

# the MAJOR ALT



**JUNE 22 - 26, 2020**

**online bridge events organized by bid72 & netbridge.online**

## Major Alt Stars

Finally! When we got the idea for a Major Alt we never imagined to present such a world class field. 36 star-studded teams with players from 22 different countries.

And unlike the major championships where only a select number of matches are on BBO, anybody can watch their personal favourites.

We hope the Major Alt will be the most entertaining online event of the year, with great plays and clever comments. We encourage all participants to be cordial to your opponents and remember that kibitzers from all over the world are watching.

Let the Major show begin.

You can find all results on [Bridgeresults.org](http://Bridgeresults.org) right after the last match is finished. Shortly after you can watch the replay at any tables to see what happened at the other tables.

**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

Monday June 22

**10:00 EDT/16:00 CET Match 1 (14 boards)**

**12:30 EDT/18:30 CET Match 2 (14 boards)**

**15:00 EDT/21:00 CET Match 3 (14 boards)**



# Victim of the Day

## Sjoert Brink

by Christina Lund Madsen



*Tell us about your background. How many children and ex-wives do you have, do you have any education?*

- I have a son (Daan, 16 years old) and a daughter (Froukje, 11 years old). I also have one ex-wife, although my kids have different mothers. I don't plan to have more kids. But ex-wives... Always interesting. I ended my studies in economics at the University of Tilburg (*when Sjoert says ended, he means literally, not that he got a degree/CLM*), and I had a real job a short while. I never did anything, but they paid me anyway.

*How has your life been during corona?*

- Of course I can't complain. Everybody is still healthy in my family. Since Corona (just after the winter games in Monaco) I have been busier than ever. I played more bridge these 3 months than I usually play in one year. I also became busy organizing tournaments. Europe vs. China, Alt events, anti-cheating committee, and I tried to create an individual and a Pro Am. Some succeeded, some failed. I miss playing padel tennis and my friends, but I talk to so many people every day because of all these bridge events that I wish I could see them and not talk to them. I also went running during corona. I can now run 5 km in less than an hour, which is pretty good I think.

*In the future you will be representing Switzerland instead of the Netherlands. How do you feel about that?*

- I'm very happy with this change in my life. The bridge players in Switzerland are also very enthusiastic about our dream (to win Bermuda Bowl for Switzerland). It is a small group, but they are all friends. I played the Swiss league in Fribourg and all players went together for dinner. It wasn't so easy to say bye to the Netherlands, but they will overcome. They have a very talented group and I'm looking forward to our battles.

Actually the hardest part was to leave Team Blass. Josef is an amazing man with a heart of gold (actually, something better than gold) and I have become very good friends with Pepsi. He taught me to drink whisky.

*How do you like living in Geneva compared to Rotterdam?*

- In Geneva the weather is usually much better, more sun, more snow in winter. I super like the mountains and the lake with the fountain is an eye catcher. More calm also. It is a very expensive city, but I'm getting used to the prices. For the groceries, I usually go to France. I guess that is still the Dutch in me...

My French is improving. And I like that Swiss French is more logical. Eighty is not 4x20, but just eighty. Basically Swiss French is the French language for smart people. 😊

But Rotterdam is Rotterdam. And that is hard to explain, but it is my city. I'm in love with Rotterdam and that love will never end. So, I guess most of my holidays I will spend in Rotterdam.



Sjoert Brink

*What do you think is the secret behind your successful partnership with Bas Drijver?*

- We respect each other, we know our strengths. What I like is that I invent 1000 things, and Bas will agree usually to ten maximum. I don't want Bas to know, but I also like him as a person though he is a little more boring than me. But that makes him perfect. We like to do sports together, and at tournaments we always play (padel) tennis or some board or card games. Being friends with him is very good. And, I will be his best man for his future wedding.

*How would you describe him with three words?*

- His way or no way, calm, humorous. And sometimes he can think for hours. I spent more hours waiting for him than for any woman.

*How would your life have looked if you had not become a bridge player?*

- I have no clue. So far professional poker player, sports betting or stock market is not really where I make money unlike many bridge players. Hopefully I would have invented some board games and computer games. But most likely I would have become a truck driver.

*Piotr Zatorski's questions for you:*

*1. Have you ever had any episode with Swiss police? If so, tell us about it.*

- I'm very happy he asked about Swiss police. Luckily no episode. If he would have asked about Brazilian, Dutch, USA, China or Belgium, it would be a different story.

*2. Which bridge tournament has been memorable to you and why?*

- To win Bermuda Bowl in my own country was magic. That is a moment I will never forget.

*3. In your opinion, who is the best woman bridge player?*

- I learned one lesson in my life, I should not compare women with each other.

But what I know for sure is that my mother was the best female bridge player in the world till the moment she got me. According to her, she gave all her talents to me (and that is why there is nothing left). Thank you, mom.

*What is the craziest non-bridge related thing you ever did during a tournament?*

- Usually the last nights of tournaments are very interesting. But what happens during last nights shouldn't be revealed. When I reached quarterfinal in Bali (2013) my coach told me "Sjoert, I feel you need to go dancing. Please keep it calm, but enjoy. We need you at your best versus Poland." So I went with Simon de Wijs to a discotheque, like 30 miles from the hotel. Unlucky as I was, it was completely empty. After one drink, twenty minutes of dancing, we almost decided to go back to the hotel. And then (please Christina, help me with this story...) a beautiful blonde girl entered the discotheque, walked straight to me, hit me in the face like I was the bad guy, and she directly left. Flabbergasted I watched Simon who couldn't stop laughing. The quarterfinal I was still flabbergasted and we lost by more than 100 imps...

*Tell us something about yourself that very few people know.*

- There is a video of me on Youtube where I dance, and people have to guess the song. So far nobody guessed. (and NO, I won't show you the video or give you the link). After I became a world champion I won a bronze medal in a beginners tournament... (playing with my son). I secretly hired a table tennis coach so that I could beat my son in table tennis.

*Name three things you are very good at.*

- I just hope I'm a good dad. That is most important. It is not for me to say that I'm a great actor, amazing storyteller, an incredible chef and a master in the...

*Name three things you are very bad at.*

- I'm very bad in speed skating, relationships and making it to the end of a book.

*If you could change one thing in your past, what would it be?*

- Once in my life I dyed my hair blue. It was a very ugly blue color. And because it was a bet, I had to walk around two months with it. That period of time... nightmare.

*Which time in your life were you happiest?*

- Without a doubt, it is always midnight. That is usually the time I'm happiest.

*What is your biggest regret?*

- For someone like me who makes lot of mistakes, it is better not to regret things.

*Who do you want to partner, kiss, kill among Jeff Meckstroth, Dennis Bilde and Michal Klukowski?*

- Obviously I would kiss Michal after we win the Bermuda Bowl for Switzerland. I would partner Jeff, and Dennis is always killing me on the slopes skiing, so I can finally have my revenge.

*Who do you think should be the next victim in the bulletin? Tell us something you would like to know about this person.*

- Jerome Rombaut, I want to know what is more difficult, a triathlon or a long bridge match. And if he is hoping to one day lose to his son in bridge.



# BeBRIDGE

♥♣♦♠ by Le Bridgeur

## THE NEW ONLINE MAGAZINE FOR BRIDGE ADDICTS



## WHAT'S NEW?

The second issue of **BeBRIDGE** is a blockbuster, with feature length articles on **the impact of COVID-19** and **the affinity between Chess and Bridge**. We take a trip to the island of **Madeira**, home of one of the great bridge Festivals, and enjoy the latest monastic tale from the master story-teller, **David Bird**. **Alain Lévy** shows you **how to improve your opening leads** and **Philippe Cronier** starts a new series.

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# A Pseudo Compound Squeeze

## - Highlights from the Alt VI

By Toine van Hoof



In round 6 the EW pairs had a grand slam in diamonds available:

Lindqvist-Brogeland took one extra round of bidding:

### Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Five pairs got to 7♦ and, more importantly, placed the contract in the right hand. Without any noteworthy obstruction by North, the natural bidders Zatorski - Pachtmann and De Botton - Malinowski had an easy ride:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Brogeland	Michielsen	Lindqvist	Cullin
–	–	2♣	Pass
2♥ <sup>1</sup>	2♠	2NT <sup>2</sup>	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦ <sup>3</sup>	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

1. 5+♥, 6+ HCP; 2. 22-23 HCP; 3. 1/4 KC

Unfortunately Boye Brogeland had a blackout (or misclicked) in the play. He tested the heart suit before drawing the last trump. North ruffed the ♥A for one down: 16 IMPs to team Donner.

Pepsi preferred to show his sixth heart over his second suit. The diamond fit now appeared to be lost but came to light on the seven level:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pachtmann	M. Rosenberg	Zatorski	Mahmood
Malinowski	Birman	De Botton	Padon
–	–	2♣	Pass
2♥	2♠	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣/♦	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

Both West players made thirteen tricks in comfort. The diamonds split three-two and declarer can always set up a fourth heart trick.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pszczola	Lorenzini	Lesniewski	Bessis
–	–	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
1♥	2♠	2NT <sup>2</sup>	Pass
3♥ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	3♠ <sup>4</sup>	Pass
3NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠ <sup>6</sup>	Pass	5NT <sup>7</sup>	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

1. Polish; 2. nat, GF, no 3-4♥; 3. 6♥; 4. RKCB for ♥ (?); 5. ♠ control; 6. 2 KC + ♥Q; 7. something else?



Moss-Grue had an excellent auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Moss	Bakke	Grue	Grude
–	–	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
1♠ <sup>2</sup>	2♠	Pass <sup>3</sup>	Pass
2NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass	3♣ <sup>5</sup>	Pass
3♦ <sup>6</sup>	Pass	4♠ <sup>7</sup>	Pass
5♣ <sup>8</sup>	Pass	5♥ <sup>9</sup>	Pass
7♦	All Pass		

1. 16+ HCP; 2. 5+♥, 8+ HCP; 3. relay; 4. 4+♦;  
5. relay; 6. 64 or 74; 7. RKC for ♦; 8. 1/4 KC; 9. Q ask

West was, probably coincidentally, the first to bid diamonds so also a well deserved 1440 to them.

Verhees-Van Prooijen must have had a similar or even more sophisticated relay sequence in mind when Alexander Hydes brutally interfered with 3♠:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Verhees	Hydes	van Prooijen	Hackett
–	–	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
1♠ <sup>2</sup>	3♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	5NT <sup>3</sup>	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

1. strong club; 2. 4+♥, GF; 3. pick a slam

The Dutchmen stranded in 6♦ which brought 11 IMPs to team De Botton.

An aggressive raise by Jacek Kalita also succeeded in getting Bertens-Gupta off track:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bertens	Nowosadzki	Gupta	Kalita
–	–	2♣	Pass
2♥	2♠	2NT	3♠
4♠ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4NT <sup>2</sup>	Pass
7♥	All Pass		

1. RKC for ♥; 2. 0/3 KC

After winning the spade lead with the ace Huub Bertens immediately ruffed a spade, preparing a coup against South. However, he could not handle the five-kill split and went one off: plus 50 and 16 imps to team Blass.

The most interesting contract was reached by Kevin Rosenberg and Zach Grossack:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
K. Rosenberg	L'Ecuyer	Z. Grossack	Street
–	–	2♣	Pass
2♥	3♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♦	Pass	7♦	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

The aggressive 3♠ bid by Nicolas L'Ecuyer did its devastating work. The juniors had no idea what they were doing, or at least they did not care to share it with the audience. The only call that was alerted and explained was 2♥ ('positive, 2 of top 3 honors'). It all seemed to end well when Grossack bid 7♦, but for some reason Rosenberg converted to 7NT.

After a non-spade lead, 7NT can be made on a compound squeeze. Let's say South leads the ♣J. Declarer wins, cashes two rounds of diamonds, cashes the ♥A, runs the ♥10 and cashes the third diamond. South is squeezed in three suits. If he throws a spade, declarer cashes ♠AK and plays a diamond to dummy, forcing South to discard a club. If South starts by unguarding the clubs, declarer cashes the other high club before playing the fourth diamond. In both cases North will be subject to a spade-club squeeze.

Of course, Paul Street led a spade, destroying declarer's communications. Grossack cashed the KQ of diamonds, then the ♥A and ran the ♥10. Now he presented the ♦J. Though North's first discard was the ♠2, indicating an original six card suit,

South apparently expected him to have seven for his 3♠ overcall. So he discarded a spade and that was fatal. Declarer cashed the ♠K and crossed to the ♦A. On the ♥K North could afford to throw a club. Then came the ♥Q in this ending:

	♠ 10	
	♥ –	
	♦ –	
	♣ Q 8 6	
♠ –		♠ 6
♥ Q 9		♥ –
♦ –		♦ –
♣ 9 2		♣ A K 7
	♠ –	
	♥ J 7	
	♦ –	
	♣ J 10	

When L'Ecuyer gave up the ♠10 Grossack discarded the ♣7 and the ♠6 was his thirteenth trick: plus 1520 and 2 IMPs to team Lebowitz.

Defending against (pseudo) squeezes is one of the toughest parts of the game. Even if South realizes that his partner has only six spades, it is difficult for him not to throw a spade. Consulting Clyde Love would have helped him out:

'Do not try to hang on to a suit that you will surely be forced out of, at the expense of surrendering a possibly valid stopper in another suit.'

South will be squeezed out of his third club anyhow, so he should have kept his spades (the noncommunicating menace suit).

A final note: 7NT is cold on any lead if East had the ♣8 instead of ♣7. South holds on to his spades, so he will be squeezed out of two clubs. Declarer cashes a high club, unblocking the ♣9, and ends with a club finesse.



# Love or Hate Playing Bridge Online?

We want to hear your views

How has your life as a bridge player changed and what challenges do you face?

Please share your lockdown experiences of bridge by emailing [bamsa@stir.ac.uk](mailto:bamsa@stir.ac.uk)

One off accounts or weekly/monthly diary entries are welcomed by players of all ages from all countries - pros, teachers, club owners or service providers.

It doesn't have to take long and will be of use for understanding the short-term and longer term impacts of the current situation for the bridge community.

For more info see:

<https://keepbridgealive.bridgecloud.com/about/bridge-in-the-time-of-covid-19>



*"I'm busier now than I've ever been in the real world."*

- Alex Hydes



**Bridge: A MindSport For All**  
*Connects People, Challenges Minds*

# What's in a name

## Major Alt Special

by Christina Lund Madsen



The originality is of different variety when it comes to our Alt stars' BBO-names. Below we reveal the origin of some of the more creative nicknames.

### Greatest Hits

Since we have many new teams and followers in the Alt family in this Major edition, we will repeat the stories behind some of our most beloved nicknames.

The prize for the best of BBO-nicknames goes to team Gupta, who have no less than four players found worthy of this list:

Cedric Lorenzini (pierced)

What we are all dying to know is: Does Cedric Lorenzini have any piercings, and if so, where?

Simon De Wijs (sm1)

His alias is obvious for those who know him well: SadoMasochist number 1.

Thomas Bessis (malpaluche)

Knowing Thomas there had to be a secret meaning behind the name. I googled the word and my results came up with "Je me paluche" (which is something you don't need a partner for and not suitable for translation).

I asked Frederic Volcker for help, and he revealed malpaluche is an anagram for a famous French bridge player from a different generation. Can you guess who?

And now - my personal favourite: Bauke Muller (beukertje)



Beukertje Muller

You imagine it is what his mother called him as a child, but the Dutchmen revealed that in Dutch beukertje means something like "going wild and hard".

I immediately imagined Bauke Muller as the Dutch version of Hulk. But rumour has it this is what Bauke's wife calls him.

Lucky her.

On team Rombaut we find Lionel Sebbane (superyoyo). It is what the girls called him in high school.

From the same team we find François Combescure (aphobiah). It was supposed to be arachnophobia, but when French try to pronounce English words, you get abbreviations such as the above.

One more player from team Rombaut: Michel Bessis (besbes)  
Fail. Such a golden opportunity to make a beautiful palindrome: Besseb or Sebbes (that could btw be his teammate Lionel Sebbane's new alias if his superyoyo ever gets tired) . It is not like besbes means anything anyway.

Last French guy:  
Alain Levy (evil) – just because it is such a cool anagram (and also how some of us pronounce his surname après beaucoup de vin).

The Americans are not particularly original (guess who hides behind brad and joegrue) but I found a cute one.  
Nick Nickell (fnickell) – it is the annoying piece of fabric that sticks to your shirt after you have taken off a wool sweater.



**Thor Erik Hoftaniska (kasper20)**

Thor Erik Hoftaniska (kasper20) is simply using the same alias on BBO as he does on Grindr.

We are back tomorrow with more revelations.

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## How to kibitz the Alt Invitational on BBO

As in the previous editions of the Alt Invitational, we expect thousands of spectators on BBO. Even though the Alt is not broadcasted via the BBO Vugraph, you can still watch any of your favourites. You simply search for your favorite player's nickname and join his or her table.

If you wish to watch the players whenever they are online, you search for your chosen one (fx Simon de Wijs 'sm1', click on the name and choose 'follow' instead of neutral. Any time you see him online, you can click on him and take a seat at his table (assuming the tournament allows it).  
See you on BBO!

## Teams / Players / Nicknames

### Bianchi

Reno Bianchi	inter2018
Alfredo Versace	nevaio
Leonardo Cima	100dog
Giovanni Donati	giova007
Alessandro Gandoglia	gandalf15
Valerio Giubilo	giammi

### Bid 72

Jan van Cleeff	IMP_Jan
Marina Witvliet	DonkeyM
Gert Jan Paulissen	gjp1965
Xavier Dupuis	XX man
Onno Eskes	onno
Ge Sprinkhuizen	Sprinksoet
Niels van Beijsterveldt	Nielsvbij
Youp Caris	youpmaster
Hervé Fleury	Juransson
Marc Girollet	maxile

### Black

Andrew Black	boggis
David Gold	dagold
Phil King	philking
Andrew McIntosh	mcintosh
Derek Patterson	delberto24
Gunnar Hallberg	rerack
Simon Hult	hultahult
Christian Lahrman	christianl

### Blass

Jacek Pszczola	pikolo
Josef Blass	bljosef
Jacek Kalita	bridge24jk
Michal Nowosadzki	bridge24mn
Johan Upmark	Mostovoi
Fredrik Nyström	F_Nystrom

### Bridgescanner

Konrad Araszkievicz	konrad80
Andrei Arlovich	goblin2000
Boguslaw Gierulski	bogier
Krzysztof Kotorowicz	przedpelk
Mikhail Krasnoselskii	coreman
Georgi Matushko	matushko
Wojciech Olanski	olanski
Jerzy Skrzypczak	TXT
Erikas Vainikonis	bookie_I
Vytautas Vainikonis	vainikonis

### Chocolata

Ilan Bareket	bareket
Michael Barel	mich-b
Ilan Herbst	ilanh
Ophir Herbst	herbst
Ismail Kandemir	yakop
Suleyman Kolata	atalok
Asaf Lengy	lengy
Ophir Reshef	oreshef
Bar Tarnovski	bar_t213
Yaniv Zack	Yanivz

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See you on BBO!



## Teams / Players / Nicknames

### Daltons

Mark Thiele	mrxxx
Yael Topiol	top_33
Renee Verdegaal	mrs_m
Hans Vergoed	MrVeryGood

### De Botton

Jason Hackett	mutton
Alexander Hydes	itsgrim
Janet de Botton	capt Lulu
Arthur Malinowski	malisuper
Thor Erik Hoftaniska	kasper20
Thomas Charlsen	charlsen

### Denmark

Michael Askgaard	askgaard
Lars Blakset	Lblakset
Henrik Caspersen	Hcasp
Soren Christiansen	Sac
HC Graversen	HCDK
Kasper Konow	konow
Jan Nielsen	Jni33
Peter Schaltz	reteos
Dorthe Schaltz	DS_DK

### Donner

Per-Ola Cullin	pocken
Gary Donner	Gdonnersc1
Joe Grue	joegrue
Marion Michielsen	Lady007
Brad Moss	brad
Cecilia Rimstedt	cillar
Sandra Rimstedt	Sandria

### Edmonds

Jodi Edmonds	jodewagon
Zach Grossack	germs345
Tom Paske	Thomas1000
Mikael Rimstedt	MikaelRim
Ola Rimstedt	olarim
Joel Wooldridge	firechief

### Team Gillis

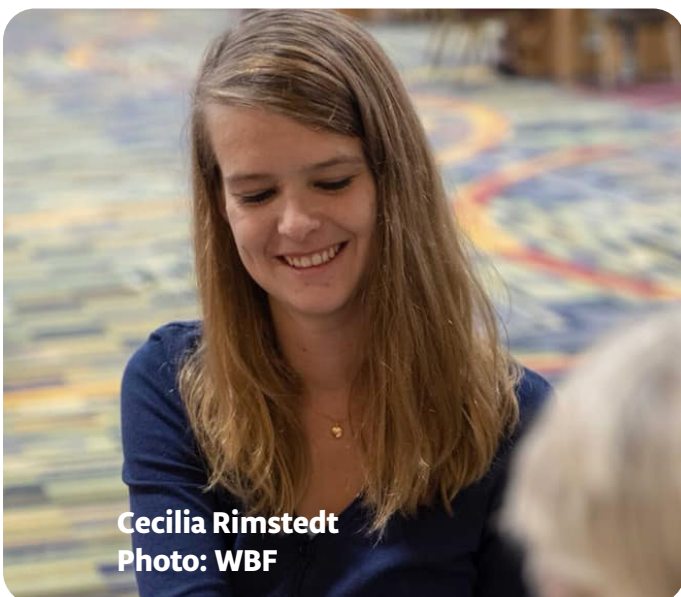
Simon Gillis	rayas78
Erik Saelensminde	skaal1
Boye Brogeland	boye
Espen Lindqvist	stevieg
Peter Crouch	pitiful
Espen Erichsen	espene

### Goldberg

Vesa Fagerlund	muppe
Connie Goldberg	conniemc
Artu Karhulahti	arleri
Kauko Koistinen	koistinen
Clas Nyberg	clas72
Hua Poon	krobono

### Gupta

Bauke Muller	beukertje
Simon de Wijs	sm1
Cedric Lorenzini	pierced
Huub Bertens	H Bertens
Thomas Bessis	malpaluche
Naren Gupta	nareng
Curtis Cheek	curtis



**Cecilia Rimstedt**  
Photo: WBF

## Teams / Players / Nicknames

### Hungary

Miklos Dumbovich	dumbovich
Gal Hegedus	gal
Csaba Szabo	csaboka13
Balasz Szegedi	korszurku
Gabor Winkler	winkiboy

### Ireland

Grainne Barton	bartong
John Caroll	coopers
Nick Fitzgibbon	nickfg1
Tom Hanlon	kinder1
Hugh McGann	hmg2
Adam Mesbur	Amesbur
Mark Moran	Markpm

### Juniors

Florian Alter	Florian_a
Arthur Boulin	tutur300
Théo Guillemin	theoguille
Erik Hansson	Hanseri1
Castor Mann	Castor01
Alexander Sandin	stridsvagn
Lauritz Streck	Fluxo
Stefan Thorpe	Steffff
Sibrand van Oosten	sibrand
Leo Vornkahl	EdgarV



Dennis Bilde

### Lavazza

Dennis Bilde	Ballebo-jr
Norberto Bocchi	Norby
Philippe Cronier	Phicro2
Massimiliano Di Franco	M_DiFranco
Giorgio Duboin	Giorginod
Agustin Madala	Septiembre
Andrea Manno	maqeda
Antonio Sementa	ilaria75

### Team Lebowitz

Zia Mahmood	zia
Laurence Lebowitz	O lhl12
Adam Grossack	nevereast
Michael Rosenberg	Scotty
Vincent Demuy	okvince
John Kranyak	jkrans
Gavin Wolpert	Gavin

### Leslie

Mike Bell	mickyb
Michael Byrne	mgb81
Kieran Dyke	woozle
Tim Leslie	culross66
Ben Norton	bechno

### Marina

Monica Aghemo	Bebe2112
Andrea Buratti	Lucrezio14
Ionut Coldea	ionutclد
Bogdan Marina	dromikete
Franck Multon	mido
Kiki Ward-Platt	SodaSpring

### Meltzer

Ton Bakkeren	tbak
Nik Demirev	ndemirev
Veri Kiljan	Vkill
Christina Lund Madsen	christinas
Rose Meltzer	RCM
Wayne Stuart	wstuart
Luc Tijssen	Luctijs

## Teams / Players / Nicknames



Zia Mahmood

### Netbridge

Karen Arens	karenar
Kees Bakker	keesbak
Pim Coppens	pimcop
Marijn Huber	marijnhu
John Lesmeister	jlesme
Gert-Jan Ros	gjwros
Martin van der Starre	martin001
Erwin Witteveen	erwinw

### Netherlands

Bob Drijver	bobdrijver
Merijn Groenenboom	MerijnG
Guy Mendes de Leon	Guymdl
Danny Molenaar	dannymo
Bart Nab	bnab
Maarten Schollaardt	skollie
Thibo Sprinkhuizen	Thibos
Berend van den Bos	BerendBs
Joris van Lankveld	ennaji
Tim Verbeek	timve

### Nickell

Eric Greco	greco
Geoff Hampson	ghampson
Ralph Katz	ralphk
Robert Levin	levin
Jeff Meckstroth	jjmeck
Nick Nickell	fnickell
Eric Rodwell	bumporant
Steve Weinstein	stevo

### Norway Women

Ann-Karin Fuglestad	annkafu
Liv Marit Grude	kompis
Marianne Harding	rosenknopp
Torild Heskje	heskjet
Bodil Oeigarden	bodil1983
Gunn Tove Vist	Dronninga

### Olczyk

Jaroslav Cieslak	palnik22
Dominik Filipowicz	consus88
Piotr Nawrocki	nawrot
Pawel Niedzielski	consus2
Jerzy Olczyk	jerzyo48
Piotr Wiankowski	vifon_e

### Roll

Peter Bertheau	pbertheau
Amir Levin	amiri
Josef Roll	sroch
Oren Toledano	orentol
Dan Zagorin	pez007
Ami Zamir	zamir1

### Rombaut

Michel Bessis	besbes
Bernard Cabanes	bernard34
Baptiste Combescure	batou
Francois Combescure	aphobiah
Leo Rombaut	leo1311
Jerome Rombaut	jerome
Lionel Sebbane	superyoyo
Paul Segueineau	seguinto



## Teams / Players / Nicknames

### Russia

Alexander Dubinin	Willis_A
Andrey Gromov	agromov017
Anna Gulevich	katt
Yury Khokhlov	yukh
Vadim Kholomeev	hollyv
Yury Khuppenen	hupp

### Seligman

Dennis Clerkin	tashakelly
Jerry Clerkin	jclerkin
Mark Lair	mslair
Mike Pasell	mnpasell
Seppo Sauvola	zebutin
Martin Seligman	mseligman

### Soulet

Philippe Chottin	cholina
Donatella Halfon	attela
David Harari	sarroumane
Erick Mauberquez	mauber
Emmanuelle Monod	mafraise1
Dominique Pilon	cap51
Philippe Soulet	phisou9
Herve Vinciguerra	hvinci3141

### Team Street

Nicolas L'Ecuyer	caucase
Paul Street	Boulevard1
Ron Pachtman	ronpa
Piotr Zatorski	dzeronimo
Fred Pollack	Fredp
Kamel Fergani	fergani

### Team "SWISS TEAM"

Sjoert Brink	sjoertBr
Sebastian Drijver	BasDr
Piotr Gawrys	Badaud4
Michal Klukowski	Skrzat96
Krzysztof Martens	snetram
Fernando Piedra	Ferpiedra
Pierre Zimmermann	Pzimm55

### Team Tulin

Stan Tulin	returned
David Bakhshi	Bakhshi
Louk Verhees	Loukie
Ricco van Prooijen	Riccovp
Dror Padon	Drorp
Alon Birman	Hatol

### Vinita

Vinita Gupta	vinita
Bob Hamman	TGBH3
Geir Helgemo	Micelle45
Tor Helness	helstokk
Hemant Lall	hemantlall
Debbie Rosenberg	debrose





1. The Major Alt Invitational I will be hosted in Bridge Base Online from 22nd to 26th of June, 2020.

2. All participants are bound by the regulations contained within this document. Invitations for this event will be issued to teams of 4 – 10 players.

### 3. Schedule of play:

Monday June 22 - Wednesday June 24  
three matches of 14 boards/day will be played at the following starting times:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET – Swiss Round 1  
12:30 EDT / 18:30 CET – Swiss Round 2  
15:00 EDT / 21:00 CET – Swiss Round 3

Thursday June 25:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET – Swiss (last round)  
14:00 EDT / 20:00 CET – Quarterfinal  
(28 boards, 2 x 14)

Friday June 26:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET – Semifinal  
(28 boards, 2 x 14)

14:30 EDT / 20:30 CET – Final  
(32 boards, 2 x 16)

### 4. Qualifying Stage

The qualifying stage will be played as a “Swiss” and will consist of 140 boards played in 10 matches of 14 boards each. The results of each match shall be converted into Victory Points in accordance with the appropriate WBF IMP/VP scales (see p. 10 below).

In the Swiss stage, any errors in assigning opponents shall not invalidate the result of that, or any other, match.

In case of an odd number of teams the bye team will receive 12 VPs.

In the event of two or more teams having the same number of Victory Points, their rankings will be determined as follows:

The total Victory Points of each team's opponents ("Swiss Points") is calculated and the team with the largest number of "Swiss Points" is ranked first, and so on. If two or more teams have the same number of "Swiss Points", their rankings will be determined by their relative IMP quotients.

The top 8 teams from the Swiss qualifying stage will advance to the knockout stage.

### 5. Knockout Stage

Before the start of the knockout stage a fixed (standard) bracket will be created and the teams placed 1st – 4th in the Swiss will be seeded no. 1 – 4.

The teams placed 1st – 3rd in the Swiss, in that order, get to choose their opponents from the teams placed 5th – 8th in the Swiss. Those chosen teams are assigned seed no. 8 – 6 respectively. The teams placed 4th in the Swiss will play the quarterfinal against the remaining team which gets no. 5.

Quarterfinal and semifinal will be played over 1 segment of 28 boards each with

possible change of the line-up after 14 boards (see p. 6 below). Final will be played over 32 boards, 2 separate segments of 16 boards each.

There will be the following carry over: a In the quarterfinal no. 1-4 get a carry over of 10.1 – 6.1 – 3.1 – 1.1 IMP respectively; in the semifinal and the final the higher ranked teams in the Swiss get a carry over of 0.1 IMP as a tiebreaker.

### **6. Line-Up**

All matches of the Swiss qualifying stage will be played without change of the line-up during a 14-board match unless unless there is a serious reason to do so (to be decided by the TD).

In the quarterfinal and semifinal change of the line-up is possible after 14 boards provided that no player can change the compass direction (so East will stay East and so on).

The final will consist of 2 separate segments, so there are no restrictions on the line-up.

The teams are expected to submit their line-up as soon as practical but in any case not later than 30 minutes before the start of the round.

Teams who infringe this regulation will be subject to VP penalties according to this scale:

1st occasion – warning;  
2nd and any subsequent occasion – 0.5 VP penalty.

The line-up must be submitted through the line-up web utility. All captains will be provided with the respective link and the password.

It is possible to change the submitted line-up but not later than 30 minutes before the start of the round.

The line-up is completely blind and will not be published before the start of the round.

### **7. Running the matches**

All players involved must be online and logged in to Bridge Base Online 10 minutes before the start of the round at the latest.

The Tournament Director will create the tables and send invitations to the players in accordance with the submitted line-ups. Players are requested to accept the invitation immediately upon receipt.

All tables will play duplicated boards (same boards for every team).

The table settings will allow kibitzers but forbid communication between players and kibitzers.

Barometer scoring will be OFF. The scores are only visible (for the players) after the last board has been played. Kibitzers can see the scores during the match.

Undo and claiming according to the BBO-guidelines: all players have the right to reject an undo or claim request for any reason. They are not required to explain why they have rejected such a request.

If players explain bids during the bidding via chat, then this is not communicated to “the table”, but only to “the opponents”. This way their partner cannot see the explanation, similar to explaining the bids via the BBO alert mechanism.

Players alert their own bids.

Players may not consult their own system card and use any aids to their memory, calculation or technique between the commencement of the auction period and the end of play.

Players are expected to finish 14 boards within 2 hours. The Tournament Director may remove unplayed boards if in his opinion a delay in finishing the match in the allotted time would interfere with the smooth running of the competition.

## 8. Request of the TD ruling

This tournament will of course be played in the most respectful way possible. Fun and good bridge are paramount. Netbridge relies on reluctance and restraint to call the Director. Should a team find a serious cause for demanding a ruling, then this will only be dealt with if the captain of the team announces this via email within 45 minutes after the last board played (with an explanation and a request for a specific adjustment of the score). Netbridge will inform the other team and give that team the opportunity (through its captain) to respond via an email within 45 minutes after being informed. The protest will be decided by a qualified director; or world class player; no further appeal will be possible after his/her decision.

To submit protests, you should send email to: [info@netbridge.online](mailto:info@netbridge.online)

9. These Regulations may be amended and augmented at the discretion of the organizing committee if circumstances so warrant so as to ensure the smooth, efficient and enjoyable running of the tournament.

Although this tournament isn't aligned with any bridge federation we will cooperate and provide them with all the information necessary to detect and prevent cheating.

## 10. The WBF Victory Points scale for 14 boards:

IMP	VP		IMP	VP	
0	10.00	10.00	29	16.88	3.12
1	10.33	9.67	30	17.04	2.96
2	10.66	9.34	31	17.19	2.81
3	10.97	9.03	32	17.34	2.66
4	11.28	8.72	33	17.49	2.51
5	11.58	8.42	34	17.63	2.37
6	11.87	8.13	35	17.77	2.23
7	12.16	7.84	36	17.91	2.09
8	12.44	7.56	37	18.04	1.96
9	12.71	7.29	38	18.17	1.83
10	12.97	7.03	39	18.29	1.71
11	13.23	6.77	40	18.41	1.59
12	13.48	6.52	41	18.53	1.47
13	13.72	6.28	42	18.65	1.35
14	13.96	6.04	43	18.76	1.24
15	14.19	5.81	44	18.87	1.13
16	14.42	5.58	45	18.98	1.02
17	14.64	5.36	46	19.08	0.92
18	14.85	5.15	47	19.18	0.82
19	15.06	4.94	48	19.28	0.72
20	15.26	4.74	49	19.38	0.62
21	15.46	4.54	50	19.47	0.53
22	15.66	4.34	51	19.56	0.44
23	15.85	4.15	52	19.65	0.35
24	16.03	3.97	53	19.74	0.26
25	16.21	3.79	54	19.83	0.17
26	16.38	3.62	55	19.91	0.09
27	16.55	3.45	56	19.99	0.01
28	16.72	3.28	57	20.00	0.00





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