



online bridge events organized by bid72 & netbridge.online

# Enjoy the MontreAlt

Welcome to a new Major Alt event after a summer break. Right now we all wish we were in Montreal joking with our friends and beating our opponents, but the MontreAlt is the best we can do until that will be possible again.

We are happy the holders of the first Major Alt (Gupta) are back to defend their title. Also we have strong teams from China, USA, Argentina, Sweden and England. And for the first time we even have 8 teams found through our qualification. 24 teams were fighting really hard and Lombard was the winner. We wonder if they will also challenge the teams in this top class field? Our prediction will be place number 13! Who dares to bet?

We wish all the teams lots of success and we wish kibitzers a lot to enjoy. They can see all their favourite players live in action.

*The Alt Team*

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 June 22

10:00 EDT/16:00 CET Match 1 (14 boards)

12:30 EDT/18:30 CET Match 2 (14 boards)

15:00 EDT/21:00 CET Match 3 (14 boards)



# Overboard

## - The final of the Major Alt I

By Peter Lund



The last board in the final of the Major Alt between Gupta and Lavazza decided the victory. After 31 of 32 boards Gupta was leading by 9.1 IMPs, and there were chances of a swing on the last board.

### Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bessis	Manno	Lorenzini	Di Franco
1NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	4NT	All Pass

2♠ was a transfer to clubs and 4NT slamtry.

In the closed room Gupta got too high. The lead was the ♦6 to the king. Declarer played a club to the king, and ran the jack of spades to the king. Another diamond followed, and with clubs not breaking, there were only 9 tricks for declarer.

Lavazza could now win the match if EW stopped in 3NT to earn 10 IMPs:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cronier	Bertens	Duboin	Cheek
1NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	All Pass

Same start. Here 3NT was a mild slamtry from East. Cronier accepted, but Lavazza appeared to land on their feet in 5♣. Now Curtis Cheek in the South seat was on lead to determine the match. It looked like a choice between the red suits, and he chose correctly. (Notice that 5♣ is cold played from the West hand.)

The lead of the ♥8 was lethal. East went down 2 for -200 and 3 IMPs for Gupta.

On a diamond lead 5♣ makes and Lavazza would have won 10 IMPs - and the first Major Alt.



Philippe Cronier  
Photo: ACBL

## Draw Round 1

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
<u>1</u>	 <u>VENTIN</u>	 <u>FREDIN</u>
<u>2</u>	 <u>GILLIS</u>	 <u>LOMBARD</u>
<u>3</u>	 <u>POTTER</u>	 <u>MAUBERQUEZ</u>
<u>4</u>	 <u>GUPTA</u>	 <u>VINITA</u>
<u>5</u>	 <u>KOEPPPEL</u>	 <u>TBD</u>
<u>6</u>	 <u>ZHAO</u>	 <u>RED DEVILS</u>
<u>7</u>	 <u>EDMONDS</u>	 <u>SWEICE</u>
<u>8</u>	 <u>BLACK</u>	 <u>LESLIE</u>
<u>9</u>	 <u>RIPPEY</u>	 <u>MACAVITY</u>
<u>10</u>	 <u>BYRNES</u>	 <u>ISRAEL</u>
<u>11</u>	 <u>BRIDGESCANER</u>	 <u>TRANSNATIONALS</u>
<u>12</u>	 <u>ISRAEL OPEN</u>	 <u>BRIDGE TOO FAR</u>
<u>13</u>	 <u>DONNER</u>	 <u>SWEDEN MIXED</u>
<u>14</u>	 <u>SELIGMAN</u>	 <u>HUNGARY - GALIM</u>
<u>15</u>	 <u>BARNSLEY</u>	 <u>FEARLESS</u>
<u>16</u>	 <u>GRAND SUD</u>	 <u>AMATEURS</u>

**BRIDGERESULTS.ORG**

# Victim of the Day

## Max Rotaru

by Christina Lund Madsen



*Where do you come from, where do you live, what do you do, are you single?*

- I'm 100% Romanian, born and raised, moved permanently to the US about 5 years ago. I live in Sunnyside, NYC. I am a professional bridge player and I am not single anymore. ☺

*Give us a short resume of your bridge life and career. How did you begin to play?*

- I remember making fun of some of my high school classmates who were spending every single free time playing cards. "What's wrong with you, people?!" What a jinx! I was introduced to bridge in the first year of college and after almost a year playing in campus with my peers, thinking that I am the best player on the planet, I hear about this bridge club in Bucharest. When I went there, I had to face the bad news that I actually knew nothing, not even terms like "relay, end-play, keycards". Even in a country where bridge was banned during communism, the Federation is still poor and you have to pay for all your hobbies, I was able to find a very devoted and passionate group of people who became my new bridge family.

*Tell us your favorite bridge memory (not necessarily bridge-related).*

- Perhaps winning my first US National title in Dallas 2014, playing for the first time with my good friend and now my regular bridge partner, Radu Nistor.

*Why do you not use your birth name Iulian?*

- I've never liked my first name, I don't know why because it is not an ugly one. I was just very happy to change it with a nick name chosen by some friends in the 6th grade. (I am actually a secret agent sent out from Romania to spy on the US, but please don't post it, apparently I am not allowed to say this.)

*How has it been living in NYC during corona?*

- Was kind of scary at the beginning when the level of panic was extremely high. I actually fled after a month, I flew to Rotterdam where my girlfriend lives. Now I am back in NY but everything moves very slowly here at the moment. Although they invented online yoga, you still can order paper books, I cooked for the first time in my life, I discovered that it's not all about Uber, yellow cabs or subway in the city, you can even bike with your friends, so it's not the end of the World.

*Why did you move from Romania to the US?*

- To be in that 2 % segment of the population who does what they love and are getting paid for it.

*What do you like the most about your new life?*

- The freedom to choose; to truly understand what it means you need to have lived in communist or post communist society.





**Max Rotaru (to the left)  
with a former partner.**

*What do you miss the most about Romania?*

- My family, my bridge friends and the stories told after every single game.

*Tell us some of your childhood memories growing up in Romania.*

- I thought I can be a good hair stylist when I was 7 and I gave my sister a special hair cut. It didn't work, my parents had to shave her head.

*Do you have any tattoos you would like to share with us?*

- That's what happens when you spend a day on a boat in Hawaii with Christina, there are no secrets anymore. I do have a king of spades tattooed on my back.

*Who do you secretly dream of?*

- Charlize Theron, I heard we are soul-mates, I don't know what it means. Oh wait, what? I don't have a girlfriend anymore?! What did I do?

*If you could change a thing in your past, what would it be?*

- I should have started my professional bridge career earlier, my only regret.

*Who would you partner, kiss, kill between your teammates Adam Grossack, Zach Grossack and Thomas Paske?*

- That's easy, I would kiss Tom, he is like a cartoon character, who wouldn't kiss a Mickey Mouse with a British accent? I would partner Adam. Of all the partners I played with, other than Radu, he has the closest playing style to mine. Sorry Zach, as secret agents we need to take care of rising stars (I bet I'll instantly get a text with "What did you mean by 'rising?'" )

*Which player from the MontreAlt should be the next victim in the bulletin? Tell us what you would like to know about this person.*

- Mustafa Cem Tokay: Does Besiktas still have a soccer team and if not, what happens to all those supporters who tattooed the eagle on their arm?

# The Best of both Worlds

by Boye Brogeland



I have to admit; I never liked online bridge. Staring into a cold computer screen didn't get my juices flowing nearly the same way as sitting at a bridge table, picking up 13 cards, sorting the hand and getting ready to solve numerous problems on that very deal. Hopefully outsmarting the other players in their flesh and bone.

With the Corona virus I have been "forced" to play more on the internet. It's the only way if you want to compete against the best players in the world, and also make some money as a professional bridge player. I have also done more bidding practice with my partner on BBO, and tried a couple of "Over My Shoulder" sessions, analyzing the hands as I played them. And I have to admit; I have gotten more into online bridge. I also feel I play considerably better than while I was more alien to it a few months ago.

I have taken part in a few ALT events and one OCBL event on BBO, and they have all been superbly organized. The competition has been fierce, and we have normally ended up in the lower half of the field. Yes, I have been surprised by how well many opponents suddenly seem to be playing, almost error free, but I will leave that subject for another article.

The main reason for this article is that I feel I saw the light for online bridge when I played in the recent NAOBC Knockout by the ACBL. This was basically an online version of the prestigious Spingold with around 70 teams entering, a great event.

The main difference from the ALT and OCBL was the mandatory Zoom meeting with your screen mate. Not sure if everybody is familiar with Zoom, but it's a simple (and free of charge when one-to-one) way of setting up a virtual meeting with someone. You only need a camera on your laptop (or via your mobile phone) to be ready to zoom. Plus it's easy to download, install and use, even for a tech dinosaur like myself.

Suddenly online bridge felt a lot like live bridge. You could chat with your screen mate, ask questions and explain nuances of your own methods which is more tedious when you have to do it in writing (and you are not even sure if your opponent(s) picked up on it).

Suddenly you knew when your screen-mate was thinking, and you knew when he was just zoomed ☺ out or had left his chair to go to the loo or get something to drink or eat. You could even hear him breathe when he was struggling as declarer or on defense! The juices came flooding back.

This was definitely my best experience with online bridge – ever. I recommend all tournament organizers to apply Zoom meetings for screenmates. And if one feels it is too much extra work for the organizers (the ACBL arranged it themselves from the round of 16 and onwards), please encourage the teams to set up their own Zoom meetings. It's a win-win for everyone, and ALT should lead the way in online bridge.

# An effective weak two

## - Highlights from the MontreAlt Q

By Toine van Hoof



One of the great features of these Alt tournaments is the way the results are presented by [bridgeresults.org](http://bridgeresults.org). You click on a board and see all scores at a glance. One more click and you can replay any hand with BBO. This was Board 12 from RR1 of the MontreAlt Q:

Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

NS can make eleven tricks in a heart contract, but EW have a cheap save. Eleven NS pairs were allowed to play in 4♥ and four were pushed to 5♥. Four EW pairs effectively shut out their opponents from the bidding by opening 2♠ (weak two) and raising to 4♠. Sam Amer-Erez Hendelman (Bridge too far), Oded Korczyn-Assaf Yekutieli (Israel), Tamás Szalka-Csaba Czimer (Hungary-Galim) and George Sullivan-Peter Liebermann (New England) all gained 11 IMPs as their team mates scored 650 at the other table.

Two NS pairs stopped in 2♥. That happened in the same match (Amateurs vs. Fruitvliegjes):

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
van Montfoort	Luba	van Wezel	Lo
Pass	1♦	1NT	Dbl
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

1NT was Raptor (4M and longer m) and 2♣ pass or correct. South showed some strength by doubling 1NT and bidding 2♥ next. North did not feel obliged to bid again and saw his partner make twelve tricks after taking the marked finesse in diamonds.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kolesnik	Vreeswijk	Baseggio	Vilier
Pass	1♣	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

South showed an invitational hand with six hearts and North passed. Declarer made eleven tricks and must have been relieved to learn that this lost only one IMP.

Two other tables played in a partscore. And again this happened in the same match (Bid72 vs. Dutch Juniors):

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Overvelde	Eskes	Huvers	Sprinkhuizen
Hoogenkamp	Emmers	Green	Alards
2♠	Pass	3♠	All Pass



**A young  
Sibrand van  
Oosten**  
Photo: EBL



Both declarers made eight tricks for a push.

Kees Rentes and Jan van den Hoek (Netbridge) produced the same bidding (with 2♠ being Muiderberg: 5♠ and a minor), but John Lesmeister (Macavity) was not impressed:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rentes	Ros	van den Hoek	Lesmeister
2♠	Pass	3♠	4♥
All Pass			

His 4♥ must have been the bravest bid of the tournament. He saved his team 11 IMPs as Kees Bouwen at the other table found a double after the 2♠ opening bid:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Schols	Bouwen	Coppens	de Winter
2♠	Dbl	4♠	5♥
All Pass			

Jan de Winter had an easy 5♥ bid for a push.

This auction was duplicated by Blaine Mullins-Charlie Seelbach (NS for Bishel) and Yael Topiol-Hans Vergoed (EW for The Daltons).

Bishel won 18 IMPs on the board as NS at the other table had a disaster:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
J. Bishel	van Oosten	T. Bishel	Thorpe
Pass	1♣	1♠	2♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	4NT	Dbl	5♣
Pass	5♦	Dbl	All Pass

South's 2♥ bid after East's imaginative 1♠ overcall was nonforcing. West had an obvious 4♠ bid and South had an obvious double. Now North did well to bid. However, he thought a four-four fit in diamonds would play better than a five-three fit in hearts and therefore proposed 5♦. South was not on the same wavelength and passed.

Declarer tried to get out for one off by playing on the trumps to break. As a result he went for 1100.

These 18 IMPs were the only ones for Bishel in this match. The Daltons won by 55-18.



## Teams / Players / Nicknames

### AMATEURS

Hailong Ao	hl123
Franco Baseggio	baseggio
Ira Chorush	Chorush
Jiang Gu	Jiang_Gu
Alex Kolesnik	Kolesnik
Ai-Tai Lo	aitail
Harrison Luba	hilito37
Andy Stark	astark

### BARNESLEY

Simon Cope	copeyj
Peter Crouch	pitiful
Espene Erichsen	espene
Alexander Hydes	itsgrim
Richard Plackett	hoofie

### BLACK

Andrew Black	boggis
David Gold	dagold
Phil King	philking
Andrew McIntosh	mcintosh
Gunnar Hallberg	rerack
Simon Hult	hultahult

### BRIDGE TOO FAR

Peter Barczy	beno b
Daniel Gulyas	gulyas
Erez Hendelman	E11
Gyorgy Kemeny	kemeny
Balazs Kotanyi	Koti007
Peter Trenka	trp42
Sam Amer	Samer026

### BRIDGESCANNER

Konrad Araszkiwicz	konrad80
Andrei Arlovich	goblin2000
Boguslaw Gierulski	bogier
Krzysztof Kotorowicz	przedpelk
Apolinary Kowalski	bambik
Jerzy Skrzypczak	TXT
Erikas Vainikonis	bookie_It
Vytautas Vainikonis	vainikonis

### BYRNES

Dori Byrnes	bridgeitgal
Adam Grossack	Nevereast
Zachary Grossack	Germes45
Radu Nistor	Radu_15
Thomas Paske	Thomas1000
Max Rotaru	Maxentius

### DONNER

Per-Ola Cullin	pocken
Gary Donner	Gdonnersc1
Joe Grue	joegrue
Marion Michielsen	Lady007
Brad Moss	brad
Cecilia Rimstedt	cillar
Sandra Rimstedt	Sandria

### EDMONDS

Jodi Edmonds	jodewagon
Piotr Gawrys	badaud4
Michal Klukowski	skrzat96
Ron Pachtmann	ronpa
Joel Wooldridge	firechief
Piotr Zatoski	dzeronimo

### FEARLESS

Oscar Nijssen	Oscar2000
Yael Topiol	Top_33
Tim van de Pavard	Tim_p
Peter van Montfoort	pjvm1970
Frank Van Wezel	Oeps
Rob Vd Bergh	Rvdb
Hans Vergoed	MrVeryGood
Roefi Vilier	Roefi
Kevin Vreeswijk	Kevinvrees
Ricardo Westerbeek	Ric4

### FREDIN

Alon Apteker	alonap
Jan Clemmensson	jannec
Peter Fredin	P_Fredin
Gary Gottlieb	Garybrook
Craig Gowan	Craigy52

## Teams / Players / Nicknames

### GILLIS

Simon Gillis	rayas78
Erik Saelensminde	skaal1
Boye Brogeland	boye
Espen Lindqvist	stevieg
Mikael Rimstedt	MikaelRim
Ola Rimstedt	Olarim

### GRAND SUD

Bernard Cabanes	Tonel34
Herve Fleury	Juransson
Marc Girollet	Maxile
Pierre-Yves Guillaumin	Pyg
Jean-Jacques Palau	Grozny06
Gert-Jan Paulissen	GJP1965
Philippe Poizat	Taziop
Pierre Saporta	Papouchou

### GUPTA

Bauke Muller	beukertje
Simon de Wijs	sm1
Cedric Lorenzini	pierced
Zia Mahmood	zia
Thomas Bessis	malpaluche
Naren Gupta	nareng

### HUNGARY - GALIM

Csaba Czímer	csabi
Péter Gál	galim
Gábor Macskásy	macsek
Péter Marjai	wrek
Csaba Szabó	csaboka13
Tamás Szalka	szalkat

### ISRAEL

Dan Israeli	dan_ehh
Oded Korczyn	odedkor
Rami Porat	daring1
Oren Toledano	orentol
Aran Warszawski	aran
Assaf Yekutieli	tol23
Ami Zamir	zamir1

### ISRAEL OPEN

Ilan Bareket	bareket
Michael Barel	mich-b
Ariel Braunstein	rel49
Ilan Herbst	ilanh
Ophir Herbst	herbst
Assaf Lengy	lengy
Amir Levin	amiri
Yaniv Zack	Yanivz
Migry Zur Campanile	migry

### KOEPEL

Lynne Greenberg Koepfel	Lgkoepfel
Agustin Nicolas Madala	Septiembre
Antonio Sementa	Ilaria75
Mustafa Cem Tokay	Tokay1975
Alfredo Versace	Nevaio

### LESLIE

Mike Bell	mickyb
Michael Byrne	mgb81
Kieran Dyke	woozle
Tim Leslie	culross66
Ben Norton	bechno



## Teams / Players / Nicknames

### LOMBARD

Bert Geens	Bert1986
Rens Philipsen	RensPh
Jamilla Spangenberg	Jamilla
Dennis Stuurman	Uni_dennis
Wouter van den Hove	Woutte
Ruud Von Seida	Boedhy
Chris Westerbeek	ChrisWes
Dafydd Williams	Dafyddwill
Jasper Williams	Wjwilliams

### MACAVITY

Kees Bakker	Keesbak
Pim Coppens	pimcop
Dennis Dewit	Hyperon
John Lesmeister	Jlesme
Gert-Jan Ros	rosgjw
Emile Schols	Mkgnao
Michel Schols	Futuralis
Niels van Bijsterveldt	nielsvbij
Tim van den Bos	Timvdb
Emiel Vandewiele	blink128

### MAUBERQUEZ

Edouard Beauvillain	edou2704
Philippe Chottin	cholina
Guillaume Fauconnier	guillaume
Donatella Halfon	atella
David Harari	sarroumane
Erick Mauberquez	mauber
Emmanuelle Monod	mafraise1
Christophe Oursel	chris3108
Dominique Pilon	cap51
Vanessa Reess	supersasa

### POTTER

Kevin Bathurst	kmb24
Vince Demuy	okvince
Kevin Dwyer	kdwyer
Shan Huang	precisebri
John Hurd	johnhurd
Cookie Potter	ohceep

### RED DEVILS

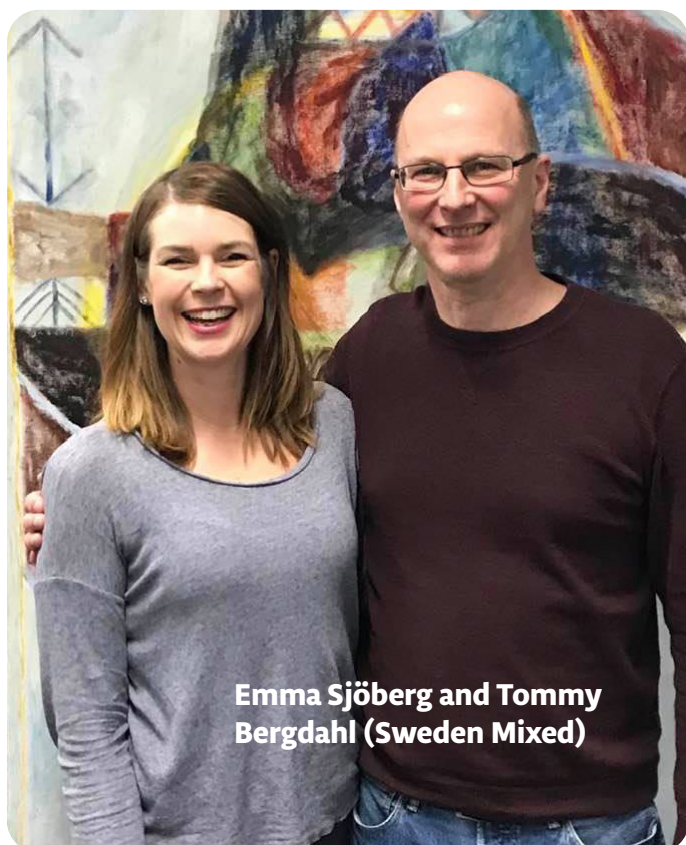
Geert Arts	strareeg1
Sam Bahbout	sambah
Philippe Caputo	caputo
Philippe Coenraets	philippeiv
Steven de Donder	pikarek
Steve de Roos	stevedr
Zvi Engel	hros
Mike van der Vorst	ratabar

### RIPPEY

Leonardo Cima	100dog
Giovanni Donati	Giova007
Alessandro Gandoglia	gandalf15
Kamil Novak	kamiln
Mike Rippey	radiators
Marek Szymanowski	qerk22

### SELIGMAN

David Bakhshi	Bakhshi
Bob Hamman	TGBH3
Petra Hamman	pete
Hemant Lall	hemantlall
Seppo Sauvola	zebutin
Martin Seligman	mseligman



**Emma Sjöberg and Tommy Bergdahl (Sweden Mixed)**



## Teams / Players / Nicknames



**Juan Carlos  
Ventin**

### SWEDEN MIXED

Nils Åhlen	ahlni0
Tommy Bergdahl	lingonback
Anders Eriksson	wew
Daniel Eriksson	24659
Eva Gunnarsson	spaderdam1
Malin Helin	malhe
Fredrik Jarlvik	freddy6
Emma Övelius	emma sj
Ylva Pyykkö	ylvur
Tatyana Trendafilova	tuti

### Team "SWEICE"

Sverrir Armannsson	Gauksi
Jon Baldursson	ICEBALDI
Olof Bergström	ZangMan
Bjorn Fallenius	bf88
Einar Gudjohnsen	einarUSA
Sigurbjorn Haraldsson	bessi2
Birkir Jon Jonsson	Birkirjon
Mats Nilslund	nilslund

### TBD

Irene Baroni	Princi
Jacob Freeman	Jacob04
Christophe Grosset	Cri cri
Finn Kolesnik	Fkolesnik
Daniel Lavee	Thekid1
Anam Tebha	Anamtebha

### TRANSNATIONALS

Martins Balodis	MartinsLAT
Kevin Gotink	Kefman23
Ilze Mikelsons	Mikjelsone
Maria Mylläri	lucky 7
Selena Pepic	Selena96
Louise Selway	joloiyse
Florian Weiss	Floon
Jovana Zoranovic	jovana_jjz

### VENTIN

Diego Brenner	dbrenner
Carlos Fernandez	Carlitosf
Joaquin Pacareu	paca1987
António Palma	apalma
Juan Carlos Ventin	phave
Miquel Vilas Boas	mvboas
Frederic Wrang	fly21

### VINITA

Vinita Gupta	vinita
Dennis Bilde	ballebo-jr
Morten Bilde	ballebo
Soren Bune	scb7
Emil Jepsen	emilos

### ZHAO

Jing Liu	Liujing
Choon Chou Loo	bridgeboy
Danny Molenaar	dannymo
Ricco van Prooijen	riccovp
Tim Verbeek	timve
Louk Verhees	loukie
Chen Zhao	zhaochen

1. The MontreAlt (Main event) will be hosted in Bridge Base Online from 3rd to 7th of August, 2020.

### 2. Invitation to participate

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

The Alt Organization emphasizes that all their events are by invitation.

Teams who are interested in participating and believe they meet the standard of Alt's various events can apply for an invitation

Invitations for this event will be issued to teams of 4 – 10 players.

Alt reserves the right not to invite any team without giving a reason.

### 3. Schedule of play:

Monday August 3 - Wednesday August 7  
three matches of 14 boards/day will be played at the following starting times:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET – Swiss Round 1  
12:30 EDT / 18:30 CET – Swiss Round 2  
15:00 EDT / 21:00 CET – Swiss Round 3

Thursday August 6:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET – Swiss (last round)  
14:00 EDT / 20:00 CET – Quarterfinal  
(28 boards, 2 x 14)

Friday August 7:

10:00 EDT / 16:00 CET – Semifinal  
(28 boards, 2 x 14)

14:30 EDT / 20:30 CET – Final  
(32 boards, 2 x 16)

### 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.

In the Swiss stage, any 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.

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

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

### 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 in the Swiss.

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

Quarterfinal and semifinal will be played over 1 segment of 28 boards each with possible change of the line-up after 14 boards (see p. 6 below). Final will be played over 32 boards, 2 separate segments of 16 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 during a 14-board match unless unless there is a serious reason to do so (to be decided by the TD).

In the quarterfinal and semifinal change of the line-up is possible after 14 boards provided that 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.

The 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 respective link and the 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 should 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.

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 according to the BBO-guidelines: all players have the right to reject an undo or claim request for any reason. They are not required to explain why they have rejected such a request.

If players explain bids during the bidding via chat, then this is not communicated to “the table”, but only to “the opponents”. This way their partner cannot see the explanation, similar to explaining the bids via the BBO alert mechanism.

Players alert their own bids.

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

The gravest possible offence is for a partnership to exchange information through prearranged methods of communication other than those sanctioned by the Laws of Bridge or self-kibitzing.

Players are expected to finish 14 boards within 2 hours. 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**

This tournament will of course be played in the most respectful way possible. Fun and good bridge are paramount. Netbridge relies on reluctance and restraint to call the Director. Should a team find a serious cause for demanding a ruling, then this will only be dealt with if the captain of the team announces this via email within 45 minutes after the last board played (with an explanation and a request for a specific adjustment of the score). Netbridge will inform the other team and give that team the opportunity (through its captain) to respond via an email within 45 minutes after being informed. The protest will be decided by a qualified director; or world class player; no further appeal will be possible after his/her decision.

To submit protests, you should send email to: [info@netbridge.online](mailto:info@netbridge.online)

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 running of the tournament.

Although this tournament isn't aligned with any bridge federation we will cooperate and provide them with all the information necessary to detect and prevent cheating.



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# big 5

These are the 5 pillars of bid72, the premium app on bridge bidding.  
Download bid72 from the App Store or Google Play and you are good to go.

## 1. Random hands [www.bid72.com/random-boards/](http://www.bid72.com/random-boards/)

- ✓ unlimited number of interesting boards, with and without competitive bidding
- ✓ ranking and rating
- ✓ fit for any system at any level

*3 weeks free trial (no strings attached)*

*1 month USD 3.49 / 12 months USD 28.99*

## 2. Topic boards [www.bid72.com/topics/](http://www.bid72.com/topics/)

- ✓ a set of Topic boards is dedicated to a specific piece of bridge theory
- ✓ each set contains appr. 100 boards ready to bid in-app
- ✓ 3 levels of themes: starter/club/expert
- ✓ popular themes: Jacoby Transfers, Check-Back Stayman, Gazzilli
- ✓ sheets with preferred methods designed by the world's best players and teachers

*1 Topic costs 100 Bid Points*

*100 Bid Points USD 1.99 / 500 Bid Points USD 6.99 / 1000 Bid Points USD 12.99*

## 3. Bidding contests [www.bid72.com/bidding-contest/](http://www.bid72.com/bidding-contest/)

- ✓ for bridgeclubs and communities
- ✓ each month 8 new boards in-app
- ✓ results and handrecords

*free service for users with a **bid72** account (even in trial)*

## 4. Create your own boards [www.bid72.com/create-and-upload-your-own-boards/](http://www.bid72.com/create-and-upload-your-own-boards/)

- ✓ create and upload your own boards to **bid72**
- ✓ for players, teachers and coaches to practice themed boards with partners and classes

*check the link above for (low) costs*

## 5. Basic education [www.bid72.com/teachers/](http://www.bid72.com/teachers/)

- ✓ sets of practice boards for starters
- ✓ relevant powerpoints presentations
- ✓ feedback to teachers
- ✓ teachers follow their own rhythm and plan

*free service for students with **bid72** account (even in trial)*

*discount for teachers on their **bid72** account*