

the MAJOR ALT



JUNE 22 - 26, 2020

online bridge events organized by bid72 & netbridge.online

Agreeable Atmosphere

Little past the halfway mark, Goldberg has taken a lead of 4 VPs ahead of mighty Nickell, closely followed by Gupta and Bianchi.

The atmosphere at the table is friendly, but competitive. The players take this event seriously. Despite this, undos after misclicks are cordially accepted and opponents complimented for their good plays.

We thank all players for the entertainment so far.

Notice:

Team Marina has withdrawn and will be replaced by a substitute team starting at 0 VPs unable to qualify for the top 8. There is a revised draw for Round 7 on bridgeresults.org and in this bulletin on page 9.

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

Wednesday June 24

10:00 EDT/16:00 CET Match 7 (14 boards)

12:30 EDT/18:30 CET Match 8 (14 boards)

15:00 EDT/21:00 CET Match 9 (14 boards)



Misfits

By Martin Cantor



Just to be clear, my headline refers to the hands, not the players.

After three rounds Blass had a narrow lead over Nickell at the top of the table, so they clashed in round 4 at Table 1. I was there. The first few hands were fairly quiet, and when board 6 came along EW, with their flat mid-range hands, won't have expected much in the way of fireworks; when it came up on BBO I commented "These sorts of hands are horrible. To bid, to play, to defend and to commentate". And so it proved.

Board 6. E / EW

<p>♠ 72</p> <p>♥ A 64</p> <p>♦ T 942</p> <p>♣ K 432</p>	<p>♠ AQJT86</p> <p>♥ 7</p> <p>♦ Q</p> <p>♣ AJ986</p>	<p>♠ K954</p> <p>♥ QT5</p> <p>♦ K83</p> <p>♣ QT5</p>	<p>♠ 3</p> <p>♥ KJ9832</p> <p>♦ AJ765</p> <p>♣ 7</p>
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WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Nyström	Rodwell	Upmark	Meckstroth
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2♠ GF
 3♦ "showing 5♦ I hope"

Once Meckstroth decided to open his shapely nine count they were always going to play in game, and 4♠ or 3NT looked the likeliest. Neither has any legitimate chance, at least in theory. As is so often the case the opening lead was decisive.

Nothing looks good from the East seat, so the unbid suit was a reasonable effort; unfortunately for the Swedish pair it was all the help Rodwell needed. He won the club king with the ace and ruffed another one. Now he needed to play with care to avoid a potential trump promotion for East in clubs.



Fredrik Nyström

He isn't a multiple champion for nothing, and he correctly played a heart - the king as it happens, but any heart will do- to cut the defense's communications. The rest was pretty straightforward, conceding tricks to East's ♠K and ♣Q.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Katz	Nowosadzki	Nickell	Kalita
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2NT = GF 3♦ = 6♥

Same contract, same ♣5 lead, and the same line of play, except that Nowosadzki chose the ♥2 at trick 3, so a flat board.

4♠ was played 25 times altogether, 24 of them by North. The ♣5 lead was the most popular and surprisingly, nine of those Norths went down, while just five made it including our tables.

When a trump was led (three times) the contract was always down; of the eight small diamond leads six made it, as they should, two didn't. Eight Souths played 4♥ and all failed by one or two tricks. The one North who contracted 3NT made it though he shouldn't have, and the one North who played the par contract of 3♠ scored an overtrick and a deserved 6 IMPs when game went off next door.

Two boards later it was EW's turn for the misfit.

Board 8. W / None

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Nystrom	Rodwell	Upmark	Meckstroth
1♠	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

2♣ artificial GF

2♦ artificial, 5-7 zz points (A=3, K=2, Q=1), unbalanced

3♦ 5♥, 5+♦

Misfits might be horrible to bid, play, and defend, but the one thing I have learned is that it is very rarely right to play them in notrump.

Once again the shapely hand chose to open with subminimum opening hand,

and once again it didn't pay off. Rodwell declined to lead a club honour, which would have let Nystrom get out for minus 1. Instead he chose a small heart which double dummy results in minus 2, but declarer got the spades wrong so went down 3.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Katz	Nowosadzki	Nickell	Kalita
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠*	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	All Pass

1♠ 5+ spades unless weak and short hearts

When Katz decided against opening Nickell followed the normal practice with a weakish 5M 6m hand of opening the major then bidding the minor twice. Katz got the message and left his partner in a good spot.

On Kalita's lead of the ♠A declarer can't legitimately make more than nine tricks. In the end he made only eight, mis-judging the diamond position at trick 10.

Trick 2 was won by the ♣A, for a heart discard. Then three rounds of hearts, ruffing the third, club ruff, heart ruffed with the king, and a spade to the king, ruffed by South. His club exit was ruffed and now declarer had just ♦QT76, missing AJ95, and needing two tricks. If the missing diamonds are 2-2 you are fine if you avoid a trump promotion.



Michal Nowosadzki

If 3-1 you need a singleton honour, and to avoid a promotion. As the cards lay, the winning line was the queen to pin the jack. However he played a small one, so one off, but 3 IMPs gained.

Many of the other tables played spade or diamond part scores, some making, some not. All of the eleven game contracts failed. Nickell won the match 22 - 7 = 14.19 - 5.81.

Leaderboard

Ranking after round 6		
rk	team	VPs
1	 GOLDBERG	83.82
2	 NICKELL	79.86
3	 GUPTA	79.26
4	 BIANCHI	78.83
5	 SOULET	74.54
6	 TULIN	72.04
7	 STREET	71.30
8	 DONNER	69.09
9	 LAVAZZA	67.83
10	 SWISS TEAM	67.50
11	 CHOCOLATA	67.24
12	 SELIGMAN	66.57
13	 DE BOTTON	66.25
14	 IRELAND	63.91
15	 ROLL	63.73
16	 BLASS	62.88
17	 LEBOWITZ	61.45
18	 ROMBAUT	60.99

See all results on [Bridgeresults.org](https://bridgeresults.org)

19	 VINITA	60.30
20	 EDMONDS	60.04
21	 NETHERLANDS	58.89
22	 DENMARK	58.34
23	 GILLIS	57.40
24	 DALTONS	56.44
25	 BID72	55.20
26	 BRIDGESCANNER	54.02
27	 MELTZER	51.76
28	 JUNIORS	50.83
29	 RUSSIA	46.55
30	 NORWAY WOMEN	43.86
31	 BLACK	40.76
32	 LESLIE	40.43
33	 HUNGARY	39.65
34	 OLCZYK	35.43
35	 NETBRIDGE	29.31
36	 ALT STARS	0.00

Breaking the Rule



By Mark Horton

One of the key elements of the United Kingdom's efforts to contain the Covid-19 virus has been the implementation of the 2 metre rule, which requires everyone to stay that distance apart from anyone else. However, that rule is now about to be changed to '1 metre plus'.

There are plenty of rules in bridge, but players are willing to break them. Sometimes it works and sometimes it does not.

See what you make of these two deals from the match between Lavazza and Swiss Team:

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sementa	Drijver	Bocchi	Brink
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♠*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

2♠ Strong with 3+♥

South led the ♠J and North took the king with the ace and returned the ♠4, South winning with the ten and switching to the ♣3. When declarer called for dummy's jack he was down 'on the go'.

My au pair, who happened to be in the office at the time, mentioned that where she comes from players are more likely to underlead an ace than a queen in this situation.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zimmermann	Bilde	Martens	Madala
—	—	—	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

3♥ Transfer



Norberto Bocchi
Photo: ACBL



Did West upgrade his hand? It was certainly a good time to do it (and the Kaplan-Rubens Hand Evaluator rates it at 20.30) as North led the $\diamond 4$ and declarer won with dummy's queen, cashed the $\heartsuit A$ and played a heart to the king. When her majesty appeared he drew the last trump and pitched two spades on winning diamonds. He then announced he would ruff a spade and play a club to the jack, so +650 which was worth 13 IMPs.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

<p>\spadesuit A Q 10 8 3 \heartsuit A Q 7 6 \diamond 10 5 2 \clubsuit Q</p>	<p>\spadesuit J 9 7 \heartsuit K J 4 \diamond K Q 8 6 4 \clubsuit A 3</p>
<p>\spadesuit K 4 \heartsuit 9 5 \diamond A 9 7 3 \clubsuit K 10 7 6 4</p>	<p>\spadesuit 6 5 2 \heartsuit 10 8 3 2 \diamond J \clubsuit J 9 8 5 2</p>

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Semeta	Drijver	Bocchi	Brink
1 \spadesuit	Dble	Rdbl	2 \clubsuit
Dble	All Pass		

North's shape-unsuitable double is a strategy that did not find favour with the au pair (I fear her description of the bid might be regarded as offensive by readers of a sensitive disposition).

West led the $\clubsuit Q$ and declarer won with dummy's ace and tried the $\diamond 4$. East pounced on that with the ace and played two rounds of spades, West continuing with the major suit aces (East pitching his heart) followed by the $\heartsuit 6$. Declarer tried dummy's king, but East ruffed that and exited with the $\clubsuit 7$. Declarer won with the $\clubsuit J$ and returned the nine, claiming five tricks, so -800.

The au pair thought that was a well-deserved result. Before she left to make sure the Clos Philibert Méo-Camuzet 2016 was in the fridge she pointed out that if West leads a small heart at trick one the defenders can get an extra trick as East will be able to score some heart ruffs and eventually declarer will be trump-bound and have to lead into the $\clubsuit K10$ at the end.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zimmermann	Bilde	Martens	Madala
1 \spadesuit	Dble	Rdbl	2 \clubsuit
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	2 \diamond	Dble	2 \heartsuit
Dble	All Pass		

North decided to gamble that playing in a red suit would be cheaper than 2 \clubsuit and right he was.

West led the $\clubsuit Q$ and declarer won with dummy's ace and played a diamond, but East took the ace and switched to spades, the defenders playing four rounds of the



Agustin Madala

suit, declarer pitching a club from dummy and overruffing East's ♥9. A heart saw West take the ace and exit with a heart but declarer put in dummy's jack and played three rounds of diamonds, West overruffing with the ♥Q. He could exit with a spade, but declarer had six tricks, -500 and 7 IMPs.

Cashing the ♣K would not necessarily have given the defenders an extra trick as after overruffing on the fourth round of spades declarer can play the ♣J. If West ruffs, declarer overruffs with dummy's ♥J and pitches two clubs on dummy's diamonds. West will be able to ruff the second of these (having pitched a diamond on the ♣K) but will only score one more trick.



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Draw Round 4

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	 GOLDBERG	 NICKELL
2	 GUPTA	 BIANCHI
3	 SOULET	 TULIN
4	 STREET	 LAVAZZA
5	 DONNER	 SWISS TEAM
6	 CHOCOLATA	 SELIGMAN
7	 DE BOTTON	 ROLL
8	 IRELAND	 BLASS
9	 LEBOWITZ	 ROMBAUT
10	 VINITA	 EDMONDS
11	 NETHERLANDS	 DENMARK
12	 GILLIS	 DALTONS
13	 BID72	 BRIDGESCANNER
14	 MELTZER	 JUNIORS
15	 RUSSIA	 NORWAY WOMEN
16	 BLACK	 LESLIE
17	 HUNGARY	 OLCZYK
18	 NETBRIDGE	 ALT STARS

Important notice

Team Marina has withdrawn.

The team will be replaced by a substitute team starting at 0 VPs.

The substitute team cannot qualify for the top 8 entering at this stage of the competition.

The results of Marina from previous matches will stand.

Vugraph

The matches on BBO Vu-Graph in Round 7:

Goldberg - Nickell
Swiss team - Donner

Remember you can watch any match you prefer. Simply search for one of your favorite players and go to his/her table.

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What's in a name II

Major Alt Special

by Christina Lund Madsen



With so many participants we are back with another round of "What's in a name", revealing the secrets behind our players' BBO-nicknames.

The originality is of different variety, which our three indiscrete MI6-agents are proof of:

Giovanni Donati (giova007), Marion Michielsen (Lady007) and Daniel Zagorin (pez007).

Besides being prettier, taller, smarter and better at singing than the other two, Lady Marion also managed to include not only one, but two fictional characters in her alias.

Laurence Lebowitz (0 lh12)

When I saw this the first time I had to go on BBO to check if my colleague hadn't accidentally added a zero by mistake. It turns out Larry made a nickname he was sure nobody could remember by heart besides himself – this way when women approach him at tournaments with “Hi there. Do you ever play on BBO?” and he tells them his nickname, he is certain never to hear from them again. (Either that, or he accidentally entered his password in the username-field.)

Jacek Kalita (bridge24jk) and Michal Nowosadzki (bridge24mn) are using the names from their identity badges, which they must wear at all times when leaving their institution.



Laurence Lebowitz (0 lh12)

Miklós Dumbovich (Dumbovich)

I wanted to make fun of this, when I realised Dumbovich is actually his name.

Hans Vergoed (MrVeryGood)

Another Dutch with an alias picked by his wife, though not for his bridge skills. (We know this because Yael Topiol, who is also his partner, wrote specifically to inform us of this).

I envy Dutch women.

Geir Helgemo (Micelle45)
He lost a bet to an ex-girlfriend.

Kamel Fergani (fergani).
The alternative was Kamel.

Stefan Thorpe (Steffff)
One of our Junior Alt Stars. He made his alias an early morning after a joyful evening. Don't drink and type!

From Italy we have Leonardo Cima (100dog) who is a famous rapper in Italy.

Zia (zia). There can be only one.



Gábor Winkler (winkiboy)
By pure coincidence I stumbled across his profile on Tinder:

Winkiboy, 43
"I like wine, travelling and playing card games. I'm not really sure what I'm looking for besides queens, but swipe right and let's meet on BBO."

Eric Rodwell (bumportant)
I confess it has not been possible for me to figure out what this combo of bum and important means, but I will be sure to ask Eric next time I see him face to face.

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_Ilt
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

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

Daltons

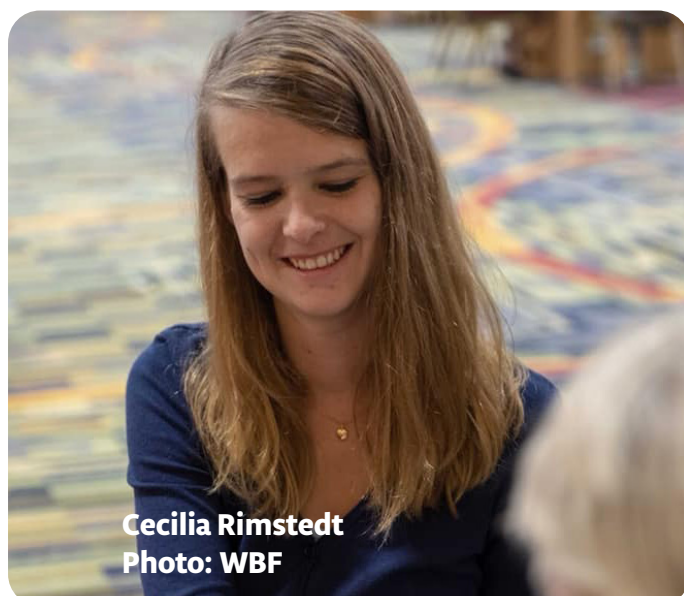
Mark Thiele	mrxxx
Yael Topiol	top_33
Renee Verdegaal	mrs_m
Hans Vergoed	MrVeryGood

De Botton

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

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



Cecilia Rimstedt
Photo: WBF

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	arderi
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

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

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

Meltzer

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

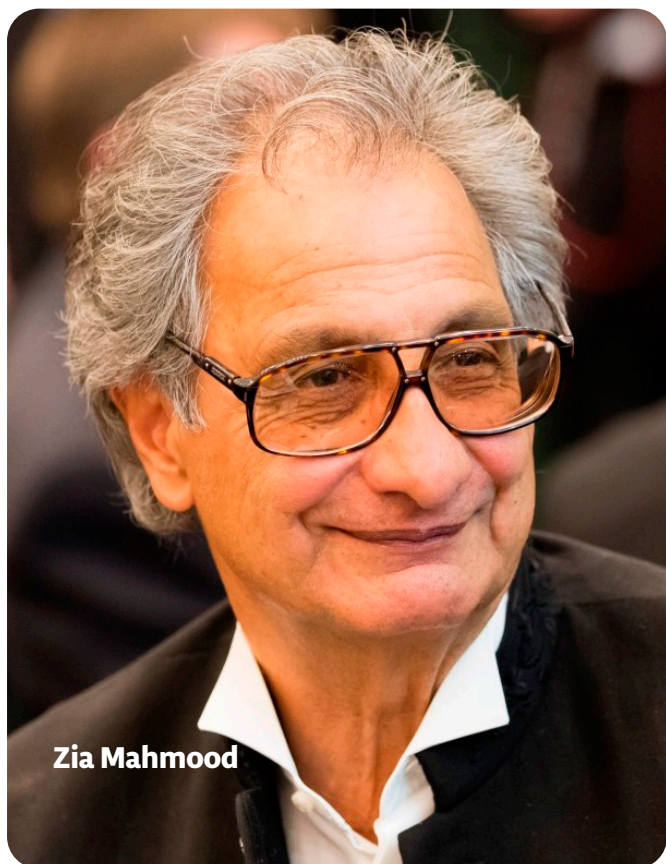
Netbridge

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



Dennis Bilde

Teams / Players / Nicknames



Zia Mahmood

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	stroch
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

Russia

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

Teams / Players / Nicknames

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

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

Alt Stars (replacing Marina)

Camilla Krefeld	Camse2
Johan Hammelev	Johse61
Helle Rasmussen	helle_r
Jan Pedersen	gobochamp
Aida Jansma	AIDA_MK_NL
Jan Jansma	Jan_Jansma
Niek Brink and friends	



Tor Helness

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

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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