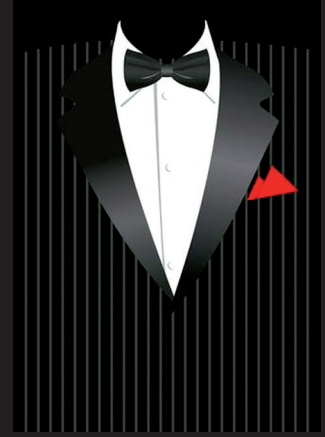


The minor ALT INVITATIONAL III

OCTOBER 12-16 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

With the English on Top

Heavy losses in the last Round Robin match yesterday sent Ireland and Swissarabian UAE out of the top 4, Ireland missing by a mere 0.98 VP. England occupied the first three places in the following order: Black, Harris and Gillis. Black chose Gillis as their semifinal opponent, leaving Harris and Korczyn in each other's company.

Halfway through the semifinals the excitement is intact, and if the kibitzers find the boards to be boring 1NT-contracts, we suggest visiting the other room. You never know what might happen...

[\(click this link to go directly to the board to see what happened\)](#)

DLR: N VUL: NS

♠A10642
♥K74
♦653
♣A5

♠K97
♥A6
♦AKQJ2
♣KQ9

♠Q
♥Q95
♦974
♣J107632

♠J853
♥J10832
♦108
♣84


NT ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

N	--	1	--	--	--
S	--	1	--	--	--
E	2	--	--	4	4
W	2	--	1	5	5

minimax:
5♣ W, -400 **BBO**

TABLE	TEAM	IMP	ROOM	NS	EW	CONT	OL	+/-	SCORE
1	BLACK		Open	Andrew McIntosh Thomas Paske	Espen Erichsen Simon Gillis	1NT S BBO	♦A	-3	-300
	GILLIS	13	Closed	Geir Brekka Boye Brogeland	Simon Hult Gunnar Hallberg	7♣ x E BBO	♥2	-3	+500
2	HARRIS		Open	Steve Root Niall Igoe	Oren Toledano Ami Zamir	1NT S BBO	♦K	-3	-300
	KORCZYN	8	Closed	Inon Liran Ehud Friedlander	Todor Tiholov Marusa Gold	5♣ E BBO	♥J	-1	+50

Final Ranking RR

Ranking after round 11		
rk	team	VPs
1	 BLACK	126.13
2	 HARRIS	125.08
3	 GILLIS	124.39
4	 KORCZYN	118.86
5	 IRELAND	117.88
6	 SWISSARABIAN UAE	111.58
7	 POTTER	105.79
8	 DONNER	105.66
9	 DE BOTTON	105.17
10	 VINITA	102.87
11	 FREDIN	88.80
12	 GUPTA	87.54

Today's Schedule

Friday October 16

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET – Semifinal. Segment 2/2 (16 boards)

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

Results

INB
NETBRIDGE

Playing the cards online





Future Alt Tournaments

19 - 23 October 2020	Alt Mixed V (One spot 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

Results



RR 10



Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
				Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
1	 SWISSARABIAN UAE	 IRELAND	16	<u>39</u>	<u>29</u>			12.80	7.20
2	 GUPTA	 DONNER	16	<u>27</u>	<u>49</u>			4.62	15.38
3	 GILLIS	 DE BOTTON	16	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>			9.69	10.31
4	 POTTER	 KORCZYN	16	<u>38</u>	<u>28</u>			12.80	7.20
5	 BLACK	 VINITA	16	<u>27</u>	<u>21</u>			11.76	8.24
6	 FREDIN	 HARRIS	16	<u>22</u>	<u>56</u>			2.69	17.31

RR 11

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
				Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
1	 IRELAND	 DONNER	16	<u>7</u>	<u>60</u>			0.57	19.43
2	 SWISSARABIAN UAE	 GILLIS	16	<u>12</u>	<u>61</u>			0.93	19.07
3	 KORCZYN	 GUPTA	16	<u>47</u>	<u>10</u>			17.72	2.28
4	 DE BOTTON	 VINITA	16	<u>65</u>	<u>25</u>			18.09	1.91
5	 POTTER	 HARRIS	16	<u>78</u>	<u>12</u>			20.00	0.00
6	 BLACK	 FREDIN	16	<u>28</u>	<u>32</u>			8.80	11.20

SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 BLACK	10.1	<u>47</u>	57.1		57.1
 GILLIS		<u>59</u>	59		59

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 HARRIS	6.1	<u>35</u>	41.1		41.1
 KORCZYN		<u>28</u>	28		28

The Walls have Ears

By Toine van Hoof



Halfway the match between Swissarabian UAE and Ireland in Round 10 I regretted my promise to the editor to write a report on it. After three nonvulnerable game contracts, which all failed, and thirteen partials between the two tables the score was 18-11. Then suddenly all hell broke loose.

Instead he made a try with 6♦. Looking at his meager four card suit Emile Schols was also reluctant to go to 7♥.

North led the ♦Q to declarer's ace.

Schols drew the trumps and when North discarded a spade he developed two spade tricks for the overtrick.

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Amoils	Naqvi	Hanlon	Ali
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♣*	4♠	4NT	Pass
6♣*	Dbl	7♥	All Pass

4♣ splinter 6♣ 1KC + void in clubs

Tom Hanlon was more resolute. Against 7♥ South led a trump to the 9. Without any adverse bidding the normal line would be to ruff three clubs in dummy using the ♠A and two diamond ruffs as reentries. Declarer then draws trumps, crosses to the ♠K and discards his last club on the ♦K. That would have worked here too but of course Hanlon trusted North to have six spades. He found an elegant way to come to thirteen tricks: club ruff, ♦A, diamond ruff, club ruff, ♦K (♣K pitched), ♥Q to the ace, ♥K, ♥J and ♥3. North was squeezed. He discarded the ♣A and declarer claimed: 13 IMPs to Ireland.

In the tournament 7♥ was bid and made by three other pairs: Grue-Moss, Demuy-Bathurst and Aa-Livgard.

The next hand was a vulnerable 3NT made with overtricks and then came this slam:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Schols	Carroll	v. Bijsterveldt	Moran
—	2♠*	Dbl	2NT*
4♥	Pass	4NT*	Pass
6♣*	Pass	6♦*	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

- 2♠ ♠ + minor
- 2NT bid your minor
- 4NT RKCB
- 6♣ 1/3/5 KCs & club void
- 6♦ try for 7♥

After the surprising jump to 4♥ by his partner Niels van Bijsterveldt rolled out Blackwood. He heard the ♦A and the void in clubs but did not dare to bid the grand.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Both NS pairs in our match bid and just made 6NT. That was not an impressive performance with twelve tricks on top to start with and a babysqueeze for the over-trick.

All declarers made thirteen tricks, including Alon Apteker who found himself in 3NT after miscounting his hand. And also including Thomas Bessis and Frederic Volcker who, as the only ones, found their way to a grand slam:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Moss	Bessis	Grue	Volcker
–	–	–	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦*	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣*	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♣*
Pass	6♥	Pass	6♠
Pass	7♦	All Pass	

4♦	4♠ & 5+♦	5♣	RKCB
5♦	3/0 KCs	5♥	asks ♦Q
6♣	♦Q+♣K, no ♠K, no ♥K		
6♥	not alerted; probably try with ♥K		
6♠	not alerted; probably showing ♠Q		



Frederic Volcker and Thomas Bessis

With his three tens Volcker upgraded his hand and right he was. Especially the ♦10 proved to be invaluable. Joe Grue led the ♥3 which went to the 9 and the king. Bessis drew the trumps, while East discarded a heart, the ♣10, a spade and another heart. A spade to the ace was followed by the ♠Q and the ♣K. Next came ♣A and East had to surrender. He gave up the ♥J and Bessis claimed.

On the next board EW for the Swissarabian UAE team took a phantom save:

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Schols	Carroll	v. Bijsterveldt	Moran
1♦	1♠	2♥	2♠
3♦	4♠	5♥	All Pass

The lead was the ♠K. Declarer ruffed a spade in dummy but later on forgot that he did. His three inevitable losers became four when he ruffed the fourth spade low and was overruffed: EW minus 100.

His teammates missed the opportunity to convert this result into a profit:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Amoils	Naqvi	Hanlon	Ali
Pass	1♠	4♥	4♠
All Pass			

East led the ♥K to the ace, correctly rose in the second trick with the ♠A and cashed the ♥Q. To sink the contract East now needs to switch to clubs (found by Ehud Friedlander in Potter vs. Korczyn after a discouraging diamond discard by Inon Liran). Hanlon continued with the ♥J, ruffed by declarer. Naqvi, who had unblocked the ♠Q earlier, erred by taking the next spade with the 10 and went one off. A spade to the king would have seen him home: diamond to the queen, which West has to duck, followed by the ♠J and three more spades. In the three card ending South keeps ♦K and ♣Q-small. West has to come down to ♦A and ♣K-small and is thrown in with a diamond. Oded Korczyn played this way after Vince Demuy had switched to the ♦9 at trick 4. Declarer however misread the end position when Kevin Bathurst, who had fiercely bid first diamonds and then clubs, sneakily discarded the ♦J in an early stage to keep ♦A10 and the bare ♣K.

On Board 13 the Irish NS pair went overboard in 4♥ (minus 200) while Naqvi-Ali were allowed to make 3♣ (plus 110).

In 1980 Ron Klinger wrote an article in the Olympiad bulletin titled “The walls have ears”. It’s the theme of the next deal.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Schols	Carroll	v. Bijsterveldt	Moran
–	–	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	4♠*	All Pass	

4♠ 6♠ & 4♥

It is certainly possible to construct hands where 4♠ is hopeless and 4♥ is a make. However, apart from confusing his partner who needed three minutes to pass 4♠, John Carroll paid a high price for revealing his hand. Van Bijsterveldt had been listening in and led a trump. Declarer took a successful finesse, played a heart to his ace and a heart to West’s king. Schols immediately played the second spade and the contract went one off.

At the other table Naqvi had a more practical approach:



Waseem Naqvi

In our featured match EW made 1♠ with five overtricks at one table and 3♦ with one overtrick at the other. One EW pair bid all the way to 5♦ (one off) and four pairs tried 3NT (two off). Demuy and Bathurst found the right spot:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bathurst	Korczyn	Demuy	Porat
–	–	–	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Amoils	Naqvi	Hanlon	Ali
–	–	Pass	1NT
Pass	4♠*	All Pass	

With nothing to go on Hanlon led the ♥J. When that held he switched to a trump but it was too late. Naqvi won with the ace in dummy, played a heart to his ace, ruffed a heart with the ♠Q and only lost a trump and a heart: plus 420 and 10 IMPs to UAE.

This was the second last board of the round:

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

The defense did well to start with three rounds of hearts but declarer could ruff in dummy. He came to hand with the ♣K and played the ♠Q to the ace. South tried to tap him with another heart. Bathurst ruffed, cashed his solid trumps and, having seen 11 HCP in the passed South hand, knew he would make his contract. He cashed the ♦A and ♦K before playing a club towards A-J, claiming when the queen appeared.

Board 16 was a slam for EW, duly bid at both tables and made with an overtrick when North did not lead a club to his partner's ace.

Swissarabian UAE won the match by 39 to 29 (12.80-7.20). They maintained the fourth place in the ranking while Ireland dropped from first to third. Both teams suffered a big loss in the last round and as a result failed to qualify for the semifinal.

A Comedy of Errors



By Martin Cantor

After playing a 24 board friendly match (4 Germans versus 4 English) I tuned in to the later stages of the first half of the Gillis versus Black semi-final. Eleven of sixteen boards gone and Gillis led 29-26. First I watched Board 12 in the Open Room:

Board 12. W / NS

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

Paske won and returned his singleton spade, won by declarer for a second trump. When South won again he could put partner in with a diamond for his spade ruff and one down. Oops. Oh well, go down in a game you should make and ... win 10, because:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Brekka	Hult	B.Brogeland
1NT	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♥	Dbl
All Pass			

4♣ hearts
4NT 3 aces

In case you're confused, Gunnar wryly posted this in chat:
"We have decided on Gerber, Simon".

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gillis	McIntosh	Erichsen	Paske
1NT	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

North led the ♦J. It's pretty normal technique to duck the first trick, severing communications between the defenders. It would be wrong if the lead was singleton, but that's not likely, else South would probably have overtaken the jack. But Gillis took the first trick to play a trump up.

Mind you, I'm not sure when I last saw a Gerber bid. The only question was, how many down? For certain two trumps and a diamond on the obvious and actual ♦K lead for two down, and NS should be able to engineer a spade ruff unless declarer ducks the first trick. Which of course he didn't, so trick one was the ♦K, ace, jack and 7. Equally naturally, Hult crossed to hand with a spade to try the club finesse, aiming to discard the losing diamond. So now four down looms. But when Brekka returned a diamond the spade ruff disappeared, and we were back to three down,

which is where it ended. 10 IMPs to Gillis, and only 3 IMPs lost for the lost fourth undertrick.

Incidentally in the other semi Liran-Friedlander produced perfect defence to defeat Marusa Gold's 4♥ contract. Liran led a spade at trick one, and when Friedlander got in with the first trump he underled his diamond honours so Gold had to win the ace, but then after his second trump winner South could underlead diamonds again for his spade ruff.

On Board 13 West held ♠9542 ♥AJ82 ♦T3 ♣K43 and saw partner open 1NT, second in hand at all vulnerable. Gillis, reasonably, passed.

Hallberg, optimistically but not unreasonably, Staymaned. East had a maximum ♠QJT ♥KQ9 ♦KJ4 ♣AJT7 so nine tricks and 11 IMPs to Black.

Then on Board 14 both teams bid 4♠, which is complex but can always make. McIntosh did, Brekka didn't, so another 10 IMPs to Black.

On 15 Paske had this hand ♠42 ♥QJT73 ♦954 ♣J92, and heard this auction with only his side vulnerable:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gillis	McIntosh	Erichsen	Paske
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	2♦*	3♦*	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Dbl
All Pass			

- 2♦ 1 major
- 3♦ hearts invite+



Yes, you would like a heart lead, but the double is foolish, to say the least. Even if partner has a heart to lead - by no means certain - he won't have another one, and you have no outside entry. Sure enough partner was void, and declarer made ten tricks for 650.

In the other room 3NT undoubled made nine tricks, so this time just a single digit swing of 6, to Gillis. 16-21 on the last four boards, so 45-47 overall and one more to go. Would it calm down. No siree.

Board 16. W / None

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



Boye Brogeland

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Brekka	Hult	B.Brogeland
1♠	3♣	Dbl	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

The jump overcall took away a crucial level of bidding, but I think Hult's double was misguided. Unless partner has four hearts, or six spades, you are going to endplay him, and end in an ugly spot. As he did. Might he have tried 3NT after partner's 3♥? Maybe, but for many experts it would be a non-serious (or even a serious) slam try.

Bidding 3NT over 3♣ isn't a thing of beauty, but it looked better from where I sat in my armchair with a view of all the hands and the knowledge of what had happened at the other table. Bad breaks aren't a massive surprise after the preempt, but 5-1 trumps was harsh, and the end result was three down and 14 IMPs to Gillis who ended the first half with a lead of 12, though with Black's 10.1 IMP carry over in reality only 1.9 IMPs.

In our other semifinal Harris leads Korczyn 41.1-28.

If tomorrow's (for you now today's) second half has as much excitement in the 16 boards as this did in 5, we're all in for a roller-coaster ride of fun.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gillis	McIntosh	Erichsen	Paske
1♠	2♣	Dbl	2♦*
Pass	Pass	Dbl*	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

2♦ non-forcing
Dbl good hand

A sensible auction (for once) to a sensible spot. Paske led the ♦Q, ducked, and switched to his club to the ten and queen. Declarer tested the spades and when they didn't break was happy to claim nine tricks.

Victim of the Day

Les Amoils

by Christina Lund Madsen



Tell us the story of your origin and where you live now.

- I was born in a small town called Springs in South Africa in the idyllic colonial and privileged lifestyle (being totally ignorant and unaware of the other side of apartheid). We grew up in a life with no consequences; for example, even though we were all wealthy we used to steal cars for fun every weekend and go on joyrides and then just dump the cars at the end of the evening. We were a “gang” and we had a rule as we roamed the streets at nights: If we passed a Mini minor (a small English car) we would pick it up and turn it upside down. Sounds crazy now, but that was part of our life as teenagers in South Africa in the 70's.

Almost all of my friends emigrated (mainly to avoid the compulsory national service in the army). I didn't have the same desire to leave the country, so I actually went to the army first and then emigrated to Los Angeles to join my friends. I went on a holiday visa and worked illegally for a couple of years until I got my green card. We lived a pretty fun life there for a few years, but then I met the love of my life and moved to Toronto to be with her. I was pretty wild back then (as opposed to me now - lol!) but she was the best thing to ever happen to me and a definition of “Behind every successful man is a woman...” (although I always enjoyed Groucho Marx humour and his addendum “... and behind her is his wife “



I promised to bring a picture of Les he was young and handsome - sadly I could only come up with this. Photo: Jonathan Steinberg

Which is your favourite place in the world and why?

- Well, that's not even a question - it's the Bush and because Daddy V doesn't come here. (*Daddy V= Frederic Volcker. ed. Les is writing us from the African bush.*)

Give us the highlights of your business career.

- In short: Worked hard, got lucky and hired good people. If I had stayed in South Africa, although I had qualified as a chartered accountant, I actually worked as a (horse racing only) bookmaker. So I would definitely have been consumed with that as it was literally the Life of Brian; gambling, gambling with some gambling mixed in, Klaberjas and poker occupied the rest of my time.



Things went well and I developed a skill and reputation for understanding the value of industrial and distressed assets, and established a few business leveraging on that knowledge and skill set in sales, financing, leasing etc. I'm still active on the bigger deals in that area today.

How do you spend your time at the moment?

When I moved to Toronto, I worked for a real estate company in an accountant (Omg) role, but the recession hit and I was going to lose my job. I was flat broke. My wife paid the \$500 for our wedding party and the \$100 for the court licence. The Rabbi who married us had the previous week married two birds! (seriously!).

A good friend of mine in Los Angeles was a used machinery dealer. On his advice my wife put in most of her savings (\$5,000) and I started a used machinery business. I had no idea what I was doing, but fear is a great motivator, and I would spend all day going through yellow pages and making phone calls.

Somehow I made some deals and rented a warehouse where I did everything, painted machines and drove the forklift! My mother in law was my only employee and was paid only in rent as she lived with us (my wife was working in those days and supported us all until I started to make some money).

- Precovid, it was the Bush for 3-4 months, bridge for the nationals and bit more, travelling the world with my wife and spending time in Israel with our family. I still work a lot, but lucky enough to be able to do everything I need on the phone.

Tell us a short summary of your bridge life; how it began, what was your highlight and what are your current ambitions?

- My bridge life began in my 20's and I played for a few years in South Africa. I didn't play again for about 7 or 8 years until the mid 90's in Toronto, but not much as I was working very hard in those days.

What reignited the spark for me was when my friend Darren Wolpert asked me to captain the Canadian junior team - That was a lot of fun and also where I met Vinny D! (*Vincent Demuy, ed.*) He couldn't speak a word of English at that time! However my captaincy style was not appreciated (can't blame them!) so that ended, and then I started to go to nationals instead.

You would think winning the the Vanderbilt would be the clear highlight, but it's closer than you think - however given that Brad was on the opponent team, I'm gonna go with that. My current ambition is to get an Irish passport.

Tell us about a childhood memory.

- Listening to 5 straight days of ball by ball test cricket on the radio (we had no television in South Africa in those days). It makes me laugh now but there was nothing more enjoyable and exciting as that!

If you could only bring one thing with you to a deserted island, what would it be?

- An eternal joint.

If you were an animal, what kind of animal would you be and why?

- My favourite animal is the African Wild Dog - so I would be the Alpha male of the pack-

*Frederic Volcker's question for you:
Whenever do you want to invite me into the bush...?*

- Daddy V - I would invite you, but I have a strict one French person only policy.

Tell us a funny story from a bridge event.

- I'll pass on that one. I have like three different lives, and as my wife is reading this bulletin!

*You were – as many – close to Justin Lall.
How has his early passing been for you?*

- Justin Lall = Jlo - man o man, I still miss him every day. I'm in the Bush at the moment and love getting up at 4 am and listening to the sounds of Africa. Jlo and I would often text a lot at this time - so every morning as I sit outside in the dark, I think of him.

How would he have described you in three words?

- Old, older oldest.

If you could pass something useful on to your younger friends, what would it be?

- Live young and die old.

Who do you want to partner, kiss, kill between Brad Moss, Peter Fredin and Tom Hanlon?

- Well, that's not a fair fight in terms of partner - however the kiss and kill dilemma for the other two is like Hobson's choice. (For the uninitiated Tom Hanlon is Les' second love of his life. ed.)

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

- Victim - how about Brad Moss.

1. How much \$ would it take for you to play a whole nationals in a "onesie"?

2. When are you going to admit that you agree that 1♣ -pass - 1♠ - pass - 1NT - pass - 4♥ is a selfsplinter - will it only happen at my "Celebration of life"?



Bridge Base
O N L I N E

Free, unlimited bridge on BBO



Your online bridge club

Social play. ACBL Games. Tournaments. Solitaire.



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.

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!



bidding on an app
www.bid72.com

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♣
----------	---------	---------------	------------

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♥
---------------	----------------	---------------

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♥.'

Join the Dutch Open Team and other national selections: **download the app bid72** (App Store or Google Play) and start bidding. Check our Expert Topics > bid72.com/topics

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

Practice bidding with our ever growing Topic Collection. Your editors are Jan van Cleeff and Simon de Wijs. Every Topic consists of approximately 100 boards. Besides, the app offers lots of other stuff as well. For instance, an ocean of challenging random boards. Bid72 is an ideal platform to test your partnership agreements.

Sign-up for the *Newsletter* on www.bid72.com and receive a free three-week trial !