

ALT supports CAT BULLETIN 4 • Tuesday December 22 • editor Christina Lund Madsen • clm@christina-bridge.com

Time to Say Goodbye

This was the last ALT event of 2020, the year the events were born. Suzanne & Hugo's All Star-team (Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, David Gold, Jacek Kalita, Michal Klukowski, Oren Kriegel, Roger Lee, Michal Nowosadzki, Steve Weinstein) defeated Donner's All Stars (Gary Donner, Sandra Rimstedt, Cecilia Rimstedt, Kevin Dwyer, Joe Grue, Brad Moss) in a hard fought final.

Thank you to all participants for supporting the CAT Legal Defense Fund by participating in this event. You help cheat fighters sleep safely at night. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a much happier 2021.

Steve Weinstein shared these words with us after his team's victory in the final:

- I want to thank Gary Donner twice; once for a hard fought final that could have easily gone the other way, and again for all the great work he's done in organizing the CAT Legal Defense Fund, amongst other Suzanne & Hugo are evaluating their team's performance.

things. Finally, thank you to CAT and all the other people that have helped clean up the game.

As for me, this was my last ALT-bulletin. It has been such a pleasure to contribute to your daily entertainment during this pandemic. I would like to thank all readers, especially those of you taking your time to write me how much you enjoyed these bulletins.

I also send warm gratitude to my loyal and patient regular contributors, Mark Horton, Toine van Hoof and Martin Cantor. And not the least, all my wonderful Victims of the Day. ♥

I say goodbye with a heavy heart. If you miss me, I will continue to make bulletins for the Monthly Mixed Teams. You can find these bulletins at mmt.bridgeresults.org.

Christina Lund Madsen

Results Knock-Outs

SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
SUZANNE & HUGO	10.1	<u>40</u>	50.1	<u>61</u>	111.1
WILKINS		7	7	3	10

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
ABDAF	6.1	12	18.1	<u>26</u>	44.1
DONNER		<u>25</u>	25	22	47

FINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
SUZANNE & HUGO	0.1	<u>30</u>	30.1	<u>30</u>	60.1
DONNER		18	18	<u>16</u>	34





Then there were Four

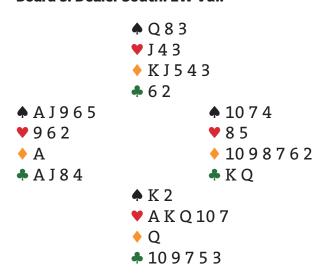


By Mark Horton

'Five little Soldier Boys going in for law; One got in Chancery and then there were four' is a line from a poem that features in the Agatha Christie story *And Then There Were None*.

Here two of the remaining four teams would advance to the final.
Suzanne & Hugo faced Wilkins and Abdaf were up against Donner, the first named teams enjoying carryovers of 10.1 and 6.1 respectively.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Itabashi	Lee	Dunitz	Kriegel
_	_	_	1♥
14	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

West led the ♠5 and declarer won with the king and played the ♠Q, West winning with the ace and playing two rounds of spades. Declarer pitched a club on the ♠Q, drew trumps ending in dummy and discarded two clubs on top diamonds, +140.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Drijver	Dawson	Brink	Wilkins
_	_	_	1♥
1♠	2♥	2♠	4♥
Dble	All Pass		

West led the ◆A and when East followed with the two he switched to the ♣4. East won with the queen, cashed the king and exited with the ◆7. When declarer threw the ♠2 West ruffed, cashed the ♠A and followed it with the ♣A. Declarer ruffed with dummy's ♥J and pitched a club on the ♠Q, but there was still a club to lose, three down, -500 and a 12 IMP swing.

After that Suzanne and co recorded a series of what might be called minor swings and built up a significant advantage, leading 50.1-7 at the half-way mark.

Nothing went right for Wilkins after that. On 25 they got all the way to 7♣ as EW with ♠Q8 ♥KQ108742 ♠Q109 ♣3 opposite ♠A ♥- ♠KJ543 ♣AK87654 and two down lost 13 IMPs against the game bid at the other table.

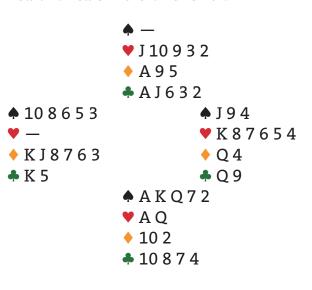
Another 13 went on 26 when they missed a slam that was on a finesse - see the board elsewhere in this report.

The final score was an incredible 111.1-10.



The other match was closer.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	Pettis	S Rimstedt	Lo
_	Pass	2♥	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

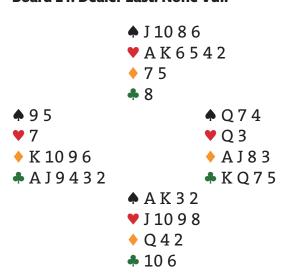
West led a diamond and declarer won the third round in dummy, came to hand via the ♥Q and ran the ♣10, finishing with ten tricks, +430.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Soliman	Moss	Chechelashvili	Grue
_	1♥	Pass	1NT*
2♥*	Pass	2♠	Dble
All Pass			

1NT Artificial game forcing relay2♥ Michaels cue bid

South cashed his top spades in the order ♠Q, ♠A, ♠K and then switched to the ♣7, declarer winning the second round of the suit with dummy's queen. North won the seond round of diamonds and switched to the ♥10 which saw declarer held to four tricks, -800 and a 9 IMP loss.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	Pettis	S Rimstedt	Lo
_	_	1NT*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

1NT 14-16

3♦ Both minors, stopper in 0/1 major but not two



The defenders cashed three major suit tricks 'on the go' and declarerthen gothe diamonds wrong to go two down, -100.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Soliman	Moss	Chechelashvili	Grue
_	_	1NT	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

2♠ Size ask or ♣ 2NT Minimum

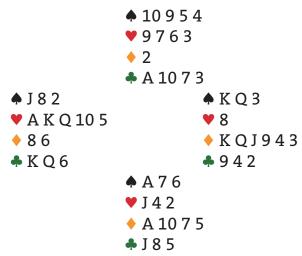
South led the ♠A and when North played the jack he switched to the ♥J.

North won with the king and played the ♠10 and South took the queen and continued the game of ping-pong by sending back the ♥8. North won, cashed the ♠8 and then played a heart, South unblocking the ten and nine before playing the ♠2.

3NT made - but by the defenders, six down, -300 and 5 IMPs.

At the half, Donner led 25-18.1.

Board 20. Dealer West, All Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Dwyer	Pettis	C Rimstedt	Lo
1NT*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

1NT 14+-17 2NT Diamonds3♣ Negative for diamonds3♥ Shortage

North led the ♠4 and declarer won with the eight and played a diamond to the jack. When it held he continued with the king and South took the ace as North parted with the ♥7. When South continued with two rounds of spades declarer could win in dummy and play a club, setting up what proved to be his ninth trick, +600. Having taken the ◆A south must switch to a club - if he selects the jack North must duck declarer's king.

If South wins the spade lead and plays a club at trick two declarer has no chance, but once the diamond king has scored declarer can play a second spade. If South wins and plays a club declarer plays an honour and must score nine tricks.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Soliman	Moss	Chechelashvili	Grue
1NT	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

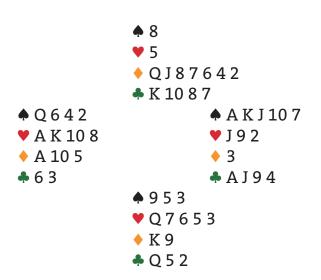
2NT Diamonds

3♣ Negative for diamonds

3♥ Shortage

North led the ♣3 and declarer ducked South's jack and was allowed to win the next club with the king. A diamond to the king took the next trick and was followed by the ♠Q, which also held. When declarer continued with the dummy's ♠3 South took the ace, cashed the ♠A and played a club, one down, -100 and 12 IMPs.

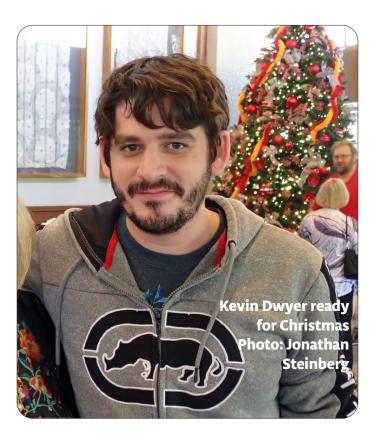
Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Dwyer	Pettis	C Rimstedt	Lo
_	_	1♠	Pass
2NT*	3♦	4♠*	All Pass

2NT 4+♠, limit +

4♠ Little extras, singleton diamond



South led the •K and after winning and drawing trumps declarer played a heart to the ace and a club to the jack before taking the heart finesse, +680.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Soliman	Moss	Chechelashvili	Grue
_	_	14	Pass
2NT*	4	Pass*	5♦
5♥	Pass	6♠	All Pass

2NT Spade support Pass Forcing

Declarer took the lead of the ◆K in dummy, drew trumps and played a club to the nine and queen. He ruffed the diamond return, crossed to the ♥A, came to hand with a club and ran the ♥J, +1430 and 13 IMPs.

That made the score 47-43.1, but there was no drama on the last two deals and Donner was through.

Little Things Mean a Lot

By Mark Horton

I am always on the lookout for deals that contain an instructive point for either side. I liked this one from the first session of the final, where it was easy to go wrong on what appeared to be a simple deal:

Board 11. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	Nowosadzki	Rimstedt	Kalita
_	_	_	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♦*	Dble
2♥*	Pass	Pass	Dble
3♥*	All Pass		

1NT 14-16

2♦ Transfer

2♥ At least 3♥

3♥ Probably 4♥, not good enough to super acc.

3♥ looks easy enough - declarer appears to have one loser in each suit.



North led the ◆J and West won with the ace and played a heart to the jack. When it held he continued with a heart to his king and North won and played a second diamond, South winning and continuing with the ◆8 which allowed North to score the ♥9, which together with the missing aces meant one down. -50.

It looks as if declarer can prevent the promotion by continuing with a high heart from dummy, but although that is true, it doesn't help. North wins the second round of trumps and the defenders continue diamonds, forcing declarer to ruff with the ♥K. If declarer draws the last trump dummy's remaining diamond will be a loser.

That points the way to the answer; at trick two, declarer should play a spade, setting up the possibility of discarding a diamond at some point. If South wins and plays diamonds declarer must ruff high and only then play trumps.

The way the play went, North needed to take the ♥A at trick two and play a second diamond.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Klukowski	Grue	Gold	Moss
_	_	_	1 • *
Dble	1♥*	2♥	Dble*
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

1 ♦ 2+ ♦ 1 ♥ 4+ ♠ Dble 3 ♠

South led the •Q and declarer won with dummy's ace and played a spade for the jack and ace. South continued diamonds and declarer ruffed with dummy's king, North overruffing and cashing the •A, at which point declarer claimed the rest for what at first glance was just another dull push.





Addition from the editor.

The final score was 60.1-34, but Donner was ahead at the beginning of the second set and it was not clear till at the very end that Suzanne & Hugo would prevail.

We have written about how Suzanne and Hugo played around with each other and I asked David Gold and Michal Klukowski about their experience.

Klukowski:

"I just superliked it. As a native English speaker I am sure David has a lot more to say than I do."

Klukowski is right as always:

David Gold:

"I got to play 4 sets with Kluk. But also Nowo, Sjoert and Weinstein. I mean if that isn't an early Christmas present. I don't know what is.

I even had a sorry from Kluk after first set. I said "me too".

He said "What for"? I said "I'm English". He laughed."

CLM

What's in a Team Name?

Interview with Steve Weinstein



by Christina Lund Madsen

It probably has not missed anybody's attention that the all-dominating team of this event, Suzanne & Hugo, consists of some of the greatest players in the world, including Michal Nowosadzki.

In this mini-interview Steve Weinstein tells us the story behind the team name and reveals other details about where the CAT is buried.

What is the background for your team composition?

- Roger Lee suggested we form a team of some people who have been working on cheating investigations since the beginning of the pandemic.

The most important player for us to include was Michal Nowosadzki, and I'm happy to count Nowo among those investigators. He has worked hundreds of hours without a promise or expectation of anything in return.

I actually told Nowo he should write an article about how to not be a F(ing) moron after you were already a F(ing) moron.

In my opinion, Nowo's confession was totally genuine and I can personally vouch for how great his work has been. I can't speak for everyone, but after what he's done for our community, he has a clean slate with me. The rest of our team agrees with that sentiment.

What is your view on other players who might confess?



- I have always believed that confessors should be looked at differently from those who don't.

This goes back to 2015 when Alex Smirnov confessed to me and publicly admitted to ethical violations while announcing his withdrawal from the Bermuda Bowl. Right or wrong, IMO there is a special place in Bridge Hell for those who cheat, get thoroughly investigated, and never confess.

That being said, I would not go easy on confessors in general, but there is a middle ground, and, under certain circumstances, I'm on the side of forgiveness.

I don't get to make the rules (even if many Bridge Winners-readers think I don't know that).

To unconfessed cheaters: Well, as one infamous bridge lawyer said to me:

"I hope when you look at yourself in the mirror, you hate yourself and you can't sleep at night."

I sleep fine, but would like that lying mirror to show me dropping a few pounds.

Why is your teamname Suzanne and Hugo?

- The team was kind of a welcome back party for Nowo, so we named our team after two of his family members: his daughter (who had her first birthday here in December) and his almost 2-year old Boxer.

How did it feel playing (and winning) with this team?

- We had so much fun. There was no system (or worse, some system that most of us didn't read!). We kept rotating partners in the round robin. Then when Monday came around, many of us couldn't play much, so we had to suck it up and play some regular partnerships.

Our Whatsapp team chat was so funny. Really, it was a bunch of pros playing for the love of the game and enjoying each others' company.

Even yhough you are not a victim, let's play a round of my favourite game: Who would youlike to partner, kiss, kill between Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver and Bobby Levin?

- I would kiss and then kill Brink. Since I killed off Brink, I figure Bas would be so grateful, he would be the best partner ever. (no, I am not trading in Bobby!) So there you have it. Are you sure I can only kill one of them?

(I asked Steve this in private, but was asked to include it...)

What would it cost me to be your 9th next time?

- You will have to keep quiet.

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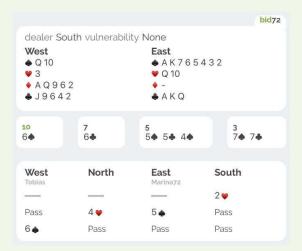
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5♠ = asking for heart control

6♠ = got it



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

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- 8. 1♥/1♠ 2NT (fit); 9. 4♣: Fit and slamgoing

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