

the MAJOR ALT



JUNE 22 - 26, 2020

online bridge events organized by bid72 & netbridge.online

First Major for Gupta

In a field of heroes and stars the First Major Alt-title was won by Naren Gupta's team when they defeated Lavazza in a close, record low-scoring final. Congratulations to Naren Gupta, Huub Bertens, Thomas Bessis, Curtis Cheek, Simon de Wijs, Bauke Muller and Cedric Lorenzini.

Well fought by Lavazza (Dennis Bilde, Norberto Bocchi, Philippe Cronier, Massimiliano Di Franco, Giorgio Duboin, Agustin Madala, Andrea Manno, Antonio Sementa)

We have been overwhelmed and honoured by the interest for the Major Alt. So how does the future look? We are still considering our next projects. More Major Alts, Minor Alts, Mixed Alts? MontreAlt?

Only thing we guarantee is we will be back!

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Final

	1	2	Total
Gupta	14	28	42
Lavazza	24	6	30



Missed Opportunities

Martin Cantor



Goldberg had stormed through the Swiss and had battered Seligman in the quarter final. In the semi final they met Lavazza who had narrowly qualified for the knock-out phase, then narrowly beaten Street in the quarters. So form was on Goldberg's side, but form can be fickle.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hua	Duboin	Goldberg	Cronier
1♥	Pass	2♥	Dbl
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

Board 4. W / All

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Manno	Fagerlund	DiFranco	Koistinen
1♥	Pass	3♥*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Di Franco's self-alert of his response as mixed was a rather generous description of his hand's defensive values, but it paid off, keeping his opponents out of the auction. Fagerlund led his singleton spade and in due course the defence came to two clubs, a trump, and a spade ruff to take the contract one down.

Duboin took his partner's double seriously, and Cronier ended in a contract that, single dummy, looks heavy odds on to succeed. Double dummy it makes, but the 4-0 trump break causes problems.

Hua led ace and another heart, taken by the king for a spade discard. Anything except a small trump from dummy keeps declarer on a winning line, but, unaware of the diamond split, a small diamond was his choice. Three top clubs followed, ruffed and over-ruffed, then a small spade won by East to leave this position:

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

When declarer plays on cross ruff lines it is almost always right as a defender to

lead trumps any chance you get, and here it would have left declarer a trick short. However when Goldberg led a heart, Cronier could ruff in hand, ruff a spade in dummy, and lead another club. If East discarded he could ruff small, then take the last three tricks on a high cross ruff. If she ruffed, he could over-ruff and play a trump to dummy, which would be high. Contract made and 11 IMPs to Lavazza that could have been 5 to Goldberg.

In the other semi-final Bianchi and Cheek also played 5♦ from South, except Cheek was doubled. And they both went a trick light - their lines of play differed, but both made the fatal, but by no means obvious, error of winning the first diamond in hand, not dummy.

Board 9. N / EW

<p>♠ KT32 ♥ 974 ♦ A65 ♣ Q86</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ 74 ♥ A65 ♦ KJT873 ♣ 73</p>	<p>♠ J9865 ♥ 32 ♦ 9 ♣ AJT54</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		<p>♠ AQ ♥ KQJT8 ♦ Q42 ♣ K92</p>										

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hua	Duboin	Goldberg	Cronier
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

3♦ fit showing

Duboin thought a while before launching a mildly aggressive passed hand fit jump, but he persuaded himself into it with the sixth diamond in a good suit. Right he was (as so often) when Cronier raised to the cold game; yes the defence can get a diamond ruff, but only one, and the only other loser is the ♣A.

Hua led a club to partner's ace, and she switched to a spade. Cronier simply went up with the ace, cashed the ♣K, ruffed a club high, drew trumps and scored two diamonds for his game.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Manno	Fagerlund	DiFranco	Koistinen
—	2♦*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Koistinen declined to explore for a heart fit for which he could have paid dearly.

There is no reason why he should, but if Manno had managed to find a club lead, the defence have two ways of beating the contract. Di Franco could insert the ♣J, and if declarer ducks, play another club.

Or he could take the ♣A at trick one and switch to a spade. In reality Manno led a normal-looking small spade and now the defenders just got their two aces. Only a 1 IMP swing, but another missed opportunity.

In the other match Cheek also got a spade lead against his 3NT, and the defence didn't even take their ♣A, so he made 12 tricks. At the other table Bianchi played 4♥ from South on a trump lead. He won that in hand and played a diamond to the ten without drawing a second round

of trumps. When he continued a second diamond, Muller in East could ruff to ship a spade through, and when the finesse failed there were also the two minor suit aces to lose for one off.

Missed opportunities at both tables saw 11 IMPs go to Gupta when they could have gone the other way.

Different approaches to opening led to very different outcomes.

Board 19. S / EW

<p>♠ T 2</p> <p>♥ A 9 8 4</p> <p>♦ 9 8 7 3 2</p> <p>♣ K 8</p>	<p>♠ Q 7 4</p> <p>♥ K Q T 6 3</p> <p>♦ A Q 5</p> <p>♣ Q 2</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ 8</p> <p>♥ 7</p> <p>♦ K J T 6 4</p> <p>♣ A J 9 5 4 3</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	<p>♠ A K J 9 6 5 3</p> <p>♥ J 5 2</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ T 7 6</p>											

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Karhulahti	Duboin	Nyberg	Cronier
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

3NT non-serious slam try

Even at unfavourable vulnerability Nyberg might have tried 2NT for the minors at his first turn, but he followed the old maxim

‘discretion is the better part of valour’ and kept quiet. He might have thought that he had made the right decision since NS ended up in the wrong major suit, losing the first four tricks to the ♣K, ♥A, ♥ ruff and ♣A. Maybe, or maybe not, because:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bocchi	Fagerlund	Sementa	Koistinen
—	—	—	4♠
Pass	Pass	4NT	Pass
5dx	All Pass		

Koistinen apparently prefers the maxim ‘fortune favours the brave’. But so it seems does Sementa who, despite the adverse vulnerability and the probability that his partner had long hearts, chose to follow too the bridge maxim ‘6-5 come alive’. And he got lucky when his partner produced both a five card diamond fit AND ♥ in clubs and North turned up with all the minor suit honours.

Once more 11 IMPs changed hands in Lavazza’s favour, helping them to their comprehensive 85-21.1 victory. In the other semi Donati went one down in 4♠ while Gupta also went one down, but in the par contract of 5♥X.

One final note from this match, because I know that the editor likes to hear the humorous table chat.

After a board took somewhere approaching fifteen minutes, all three active players being equally responsible, Philip Cronier posted “Sorry Giorgio, play too fast”.

Knock Outs

Semifinals

GOLDBERG	0.1	19	2	21.1
LAVAZZA		46	39	85

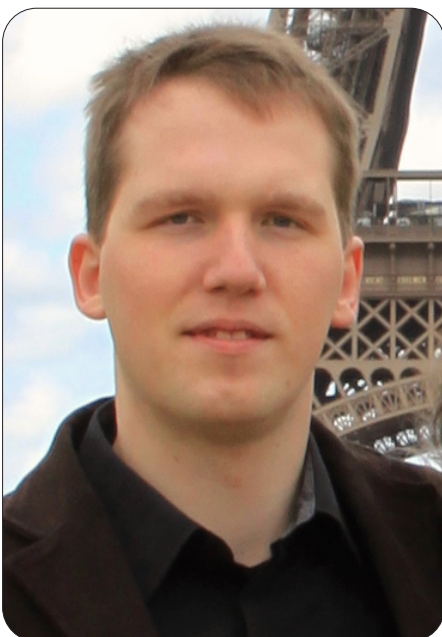
BIANCHI	0.1	12	35	47.1
GUPTA		47	17	64

Final

GUPTA	0.1	14	28	42.1
LAVAZZA		24	6	30

[Results at bridgeresults.org](http://bridgeresults.org)

Behind the Screens



Have you ever wondered who ensures the event runs smoothly, invites players to the table and makes sure results are up directly after the last table finishes? The answer is Anton Osipov and Denis Dobrin from Russia. Denis is also an EBL-director and our TD in the ALT. Thanks to their excellent software we are able to provide perfect scoring of all matches. Spasibo!

Final highlights



By Toine van Hoof

It is generally accepted that a team is considered to have played well if they hold their opponents to less than 2 IMPs per board. The IMP turnover in the Major Alt final was only 72 IMPs, i.e. only 2.25 a board. To compare: in the round-robin the average turnover was 4 IMPs.

Both teams played very well indeed. In the first half Gupta fielded Huub Bertens-Naren Gupta in the open room and Bauke Muller-Simon de Wijs in the closed.

For Lavazza Norberto Bocchi and Antonio Sementa played in the open room and Andrea Manno and Massimiliano Di Franco in the closed room.

First blood flowed on Board 2.

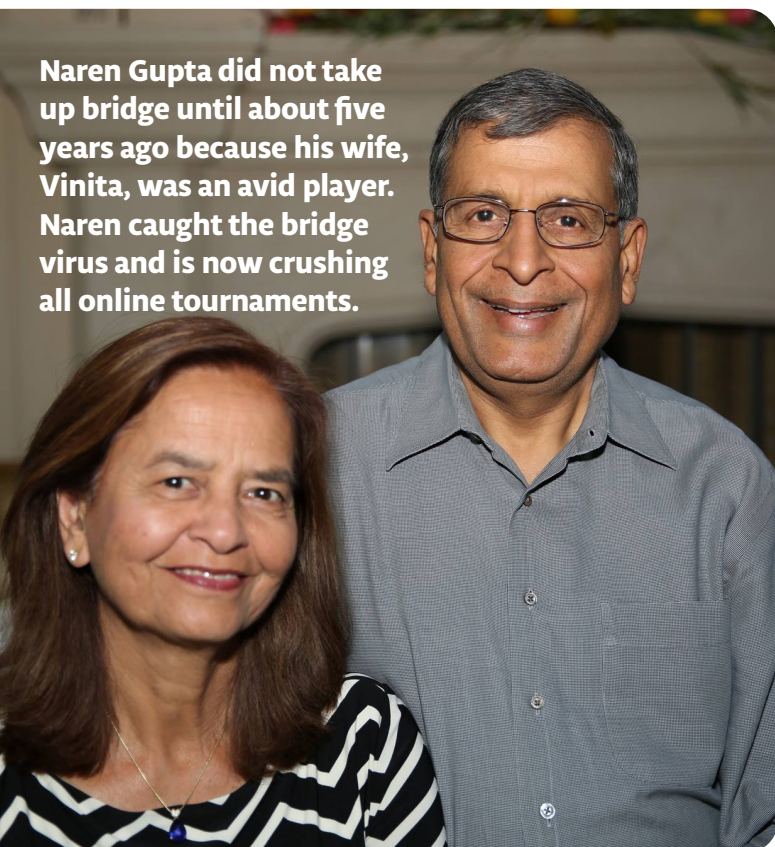
Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bocchi	Bertens	Sementa	Gupta
–	–	Pass	1♦
2♣	Dbl	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥ ¹
Pass	5♣ ²	Dbl	5♦
All Pass			

1. RKCB; 2. 2KC

To beat 3NT West needs to lead the ace, queen or ten of hearts. On another lead declarer simply ducks the ♦K. Bertens-Gupta drifted to 5♦ and the exaggerated RKCB by South gave East the opportunity to direct the lead. Bocchi led the ♣2, ruffed by Sementa, who returned a heart and got a ruff with ♦Q for down one.



Naren Gupta did not take up bridge until about five years ago because his wife, Vinita, was an avid player. Naren caught the bridge virus and is now crushing all online tournaments.

Simon de Wijs



After both EW pairs had bid and made a good 6♣ contract, Lavazza equalized the score on Board 6:

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

The spectators expected a 10 IMP loss for Gupta. To their surprise Gupta won that same amount:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bocchi	Bertens	Sementa	Gupta
–	–	Pass	2♦ ¹
2♥	2♠ ²	3♦ ³	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

1. weak; 2. nonforcing; 3. cuebid

Against Bocchi's 4♥ Bertens led the ♠K. Declarer won with the ace and played a heart to North's bare ace. Bertens now switched to the ♦7, small in East, king by South and ace in West. Bocchi drove out the ♥K and after that he only lost a spade trick. The ♦J was the parking place for his fourth club. It looks like South gave away the contract by wasting his ♦K. However, declarer can always prevail by squeezing North in the black suits. North could have sunk the contract by switching to a club when in with the ♥A. If he kicks off with a club 4♥ will even go down two.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
De Wijs	Manno	Muller	Di Franco
–	–	Pass	1♣
1♥	Dbl	4♥	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	

With his sevensuit stolen by South, De Wijs overcalled 1♥. After the negative double by North Muller raised to 4♥. Manno doubled again, but with the clubs three-three 4♥ could not be defeated.

North led a trump to declarer's ten. De Wijs ruffed a club in dummy and played a diamond to the king and ace. Manno shifted to a small spade to Di Franco's ace who returned the ♥9. De Wijs finessed, ruffed a club, cashed the ♦Q, came to hand with a heart and played a club: plus 590.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
De Wijs	Manno	Muller	Di Franco
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♥	2♥ ¹	3♥	All Pass

1. ♠ + ♣

In the replay Muller-De Wijs stopped in 3♥ and De Wijs made the same ten tricks: 170 to Gupta, 10 IMPs to Lavazza.

On Board 11 Lavazza took the lead by 11 IMPs when Bocchi-Sementa bid and made a pretty good 6♣-contract. At the other table Muller-De Wijs rested in 5♣ after heavy interference by Manno-Di Franco.

Huub Bertens ended up in the wrong game on Board 13:

Dealer North. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bocchi	Bertens	Sementa	Gupta
–	Pass	1♣	Dbl
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Against 3NT Antonio Sementa led the ♣2. Double dummy the contract can be made if declarer directly goes after the spades and finds the jack. Bertens played a small diamond from dummy at trick 2. For Norberto Bocchi it was impossible to know what was going on so he played low. The ♦10 drove out the ace and East returned the ♣10 to the jack. Declarer then misguessed the spades by playing a small spade to the queen and a spade back to the 9. East won the ♠J and had to find a continuation in this position:

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

He exited with the ♦9 and Bertens knew what to do. He hopped up with the ♦K, cashed three rounds of hearts and ended East on the ♠A: plus 600.

If East in the given position had cashed the ♣K and had exited with a club, West will have to discard a heart. Declarer then eliminates the hearts and plays a diamond to the jack. West wins with the queen but has to play into the K-7 tenace. There was one way for East to beat the contract and Bocchi was quick to spot it: 'Take a spade and diamond and go down.' In the replay Manno-Di Franco bid 4♠ which was made with an overtrick: 2 valuable IMPs to Lavazza. The score at half-time was Lavazza 24 and Gupta 14.1.

After the closed room had finished at 22:45 the second half started with five new faces. Curtis Cheek took over from Naren Gupta, Philippe Cronier and Giorgio Duboin came in for Bocchi-Sementa and Cédric Lorenzini and Thomas Bessis for Muller-De Wijs. The pace of play increased but the pace of scoring stayed extremely low. Gupta scored 5 IMPs by bidding and making 1NT in both directions and took over the lead on board 6.



Thomas Bessis

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lorenzini	Manno	Bessis	Di Franco
–	–	Pass	1♣
1♠	1NT	Pass	Pass
2♥	All Pass	All Pass	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cronier	Bertens	Duboin	Cheek
–	–	Pass	1♦
1♠	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Cronier led a top heart against 3NT, collecting the two from his partner. He played two more rounds of hearts. Declarer took the diamond finesse. West won with the king and cashed the thirteenth heart but Cheek claimed the rest. West could have defeated the contract by switching to the ♣K (and if declarer ducks switching back to hearts).

No double, no trouble. Lorenzini went two off, minus 200 but a gain of 5 IMPs for Gupta.

Lavazza regained the lead when Bessis, vulnerable in second seat, opened 1NT on: ♠ K 10 5 ♥ K J ♦ A K 10 9 6 3 ♣ J 10

It was passed out and he lost the first seven tricks. At the other table Duboin opened 1♦. He ended up in 3♦, just made, plus 110 and 5 IMPs to Lavazza who now led 30-27.1.

It was the last swing for Lavazza in the match. Gupta scored 5 (good defence by Cheek), 1 (a beautiful overtrick by Lorenzini), 6 (a lucky 3NT by Bertens-Cheek) and 3 IMPs (4NT minus 1 vs. 5♣ minus 2) to win the match 42.1-30.

Champagne Moment



By Mark Horton

Watching a bridge match with a view to writing about it is, to a certain extent, a matter of luck. If the deals are uncooperative then you may struggle, so to speak, to put pen to paper. On Thursday I could have written up almost every deal, but yesterday the first few deals were of little interest. I could show you Board 1 where an aggressive double of a cold cost team Goldberg 5 IMPs or Board 3, where Lavazza made a part-score at both tables to pick up another 6 IMPs, but neither deal is likely to get your pulses racing.

What I was looking for was a deal with more than a hint of excitement; a deal which might deserve a glass of champagne.

Along came Board 4, which looked promising, but Martin Cantor immediately pinged me an email claiming the deal.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Manno	Fagerlund	DiFranco	Koistinen
—	—	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

2♣ Natural or any 15+

6♥ 5-7 points

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hua	Duboin	Goldberg	Cronier
—	—	1♣*	Pass
1♦*	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥*	All Pass		

1♣ Precision

1♦ 0-7

2♥ 5+♥, 5-7

Watching EW bid this hand, I thought West might bid 3♥ over 1♠, but that might have had some subtle meaning. Then a memory stirred (from the days when I played Precision). West can respond 2♥, promising, according to Berkowitz and Manley in their excellent Precision Today, a six-card suit, 4-6 points with a concentration, ♥KQJxxx (!) or ♥AQ10xxx.

Missing game cost 10 IMPs.



Massimiliano Di Franco

Trailing 32-0, Goldberg finally got on the scoreboard by doing nothing - they passed out a deal where NS had made 2♠+1 in the Open Room.

I was about to give up on the idea when the Gods relented:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Manno	Fagerlund	DiFranco	Koistinen
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3NT	Pass	5NT*
Pass	6♦	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

5NT Pick a slam

East led the ♥J and declarer won with the king and went after the clubs. When East discarded a heart on the second round

declarer played a third club and West won and played back a heart. Declarer won, cashed two diamonds pitching spades, played a spade to the jack and claimed. At the point where West took the ♣A he should switch to a spade, which, as long as East withholds the queen will leave declarer a trick short.

I think declarer had spotted that, but he had missed a way to ensure the contract as the card lay. After two rounds of clubs declarer can return to dummy with a heart, pitch two spades on the top diamonds, take the spade finesse and then knock out the ♣A.

Either of those plays would have been worth a bottle of something sparkling I'm sure you agree!

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hua	Duboin	Goldberg	Cronier
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

West led a heart and declarer won in dummy, played a spade to the ace, ruffed a spade and played a club to the queen. When it held he played another club and West took the ace and exited with a heart. Declarer won in dummy, pitched two spades on the ♦AK and then ruffed a diamond. West's overruff was the setting trick. Had the trumps been 3-2 this line would have easily delivered 12 tricks. When the ♣Q held declarer could have gone to dummy with a heart, pitched two spades on the diamonds and only then played a second club.

I think I prefer 4♣ to the 5NT bid made in the other room and it led to the excellent slam.

Although Lavazza lost this particular battle by 14 IMPs, they were winning the war, leading 47-19 after 15 deals.

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♥♣♦♠ by Le Bridgeur

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Major Alt from a Minor's Perspective

by Marijn Huber
Team Netbridge

I think Alt-organiser Jan van den Hoek is able to see into the future. In spring 2019 he had the idea to start an online teams tournament in the Netherlands. An easy comfortable way to practice your skills, he said.

He rounded up 20 teams of reasonable to good level and NETBRIDGE was born. The tournament was a success and the beginning of something much bigger. An idea ahead of its time considering the current circumstances. There are people who believe Corona was not invented in a Chinese laboratory, neither transferred from animal to man, and certainly not caused by the 5G network, but was invented by Jan to promote his idea.

Jan's idea went international and after smaller editions of the ALT Invitational, the ALT MAJORS is organized.

To our great joy the finalists of the first Netbridge tournament were invited to play as team Netbridge in the Major Alt. So both finalist teams were sporty enough to team up.

"No worries lads, there's a butler ranking as well."

So here we are. What a chance to compete with some of the best teams in the world and to experience how much better they are than us.

After the first two heavy defeats I know: A lot.

We also experienced some successes. Played 2♥X for 800, bid and made two games which the opponents didn't.

And I had a chance to be mister Niceguy, when the opponent claimed 9 tricks where he was entitled to 10. "10 tricks?" I typed, but to be honest it's easy to be generous when it doesn't cost anything.

The real success came in the third match when the strongest line-up managed to get a win! Even though they, unlucky, went down in 6 spades. We are not last, neither is any of us in the butler, and we managed to win a match. And although I'm already happy: Go for the next win.

It's two day after our last match (against the Norwegian ladies), and the conclusion is that we didn't win another match.

And yes, we finished last and I don't want to talk about the butler results. Time to reflect. I have really enjoyed myself. It was great to play against such good players. Having very little room for errors gives an extra dimension to the game.

And I can say the names I played against in a tournament. If I don't tell the results it sounds really good.

Free Lessons

We've also learned some lessons which we can use at the level we normally play in. And we didn't have to pay for them!

- A true gentleman is a Norwegian lady
- Concentration is key, don't let it slip, no talking etc.
- Fancy systems, loads of convention are not necessary, card valuing is much more important.
- Everybody makes mistakes or has an unlucky board. Don't let it bother you when it happens.
- The difference is not made by the spectacular boards, but by doing the "simple" boards right. The small results add up as well.



So we'll practice, practice, practice and will beat you another time!

To everyone in the Major Alt: Many thanks for the experience.

As I understand, Netbridge is planning to organise MAQs, Major Alt Qualifying series (more information about that to

come), in which the winners, like this time, get rewarded with a free spot in the real Major.

How exciting is that!



Bridge Base
O N L I N E

Free, unlimited bridge on BBO

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big 5

These are the 5 pillars of bid72, the premium app on bridge bidding.
Download bid72 from the App Store or Google Play and you are good to go.

1. Random hands www.bid72.com/random-boards/

- ✓ unlimited number of interesting boards, with and without competitive bidding
- ✓ ranking and rating
- ✓ fit for any system at any level

3 weeks free trial (no strings attached)

1 month USD 3.49 / 12 months USD 28.99

2. Topic boards www.bid72.com/topics/

- ✓ a set of Topic boards is dedicated to a specific piece of bridge theory
- ✓ each set contains appr. 100 boards ready to bid in-app
- ✓ 3 levels of themes: starter/club/expert
- ✓ popular themes: Jacoby Transfers, Check-Back Stayman, Gazzilli
- ✓ sheets with preferred methods designed by the world's best players and teachers

1 Topic costs 100 Bid Points

100 Bid Points USD 1.99/ 500 Bid Points USD 6.99/ 1000 Bid Points USD 12.99

3. Bidding contests www.bid72.com/bidding-contest/

- ✓ for bridgeclubs and communities
- ✓ each month 8 new boards in-app
- ✓ results and handrecords

free service for users with a bid72 account (even in trial)

4. Create your own boards www.bid72.com/create-and-upload-your-own-boards/

- ✓ create and upload your own boards to bid72
- ✓ for players, teachers and coaches to practice themed boards with partners and classes

check the link above for (low) costs

5. Basic education www.bid72.com/teachers/

- ✓ sets of practice boards for starters
- ✓ relevant powerpoints presentations
- ✓ feedback to teachers
- ✓ teachers follow their own rithm and plan

free service for students with bid72 account (even in trial)

discount for teachers on their bid72 account