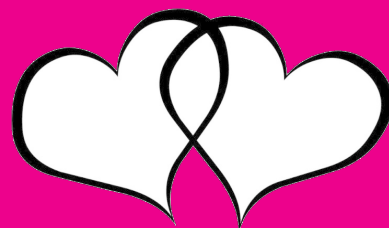


MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS • MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG

Welcome to the first MMT

I walk down the street in darkness, the mask protecting my face from the cold wind. I pass my favourite restaurant, closed and dark with bars covering the windows. I enter the supermarket where people walk around finding their groceries in solitude. I smile as I thank the young man at the register, but he cannot see it.

I walk back home and enter my house. Warmth and chains of Christmas lights welcome me back home. I make a cup of tea and sit down in front of the computer to see dozens of my friends logging on to BBO, patiently waiting to be called to their seats for the first match of the Christmas Mixed Teams. Some greet me and we wish each other good luck. I get a text message from my mother saying she will be watching me from her house in a deserted part of Sweden.



And I am grateful that we are all still together apart and can meet at the tables in the online bridge world. Thank you to all of you for joining us. Play with your minds, but also your hearts. Let the Christmas Mixed Teams begin.

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

Monday December 7

10:30 EST / 16:30 CET – Round 1 (14 boards)

12:50 EST / 18:50 CET – Round 2 (14 boards)

15:10 EST / 21:10 CET – Round 3 (14 boards)

Draw Round 1

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
<u>1</u>	 <u>ISRASWE</u>	 <u>ULI</u>
<u>2</u>	 <u>EPSILON</u>	 <u>PENFOLD</u>
<u>3</u>	 <u>ALPERT</u>	 <u>PARKER</u>
<u>4</u>	 <u>SANTA-TOMTE ALLIANCE</u>	 <u>MEDIUM RARE</u>
<u>5</u>	 <u>KLEOPATRA</u>	 <u>AUSTERLITZ</u>
<u>6</u>	 <u>ISRAEL</u>	 <u>SWEDEN MIXED</u>
<u>7</u>	 <u>KODA</u>	 <u>KOEPEL</u>
<u>8</u>	 <u>ABISCO</u>	 <u>GRANT THORNTON ICELAND</u>
<u>9</u>	 <u>MAUBERQUEZ</u>	 <u>FLYING BURROS</u>
<u>10</u>	 <u>BULLDOGS</u>	 <u>MINITER</u>

Format

Ten rounds of swiss (14 boards/match). The top 8 teams qualify for the quarter-finals on Thursday.

Besides round 1, all draws will be based on the result of the previous match.

See the CoC in this bulletin or on mmt.bridgeresults.org/ for more info.

Results

Future events
mmt.bridgeresults.org

What's in a Name

by Christina Lund Madsen



Readers of the early Alt bulletins will remember this article-series.

The creativity is of different variety when it comes to our participants' BBO-aliases. Below we present some of our contestants and reveal the origin of some of the more creative nicknames.

Gunn Tove Vist (dronninga) plays on the Norwegian team Abisco. Dronninga means Queen in Norwegian. During her teenage years Gunn Tove tried unsuccessfully to make her friends refer to her as "Dronninga", and later she tried equally unsuccessfully to seduce the Crown Prince of Norway. But on BBO she is the Queen.

On the same team we find Anne Bi Fossum (skvisi). It is Finnish for squeeze. She is Norwegian, but as we know Scandinavians are all the same.

Next up we have some juniors on team Santa-Tomte Alliance (Tomte means Santa in Swedish).

Alexander Sandin (stridsvagn). This Swedish junior has one of the most subtle nicknames. Stridsvagn is the Swedish word for "tank", which is American bridge-slang for taking a looong time to think. So instead of being "in the tank", he will be "in the stridsvagn."

Sanna Clementsson (237425). When far too many people ask you "Do you wanna play online some time? What is your BBO-name?"



We stay in Scandinavia a bit.

Brian Senior (malmo1) of team Penfold. Your name is Brian Senior, you are English and you choose the name of a city in Southern Sweden as your BBO-name. Obvious choice.

Yet to my surprise it was not the only Swedish city on BBO, since Suzanne Lemborn (karlstad) picked a city a little further to the North. In her defense she used to live in Karlstad.

We continue with the geography theme. One team Koepfel we find Raluca Dobrescu (ralooka). One would think Raluca would be a fine BBO-nick in itself, but she chose the Jamaican version of her name.

Speaking of inspiration from foreign languages, Øyvind Saur (saurdinio) also chose to use the Italian version of his surname.

On team Alpert we find Dan Israeli (dan_ehh). This is how he used to introduce himself to girls when he was 15.

Emmanuelle Monod (mafraise1) from the French team Mauberquez. Ma fraise means “my strawberry” in French. To my knowledge a strawberry is a symbol of female sensuality, supported by google:

"The history of the strawberry dates back to Ancient Rome where the fruit was considered the symbol of Venus, the goddess of love, because of its bright red color and enticing taste. Later, the berry became a symbol of fertility due to its many exterior seeds."

Not sure whether this is what Emmanuelle intended, but who does not want to be Goddess of Love?

Her teammate Donatella Halfon (atella) chose the name she wished her parents had named her, since dumb foreigners always think Don Atella is a man because the only other Dons we know are Don Juan and Don Corleone.



Patricia Bullock

Patricia Herrera (bulock) from Flying Burros. The Mexican version of Sandra Bullock (either that or she misspelled by accident).

From Grant Thornton Iceland we find Sveinn Runar Eiriksson (icemachine). He is from Iceland and plays like a machine. Perfect.

Audrey Rennels (annebabe). To put it in captain Icemachine's words: “Every team needs a babe.”

Their teammate Ali Hussein El-Selehdar (sale7dar) accidentally hit the 7 key while typing his username.

Ophir Herbst (herbst) and Ilan Herbst (ilanh) from Israel. When your annoying brother made his username before you.

Geir Brekka (kaninen) from Norwegian Kleopatra. Kaninen is Norwegian for “the Rabbit”. His wife is a very happy woman.



Dan Israeli
Photo: Peg Kaplan

Teams / Players / Nicknames

ABISCO

Christian Bakke	chmien
Kåre Bogø	osvaill83
Anne Bi Fossum	skvisi
Jo Arne Ovesen	jo-arne
Ranja Sivertsvik	ranja
Haldor Sunde	haldor
Ingunn Uran	ingunn
Gunn Tove Vist	dronninga

ALPERT

Claire Alpert	clairee2
Leonardo Fruscolini	Frusco
Carlos Hoyos	Charlie111
Alfredo Versace	nevaio
Janice Seamon-Molson	Janicem
Dan Israeli	dan_ehh
Carol Low	
Giorgia Botta	Gio 89

AUSTERLITZ

Brigitte Aubonnet	hochette
Patrick Bogacki	reims2012
Blandine Delestre	bb75
Daniel Delestre	tkcpdd
François Joligeon	fjoligeon
Georges Romanowski	jrom
Martine Rossard	biglum
Valérie Sauvage	vals51

BULLDOGS

Kim Gilman	kim4930
Bob McCaw	bob mcc
James Rasmussen	jrr
Sarah Sykes	salpal

EPSILON

Julien Bernard	mihawk_
Bénédicte Cronier	patapon
Philippe Cronier	phicro2
Jennifer Mourgues	nini40
Dominique Portal	epsilon

FLYING BURROS

Rubén Darío Cabrera	rdca11
Gonzalo Herrera	gonzalo h
Patricia Herrera	bulock
Jeff Roman	jeffroman
Miriam Rosenberg	miriamrose

GRANT THORNTON ICELAND

Sveinn Runar Eiriksson	icemachine
Ali Hussein El-Selehdar	sale7dar
Korin Niv	korinina
Audrey Rennels	annebabe
Rasha Fathy Saad	rsaad20
Mina Nabil Sawires	sawires
Moataz Osama Fouda	M Fouda

ISRAEL

Ronnie Barr Benin	ronniebarr
Ilan Herbst	ilanh
Micky Herbst	mh111
Ophir Herbst	herbst
Nathalie Saada	natsa
Yaniv Zack	yanivz

ISRASWE

Ilan Bareket	bareket
Michael Barel	mich-b
Tommy Bergdahl	lingonback
Paz Katz	paz_k
Jessica Larsson	jela79
Jorgen Molberg	juve_
Emma Ovelius	emma sj
Dana Tal	danat85
Noga Tal	nogatal

KLEOPATRA

Lise Blaagestad	mslise
Liv Marit Grude	kompis
Øyvind Saur	saurdinio
Geir Brekka	kaninen
Ann Karin Fuglestad	annkafu
Harald Eide	hareide

Teams / Players / Nicknames

KODA

Jenni Carmichael	moonbeam42
Tom Carmichael	tomc
Joshua Donn	jdonn
Christal Henner	christal
Uday Ivatury	uday
Sheri Winestock	sheri

KOEPPPEL

Raluca Dobrescu	ralooka
Ted Greenberg	ted greenb
Lynne Koeppele	lgkoeppele
Mustafa Tokay	tokay1975

MAUBERQUEZ

Dominique Bourdin	corali
Guillaume Fauconnier	guillaumef
Donatella Halfon	atella
David Harari	sarroumane
Erick Maubquerque	mauber
Emmanuelle Monod	mafraise1
Christophe Oursel	chris3108
Catherine Sarian	flamby

MEDIUM RARE

Lapt Chan	lapt
Shelley Fehrenbach	bignana1
Jan Jansma	jan_jansma
Betty Levin	levin123
Cenk Tuncok	ctuncok

MINITER

Kevin Bathurst	kmb24
John Hurd	johnhurd
Christina Lund Madsen	christinas
Gillian Minitier	gillian
Max Rotaru	maxentius
Jenny Wolpert	rymanjenny

PARKER

Giovanni Donati	giova007
Adam Grossack	nevereast
Chris Parker	cmp56
Stewart Rubenstein	stewr
Anam Tebha	anamtebha
Irene Baroni	princi

PENFOLD

Sandra Penfold	mrsp22
Kay Preddy	k preddy
Norman Selway	jespersens
Brian Senior	malmo1

SANTA-TOMTE ALLIANCE

Karl Asplund	k asplund
Peter Boyd-Bowman	pjbb
Sanna Clementsson	237425
Alexander Sandin	stridsvagn
Sara Sivelind	sara s
Alix Taylor	alixtay

SWEDEN MIXED

Nils Åhlén	ahlni10
Gunnar Andersson	guand
Lars Goldberg	mrgold
Ulla-Britt Goldberg	ullan
Eva Gunnarsson	spaderdam1
Fredrik Jarlvik	freddy6
Michael Lemborn	fusen1
Suzanne Lemborn	karlstad
Gudrun Strandberg	norsken28
Tatyana Trendafilova	tuti

ULI

Caterina Burgio	dariolp
Francesco Mazzadi	uppino
Gabriella Olivieri	ollina
Federico Primavera	fulldire
Ulrike Schuster	chrispe1
Walter Schuster	schustmozz

The Adventure of Jack the Lad

By Mark Horton



Having enjoyed one of Mrs.Hudson's delightful late night suppers, Sherlock Holmes and Dr.Watson were enjoying a second glass of the Cockburn 1847 as they prepared to review the deals from the evening's duplicate at the Diogenes Club. Pausing only to recharge his pipe with a mixture of Old Shag from one of his Persian slippers, Holmes presented Dr. Watson with these cards:

Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ K 9 8 6 5
♥ A Q
♦ 5 3 2
♣ Q 5 4

♠ A 3
♥ K J 10 7 6
♦ K 10
♣ A 8 7 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Mycroft	Watson	Lestrade	Holmes
—	—	Pass	1NT
3♦	3♥*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

When Mycroft overcalled 3♦ Watson took the opportunity to adopt one of Holmes' innovative ideas by responding 3♥, which promised a minimum of five spades and invitational values.

'You will recall the hand, Watson. It may be suitable for your next book, The Bridge Adventures of Sherlock Holmes'.

'Indeed I do Holmes, although I cannot for the life of me see how you worked it out', replied Watson.

Mycroft led the ♠J and Holmes won with the ace, crossed to the ♥A, overtook the ♥Q with the king and cashed the ♥J10. On the third round of the suit East discarded the ♣3 and then threw the ♦9 on the fourth heart.

Having paused for reflection, Holmes continued with a spade to the ace, West following with the seven, and called for dummy's ♣4. When East followed with the ten, Holmes followed with the two! West won the trick with the jack, and having only diamonds had to surrender a trick to the ♦K, giving Holmes his contract.

This was the layout:

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

'How the deuce did you know that Mycroft held the singleton ♣J?' enquired Watson.



Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson

'I did not', replied Holmes, 'but unless he did, or for that matter the singleton king, then the contract could not be made.'

'When dummy appeared my immediate thoughts were that West was likely to hold the ♣K for his intervention. Knowing that I almost certainly did not have three-card support for your spades his ♠J might easily be a singleton. If East could gain the lead a diamond lead would be fatal so it was essential at all costs to avoid that eventuality. My cunning plan was to remove all the major suit cards from West's hand and then play two rounds of clubs, hoping to achieve an endplay. When West proved to have four hearts it was possible that he had started with a 1-4-6-2 pattern, in which case I could now continue with my plan by cashing the ♣A. However, I first took the precaution of playing a second round of spades, crossing to dummy's ace. Had West shown out I would have played two rounds of clubs. The appearance of the ♠7 forced me to revise my plan.'

'Why was that, Holmes?'

'You know my methods, Watson. West was known to hold two spades and four hearts. His bid of 3♦ proclaimed at least a six-card suit, but East's discard of ♦9 could not be a singleton, as he would not surrender the only link to his partner's hand. So, now I could be confident that West was 2-4-6-1. If East were to be kept of lead it was essential that his singleton club be either the jack or king.'

'I see', said Watson, 'but why didn't you cash the first heart before playing the second spade?'

'Because, my dear fellow, it would have afforded West the opportunity to dispose of the ♣J.'

'Incredible Holmes.'

'Elementary, my dear Watson.'

(In slang terms, Jack the Lad refers to a 'flash, cocksure young man'. I have seen the phrase adapted to Jill the Lass although I suspect the precise definition would not be the same!)

DISCOVER THE NEW

BeBRIDGE

♥♦♦♦ by Le Bridgeur

THE NOVEMBER ISSUE
HAS JUST BEEN
RELEASED!



In this issue

The latest, **festive edition of BeBRIDGE** is full of tremendous articles. **Alain Levy** shows you how to handle strong two-suited hands, emphasising the use of reverses and jump shifts. He also highlights **the use of Splinter bids by the opener**. **Wilfred Libbrecht** shows you how to be innovative in the 'sandwich' seat and **the Editor** reports on the **Online ALT events**. Our Experts offer their opinions on **some tricky bidding problems** and **Cinema Club** looks at **the work of the master of Suspense, Alfred Hitchcock**.

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Conditions of Contest • Christmas Mixed Teams

1. The 2020 December Mixed Teams will be hosted in Bridge Base Online from 7th to 11th of December, 2020.

2. All participants are bound by the regulations within this document.

All players are welcome to register, yet some can be refused at the discretion of the organizer.

Teams can consist of 4 – 10 players. If necessary, more players can be added during the event.

At the moment teams and/or players are registered, they automatically agree to play according to the conditions in this document.

Should a team be disqualified and/or withdraw by their own choice (before or during the event), there will be no refund of entry fees.

3. Schedule of play:

Monday 7 - Wednesday 9 December 2020
10:30 EST / 16:30 CET – Round 1 (14 boards)
12:50 EST / 18:50 CET – Round 2 (14 boards)
15:10 EST / 21:10 CET – Round 3 (14 boards)

Thursday 10 December 2020
10:30 EST/16:30 CET – Round 10 (14 boards)
13:20 EST / 19:20 CET – Quarterfinal
(28 boards)

Friday, 11 December 2020
10:00 EST / 16:00 CET – Semifinal
(28 boards)
14:30 EST / 20:30 CET – Final (28 boards)

4. Qualifying Stage

The qualifying stage will be played as a Swiss and will consist of 140 boards played in 10 matches of 14 boards each.

The results of each match shall be converted into Victory Points in accordance with the appropriate WBF IMP/VP scales (see p. 10 below).

In the Swiss stage, any possible errors in assigning opponents shall not invalidate the result of that, or any other, match.

In case of an odd number of teams the bye team will receive 12 VPs.

In the event of two or more teams having the same number of Victory Points, their rankings will be determined as follows:

The total VPs of each team's opponents ("Swiss Points") is calculated and the team with the largest number of "Swiss Points" is ranked first, and so on. If two or more teams have the same number of "Swiss Points", their rankings will be determined by their relative IMP quotients.

The top 8 teams from the Swiss qualifying stage will advance to the knockout stage.

5. Knockout Stage

Before the start of the knockout stage a fixed (standard) bracket will be created and the teams placed 1st – 4th in the Swiss will be seeded no. 1 – 4.

The teams placed 1st – 3rd in the Swiss, in that order, get to choose their opponents from the teams placed 5th – 8th.

Conditions of Contest • Christmas Mixed Teams

Those teams are assigned seed no. 8 – 6 respectively. The team placed 4th in the Swiss will play the quarterfinal against the remaining team which is seeded as no. 5.

Quarterfinal and semifinal will be played over 1 segment of 28 boards with possible change of the line-up after 14 boards (see p. 6 below).

Final will be played over 28 boards, 2 separate segments of 14 boards each.

There will be the following carry over:
In the quarterfinal no. 1-4 get a carry over of 10.1 – 6.1 – 3.1 – 1.1 IMP respectively.
In the semifinal and the final the higher ranked teams in the Swiss get a carry over of 0.1 IMP as a tiebreaker.

6. Line-Up

All matches of the Swiss qualifying stage will be played without change of the line-up; unless there is a valid reason for a change, to be decided by the TD.

In the quarterfinals and semifinals change of the line-up is possible after 14 boards as long as no player can change the compass direction (so East will stay East and so on).

The final will consist of 2 separate segments, so there are no restrictions on the line-up.

Teams are expected to submit their line-up as soon as practical but in any case not later than 30 minutes before the start of the round.

Teams who infringe this regulation will be subject to VP penalties according to this scale:

1st occasion – warning. 2nd and any subsequent occasion – 0.5 VP penalty.

The line-up must be submitted through the line-up web utility. All captains will be provided with the link and password.

It is possible to change the submitted line-up but not later than 30 minutes before the start of the round.

The line-up is completely blind and will not be published before the start of the round.

7. Running the matches

All players involved must be online and logged in to Bridge Base Online 10 minutes before the start of the round at the latest.

Players must have their official name on their BBO profile. Private isn't allowed. Teams who infringe this regulation will be subject to VP penalties according to this scale:

1st occasion – warning;
2nd and any subsequent occasion – 0.5 VP penalty for each match for each player without official name on BBO profile.

The Tournament Director will create the tables and send invitations to the players in accordance with the submitted line-ups. Players are requested to accept the invitation immediately upon receipt.

All tables will play duplicated boards (same boards for every team).

The table settings will allow kibitzers but forbid communication between players and kibitzers.

Conditions of Contest • Christmas Mixed Teams

Barometer scoring will be OFF. The scores are only visible (for the players) after the last board has been played. Kibitzers can see the scores during the match.

Undo and claiming: MMT encourages the players to accept the opponent's undo in the obvious misclick situations during the bidding as well as play. In case such undo is refused a player gets one "challenge" whereby the TD can be summoned to the table. Play must be shut down till the TD arrives. The TD will assess the situation, and if he believes the undo is justified by an obvious misclick that no reasonable player should refuse, the undo has to be accepted by the opponents.

Players alert their own bids. Bids must be alerted before entering the bids. If you don't alert before making your bid, your opponent may think that your bid is natural, make his/her bid, then see the Alert and legitimately ask for an undo in case the information changes his/her perspectives.

If players explain bids via chat they should set the recipients to Opponents, not Table, so that only opponents see the explanation not partner. The best way is to explain the bids via the BBO alert mechanism.

Players may not consult their own system card and use any aids to their memory or calculation or technique between the commencement of the auction and the end of play.

The gravest possible offence is for a partnership to exchange information through non-public communication or (individual) players self-kibitzing.

If players experience highly suspicious plays, we encourage you to send a report to the organizers at mmt@bridgeresults.org. We will not reveal your name as source.

Players are expected to finish 14 boards within 1 hour 50 minutes, 28 boards within 3 hours 40 minutes. The Tournament Director may remove unplayed boards if in his opinion a delay in finishing the match in the allotted time would interfere with the smooth running of the competition.

8. Request of the TD ruling

The Mixed Team strongly encourages participants to play in the most respectful way. Any player can summon the Director to the table in case of irregularities.

The time for a request for a TD ruling expires 30 minutes after the end of the match. All requests will be decided by a qualified Director (if appropriate - in consultation with other directors and/or world class players); no further appeal will be possible after the TD's decision.

To submit protests, you should send email to: mmt@bridgeresults.org

9. These Regulations may be amended and augmented at the discretion of the organizing committee if circumstances so warrant so as to ensure the smooth, efficient and enjoyable execution of the events.

Although the MMT are not aligned with any bridge organization, we will cooperate with all authorities and provide all information necessary to detect and prevent cheating.



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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!