

The minor ALT INVITATIONAL III

OCTOBER 12-16 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

Felines to the Rescue

We have added an event to the Alt calendar. December 19-21 there will be a special event in support of the CAT Legal Defense Fund, founded by Gary Donner.

All entry fees go directly to the CAT fund to aid the CAT members in case of potential law suits.

The format will be a team event with 2-day Swiss qualification followed by semifinals and final on the last day.

All teams who would like to support the CAT Legal Defense Fund can apply for an invitation. There is no limitation to the number of teams who can enter.

The minimum fee will be 300 dollars but teams can donate as much as they like - every dollar goes to the fund.

Now it is about the Minor Alt Invitational - welcome to all and enjoy the fight!



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 October 12

10:00 EDT/16:00 CET RR 1 (16 boards)













12:30 EDT/18:30 CET RR 2 (16 boards)

15:00 EDT/21:00 CET RR 3 (16 boards)

Draw

RR 1













Results

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	 IRELAND	 GILLIS
2	 DONNER	 KORCZYN
3	 VINITA	 SWISSARABIAN UAE
4	 GUPTA	 HARRIS
5	 DE BOTTON	 FREDIN
6	 POTTER	 BLACK













RR 2

Link to previous and future Alts
& bulletins

Alt.bridgeresults.org

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	 KORCZYN	 IRELAND
2	 GILLIS	 VINITA
3	 HARRIS	 DONNER
4	 MACAVITY	 FREDIN
5	 GUPTA	 BLACK
6	 DE BOTTON	 POTTER

RR 3

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	 IRELAND	 VINITA
2	 KORCZYN	 HARRIS
3	 FREDIN	 GILLIS
4	 DONNER	 BLACK
5	 MACAVITY	 POTTER
6	 GUPTA	 DE BOTTON

NB
NETBRIDGE

Playing the cards online

Teams / Players / Nicknames

BLACK

Andrew Black	Boggis
David Gold	Dagold
Gunnar Hallberg	Rerack
Simon Hult	Hultahult
Andrew McIntosh	Mcintosh
Tom Paske	Thomas1000

DE BOTTON

David Bakhshi	Bakhshi
Thomas Charlsen	tcharlsen
Janet de Botton	Capt Lulu
Thor Erik Hoftaniska	kasper20
Artur Malinowski	malisuper
Tom Townsend	mug

DONNER

Brad Moss	Brad
Joe Grue	Joegrue
Sandra Rimstedt	Sandria
Cecilia Rimstedt	Cillar
Marion Michielsen	Lady007
Per-Ola Cullin	pocken
Gary Donner	Gdonnersc1
Max Rotaru	Maxentius

FREDIN

Allan Livgard	Livgard
Peter Fredin	P_Fredin
Terje Aa	Aate
Alon Apteker	Alonap
Petter Tonndalen	Petttert
Glenn Grötheim	Viking59

GILLIS

Christian Bakke	chrien
Geir Brekka	viego
Boye Brogeland	boye
Espen Erichsen	espene
Simon Gillis	rayas78
Oyvind Saur	saurdino
Erik Saelensminde	skaal1

GUPTA

Thomas Bessis	malpaluche
Simon de Wijs	sm1
Naren Gupta	nareng
Zia Mahmood	zia
Bauke Muller	beukertje
Frederic Volcker	fred92130

HARRIS

Marusa Gold	marusab
Jonathan Harris	Jdache
Niall Igoo	ibraves
Vladi Isporski	smileyv
Eddie Malhasyan	Master DJ
Steve Root	AsNuttysAs
Todor Tiholov	polborta
Rumen Trendafilov	rumen

IRELAND

Grainne Barton	bartong
John Carroll	coppers
Nick Fitzgibbon	nickfg1
Tom Hanlon	kinder1
Hugh McGann	hmg2
Adam Mesbur	Amesbur
Mark Moran	markpm

How to kibitz the Alt Events 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!

Teams / Players / Nicknames

KORCZYN

Ehud Friedlander	Simaf
Oded Korczyn	Odedkor
Inon Liran	Inonli
Rami Porat	Daring1
Oren Toledano	Orentol
Assaf Yekutieli	Tol23
Ami Zamir	Zamir1

POTTER

Kevin Bathurst	kmb24
Vince Demuy	okvince
Kevin Dwyer	kdwyer
Shan Huang	precisebri
John Hurd	johnhurd
Cookie Potter	ohceep

SWISSARABIAN UAE

Hussein A Ali	adamali_h
Waseem Naqvi	waseem
Kees Bakker	Keesbak
Pim Coppens	pimcop
Dennis Dewit	Hyperon
Emile Schols	Mkgnao
Niels van Bijsterveldt	nielsvbij
Emiel Vandewiele	blink128
Youp Caris	youpmaster
Oliver Segal	oseg63

VINITA

Dennis Bilde	Ballebo-jr
Morten Bilde	ballebo
Søren Bilde	sbilde
Søren Bune	scb7
Vinita Gupta	vinita
Bob Hamman	tgbh3
Emil Jepsen	Emilos
Hemant Lall	hemantlall

Future Alt Tournaments

19 - 23 October 2020	Alt Mixed V (Still spots left)
16 - 20 November 2020	Minor Alt Invitational IV (now up to 16 top teams)
16 - 19 November 2020	TampAlt Qualification
7 - 11 December 2020	Alt Mixed VI
14 - 18 December 2020	TampAlt – Main event (32 world class teams)
19 - 21 December 2020	Alt supports CAT - Felines to the rescue (all entry fees go to the CAT Legal Defense Fund)

Read more and apply for invitation via alt.bridgeresults.org

Victim of the Day

Vinita Gupta

by Christina Lund Madsen



Where are you from, where do you live, what is your age and are you single?

- I was born and raised in India. Have lived and still live in Silicon Valley — suburbs of San Francisco — 45 years. I am married and we have two grownup daughters.

You have been highly successful in business life. Please tell us the story of your background, education and highlights of your career.

- Just like in the game of bridge, I was lucky and worked hard to achieve business successes. I am credited with being the first woman founder and CEO of Indian origin to take a company public in the US. Fortunately I chose Electrical Engineering as my major in college (in India), because it was the hardest discipline to get into. I enjoy tough challenges.

Came to the US to get masters degree in Electrical Engineering and a year later ended up in Silicon Valley. My advisor at UCLA (University of California, in Los Angeles) was in telecommunications and I ended up taking many of his classes. Telecommunication field would later evolve into Internet and my company, Digital Link made products to enable high speed internet.

Convincing the top Telecom companies to use products from a startup was a challenge that we had to overcome. My company, Digital Link, went through its highs and lows but was able to go public when Internet exploded. Execution in the fast moving technology space is everything.

Starting a technology company is an all or nothing game. Less than 10 percent technology startups succeed.

It was a good ride.

How have you experienced being a leading female character in a mostly male-dominated business world?

- I happened to be both gender and color blind, which allowed me to be me. I operated in the world surrounded mostly by men that I could not become buddies with. I was super busy raising kids and working and did not miss that and it served me well.

In my fervor to succeed in career and business, there were too many impediments to overcome. There was no energy left to dwell in thinking about things that I could not control — comes handy in bridge.

If you could give one advice to women throughout the world, what would that be?

- Listen to your own instincts, your best asset.

How did you become interested in bridge?

- In India I saw my uncles play bridge during multiple days long Indian-weddings. I hung around them. Once I even substituted a player on a break till they realized I knew nothing about the game.

That fascination carried over in the US when I realized my husband played bridge in college. We went to Palo Alto bridge

club and started playing duplicate. The arguments after the game stopped that streak. Then the kids arrived and we got busy with our companies, and did not play for over 20 years.

We read Eddie Kantar's bridge books. One day I arranged a bridge charity game for my company, instead of golf charity — a norm then. I invited Eddie Kantar and he graciously agreed. This rejuvenated my interest in bridge. A few years later, I retired. After trying my luck in new projects and companies, I decided to walk in the bridge club, alone this time — and that was 2009. The director found me a partner for that day's game and rest is history.

What dreams or ambitions do you have within bridge?

- Start to understand and not memorize bridge. I would like to graduate to expert category of player and while doing that have transcending experiences. Competing at the highest level in Bridge gives me that potential. I do not focus on winning but learning in the near future, yet without winning, there is no learning.

What goals do you have within life?

- I want to become age-blind and keep learning. I turned 70 this year! I hope to achieve bigger goals in writing and journalism, which I launched myself in four years back.

What has been the greatest struggle of your life?

- Overcoming how not be too critical of myself.



Your husband Naren did not become interested in bridge until a while after you but now seems to be playing even more and has achieved good results in the Alt events. How do you handle being on competing teams?

- My bridge happiness comes from playing well. I don't feel good when I do not play well, and if my team wins. Very happy that Naren at last is finding time to indulge in bridge. He has done remarkably well, to his credit.

Tell us about your other interests in life and if you have any new projects on the way.

- My aspiration is to write a book. Partly I pulled back from bridge to advance my writing. Writing helps me open my mind to yet new endeavors.

How would Naren describe you in three words?

- Feminist, likes to live outside the comfort zone, perseverance.

How would you describe yourself in three words?

- Ambassador of women, competitive, fearless.



The Gupta family

What is the silliest thing you have ever done?

- Running into a truck riding an electric scooter standing on one leg, at the age of 70, in San Francisco. Got hospitalized for 3 weeks. Prospects of mental recovery were unclear. Fortunately, I put myself together again!

Share with us your best memory with your children.

- When my daughters were young we travelled a lot and that was my quality time with them. During long airplane journeys we made creative dolls out of air-sickness bags. They still remind me of that.

Tell us a funny story from a bridge event.

- New Orleans Spring Nationals March 2015.

I landed at Louis Armstrong International Airport at 10 pm. When I went to catch a cab, there were long lines and the airport was buzzing. As I stared in despair, a voice called my name.

It was my ever so exuberant bridge friend from Denmark, Christina. She was standing significantly ahead in the cab-line and asked me to join. I dragged my suitcase and stood next to her. She introduced me to a tall gorgeous black girl with long hair and high heels and lipstick shining in the night light. Soon that girl asked Christina to keep an eye on her bag, while she hopped across aisles of cabs that were dropping customers off. She hauled Christina and asked her to come. Christina in turn asked me to join. I was hesitant, but Christina soon clarified with the girl and both of us came to board the cab, a station wagon totally filled with passengers with just enough room for three of us. New Orleans clearly can be made to work for you. After negotiating the rates and with our bags in, we settled down. After paying the girl compliments for her looks and thanking her, I asked her whereabouts. She worked in Miami and was returning home for holidays, she said. All three of us were going to be dropped off at an intersection which was within walking distance from her home, and Christina and I could also walk to our respective hotels.

By the time we were dropped off it was midnight, but New Orleans was alive. I dragged my bag and bid farewell to the other two to proceed towards my hotel. After checking in I went to my room. When I opened the bag, I realized it was not mine. Immediately my suspicion went towards the black tall girl — perhaps she was a con artist. Then I decided that if it was hers', she would soon want to find me. But how?

So I went and stood at the intersection where we were dropped. 40 minutes went by and no one came.

Finally feeling like an idiot I went to the front desk to tell them what had happened. They advised me to file a police report on the phone, which I did.

Next day was the start of the Spingold. I could not sleep. So I decided to open the suitcase, hoping to find some contact information of the person. If that bag got accidentally exchanged, it could be of any passenger. After opening the bag, I sifted through papers and found a name and called her. At 2 AM at night the person hung up on me.

Then I found some letters written by a mother to her son. I felt like Sherlock Holmes. The person had been arrested a few times, apparently. I also found some needles in a pouch. By then I was queasy. Finally the only way to catch some sleep was to give the suitcase to the front desk, for the police to collect. After that I caught barely 3 hours of sleep. I had to find a drug store to buy some stuff to get ready for my tournament.

The suitcase got picked up by the police. After the game I went to buy some undergarments and night clothes, postponing buying non-essential items for the next day.

Two days later in the morning I got a call from the front desk saying that my suitcase had arrived — which I did not believe.

They sent someone to deliver it. When I saw it, I knew it was mine and when I opened it, it was untouched!

I spent seven days there and on the fourth evening I went to get my frozen yogurt as usual. I saw the black girl walking towards me. For a moment I thought I was hallucinating. But she came running towards me, hugged me and we both showed our profound surprise at meeting each other again.

Next day I saw Christina and told her the entire story, to her amazement. She was pleased that my suitcase got returned. Then I moved closer to Christina and whispered in her ears:

"Something tells me that the girl was not a woman". She laughed loudly and said: "Vinita, everyone knew she was transsexual."

You judge who was the victim!

What has been the most important lesson you have learned in life so far?

- A subtle but important lesson I learned 'Do not look-up or look-down' on anyone. It comes handy in life and in bridge. I do not get intimidated by who is who or look down upon weaker opponents.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Simon de Wijs, Sandra Rimstedt and Dennis Bilde?

- Dennis!! He should become the mascot of youth bridge. *(Dennis is the answer to all things - bridge, life and the Universe/ed.)*

Who should be the next victim? Tell us something you would like to know about this person.

- YOU. What is the secret of your enthusiastic approach to life?

Conditions of Contest • Minor Alt III

1. The Minor Alt Invitational II will be hosted in Bridge Base Online from October 12th to 16th 2020.

2. All participants are bound by the regulations contained within this document.

The Alt Organization emphasizes that all their events are on invitation. Teams who are interested in participating and believe they meet the standard of Alt's various events can apply for an invitation.

Invitations for this event will be issued to 14 teams of 4 – 10 players. Alt reserves the right not to invite any team/player without giving a reason. At the moment teams and/or players (also who have played in the Alt before) are applying, they agree to the aforementioned terms.

Should a team be disqualified and/or withdraw by themselves (before or during the event), no refund of the entry fees will be made.

3. Schedule of play:

Monday October 12 - Wednesday October 14 a full Round Robin of 11 rounds with 16 boards/match will be played at the following starting times:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET
12:30 EDT / 18:30 CET
15:00 EDT / 21:00 CET

Thursday October 15th:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET
12:30 EDT / 18:30 CET
15:30 EDT / 21:30 CET – Semifinal segment 1 (16 boards)

Friday October 16th:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET – Semifinal segment 2 (16 brds)

13:00 EDT / 19:00 CET – Final (32 boards, 2 separate segments of 16 boards with 5– 10 minutes break in between)

4. Qualifying Stage

The qualifying stage will be played in the form of a “Round Robin” and will consist of 176 boards played in 11 matches of 16 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).

A team will receive 12 VP for any match that is a BYE.

In order to determine the grouping for the knockout stage, a tie between two teams will be broken by the result of the match between those two teams. If there should still be a tie, then the IMP quotient of all matches will be taken into consideration to break the tie.

The top 4 teams from the qualifying stage will advance to the knockout stage.

5. Knockout Stage

The team placed 1st in the Round Robin gets to choose its opponent for the semifinal from the teams placed 3th – 4th in the Round Robin.

Semifinal and Final will be played over 32 boards, 2 separate segments of 16 boards each.

There will be the following carry over:

In the semifinal no. 1 – 2 get a carry over of 10.1 – 6.1 IMP respectively.

In the final the higher ranked team in the Round Robin get a carry over of 0.1 IMP as a tiebreaker.

6. Line-Up

All matches of the Round Robin qualifying stage will be played without change of the line-up; unless there is a serious reason for that, to be decided by the TD.

Semifinal and 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.

Players should have their official name on their BBO-profile. Private isn't allowed. Teams who infringe this regulation will be subject to the following VP penalties:

1st occasion – warning;

2nd and any subsequent occasion – 0.5 VP penalty for each match for each player without official name on BBO profile.

The TD will start 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 claim:

Alt encourages the players to accept the opponent's undo in the obvious misclick situations during the bidding as well as play. In case such undo is refused a player gets one "challenge" whereby the TD can

be summoned to the table. Play at the moment of the refusal must be shut down till the TD arrives. The TD is the one who can assess the situation, and if he believes the undo is justified by an obvious misclick that no reasonable player should refuse, the undo has to be accepted by the opponents.

Players alert their own bids.

If players explain bids via chat they should set the recipients to Opponents, not Table, so that only opponents see the explanation not partner. The best way is to explain the bids via the BBO alert mechanism. Players may not consult their own system card or use any aids to their memory, calculation or technique between the commencement of the auction period and the end of play.

The gravest possible offence is for a partnership to exchange information through prearranged methods of communication other than those sanctioned by the Laws of Bridge or self-kibitzing.

Players are expected to finish 16 boards within 2 hours 15 minutes. The TD may remove unplayed boards if he estimates a delay in finishing the match within the allotted time would interfere with the smooth running of the competition.

8. Request of a TD ruling

The Alt team strongly encourages participants to play in the most respectful way. Any player can summon the director to the table in case of irregularities. The time for a request for a TD ruling expires 30 minutes after the end of the match.

All requests will be decided by a qualified director (if appropriate - in consultation with another directors and/or world class players); no further appeal will be possible after his/her decision.

To submit protests, captains should send an email to: info@netbridge.online.

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

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

10. The WBF VP scale for 16 boards:

IMP	VP	
0	10.00	10.00
1	10.31	9.69
2	10.61	9.39
3	10.91	9.09
4	11.20	8.80
5	11.48	8.52
6	11.76	8.24
7	12.03	7.97
8	12.29	7.71
9	12.55	7.45
10	12.80	7.20
11	13.04	6.96
12	13.28	6.72
13	13.52	6.48
14	13.75	6.25
15	13.97	6.03
16	14.18	5.82
17	14.39	5.61
18	14.60	5.40
19	14.80	5.20
20	15.00	5.00
21	15.19	4.81
22	15.38	4.62
23	15.56	4.44
24	15.74	4.26
25	15.92	4.08
26	16.09	3.91
27	16.26	3.74
28	16.42	3.58
29	16.58	3.42
30	16.73	3.27
31	16.88	3.12
32	17.03	2.97

IMP	VP	
29	16.58	3.42
30	16.73	3.27
31	16.88	3.12
32	17.03	2.97
33	17.17	2.83
34	17.31	2.69
35	17.45	2.55
36	17.59	2.41
37	17.72	2.28
38	17.85	2.15
39	17.97	2.03
40	18.09	1.91
41	18.21	1.79
42	18.33	1.67
43	18.44	1.56
44	18.55	1.45
45	18.66	1.34
46	18.77	1.23
47	18.87	1.13
48	18.97	1.03
49	19.07	0.93
50	19.16	0.84
51	19.25	0.75
52	19.34	0.66
53	19.43	0.57
54	19.52	0.48
55	19.61	0.39
56	19.69	0.31
57	19.77	0.23
58	19.85	0.15
59	19.93	0.07
60	20.00	0.00



Bridge Base
O N L I N E

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Your online bridge club

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Computer, tablet or mobile phone:
Play on your favorite device!

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.

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For Experts Only

Partnership building, testing agreements

dealer South vulnerability None

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

10 6♣	7 6♣	5 5♠ 5♣ 4♣	3 7♠ 7♣
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West Tobias	North	East Marina72	South
—	—	—	2♥
Pass	4♥	5♠	Pass
6♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

5♠ = asking for heart control

6♣ = got it

dealer South vulnerability East-West

West	East
♠ J 9 6	♠ Q 10 5 3
♥ K Q J 10	♥ A 6
♦ A 2	♦ K 9
♣ A 6 5 2	♣ Q J 10 4 3

10 4NT 3NT	6 5NT 4♠ 4♥	5 4♣ 3♠ 3♥
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West Tobias	North	East Marina72	South
—	—	—	2♦
X	3♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

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

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

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