

THE ALT MIXED TEAMS IV

OCTOBER 5 - 9 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

The Swiss Winner's Curse

If we look at the winners of the qualifying Swiss in the Alt tournaments, I am not sure a single winner of the qualification beat the opponent of their first choice. Sweden Mixed fell victim to the Swiss Winner's curse, when Zorlu kindly gave them Friday off.

The Norwegian Turbo, who as second had a choice between lesser evils, crashed when Koda almost wiped them off the scoreboard. France Sud was tied with their choice Parker after the first set, but a second set French blitz annihilated the American dream. Vegas Strong put up a fight against Donner, but they were drained of power in the second set.

Yesterday we parted with 12 teams. Thank you to all participants for your high spirits. We have a second mixed event this month beginning on Monday October 19th and registration is still open. After that the Alt Mixed teams go on a two-month break till the beginning of December.

We are happy that in just one day the CAT Legal Defense Fund initiated by Gary Donner has already received donations of almost 40.000 dollars! Thank you to all the Alt players who have given their support.



Gary Donner
Photo:
Jonathan Steinberg

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

Friday October 9

10:00 EDT/16:00 CET Semifinal (28 boards)

14:30 EDT/20:30 CET Final (32 boards)

Results

Results

Link to previous and future
Alts & bulletins

Alt.bridgeresults.org





R 10



Ranking after round 10		
rk	team	VPs
1	SWEDEN MIXED	132.64
2	TURBO	124.46
3	FRANCE SUD	114.30
4	VEGAS STRONG	114.06
5	KODA	113.32
6	ZORLU	112.33
7	DONNER	107.87
8	PARKER	107.07
9	SILLA	101.84
10	WILSON	96.72
11	MENSCHIES	90.93
12	LITCHIS	87.68
13	HINZE	79.58
14	PENFOLD	77.00
15	ALPERT	72.22
16	NEW ENGLANDERS	67.98



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



Leaderboard & Draw

QUARTERFINAL



team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 SWEDEN MIXED	10.1	<u>0</u>	10.1	<u>16</u>	26.1
 ZORLU		<u>25</u>	25	<u>24</u>	49



team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 VEGAS STRONG	1.1	<u>36</u>	37.1	<u>1</u>	38.1
 DONNER		<u>28</u>	28	<u>28</u>	56

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 FRANCE SUD	3.1	<u>30</u>	33.1	<u>80</u>	113.1
 PARKER		<u>33</u>	33	<u>0</u>	33

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 TURBO	6.1	<u>5</u>	11.1	<u>3</u>	14.1
 KODA		<u>79</u>	79	<u>39</u>	118

SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 ZORLU	0.1	<u>0</u>	0.1		0.1
 DONNER		<u>0</u>	0		0

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 FRANCE SUD	0.1	<u>0</u>	0.1		0.1
 KODA		<u>0</u>	0		0

CAT Legal Defense Fund

Click this link to donate

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/gary-donner>

The Dunmow Fitch

By Mark Horton



I recall reading in an old copy of Bridge Magazine that some events used to present a side (or fitch) of bacon to the leading married couple in the mixed pairs. Historically, since around 1100 the town of Great Dunmow in Essex has awarded a 'fitch' of bacon to married couples if they can convince the Judge & Jury that in the previous 12 months and a day they did not wish they were unmarried.

(<https://www.dunmowfitchtrials.co.uk>)

In modern times the contest takes place every four years and the next contest is due to take place on 10 July 2021.

I wonder if any the players in my featured match might consider entering next year's contest?



Fredrik Helness

Board 1. Dealer North. NoneVul.

<p>♠ K 6 2 ♥ 10 ♦ Q 10 6 5 3 2 ♣ 9 6 5</p> <p>♠ 8 4 3 ♥ K Q J 8 6 5 3 2 ♦ — ♣ 10 3</p>	<p>♠ Q J ♥ 9 7 4 ♦ J 9 ♣ K Q J 7 4 2</p> <p>♠ A 10 9 7 5 ♥ A ♦ A K 8 7 4 ♣ A 8</p>
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WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P Poizat	B Brogeland	Poizat	Brogeland
—	Pass	3♣	4♦*
4♥	4♠	All Pass	

4♦ Diamonds and a major

North has a pretty good hand opposite a spade/diamond powerhouse, but unless you decide to bid 5♥ partner is not going to bid over 4♠.

You could say that 6♦ is fortunate, but if East had held a seven-card club suit then your chances would be reasonable.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
G Helness	C Mus	F Helness	Mus
—	Pass	Pass	1♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♠	5♥	6♦
All Pass			

I'll leave you to decide if this was inspired or lucky. If North's spades had been weaker - imagine four small for example - then 6♦ would have needed North to hold some unexpected goodies. However, it was a fast 10 IMP start for France Sud.

Where North was able to start with a weak 2♦ South could choose between a direct leap to slam, or start with 2NT. Three pairs saved in 6♥.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P Poizat	B Brogeland	Poizat	Brogeland
—	—	1♠	3♦
3♥	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♥	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	5♦
Dble	6♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

As the biblical quote goes, Tell it not in Gath but NS blotted their marital book. East led the ♥K and declarer ruffed and tried the ♠K East winning and switching



to a club, West taking the ace and returning a heart. When the smoke cleared declarer was six down, a small matter of -1400.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
G Helness	C Mus	F Helness	Mus
—	—	1♠	3♦
Dble*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

4♦ Good 4♥ bid

North led the ♠10 and that ran to declarer's jack. Cashing the ♥A meant there was a trump loser, and declarer's next move was the cash the ♣A and then run the ♣Q pitching a diamond. South ruffed that and exited with the ♦K, declarer winning with dummy's ace and playing the ♠4. South ruffed in with the ♥J, cashed the ♦Q and exited with a heart, but declarer could claim the rest, +620 but a loss of 13 IMPs.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P Poizat	B Brogeland	Poizat	Brogeland
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	Dble	Pass	2♥*
Dble	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

I'm fed up with writing about the folly of doubling with 3-3-4-3 hands - no-one takes the slightest bit of notice. The ♥J was covered by the king and ace and West's spade switch saw declarer win with the king and play two rounds of diamonds followed by the ♣Q which lost to the king. Declarer had exactly four losers, +110.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
G Helness	C Mus	F Helness	Mus
—	—	Pass	1♦
1♥	1♠*	Pass	1NT
Dble	Rdbl	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1♠ Not 4♠

Obviously a heart lead would have left declarer with no chance, but when West elected to lead the ♠5 declarer won with dummy's king and played four rounds of diamonds (unblocking dummy's queen) before running the ♣Q. East won with the king, but now the defenders were helpless as West had discarded a spade on fourth round of diamonds. East tried the ♥J but after taking South's king with the ace the best West could do was exit with a club and declarer could cash three tricks in the suit and then play a spade ensuring a ninth trick, +600 and 10 IMPs which made the score 47-0.

After West had thrown a spade East's best chance would have been to duck the first club, hoping declarer would repeat the finesse. Then East could win and exit with the ♥J for the king and ace, after which West can endplay the dummy with two rounds of spades. Declarer can prevail by leading a spade rather than a second club, but must then rise with the ♣A if West exits with a club. In due course West will end up giving declarer a trick with the ♥10.

If West keeps three spades then the defenders are on top as long as East ducks the first club.

Declarer should cash only three diamonds, retaining an entry to hand and then take the club finesse. If East ducks declarer must not repeat the finesse, as East can win and then exit with a diamond (!) removing the vital entry. If declarer then tries a spade West can win and exit with a spade ensuring three more tricks. Provided declarer continues with a club to the ace and club he must come to nine tricks.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

<p>♠ A Q J 6 2 ♥ A 9 7 6 3 ♦ 10 9 ♣ A</p> <p>♠ 5 4 3 ♥ 10 2 ♦ Q 3 ♣ K J 9 8 7 3</p>	<p>♠ K 8 ♥ Q 5 ♦ 6 5 2 ♣ Q 10 6 5 4 2</p> <p>♠ 10 9 7 ♥ K J 8 4 ♦ A K J 8 7 4 ♣ —</p>
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WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P Poizat	B Brogeland	Poizat	Brogeland
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣*
Pass	6♥	Pass	7♥
All Pass			

4♣ Cuebid 4NT RKCB



Rokia Poizat

I'm not sure about the meaning of 5♠ - the traditional way of showing 2 key cards and a void is 5NT.

Declarer won the club lead, cashed the ♥A and played a second heart. He then played diamonds from the top, +1510.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
G Helness	C Mus	F Helness	Mus
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

+1010, but finally a swing in the other direction. The final score was 51-11, 18.41-1.59 VP.

What's My Line?



By Martin Cantor

I've mostly been watching Sweden Mixed, a team that includes my online friends and regular weekly opponents Tatyana Trendafilova and Freddy Jarivik. My support has obviously helped as they came into the last round in second place, secure of qualifying for the knockout stages. On this board from that round, GIB can make game in every denomination apart from diamonds.

Board 8. W / None

<p>♠ J 9 8 4 3 ♥ A K J 7 6 ♦ 4 ♣ A 8</p>	<p>♠ K 6 5 ♥ Q 8 5 ♦ Q 9 7 6 3 ♣ J 5</p> <table border="1" style="margin: 0 auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>♠ T 7 2 ♥ T 9 4 2 ♦ K J T ♣ K 4 2</p>	N		W	E	S		<p>♠ A Q ♥ 3 ♦ A 8 5 2 ♣ Q T 9 7 6 3</p>
N								
W	E							
S								

Let's see how the humans did. Linda and Paul Lewis got carried away and bid slam in spades. It didn't make.

No-one tried game in hearts, just as well, since making it takes either extraordinary luck, or second sight.

Fredrik Helness and Cecilia Rimstedt played 3NT from the East hand on a diamond lead. When North had the diamond

length, and South the club winner, nine tricks rolled in. Of the remainder, seven played the spade game, six the club game.

Five made in each denomination, but before you start to think it must be easy, you might like to consider that Thomas Bessis went off in clubs, and Carrie Liu went one off and Claire Alpert two off in spades.

Christina Parker led the ♣2 against Bessis. He won the ace, finessed in spades, cashed the ace of spades and was in good shape. Until the next trick, when he took the losing heart finesse. Now a trump through from North left him exposed to three diamond losers, but South let him out for one down when she returned a heart. The winning line, after cashing the spade ace, is to play to a top heart, and play further hearts, ruffing one to set the suit while the diamond ruff is still available as an entry.

Norman Selway also got a club lead, but ran it to his hand. He played ♠A and ♠Q to North's king. He won the diamond switch and ruffed a diamond with the ♣A. ♥AK and ♠J took care of the losing diamonds, and there was just the trump king to lose.

Lisa Blagestaad got the lead of the ♥4. She took two spades, ♣A and diamond ruff, cashed the ♥K, then ruffed a spade. Now a club to the ace and a winning spade, ruffed, over-ruffed, and re-over-ruffed, and she could claim for the further loss of a diamond.



Lise Blaagestad

Anam Tebha also got a heart lead, this time the ten. ♥A, ♠Q, ♣A, diamond ruff, ♠A, diamond ruff, ♥K. Now she ruffed a spade to hand and when that passed off well she could simply play the ♣Q, ruff the heart return, and give up another trump to the jack.

Zack Grossack and Veri Kiljan both got diamond leads, and both made 12 tricks, ruffing two diamonds, throwing one on the ♥K, and with a little help from the defence managing to lose just one trump.

Against 4♠ by West all the Norths led the ♦3, except for Brian Senior who chose the ♣J, which didn't hurt Allie Cappelletti. Dummy's queen was allowed to hold, she played spade ace then queen, taken by the king, won the diamond return, lost the heart finesse, ruffed the next diamond, drew the outstanding trumps, and just had another heart to lose.

Elsewhere, Joshua Donn and Asli Acar took the diamond lead and played to set up hearts, either ruffing the third round or discarding a loser.

Daniel Eriksson's line was similar, though in a slightly different order. He ruffed a diamond at trick 2, cashed ♣A, ♥A, ♥K then ruffed a small heart with the queen. He ruffed another diamond, played the boss heart, ruffed and over-ruffed, ruffed another diamond, conceded a club, and got the trump return right when he put in the 9, forcing the king, and establishing his jack for his tenth trick.

Philippe Poizat took a rather different line. At trick 2 he ruffed a diamond, then ♥AK and small, ruffed with the queen. Another diamond was ruffed, the winning ♥J was ruffed by North and over-ruffed by dummy's ace. Yet another diamond ruff (South ditching a club), then ♣A, a small club to clear the suit and South had only spades left. Poizat also successfully finessed his 9, cashed the jack, and conceded the last trick to South's ♠T. Success, but not obviously the best line.

What about the two declarers who failed? Carrie Liu took the ♦A and played ace and a club. At trick 4 North ruffed a club and exited a diamond, ruffed. The Q♠ was finessed, the ace cashed, but when the heart finesse failed there was still another heart to lose at the end. And finally, Alpert's trick two play was a finesse of the ♥J. She ruffed the diamond return, took two rounds of trumps then a club to the ace. Now the ♥AK and the ♥7 won by South's ten, who cashed the ♣K. Declarer could ruff the ♦J continuation, but now only play a winning heart, allowing the defenders to make their trumps separately.

This is what makes bridge so fascinating. Multiple options in the play in either black suit. In 5♣ it seems best to ruff two diamonds and hope to limit the trump losers to two. In 4♠ I have no idea which is the best line single dummy. Answers on a post card (to the editor, of course).

Victim of the Day

Gunn Helness

by Christina Lund Madsen



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

- 59! I com from Averøya, the west coast of Norway, and lived Oslo for 40 years.

Tell us about your closest family.

- Tor -UTUR-Helness and my little ones Jonas 33, Fredrik 30, beloved princess Mona and beautiful grandchild Olivia and her mother Carina, and tons of relatives I stay in touch with.

How has your life been during corona?

- Challenging for me, normal for my husband. ☺ I miss traveling, my husband traveling, playing live bridge, hugging while drinking, dancing, work.

What were you like as a child?

- Cute, but not as nice as I am now.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- An attractive man needed a partner. ☺

What interests do you have besides bridge?

- Family, friends, hiking, music, reading , going out, having fun , food (unfortunately), travelling.

Tell us the love story of you and Tor.

- I saw him coming late and confused into the room where we were playing, looking cute and sexy with his squinted eyes, and I thought, hmmm...

My friend recognized my look and said: "He's taken."

"Well, we'll see about that," I answered. ☺ (Don't tell him, he still thinks he found me...)

Next time he showed up, he asked me to play with him. I said 'I have a partner for the evening'.

After winning with my partner, I agreed to go out dancing with Tor, and that was pretty much it.

You have been through more ups and down than most couples. Which has been the toughest period?

- I think it must have been a period after having my second child, after finding out about Patty, and now, after severe illness.

Who do you prefer to play with – your son Fredrik or your husband Tor?

- It has been pain and pleasure playing with Tor, and the best feeling ever to win two gold medals together in 2005. Fredrik is just great playing with and by far a better partner, keeping me happy and clearheaded; this summer at the Norway nationals scoring a fabulous 3,17 butler score over 90 boards winning our second gold medal, hoping for more. But, he has developed sympathy for Tor, because he also wants me at my best all of the time!

Silla's question for you: How do you still manage to play with Tor?

Maybe I don't, my best friends think I like torturing myself, what do you think? But, you know, how many people get to play for free, with the nr.1 ranked person in the world?

What was the best part about Tor being in jail?

- Ha ha ha, he came back looking like a gangster having learned to chop wood.

What was the worst part about Tor being in jail?

- The time leading up to it.

When was the best time of your life?

- Being madly in love and having my first child.

How would your daughter describe you in three words?



- Kind, thoughtful, funny.

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

- If I changed my past, I wouldn't be me - as Kim Larsen said, Christina: "This is my life"!

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Per-Ola Cullin, Ida Grönkvist and Ricco van Prooijen?

- Everybody would like to kiss Per-Ola, so I choose Ricco, and I would partner Ida, because she is good and good looking, hoping to match her up with Fredrik. ♥ Sorry Per -Ola, never really meant to kill you!

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

- Jessica Larsson: How did bridge become so important?

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♥♣♦♠ 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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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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