

The minor ALT INVITATIONAL IV & TampAlt Qualification

NOVEMBER 16-20 2020



WORLD CLASS ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS

The Mugs made it

Yesterday we said goodbye to 28 teams. In the Minor Alt the four remaining teams are Fredin vs. Red Devils and Moss vs. Gupta.

Honourable mention goes to Black, defeated by the Red Devils, De Michelis who succumbed to Fredin, Eastwest who ran into the Moss wall and Wilson, who need 11 more IMPs against Gupta.

The Mugs (Jon Cooke, Kay Preddy, Norman Selway, Cameron Small, Jeremy Willans) and Vinita (Dennis Bilde, Soren Bilde, Alon Birman, Vinita Gupta, Hemant Lall) hung on to their positions as first and second respectively on the final day of the TampAlt Qualification.

Both teams win a free entry to the TampAlt main event December 14-18. Congratulations!

To the left is Kay Preddy, one of the Mugs.



Photo: Peter Hasenson

Important Notice

All players should enter BBO 10 minutes before their match starts at the latest. Tournament director Denis Dobrin is waiting for you and will instruct you where to sit.

Today's Schedule Minor Alt

Friday November 20

10:00 EST / 16:00 CET – Semifinal (28 boards)

14:30 EST / 20:30 CET – Final (32 boards)

Results Minor Alt Invitational IV

Round Robin

Ranking after round 7			Ranking after round 7		
rk	Group A	VPs	rk	Group B	VPs
1	FREDIN	83.04	1	MOSS	125.20
2	GUPTA	82.42	2	BLACK	83.49
3	RED DEVILS	81.41	3	WILSON	75.88
4	EASTWEST	78.07	4	DE MICHELIS	69.48
5	DONNER	73.67	5	POTTER	61.73
6	VENTIN	58.52	6	FRIENDLY ISRAELIS	60.38
7	DE BOTTON	57.05	7	BRIDGESCANNER	44.71
8	HARRIS	45.82	8	GILLIS	39.13

Quarterfinals

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
FREDIN	10.1	<u>22</u>	32.1	<u>26</u>	58.1
DE MICHELIS	0	<u>11</u>	11	<u>7</u>	18

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
BLACK	6.1	<u>7</u>	13.1	<u>32</u>	45.1
RED DEVILS	0	<u>25</u>	25	<u>44</u>	69

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
MOSS	10.1	<u>19</u>	29.1	<u>54</u>	83.1
EASTWEST	0	<u>17</u>	17	<u>20</u>	37

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
GUPTA	6.1	<u>7</u>	13.1	<u>28</u>	41.1
WILSON	0	<u>19</u>	19	<u>12</u>	31

Semifinals

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
FREDIN	0.1	<u>0</u>	0.1		0.1
RED DEVILS		<u>0</u>	0		0

All Results

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
MOSS	0.1	<u>0</u>	0.1		0.1
GUPTA		<u>0</u>	0		0

Final Result TampAlt Qualification

Next ALT event

The TampAlt main event takes place December 14-18.

This is a Major Alt event for up to 32 teams and still open to new entries.

Apply for invitation and read about the New Alt Competition and the other events in 2021 at

alt.bridgeresults.org

[All Results](#)

Ranking after round 12		
rk	team	VPs
1	 THE MUGS	154.90
2	 VINITA	152.23
3	 BELGIUM 2	143.17
4	 COPPENS	140.86
5	 IMP	139.56
6	 NEW ENGLANDERS	120.50
7	 FLEMISH FEAST	118.89
8	 TRANSNATIONALS	117.62
9	 JEDI KNIGHTS	117.47
10	 NORFOLK AND CHANCE	113.12
11	 HERRES!	109.93
12	 PELKA	109.67
13	 REMEMBERING ROLAND	108.32
14	 SWEETWOOD VILLAGE	97.24
15	 DE ZEEROB	95.48
16	 HONEY BADGERS	81.04

NB
NETBRIDGE

Playing the cards online

The Queen's Gambit

By Mark Horton



I read this novel long before it became a smash hit on Netflix and recently watched the series unfold. However, I missed a moment when the heroine, Beth Harmon, is being interviewed by a journalist for Life Magazine, who suggests she might be better suited by the game of bridge.

Although there are many strong chess players who have switched to bridge and achieved spectacular results (Michael Rosenberg for example) there is no explanation as to why greater success should be achieved at one game than the other. There is no reason why women should not be successful bridge writers, but at the moment this area is almost exclusively dominated by men. This can be partly explained by the fact that pursuing a journalistic career will almost certainly be at odds with your desire to play, especially if you are ambitious. Nevertheless, it is high time this imbalance was addressed.

If you are interested in working on Daily Bulletins or have an idea for an article (or better still a series of articles) or a book, write to me: markhorton007@hotmail.com

Time to see if Donner or the Red Devils could offer us any entertainment in the last match of the Round Robin:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Caputo	Moss	Vandervorst	Grue
—	Pass	1♠	2♦
Dble*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the ♦6 and declarer won perforce with the ace and went after the hearts, cashing dummy's ace and running the jack, North winning with the queen and playing the ♦2. South played three rounds of the suit, North parting with two spades and a club while two spades and a club went from dummy. Declarer played a club to the king, a club back to the ace and then cashed his hearts and finally played a spade to the ace, +400.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Donner	De Donder	S Rimstedt	Bahbout
—	Pass	1♣	2♦
2♥	3♠	Dble	All Pass

- 1♣ 16+
- 2♥ Hearts, GF

As Hugh Grant says in the movie Notting Hill, 'Woops a daisies'.

East cashed the ♦A and then played ace of spades and a spade. Declarer could manage only two spades and a club so down six and -1400.

On the next deal the bidding went 3♥(4♥) - Dble-5♥. At this point North doubled in the Closed Room and everyone passed, while in the other room South doubled again and North passed, -500 in both rooms.

The NS hands were ♠J98 ♥3 ♦AK10864 ♣543 and ♠A762 ♥5 ♦J97♣AKQ82 and 6♦ was cold.

The au pair thought it was obvious to bid 6♦ with North's hand, her point being that at this vulnerability even if you are wrong EW are almost bound to save.



Sam Bahbout
Photo: EBL

After that initial burst of excitement things became very sedate as the teams exchanged a small number of IMPs. With no major swings the difference between the teams was essentially what had happened on the opening deal, Donner winning 36-19, 13.72-6.28.

That was not enough for Donner to qualify. They needed 4 VPs more to swop places with the Red Devils, who finished third and qualified for the quarterfinals facing team Black, who they defeated 69-45.1. And so we will see the devils in today's semifinals against Fredin.

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December 19 - 21 2020

Teams at all levels are welcome to apply for invitation

All entry fees go to the CAT Legal Defense Fund

Read more and apply for invitation via alt.bridgeresults.org

Attention to Detail

By Mark Horton



This deal from the last of the qualifying rounds contained an instructive point:

Board 19. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Only one of the 16 pairs failed to reach the excellent contract of 6♠. South was the declarer 10 times, North on the remaining 5 occasions. West twice led the ♠J and a diamond was selected at two other tables. The ♣A the rest of the time while East always led the ♣2. West had not bid at any point, although two players had been able to double a club bid at some point.

Having taken the ♣A West continues the suit. What should declarer do?

On five occasions declarer discarded from dummy and East's ruff was the setting trick.

In the unlikely event that East had started with a singleton club it might well be



the case that he held three trumps. If they were headed by the ♠J10 there was nothing declarer could do, but it was possible to take insurance against the actual layout.

The remaining six took the small precaution of ruffing. One did that with dummy's queen then cashed the ace and finessed the eight, losing to West's ♠10.

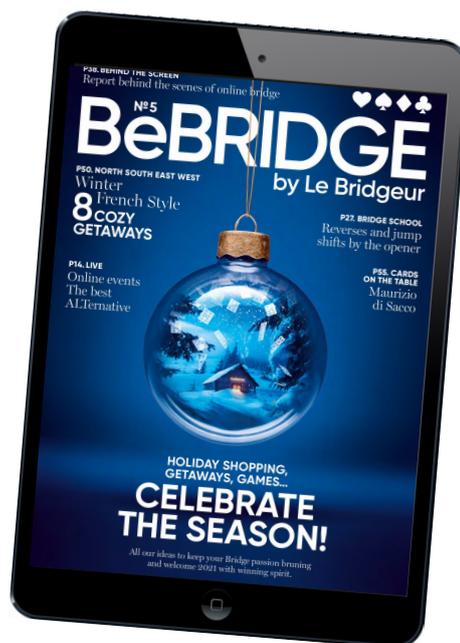
The other five all ruffed with the ♠6. Take a bow Bauke Muller, Ruurd Riewald, Joe Grue, Bas Drijver & Andrew Black.

DISCOVER THE NEW

BeBRIDGE

♥♦♣♠ by Le Bridgeur

THE NOVEMBER ISSUE HAS JUST BEEN RELEASED!



In this issue

The latest, **festive edition of BeBRIDGE** is full of tremendous articles. **Alain Levy** shows you how to handle **strong two-suited hands**, emphasising the use of reverses and jump shifts. He also highlights **the use of Splinter bids by the opener**. **Wilfred Libbrecht** shows you how to be innovative in the **'sandwich' seat** and the **Editor** reports on the **Online ALT events**. Our Experts offer their opinions on **some tricky bidding problems** and **Cinema Club** looks at **the work of the master of Suspense, Alfred Hitchcock**.

With all the regular features and a host of ideas for Christmas, **it's an issue you can't afford to miss.**

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How to make the Bulletin



by Christina Lund Madsen

As regular readers have noticed, I have a weakness for redoubles. To my great joy the quarterfinals produced such a board:

Board 21. North / NS

<p>♠ 76 ♥ A8 ♦ JT8652 ♣ K52</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ AQ42 ♥ T93 ♦ A73 ♣ JT7</p>	<p>♠ JT5 ♥ QJ54 ♦ KQ9 ♣ A84</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>♠ ♥ AK52 ♦ 65 ♣ Q976</p>												



Michal Klukowski
Photo: WBF

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Klukowski	Riewald	Kalita	Buijs
	1♣*	Dble	1♦*
2♦	Pass	Pass	Dble*
All Pass			

- 1♣ 2+ 5♦ possible with 5332
- 1♦ Hearts

If you don't already have an agreement with your favourite partner what pass means after redoubles a lower levels, it might be a good idea to get one.

Klukowski scored his nine tricks for the beautiful score of 760, worth 14 IMPs since North in the other room did not pass 3♦X:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Vilier	Bas Drijver	Vreeswijk	Brink
	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
2♦	Pass	3♦	Dble
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

- 1♣ 2+
- 1♦ 0-7 nat or relay

East had to lead the ♥Q to defeat the contract, so it was 140 plus 760.

Team Eastwest did not survive their encounter with Moss and went home yesterday with their heads held high.

From now on I will bring all redoubled contracts in the bulletin, successful as unsuccessful, so drop me a line if you played a redoubled contract.

One out of Three Ain't Bad

By Mark Horton



In Round 10 of the TampAlt Qualifier three pairs reached a slam on this deal, but only one of them was successful:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
J Bishel	Jones	T Bishel	Smith
—	—	—	1♠
4♦	4♠	5♦	5♠
6♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Declarer ruffed the spade lead in dummy, cashed the ♥A pitching a club, ruffed a heart and played a club to the queen. South took that and forced dummy with a spade. Declarer ruffed, played a club to the king and ruffed a club but then had to play a heart to get back to hand and North's ♦J was promoted into the setting trick.

Suppose declarer discards a spade on the ♥A. Then when South takes the ♣A exiting with a spade allows declarer to ruff in hand and he can then get home by playing a diamond to the ten.

That was worth 13 IMPs against 5♦ in the other room.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
van der Starre	Egmond	Huber	Jansen
—	—	—	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass

North led the ♠A and declarer ruffed and played the ♣Q. South took that and switched to a trump, leaving declarer with no play - another 13 IMP swing against 4♥ at the other table.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sprinkhuizen	Dewit	Eskes	Vandewiele
—	—	—	2♠*
3♦	4♠	6♦	All Pass

2♠ 10-13, 6/7♠

Declarer ruffed the spade lead in dummy, cashed the ♥A pitching a club, ruffed a heart, ruffed a spade, unblocked the ♦Q, ruffed a heart high, drew the outstanding trump and played a club to the ten, +1370 and the regulation 13 IMPs.

Victim of the Day

Thomas Paske

by Christina Lund Madsen



How old are you, what is your background, where do you live and why?

- I recently made it 30 years! I am the third of 6 siblings (three brothers and two sisters). I come from a farm in Herefordshire (Limousine cattle breeding) and when I did not play cricket in the garden with my siblings, I spent endless hours rounding up cows and bagging cake. *(If you have no idea what that means, here is how Thomas explains it: "Cake is what we feed the bulls (ironic it is called cake as it smells disgusting). A lorry comes around and fills a room with cake, then you have to put 3 buckets into one bag and repeat this mind numbing boring task for a few hours")*. These days spend my time between Vienna, London and sometimes America. I am in Vienna because of my girlfriend Adele. It is a very beautiful, clean and relaxing city (apart from the recent terror attack).

How have you been spending your time during corona?

- I have been spending far too much time on the computer. I have been enjoying the speed and ease of online bridge. You can wake up and 5 minutes later be ready to play against some of the best players in the world (some with an extra screen). I have also been enjoying climbing and cycling a lot and since I don't have to travel I have had plenty of time to do that.

Give us the highlights of your childhood.

- I was lucky to be part of the England youth set up and had many great trips abroad. Playing in the White House competition was always great fun but usually the side distractions get the better of our team. I can't remember having more fun than when we got to play in the Mind Sports Games in Beijing. The food, culture and winning a medal in the schools made it an unforgettable trip. I was very lucky to know Fu, a Chinese World Champion, who organised many of the great activities.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- I always enjoyed playing games and bridge I was lucky to learn from my maths teacher Mr Croot when I started secondary school at 11.

Tell us about a person who had a major influence on your bridge career.

- David Gold has been the biggest influence on my game. He has spent countless hours explaining (maybe even repeatedly ☺) many aspects of bridge that I was yet to understand.

What has been the personal highlight of your bridge life so far?

- Winning a Bronze medal in the Rosenblum. My first major success was when Alexander Allfrey, Andrew Robson, Edward Jones and I played in Orlando. It wasn't clear how things were going to go after a slow start in the qualifying Swiss

but we managed to get through and beat the Cayne team to take their seed and kept rolling from there. We made it to the semi-finals where a blue Lavazza road block beat us heavily. It was not just the result, we had great fun as well, enjoying some wining and dining together.

What is the most embarrassing story you dare perpetuate in writing?

When I lived in Croatia I lost my keys and used to go out, so to get back into the flat I would climb the drain pipe up to the 3rd floor balcony where the door was left unlocked. Unfortunately one time the door was locked and I had to spend several hours in the Croatia winter there until my girlfriend's mum woke up in the morning and let me in. I was too embarrassed to wake them up.

Do you have any education and did you have other jobs than bridge and rounding up cows?

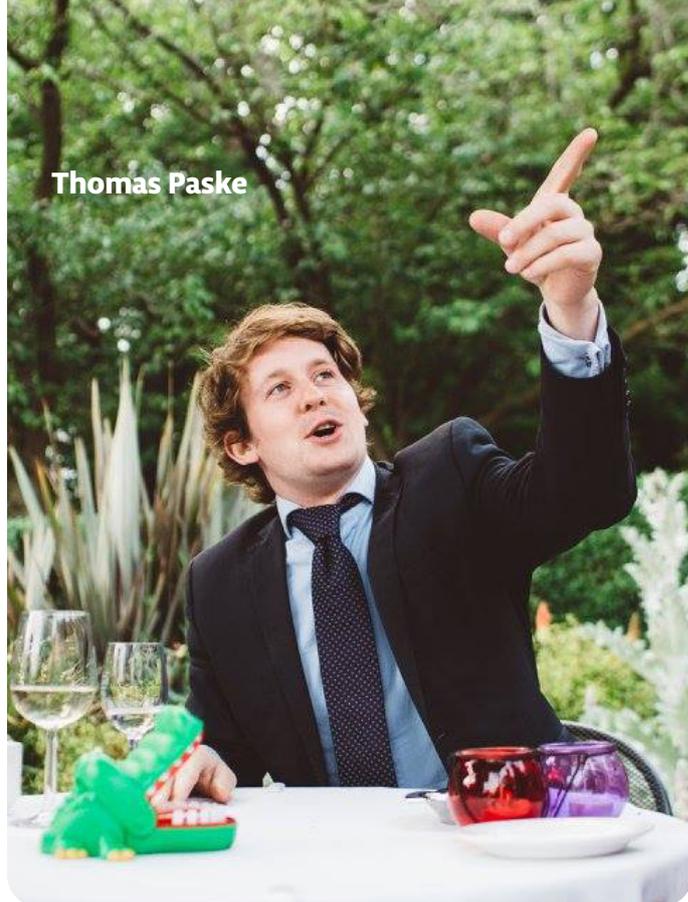
- I did try, in a very relaxed fashion, to get an education at one point. I was studying maths as UCL but other activities held much more interest for me and it never really got off the ground.

Tell us the love story of you and Adele.

- Adele and I first crossed paths in Wroclaw at one of the junior pair events held there. There I had a hat which I lost to Adele only to be regained back in Beijing. After that we met once more in the Azores and the rest was history!

What do you miss the most about England?

- The beer and the variety of food you get in London.



Thomas Paske

*Zach Grossack's questions for you:
Why are you called Mini? And who has better pubs, the Austrians or the Brits?*

- Despite much speculation and fabrication about my nickname. I am called Mini because I used to play with my older brother, Ben, in the juniors. Whilst they have lots of good Irish pubs in Vienna they don't come close to the English pubs for me. I enjoy the Ale and lots of the traditional food which they serve. Fish and chips being one of my favourite dishes.

You also lived in New York for a while. Tell us about that adventure.

- New York is a great city full of life and bridge. A few years ago I happened to have the opportunity to go to New York. Whilst I did consider living there it never materialised. I have many fond memories of people I have met and going out in the city.

They have many of the best players in the world and it is such an exciting atmosphere at the rubber and normal bridge clubs. There is so much to see and do!

What would you like to be better at?

- Climbing and bridge.

How would your best friends describe you in three words?

- Adventurous, fun and loyal.

What is an appropriate amount of beer to consume between sessions?

- None unless it is a junior event!

When were you most nervous in your life?

- Probably before the last set of the European Open final in Istanbul. Normally I feel focused/nervous before play but we were up about 50 imps with 1 set to play which was a most unexpected position to be in!

Tell us something you are secretly scared of.

- Old age although that isn't much of a secret.

What is your main goal in life?

- Win a Bermuda Bowl!

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

- We were once out drinking/ten pin bowling and I got caught in the face with a ten pin bowling ball which resulted in a few lost teeth and a couple of operations. I think I would have a quiet evening that night if given the chance again.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Sandra Rimstedt, Bob Drijver and Kevin Dwyer?

- I would certainly kiss Sandra. I have never played with and maybe not even against Kevin so I would like to partner him and I can kill Bob as revenge for all the times he has beaten us in the White House competition.

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

- Simon Hult. Despite the fact that we are playing on a team with him most weeks I know very little about him except that he is a world class player and teammate. ☺

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How to kibitz the Alt Mixed teams on BBO

As in the previous editions of the Alt Invitational, we expect thousands of spectators on BBO. Even though the Alt is not broadcasted via the BBO Vugraph, you can still watch any of your favourites. You simply search for your favorite player's nickname and join his or her table.

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!



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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♣
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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♥
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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♥.'

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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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