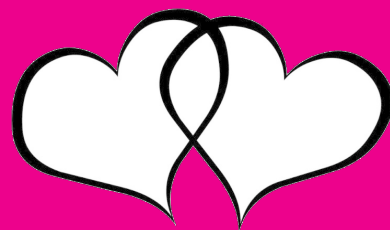


MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS • MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG

An Emotional Day

As the competition moves into the last round of the Swiss, an intense fight for the top 8 spots begin. Santa-Tomte Alliance has taken a narrow lead ahead of Israswe with Grant Thornton Iceland dropping to third. Uli and Koda are also comfortable with a score of over 100 VPs, but less than 8 VPs separate the teams ranked 6-14 and even Kleopatra in 15th have a shot at qualifying. So we are in for an exciting day.

Our TD was busy yesterday and is now demanding a raise. ☺ We remind everyone to do their best to alert all bids, be careful when you click on bids and most importantly, be cordial towards your opponents.

We have decided to heighten the security today by closing for kibitzers as the competition enters the final stages.

We are considering vugraph options for future events, because we love to offer bridge fans the possibility to follow the action.



Alix Taylor and Peter Boyd-Bowman
from Santa-Tomte Alliance

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 December 10

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

13:20 EST / 19:20 CET – Q-final (28 boards)

Draw Round 10

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

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

Results after Round 9

Use of Zoom

Using Zoom with one of your opponents is not mandatory in this event. Yet we encourage it for social reasons. It is much more like live bridge and makes it easier to ask questions to your screenmate about system and carding.

At the start of a round, North can send a zoom link to East and West a zoom link to South or the other way around. As with screens, it is always North-East and South-West interacting.

Email addresses aren't needed - you can simply send a private message via BBO to your screenmate with a link. It's very easy and enjoyable.

Nothing can replace live bridge, but let's strive for the best bridge we can until we are back at the tables.

[Link to Zoom](#)

Ranking after round 9		
rk	team	VPs
1	 SANTA-TOMTE ALLIANCE	117.31
2	 ISRASWE	116.64
3	 GRANT THORNTON ICELAND	108.27
4	 ULI	107.48
5	 KODA	102.96
6	 EPSILON	93.42
7	 ABISCO	93.30
8	 MINITER	93.13
9	 SWEDEN MIXED	91.84
10	 PENFOLD	89.43
11	 MAUBERQUEZ	89.02
12	 KOEPEL	88.50
13	 PARKER	88.27
14	 AUSTERLITZ	85.87
15	 KLEOPATRA	81.28
16	 FLYING BURROS	80.99
17	 ISRAEL	78.30
18	 MEDIUM RARE	75.95
19	 ALPERT	66.76
20	 BULLDOGS	51.28

Victim of the Day

Dana Tal

by Christina Lund Madsen



How old are you, where are you from, where do you live, what is your family status?

- I'm 35 years old, from Israel. Originally from Haifa and for more than 7 years living in Tel-Aviv. 'Married' (no gay marriage here) to Sivan and mother of 2-year old Goni.

What is your educational background and what do you do for a living?

- I have a degree in Information Systems Engineering from the Technion and working as a computer programmer.

How have you spent your time during corona in Israel and how has the country fared?

- Got to France for skiing on Monday. On Wednesday, Israel announced a quarantine for all returning from France. ☺
So now I get to travel inhouse much more, and working from home which is a dream come true.
On the other hand, social distancing is really hard for Israelis - it's a new term for us all. With upsides and downsides of course.

As for the decisions made here - catastrophe - everything political, no thinking ahead and this is due to the very complicated political situation Israel stands in. Dreaming of better days around here. And counting the damages till then.

In Israel I believe all women have to serve their time in the military. How was that, what did you learn?

Indeed, the army here is pretty much mandatory. But as in every big institution, many don't do much including myself back then. I was some kind of clerk. However, I did spend time in the army playing lots of bridge with Michael Barel, and that made me fall in love with this game. Until then mostly enjoyed all of its surroundings - travelling, getting attention etc.

Name an event that made a big impression on you.

- An Israeli female protester named Daphni Leef that started a protest movement (*Israeli social justice protests in 2011 gathered demonstrations with hundreds of thousands Israelis/ed.*) and unlike others didn't go to the dirty politics, but went to do good in every other possible way.

Tell us about an early childhood memory.

- Summers with my family in the U.S.A. We had a BBB-tradition - Bridge, Burger King and Bowling almost every day. It was perfect.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- My parents were two years for work in the U.S.A. I was 6 years old, Noga 9 years old and our parents taught us. Even today, you can find the four of us playing each other on BBO. It usually ends with mutual criticism all around. ☺

What is the best memory bridge has given you? It does not have to be bridge related.

- Winning with Noga the Israeli first division league. We had a terrible start (minus 1400 on a stupid misunderstanding) and managed to beat a considered to be much better team.

What is it like playing with your sister?

- The best. We know each other's styles, we can talk bridge forever and we have compassion when one makes a mistake. Personally, the biggest downside of Corona era besides limitations on family meetings is missing Madera. The most fun ever are these championships together.

How would Noga describe you in three words?

- I would guess kind, relaxed and informal. When I actually asked her, she said: pragmatic, empathetic and family-oriented.

What interests do you have outside of bridge?

- I like reading, travelling, hiking and also the regular stuff - Netflix, hanging out with friends and family etc.

You discovered you prefer women at a late age. How was that for you and what is the view on homosexuality in Israel?

- Discovering was pretty surprising... long story, for another time. But better late than never. Israel is quite funny in that matter - dissonance between many very progressed rules (especially around gay parenting) and one of the biggest pride events of the world is in Tel-Aviv. However Homophobia is here when you get out of the big cities and the government is very conservative, so no gay marriage and other formalities.



Tell us something that very few people know about you.

- My dream is being a psychologist.

If you could give your teenage self an advice, what would it be?

- Go to the scouts (the ones that travel). It looks really fun!

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Gunn Tove Vist, Benedicte Cronier and Yaniv Zack?

- I would kiss Jacco (Yaniv Zack) - any woman I kiss, Sivan won't like it, so... Benedicte is so adorable - would sure love to play with her. Sorry Gunn Tove...

A Defensive Duo

By Mark Horton



There is no doubt that defending is tough. Just like declarer, a defender must form a picture of the unseen hands, especially that of declarer. Take a look at these two deals from the match between Santa-Tomte Alliance and Koepfel:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Dobrescu	Clementsson	Greenberg	Sandin
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

South led the ♣K and switched to the ♠4. That gave declarer a chance, but it is not obvious to go up with dummy's queen. When declarer played dummy's ♠9 the jack forced the ace and there were four losers, -50.

The perfect defence is for South to switch to a trump. If declarer wins in dummy and plays a diamond North takes the ace and switches to a spade.

Declarer can win with the ace and pitch two clubs on diamonds, but when the defenders regain the lead a second trump will leave declarer with a second diamond loser as well as a spade.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sivelind	Tokay	Asplund	Koepfel
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

South led the ♣A and found the heart switch! Declarer won in hand and played a second club and South took the king and must now play a second heart. Declarer can win in dummy and pitch a spade on the ♣Q, but will lose two diamonds.

Lynne Koepfel found the excellent heart-shift





Alas, South continued with the ♣10 and declarer could win in dummy pitching a spade and play a diamond. North took the ace and played a heart, but declarer could win in hand and ruff a diamond to get up to ten tricks, +420 and 10 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Dobrescu	Clementsson	Greenberg	Sandin
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Dble*	3♥*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♣ Game forcing, 3+♣
 Dble Take out
 3♥ Splinter

East led the ♥3 and West won with the king as declarer pitched a diamond from dummy. The ♥9 was covered by the ten and jack, another diamond going from dummy. Unsure of the heart position, East exited with the ♦3 and declarer won with the jack, cashed two of dummy's clubs and then played the ♠3, playing the four from her hand. That was well reasoned as East won with the ace, but there still appeared to be no way to get more than eight tricks.

East exited with a heart and declarer ducked West's eight pitching a spade from dummy. West exited with the ♣J and declarer won with dummy's queen and played a spade to the king. East, down to ♥Q7 ♦Q108 had to make a discard. The position should have been clear, but when East threw the ♥7 declarer could claim the last four tricks, +600.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sivelind	Tokay	Asplund	Koeppel
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

2♥ Transfer

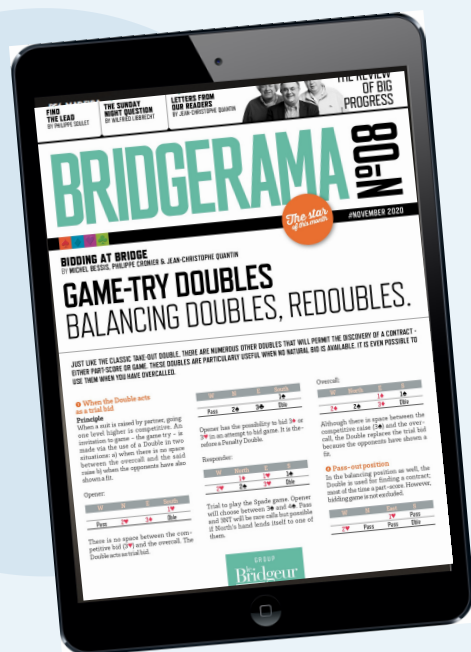
East led the ♥2 and declarer took West's king with the ace discarding dummy's ♠3. A club to the ace was followed by a diamond to the jack and East won with the queen and continued with the ♥3, declarer winning with the ten as another spade went from dummy. Declarer cashed the ♦A and when West threw the ♠2 he took dummy's top clubs, came to hand with a diamond and exited with a heart. East's hand was high, -200 and a 13 IMP

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Roman Courage

by Christina Lund Madsen



Without further introduction, let us take a look at a slam from round 9.

Board 7. S / All

♠ J 9 3
 ♥ A 9 7 6 2
 ♦ J 4
 ♣ J 7 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 6 4 2
 ♥ J 8 4
 ♦ A Q 2
 ♣ K Q 2

♠ A K T 5
 ♥ K T 5
 ♦ T
 ♣ A T 8 6 4

♠ 8 7
 ♥ Q 3
 ♦ K 9 8 7 6 5 3
 ♣ 9 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Miniter	Sivelind	Hurd	Asplund
—	—	—	3♦
Pass	4♦	Dble	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

This was the last match yesterday, so Karl Asplund's children were sound asleep and will not suffer from nightmares after seeing their father opening 3♦ with this hand.

As any good wife would, Sivelind supported her husband. Hurd entered with a double, and Minter had an awkward problem with her 4333 14-count. She chose 4♠, not unreasonable with bad shape and so many diamond values and 3NT not an option, and the pair rested *ici*.



Karl Asplund and Sara Sivelind
Photo: Swedish Bridge Federation

Passing would have netted 800, but would not make much difference since this was the auction at the other table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Taylor	Madsen	Boyd-Bowman	Rotaru
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣*	Pass	5♦*	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

South led the ♦9 and declarer won the ace to ruff a diamond. He cashed the ♠A and played a club to the king and ruffed the last diamond, North pitching a club.

He cashed the ♠K and played a club to the queen, closing his eyes. When North followed, he could claim 12 tricks for +1430.

North happened to be me and as the auction proceeded with cuebids I remember thinking "I am so underleading my ♥A". I have underled aces twice this event and it has not been a success so far, but I figure if I keep doing it, it must be right at some point.

When the auction finished I realized I was not on lead, and it was even worse to see that this time it would have been golden.

That made my excitement even greater when I saw one team had gone down 2 in 6♠. Was it a misclick/play or could it be...?

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Grude	Roman	Saur	Herrera
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♠	All Pass

In Norway they actually open 1♠ on hands like this. 2NT was GF, 3♣ was natural and not minimum, 3♠ asked for singles. When Grude showed one ace, Saur did not bother to ask for the ♠Q, but simply jumped to slam.

Roman was on lead on what looked like a very convincing auction, and knowing there was no shortness in declarer's hand, he led the ♥2!

Tada! His partner obligingly inserted the queen and returned the suit and even a ruff in return.



Jeff Roman and Patricia Herrera.
Roman is to the left.

That gave the Flying Burros 13 IMPs as game was the end station at the other table.

Brian Senior got the chance to copy Roman's lead:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Dobrescu	Senior	Greenberg	Penfold
—	—	—	3♦
Dble	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

As much as I would like to blame Brian, I think he made the only sensible lead on this auction.

Blandine and Daniel Delestre also bid and made 6♠, the rest were in game.



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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!