The Minor ALT Invitational II

SEPTEMBER 21-25 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

The Only Entertainment left

These days I get a lot of memories on Facebook from last year's World Championships in Wuhan. I doubt many of us miss Wuhan, but I'm sure we all miss the World Championships. Not only the participating players, but also the many kibitzers who follow the championships on BBO.

Now we have all moved online and you would imagine this is the opportunity to watch your favourite world champion any time, perhaps even every day. But then self-kibitzing put a stop to that. Almost all online tournaments are now without kibitzers in order to prevent cheating.

Not the Alt. We are critized by some, applauded by others, yet we will continue to allow kibit-zers and rely on our players to be ethical. We will not rob bridge fans of their only entertainment. Because of messages like this: "Can i say, on behalf of all kibs; its nice to allow us."

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

Tuesday September 22

10:00 EDT/16:00 CET RR3 (24 boards)

14:00 EDT/20:00 CET RR4 (24 boards)

Link to results

Minor Alt Results

Link to previous and future Alts & bulletins

Alt.bridgeresults.org



Today's Draw

Round 3

Tbl	Group A Group B		nBrd	IM	Ps	Adj		VI	VPs	
IDI	Group A	Group B	ПБГС	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В	
1	DONNER	MACAVITY	0	0	<u>0</u>			10.00	10.00	
2	IRELAND	DE BOTTON	0	0	0			10.00	10.00	
3	MOSS	POTTER	0	<u>0</u>	0			10.00	10.00	
4	OBEZIT INT	FREDIN	0	0	0			10.00	10.00	
<u>5</u>	BLACK	ROBINSON	0	0	0			10.00	10.00	
<u>6</u>	CHATEAU BERTHEAU	ZHAO	0	0	0			10.00	10.00	
7	HARRIS	BALDURSSON	0	0	0			10.00	10.00	

Round 4

Tbl	Group A	Group B		Group B nBrd IMPs A		IMPs		Α	Adj VPs		Ps
IDI	Group A	Group B	IIDIU	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В		
1	DONNER	FREDIN	0	0	0			10.00	10.00		
2	IRELAND	ROBINSON	0	<u>0</u>	0			10.00	10.00		
3	MOSS	ZHAO	0	<u>0</u>	0			10.00	10.00		
4	COBEZIT INT	BALDURSSON	0	0	0			10.00	10.00		
<u>5</u>	BLACK	MACAVITY	0	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>			10.00	10.00		
<u>6</u>	CHATEAU BERTHEAU	DE BOTTON	0	0	0			10.00	10.00		
7	HARRIS	POTTER	0	0	0			10.00	10.00		



See our full calendar at

Alt.bridgeresults.org

Results

Round 1

Tbl	Group A	Group B		nBrd IMPs		VPs	
IDI	Group A	Group B	пыч	Α	В	Α	В
1	DONNER	POTTER	24	<u>73</u>	<u>49</u>	14.92	5.08
2	IRELAND	FREDIN	24	41	<u>72</u>	4.03	15.97
3	MOSS	ROBINSON	24	44	41	10.75	9.25
4	OBEZIT INT	ZHAO	24	23	<u>75</u>	1.62	18.38
<u>5</u>	BLACK	BALDURSSON	24	82	29	18.47	1.53
<u>6</u>	CHATEAU BERTHEAU	MACAVITY	24	<u>46</u>	49	9.25	10.75
7	HARRIS	DE BOTTON	24	<u>28</u>	83	1.35	18.65

Round 2

Tbl	Group A	Group B	nBrd	IM	Ps	VPs	
IDI	Group A	Group B	ПБГИ	Α	В	Α	В
1	DONNER	ROBINSON	24	<u>85</u>	28	18.82	1.18
2	IRELAND	ZHAO	24	41	<u>71</u>	4.17	15.83
3	MOSS	BALDURSSON	24	<u>89</u>	<u>70</u>	14.08	5.92
4	CO OBEZIT INT	MACAVITY	24	<u>71</u>	48	14.76	5.24
<u>5</u>	BLACK	DE BOTTON	24	<u>70</u>	39	15.97	4.03
<u>6</u>	CHATEAU BERTHEAU	POTTER	24	<u>53</u>	<u>78</u>	4.92	15.08
7	HARRIS	FREDIN	24	<u>59</u>	<u>55</u>	10.99	9.01

	Ranking after round 2					
rk	Group A	VPs				
1	BLACK	34.44				
2	DONNER	33.74				
3	MOSS	24.83				
4	CO OBEZIT INT	16.38				
5	CHATEAU BERTHEAU	14.17				
6	HARRIS	12.34				
7	IRELAND	8.20				

	Ranking after round 2				
rk	Group B	VPs			
1	ZHAO	34.21			
2	FREDIN	24.98			
3	DE BOTTON	22.68			
4	POTTER	20.16			
5	MACAVITY	15.99			
6	ROBINSON	10.43			
7	BALDURSSON	7.45			

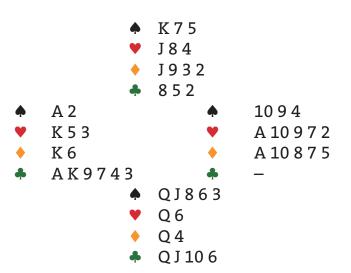
Slam the Beer Card



By Toine van Hoof

We may have lost fivefold Alt winners
Team Gupta, yet one of their star pairs is
still around. Bauke Muller and Simon de
Wijs have rejoined Team Zhao. In the first
round of the Minor Alt II against Obezit Int
the Dutchmen bid and made four slams.
This was the most interesting one:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
De Wijs	Aslan	Muller	Kubac
_	Pass	1♥	14
2NT	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

2NT limit+, ♥ fit

Muller showed excellent judgement by opening 1♥ (10-15) and jumping to 4♥. According to the K&R Hand Evaluator the East hand is worth 13.3 points. Against 6♥ South led the ♣Q and Muller took his time to plan the play. After a few

minutes he played low in dummy and ruffed in hand. He cashed the ♥A, crossed to the ♥K and discarded two spades on the ♣A-K. When he continued with the ♣9 and North went in a trance, South claimed for declarer: EW 980. No doubt Muller chose the best line. If he can't set up the clubs, he still has the chance that the diamonds split three-three.

Only one other pair managed to bid 6♥ but declarer went down on the same lead. He won the first trick in dummy with the ♣A, cashed the ♠K and played a diamond to the ace. On the next diamond South inserted the ♥6. Declarer decided not to overruff and pitched the ♠2. He won the spade return and cashed ♥K, catching the queen in South. Now a heart finesse, followed by a diamond ruff, would have seen him home. Neglecting the principle of restricted choice, declarer played for the drop and was one off.

The other EW pairs ended in 4♥, eight of them scoring 480 and four 450. All declarers attacked diamonds, apparently deeming this to be the safest road to ten tricks.

Kevin Dwyer earned himself a beer, though not in slam. He won the spade lead in dummy and threw his losing spades on ♣AK. He continued with the ♠K, a diamond to the ace and the ♠10. South ruffed with ♥6 and Dwyer overruffed with ♥K. Next came a heart to the ace, South contributing the queen. The ♠8 was ruffed in the West hand and a spade in the East hand. Dwyer drove out the ♥J, ruffed the spade return, drew the last trump with the ♥9 and won the last trick with the carefully preserved seven of diamonds.

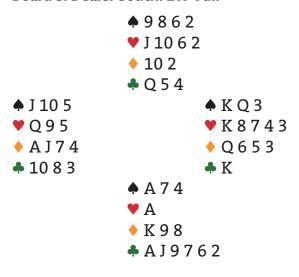
What's in a Name?



By Mark Horton

Along with the rest of Europe, we have been enjoying what in England is referred to as an Indian summer. Taking advantage of the glorious sunshine I set off for a walk before the start of play with the idea of using the time to think of a way to introduce this article. However, inspiration was sadly lacking - until I turned to the Pre-Bulletin. The previous night I had finished a wonderful bottle of wine given to me many years ago by the legendary Austrian wine-maker Willi Opitz, a 1995 Gewurztraminer Trockenbeerenauslese. When I went through the list of teams for this event my choice of match became obvious - Chateau Bertheau v Macavity. A team with a great provenance, against one shrouded in mystery.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
v. Bijsterveldt	O Rimstedt	Schols	M Rimstedt
_	_	_	1.
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
All Pass			

West led the ♠J and when it held he switched to the ♣3, declarer winning with the ace and played the ◆8. West won with the jack and played a second club taken in dummy with the queen. When East followed to the ◆10 with the six, declarer, perhaps hoping for overtricks, put up the king so he was held to +90.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bertheau	Ros	Zagorin	Lesmeister
_	_	_	1.
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

West led the ♥5 and the trick was completed by the ten, eight and ace. When the ♣K obligingly fell under declarer's ace he went in search of a diamond ruff, but he exited with the king, hoping that East would hold the ace. West won and played a club, repeating the dose when he got in with the ♦J to hold declarer to eight tricks for a 4 IMP swing.

If declarer starts with a low diamond West wins with the jack and exits with a club, but declarer wins in dummy and plays the ◆10. When East plays low declarer can rely on restricted choice and run it.

If declarer plays a diamond at trick two, then even the king will be good enough. Four players went down in 3♣.



Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

♦ J 10 9 8 ♥ QJ10 9 6 ♣ J 8 6 2 **♠** A 4 ♠ K 7 6 3 ♥ K 9 7 3 **9** 6 ♦ KQJ432 ♦ A 8 • A 10 9 7 5 4 **♣** K **♠** Q 5 2 **A** 8 5 4 2 10 7 5 ♣ Q 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
v. Bijsterveldt	O Rimstedt	Schols	M Rimstedt
_	_	1♣*	Pass
1♠*	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

1♣ 2+♣, all balanced except 5♦332 minimum

1♠ Transfer to NT

2♥ Game forcing, 4♥ and 5+♦

South led the ♠2 and declarer finished with eleven tricks, +660.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bertheau	Ros	Zagorin	Lesmeister
_	_	1.	1♥
2 🍑	2♥	2NT*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	4.	Pass
4 🔷	Pass	4♥*	Pass
4♠*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
6 ♦	All Pass		

2NT Weak hand with ♣ and maybe another suit.

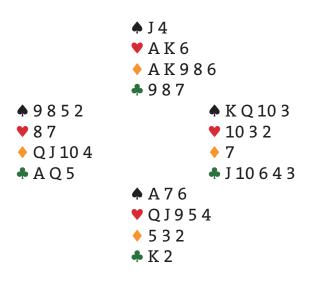
North led the ♥Q and that set up a trick for the ♥K and allowed declarer to ruff a heart for an effortless +1370 and 12 IMPs.

Naturally I received a text message from Brother Hubert asking why North had not led a trump. Had he done so I might have written that 6♦ was 'corked'.

Toine van Hoof told me that in 6 ◆ De Wijs received the 'killing' trump lead. On a round of trumps North threw the ♥Q from ♥QJ10. When later on De Wijs played a heart from the table, South rose with the ace of hearts. So declarer's ♥9 became his twelfth trick!

5 pairs bid and made 6♦, De Wijs being the only one to be faced by a trump lead.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
v. Bijsterveldt	O Rimstedt	Schols	M Rimstedt
Pass	1NT	Pass	2 ♦ *
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

2♦ Transfer

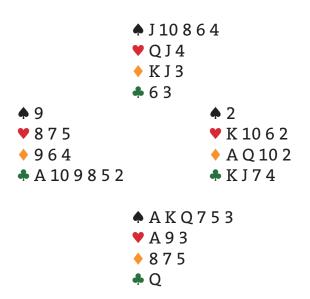
East led the ◆7 for the two, ten and ace and declarer drew trumps ending in dummy and played the ◆5. When West played the jack declarer contributed dummy's nine and then claimed ten tricks when West switched to the ◆5. I leave you to decide how difficult it was for West to play the ◆4 instead.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bertheau	Ros	Zagorin	Lesmeister
Pass	1NT	Pass	3 ♦ *
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	Pass

3 ◆ 5M332 3 ♥ Asking 3 ◆ 5 ♥ 332 Here too East led his diamond and declarer won with the king and tried a club to the king and ace. Back came the ◆Q, covered and ruffed and East switched to the ♠K, declarer finishing two down and losing 13 IMPs.

No less than nine pairs recorded +620.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.



Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
v. Bijsterveldt	O Rimstedt	Schols	M Rimstedt
_	_	_	14
3♣	3♠	5 ♣	Dble
All Pass			

North led the ♣3 and declarer won with the ace, played a club to the king and exited with a spade. South went up with the king and exited with the ♠A, declarer pitching a heart from hand and ruffing with dummy's ♣J. His next move was a low heart and South won with the nine and played the ♠Q. Declarer pitched his remaining heart, ruffing in dummy, ruffed a heart and played a diamond to the ten for a mind-boggling +550.

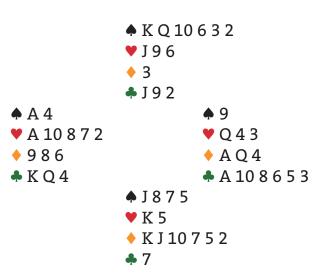


Dror Padon was also treated to a trump lead in 5. doubled. He won with the ace and played a diamond to the ten, soon claiming his contract.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bertheau	Ros	Zagorin	Lesmeister
_	_	_	1♠

North led the ♠J and when South followed with the seven he switched to the ♥Q for a rapid one down and 12 IMPs.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.



Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
v. Bijsterveldt	O Rimstedt	Schols	M Rimstedt
_	_	1.	3♦
3₩	Pass	4	All Pass

North led the ◆3 and declarer went up with dummy's ace, played a heart to the ace and second heart for the nine, queen and king. South cashed the ◆K and gave his partner a ruff, but declarer claimed the rest, +620.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bertheau	Ros	Zagorin	Lesmeister
_	_	1♣	1.
1♥	1♠	Dble*	3♠
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Dble Heart support

East led ♥3 and when declarer played dummy's five West took the ace, cashed the ♣K and played a diamond to East's ace. The ♠A was the setting trick, +100, but an 11 IMP loss, leaving the Chateau ahead 46-38.

On the penultimate deal East/West held ♠KQJ7 ♥7 ♦K43 ♣AK976 facing ♠A98 ♥AJ ♦Q85 ♣Q8532 - but both sides stopped in 5♣.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♦ 98753
♥ A 1065
♦ 6
♦ 1072
♦ A K 10
♥ Q J 832
♦ A K Q 64
♦ A K Q 64
♦ Q 6
♥ K 974

10972198

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
v. Bijsterveldt	O Rimstedt	Schols	M Rimstedt
1.	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

- 2♠ Game forcing
- 3. Doesn't have to promise anything

South led the ♦2 and declarer recorded +490.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bertheau	Ros	Zagorin	Lesmeister
1.	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Dble
5NT	Pass	7 ♦	All Pass



North tried the ♥A and declarer ruffed, cashed two top clubs and ruffed a club with the ◆J - the bad trump break dooming him to defeat and a loss of 11 IMPs that turned the match around, Macavity winning 10.75-9.25 - it was the only time they were ahead.

David Bakhshi was the only other player in 7 ♦. He got a the lead of the ♠3, won in dummy, played a club to the king, a diamond to the jack, cashed two top clubs and played a spade to the king, seeing the Q drop and now made his contract by not having to ruff a spade with the ♦A as he had prepared, which would have led to 1 off.

His partner had shown the ♠AK during the auction, which doubtless made him suspicious of the spade lead.

Discover the new BeBRIDGE

THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE HAS JUST BEEN RELEASED!



In this issue

September's BeBridge overflows with outstanding articles. The Mind of a Cheat reports on the latest scandals to rock the world of bridge, while The Corridors of Power examines the world of bridge politics. There is in-depth coverage of the latest edition of the Slava Cup, and an insight into the incredible life of the man behind the Law of Total Tricks, Jean-René Vernes. David Bird is back with another instalment of the adventures of his bridge playing monks and you can exercise your 'little grey cells' by tackling Ray Lee's latest bridge themed crossword. Add to that all the regular articles that will allow you to hone your bridge playing skills and fine tune your bidding systems and it's an issue you cannot afford to miss.

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What a difference a lead makes



By Martin Cantor

I tuned in to watch Ireland versus Zhao in round 2.

Board 5. N / NS

	↑ 74	
	9 8 6	
	Q8432	
♠ AQT6♥ A2◆ AKT97♣ 43	 ★ K J 6 2 N W E S ★ K 9 3 ♥ J 7 5 4 ♦ 6 ♣ Q T 9 8 5 	♣ J852♥ KQT93◆ J5♣ A7

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Verhees	Hanlon	van Prooijen	McGann
_	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠*	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♥*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

1♠ GF any
1NT 4+♠
2♣ ask
3♣ 4=5=2=2
3♦ control ask
3♠ 3 controls

4♣ ask

4♥ 1 or 2 of top 3 in ♥, 0 or 3 in ♠

An impressive sequence to a fair slam. On a non-club lead you are pretty much home if there is no trump loser, and even if there is you just need one of the red suits to be nice to you.

With not much to go on Hanlon led his fourth best diamond and dummy's jack held, declarer playing the ten to mask a potential ruff in case North got in with the ♠K.

That didn't happen when both trumps and hearts behaved, giving him an overtrick.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Fitzgibbon	Zhao	Mesbur	de Wijs
_	Pass	2♥*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4 ♦*	Pass	4♥*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Rdbl*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		



Another impressive auction, but this time South was able to double for a club lead; though it isn't exactly obvious that you want one.

Zhao dutifully and safely (as it turned out) led a small club. The slam can of course still make if you take the club ace, then the trump finesse. But no-one likes to go down at trick two and three thanks to a losing finesse, so Fitzgibbon tried three rounds of hearts to get rid of a club.

The club went away easily enough, but North could ruff, and now a top club locked declarer in hand, unable to take the trump finesse (the ♦Q has the same effect, just more spectacularly).



He tried to get to dummy with a third round diamond ruff, but de Wijs could ruff the second one, then lock him back in hand with his boss heart, meaning there was still the •K to come for two down and a three trick difference.

Four other pairs bid the slam, and three made it, twice on a club lead, once on a friendly trump lead. The other result was two off - on a club lead. One declarer went one off in 5♠, the other seven stopped safely, if unadventurously, in game.

And how did the match go overall? With the help of the 15 IMPs on that board Zhao led 66-6 at half time. Ireland turned things around somewhat by winning the second half 35-5, but a final score of 71-41 translated to 15.83 - 4.17, putting Zhao at the top of Group B with an impressive lead of over 9 VPs after just two rounds. Ireland, on the other hand, were left propping up Group A.

Victim of the Day

Mikael Rimstedt

by Christina Lund Madsen



How old are you, where are you from, where do you live at the moment?

- I'm 25 and from Sweden. Today I live in Paris to study French.

Do you have any education and did you ever have a job outside of bridge?

- I began studying criminology at the Iniversity of Stockholm but as I combined studies and playing bridge I decided to put the studies on hold. They're still on hold... I was working at the graveyard every summer for 2-6 weeks for 7 years. Other than that I haven't done anything non-bridge related.

How many friends do you have who are not bridge players?

- I still have contact with two of my best friends from high school. In Paris I´ve made a couple of friends from class.

Have you ever been romantically involved with a girl who was not a bridge player?

- Yes I have, but that's all the details you'll get...

What would you do if you could not play bridge anymore?

- Good question as I'm still asking myself this question every now and then. Before I got into full time bridge I always wanted to work with the police. But as I've had a lot of spare time during my bridge career I have spent numerous hours watching YouTube videos of different personal trainers. I've also spent many hours studying French so either something related to those two or go back and study something else in school.

Thomas Bessis' question for you: How do you enjoy your life in Paris so far?

- I love Paris and love the people I have around me here. School is treating me excellent so far and I enjoy it alot. I've spent a few holidays around France last few years so I already got to know a few people, which makes my stay a bit easier.

What has shocked you the most during corona?

- Except for all the cancelled events, I haven't experienced any shocking moments during corona. Just the virus itself and its consequences are still shocking me.

What is your most memorable moment so far in bridge?

- Without doubts, my victory in World Open Pairs two years ago. Can't wait for live bridge to make its comeback so I can hunt for more of them!

Tell us about your first kiss.

- Very passionate ♥... (honestly, I have no idea lol).

How many times have you forgotten a bag on a train/bus/at the airport? And how much do you estimate it has cost you so far? - Hahah, rumours spreads around quickly.
I don't know exactly but an estimate of
6-7 times maybe. Maybe it will pass the
10.000\$ line soon, who knows?

Who is the better partner – you or Ola?

- When playing with Ola I could be a monster sometimes. But playing with somebody else I vote for myself. ©

How would your gigantic bridge family describe you in 3 words if they all had to agree?

- Instead of guessing I asked them and they responded: Independent (dad), stubborn (Ola) and terrible loser/competitive (mum). Ola wanted to squeeze in fat but I don't hear that very often...

When in your life were you most unhappy?

 My first break up and during my grandfathers funeral.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Zach Grossack, Peter Bertheau and Brad Moss?

- I would enjoy seeing the jealous Zachary chase a world title before I get my second but sorry bud, you're getting killed.
Brad, I'm sure you are a monster of a kisser but I always wanted to partner you at some point!

I need Mr. Bertheau in my life for padel and golf + I've partnered him a few times already. Only thing left is a fresh, juicy kiss!

- You have already won more than most do in a lifetime. What are your future bridge goals?



- Right now my goal is to win Bermuda Bowl.
- Which goals do you have outside of bridge?
- ——→Play a bogey-free round in golf.
- — → Reside somewhere warmer than Sweden during the winter season.
- Who from the Minor Alt should be the next victim in the bulletin? Tell us something you would like to know about this person.
- Peter Fredin. Always admired Peter's extraordinary way of playing bridge and I know he'd be honest on everything he says. But I'm quite curious, out of all the people he has played with, who his favourite partner/bridge personality is?



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How to kibitz the Alt Mixed teams 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.

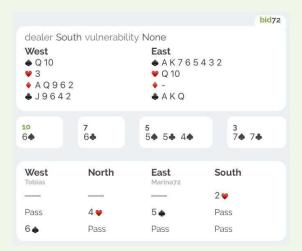
If you wish to watch the players whenever they are online, you search for your chosen one (fx Cecilia Rimstedt "Cillar", click on the name and choose 'follow' instead of neutral. Any time you see her online, you can click on her and take a seat at her table. See you on BBO!



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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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- 1. Two-way Checkback Stayman; 2. Responding with both Majors after 1NT; 3. (Non) Leaping Michaels;
- 4. Gazzilli; 5. Gambling 3NT; 6. Lebensohl after a Weak Two; 7. Rubensohl and Transfer-Lebensohl;
- 8. 1♥/1♠ 2NT (fit); 9. 4♣: Fit and slamgoing

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