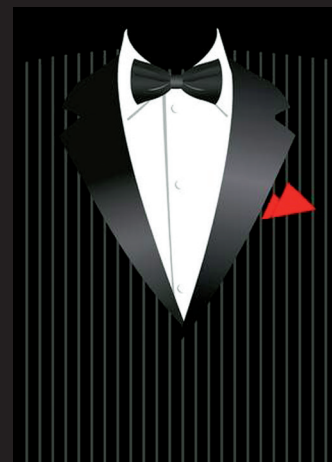


# The TampALT Invitational

DECEMBER 14-18 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

## A Black Beginning

Though the leaderboard after three of 10 rounds of Swiss can be reshuffled in the first round of today, we take the opportunity to mention that the Black team is leading, simply to have an excuse to bring this photo again. -->

In close pursuit we find Clement and Sweice with Bernal and Uli not far behind.

We get to see all the top ranked teams clash today, so you on the wrong side of the Atlantic have entertainment for your morning coffee, while we Europeans have an excuse for an early afternoon drink. May the cards be with you.



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 TampAlt

Tuesday December 15

10:00 EST / 16:00 CET – Swiss R4 (14 boards)  
12:30 EST / 18:30 CET – Swiss R5 (14 boards)  
15:00 EST / 21:00 CET – Swiss R6 (14 boards)

## Draw

### Format

10 rounds of Swiss (14 boards pr. match) followed by quarterfinals for the top 8 teams.

## Results


Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	 <a href="#">BLACK</a>	 <a href="#">CLEMENT</a>
2	 <a href="#">SWEICE</a>	 <a href="#">BERNAL</a>
3	 <a href="#">ULI</a>	 <a href="#">FREDIN</a>
4	 <a href="#">AGRIPORT</a>	 <a href="#">AMATEURS</a>
5	 <a href="#">RED DEVILS</a>	 <a href="#">PELKA</a>
6	 <a href="#">DE MICHELIS</a>	 <a href="#">GILLIS</a>
7	 <a href="#">THE MUGS</a>	 <a href="#">VENTIN</a>
8	 <a href="#">LEBOWITZ</a>	 <a href="#">IMP</a>
9	 <a href="#">FRANCE SUD</a>	 <a href="#">DONNER</a>
10	 <a href="#">COPPENS</a>	 <a href="#">ORCA</a>
11	 <a href="#">THE RON &amp; THE KIDS</a>	 <a href="#">BRIDGESCANNER</a>
12	 <a href="#">SKEIDAR</a>	 <a href="#">POTTER</a>
13	 <a href="#">SELIGMAN</a>	 <a href="#">RIPPEY</a>
14	 <a href="#">LA SOCIÉTÉ</a>	 <a href="#">VINITA</a>
15	 <a href="#">HARRIS</a>	 <a href="#">BELGIUM 2</a>
16	 <a href="#">DE BOTTON</a>	 <a href="#">NEW ENGLANDERS</a>
17	 <a href="#">ISRAEL AND FRIENDS</a>	 <a href="#">FLEMISH FURY</a>
18	 <a href="#">JEDI KNIGHTS</a>	 <a href="#">TRANSNATIONALS</a>
19	 <a href="#">EASTWEST</a>	 <a href="#">NETBRIDGE</a>



Link to previous and future Alts  
& bulletins

[Alt.bridgeresults.org](http://Alt.bridgeresults.org)



## Results

Ranking after round 3		
rk	team	VPs
1	 <a href="#">BLACK</a>	47.59
2	 <a href="#">CLEMENT</a>	47.37
3	 <a href="#">SWEICE</a>	46.21
4	 <a href="#">BERNAL</a>	43.86
5	 <a href="#">ULI</a>	43.71
6	 <a href="#">FREDIN</a>	40.72
7	 <a href="#">AGRIPORT</a>	40.20
8	 <a href="#">AMATEURS</a>	39.71
9	 <a href="#">RED DEVILS</a>	39.33
10	 <a href="#">PELKA</a>	37.95
11	 <a href="#">DE MICHELIS</a>	37.53
12	 <a href="#">GILLIS</a>	36.67
13	 <a href="#">THE MUGS</a>	35.09
14	 <a href="#">VENTIN</a>	33.94
15	 <a href="#">LEBOWITZ</a>	33.49
16	 <a href="#">IMP</a>	32.08
17	 <a href="#">FRANCE SUD</a>	31.00
18	 <a href="#">DONNER</a>	30.55

19	 <a href="#">COPPENS</a>	30.39
20	 <a href="#">THE RON &amp; THE KIDS</a>	29.70
21	 <a href="#">BRIDGESCANER</a>	29.00
22	 <a href="#">ORCA</a>	27.57
23	 <a href="#">SKEIDAR</a>	27.56
24	 <a href="#">POTTER</a>	27.20
25	 <a href="#">SELIGMAN</a>	25.62
26	 <a href="#">RIPPEY</a>	25.58
27	 <a href="#">LA SOCIÉTÉ</a>	25.15
28	 <a href="#">VINITA</a>	24.06
29	 <a href="#">HARRIS</a>	23.98
30	 <a href="#">BELGIUM 2</a>	23.76
31	 <a href="#">DE BOTTON</a>	19.76
32	 <a href="#">NEW ENGLANDERS</a>	18.50
33	 <a href="#">ISRAEL AND FRIENDS</a>	18.28
34	 <a href="#">FLEMISH FURY</a>	18.16
35	 <a href="#">JEDI KNIGHTS</a>	13.79
36	 <a href="#">TRANSNATIONALS</a>	13.66
37	 <a href="#">EASTWEST</a>	10.68
38	 <a href="#">NETBRIDGE</a>	10.60

# Primus Inter Pares

By Mark Horton



With so many stars in action I could have watched any table with confidence. As it happens I picked what was perhaps the most exciting, no less than 90 IMPs changing hands.

## Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

## Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Seligman	Michielsen	Lair	Cullin
—	1♦*	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

1♦ 1+♦, 10-15

Would you have considered bidding 3NT with North's hand? I recall Raymond Brock telling me that three small was not a bad holding if partner has a doubleton - and here there was -no 1♥ overcall to worry about. Declarer could not avoid three losers, -50.

## Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	Malinowski	C Rimstedt	Bakhshi
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

2♣ Puppet to 2♦  
 2♦ Denies any 4441  
 2NT Game forcing  
 3NT No major, can choose to show 5♦/♣

Although he only had a 12 count, South appreciated the potential value of his six-card suit. West led the ♥3, but the defenders could only cash four tricks in the suit, +400 and 10 IMPs

## Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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





WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	Malinowski	C Rimstedt	Bakhshi
—	—	1♦*	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♥*	All Pass		

- 1♦ 2+♦
- 2♦ Game forcing
- 4♣ Cue bid
- 4♥ To play, 4♦ would have been last train

Here too declarer took the heart finesse, +450 and 11 IMPs.

#### Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Seligman	Michielsen	Lair	Cullin
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠*	Pass
3NT*	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

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

- 3♠ Non-serious
- 3NT Spade control
- 4♠ RKCB
- 5♥ 2 key cards +♥Q

North led the ♣3 and declarer won with dummy queen, cashed the ♦A, ruffed a diamond and played a heart to the ten, finishing one down, -50.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Seligman	Michielsen	Lair	Cullin
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	1♠	Dble*	2NT*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

- 2NT Good four-card ♠raise
- 3♥ Without the double would be the weakest game try

East led the ♥Q and declarer won with dummy's ace, played a club to the queen, cashed the ♠K, played a spade to the ace, repeated the club finesse, cashed the ace and claimed ten tricks when the suit divided, +170.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	Malinowski	C Rimstedt	Bakhshi
—	—	—	Pass
1♦*	1♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

1♦ 2+♦  
2NT Invitational +, 4+♠

The same opening lead was followed by an identical line of play, but West did not take his ace, so +450 and 7 IMPs.

If there is anything to remember from this deal, it is that when your five-card suit is supported, your hand goes up in value. Despite the singleton king I think North is worth 4♠.

Board 7 is discussed in another article - it gave Donner 14 IMPs.

#### Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Seligman	Michielsen	Lair	Cullin
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♦*	Pass	6♥
Dble	All Pass		

1NT 15-16  
2♦ Transfer  
4♥ See private  
4NT RKCB  
5♣ I key card  
5♦ ♥Q?

Alas, I cannot tell you what 4♥ meant, but North took it as a stronger hand than South possessed.

East led the ♦K and declarer took the ace and played three rounds of clubs pitching a diamond. East ruffed the third round with the ♥7 and declarer overruffed with dummy's eight and played a low spade. West nervously shot up with the ace, cashed the ♥A and exited with a spade, declarer winning with dummy's king and claiming ten tricks, -500. If West holds on to the ♠A the penalty should be -800. If declarer simply runs the ♥10 at trick two he should emerge with ten tricks.

#### Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	Malinowski	C Rimstedt	Bakhshi
Pass	1NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

South saw fit not to transfer but it might have rebounded.



Cecilia Rimstedt and Gary Donner  
Photo: Jonathan Steinberg

West led the ♣J and declarer won with dummy's queen, pitched a spade on the ♣K and then ran the ♥9. West won and played another club, ruffed and overruffed by declarer who drew the outstanding trump and ran the ♦J to East's queen. Back came the ♠9 and declarer played low to land his contract and garner 15 IMPs.

Notice that played by South 4♥ should go down if West finds a diamond lead. Played by North, there is no winning lead.

#### Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

#### Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Seligman	Michielsen	Lair	Cullin
—	—	1NT	All Pass

South led the ♥Q and declarer won and tried the ♠Q. After both sides had made some mistakes he finished up going four down, -200.

#### Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	Malinowski	C Rimstedt	Bakhshi
—	—	1NT*	2♥*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

1NT 14-16

2♥ ♥+ ♦/♣

2NT Asking

3♦ 4+♦ non-maximum

I have already mentioned a deal where a trump lead lost a vital tempo and there is little doubt that they can be overrated. Declarer won in hand and unblocked the ♠K. He then played a club and East won with the ace and switched to the ♦K. There was no way for declarer to avoid a diamond ruff and he finished one down, -50 and lost 6 IMPs.

The winning line is to play a second round of hearts after unblocking the spades - not easy but not impossible.

Seligman won narrowly 46-44, 10.66-9.34.

# Victim of the Day

## Dennis Bilde

by Christina Lund Madsen



*How old are you, where did you grow up, where do you live now?*

- I'm 31 years old. I grew up in Ballebo – a small “village” consisting of four farms in the middle of nowhere. I'm currently living in Aarhus, Denmark.

*How did you begin to play bridge?*

- I took a course for juniors when I was 11 and I never looked back.

*Have you had corona and how have you passed time during corona?*

- I haven't had it yet. Both of my parents have, but I escaped it. Luckily they are both back to normal strength again. During spring and summer, I spend a lot of time on different sports and physical activities. As daylight began to disappear in Denmark and Corona has put an end to all sport, I have now become extremely lazy. That means I mostly eat and drink while thinking about going for a run or a workout.

*Madame Lavazza passed away in the early summer. How was that for you?*

- I was very sad. It didn't have as big an effect on me, as it had on my teammates. After all I had only been on the team for about 4 years of which Madama Lavazza didn't travel as much with us, as she used to. I never got to know her as well as they did and I wasn't that close with her. But she was a wonderful lady and she did so

much good. Not just for bridge but she also did a lot of charity work and she really loved to give as much as she could to the lesser lucky.

*What has been the best part about playing on the Lavazza team?*

- Learning to express myself in Italian finger-language!

*What has been the worst part about playing on the Lavazza team?*

- Partnering Madala.

*Tell us the best non-bridge related story from your junior years.*

- It's a well-known story, but here goes: When I arrived in Beijing for the Junior World Championships in 2008 my teammates and I decided that the best way to avoid jetlag was a good night out. We went to a Chinese nightclub and emptied the bar. The club unfortunately closed before we felt we were ready for bed. We decided to play the noble game of strip poker in our apartment. 5 guys – the loser had to run around the hotel naked. I was off to a great start, but a victim of several bad beats in the end, so I had to strip down and run. I still feel for the poor young receptionist who got scars for life that night. Well, I completed my run and we went to bed. Unfortunately, my marathon attempt was caught on security cameras and the next morning I was woken up by our captain who didn't really get the joke.



Apparently it's against the law to be naked in public in China and the WBF-president needed to save my ass to avoid police involvement. My captain then had to defend my actions to the president and that wasn't how he had dreamed about starting the championship!

*What has been the best moment of your bridge career?*

- Winning the Junior World Championships in Beijing after almost being sent home!

*Name three things you are good at besides bridge.*

- Snowboarding, badminton and cooking.

*Name three things you are bad at besides bridge.*

- Singing, cleaning and going to bed.

*Both your younger siblings play bridge. How would they describe you in three words?*

- Annoying, lucky and an average bridge-player.

*How many flights have you missed during the past 10 years?*

- A flight a year or so. Some years less!

*Zach Grossack's questions for you:  
How has corona affected your time spent on Tinder?*

- Actually, I deleted Tinder just before Corona locked Denmark down in March. I never re-installed it and I've been rewarded with an amazing girl who is putting up with me on a daily basis!



**Dennis Bilde**  
**Photo: Peg Kaplan**

*You always seem very happy. What is your secret?*

- Bobby McFerrin says it well. Don't worry, be happy. That's a general philosophy of life for me.

*Which period has been the most challenging of your life so far?*

- Every time I've gone from being single to being in a relationship. I hope I'm done with that now!

*If you could give teenage-Dennis an advice, what would it be?*

- You can have all the fun you want, but don't be careless. Be responsible and remember to make all your flights!

*You were a co-mentor for 19-year old Søren Bune, who tragically left this world a month ago. How has it been for you?*

- Shocking is the word that comes to mind. But most of all it's been an eyeopener to the fact that things aren't always as perfect as they look from the outside. It's important to talk to your loved ones about feelings and about what problems or worries you or they might carry. We all have a responsibility to be a good and supportive friend/sibling/parent/spouse to the people around us. I'm going to miss Søren, but his tragic death shouldn't be for nothing.

*Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Vincent Demuy, Peter Fredin and Marion Michielsen?*

- I would obviously partner Marion. Then I would kiss her when she makes some brilliant play no one else would ever think of. And all there's left to do is let Peter and Vince play a tournament together, and I wouldn't have to do any killing, because I doubt any of them would survive it!

*Who do you think should be a future victim in the bulletin?*

*Tell us something you would like to know about this person.*

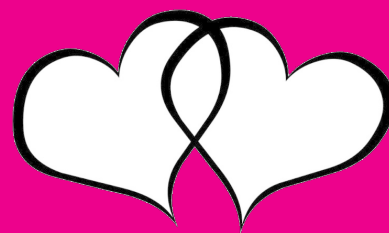


In 2017 Dennis received a scholarship from HRH Prince Henrik of Denmark for being a great representative for bridge and Denmark. He was also the Prince's favourite bridge partner.

- Madala. Which number is highest: The amount of beers you can drink (bottles) or the distance you can run in kilometers, if you get an hour to do both. It doesn't have to be done in the same hour!

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# **MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS**



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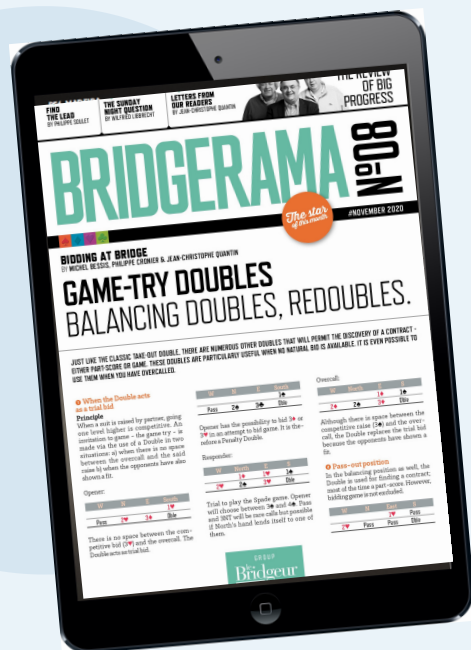
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\*Offer valid until December 25, 2020 inclusive.

# Buccaneering Bridge



By Martin Cantor

Alt is back, with its usual array of interesting hands for kibitzers to enjoy.

In a high scoring Round 1 match between Black and Israel & Friends this was one of the highlights:

## Board 12. W / NS

♠ A 7 5	♠ J 8 4	♠ Q T 9 2
♥ A	♥ T 9	♥ Q 7 5
♦ 8 6 4 2	♦ A T 7	♦ K Q 5 3
♣ J T 6 3 2	♣ A K Q 5 4	♣ 9 8
	<div> <div>N</div> <div>W      E</div> <div>S</div> </div>	
	♠ K 6 3	
	♥ K J 8 6 4 3 2	
	♦ J 9	
	♣ 7	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Amer	Gold	Hendelman	Black
Pass	1NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Amer led the ♣J. Black took the ace and ran a trump to the ace. A second club saw declarer discard a spade. Now he could repeat the heart finesse, draw the last trump, cross to the ♦A for a diamond discard on the third top club. Then he could lead up to the ♠K to try for an overtrick, but ten tricks were enough.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Warszawski	Hult	Israeli
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

1♣ 4+ ♣ unbal or any 15-17 bal (5M)  
 1♦ ♥  
 1NT 15-17 bal not usually 4♥  
 2♦ transfer

Hult led the ♦K, taken by the ace, and declarer now made the fatal mistake of playing two rounds of clubs discarding a diamond. Fatal because he no longer had the entries to finesse trumps twice, and when he played a third top club East ruffed with his middle trump, overruffed.

Israeli could now get out for 1 undertrick if he guessed to lead a small trump to West's stiff ace, but he tried for a stiff queen, and had to play spades from hand for three losers in that suit and 2 down.

Played by North 4♥ makes on any lead. On a top ♦ you win to run a trump. If they cash their diamond winner before switching to a club you can pitch two spades, one on a club and one on a diamond, before picking up trumps. If they don't take the diamond before playing a club, the key is to discard a spade, not your losing diamond.



After drawing trumps you can exit with your diamond, setting up the 10 in dummy, and when East plays a spade you “just” have to guess that suit to get to dummy.

Played by South, however, a diamond lead through the ace beats the game.

4♥ was played at 37 of 38 tables, 23 times by North, 14 by South. 4♥ made 10 times, including 5 times from South, one of which on a diamond lead. Tough hand all round.

My second pick comes from the Round 3 top of the table clash between Pelka and Sweice.

#### Board 4. W / All

♠ K J 4	♠ 9 8 6 2	♠ AT 7 3
♥ J 5	♥ T	♥ A K Q 8 3
♦ Q T 8 6	♦ 7 4 3 2	♦ A K
♣ A T 6 2	♣ K J 9 7	♣ Q 4
	<div> <div>N</div> <div>W      E</div> <div>S</div> </div>	
	♠ Q 5	
	♥ 9 7 6 4 2	
	♦ J 9 5	
	♣ 8 5 3	

The cards lie so well for EW that they can make a grand slam in NT, spades and, rather wonderfully, their 4-2 diamond fit. But not in their excellent 5-2 heart fit. Ain't bridge fabulous?

So how did it work out at the table?



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bergstrom	Kerr	Nilslund	Reynolds
Pass	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♠*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♣*	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

2♣ 18-21 bal or ♥, ♠ or ♣  
 2♦ waiting  
 2♥ 18-21 bal or ♥  
 2♠ waiting  
 3♠ GF 5+♥ & 4♠  
 4♣ sets ♥

Tom Reynolds found the best lead of a club. From declarer's point of view the hand looks easy enough, with a club going on the ♦Q and maybe a spade to lose. So up with the ♣A of course, and raise an eyebrow when the ♥J brings the ten from North. Then start to frown when North shows out on the second round of trumps.



Jonsson led the ♥7, taken in dummy for a heart continuation (spade from North). Diamonds were unblocked, a spade went to the king, then the spade jack lost to South's queen, leaving this position:

♠ 9  
 ♥ -  
 ♦ 74  
 ♣ KJ97

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 4  
 ♥ -  
 ♦ QT  
 ♣ AT62

♠ -  
 ♥ 964  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ 853

♠ AT  
 ♥ AK8  
 ♦ -  
 ♣ Q4

Nilsland drew all the trumps except one, unblocked diamonds, crossed to the ♠K, and when the diamond queen dropped the jack he could discard a spade on the ten. If South ruffs the fourth diamond, declarer has no option but to try to drop the ♠Q. So he discarded, but now a club from dummy was ruffed in hand, the ♠A cashed, and South's boss trump was the only trick for the defence. And at the other table?

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pelka	Baldursson	Anikovich	Jonsson
1♦*	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♥*	Pass
4♠*	Pass	6NT	All Pass

1♦: 1+♦      1NT: GF    3♣: Relay  
3♠: 3=2=4=4    4♥: Keycard for ♣      4♠: 1

South exits with a club, and now declarer had a choice of plays - ♣K in South or ♦J drops. With South holding ♣K and ♦xx he should lead a club. But with his actual holding he has to lead a club.

So maybe there is a little restricted choice pointer to the winning line. On the other hand, North seems to have been grimly holding on to the diamond length, so maybe that is a small indicator the other way.

If I had been declarer I like to think I'd have thought all that through, but then being none the wiser would have tossed a coin. I'm sure Anikovich didn't resort to a coin, but he did go with the wrong nudge, Baldursson scoring his ♣K and with it 17 IMPs.

Elsewhere, 35 others played 6NT and one other 6♥. Everyone made their slam, occasionally with an overtrick, except for one 6NT declarer who also conceded 17 IMPs.

# 'Use the Force Luke'

By Mark Horton



It is perhaps not appreciated that if you choose to give your team an esoteric name you may sometimes fall foul of it. Watching one of the Round 1 matches I mentioned to Martin Cantor that I would look at what Marc Smith's team had done on Board 7 because of their team name (Martin's droll reply was 'yes#PunsRus'). Join me now for a short excerpt from De Michelis v Jedi Knights:

## Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Shields	De Michelis	Chamberlain	Failla
—	—	—	1♥
2♣	Pass	3NT	4♦
Dble	4♥	Pass	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	5♦
Dble	All Pass		

West led the ♦K and switched to the ♣7 and declarer ruffed and played two rounds of hearts, West ruffing and cashing the ♦A which led to two down, -500.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Nowak	Jones	Zatorski	Smith
—	—	—	1♥
2♣	Pass	2NT	3♦
3NT	Pass	Pass	4♦
Dble	4♥	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♣J and declarer ruffed East's ace and played a heart for the nine, ten and king. East returned the ♣Q and declarer pitched diamonds on the next three rounds of the suit, as East also parted with a diamond. Now West played three rounds of diamonds and East could over-ruff dummy's ♥6 for -1100.

Let's go back to trick two. Suppose declarer plays a low diamond? Say West wins and plays a club. Declarer ruffs and plays a diamond and West wins and forces declarer for a third time. Declarer ruffs and plays a diamond, ruffing with dummy's ♥10. East must discard a spade (otherwise declarer has ten tricks) and now declarer can take a heart finesse, cash the ♥A and play a diamond, losing only one more trick and so going only one down.

In my featured match elsewhere, the contract was 4♥X at both tables and West led the ♥9, which allows declarer to make the contract. However, one declarer went wrong at trick 2 when East did not cover dummy's ♥10, failing to play a second round of hearts before attacking diamonds. That meant he had to lose 2 trump tricks as well as 2 diamonds and it cost 14 IMPs.





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## Partnership building, testing agreements

dealer South vulnerability None

<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>
♠ Q 10	♠ A K 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ 3	♥ Q 10
♦ A Q 9 6 2	♦ -
♣ J 9 6 4 2	♣ A K Q

10 6♠	7 6♣	5 5♠ 5♣ 4♣	3 7♠ 7♣
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<b>West</b> Tobias	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b> Marina72	<b>South</b>
—	—	—	2♥
Pass	4♥	5♠	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

5♠ = asking for heart control

6♠ = got it

dealer South vulnerability East-West

<b>West</b>	<b>East</b>
♠ J 9 6	♠ Q 10 5 3
♥ K Q J 10	♥ A 6
♦ A 2	♦ K 9
♣ A 6 5 2	♣ Q J 10 4 3

10 4NT 3NT	6 5NT 4♠ 4♥	5 4♣ 3♠ 3♥
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<b>West</b> Tobias	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b> Marina72	<b>South</b>
—	—	—	2♦
X	3♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	—	—

'In stead of 4♠ East should double and bid 3NT over the expected 3♥.'

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- Two-way Checkback Stayman; 2. Responding with both Majors after 1NT; 3. (Non) Leaping Michaels;
- Gazzilli; 5. Gambling 3NT; 6. Lebensohl after a Weak Two; 7. Rubensohl and Transfer-Lebensohl;
- 1♥/1♠ - 2NT (fit); 9. 4♣: Fit and slamgoing

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