchers for bridge books and subscriptions to BeBridge Magazine and bid72, the premium app on bridge bidding.



JUST PUBLISHED, EPISODE 6:

**ALAIN LÉVY**

*A modest living legend*



# Trigger-Happy



Match 3, Board 8  
bid72 v. Gupta

South has:

♠ A Q 10 6 2   ♥ A Q 6   ♦ 6 5   ♣ 8 7 5

Love all, West the dealer

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♣	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	?

Jan Timmer gave it another shot:

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Van der Wouden</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Timmer</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♣	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

W/None

W/None      ♠ 8 7 5  
                  ♥ 7 4 2  
                  ♦ J 10 7 2  
                  ♣ K J 10

♠ J  
♥ J 8  
♦ A 9 8 4 3  
♣ A Q 9 6 4

♠ A Q 10 6 2  
♥ A Q 6  
♦ 6 5  
♣ 8 7 5

♠ K 9 4 3  
♥ K 10 9 5 3  
♦ K Q  
♣ 3 2

The contract had no play and went three light. At the other table EW went down one in 3NT. Still a full point to bid72 on the board.

A few boards earlier Jan Timmer confirmed his trigger-happy reputation and his BBO nick - janhamer1 - and hammered David Gold in 4♥ for 500. This probably explains David Gold's conservative view: first he passed 2♠ and later he bid 3♦ only. Whatever, bidding carefully does not always pay off, not even at BAM.

Match 4, Board 3  
Donner v. bid72

East has:

♠ K 9   ♥ 10 8 6   ♦ A K J 6   ♣ K 9 7 6

EW vul., South the dealer

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakker</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>Coppens</i>	<i>Z. Grossack</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♠	Dbl	Pass
3♥	3♠	?	

When East, Pim Coppens, decided to hammer, North had to suffer a defense she will not lightly forget:

S/EW

♠ A Q 10 5 4 2

♥ A

♦ Q 9 8 4

♣ 8 3

♠ J 7 6 3

♥ K Q 9 3

♦ 10 2

♣ A 10 2

♠ K 9

♥ 10 8 6

♦ A K J 6

♣ K 9 7 6

♠ 8

♥ J 7 5 4 2

♦ 7 5 3

♣ Q J 5 4

♦A, heart switch: 6, 7, queen and ace. ♣3 to the king. ♥10 ruffed. Club to queen and ace. ♦10: queen and king. ♦J (♣10). ♥ ruffed. ♦9 ruffed in dummy, overruffed by west. ♥K: ruffed with the 10, overruffed. At this point EW were still good for a trump. With 800 bid 72 comfortably won the board, when in the other room NS were allowed to play 2♠ -1.

Full credits to **Kees Bakker** (a former member of the Dutch Senior team - not so long ago) and **Pim Coppens** (a former member of the Dutch Junior team - not so long ago). Jan Timmer, member of the bid72 squad, nominated EW for the *Master Point Press Alt Best Defended Hand Award* on the board.



Jan Timmer (janhamer1)

## PRESENT COUNT

Mark Horton

This deal from Round round 10 might be considered instructive, or failing that at least thought-provoking:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

It would not be surprising to see NS reach 3NT, but a major suit lead should put the defenders one step ahead.

*Pitch & Putt Busslo v Seligman*

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Gast</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Van Roosmalen</i>
-	-	-	3♦*
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

3♦ 6+♦

East led the ♥5 for the queen and ace and declarer continued with a club for the nine, queen and ace. West returned the ♥2 and East won with the eight and exited with the ♦6. Declarer won with the king and cashed five more diamonds. West came down to ♠A ♥6 ♣108 and East ♠Q ♥K ♣J7 while dummy was left with ♠K ♥J4 ♣K. When declarer played a spade West won and exited with a club, East taking the last two tricks for --100.

West's return of the ♥2 is part of "present count", which is used to determine which card to play when returning partner's suit. One returns the top of two remaining cards, the lowest if three are left, and second lowest from four remaining cards.

On this occasion do you think West should consider returning the ♥9 when in with the ♣A? If you do, then how about cashing the ♠A first?



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dewit</i>	<i>Seligman</i>	<i>Vandewiele</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
-	-	-	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

3♣ Feature, non-minimum

East led the ♠3 and West took the ace and returned the ♠2. If declarer takes the king and plays a club he will come to nine tricks, but when he followed with the ♠6 East won with the queen. At this point a heart switch is essential, but when East continued with a third spade declarer won, cashed the diamonds and played a club, +600 and a win.

*Amateurs v Cantor*

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Trendafilova</i>	<i>Soliman</i>	<i>Jarlvik</i>	<i>Chechelashvili</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥*	Pass	2♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the ♦5 and declarer came to nine tricks, +110.

1♥ "Guarantees 4♣"

# Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kolesnik	Petersen	Baseggio	Nygaard
-	-	-	2♦*
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2♦ "6+♦, weak"

West led the ♥6 and again declarer recorded nine tricks for a share of the spoils.

## Huang v Netbridge

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hoebe	Zhang	Zomer	Wang
-	-	-	1♦*
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1♦ 3+♦, 11-15

East led the ♠7 and West won with the ace and returned the four. Declarer went up with the king and played a club to the queen, establishing a ninth trick, +600.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sheng	Bouwen	Huang	de Winter
-	-	-	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the ♥5 for the queen and ace and declarer cashed his diamonds and then played a club. West took the ace and returned the ♥9. That ensured one down and when declarer misread the ending the contract was -200 for a loss.

## Salvo v Rippey

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Balcombe	Aslan	Thurston	Kubac
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♠*
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1♣ 2+♣

1♠ No major, or 5+♦ 4♠/♥ game forcing

2♣ Puppet to 2♦

East led the ♠3 and declarer put up the king on the second round of the suit, cashed the diamonds and played a club, +600.

# Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Umer	Nowak	Köksoy	Rippey
-	-	-	2♦*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

2♦ Weak; 2NT Relay; 3♠ "Good hand, good suit"

East led the ♥5 for the queen and ace and when declarer continued with a club for seven, queen and ace West returned the ♥2. East won with the eight and switched to the ♠3, West taking the ace and playing the ♥9, --100 and the loss of the point.

## Quaranteam v bid72

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Witvliet	Zamir	Van Cleeff	Yekutieli
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♠*
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1♣ 2+♣; 1♠ No majors; 3♦ Natural, invitational

East led the ♠3 and declarer won the next round with the king and played a club to the queen, +600.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lahrmann	Coppens	Todd	Bakker
-	-	-	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the ♥5 for the queen and ace and declarer tried a club for the nine, queen and ace. West sent back the ♥9 and when it held he continued the suit. Having taken three hearts East switched to a diamond and declarer cashed six tricks in the suit. When East pitched a club on the fourth diamond, West got squeezed on the last one and declarer was home, +600 and a tie.

## Can-Am v Mikhadinho

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Manno	Graves	Di Franco	Chambers
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the ♠7 and declarer won the next round with



the ♠K, cashed the ♦K and played a club, +600.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dunitz</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Grabel</i>	<i>Zanasi</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1♣ 2+♣

A spade lead, declarer rising with the king at trick two and playing a club meant a well-played push.

#### *Gupta v Donner*

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grue</i>	<i>Korbel</i>	<i>Meyers</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
-	-	-	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

3♣ "Good hand"

East led the ♥5 for the queen and ace and a club went to the seven, queen and ace. West returned the ♥2 for the four and eight and East exited with a diamond.

Declarer cashed his diamonds and with one to go both defenders had come down to one spade, two hearts and two clubs, while declarer had kept ♠K6 ♥J3 and ♣K. On the last diamond West pitched the ♥9, dummy the ♠6 and East the ♥10. Declarer exited with the ♠9 West won perforce with the ace. A club now would establish a fifth defensive trick, but West's ♥ exit meant declarer scored the ♣K and the ♥3 for nine tricks.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Z Grossack</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Botta</i>
-	-	-	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the ♥5 for the queen and ace and declarer cashed the diamonds before exiting with a club towards the by now singleton king. West took the ace, cashed the ♠A and advanced the ♥9, --100 and a win. If you are reading this, Zia, I knew you would. What about the choice of opening lead? Do you go with your strongest suit hearts, or lead a spade, hoping the ♥K might be an entry? Does that the fact that it is point-a-board/board-a-match affect your decision? Six defenders led a heart, six a spade, so there is no consensus on that point.

On a spade lead no-one switched to a heart at trick two, although you could certainly make a case for it.

# ***APPLY HERE FOR REGISTRATION***



## **ALT NEWCO 4**

### **APRIL 26 - 29, 2021**

## THE TRIPLE F ALT POINT RACE

Each individual player participating in any Alt event in 2021 is automatically included in the Triple F Alt Point Race. By the end of the season (December 2021) the Top Five is rewarded with money prizes: 1000 / 600 / 400 / 300 / 200 (in euros). The Alt is grateful to Triple F Logistics, a Dutch company, who made this possible.

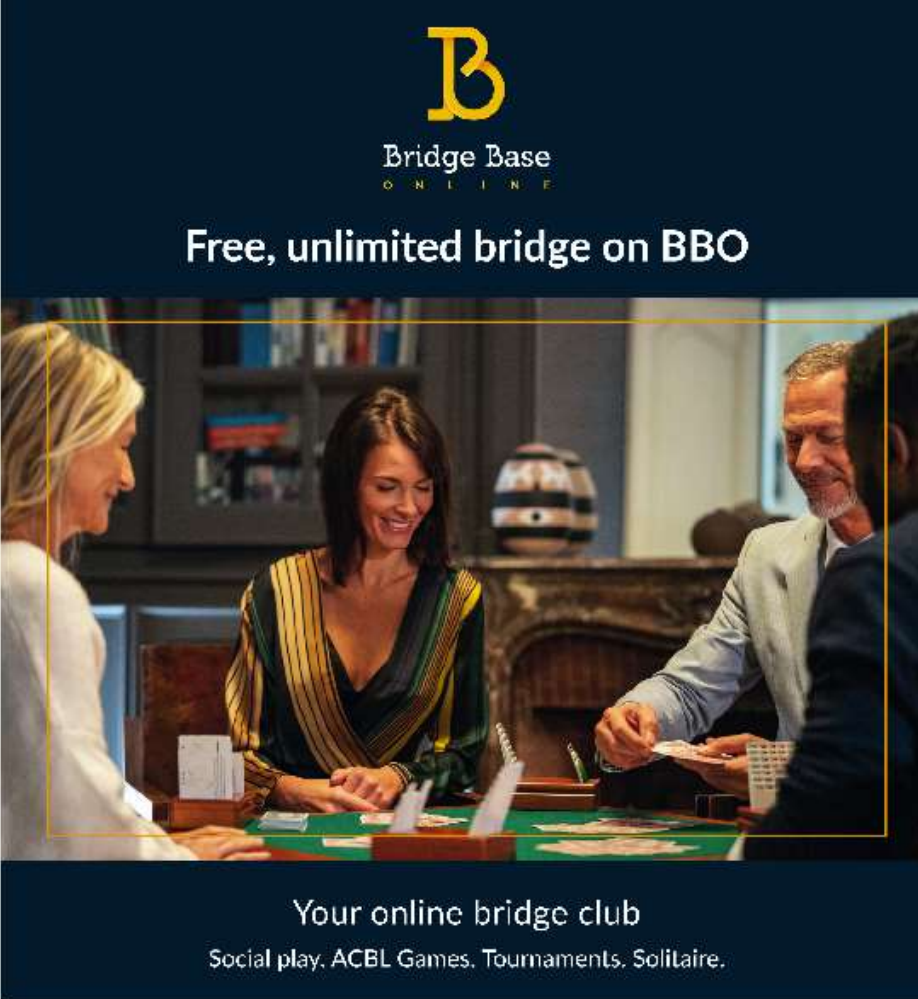
### Points Allocation, 2021 Alt Season

Group A (in first session valid for A Red and A Blue)	Group B	Group C	Group D (Swiss)	Stand alone tournaments
1 500	1 400	1 300	1 200	1 400 10 50
2 450	2 350	2 250	2 175	2 350 11 45
3 400	3 300	3 200	3 150	3 300 12 40
4 300	4 200	4 150	4 125	4 250 13 35
5 200	5 100	5 100	5 100	5 200 14 30
6 100	6 75	6 75	6 75	6 150 15 29
			7 60	7 125 16+ 28
			8 50	8 100
			9 40	9 75
			10+ 30	

1 Jacek Kalita (paulinka18) 1800	37 Ola Rimstedt (olarim) 1100	73 Dror Padon (drorp) 850
2 Michal Nowosadzki (kot_korba) 1800	38 Marcel Verhaegen (marcel_ve) 1100	74 Yossi Roll (sroch) 850
3 Gary Donner (gdonnersc1) 1725	39 Gabriele Zanasi (zanna9) 1100	75 Espen Erichsen (espene) 825
4 Joe Grue (joegrue) 1690	40 David Gold (dagold) 1095	76 Kamil Nowak (kamiln) 803
5 Michal Klukowski (skrzat96) 1500	41 Peter Crouch (pitiful) 1075	77 Mike Rippey (radiators) 803
6 David Bakhshi (bakhshi) 1435	42 Adam Grossack (nevereast) 1057	78 Thomas Bessis (malpaluche) 775
7 Cecilia Rimstedt (cillar) 1425	43 Kevin Dwyer (kdwyer) 1050	79 Finn Kolesnik (fkolesnik) 750
8 Sandra Rimstedt (sandria) 1425	44 Dennis Bilde (ballebo-jr) 1000	80 Erke Suigmez (grundar) 725
9 Per-Ola Cullin (pocken) 1390	45 Larry Lebowitz (pinoy12) 1000	81 Piotr Nawrocki (nawrot) 700
10 Marion Michielsen (lady007) 1390	46 Agustin Madala (septiembre) 1000	82 Piotr Wiankoski (vino_e) 700
11 Brad Moss (brad) 1390	47 Antonio Palma (apalma) 1000	83 Frederic Volcker (fred92130) 675
12 Zachary Grossack (germs345) 1329	48 Frederic Wrang (fly21) 1000	84 Peter Fredin (p_fredin) 675
13 Roger Lee (rogerclee) 1300	49 Geert Arts (stratreeg1) 1000	85 John Diamond (dimebags) 650
14 Sylvia Moss (sylvie) 1300	50 Sam Bahbout (sambah) 1000	86 Geoff Hampson (ghampson) 650
15 Sjoert Brink (sjoertbr) 1300	51 Philippe Caputo (caputo) 1000	87 Ralph Katz (ralphk) 650
16 Bas Drijver (basdr) 1300	52 Valerie Carcassonne (etpuiszut) 1000	88 Bobby Levin (levin) 650
17 Naren Gupta (nareng) 1300	53 Steven de Donder (pikarek) 1000	89 Nick Nickell (fnickell) 650
18 Zia Mahmood (zia) 1300	54 Alain Labaere (kortrijk) 1000	90 Brian Platnick (bplatnick) 650
19 Janet de Botton (capt lulu) 1235	55 Steve de Roos (stevedr) 1000	91 Steve Weinstein (stevo) 650
20 Thomas Charlsen (tcharlsen) 1235	56 Mike van der Vorst (ratabar) 1000	92 Andrew Black (boggis) 645
21 Thor Erik Hoftaniska (kasper20) 1235	57 Kevin Bathurst (kmb24) 1000	93 Gunnar Hallberg (rerack) 645
22 Artur Malinowski (malisuper) 1235	58 John Hurd (johnhurd) 1000	94 Simon Hult (hultahult) 645
23 Tom Townsend (mug) 1235	59 David Chechelashvili (dato) 988	95 Andrew McIntosh (mcintosh) 645
24 Tor Helness (helstokk) 1235	60 Ahmed Soliman (rabie3) 988	96 Thomas Paske (thomas1000) 645
25 Piotr Zatorski (dzeronimo) 1225	61 Franco Baseggio (baseggio) 960	97 David Burn (dburn) 631
26 Bauke Muller (beukertje) 1200	62 Aitai Lo (aitail) 960	98 Mike Graham (mdgraham) 631
27 Simon De Wijs (sm1) 1200	63 Bill Pettis (buffalo6) 960	99 Fredrik Jarlvik (freddy6) 631
28 Bülent Aslan (baylind) 1175	64 Christian Lahrman (christianl) 950	100 Tatyana Trendafilova (tuti) 631
29 Enver Köksoy (koksoy) 1175	65 Katherine Todd (kmtncy) 950	101 Alexander Allfrey (allfrey) 625
30 Nezih Kubaç (nezihk) 1175	66 Asaf Yekutieli (tol23) 910	102 Richard Plackett (hoofie) 625
31 Ali Uçar (noweak) 1175	67 Ami Zamir (zamir1) 910	103 Leif Nygaard (nyg) 603
32 Ömer Umur (ttlfb) 1175	68 Andrew Robson (arobson) 875	104 Henrik Petersen (longrow) 603
33 Nafiz Zorlu (begse) 1175	69 Gilad Altshuler (giladalt) 850	105 Jacob Freeman (jacob04) 560
34 Jodi Edmonds (jodi_e) 1129	70 Alon Birman (hatol) 850	106 Andy Stark (astark) 560
35 Joel Wooldridge (firechief) 1129	71 Dani Cohen (cohen99) 850	107 Peter Lund (pelu) 556
36 Mikael Rimstedt (mikaelrim) 1100	72 Amir Levin (amiri) 850	108 Kees Bakker (keesbak) 555

109	John Lesmeister (jlesme)	555	170	Gabriella Olivieri (ollina)	308	231	Dana Tal (danat85)	150
110	Gert-Jan Ros (rosgiw)	555	171	Federico Primavera (fulldiRe)	308	232	Ariel Braunstein (rel49)	150
111	Alon Apteker (alonap)	550	172	Nathalie Saada (natsa)	300	233	Noga Tal (nogatal)	150
112	Johan Sylvan (joppesyl)	550	173	Giovanni Donati (giova007)	280	234	Ilan Bareket (bareket)	150
113	Martin Seligman (mseligman)	550	174	Giacomo Percario (giacomopr)	280	235	John Carruthers (jgc)	145
114	Boye Brogeland (boye)	550	175	Simon Cope (copeyi)	275	236	Mitch Dunitz (dunitz)	145
115	Espen Lindqvist (stevieg)	550	176	Quentin Robert (ptit)	275	237	Ross Grabel (rossg)	145
116	Alex Kolesnik (Kolesnik)	535	177	Pierre Franceschetti (gewd)	275	238	Allan Graves (algraves)	145
117	Ricco van Prooijen (Riccovp)	530	178	Hilda Setton (ldase)	275	239	Martin Kirr (kirp)	145
118	Louk Verhees (Loukie)	530	179	Rob Helle (rhelle)	260	240	Nikos Delimpaltadakis (nickd)	140
119	Lasse Aaseng (lasseaa)	525	180	Ed Hoogenkamp (altocampo)	260	241	Dinos Doxiadis (rigas_karo)	140
120	Martin Andresen (mime477)	525	181	Richie Coren (wambibird1)	250	242	Y. Papakyriakopoulos (yankos)	140
121	Geir Helgemo (micelle45)	525	182	Peter Gal (galim)	250	243	Manolis Protonotarios (emprot)	140
122	Tom Johansen (brulle)	525	183	Gergely Dombi (toki42)	250	244	Petros Roussos (peter1961)	140
123	Stephen Peterkin (spil)	525	184	Matushko Georgi (matushko)	250	245	Aristidis Sapounakis (asapou)	140
124	Chen Zhao (zhaochen)	500	185	Krasnoselski Mikhail (coreman)	250	246	Leonardo Cima (100dog)	125
125	Jing Liu (liujing)	500	186	Krsysztof Kotorowicz (przedpek)	250	247	Gary Gottlieb (garybrook)	125
126	Sam Punch (puncher)	500	187	Konrad Araszkievicz (konrad80)	250	248	Jiang Gu (jiang_gu)	125
127	Winston Huang (wshuang)	490	188	Mak Kwok Fai (kfmak)	250	249	Marina Witvliet (donkeym)	125
128	Ming Sheng (kainsheng)	490	189	B. NG Chi-Cheung (baron_ng)	250	250	Jan van Cleeff (imp_jan)	125
129	Kjeld Hansen (dkkelo)	481	190	Wenyi Wang (failer)	250	251	Marco Zomer (mczo)	118
130	Sedat Aluf (monk99)	450	191	Hongji Wei (weihongji)	250	252	Mustafa cem Tokay (tokay1975)	115
131	Bob Drijver (bobdrijver)	450	192	Wei Zhang (zhangwei)	250	253	Kay Enfield (cx107)	110
132	Bart Nab (bnab)	450	193	Victor Oranje (victornl)	245	254	Greg Hinze (ghinze)	110
133	Anders Morath (andersm)	450	194	Arjan Roelofs (arjannl)	245	255	Karin Kelsey (KarinKelse)	110
134	Guy Mendes de Leon (Guymdl)	405	195	Kees Bouwen (kebosporto)	245	256	Jacob Morgan (jpmnbr)	110
135	Thibo Sprinkhuizen (Thibos)	405	196	Jan de Winter (winjan)	245	257	Veri Kilijan (Vkill)	105
136	Sylvia Shi (sylvias)	400	197	Alex Hong (fhong)	240	258	Luc Tijssen (Luctijs)	105
137	Janice Seamon-Molson (janicem)	400	198	Jiangfeng Luo (mossby3)	240	259	Alison Wilson (Flyfalcon)	105
138	Jill Meyers (jillm)	400	199	Yan Wang (wy7199)	240	260	Nick Smith (rogerhunt)	103
139	Keith Balcombe (kbalcombe)	400	200	Edward Xu (edward3048)	240	261	Pierre Bedouet (pi420)	103
140	Paul Thurston (thurston)	400	201	Antonio Sementa (llaria75)	230	262	Esteban Valet (rasko179)	103
141	Jon Cooke (mugsmate)	380	202	Bartosz Chmurski (chmurka)	228	263	Kees Rentes (7slaper)	103
142	Pim Coppens (PimCop)	375	203	Piotr Tuczynski (miszczu)	228	264	George Mittelman (mittmouse)	100
143	Morten Bilde (ballebo)	355	204	Castor Mann (castor01)	228	265	Kerri Sanborn (kerri)	100
144	Søren Bilde (sbilde)	355	205	Patryk Patreuha (patrys2)	225	266	Odin Svendsen (pirrum)	100
145	Vinita Gupta (vinita)	355	206	Onno Eskes (onno)	215	267	Jan Lagerman (jan_l)	100
146	Hemant Lall (hemantlall)	355	207	Ge Sprinkhuizen (sprinksoet)	215	268	Mårten Gustawsson (lagom)	100
147	Bob Hamman (tggh3)	355	208	Andreas Plejdrup (andreasw)	205	269	Cezary Serek (cezar1966)	100
148	Marcin Lesniewski (lesniak)	350	209	Ashwini Gupta (axpt11)	200	270	Chris Parker (cmp56)	100
149	Simon Gillis (rayas78)	350	210	Marusa Gold (marusab)	193	271	Anam Tebha (anamtebha)	100
150	Erik Saelensminde (skaal1)	350	211	Jonathan Harris (jdache)	193	272	Stewart Rubenstein (stewr)	100
151	Frank Bakkeren (fbak1)	350	212	Eddie Malhasyan (master dj)	193	273	Alain Levy (evil)	100
152	Ton Bakkeren (tbak)	350	213	Todor Tiholov (polborta)	193	274	Matthias Thorvaldsson (icecat)	100
153	Andrei Arlovich (goblin2000)	350	214	Phil King (philking)	178	275	Jón Baldursson (icebaldi)	100
154	Bogusław Gierulski (bogier)	350	215	Kevin Castner (jafra)	178	276	Einar Gudjohnsen (einarusa)	100
155	Wojciech Olanski (olanski)	350	216	Kåre Bogø (osvaill83)	175	277	Bjarni Einarsson (einarsson)	100
156	Jerzy Skrzypczak (txt)	350	217	Jakub Patreuha (patrys1)	175	278	Sverrir Arnarsson (gauksi)	100
157	Erikas Vainikonis (bookie_lt)	350	218	Hester Gast (hester02)	171	279	Adalsteinn Jorgensen (jorgi)	100
158	Vytautas Vainikonis (vainikonis)	350	219	Bas van Roosmalen (BasvRo)	171	280	Rosen Gunev (8888)	100
159	Dan Korbel (dank)	350	220	David Jones (uncle mort)	170	281	Ivan Nanev (inanev)	100
160	Mass. Di Franco (m_difranco)	350	221	Patrick Shields (patr1cks)	170	282	Wojciech Strzemecki (ojtan)	100
161	Andrea Manno (maqeda)	350	222	Marc Smith (marcsmit)	170	283	Trevor Matthews (skelcot)	100
162	Walter Schuster (schustmozz)	348	223	Steve Root (asnuttys)	165	284	David Muller (toukie)	100
163	Yaniv Zack (yanivz)	330	224	Niall Iggoe (ibraves)	165	285	Rob Cliffe (simbiari)	100
164	Giorgia Botta (gio 89)	329	225	Vladi Isporski (smileyv)	165	286	Alan Mayo (alanmayo)	100
165	Huub vd Wouden (kinkofklab)	325	226	Rumen Trendafilov (rumen)	165	287	Thijs Hoebe (hoethi)	88
166	Aris Bremer (arisbreem)	316	227	Ophir Reshef (oreshef)	150	288	Steve Green (bashgrove)	85
167	Jan van den Hoek (janonline)	316	228	Assaf Lengy (lengy)	150	289	Ulrike Schuster (chrispe1)	78
168	Cathy Baldysz (cathmark)	310	229	Shahar Zack (shaharz)	150	290	Martin Cantor (cantorm)	75
169	Sophie Baldysz (zofiumb)	310	230	Eldad Ginossar (eldad)	150	291	Jonathan Davis (davisbiz)	75

292	Rene Stienen (baaxpee)	75
293	Elly Schippers (eltje)	75
294	John Kranyak (jkrans)	75
295	Vince Demuy (okvince)	75
296	Mikael Gronkvist (mike_g)	75
297	Ida Gronkvist (halko)	75
298	Richard Chamberlain (rmchamb)	70
299	Tony Disley (ryegc)	70
300	Adrian Thomas (sadnorth)	70
301	Charlie Bucknell (shisai)	70
302	Christopher Kemp (otemplar)	70
303	Stephen Kennedy (gamertabby)	70
304	Oliver Powell (kenzo13)	70
305	Dennis Dewit (hyperon)	68
306	Emiel Vandewiele (blink128)	68
307	Raluca Dobrescu (ralooka)	65
308	Ted Greenberg (ted greenb)	65
309	Okay Gur (okay gur)	65
310	Lynne Koepfel (lgkoepfel)	65
311	Gokhan Yilmaz (yilmaz_g)	65
312	Egor Stolyarov (stolyarov)	60
313	Irina Yun (irina yun)	60
314	Anastasia Makarova (nastyamak)	60
315	Vsevolod Zubov (sevkaz)	60
316	Ivan Tatarkin (ivankrut)	60
317	Elizaveta Vakhrameva (lizaveta 2)	60
318	Stefano Tommasini (stefanot)	58
319	Marijn Huber (marijnhu)	58
320	Martin van der Starre (martin001)	58
321	Karen Arens (karenar)	58
322	Erwin Witteveen (erwinw)	58
323	Linda Robinson (saba)	57
324	Ruth Fleischmann (ruthiesrun)	50
325	Krzysztof Cichy (megafoncub)	50
326	Tomasz Kielbasa (domestos70)	50
327	Stanislaw Golebiowski (stasgol)	50
328	Oscar Nijssen (oscar2000)	50
329	Tim van de Pavard (tim_p)	50
330	Yael Topiol (top_33)	50
331	Hans Vergoed (mrverygood)	50
332	Jan Timmer (janhamer1)	50
333	Willem Alink (willemfbf)	45
334	Neil Chambers (neilc)	45
335	Filippos Karamanlis (firfos7)	40
336	Kostantinos Kontomiros (zlatan)	40
337	Tasos Koukouselis (lelos)	40
338	Vasilis Vroustis (bill123)	40
339	Filippos Kritsalis (stalac)	40
340	Nickolas Karapanos (kara1223)	40
341	Kevin Gotink (kefman23)	40
342	Maria Mylläri (lucky 7)	40
343	Christian Bakke (chrien)	35
344	David Hoffner (lindh)	35
345	Leo van den Brom (Lbrom)	30
346	Rene Hermans (galileo60)	30
347	Nico Klaver (tttiger)	30
348	Elizabeth Gahan (lizgahan)	30
349	Ewa Wieczorek (ew19)	30
350	Ankush Khandelwal (fide51)	30
351	Cameron Small (cameron_1)	30
352	Michael Barel (mich-b)	30



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366	Ewan McNay (ewan)	29	386	Max Schireson (mschireson)	28
367	Warner Solomon (warnie)	28	387	Olivia Schireson (oschireson)	28
368	Tracy Capal (tra6y)	28	388	Alan Wilson (spyderw)	28
369	Eric Schwartz (waldorf1)	28			
370	Vincent Gaillard (vincentg)	28			
371	Jason Feldman (jfeld)	28			
372	Jerry Stamatov (jerry72)	28			



# HAVE EGG ON YOUR FACE

Going back to  
ALT NewCo 2



Marc Smith's reports

Round 6 of Alt NewCo-2 produced one of the wildest deals in the history of the Alt. I know that readers enjoy seeing experts with egg on their face, and there was plenty of that to spread around on this deal. (Is there such a thing as egg spread, or is that a mixed metaphor?) Anyway, enjoy!

It is always frustrating/irritating/annoying (or insert your own verb) when you double a contract you know is going down, only to see your opponents escape into one they can make. I don't think I ever before saw anyone double such a game contract they could have passed out, only to find that their opponents are cold for a grand slam in a different suit. That is exactly what happened to Thor Erik Hoftaniska on this deal.

dealer South, everybody vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>De Roos</i>	<i>Hoftaniska</i>	<i>Arts</i>
-	-	-	1♠
2♥	Dbl	4♥	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

When Thomas Charlsen overcalled at the two-level, Steve de Roos was able to make a negative double. Thor Erik Hoftaniska's raise to game then left Geert Arts with a tough decision, and four spades was not an unreasonable choice. What could De Roos do? 4NT now would surely be Blackwood agreeing spades, so he passed. Hoftaniska thought 4♠ was going down, and quite right he was too, but his double was like a white horse riding to North's rescue. The Belgians quickly scrambled out of the frying pan into the equivalent of a warm bath. N/S +640 was not such a terrible board for the Norwegians, though, and their story had a happy ending.

West	North	East	South
<i>V.Labaere</i>	<i>De Botton</i>	<i>A.Labaere</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>
-	-	-	1♠
3♥	Dbl	4♥	5♦
Pass	Pass	5♥	Pass
Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Valerie Labaere's overcall was a level higher, but Janet de Botton still found a negative double. Artur Malinowski's decision to bid 5♦ over 4♥ got the English pair into the right suit and Alain Labaere had the chance to end matters there for a flat board. When he pressed on to the five level in hearts, De Botton was not prepared to risk defending. It probably never occurred to her that she still was not bidding enough! N/S +1390 was enough to earn De Botton a 13 IMP gain.

Looking at just the scorecards, it would be hard to believe they were playing the same deal in Moss vs Donner.

West	North	East	South
S.Moss	Donner	Lee	S.Rimstedt
-	-	-	1♠
2♥	Pass	4♥	Dbl
Pass	4NT	Dbl	5♦
Pass	Pass	5♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Although Sylvia Moss's intervention was only at the two-level, Gary Donner remained silent at his first turn. Roger Lee jumped to game and Sandra Rimstedt braved a takeout double at the four level despite her partner's silence. Donner invited his partner to pick a minor with 4NT, and Lee's double showed a good hand (or so he thought). Rimstedt duly chose diamonds and, when that went back to Lee, he carried on to five hearts. When that ended the auction, East-West were in great shape.

Donner led the ♦A and, clearly not expecting a six-card suit opposite, Rimstedt understandably encouraged. Donner continued with a suit-preference



Larry 'Pick-a-Slam' Lebowitz

♦9, and declarer ruffed away South's queen. After cashing the ♥K (i.e., drawing the trump), declarer played a spade to the ace and a second spade towards her queen. Rimstedt won with the ♠K, and can you blame her for trying to give her partner a spade ruff? Away went one of declarer's club losers on dummy's ♠J. N/S +100 but the odd undertrick was probably going to matter little. The defense was more important in the other room.

West	North	East	South
C.Rimstedt	Kalita	Dwyer	Nowosadzki
-	-	-	1♠
2♥	3♦	4♦	5♥*
Pass	5NT	6♥	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Jacek Kalita showed a game forcing hand with diamonds at his first turn, and now there was no stopping Michal Nowosadzki. His jump to 5♥ asked for key cards outside the heart suit and Kalita showed just one, so they were going to stop in the small slam anyway. This seems like an impossible grand slam to bid: even if you have a way of showing a void in response to an Exclusion RKCB bid, you wouldn't do so when it is in partner's first suit. Besides, Kalita probably thought he had already pushed the boat out far enough with his first bid. Kevin Dwyer did the best he could by saving at the six level, but it didn't save many IMPs as the defense here was deadly: "♦A, ♣K, club to the ace, ♠10 for North to ruff with his singleton trump and a diamond exit. South still had to make the ♠K later, so that was four down: N/S +1100 and 14 IMPs to Moss.

The swings we have seen so far are only small fry compared to some.

West	North	East	South
M.Bessis	A.Grossack	Levy	Lebowitz
-	-	-	1♠
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	4NT	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Adam Grossack decided that he did not have enough to bid over Michel Bessis' three level overcall. When Alain Levy's raise came back to him, though, Grossack backed in with 4NT, showing minors. Larry Lebowitz showed good appreciation of just what his partner's hand must look like, and thus he invited him to pick a slam with 5NT. Well bid! N/S +1390.

I did promise you plenty of 'egg on face', so here is a misunderstanding that any of us might have walked face first into.

>

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Gupta</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Zia</i>
-	-	-	1♠
3♥	4NT	5♥	7♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Probably most expert pairs would play 1♠-(4♥)-4NT as showing minors. Although Naren Gupta self-alerted his 4NT bid in this sequence as minors, Zia clearly expected it to be RKCB agreeing spades. At last, we finally see East correctly taking the last bid in an auction. Suffice it to say that 7♠-X was not the best of contracts: N/S -1700 and a massive 22 IMPs to Lebowitz.

Only one N/S pair in the entire field (30 tables) managed to reach the top spot, and even they had a little cajoling along the way. This was the multinational Cantor vs Skeidar (Norway) in group B:

West	North	East	South
<i>Aaseng</i>	<i>Jarlvik</i>	<i>Johansen</i>	<i>Trendafilova</i>
-	-	-	1♠
2♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	4NT	5♥	6♦
6♥	7♦	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The auction started normally enough, with Fredrik Jarlvik backing in with 4NT to show the minors after East-West had bid to game. Then the game turned into a cross between 'The Price is Right' and 'Jeopardy!'. By the end, I was looking around to see if Monty Hall was going to walk up to the table or, perhaps, Allen Funt (for those old enough to remember). In the end, it was the Norwegians who blinked, Tom Johansen doubling when it was surely obvious (sic!) to save at the seven level, vulnerable, with a hand containing two aces. N/S +2330 and 17 IMPs to Cantor when their Danish pair 'sold out' to 5♦+2 at the other table.

## UPCOMING ALT EVENTS IN 2021

12 - 16 April 2021	Alt Board a Match Invitational II	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Results</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
26 - 29 April 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 4	<a href="#">Time Schedule</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
10 - 13 May 2021	Midi Alt Swiss Teams	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
24 - 28 May 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 5	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
7 - 11 June 2021	Alt - to be announced...	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
21 - 25 June 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 6	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
5 - 9 July 2021	Alt - to be announced...	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
9 - 13 August 2021	Alt - to be announced...	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
23 - 27 August 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 7	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
6 - 10 September 2021	Alt - to be announced...	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
20 - 24 September 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 8	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
11 - 15 October 2021	Alt - to be announced...	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
25 - 29 October 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 9	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
8 - 12 November 2021	New Alt Competition - Event 10	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
15 - 19 November 2021	Alt - to be announced...	<a href="#">Conditions of contest</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>
13 - 17 December 2021	New Alt Competition - Event X	<a href="#">Preliminary info</a>	<a href="#">Apply for invitation</a>	<a href="#">Participants</a>



# KO!

Highlights by Toine van Hoof

## Quarter-Finals

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

In Seligman vs. Quaranteam both West players opened 1NT and both East players concealed their five card spade suit.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Seligman</i>	<i>Lahrmann</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♣ Stayman

Unsuspecting Martin Seligman led the ♠5, the fourth best from his longest and strongest. Finn Kolesnik put up the 8 which won the trick and played a heart from the board. When David Bakhshi ducked the ♥A he went to bed with it. Kolesnik ran his black suit winners, squeezing South in the red suits. He won the last trick with the ♦10: plus 520.

West	North	East	South
<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Zamir</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Yekutieli</i>
1NT*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3NT*	Pass	4NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1NT	15-17		
3♣	puppet Stayman		
3NT	no major		

With his worthless hand Ami Zamir decided to try and find his partner's suit. So he picked his worst suit to lead and that was definitely hearts. Asaf Yekutieli took the ♥A, already sufficient to win the board. Having no reason to finesse in spades Espen Lindqvist finished with ten tricks.

In Donner vs. Salvo Gary Donner ended up in 6♣. In South's double of a conventional 1♥ response he saw cause to take the antipercentage play in spades to land his contract. At the other table 4♠ was just made. In Rippey vs. Gupta Piotr Nawrocki also found himself in 6♣ with South having doubled a 3♥ bid. He played the spades from top and went one off. At the other table Zia made 4♠ with an overtrick.

In the close match between Mikadinho and Huang both West players declared 3NT. In the open room South had doubled a 2♥ transfer bid so North led a heart and declarer made ten tricks. In the closed room Manno-Di Franco reached 3NT through a standard Stayman sequence. Nevertheless Chi-Cheung Baron Ng found the heart lead. Andrea Manno had something beautiful in mind. Unaware of South's heart length he endplayed him in trick 10 with the ♦K, hoping he had to lead up from jack to third of spades. This caused him ending up with only nine tricks to lose the board.



Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Five tables reached the par contract of 6NT by East. At all tables South had either overcalled 1♥ or doubled a heart bid. Three South players made it short by leading the ♥A, David Bakhshi of course being one of them. Boye Brogeland (team Seligman) and Piotr Wiankowski (team Rippey) received the lead of the ♣7. Brogeland won in dummy and cashed four spades, pitching two hearts and a diamond. Then he ran his club winners. Asaf Yekutieli (Quaranteam) was stripped to the ♥A and ♦K-J and had to give up when Brogeland played the ♥K. Wiankowski followed the same route. Here Bauke Muller (team Gupta) came down to ♥A-Q and ♦K. Wiankowski was not be fooled and continued with the ♦10 to fulfill his contract.

## Semi-Finals

This was a lucky hand for Quaranteam against Donner:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

The heart slam has a 52 percent chance of making. But using keycards, how is one to know that there are not two cashable aces missing? Katherine Todd had no problem with it:

West	North	East	South
Meyers	Lahrmann	Grue	Todd
-	1♥	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2NT GF ♥

3♠ Good hand / some spades

4NT RKCB

5♣ 1 or 4

5♦ Q ask

The lead was the ♣J to the ace. Christian Lahrmann won the spade switch and advanced the ♥Q (I may hope not expecting Joe Grue to cover from king-small). When the king appeared he claimed twelve tricks. In the replay Gary Donner, playing Precision style, responded 4♥ to Sandra Rimstedt's 1♥ opener to end the bidding. In the other semifinal between Rippey and Huang both South players made a splinter bid but did not take the bidding beyond 4♥.

With two boards to go, due to their carry-over both Donner and Rippey led their opponents by 7.1 to 7.0. This was the penultimate board of the semifinal:

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Rimstedt	Yekutieli	Donner
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Donner led the ♦J to declarer's ace. Yekutieli cashed the ♠K, pitched a club on the ♦K and then played the ♠9. He took the queen with the ace, cashed the ♠J and proceeded with the ♥10. Donner won with the ace and declarer claimed the balance. Double dummy there are always twelve tricks available on a non-club lead (South gets squeezed on the run of the spades).

West	North	East	South
Meyers	Lahrmann	Grue	Todd
-	-	-	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Lahrmann secured a second trick for the defense by leading a club. In with the ♥A Todd returned a club to the queen. Quaranteam would also win the last board to advance to the finals.



Ming Sheng

F1. Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lahrman	Thurston	Sandin	Rippey
2♥	Dbl	4♥	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Aggressive bidding by Christian Lahrman and Alexander Sandin hardly left their opponents any other choice than to take the money. Declarer lost the obvious six tricks for minus 500.

West	North	East	South
Nowak	Zamir	Klukowski	Yekutieli
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1NT*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass

1♣ 2+  
 1NT invite vs weak NT  
 2♦ natural, unbalanced, GF  
 4♣ cue  
 4♥ RKCB for ♦  
 4NT 0 or 3 keycards

Zamir and Yekutieli had a fine auction that brought them in the excellent diamond slam. Please note that 6♣ in the 5-4 fit is not on.

In the second half Quaranteam held on to their 0.9 lead until the arrival of the last board:

F2. Final board of the tournament (no.12)  
 Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Mak	Nowak	Ng	Klukowski
-	-	-	Pass
2♦*	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

2♦ one major  
 4♣ ask for transfer  
 4♥ transfer to 4♠

With East declaring Michal Klukowski also led the ♦J. Declarer discarded a club on the ♦K, drew the trumps, played one more trump and then the ♥7 to his queen. Klukowski, who had discarded the ♥2 in the previous trick, ducked. Declarer was also allowed to make the ♥K so there was no way for him to get rid of his club loser: Huang 650.

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Sheng	Wiankowski	Li
-	-	-	Pass
2♦*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

2♦ Multi  
 4♦ bid your suit

North led the ♥9. Declarer played small from dummy and South took the ace: Rippey 680 and with 8.1 points in the pocket assured of a place in the finals.

## Finals

Rippey had a carry-over of 0.1, but halfway Quaranteam led by 0.9. This was one of their winning boards:

>

West	North	East	South
<i>Lahrmann</i>	<i>Nowak</i>	<i>Kolesnik</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dbl
1NT*	2♠	3♣	Dbl
3♥	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1NT "Forgot, it's clubs"

Lahrmann forgot that after the take-out double 1NT showed clubs. Having opened on the third hand on scarce values Kolesnik cheerfully bid 3♣ over 2♠. He ended up in 3♥ doubled. This should go down four on best defense but he escaped for minus 500. This was not necessarily a bad result as NS have a vulnerable 4♠ on.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Zamir</i>	<i>Wiankowski</i>	<i>Yekutieli</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣*
Pass	1♥*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1♣ 2+

1♥ 4+♠

2♥ minimum hand; artificial

Zamir gave 3♠ a long thought. Eventually he passed and to his regret he saw his partner taking ten tricks rather easily: NS 170. This meant **Rippey** 12.1, Quaranteam 12.0.

## TRUE FRIENDS DON'T NEED A RECTIFICATION

Martin Cantor

In the Bulletin on the Mini Alt I described a relatively uninspiring board though with a somewhat surprising outcome:

*Netbridge v. Northeasterners*

Match 3, Board 9. N/EW

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Verhoeve</i>	<i>A Grossack</i>	<i>Van Dijk</i>	<i>L Robinson</i>
-	1NT*	Dbl*	Pass*
2♥*	Pass	2♠	Dbl*
Pass	Pass	Rdbl*	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1NT 10-12  
Dbl values  
Pass partner should redouble  
2♥ transfer to spades  
Dbl penalty  
Rdbl rescue

The redoubled contract went for 2200. However, like an idiot, I was careless about who sat where, and so innocent parties took the blame. Here's how it really was:

West	North	East	South
<i>L Robinson</i>	<i>Verhoeve</i>	<i>A Grossack</i>	<i>Van Dijk</i>

My total and abject apologies to the innocent and damaged pair. Then again, what's 2200 among friends.

# RESULTS - www.bridgeresults.org

Round 1. 8 boards. Monday, 12 April 2021, 10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	SALVO	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
2	BID72	NETBRIDGE	8	5	1			6.0	2.0
3	AMATEURS	MIKADINHO	8	1	6			1.5	6.5
4	DONNER	SELIGMAN	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
5	CANTOR	GUPTA	8	1	2			3.5	4.5
6	HUANG	CAN-AM	8	3	1			5.0	3.0
7	RIPPEY	QUARANTEAM	8	3	3			4.0	4.0

Round 2. 8 boards. Monday, 12 April 2021, 11:20 EDT / 17:20 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	NETBRIDGE	8	5	2			5.5	2.5
2	SALVO	AMATEURS	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
3	SELIGMAN	BID72	8	4	1			5.5	2.5
4	MIKADINHO	CANTOR	8	3	1			5.0	3.0
5	HUANG	DONNER	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
6	RIPPEY	GUPTA	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
7	QUARANTEAM	CAN-AM	8	2	4			3.0	5.0

Round 3. 8 boards. Monday, 12 April 2021, 12:40 EDT / 18:40 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	CANTOR	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
2	SELIGMAN	HUANG	8	3	1			5.0	3.0
3	RIPPEY	AMATEURS	8	4	0			6.0	2.0
4	NETBRIDGE	QUARANTEAM	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
5	CAN-AM	SALVO	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
6	GUPTA	BID72	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
7	DONNER	MIKADINHO	8	4	1			5.5	2.5

Round 4. 8 boards. Monday, 12 April 2021, 14:15 EDT / 20:15 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	MIKADINHO	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
2	DONNER	BID72	8	2	3			3.5	4.5
3	SALVO	GUPTA	8	5	2			5.5	2.5
4	CAN-AM	NETBRIDGE	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
5	AMATEURS	QUARANTEAM	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
6	SELIGMAN	RIPPEY	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
7	CANTOR	HUANG	8	1	1			4.0	4.0

Round 5. 8 boards. Tuesday, 13 April 2021, 10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	BID72	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
2	MIKADINHO	SALVO	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
3	NETBRIDGE	DONNER	8	2	5			2.5	5.5
4	GUPTA	AMATEURS	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
5	SELIGMAN	CAN-AM	8	5	1			6.0	2.0
6	CANTOR	QUARANTEAM	8	1	5			2.0	6.0
7	HUANG	RIPPEY	8	3	2			4.5	3.5

Round 6. 8 boards. Tuesday, 13 April 2021, 11:20 EDT / 17:20 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	RIPPEY	8	1	5			2.0	6.0
2	HUANG	QUARANTEAM	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
3	CAN-AM	CANTOR	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
4	SELIGMAN	GUPTA	8	1	1			4.0	4.0
5	DONNER	AMATEURS	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
6	MIKADINHO	NETBRIDGE	8	4	1			5.5	2.5
7	BID72	SALVO	8	3	2			4.5	3.5

Round 7. 8 boards. Tuesday, 13 April 2021, 12:40 EDT / 18:40 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	CAN-AM	8	1	5			2.0	6.0
2	QUARANTEAM	GUPTA	8	1	7			1.0	7.0
3	DONNER	RIPPEY	8	2	5			2.5	5.5
4	HUANG	MIKADINHO	8	1	6			1.5	6.5
5	BID72	CANTOR	8	4	4			4.0	4.0
6	SALVO	SELIGMAN	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
7	NETBRIDGE	AMATEURS	8	5	0			6.5	1.5

Round 8. 8 boards. Tuesday, 13 April 2021, 14:00 EDT / 20:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	AMATEURS	8	5	2			5.5	2.5
2	NETBRIDGE	SELIGMAN	8	0	5			1.5	6.5
3	CANTOR	SALVO	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
4	BID72	HUANG	8	4	4			4.0	4.0
5	RIPPEY	MIKADINHO	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
6	QUARANTEAM	DONNER	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
7	CAN-AM	GUPTA	8	1	2			3.5	4.5

Round 9. 8 boards. Wednesday, 14 April 2021, 10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	HUANG	8	3	3			4.0	4.0
2	CANTOR	RIPPEY	8	2	4			3.0	5.0
3	QUARANTEAM	SELIGMAN	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
4	AMATEURS	CAN-AM	8	5	1			6.0	2.0
5	GUPTA	NETBRIDGE	8	5	0			6.5	1.5
6	DONNER	SALVO	8	1	5			2.0	6.0
7	MIKADINHO	BID72	8	5	1			6.0	2.0

Round 10. 8 boards. Wednesday, 14 April 2021, 11:20 EDT / 17:20 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	SELIGMAN	8	0	6			1.0	7.0
2	AMATEURS	CANTOR	8	2	3			3.5	4.5
3	HUANG	NETBRIDGE	8	5	1			6.0	2.0
4	SALVO	RIPPEY	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
5	QUARANTEAM	BID72	8	5	0			6.5	1.5
6	CAN-AM	MIKADINHO	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
7	GUPTA	DONNER	8	2	3			3.5	4.5



# RESULTS - [www.bridgeresults.org](http://www.bridgeresults.org)

Round 11. 8 boards. Wednesday, 14 April 2021, 12:40 EDT / 18:40 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	QUARANTEAM	8	0	5			1.5	6.5
2	RIPPEY	CAN-AM	8	4	1			5.5	2.5
3	GUPTA	HUANG	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
4	CANTOR	DONNER	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
5	MIKADINHO	SELIGMAN	8	2	3			3.5	4.5
6	BID72	AMATEURS	8	4	2			5.0	3.0
7	SALVO	NETBRIDGE	8	3	2			4.5	3.5

Round 12. 8 boards. Wednesday, 14 April 2021, 14:00 EDT / 20:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	GUPTA	8	6	2			6.0	2.0
2	CAN-AM	DONNER	8	3	1			5.0	3.0
3	MIKADINHO	QUARANTEAM	8	5	1			6.0	2.0
4	RIPPEY	BID72	8	5	1			6.0	2.0
5	SALVO	HUANG	8	2	5			2.5	5.5
6	NETBRIDGE	CANTOR	8	2	5			2.5	5.5
7	AMATEURS	SELIGMAN	8	1	3			3.0	5.0

Round 13. 8 boards. Thursday, 15 April 2021, 10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	Wins		Adj		VPs	
				H	V	H	V	H	V
1	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	DONNER	8	1	4			2.5	5.5
2	GUPTA	MIKADINHO	8	3	2			4.5	3.5
3	BID72	CAN-AM	8	3	4			3.5	4.5
4	QUARANTEAM	SALVO	8	4	3			4.5	3.5
5	NETBRIDGE	RIPPEY	8	3	5			3.0	5.0
6	AMATEURS	HUANG	8	5	2			5.5	2.5
7	SELIGMAN	CANTOR	8	4	1			5.5	2.5

SEE YOU ALL  
AT THE NEXT ALT:

APRIL 26- 29, 2021

## SCORES of round 13

Ranking after round 13		
rk	team	VPs
1	SELIGMAN	66.0
2	MIKADINHO	64.0
3	RIPPEY	61.0
4	DONNER	54.0
5	SALVO	53.5
6	GUPTA	53.5
7	HUANG	52.0
8	QUARANTEAM	51.5
9	CANTOR	50.5
10	BID72	48.0
11	CAN-AM	47.5
12	PITCH & PUTT BUSSLO	44.5
13	AMATEURS	42.5
14	NETBRIDGE	39.5

## QUARTERFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
SELIGMAN	2.1	3	5.1	2	7.1
QUARANTEAM	0	5	5	6	11

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
DONNER	0.1	7	7.1	5	12.1
SALVO	0	1	1	3	4

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
RIPPEY	1.1	4.5	5.6	4	9.6
GUPTA	0	3.5	3.5	4	7.5

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
MIKADINHO	1.1	4	5.1	3	8.1
HUANG	0	4	4	5	9

## SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
DONNER	0.1	4.5	4.6	2.5	7.1
QUARANTEAM	0	3.5	3.5	5.5	9

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
RIPPEY	0.1	3.5	3.6	4.5	8.1
HUANG	0	4.5	4.5	3.5	8

## FINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
RIPPEY	0.1	5.5	5.6	6.5	12.1
QUARANTEAM	0	6.5	6.5	5.5	12