

The minor ALT INVITATIONAL III

OCTOBER 12-16 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

Unpredictability

Last Minor Alt winner, Harris, has taken the lead with a massive score of 47 VP. A previous Alt-dominating team, Gupta, is surprisingly occupying the last spot.

However this is a Round Robin with eight matches to go and one of the charms about bridge is the unpredictability. Some might be favourites in the Alt, but it is not like French Open where Nadal always wins.

So give it your all in today's matches and make the kibitzers' corona life a little less boring.



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 October 13

10:00 EDT/16:00 CET RR 4 (16 boards)

12:30 EDT/18:30 CET RR 5 (16 boards)

15:00 EDT/21:00 CET RR 6 (16 boards)













Today's Draw

RR 4













Ranking after round 3		
rk	team	VPs
1	 HARRIS	46.98
2	 GILLIS	38.26
3	 FREDIN	35.71
4	 SWISSARABIAN UAE	35.71
5	 BLACK	34.87
6	 DE BOTTON	34.79
7	 IRELAND	32.78
8	 VINITA	27.62
9	 POTTER	24.28
10	 DONNER	18.55
11	 KORCZYN	16.26
12	 GUPTA	14.19

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

RR 5

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

RR 6

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

Link to previous and future Alts
& bulletins

Alt.bridgeresults.org

Results

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
				Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
<u>1</u>	IRELAND	GILLIS	16	<u>27</u>	<u>26</u>			10.31	9.69
<u>2</u>	DONNER	KORCZYN	16	<u>29</u>	<u>33</u>			8.80	11.20
<u>3</u>	VINITA	SWISSARABIAN UAE	16	<u>31</u>	<u>44</u>			6.48	13.52
<u>4</u>	GUPTA	HARRIS	16	<u>14</u>	<u>44</u>			3.27	16.73
<u>5</u>	DE BOTTON	FREDIN	16	<u>23</u>	<u>33</u>			7.20	12.80
<u>6</u>	POTTER	BLACK	16	<u>43</u>	<u>21</u>			15.38	4.62

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
				Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
<u>1</u>	KORCZYN	IRELAND	16	<u>14</u>	<u>55</u>			1.79	18.21
<u>2</u>	GILLIS	VINITA	16	<u>46</u>	<u>28</u>			14.60	5.40
<u>3</u>	HARRIS	DONNER	16	<u>31</u>	<u>18</u>			13.52	6.48
<u>4</u>	SWISSARABIAN UAE	FREDIN	16	<u>17</u>	<u>48</u>			3.12	16.88
<u>5</u>	GUPTA	BLACK	16	<u>19</u>	<u>32</u>			6.48	13.52
<u>6</u>	DE BOTTON	POTTER	16	<u>46</u>	<u>39</u>			12.03	7.97

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
				Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
<u>1</u>	IRELAND	VINITA	16	<u>18</u>	<u>42</u>			4.26	15.74
<u>2</u>	KORCZYN	HARRIS	16	<u>18</u>	<u>48</u>			3.27	16.73
<u>3</u>	FREDIN	GILLIS	16	<u>17</u>	<u>32</u>			6.03	13.97
<u>4</u>	DONNER	BLACK	16	<u>15</u>	<u>45</u>			3.27	16.73
<u>5</u>	SWISSARABIAN UAE	POTTER	16	<u>51</u>	<u>2</u>			19.07	0.93
<u>6</u>	GUPTA	DE BOTTON	16	<u>23</u>	<u>46</u>			4.44	15.56

Results

NB
NETBRIDGE

Playing the cards online

Last Minute.com



By Mark Horton

The only note in yesterday's diary was that the car needed an MOT. However, the morning's email brought in several chapters of a new book that I have to edit as well as the files for the latest edition of Bridgerama US which have to be checked and corrected as quickly as possible.

The good news was that the car was proved to be road-worthy for another year, but upon returning from the dealership there was an email with a pre-Bulletin for this event! So, this article is very much a last-minute effort.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zamir	Michielsen	Toledano	Cullin
—	—	—	1♦*
1♠	3♥*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

- 1♦ 10-15, 1+♦
- 3♥ Game forcing with 6+♥
- 4♣ Good ♥ raise
- 4♠ Cue bid
- 4NT RKCB
- 5♠ 2 key cards +♥Q

There was nothing to the play, +1430.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rimstedt	Korczyń	Rotaru	Porat
—	—	—	1♣
2♠	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

That gave Donner 13 IMPs.



Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

<p>♠ A K Q 3 ♥ 10 4 ♦ Q J 6 5 4 ♣ Q 2</p> <p>♠ 9 7 ♥ K Q J 5 ♦ A 3 ♣ 10 8 6 5 3</p> <p>♠ J 10 6 5 4 ♥ 8 3 ♦ 7 ♣ A K J 7 4</p>	<p>♠ 8 2 ♥ A 9 7 6 2 ♦ K 10 9 8 2 ♣ 9</p>
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Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zamir	Michielsen	Toledano	Cullin
1♦*	1♠	2♥*	4♣*
Pass	4♠	5♦	Pass
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

1♦ 2+♦,10-15
2♥ Non-forcing
4♣ Fit jump

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zamir	Michielsen	Toledano	Cullin
—	—	—	1NT
Dble	2♣	Dble	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

There were three tricks to lose, -100.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rimstedt	Korczyn	Rotaru	Porat
Pass	1♦	1♥	Dble*
2NT*	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Dble 4+♠

2NT 4+♥, invitational plus

East led the ♣9 so there were 12 tricks, still a loss of 9 IMPs.

One of the hardest things to do is extract the maximum penalty from a doubled contract - particularly when it is a low-level one. This is a classic example: East found the excellent lead of the ♠K and the defenders drew trumps, East discarding the ♥2 and the ♦9 while a heart went from dummy. West exited with a diamond and declarer won with the queen and played the ♣Q, West winning with the king and accurately returning the ♣8.

If East ducks that it is clear declarer will score only four tricks, but when East took the ace declarer had been gifted a trick.



Oren Toledano
Photo: EBL

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 7 2
♥ J 10 4
♦ 9 7 6 5 4 3
♣ J 8

♠ Q 10 8
♥ A K 9 7 6
♦ Q
♣ A 9 6 4

♠ A J 5 4
♥ Q
♦ A K J 10 2
♣ Q 10 5

♠ K 9 6 3
♥ 8 5 3 2
♦ 8
♣ K 7 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zamir	Michielsen	Toledano	Cullin
—	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

1♣ Strong
1NT 12+, 5+♥

North led the ♦4 and declarer won with the queen and ran the ♠Q, +690.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rimstedt	Korczyn	Rotaru	Porat
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3NT	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5NT*	Pass	6NT	All Pass

2♦ Artificial game force
3♦ Natural
4NT Quantitative
5NT Pick a slam

What is more, when declarer cashed dummy's clubs East discarded a diamond and so if declarer had retained all dummy's hearts the penalty would have been only -300. However, she retained the ♦K and was three down, -500.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rimstedt	Korczyn	Rotaru	Porat
—	—	—	1♥
Dble	Pass	1NT	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South started with the ♥K and continued with the ace, followed by the ♥9. North pitched the ♣5 followed by the ♣3 - and that was fatal. Declarer won the next heart and returned the suit, rectifying the count. Now South was eventually squeezed in the minors by the fourth round of spades, +400 and a 3 IMP swing - it should have been a lot more.



Per-Ola Cullin (with Christian Lahrmann)

- 1♣ Strong
- 1♦ 0-7
- 1♠ 4+♠, forcing
- 2♦ 5-7, 3♠
- 3♦ Canapé

North led the ♣Q and declarer dropped the ♠Q for +490.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rimstedt	Korczyn	Rotaru	Porat
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

4NT RKCB

5♣ 1/4 key cards

North led the ♦6 and declarer won with the ace, cashed the top clubs and exited with the ♥2. South won with the ace and returned the four, declarer ruffing, crossing to dummy with the ♦Q, ruffing a heart and drawing the last trump.

South had pitched two clubs and when declarer cashed her remaining trump South pitched the ♠2. It was clear that South had started with a 4-4-1-4 shape and declarer went with the odds, playing a spade to the ace and then running the ten.

That meant she was three down, -150 and the resulting 12 IMP swing was enough to turn the match around, Korczyn winning 33-29, 11.20-8.80 VP.

North led the ♣J and that was covered all around. Declarer took the losing spade finesse and picked up 13 IMPs.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zamir	Michielsen	Toledano	Cullin
—	—	—	Pass
1♣*	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♠*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

All Vulnerable



By Toine van Hoof

Round 1 of the third minor Alt Invitational brought the title holders Harris against the winners of the first edition, team Gupta. As usual the most interesting boards were those with both sides being vulnerable.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Mahmood	Igoe	Gupta	Root
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

3♦ hearts

At all tables EW reached 4♠. Five declarers had an easy route to ten tricks when North led a diamond. By guessing to play the ♦9 in the first trick Bob Hamman and David Bakhshi even made an overtrick. They ruffed a diamond in dummy and pitched a heart on the ♣K.

Twice a heart honor was led and then declarer could establish the ♥10 as his tenth trick.

Four times North led the ♣J. Zia Mahmood, Ami Zamir and Vince Demuy won in dummy and immediately advanced the ♦Q, the best line. Zamir emerged with an overtrick when South did not cover. Hussein A Ali was the only declarer to go down in 4♠, when he tried to set up the club suit and played a diamond to the queen in the process.

The same almost happened to Todor Tiholov, who declared the hand from the East side after this auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
M. Gold	de Wijs	Tiholov	Muller
2♦*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

2♦ both majors 54+, weak
2NT asking
3♥ max, 5♠ and 4♥

Trying to deny declarer any heart ruffs Bauke Muller led a trump. Tiholov won in hand and also started to work on clubs. He cashed the ♣A, ruffed a club and played a heart from dummy. Simon de Wijs rose with the ♥K and now declarer changed track. He took with the ♥A, drew the trumps and played a heart to South's jack. Muller cashed the ♥Q and exited with a heart to the 10. Now Tiholov played the ♠A to reach this ending:

<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ —</p> <p>♦ J 3</p> <p>♣ J</p>	<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ —</p> <p>♦ A 10 8</p> <p>♣ —</p>
<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ —</p> <p>♦ K 6 2</p> <p>♣ —</p>	<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ —</p> <p>♦ Q 9</p> <p>♣ K</p>

Unerringly he played the ♦8 to the 9, winning the last two tricks with ♦Q and ♣K for a lucky push.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

Only two pairs managed to get to the rock solid slam in hearts. Muller-De Wijs and Igoe-Root failed to the test for another push:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
M. Gold	de Wijs	Tiholov	Muller
—	—	—	1♦*
1♠	4♦*	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
1♦	2+♦, 11-15	4♦	transfer to 4♥

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Mahmood	Igoe	Gupta	Root
—	—	—	1NT*
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♠*	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Dbl	Pass*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

1NT 14-16
 3♠ splinter
 Pass mild interest

The next board was no push in our featured match, on the contrary:

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
M. Gold	de Wijs	Tiholov	Muller
—	—	Pass	3♥
3NT	All Pass		

Muller opened a cautious 3♥ and West had an obvious 3NT bid. Had North led the fourth best from his strongest suit the contract would have failed and De Wijs would have entered the list of disinvented players.

A heart lead would also have done the job, assuming Muller switches to the jack of spades in the second trick.

After a considerable pause for thought De Wijs tabled the ♠K, seeing his partner contribute the 10. He took another minute and switched to the ♦3. Marusa Gold won with the king and ran six rounds of clubs. This was the end position:

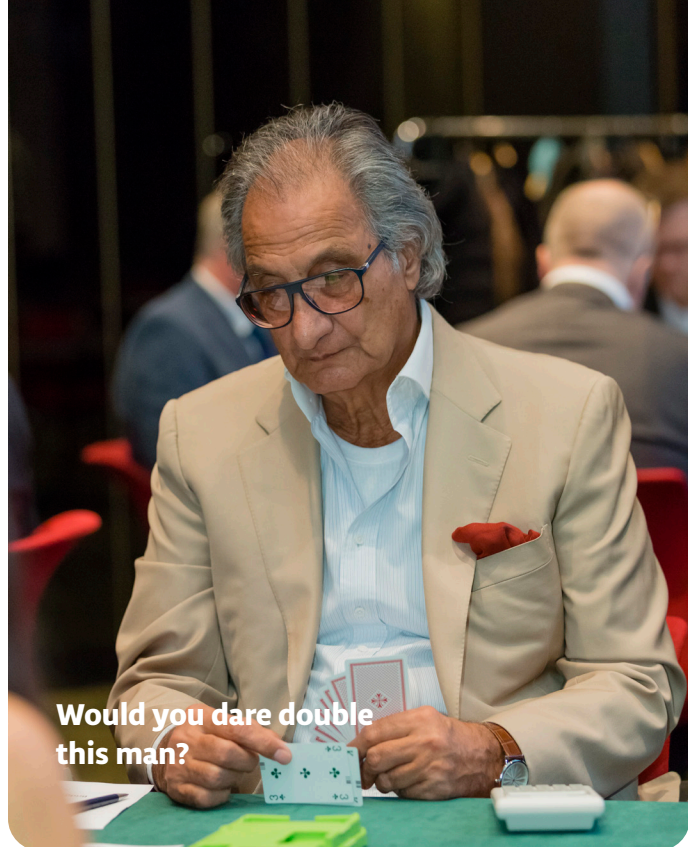
♠ A Q ♥ 7 ♦ 10 9 ♣ – ♠ 8 4 ♥ K 10 ♦ Q ♣ –	♠ 9 7 ♥ 5 ♦ A 8 ♣ – ♠ J ♥ A Q J 9 ♦ – ♣ –
--	--

Gold cashed the ♦Q and exited with a spade to North who took another spade trick and played a heart to his partner's ace. The last trick was won by the ♥K: EW plus 600.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Mahmood	Igoe	Gupta	Root
–	–	Pass	4♥
5♣	All Pass		

At the other table Steve Root opened with 4♥. Zia overcalled 5♣ and was lucky not to get doubled.

Niall Igoe kicked off with ♠A and ♠K. For some reason he did not cash the ♠Q but switched to the ♥7. Root won with the ace and Zia tried to confuse him by dropping



the king. Unperturbed South continued with the ♥3 for North to ruff, got his diamond ruff and played another heart.

Zia had the chance to escape for three off by ruffing high and drawing trumps, squeezing North in spades and diamonds. When he ruffed with the ♣10, North overruffed and gave his partner another diamond ruff. Root now rocked the boot by playing a heart again, allowing Zia to discard his ♠8 and ruffing in dummy with ♣8: EW minus 500 and Harris plus 15 IMPs.

At almost every other table South opened 4♥. This was passed around six times and made everywhere. The way to defeat the contract is for East to discard two spades on the three top clubs led by West. Declarer can ruff in dummy but can't get rid of his fourth club in time. Four East players had other plans. They ruffed the second club in order to cash the ♦A, which was not the winning defense. Declarer could ruff, cash the ♥A and play four rounds of spades.



Marusa Gold

At two tables West was doubled in 5♣ for minus 1400. Artur Malinowski ended up as East in 4♠ doubled after Janet de Botton had doubled 4♥. He received a friendly defense by Terje Aa (♥A; ♥Q-♠2; ♠Q-K-A) and got out for minus 500 and a 3 IMPs gain.

The last all vulnerable board of this round was a slam for EW:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Only three pairs bid and made the excellent contract of 6NT. Peter Fredin and Alon Apteker preferred 6♠ which was also easily made.

In the Harris-Gupta match one EW pair underbid and the other one overbid:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
M. Gold	de Wijs	Tiholov	Muller
–	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♠*	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

- 1♣ 16+
- 1♠ 5+♥, 8+
- 3♣ natural

After a spade lead from South to the 10, declarer gave up the ♠K and claimed twelve tricks: plus 490 to Harris.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Mahmood	Igoe	Gupta	Root
–	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
5NT	Pass	6NT	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

Probably Naren Gupta painted a too rosy picture of his hand. Zia invited for a grand slam but when his partner signed off he decided to bid it himself.

This was plus 100 and 13 IMPs to Harris, who won the match by 44 to 14 (16.73-3.27).

Discover the new BeBRIDGE

♥♣♦♠ by Le Bridgeur

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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Victim of the Day

Christina Lund Madsen

by Christina Lund Madsen



How old are you, where are you from, tell us about your family and background?

- I have now reached the age where I am old enough to wear reading glasses and I was kicked out of a party because I was too old.

I am Danish and live just north of Copenhagen. I am a journalist and have been lucky to manage to combine my education with by passion.

I am happily divorced and have two boys aged 10 and 12 who I will bring to bridge tournaments as soon as I can trust them to go to the pool without drowning and not disturb me during play because they cannot find the iPad charger.

How does it feel interviewing yourself?

- I have asked myself many of the same questions I asked my own victims and try to answer them as truthfully as possible.

How has corona life been for you?

Tough. I am a very social person. I work at home so I don't see many people daily besides my children unless I pursue it (which I often do). I have often missed working at a large newspaper with lots of colleagues, but I always had my bridge world to feed my social life. I miss all my friends terribly and on top of that we have suffered some losses I feel I have not mourned properly until I can hug and dwell in memories with the only people who can fully understand how I feel.

In Denmark we have been lucky; bars are back to closing at 10 in the evening and we need to wear masks, but we have not

been nearly as isolated as in many other countries. I think my usually very optimistic nature would have taken a serious blow if I had been living in captivity for 6 months like some.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- I grew up to the sound of my parents and grandparents playing cards. I shuffled and dealt for them (in the next room, because children were not to be seen nor heard) and once in while I got to be dummy if someone had to perform their necessities. My parents taught my sister and me when we were about 8 and 10 and I played two years with my mom at my parents' local club when I was 14-15.

I had never played bridge with players my own age and there were guys at basketball so I only played a few times during my teenage years.

In 2001 I was 21 and someone forced me to my first junior tournament in Denmark, and on the way I was thinking "what are you thinking spending an entire weekend with a bunch of geeks?!"

I met some amazing people that weekend, who became friends for life.

That summer I went to a junior camp in Poland and that was it for me. I became completely obsessed with the game and met the most intelligent and fun people from all over the world, many are my close friends today (you know who you are).

What is your most memorable moment in bridge?



A happy moment on Borneo with my sons Hektor and Oskar in 2019.

Tell us something about yourself not many people know.

- I have never done drugs and I love superheroes. I have a thing for fantasy especially. Heroes with swords and cha-

racters with honourable hearts and special abilities. As a child I used to dream I was a superhero. As a teenager I dreamt more of making out with the superhero. Now I tell my kids I am one.

Tell us a funny story from a bridge tournament.

- Hrm. I think many people would appreciate if I skip this question. Since I had a reputation for skinny dipping (before the current decay of my body) I will share one story involving that.

It was the World Championships in Bali 2013. I was there working as a bridge journalist for the first time. The Swedish women did not qualify for the knockouts and since I'm more or less an adopted Swede we decided to drown our sorrows in waves on Bali with the midnight moon as our only witness. And two English bridge players wearing glasses and shorts and holding their towels and proudly declaring they were going for a swim.

The naked Scandinavian girls beat them to it. Then a massive wave came and

- Bridge has given me so many unforgettable moments I can hardly pick one. I choose to tell you about how my biggest moment became a wound for life. In Dallas in 2014 I won the Open Swiss at the nationals on a team with my friends Roy Welland and Sabine Auken and their German teammates Josef Piekarek and Alexander Smirnov. I was added as a fifth player and played only with Josef. I did not earn a single dollar that event and crashed in a good friend's hotel room, and now one of my biggest dreams came true. I felt my feet did not touch the ground that day or the next to come.

A little more than a year later the cheating scandal happened. Piekarek-Smirnov confessed to having cheated. My teammates and I forfeited the title and I did no longer mention my biggest moment to anyone. I won the European Championships the following year and thought that would heal the wound, but I was so scared someone would take it away from me I did not fully comprehend it until a while after, so I never got that same rush of happiness.

flushed away all the belongings of one player. She had no problem walking home without her clothes, but among them was a clock from her grandmother. She was devastated. So we all searched the sea (naked) looking for her clock. The Brits were very helpful but I kept wondering why they were wearing their glasses in the ocean.

The next day they met a countryman to tell him how they had spent their evening. England had also been knocked out, and the player was a little annoyed (he plays in the minor Alt and his name rhymes with mould) and said "Just don't tell me you went skinny dipping with the Scandinavians." His friend replied:

"Yes – and I kept my glasses on!"

There was more than one funny story from Bali, but you have to read Sjoert Brink's interview from the pre-bulletin of the first Major Alt to get another one.

What interests do you have besides bridge?

- I am not sure I would call it an interest as much as self-torture, but I run a bit more than the average bridge player. A year ago, I had to run my first marathon to avoid paying John Kranyak 500 dollars (yes, we were drunk when we made the bet and at the time I liked my chances).

What goals do you have in bridge and life?

- Ha! This is a great question! I want to be a world champion before I turn 50. Corona is not really helping that ambition though. But most of all I want to write a book. I have written about 50 pages of "The Student", which has absolutely nothing to do with bridge. I plan to sell it to Netflix and retire in a few years and work on the world championship...

Name three things you are really bad at.

- Leaving a party early. Keeping my mouth shut. Realising I'm in love.

Vinita Gupta's question for you: What is the secret of your enthusiastic approach to life?

- Strangely most people think I have lived a sorrowless life because I always seem so happy. I think it is the other way around. If you have had your share of hardship you become more appreciative of the joys life has to offer. I try to go where my life takes me and I never want to regret not pursuing a dream. I might fail, but at least I tried.

When in life did you struggle the most?

- There were some dark times during my teenage years that only my optimistic nature got me through.

I have always been controversial and most people think I don't give a damn but the truth is I care too much when people don't like me. I simply decided that is not reason enough to compromise with who I am.

When were you most happy?

- The thing about happiness is you often don't realise how happy you were until after. But I think during the World Championships in Chennai 2015 and sleeping in a tent in the rainforest with my children are the happiest times of my life.

If you could give an advice to future generations, what would it be?

- Strive to be the best version of yourself. Teach your children not to bully others.



A happy moment before the kill. Photo: EBL

I would kiss Ton because I think he would appreciate it more than the other two and I would like to see his face when I do it. I would partner Dennis because I owe him (at least) a world championship and we always have very entertaining system discussions on the plane before an event, especially if they don't run out of champagne.

Love can make people do things they thought themselves incapable of, so I will kill Bas for reasons that only he and the participants at his wedding will know about.

(The most annoying thing is I asked Sjoert: "So who do you think I picked?" and he without hesitation got all three right including why.)

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

- Frederic Volcker: What do we do with our wedding plans now Corona has arrived?

Wounds inflicted on an innocent child never heal, and there is no excuse for maltreating anyone.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between (picked by Sjoert Brink) Dennis Bilde, Ton Bakkeren and Sebastiaan Drijver?

- It is funny because you never fully realise how annoying this question is until you are presented with it.

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



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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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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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