

THE ALT MIXED TEAMS IV

OCTOBER 5 - 9 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

A Statement from the ALT

The ALT events are invitational events. The original idea behind the ALT was to organise tournaments with world class players on BBO to provide an opportunity for top level bridge and potentially creating an income for professional players during corona. Furthermore the ALT wanted to give a chance to all the bridge enthusiasts isolated in their homes to be entertained by world class bridge.

The ALT allowed and encouraged kibitzers and stated that invitations were granted to participants, who were not only world class, but also highly ethical players.

Sadly it became clear during the spring of corona that some players deliberately violated the ethical conduct of bridge and the ALT's Conditions of Contest.

We are now ready to move on. A player who has not been welcome due to violation of our CoC will now have the opportunity to play again in our world class online events on the following condition:

The player has to declare that he/she has violated the ethical conducts of bridge during online matches with the risk of influencing the results of the match/tournament. The player must agree to make such a statement in the ALT bulletin – a statement for the ALT organisers alone is not sufficient.

The ALT provides the player with a second chance by revoking the non-invite decision, effective the next tournament after the statement made by that player. Should the player once again violate the ethical conducts of bridge (including online bridge), the player will not be allowed back ever.

The ALT has taken this first step to move on. We have now become used to the temporary reality in the online bridge world and we are of the hope that all players are now fully aware of the consequences of their actions.

This statement also means that players who have previously publicly confessed will from today no longer be denied an invitation to participate in the ALT events based on their history.

We hope that we can encourage others to follow their example.

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.

Results
















R 1

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
				Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
<u>1</u>	 <u>DONNER</u>	 <u>SWEDEN MIXED</u>	14	<u>16</u>	<u>19</u>			9.03	10.97
<u>2</u>	 <u>ZORLU</u>	 <u>TURBO</u>	14	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>			10.33	9.67
<u>3</u>	 <u>LITCHIS</u>	 <u>NEW ENGLANDERS</u>	14	<u>55</u>	<u>19</u>			17.91	2.09
<u>4</u>	 <u>WILSON</u>	 <u>KODA</u>	14	<u>16</u>	<u>29</u>			6.28	13.72
<u>5</u>	 <u>PARKER</u>	 <u>SILLA</u>	14	<u>27</u>	<u>15</u>			13.48	6.52
<u>6</u>	 <u>ALPERT</u>	 <u>HINZE</u>	14	<u>35</u>	<u>29</u>			11.87	8.13
<u>7</u>	 <u>MENSCHIES</u>	 <u>VEGAS STRONG</u>	14	<u>41</u>	<u>7</u>			17.63	2.37
<u>8</u>	 <u>FRANCE SUD</u>	 <u>PENFOLD</u>	14	<u>27</u>	<u>9</u>			14.85	5.15

R 2

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
				Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
<u>1</u>	 <u>LITCHIS</u>	 <u>MENSCHIES</u>	14	<u>20</u>	<u>40</u>			4.74	15.26
<u>2</u>	 <u>FRANCE SUD</u>	 <u>KODA</u>	14	<u>45</u>	<u>20</u>			16.21	3.79
<u>3</u>	 <u>PARKER</u>	 <u>ALPERT</u>	14	<u>43</u>	<u>22</u>			15.46	4.54
<u>4</u>	 <u>SWEDEN MIXED</u>	 <u>ZORLU</u>	14	<u>54</u>	<u>11</u>			18.76	1.24
<u>5</u>	 <u>TURBO</u>	 <u>DONNER</u>	14	<u>46</u>	<u>33</u>			13.72	6.28
<u>6</u>	 <u>HINZE</u>	 <u>SILLA</u>	14	<u>38</u>	<u>36</u>			10.66	9.34
<u>7</u>	 <u>WILSON</u>	 <u>PENFOLD</u>	14	<u>19</u>	<u>23</u>			8.72	11.28
<u>8</u>	 <u>VEGAS STRONG</u>	 <u>NEW ENGLANDERS</u>	14	<u>31</u>	<u>18</u>			13.72	6.28

R 3

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
				Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
<u>1</u>	 <u>MENSCHIES</u>	 <u>FRANCE SUD</u>	14	<u>53</u>	<u>25</u>			16.72	3.28
<u>2</u>	 <u>SWEDEN MIXED</u>	 <u>PARKER</u>	14	<u>33</u>	<u>20</u>			13.72	6.28
<u>3</u>	 <u>TURBO</u>	 <u>LITCHIS</u>	14	<u>23</u>	<u>1</u>			15.66	4.34
<u>4</u>	 <u>HINZE</u>	 <u>KODA</u>	14	<u>28</u>	<u>40</u>			6.52	13.48
<u>5</u>	 <u>PENFOLD</u>	 <u>ALPERT</u>	14	<u>22</u>	<u>35</u>			6.28	13.72
<u>6</u>	 <u>VEGAS STRONG</u>	 <u>SILLA</u>	14	<u>40</u>	<u>19</u>			15.46	4.54
<u>7</u>	 <u>DONNER</u>	 <u>WILSON</u>	14	<u>16</u>	<u>38</u>			4.34	15.66
<u>8</u>	 <u>ZORLU</u>	 <u>NEW ENGLANDERS</u>	14	<u>50</u>	<u>12</u>			18.17	1.83

Leaderboard & Draw

Today's Schedule

Tuesday October 6

10:00 EDT/16:00 CET Match 4 (14 boards)

12:30 EDT/18:30 CET Match 5 (14 boards)

15:00 EDT/21:00 CET Match 6 (14 boards)

Draw Round 4

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	 MENSCHIES	 SWEDEN MIXED
2	 TURBO	 PARKER
3	 FRANCE SUD	 VEGAS STRONG
4	 KODA	 ALPERT
5	 WILSON	 ZORLU
6	 LITCHIS	 HINZE
7	 PENFOLD	 SILLA
8	 DONNER	 NEW ENGLANDERS

Ranking after round 3		
rk	team	VPs
1	 MENSCHIES	49.61
2	 SWEDEN MIXED	43.45
3	 TURBO	39.05
4	 PARKER	35.22
5	 FRANCE SUD	34.34
6	 VEGAS STRONG	31.55
7	 KODA	30.99
8	 WILSON	30.66
9	 ALPERT	30.13
10	 ZORLU	29.74
11	 LITCHIS	26.99
12	 HINZE	25.31
13	 PENFOLD	22.71
14	 SILLA	20.40
15	 DONNER	19.65
16	 NEW ENGLANDERS	10.20

NB
NETBRIDGE

Playing the cards online

Results

Swallows and Amazons

By Mark Horton



I confess I had forgotten the onset of the latest ALT event, this one being given over to the increasingly popular Mixed Teams format. Having quickly decided upon an obscure title I decided to follow Donner v Sweden Mixed. Disconcertingly when I emailed this news to the Editor, back came an instantaneous reply saying her account was disabled. *(The editor's email does indeed not function at the moment due to technical issues that make her want to consume a lot of pills and alcohol./CLM)*

Anyway, in the hope that the situation will sort itself out here is what happened:

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

<p> ♠ Q 7 ♥ A 8 6 ♦ A 8 6 4 2 ♣ A 9 4 </p>			
♠ K 9 8 6 4 ♥ 7 ♦ K Q ♣ K Q J 10 7	♠ J 5 3 ♥ K 10 5 3 ♦ 10 5 3 ♣ 6 5 3	<p> ♠ A 10 2 ♥ Q J 9 4 2 ♦ J 9 7 ♣ 8 2 </p>	
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Goldberg	Michielsen	Goldberg	Cullin
—	1♦*	Pass	1♥
2♦*	Dble*	2♠	3♥
3NT	All Pass		
1♦ 1+♦	2♦ ♠+♣, 5-5	Dble	3♥

West led the ♣K and declarer ducked, won the next club with dummy's ace, cashed the ♦A and ducked a diamond to West's king. After ruffing the ♣J declarer played a heart to the ace followed by a heart to the nine, West discarding the ♠4. Declarer cashed the ♦J and then played a spade, West winning with the king and exiting with the ♣10. Declarer ruffed with dummy's eight and one way of another was assured of three of the last four tricks, +140.

At the point where declarer played a second heart East should go up with the heart king and return a heart. Then declarer must lose two more tricks. As West was known to be 5-1-2-5 declarer should forget about playing a second heart. A diamond to the jack is followed by a low spade when West wins and plays a club, but declarer can ruff in dummy and will lose only one more trick.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S. Rimstedt	Jarlvik	Grue	Trendaflova
—	1NT	Pass	2♦*
2♥*	Dble*	2♠	All Pass

2♦ Transfer
2♥ ♠+♦/♣
DbleHeart support

South led the ♥Q and North won with the ace and returned the ♥8.



Joe Grue

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Goldberg	Michielsen	Goldberg	Cullin
—	—	—	Pass
1♣*	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
4NT*	All Pass		

1♣ 16+ 2♦ Possible canapé
4NT Quantitative

With a good six-card suit I was expecting East to go past 4NT (you can agree that if you want to respond to a quantitative 4NT you can show your aces/key cards). North led a club (not that it mattered) and declarer took all the tricks.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S. Rimstedt	Jarlvik	Grue	Trendafilova
—	—	—	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

4♦ Natural, also shows 4♥

If declarer wins with the king and finds the play of a spade to the king followed by a second spade the defenders will be helpless, but that is not an easy play to find and declarer ruffed in dummy and played a spade, North winning with the queen.

Switching to a minor is best now - for example after two rounds of clubs declarer is locked in dummy and South will score two trump tricks - but when North played a third heart declarer could win with the king and play the ♠J, ensuring 8 tricks and a 6 IMP swing.

The strongest defence is for North to change tack at trick two - with no entries to hand declarer should go down.

Same lead and score at this table.
11 pairs bid a slam.

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Goldberg	Michielsen	Goldberg	Cullin
—	1♦*	2♣	Dble*
3♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

1♦ 1+♦

East led the ♣A and switched to the ♦5, declarer winning with dummy's jack, cashing the ♥K and then running the jack. When that held she could draw the outstanding trump and claim eleven tricks, +450.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S. Rimstedt	Jarlvik	Grue	Trendafilova
—	1♦*	2♣	2♥*
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

1♦ 11-13 balanced or 10-15 with 4+♦
2♥ 5+♥, one round force

If there is a lesson to be learnt from this deal it is one I have mentioned many times before. When South's five-card suit is supported, the fifth trump becomes valuable - think of it as an extra king. Then you can see it is clear to go on to game and save your side 7 IMPs.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Goldberg	Michielsen	Goldberg	Cullin
Pass	Pass	1♣*	1♥
2♦*	3♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

1♣ 16+
2♦ Natural, not 4♠

North led the ♠Q and declarer won with dummy's ace and exited with the ♥Q, South winning and returning the ♠10 to dummy's king. Declarer continued with the ♦10, overtaking it with the jack, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♦A, ruffed a spade and gave up a diamond, claiming the rest,



Tatyana Trendafilova

+400.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S. Rimstedt	Jarlvik	Grue	Trendafilova
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	All Pass

West might have raised to 3♣, but I doubt that would have seen EW reach 5♦. Were they to get to 5♣, declarer would need to guess the trumps.

Board 12. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Goldberg	Michielsen	Goldberg	Cullin
—	—	2♦*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

2♦ Multi

3♠ Pass or correct

A defensive trick got lost, declarer escaping for one down, -50.

Obviously any bid by North would be speculative, but perhaps this is one of those situations where you have to do something over 3♠. If North bids 4♦ what do you think a bid of 5♣ by South should mean? A club control with a diamond fit perhaps?

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S. Rimstedt	Jarlvik	Grue	Trendafilova
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♠	3♦	3♠	4♦
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Plenty to think about here - East's opening bid at the one-level and South's raise to 4♦ (as opposed to bidding say 4♣).

East led the ♥K and continued with the queen. If West recognises this as a Forquet-Garozzo situation and plays East for the ♥KQ alone she should overtake with the ace and play a third heart, leaving declarer to guess how high to ruff. When she followed with the ♥4 the defence was at an end, +550 and 11 IMPs that saw Sweden Mixed ahead for the only time in the match ♥ They won 19-16, 10.97-9.03 VP.

Keep on Running



By Martin Cantor

Round 2 threw up this little gem for our delectation:

Board 11. S / None

♠ KQJ72	♠ 98	♠ T53									
♥ KJ43	♥ AT752	♥ 98									
♦ T	♦ J8	♦ 9763									
♣ Q82	♣ JT76	♣ A953									
	<table><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		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A64										
	♥ Q6										
	♦ AKQ542										
	♣ K4										

go one down. One was lucky to get a ♥K switch at trick 3, gifting the ninth trick. And one played a club towards the king at trick 5, and got a tenth in the endgame.

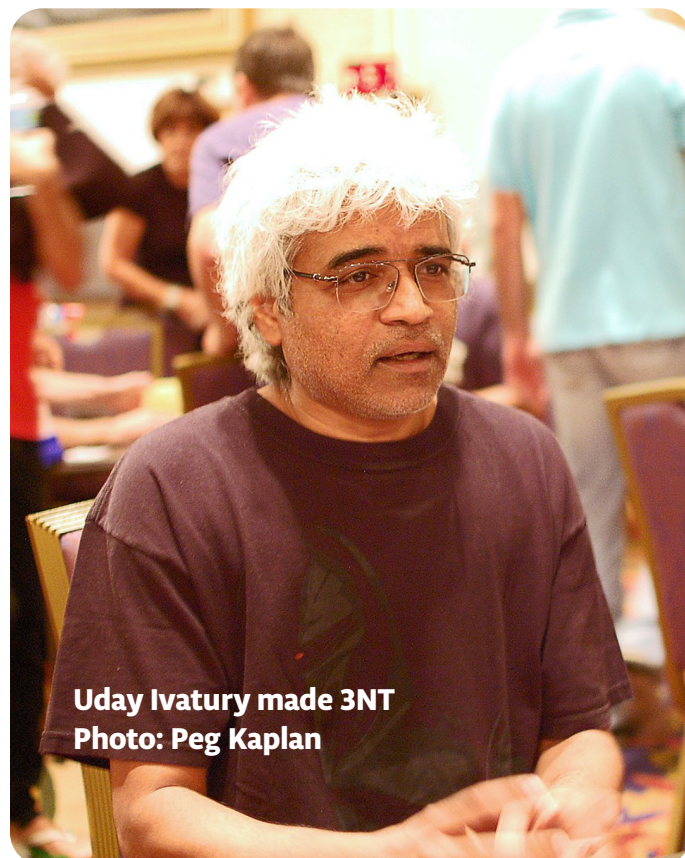
Elsewhere South opened 1♦, West mostly overcalled 1♠ (one West doubled) and North mostly doubled the 1♠. For me a 2♣ raise is almost automatic with the East cards, but on this deal it might just give declarer enough of an incentive to play the club at trick 5.

After three rounds of spades the only missing honours are the ♥KJ and the ♣AQ, and East is likely to hold one of the high cards for the raise.

At 14 of the 16 tables South played in 3NT on the lead of a top spade. Looking at 52 cards it is easy, as you can duck to the third round of spades, cross to the ♦J and play a club towards your king for your ninth trick. The alternative, when spades are 5-3 (as you will know from the bidding and/or the carding) is to run your diamonds to put pressure on the opponents' discards, and hope to read the ending.

The opposition's bidding might influence your choice of plays, but so will your personal preferences (and perhaps your faith in your card-reading).

At the three tables where South opened 2NT, EW stayed silent. One ran the diamonds but then misread the ending to



Uday Ivatury made 3NT
Photo: Peg Kaplan

The ♥K with East doesn't help you, since West will have the ♣A entry for the long spades (and anyway, unless East ducks, the lack of entries stops you making two heart tricks). In fact only two of the successful players took this line.

All the others chose to run the diamonds. Whether they were remembering Patrick Jourdain's 1988 Bols Bridge Tip "Play Off Your Long Suit Early"; or they were reluctant to go down as early as trick 5 when there might be a legitimate line later in the play (or even a mis-defence); or whether they figured their card reading to be worth more than the 50 % of the finesse; well, whatever the reasons, that is what the rest did.

And right they were (to be fair the trick 5 club players were right too), since the pressure on West became impossible. Some ditched all their spades, others all their clubs, others a mixture. But whatever they do, declarer can prevail at the end.

This was the end position at one table, where West had overcalled a spade and East kept silent. On the diamonds West had pitched ♥43 and ♣28Q in that order.

♠ —
♥ A T
♦ —
♣ J T

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ —
♥ Q 6
♦ —
♣ K 4



... and so did Alison Wilson

Declarer now had to guess whether West had kept the cxA and bared the ♥K or picked all his/her clubs and kept the ♥KJ.

Declarer chose to play for the stiff ♥K rather than the ♣A in East.

I would easily have found the right play from the comfort of my armchair with all the cards in view.

(Martin Cantor is afraid to get fired from his non-paid job as a writer in this bulletin, so he does not dare reveal which declarer misguessed this position, but the player's last name is (still) an anagram for sad men.)

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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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