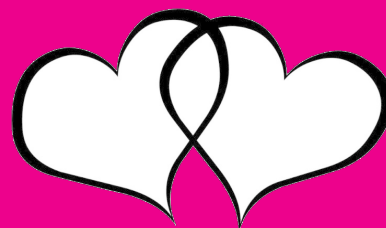


# MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS • [MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG](http://MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG)

## Miniter's Moment

Our two semifinals between Abisco-Israswe and Minitier-Mauberquez ended with the same margin - 1.1 IMPs to the advantage of Israswe and Minitier.

In the final Minitier built up a strong lead in the second set that almost evaporated towards the end. The US-based team held on, and a little past midnight in Europe, Minitier (Gillian Minitier, John Hurd, Kevin Bathurst, Jenny Wolpert, Max Rotaru, Christina Lund Madsen and Ton Bakkeren) defeated Israswe (Ilan Bareket, Michael Barel, Tommy Bergdahl, Paz Katz, Jessica Larsson, Jorgen Molberg, Emma Ovelius, Dana Tal, Noga Tal, Migry Zur Campanile) by 70 - 59.1.

And while some of us sat at home in our pajamas not having showered for two days, others went to Nobu in New York to celebrate...



John Hurd and Gillian Minitier at Nobu

### Upcoming MMT Events in 2021

January Mixed Teams	11-15	Open for Registration
February Mixed Teams	22 - 26	
St. Louis Mixed Teams	8-12 March*	
March Mixed Teams	22-26	







\*Should the NABC in St. Louis against all odds take place, this event will be cancelled.

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## Results

### SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 <a href="#">MINITER</a>	0.1	<u>29</u>	29.1	<u>11</u>	40.1
 <a href="#">MAUBERQUEZ</a>		<u>23</u>	23	<u>16</u>	39

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 <a href="#">ISRASWE</a>	0.1	<u>25</u>	25.1	<u>29</u>	54.1
 <a href="#">ABISCO</a>		<u>19</u>	19	<u>34</u>	53

### FINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
 <a href="#">ISRASWE</a>	0.1	<u>30</u>	30.1	<u>29</u>	59.1
 <a href="#">MINITER</a>		<u>32</u>	32	<u>38</u>	70

**Thank you to all participants for your  
enthusiasm and entertainment.  
We hope to see you back in January 2021**

**Future events  
[mmt.bridgerresults.org](http://mmt.bridgerresults.org)**

**All Results**

# Helping Hand Quarterfinal

By Mark Horton



When I delivered my copy for yesterday's Bulletin the Editor asked if I would watch the quarter-finals. I told her I would only write if I saw something interesting. Does this deal qualify?

## Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sivertsvik	Tharwat	Sunde	Niv
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

In the other room NS had stopped in 3NT.

East led the ♣9 - how should declarer play?

One possibility is to play to ruff two diamonds in dummy and that is what the other two declarers in 6♥ did. They won

the lead with dummy's king and then played three rounds of diamonds. Alas, East ruffed in forcing declarer to ruff with dummy's jack and there was now no play for the contract.

Suppose you win the first club in hand with the ace and then play three rounds of diamonds? East ruffs in, but you overruff, draw trumps and still have the chance that the ♠K will be onside.

At this table, declarer did win the club lead with the ace, but she then cashed the ♥A and played two rounds of spades, making easily on this lie of the cards. As long as the spades are 3-3 it won't matter if the king is offside, but if they are 4-2 with king offside....



Ranja Sivertsvik

# Close Encounters

## Semifinals

by Christina Lund Madsen



Both semifinals ended with close to the smallest possible margin, 1.1 IMP (the .1 is the carry-over for higher ranked team in the Swiss in the case of a tie).

Yet from a kibitzer point of view, the boards were not the most exhilarating with many pushes and partscores. One board created a big swing in both matches.

### Board 10. E / All

<p>♠ 3</p> <p>♥ A J 5</p> <p>♦ K 8 7 6 2</p> <p>♣ Q 8 6 5</p>	<p>♠ A T 8 7 6 4 2</p> <p>♥ Q 8</p> <p>♦ A 9</p> <p>♣ K 7</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ Q 9 5</p> <p>♥ T</p> <p>♦ J T 5 3</p> <p>♣ A T 9 3 2</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>♠ K J</p> <p>♥ K 9 7 6 4 3 2</p> <p>♦ Q 4</p> <p>♣ J 4</p>												

All Four tables landed in 4♥ after heart-opening and rebid in South.

In Abisco vs. Israswe, Anne Bi Fossum led the ♣6. That helped declarer Dana Tal solve that suit, but also put her partner on lead to play the ♦J through declarer's queen. Down 1 after West also got her two heart tricks. It looks easy, right?

At the other table Larsson made the same lead, but here Molberg in the East seat

inserted the ♣9, which is right if partner led from Jxx or Qxx.

Declarer played a heart to the queen and a heart back to West's jack. Larsson continued clubs, East winning but failed to find the diamond shift. When he continued clubs, Sivertsvik could play ♠K and a spade towards the ace and set up the suit with entry on the ♦A, while Larsson had the luxury of choosing when to get her trump ace. +620 meant 12 IMPs for Abisco.

In Minitier vs. Mauberquez both Wests led their singleton spade to South's jack.

Dominique Bourdin continued with a heart to the queen and a heart back to West's jack. Now Gillian Minitier did well not to cash her heart ace, since if she then exits a club and declarer guesses right, the diamond loser disappears on a spade (declarer overtakes the king with the ace and ruffs a spade with entry on the ♦A).

Minitier returned a club, Bourdin guessing to play low from dummy, and now Hurd in the East seat found the diamond switch to doom the contract. Minitier got in with her ♥A in time to play a diamond to her partner's ten.

At the other table the first two tricks were the same, but when the ♥Q held, Wolpert played a spade to her king, west pitching a diamond. Wolpert continued trumps, West won and cashed the ♥A and returned a club. When Wolpert played low, it was the same 12 IMPs for Minitier.

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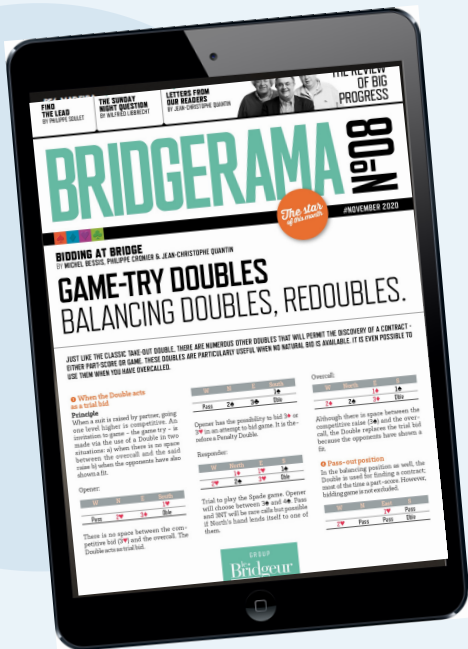
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# The Winning Edge

## The Final

By Mark Horton



Unlike the semifinals, which from a kibitzer point of view were a rather dull affaire, there were some great deals in the final. These three saw significant swings:

### Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

### Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Miniter	Barel	Hurd	Katz
—	1♦	Pass	2♣*
Dble	3♣	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	7♣	All Pass	

- 2♣ Game forcing
- 3♠ Stopper
- 4NT RKCB
- 5♥ 2 key cards

From North's point of view, the only risk was that South might hold three small diamonds. +1440.

### Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bareket	Bathurst	N Tal	Wolpert
—	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥*
Dble	Rdbl	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	6♣*	All Pass	

- 2♥ Game forcing
- 4♦ RKCB
- 4♠ 0 or 3 key cards
- 4NT ♣Q
- 6♣ Yes

Some pairs play that North's redouble promises the ♥A.

Would you as South have been tempted to play partner for the ♦AK and go on to 7♣? You would have saved 11 IMPs.

### Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Minter	Barel	Hurd	Katz
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥*
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♠
All Pass			



Michael Barel and Paz Katz

## 2♥ Game forcing

West led the ♥2 and declarer ruffed in dummy, ruffed a diamond, drew trumps, cashed one more spade and then played the ♣9 to dummy's ten, claiming the rest when it lost to East's queen, +980.

A trump lead is more testing. One option for declarer is to play in the style of Harrison Grey, running the long suit to see what happens. After six rounds of spades these cards remain:

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

Now declarer plays the ♣9 and runs it. East cannot afford to win, so declarer continues with the last spade pitching a club from dummy as West parts with a heart. East can't spare a club, so must part with a red card.

If he throws the ♦9 declarer plays the ♣K and if West pitches another heart declarer can play two rounds of hearts endplaying whoever wins. If West pitches a diamond declarer overtakes the ♣K with dummy's ace cashes two tricks in diamonds and then exits with a club, securing the last trick with the ♥A. It's a similar story if East pitches the ♦Q.

If East throws the ♥ declarer cashes the ♣. If West discards a heart declarer can play two rounds of hearts. Discarding a diamond allows declarer to exit with a low heart and East is endplayed.

Finally, if East discards the ♥K declarer cashes the ♣K and exits with a low heart, endplaying West.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bareket	Bathurst	N Tal	Wolpert
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

## 2♥ Game forcing



Jenny Wolpert

North led the ♥4 and South won with the queen and continued with the ace. Declarer ruffed, crossed to the ♠K, took the finesse on the next round and claimed the rest, +680.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Övelius	Bathurst	Bergdahl	Wolpert
—	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♥*	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT*	All Pass

Here too West led a heart and declarer took all the tricks when East pitched two clubs, +510, losing 10 IMPs.

**Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.**

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

- 1♣ 1+♣
- 1♥ 4+♠
- 1NT 17-19
- 3NT Relay

I have no way of establishing if West thought 3NT was a relay. However, South found the lead of the ♣8 and when declarer put in dummy's ten North took the ace and switched to the ♥J which gave the defenders four tricks in the suit and -50 meant the loss of 13 IMPs.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
L. Madsen	Larsson	Bakkeren	Molberg
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

3♣ Game forcing



Kevin Bathurst





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