



ALT supports CAT BULLETIN 3 • Monday December 21 • editor Christina Lund Madsen • clm@christina-bridge.com

Let the Christmas Stars Shine

Despite disasters Suzanne & Hugo's all stars won the Round Robin no less than 35 VPs clear of ABDAF in second, Donner in third (who needed a big win in their last match and did what was necessary) and Wilkins in fourth.

Gupta was squeezed out of the top 4 by less than 1 VP, and Remembering Roland, who had done well until this point, fell victim to Donner's raid and ended up in 6th place.

In today's semifinal Suzanne & Hugo play Wilkins, while Donner is up against ABDAF.

Yesterday David Gold, one of the MVPs on Suzanne & Hugo, told us how his tactic was to stick to the LKD-principle.

For those who have not figured it out, the LKD-principle is Let Klukowski Declare.



All players should enter BBO 10 minutes before the beginning of a match. TD Denis Dobrin will instruct you where to sit. All players must have their name in their BBO-profile. Private isn't allowed for the sake of opponents and kibitzers.













Today's Schedule

**10:00 EST / 16:00 CET – Semifinal
(28 boards)**



**14:30 EST / 20:30 CET – Final
(28 boards)**



RR Results & KOs

Ranking after round 11

rk	team	VPs
1	 SUZANNE & HUGO Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, David Gold, Jacek Kalita, Michal Klukowski, Oren Kriegel, Roger Lee, Michal Nowosadzski, Steve Weinstein	170.79
2	 ABDAF Franco Baseggio, David Chechelashvili, Aitai Lo, Bill Pettis, Ahmed Solimen	135.51
3	 DONNER Gary Donner, Sandra Rimstedt, Cecilia Rimstedt, Kevin Dwyer, Joe Grue, Brad Moss	126.50
4	 WILKINS Dennis Dawson, Mitch Dunitz, Mark Itabashi, Charlie Wilkins	125.65
5	 GUPTA Denis Bilde, Naren Gupta, Augustin Madala, Zia Mahmood, Thomas Paske	124.69
6	 REMEMBERING ROLAND David Burn, Martin Cantor, Jonathan Davies, Mike Graham, Fredrik Jarlvik, Patrick Lawrence, Peter Lund, Stephen Peterkin, Sam Punch, Tatyana Trendafilova	118.36
7	 BLITZEN Jacob Freeman, Finn Kolesnik, Christian Lahrmann, Daniel Lavee, Katherine Todd, Marcel Verhaegen, Gabriele Zanasi, Owen Lien	105.10
8	 NETBRIDGE Kees Bouwen, Aris Bremer, Thijs Hoebe, Jan van den Hoek, Roderik Oranje, Victor Oranje, Arjan Roelofs, Jan de Winter, Marco Zomer	87.92
9	 CANADIAN & FRIENDS Winston Huang, Xin Li, Jiangfeng Luo, Ming Sheng, Difan Wang	87.89
10	 HINZE Vince Demuy, Kay Enfield, Greg Hinze, John Kranyak	87.48
11	 HARRIS Marusa Gold, Jonathan Harris, Niall Igoe, Vladi Isporski, Eddie Malhasyan, Steve Root, Todor Tiholov, Rumen Trendafilov	78.27
12	 YOSHKA Marie Eggeling, Matthias Goll, Paul Grunke, Geeske Joel, Thomas Schmitt, Daniela von Arnim	71.84

SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 SUZANNE & HUGO	10.1	<u>0</u>	10.1		10.1
 WILKINS		<u>0</u>	0		0

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 ABDAF	6.1	<u>0</u>	6.1		6.1
 DONNER		<u>0</u>	0		0

Cat People

By Mark Horton



Movie buffs will know all about this low-budget horror movie based on the idea that a woman can turn into a panther. As I sat down to watch Netbridge vs. Remembering Roland I wondered if there would be any horror-stories to report.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cantor	van den Hoek	Lund	Bremer
—	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

East led the ♥9 and declarer won with the ace, ruffed a heart, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a heart and played a club for the king and ace. East switched to the ♠8 for the queen, king and ace. If West now exits with a diamond declarer will be held to ten tricks, but West exited with a spade giving away an overtrick, +150.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hoebe	Jarvik	Zomer	Trendafilova
—	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
Dble*	2♦	2♥	3♥
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

1♣ 16+ any hand, not 22-23 bal

1♦ 0-7 any

Dble Majors

2♦ Nat, 16-19

West led the ♠K and switched to the ♥K, declarer winning with dummy's ace, ruffing a heart and playing a club for the king and ace. It was easy for declarer to ruff his losers for +400 and 6 IMPs.

The strongest defence is for West to start with a trump, say declarer wins in hand and plays a club to the king. If East ducks that declarer might easily go wrong, as the winning line involves playing the ♠9 and ducking whatever East plays (otherwise West will win and exit with a trump).

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Peter Lund was Roland Wald's best friend. Wald's BBO-commentators still play under the team name "Remembering Roland".



South led the ♥2 and North won with the queen and switched to the ♦2, declarer winning with the ace and disposing of his second heart on dummy's clubs. He then gave up a diamond and finished with 11 tricks, +450 and the 6 IMPs were recovered.

If North cashes a second heart before playing a diamond declarer can win with the ace, cash two trumps ending in dummy, ruff a heart, cross to dummy with a club, pitch a diamond and play a winning heart to dispose of his last diamond. Four players opened 3♠, four started with 4♠, three began with 1♠ and one (which I like best of all) commenced with a pass.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

♠ 7 3
♥ J 7 5 3
♦ 6 4
♣ J 8 7 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cantor	van den Hoek	Lund	Bremer
—	—	3♠	All Pass

♠ 9 8 4
♥ A 6
♦ A 10 9 3 2
♣ A K 10

♠ A Q 6 5
♥ K 10 9 8 2
♦ 7
♣ 9 5 4

3♠ with two aces and a singleton? Include me out as Crowhurst once wrote.

West must have considered raising, but there was no compelling reason to do so. South led the ♣Q so declarer could dispose of a heart on the second round of the suit.

♠ K J 10 2
♥ Q 4
♦ K Q J 8 5
♣ Q 6

He then ran the ♦Q to South's king, won the spade exit with dummy's king and could cash the ♦A and ruff a diamond, finishing with 11 tricks, +200.

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hoebe	Jarvik	Zomer	Trendafilova
—	—	4♠	All Pass

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cantor	van den Hoek	Lund	Bremer
—	—	Pass	1♦*
1NT*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

- 1♦ Mostly 5♦
- 1NT 15-18
- 2♦ Transfer
- 2♥ Denies maximum with 4♥

If North is inspired and leads a spade declarer will struggle, but a diamond for the jack and ace saw declarer play three rounds of hearts pitching the ♣10 as South discarded the ♠2. North switched to the ♠7, South winning with the jack, cashing the ♦K and exiting with the ♣6. Declarer won with the ace and played the ♦10, establishing a ninth trick, +600.

If South finds the stronger defence of exiting with a club after winning the ♠J, declarer must win and cash a second club, removing South's exit card. Then he plays the ♦10 and one way or another will emerge with nine tricks.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hoebe	Jarvik	Zomer	Trendafilova
—	—	Pass	1♦*
1NT*	Pass	2♦*	Dble
2♥*	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

- 1♦ 1+♦, 11-15
- 2♦ Transfer
- 1NT 15-18
- 2♥ Relay

North led the ♦6 and when declarer allowed the jack to hold South switched to the ♣Q, declarer taking the ace, cashing the ♥A and then playing a heart to the ten. South won and played a second club and when North was allowed to win with the jack he exited with a club, leaving declarer with nowhere to go for tricks. He finished two down, -200 and lost 13 IMPs.

It was a good win for Remembering Roland, 23-6, 16.04-3.96 VP which saw them retain their second place position.



ALT

Invitational

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ALT BOARD-A-MATCH ~ January 11-15, 2021

ALT's first special in 2021

For the first time Alt will organise a Board-a-Match tournament. It's also the first Alt event of the new year. It will be held from January 11-15 and pre-registration is open now. Invited so far: teams Donner, Gillis and Koeppel.

[Apply through this link](#)

The Aristocats

By Mark Horton



This Disney film is centered round an aristocratic cat family. My choice of match for Round 8 featured some aristocrats of the bridge table:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

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

♠	Q J 6
♥	A Q 5
♦	K Q 9 8
♣	A 10 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zia	Hinze	Gupta	Enfield
—	1♦*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♠*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

- 1♦ 2+♦, 11-15
- 2♦ Game forcing
- 2♠ Unknown shortage
- 2NT Where
- 3♦ Hearts

West led the ♠5 and East won with the king and returned a heart. Declarer went up with the ace, unblocked the spades, cashed the diamonds and then the ♠A squeezed West, who threw the ♥K, +490.

Closed room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Demuy	Madala	Kranyak	D Bilde
—	1♦	1♥	2♥*
3♥	Dble	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

2♥ Good raise



Kay Enfield



Greg Hinze and John Kranyak

East led the ♠8 - the only suit to give declarer a chance!

He won with the nine, played a diamond to the nine and then played the ♠Q, going up with the ace when West followed with the three. He continued with a low spade and East won as West pitched the ♣2. When East tabled the ♥J declarer took the finesse and was one down, losing 11 IMPs.

Two pairs made 6♦, but only after defensive errors.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zia	Hinze	Gupta	Enfield
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

2♦ 11-15, 0/1♦, no five-card major

East led the ♣3 for the king and ace, but West switched to the ♦4 and declarer had no trouble taking ten tricks, +170.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Demuy	Madala	Kranyak	D Bilde
Pass	Pass	1♥	1NT
Dble*	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Dble Heart fit, Drury style

West led the ♥7 for the king and ace and declarer played the ♣K followed by a club to the jack. When that held he claimed nine tricks, +600 and 10 IMPs.



Naren Gupta
Photo: Peg Kaplan

If West had taken the second club the defenders would surely have prevailed.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zia	Hinze	Gupta	Enfield
—	Pass	1♠	2♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♣A and when East followed with the queen he switched to the ♦Q, declarer making the mistake of ducking.

Now West returned the favour by playing a second club and declarer ruffed and played two rounds of hearts. East won that and could have ensured three down by cashing the ♠A or playing a third club. However, he exited with a diamond and now declarer can escape for two down by playing three rounds of trumps to endplay West.

However, she exited with a spade and now three down and -800, concluded the game of ping-pong that is so often involved when a low level contract is doubled.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Demuy	Madala	Kranyak	D Bilde
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Dble
All Pass			

2♣ 2+♣

North led the ♠7 and declarer made the essential play of rising with dummy's ace, pitching a heart from his hand. A diamond to the queen was followed by a club to the queen and a second diamond for the eight and jack. When declarer now played a heart to the queen South could win and had four more winners to cash, -100 and a 14 IMP swing.

If declarer can read the distribution, he can play the ♥Q instead of a second diamond, South winning and presumably returning a heart. Declarer wins, cashes his clubs and exits with the ♦J, making one more trick regardless of how South has discarded.

3NT was made eight times, once doubled.

No Guts, No Glory



by Christina Lund Madsen

A deal caught my attention yesterday. The par contract is 5♣ by North-South in their 9-card fit but with an excellent 4-4 spade fit it is hard to get there, and none of the 12 tables found 5♣.

Board 4. W / All

♠ 8 5 4	♠ A Q 9 6	♠ T 7
♥ 7 3 2	♥ T 6	♥ K 9 8 5 4
♦ K Q 6 4	♦ J T 8	♦ A 9 7 5 2
♣ A 9 8	♣ J T 6 4	♣ 3
	<div> <div>N</div> <div>W E</div> <div>S</div> </div>	
	♠ K J 3 2	
	♥ A Q J	
	♦ 3	
	♣ K Q 7 5 2	

Four tables managed to place 4♠ in South, and shockingly none of the West players found the ♣A lead.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Klukowski	Grünke	Kalita	Eggeling
—	Pass	2♥	2NT
Pass	3♥*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

2♥ was hearts and a minor and North's 3♥-bid showed 4♠. Easy game.

Four tables ended up in 4♠ played by North. I was curious to see how many would beat if after East led their singleton club.

All players led their club to partner's ace and received a ruff in return, all returning the ♣8 and many North's falsecarding with the ♣JT or similar.

Where 4♠ was played by North, most of the auctions had gone something like 1♣ - 1♠, 4♠. The question is how to beat the contract if not by underleading the ♦A. The only hope is that partner has the ♠A or the ♦K. If you underlead your ♦A, you let the contract make when partner has the ♠A. If you don't, you let it make when he has the ♦K.

None of the East players underled their ♦A at trick 3, most cashing the ♦A and returning either a heart or a diamond.

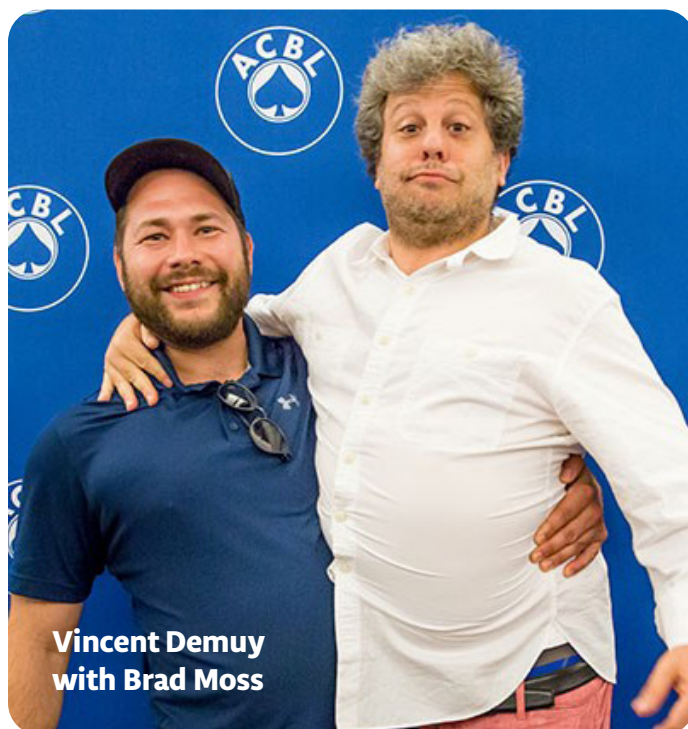
What is interesting is that we are more afraid to let the contract make by underleading an ace than by not underleading it. We cannot read partner's 8, so it might be a neutral card if partner has the ♠A. But I think it is mainly a matter of psychology. Most of us are risk-averse.

At two tables the contract was 3NT, and curiously it was made at both tables though even after the wrong lead, EW have time to switch to diamonds when in with the ♣A. This is how it went at our featured table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Demuy	Madala	Kranyak	D Bilde
Pass	Pass	1♥	1NT
Dble*	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Double was heart-fit (like Drury) and North's double was takeout and South looking for best game, and yet none of them bid spades at any point, so they ended up in the worst game.

West was not sure what to make of the auction, so he led a heart to the king and ace. Bilde played the ckK, ducked by West, and the ♣7 towards dummy. When West ducked again and saw his partner's discouraging ♥9, it was too late since South claimed nine tricks.

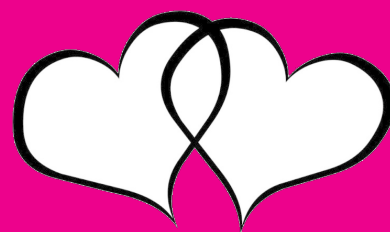


After that board, Demuy texted Bilde privately: "My ass is sore." Bilde replied: "That's your own fault for trusting our bidding."

(Dennis assured me that it was ok to use such words in this bulletin./CLM)

THE ALT MIXED TEAMS ARE REPLACED BY THE

MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



NEXT EVENT JANUARY 11-15 2021

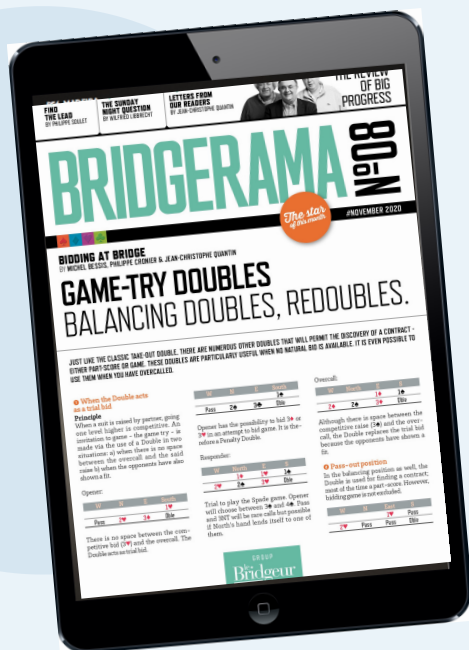
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dealer South vulnerability None

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

10 6♠	7 6♣	5 5♠ 5♣ 4♣	3 7♠ 7♣
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West Tobias	North	East Marina72	South
—	—	—	2♥
Pass	4♥	5♠	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

5♠ = asking for heart control

6♠ = got it

dealer South vulnerability East-West

West	East
♠ J 9 6	♠ Q 10 5 3
♥ K Q J 10	♥ A 6
♦ A 2	♦ K 9
♣ A 6 5 2	♣ Q J 10 4 3

10 4NT 3NT	6 5NT 4♠ 4♥	5 4♣ 3♠ 3♥
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West Tobias	North	East Marina72	South
—	—	—	2♦
X	3♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	—	—

'In stead of 4♠ East should double and bid 3NT over the expected 3♥.'

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- Two-way Checkback Stayman; 2. Responding with both Majors after 1NT; 3. (Non) Leaping Michaels;
- Gazzilli; 5. Gambling 3NT; 6. Lebensohl after a Weak Two; 7. Rubensohl and Transfer-Lebensohl;
- 1♥/1♠ - 2NT (fit); 9. 4♣: Fit and slamgoing

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