THE ALT MIXED TEAMS IV

OCTOBER 5 - 9 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

The Turbo is on

I wonder if the Norwegians were self-confident enough to expect this headline when naming their team. None the less, they lead the field ahead of Sweden Mixed, Zorlu and Koda with one match to go. Wilson currently occupies the last qualifying spot, but Donner and Silla are right behind.

Yesterday I witnessed a cute table chat between Italians to whom food is more important even than bridge.

Versace: sorry Claire a lot of work cause my duck in diamond

Alpert: I love you ducking or not

Baroni: lol

Bessis: hehe THAT's a love statement Alpert: Everyone in this table is in love

Baroni: I so starving now you make me think about roasted

duck

Alpert: We love roasted duck. But then Francisco loves all

food ⊚

Baroni: scusa

Baroni: going to put water to boil, brb Versace: we already had carbonara Never come between an Italian and her food

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

Thursday October 8

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

14:00 EDT/20:00 CET QF (28 boards)

Results

R 7

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Brd	IMPs Adj		j	VPs		
IDI	Home leam	Visiting leant	Brd	Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
1	<u>ZORLU</u>	VEGAS STRONG	14	22	<u>24</u>			9.34	10.66
2	SWEDEN MIXED	KODA	14	<u>30</u>	<u>46</u>			5.58	14.42
3	## TURBO	MENSCHIES	14	<u>60</u>	14			19.08	0.92
4	PARKER	FRANCE SUD	14	<u>6</u>	<u>50</u>			1.13	18.87
<u>5</u>	SILLA	DONNER	14	<u>29</u>	27			10.66	9.34
<u>6</u>	WILSON	ALPERT	14	<u>30</u>	<u>35</u>			8.42	11.58
7	HINZE	NEW ENGLANDERS	14	22	<u>10</u>			13.48	6.52
8	PENFOLD	LITCHIS	14	11	<u>53</u>			1.35	18.65

R 8

Tbl	Home Team	Home Team Visiting Team Brd	Brd	IMPs		Adj		VPs	
IDI	nome ream	visiting leatin	biu	Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
1	TURBO	VEGAS STRONG	14	<u>45</u>	<u>17</u>			16.72	3.28
2	C ZORLU	FRANCE SUD	14	<u>54</u>	<u>46</u>			12.44	7.56
3	KODA	₩ SILLA	14	44	22			15.66	4.34
4	SWEDEN MIXED	LITCHIS	14	<u>72</u>	<u>13</u>			20.00	0.00
<u>5</u>	PARKER	HINZE	14	<u>53</u>	0			19.74	0.26
<u>6</u>	DONNER	ALPERT	14	<u>48</u>	31			14.64	5.36
7	MENSCHIES	PENFOLD	14	30	<u>39</u>			7.29	12.71
8	WILSON	NEW ENGLANDERS	14	<u>53</u>	22			17.19	2.81

R 9

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team	Drd	IMPs		Ad	Adj VPs		s
IDI	Home leam	visiting leatin	Brd	Home	Visit	Home	Visit	Home	Visit
1	TURBO	KODA	14	27	11			14.42	5.58
2	C- ZORLU	SILLA	14	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>			7.84	12.16
3	SWEDEN MIXED	PENFOLD	14	<u>35</u>	<u>10</u>			16.21	3.79
4	VEGAS STRONG	PARKER	14	23	<u>18</u>			11.58	8.42
<u>5</u>	FRANCE SUD	DONNER	14	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>			8.72	11.28
<u>6</u>	WILSON	HINZE	14	27	<u>10</u>			14.64	5.36
7	MENSCHIES	NEW ENGLANDERS	14	<u>10</u>	<u>39</u>			3.12	16.88
8	LITCHIS	ALPERT	14	24	21			10.97	9.03

Leaderboard & Draw

Draw Round 10

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



Link to previous and future Alts & bulletins

Alt.bridgeresults.org

	Ranking after round 9					
rk	team	VPs				
1	TURBO TURBO	122.87				
2	SWEDEN MIXED	115.01				
3	<u>Corlu</u>	108.36				
4	KODA	106.29				
5	VEGAS STRONG	101.09				
6	PARKER	96.74				
7	FRANCE SUD	95.89				
8	WILSON	94.35				
9	DONNER	91.84				
10	SILLA	88.12				
11	LITCHIS	78.01				
12	MENSCHIES	74.05				
13	HINZE	69.91				
14	ALPERT	69.10				
15	PENFOLD	66.67				
16	NEW ENGLANDERS	61.70				



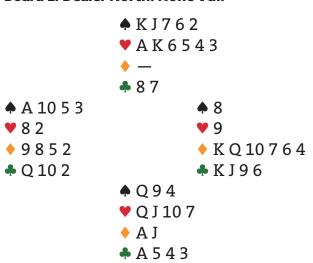
Don't Hold your Breath

By Mark Horton

Following the dramatic announcement in Tuesday's Bulletin I was expecting to receive and email from the Editor suggesting that I keep any reporting to a minimum as the space would be required for statements from a host of players. However...

Meanwhile, here is the best of the action from the top of the table clash in Round 7.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lewis	Acar	Lewis	Zorlu
_	1♠	3♦	Dble*
4♦	4♥	5♦	6♥
All Pass			

East led the ♦K and declarer was soon claiming 12 tricks. It was unlikely that the defenders had a diamond trick so East was perhaps 50/50 to find the killing lead by looking elsewhere.

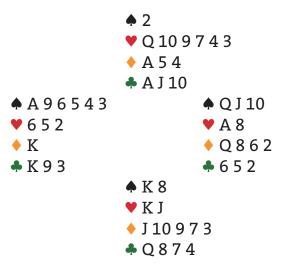
Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sanus	Eythorsdottir	Aluf	Itabashi
_	1♥	2.	3♦*
4♦	4♥	5♦	Dble
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

Same lead, same number of tricks, but an 11 IMP swing.

7 pairs bid 6♥ - only Jon Egil Furunes and Carlos Hoyos found the essential spade lead.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lewis	Acar	Lewis	Zorlu
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT*
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

1NT Semi-forcing

East led the ♠Q and West took dummy's king with the ace and returned the three, declarer ruffing, playing a heart to the king and the queen of clubs. West covered and declarer won and played the ♥Q East taking the ace and returning a spade. Declarer ruffed, drew the outstanding trump and eventually cashed the ♠A, claiming when the king appeared.

Although 4♥ is somewhat fortunate (and can be defeated by an initial diamond lead or switch) it serves to confirm that Meckstroth's Law is alive and well - which is why I think North should raise to 4♥.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sanus	Eythorsdottir	Aluf	Itabashi
2 ♦*	2♥	Dble*	2NT
Pass	3♥	3♠	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

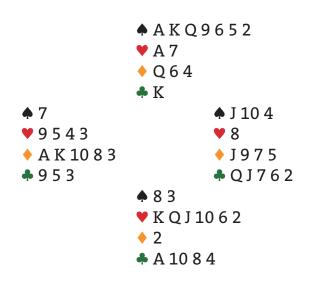
2♦ Multi DblePass or correct

South led the ♥K and declarer won in hand and played the ♠Q for the king and ace. After drawing the missing trump with the jack, declarer played the ♦6 for the jack, king and ace. If the ♦J was intended as a signal (there is a case for it) North took no notice, cashing the ♥Q and continuing with the seven. Now declarer could get rid of a club loser on the ♦Q so the contract was only one down and only a single IMP changed hands.

I wonder if South might have led the ♥J? Maybe, but if North misreads the position and decides South must have the ♣K....

One pair suffered that disaster, with only Cullin and Michielsen collecting +500 - North led a heart, South following with the jack, and after declarer had drawn trumps when North took the ◆K South followed with the jack and North's heart continuation saw South win and switch to the ♣Q.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lewis	Acar	Lewis	Zorlu
Pass	14	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

West led the A, +980.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sanus	Eythorsdottir	Aluf	Itabashi
Pass	14	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

3♥ Invitational



All one can say is that if South can have this hand for 3♥ then North should consider something other than 4♠ - perhaps 4♣ when South's 4♠ will be just the ticket. East led the ♥8, +510 but a second slam swing for Zorlu handing them 10 IMPs and the lead, 21-12. 7 pairs reached a slam on this deal.

Board 14. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A K 4 3 ♥ K Q 10 6 5 ◆ Q J 3 **\$** 6 **♠** Q J 9 **•** 6 ♥ A 9 2 **9** 8 7 98764 ♦ A K 10 5 **108** ♣ KQJ974 **♦** 10 8 7 5 2 **♥** J 4 3 **2** ♣ A 5 3 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lewis	Acar	Lewis	Zorlu
_	_	1.	Pass
1.	Dble	2 🔷	3♠
Pass	4♠	5♦	Dble

All Pass

North led the \bigstar K and switched to the \bigstar 6 South winning with the ace and returning the two for North to ruff. It was a poor defence, allowing declarer to escape for one down, -100.

Clearly North should switch to a heart at trick two, ensuring -300.

Bakke and Vist were the only other pair to defend 5 ♦ doubled and North switched to the ♥K at trick two.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sanus	Eythorsdottir	Aluf	Itabashi
_	_	1.	Pass
Pass	Dble	3♣	3♠
Dble	All Pass		

West led the ♣10 and declarer won with the ace and played the ♠10, cashing the AK when West covered and then played on hearts for a straightforward +630 and 11 IMPs that gave Vegas Strong a last-minute win, 24-22, 10.66-9.34 VP.

CAT Legal Defense Fund

By Gary Donner

During the pandemic, almost all competitive bridge has moved on-line. Initially, it was believed that there was widespread cheating in many of these on-line tournaments. As a result, at the request of the tournament, a group of top experts formed a committee known as the Credentials Advisory Team or CAT to advise, upon request, invitational tournaments who should and should not be invited to participate based upon the Conditions of Contest It is now generally agreed that the compliance in these invitational tournaments has dramatically declined.

The CAT bases their advice on a review of hands and statistics which takes a significant amount of time, all of which is being done without compensation. The Cat's motivation is simple, to improve and protect the integrity of the game.

Unfortunately, several players who were not invited have either commenced litigation or are threatening litigation against CAT and its members.

The purpose of this legal defense fund is to support the CAT and its members in defending themselves against litigation pertaining to the role that the CAT has played in protecting the integrity of bridge and also to seek legal advice to avoid future litigation.

Click this link to donate

https://www.gofundme.com/f/garydonner

The legal defense team will be administered by a treasurer, Marty Fleisher, and a Board of Directors. Marty is both an attorney and well known and respected bridge player. The Board will consist of other sponsors and top level players.

The role of the treasurer and the Board will be to review requests for funds from the CAT and ensure that these requests are specifically related to legally defending the CAT and also to review the reasonableness of any professional fees incurred.



That's what Friends are for



by Christina Lund Madsen

These lyrics popped into my mind during the second match yesterday.

All bridge players come to a time in their career, when they pass out partner's voidwood. I clearly remember my first time. I was even partnering a player from this event (Greg Hinze, do you remember?).

I usually like dwelling in my own disasters, but I will save them for my book about my performance this week titled "What not to do at Bridge".

Instead this article will focus on my friends' misery.

Yesterday three players saw their partners passing their Voidwood. Since the board is interesting, let us first look at what happened at table 1 in the match between Turbo and Vegas Strong.

Board 11. S / None

	♠ K 5 2	
	▼ AT98	
	• —	
♠ Q 9 7 6♥ Q J 6 5◆ Q 7 5 3♠ T	* AQ7543 N W E S	↑ A 8 4 3♥ K 7 3 2↑ J 8 6↑ 6 2
	♠ J T	
	¥ 4	
	AKT942	
	♣ KJ98	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Heskje	Eythorsdottir	Furunes	Itabashi
			1♦
Pass	2.	Pass	3♥*
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

3♥ was a splinter and Disa foreseeing the lurking disaster jumped straight to 6♣.

At the other table we find a married couple who is the bridge version of David Beckham and Mel C.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P. Lewis	B. Brogeland	L. Lewis	T. Brogeland
			1♦
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♥*
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

I wonder who slept on the porch.

(In case someone is not sure which of the married pairs resemble the British celebs, I am talking about North-South. East-West are more like Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward).

Linda Lewis led the ♥J and declarer went down 1 for 14 IMPs for Vegas Strong.

Our next pair is not married, but almost better: A young Italian woman playing with an American junior famous for his partnership skills:



WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH Z. Grossack Preddy G. Botta Selway 1 2+ Pass 3♥* **Pass** Pass 3 🌲 **Pass** All Pass 5 • Pass

Botta made an attempt to avoid misunderstandings by first cuebidding 3♠ and then jump to 5♦ on her next turn. Didn't work either. Good thing is I'm sure Zach was quick to take the blame. I so wish I had been live kibitzing that moment.

At the other table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cole	Senior	Bianchedi	Penfold
			1.
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

At my table my partner and I played against the best pair in the field, the fierce Lady Marion and Per-Ola "the Judge" Cullin.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Madsen	Michielsen	Hoyos	Cullin
			1♦*
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♥*
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

Here the difference is that 1♦ showed only 1+ (they play a strong club-system) so Cullin should probably have given the bid a bit more thought.

Now that I have three (perhaps six) friends less in the bridge world, it is time for a confession. I know I said I would write a book about my disasters, but this is just too tempting.

Guess who was the only player to allow 5 to make?

The other two West players mercilessly led a heart honour, but Per-Ola is a good friend of mine, so I led a club, my partner carefully playing the 8 as suit preference.

Now Per-Ola cashed the ♦ AK, my partner once again playing the ♦ 8, then the six, and continued with the T.

I did take a close look at it before playing low, in case he had the ◆JT and I needed my ruff. My partner won the Jack an returned a club. After avoiding crashing the diamond honours, I proudly ruffed with my natural trump trick and thought that now was the time to tap declarer with a heart, who then claimed his contract.

That's what friends are for!

Victim of the Day

Erik Sælensminde

by Christina Lund Madsen



I was looking forward to learn more about Silla, since my conversations with him usually take place in the bar surrounded by other happy intoxicated Norwegians and nobody can remember the conversation next day. As you can read, I have to wait a while yet to know his secrets...

How old are you, where are you from, where do you live?

- 56, Bergen, Norway, living in Thailand.

What do you do for a living and how do you spend your day?

- Bridge bum, play online, read a lot.

Has your life been different during corona and if so, how?

- Been stuck in norway since July, Thailand closed their border due to corona, so might have to stay in norway through the winter (not great)

Tell us the highlights of your love life? (yes, love, not bridge, unless it is the same story)

- Guess i have to say getting married?!

Gunn Tove has nominated you as victim. Her questions are:

What is the true story behind your nickname "Silla"? Does it have anything to do with the fish herring?

- Those who know, know, and no.

And one more question from Gunn Tove: Do you have any great fish stories?

- Too many to be told.

What do you miss the most and the least about Norway?

- Friends, not the winter.

On Facebook you even use the name Silla Diktatore. Were you smart enough to move to Thailand under an alias to avoid making the same tax mistakes as your dear countrymen or is there a different explanation?

- LOL. Nothing to do with tax, not a big fan of social media, but needed a Facebook profile.

How did you begin to play bridge?

 Read a Danish(!) book about different card games, bridge was one of them, that was it!

What is your best memory from your life with bridge?

- Travelling all over the world.

How would you have spent your life if you had not become a bridge player?

- No idea.

Tell us something about yourself that very few people know.

- Nope!

What do you consider your biggest personal triumph in life?

- Hanging around...

If you could change something in your life, what would it be?

- Getting fit, not fat.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Boye Brogeland, Tor Helness and Marianne Harding?

- Played with Boye for years, that's enough, so I go for Tor and kiss Marianne.

Which player from the Alt mixed teams should be the next victim in the bulletin?



Tell us something you would like to know about this person.

- Gunn Helness, how she still manages to play with Tor.

Future Alt Tournaments

5 - 9 October 2020 Alt Mixed IV

12 - 16 October 2020 Minor Alt Invitational III (now up to 16 top teams)

19 - 23 October 2020 Alt Mixed V

16 - 20 November 2020 Minor Alt Invitational IV (now up to 16 top teams)

16 - 19 November 2020 TampAlt Qualification (Not for world class teams)

7 - 11 December 2020 Alt Mixed VI

14 - 18 December 2020 TampAlt - Main event (32 world class teams)

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

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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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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!



big 5

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