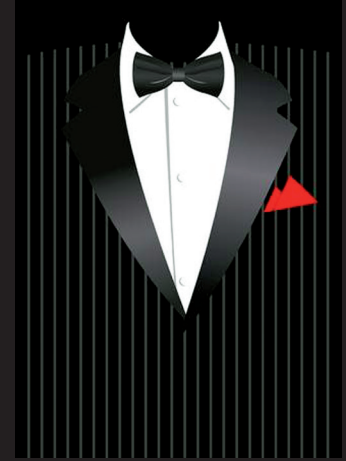


The TampALT Invitational

DECEMBER 14-18 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

Exciting Day Ahead

Clement (Reda Amiry, Nikos Delimpaltadakis, Michel Eidi, Clement Maamarbachi, Yankos Papakyriakopoulos, Ahmed Samir, Vassilis Vroustis) is making the rest of the field look like beginners with an impressive lead of 133.46 VPs with Lebowitz in second having scored 118.60 VPs and Uli in third with 114.91.

Clement face Uli in our last Swiss round today, and while Clement will likely end up first in the Swiss, Uli and the teams ranked 4-8 cannot afford too big a loss since Seligman in 9th is 11 VP's behind Uli in third, closely followed by Skeidar and France Sud.

Fredin, BridgeScanner and even Orca have a chance to make the top-8 with major victories, so our last match looks very promising.

Right after the results of the last round of the Swiss, the teams ranked 1-3 must choose their quarter-final opponent among the teams ranked 5-8. We ask the first placed team to email their choice as quickly as possible and the next ranked teams to be ready.

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 17

10:00 EST / 16:00 CET – Swiss R10 (14 boards)

14:00 EST / 20:00 CET – Quarterfinal (28 boards with the possibility to change lineup after 14)

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

Link to previous and future Alts
& bulletins

Alt.bridgeresults.org



Results

Ranking after round 9		
rk	team	VPs
1	 CLEMENT	133.46
2	 LEBOWITZ	118.60
3	 ULI	114.91
4	 RED DEVILS	113.84
5	 BERNAL	111.73
6	 COPPENS	109.00
7	 VINITA	108.95
8	 SWEICE	107.68
9	 SELIGMAN	103.43
10	 SKEIDAR	102.23
11	 FRANCE SUD	100.75
12	 FREDIN	98.39
13	 BRIDGESCANER	96.48
14	 ORCA	95.26
15	 HARRIS	93.65
16	 IMP	93.23
17	 DONNER	92.48
18	 ISRAEL AND FRIENDS	91.24
19	 POTTER	90.31

20	 GILLIS	90.12
21	 DE MICHELIS	89.47
22	 VENTIN	87.66
23	 AMATEURS	87.15
24	 BELGIUM 2	85.31
25	 AGRIPORT	83.95
26	 THE RON & THE KIDS	81.94
27	 EASTWEST	81.09
28	 NEW ENGLANDERS	79.72
29	 PELKA	79.05
30	 DE BOTTON	78.25
31	 THE MUGS	78.04
32	 BLACK	77.50
33	 RIPPEY	76.44
34	 LA SOCIÉTÉ	73.84
35	 JEDI KNIGHTS	73.34
36	 TRANSNATIONALS	55.76
37	 FLEMISH FURY	54.14
38	 NETBRIDGE	31.61

A Dull day in the Office

By Mark Horton



By and large, if the players decline to make mistakes a bridge match will be a low scoring affair, and short of deals which offer the writer or reader much excitement. What better way to introduce the Round 7 match between Bernal and Red Devils.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Caputo	Bernal	Vandervorst	Versace
—	—	1♣*	1♥
1♠*	2♠	2NT*	Pass
3♦*	4♥	4NT*	Dble
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

1♣ 2+♣
1♠ Not 4♠
2NT 11-15, ♣ or ♦+♣
3♦ Pass or correct
4NT Choose a minor

North led the ♥A and in due course South collected two trump tricks, -100. 4♥ can be defeated, but it's not trivial. It made many times and both declarers who failed could have made it.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Brenner	De Donder	Villas Boas	Bahbout
—	—	1♣	1♥
1♠*	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
4♦	All Pass		

1♠ Takeout without 4♠

South led the ♠10 and declarer won with the ace and exited with a heart. he could now play on cross-ruff lines, losing only two trumps, +130 and a 6 IMP gain. Notice that South ignored Meckstroth's Law.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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



Alfredo Versace and Francisco Bernal

Note that if South leads a low heart and declarer wins and plays a diamond to the king he almost certain to take nine tricks.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 5
♥ Q J 10 9 8 3 2
♦ A Q 7 4
♣ K

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

♠ K
♥ K 7 6
♦ 10 5 2
♣ 10 8 7 6 5 4

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Caputo	Bernal	Vandervorst	Versace
—	—	—	1♥
2♦	Pass	2NT	All Pass

South led the ♥7 and declarer won with dummy's king and ran the ♦9, South winning with the queen and switching to the ♠Q, followed by the jack. Declarer won that with dummy's ace and played a diamond to king. When that held he crossed to the ♣K and then ran the jack. After two more rounds of clubs, he could exit with the ♥Q and the heart he scored at the end was his eighth trick, +120.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Brenner	De Donder	Villas Boas	Bahbout
—	—	—	1♥
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South found the devastating lead of the ♥A and when North followed with the nine he continued with the eight. Declarer won with the queen and tried the ♦K, but South won and cleared the hearts. He won the second diamond and cashed his tricks for -200 and 8 IMPs.

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Caputo	Bernal	Vandervorst	Versace
1♠	4♥	4♠	5♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

East led the ♥4 and West took the ace and switched to the ♦3, East winning with the jack and exiting with the eight. Declarer had to lose a heart and a club, -300.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Brenner	De Donder	Villas Boas	Bahbout
1♠	4♥	4♠	5♥
Dble	Pass	5♠	All Pass

Ignoring any concepts about playing at the five-level, East took the push. Declarer won the hearts lead in dummy, played

a spade to the ace, went back to dummy with the ♠Q, ruffed a heart and played the ♣3 for the king and ace. He cashed two more clubs ending in dummy and played a diamond to the nine, a perfect endplay, +450 and a 4 IMP pick up.

Board 10. Dealer South. All Vul.

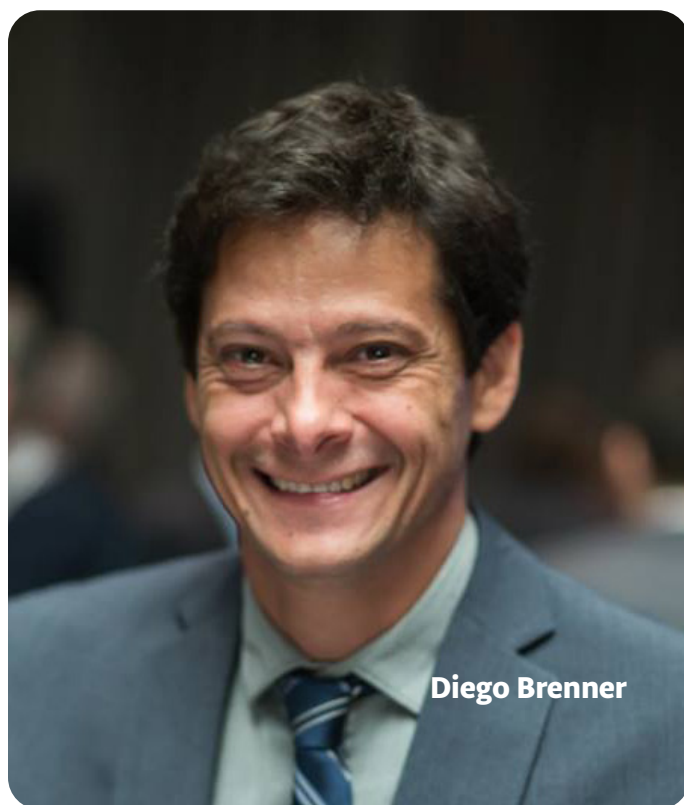
		♠ 7 5 2	
		♥ K 2	
		♦ Q 9 6 3 2	
		♣ Q 8 3	
♠ Q 9 6 3	♠ K J 4		
♥ 8 7 4	♥ A J 10 6 5		
♦ A 7	♦ K J		
♣ A 10 5 4	♣ J 7 6		
		♠ A 10 8	
		♥ Q 9 3	
		♦ 10 8 5 4	
		♣ K 9 2	

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Caputo	Bernal	Vandervorst	Versace
—	—	1♥	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

- 2♥ 9-11
- 2♠ General try
- 3♣ Maxi ♣, top H
- 3♦ Diamond stop

North led the ♠7 and declarer had a vital tempo. He won with the queen and played a heart to the ten and queen. South continued with two rounds of spades and declarer was soon claiming ten tricks, +630.



Diego Brenner

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Brenner	De Donder	Villas Boas	Bahbout
—	—	1NT	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT*	All Pass		

3NT 4♠

South led the ♦5 and declarer took North's queen with the king and played a spade to the queen. When that held he played a heart to the jack and queen, won the diamond exit perforce with dummy's ace and played a heart. That got him up to eight tricks, but South disposed of the ♦10 at the first opportunity, and that was -100 and a 12 IMP loss.

Interestingly neither pair opted for 4♥, which is easy enough on this layout, 18 pairs bidding and making it. Of the 10 pairs who tried 3NT only two were successful.

Sam Bahbout
Photo: EBL

European Team Championships Ostend, Belgium • 6 - 16 June 2018

West led the ♥7 and East won with the queen, cashed the ace and played a third heart (the ten) for West to ruff. The trump trick meant +140.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Brenner	De Donder	Villas Boas	Bahbout
—	1♣	Pass	1♥*
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

1♥ Spades
4♥ 5-5

East led the ♦5 and declarer took West's king with the ace, went to dummy with a club and played a spade for the jack and king. East exited with the ♠2 and declarer won with the ace, ruffed a diamond and played a heart to the king and ace. There were only nine tricks, -100 and a 6IMP swing.

24 declarer's tried 4♠ - only two made it, one of them when East played two rounds of hearts when he came in with the ♠K.

Having avoided a heart lead, Mikael Rimstedt played the ♠10 at trick two, and he lost only one trump trick, West perhaps making life easy by not covering with the queen.

Red Devils won 32-18, 13.96-6.04 VP and moved into third place.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Caputo	Bernal	Vandervorst	Versace
—	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

3♣ Forces 3♦

3♥ Non-forcing, natural.

Bidding Problem of the Day



by Christina Lund Madsen

One board caught my attention yesterday as the fate of East-West depended very much on whether you choose to open these cards or not with nobody vulnerable:

♠ - ♥ JT986 ♦ KT54 ♣ KQJ4

I counted how many opened, and the score was 21-17 in favour of Pass.

A few of the tables opened 2♥ showing hearts and a minor, the rest 1♥.

Most of the passers quickly regretted their initial bid since this was the layout:

Board 11. S / None

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

After an initial pass and a minor-opening or weak NT-opening in North, all East players overcalled in spades at either the 1, 2 or 3-level except one.

Most were left to play there, other Souths competed to 3♦:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cabanes	Bilde	Lasserre	Nyström
			Pass
Pass	1♦	2♠	3♦
All Pass			

Not even Dennis Bilde could make the contract after the normal spade lead.

A few declarers were allowed to make 2♠, but most went down.

However not only East was declaring 2♠. At two of the tables where West opened 1♥, the auction proceeded like this:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Preddy	de Wijs	Selway	Muller
			Pass
1♥	Dble	2♦*	2♠
All Pass			

It is hard to blame neither North nor South, and East was happy with the premature Christmas present.

Yet opening 1♥ was not always a success as it presented the possibility of going overboard:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Nowak	Hurd	Zatorski	Bathurst
			Pass
1♥	Dble	4♥	All Pass

Most went down, but two declarers made 4♥, Tim van de Paverd (I love that surname) and David Bakhshi (I am less enthusiastic about that surname since I always have to check whether I have enough Hs inserted correctly). Bakhshi even made an overtrick:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bakhshi	Sylvan	Malinowski	Sundelin
			Pass
1♥	Dble	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

North has an awkward lead, and most chose the ♠6. David inserted the ten, ducked by Sundelin in the South, West pitching a diamond. He continued with the ♠K, covered and ruffed by David with the ♥8 (!). The ♥T ran to South's queen and he shifted to a club to West's king and North's ace.

From the auction it is likely West is 5-5, so North tried to give his partner a ruff. Not this time. West played a heart to dummy's ace, happily noting the king on the way. Having carefully preserved the ♥6 in his hand and the ♥7 in dummy, he now tested spades, and when the jack dropped, David could cash the ♥7 and pitch all his diamonds and his club loser on the spades.

Yet what impressed me the most was the one player who did not overcall in spades:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Amiry	de Roos	Samir	Arts
			Pass
Pass	1NT*	Pass	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

1NT showed 10-14 in third seat. I do not know many players with enough self-control not to overcall 2♠ with the East hand, but it is hard to argue with the success of the leading team.



ALT Invitational

World-Class Online Bridge Events

ALT BOARD-A-MATCH ~ January 11-15, 2021

ALT's first special in 2021

For the first time Alt will organise a Board-a-Match tournament. It's also the first Alt event of the new year. It will be held from January 11-15 and pre-registration is open now. Invited so far: teams Donner, Gillis and Koeppel.

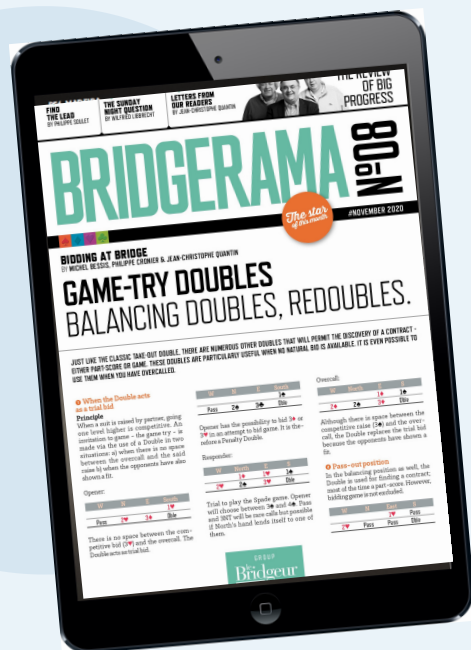
[Apply through this link](#)

ENJOY THE BEST OF THE BRIDGE PRESS!
GET 30% OFF*
on annual digital subscriptions.

6 ISSUES PER YEAR - 100 PAGES

BeBRIDGE
 ♥♦♦♦ by Le Bridgeur

\$37,80/year
 (INSTEAD OF \$54)



11 ISSUES PER YEAR - 20 PAGES

BRIDGERAMA®

\$27,30/year
 (INSTEAD OF \$39)

Subscribe today on:

www.bridge-eshop.com/en

or contact us by phone at:

+33 (0)1 42 96 25 50

or by email at:

abonnement@lebridgeur.com

*Offer valid until December 25, 2020 inclusive.

Preempts Work

- but maybe not quite always

By Martin Cantor



Your partner deals and passes at love all and you are looking at ♠87 ♥AKQJ ♦AK962 ♣J5. And while you're quietly wondering where you will end up after your intended reverse, your RHO throws a preemptive 3♣ spanner into the works. Now what?

Pass would be way too lame when there are decent chances of game your way. 3♦ is only a little less lame. You are both a heart and a trick or two short of a game-forcing Leaping Michaels 4♦. Which leaves double, but you know it probably only defers the problem, since the odds strongly favour partner bidding spades at the three or possibly four level. The right answer? The right answer is that there is no right answer, neither in theory nor in practice, as we saw on this hand from Monday's Round 2.

Board 11. S / None

♠ 6	♠ 87	♠ AKT43									
♥ 9764	♥ AKQJ	♥ T85									
♦ Q5	♦ AK962	♦ T83									
♣ AQ7643	♣ J5	♣ K8									
	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ QJ952										
	♥ 32										
	♦ J74										
	♣ T92										

This is what happened at the table I was watching:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Van den Hoek	Moss	Bremer	Grue
—	—	—	Pass
3♣	Dbl	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	All Pass	

The defence slipped a trick so Moss was just one down, gaining an IMP when teammates made 2♣ after the defence there slipped a trick too. I thoroughly approve of the 3♣ opening, but it was a minority action around the room, possibly because of the four card major, or maybe because second in hand (or maybe both).



Brad Moss
Photo: ACBL

Two brave souls chose an action which was not in my list of options, because it never occurred to me - they bid 3♥ over 3♣. The par contract, if you're interested, is 1♦+1. Nobody managed to play there.

In Wednesday's Round 7, there were tough decisions all round on this deal:

Board 12. W / NS

♠ 6 2	♠ K Q T 7 4	♠ A 5
♥ 4	♥ —	♥ A K T 8 7 6 3
♦ Q T 9 6 5 4	♦ J 7 2	♦ K
♣ K Q 9 8	♣ A 6 5 3 2	♣ J 7 4
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	
	♠ J 9 8 3	
	♥ Q J 9 5 2	
	♦ A 8 3	
	♣ T	

About a third of the Wests passed, the rest opened 2♦ or 3♦. Even more remarkably perhaps, two of the 3♦ openers were allowed to play there. Which is quite a position for East to take, but a successful one since South certainly can't back in. What do you do as North? Over 2♦? Over 3♦? After a pass? And what do you do as East, whether 2/3♦ - Pass -, or a spade overcall? Most chose to bid 4♥. Where North had bid spades South now had a problem. A vulnerable game in spades beckons. But you have a nasty surprise in trumps against 4♥, and game is by no means certain to make with the obvious bad breaks around. Mostly the Souths bid 4♠ and right they were, since it makes. Three of them were even doubled, so EW's preempts backfired on them here. On the

other hand, those who played in 4♥ went three light, half of them doubled for 500, the other half undoubled for 150, so for them and the 3♦ declarers the preempts did the trick. Altogether 115 IMPs changed hands across the 19 tables.

And finally, from Round 8, none of the 38 EWs found par on:

Board 5. N / NS

♠ 9 3 2	♠ 9 8 3	♠ J T 6
♥ 9 8 3	♥ Q T	♥ K T 6
♦ Q T	♦ 8 7 5 4 2	♦ K 3
♣ 8 7 5 4 2	♣ T	♣ A K Q 9 6
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	
♠ A	♠ K Q 8 7 5 4	
♥ J 5 4 2	♥ A Q 7	
♦ A J 9 8 7 6 4	♦ 5 2	
♣ T	♣ J 3	

For the most part South overcalled in spades whether East opened 1NT or 1♣. Mostly the auction wended its way to 3NT or 5♦, neither of which presented any problems for declarer (we won't mention the pair who played and went off in 4♥ where 11 tricks are possible). One East played the cold 6♦ and made an overtrick, while five Wests played the diamond slam. No surprise after the bidding that they all led a spade rather than the killing heart (who said 'if you want me to lead a heart, you should bid them?'). Four of the five made their slam, but there was one unlucky expert who won the spade in hand to finesse in clubs at trick 2; South had no problem cashing the ♥A. I leave you to talk to your favourite partner about how you will get to play 6NT by East.



Bridge Base
O N L I N E

Free, unlimited bridge on BBO



Your online bridge club

Social play. ACBL Games. Tournaments. Solitaire.



Computer, tablet or mobile phone:
Play on your favorite device!



bidding on an app
www.bid72.com

For Experts Only

Partnership building, testing agreements

dealer South vulnerability None

West	East
♠ 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♣
----------	---------	---------------	------------

West Tobias	North	East Marina72	South
—	—	—	2♥
Pass	4♥	5♠	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

5♠ = asking for heart control

6♠ = got it

dealer South vulnerability East-West

West	East
♠ 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♥
---------------	----------------	---------------

West Tobias	North	East Marina72	South
—	—	—	2♦
X	3♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

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

Join the Dutch Open Team and other national selections: **download the app bid72** (App Store or Google Play) and start bidding. Check our Expert Topics > bid72.com/topics

- 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

Practice bidding with our ever growing Topic Collection. Your editors are Jan van Cleeff and Simon de Wijs. Every Topic consists of approximately 100 boards.

Besides, the app offers lots of other stuff as well. For instance, an ocean of challenging random boards. Bid72 is an ideal platform to test your partnership agreements.

Sign-up for the *Newsletter* on www.bid72.com
and receive a free three-week trial !