

MONTHLY INVITATIONAL TEAMS



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Gupta's Junta in Power

Yesterday Gupta took the lead by force with two victories, holding 55.33 VPs with Bertheau in second with 52.68, Wolfson and Donner occupying the last two spots in the top four. Three matches remain of our Round Robin and the leaderboard can still be reshuffled by a single blitz.

Normally we don't pay the butler much attention, yet I could not help noticing Hult-Hallberg are on top, ridiculing my pre-bulletin predictions.

Thus I am cheering for
Frodo and Sam in second
and two of the most gentle
men in the bridge world,
Levin and Hampson in third.
Geoff Hampson is also our
Victim of the Day.

junta
(noun) a group of military officers who rule a country after seizing power

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

Tuesday June 8

**10:30 Eastern Time / 16:30 CET – Round 3
(20 boards)**

**13:30 Eastern Time / 19:30 CET – Round 4
(20 boards)**








Today's Schedule

Round 5

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
<u>1</u>	 <u>DONNER</u>	 <u>GUPTA</u>
<u>2</u>	 <u>PALMA</u>	 <u>LEBOWITZ</u>
<u>3</u>	 <u>MOSS</u>	 <u>BERTHEAU</u>
<u>4</u>	 <u>IRELAND</u>	 <u>WOLFSON</u>

Round 6

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
<u>1</u>	 <u>DONNER</u>	 <u>BERTHEAU</u>
<u>2</u>	 <u>LEBOWITZ</u>	 <u>IRELAND</u>
<u>3</u>	 <u>GUPTA</u>	 <u>WOLFSON</u>
<u>4</u>	 <u>MOSS</u>	 <u>PALMA</u>

rank	team	3	5	7	8	1	4	6	2	VP tot
1	 <u>GUPTA</u>		<u>9.18</u>			<u>18.33</u>	<u>16.23</u>	<u>11.59</u>		55.33
2	 <u>BERTHEAU</u>	<u>10.82</u>					<u>3.20</u>	<u>19.09</u>	<u>19.57</u>	52.68
3	 <u>WOLFSON</u>				<u>8.92</u>	<u>12.30</u>	<u>18.33</u>		<u>7.47</u>	47.02
4	 <u>DONNER</u>			<u>11.08</u>		<u>5.42</u>	<u>10.55</u>		<u>14.76</u>	41.81
5	 <u>MOSS</u>	<u>1.67</u>		<u>7.70</u>	<u>14.58</u>			<u>10.55</u>		34.50
6	 <u>LEBOWITZ</u>	<u>3.77</u>	<u>16.80</u>	<u>1.67</u>	<u>9.45</u>					31.69
7	 <u>IRELAND</u>	<u>8.41</u>	<u>0.91</u>			<u>9.45</u>			<u>12.76</u>	31.53
8	 <u>PALMA</u>		<u>0.43</u>	<u>12.53</u>	<u>5.24</u>			<u>7.24</u>		25.44

Results

Event website
mit.bridgeresults.org

Victim of the Day

Geoff Hampson

by Christina Lund Madsen



What is your age, where are you from, where do you live and how many girl/boyfriends do you have at the present?

- I was born in Toronto, Canada, almost 53 years ago. Married to Lindsay Pearlman, now Hampson, so down to just the one.

Give us the highlights of your education and career outside of bridge (if any).

- When I caught the bridge bug in High School, I was headed for Uni in Canada but after two years mostly wasted there I withdrew to seek employment to fund my bridge addiction. I had several jobs over the next years but the most consistent were bank teller and courier. I tended to work until I had enough to take off for some bridge adventure and then return when I ran out of money, a cycle that lasted around 5 years after I left Uni but before I could earn any money at bridge.

How did bridge become your full-time occupation?

- I was traveling to play bridge whenever and wherever I could in my late teens and early 20's. I had been introduced to Eric Rodwell by a friend from the Toronto bridge scene, Florine Atkins, who arranged for me to play the Toronto Calcutta with him.

This sparked a lifelong friendship and opened my eyes to the possibilities in bridge, but it would be several years before a career blossomed out of all this.



The first jobs I had in bridge were as a 5th on teams with Lynn Deas and Jeff Meckstroth as the other two pros and their two sponsors. This not only got me a (tiny) paycheck but gave me the chance to play with superstars and learn volumes.

What drove you from Canada to the US and what do you miss the most and the least?

- When I was coming up in bridge there was no professional bridge in Canada. If I wanted to continue to advance as a pro I would need to become American to reach a high level. Coincidentally I fell for an American woman right about that time and the move to Michigan ensued.

While searching for pictures of Geoff smiling, I came across this picture with him and Justin Lall. It is the one in which Geoff looks happiest.



The old joke “What do you call a bridge pro with no girlfriend? -Homeless” applied to me nicely. I miss my family, lots of good friends, and the general attitude of the population. I don’t much miss winters.

What made the biggest impression on you during the past one and a half year?

- How many Americans are willing to reelect Donald Trump after the previous 4 years.

What is the key to a successful partnership (in life as well as bridge)?

- Find the right one.

What were you like as a child?

- Similar to now, obnoxious.

What did you dream of when you were a teenager?

- Being a professional sport success... not exactly like this.

What interests do you have outside of bridge?

- Before Covid I played a lot of Golf, cycled some, ate at good restaurants. Since covid I play Barbu, work on our house and work in our garden. Hopefully I will resume the sporting once the temperature drops some here in Vegas, it has been crazy hot lately.

Tell us something you are very bad at.

- Finishing projects.

What is your proudest accomplishment in life?

- Philly Rosenblum springs to mind.

What is your biggest regret?

- Telling my friend he is crazy when he said buy bitcoin at 2k? The matches that I have blown are too many to count or rank so I will go with the bitcoin error. Possibly tied with selling Dell stock at 25 in 1991.

How would your best friend describe you in three words?

- Is this for public viewing? I don't think I could put any of the 3 words in print.

What do you secretly dream of?

- I have not remembered a dream in 25 years. I often wake up in the night and think "I have to remember that dream" but never do.

If you could change something about your life, past or present, what would it be?

- Spend more time with Dad before he went.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Marion Michielsen, Joe Grue and Michal Nowosadzki?

- Joe gets all 3.

Who do you think should be a future victim in the bulletin? Tell us something you would like to know about this person.

- Vince. When did you last have a driver's license?



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BeBRIDGE

♥♦♣♠ by Le Bridgeur

THE MAY ISSUE
HAS JUST BEEN
RELEASED!



In this issue

The May 2021 issue of BeBRIDGE has arrived! The **World's Federations report on how they are surviving** - and thriving - during the pandemic. **Teachers** reveal how they are continuing to **educate the next generation**. Technicians will delight in the in-depth examination of **Major suit raises after a take-out double** and the truth about the subject of **third suit forcing** while **Alain Lévy** also examines some tough leads from an International event on Real Bridge. La Doyenne returns along with **David Bird's Abbot** and all the regular features. Finally there is an in-depth report on the delights of a trip to **Scotland**.

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Same Same but Different

By Mark Horton



The third round of the June Invitational was not unlike the first in so far as there were heavy exchanges in all the matches, although there were not quite so many slams. Here is some of the action from Wolfson v Donner:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S Rimstedt	Birman	Donner	Padon
—	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♥	1♠	Dble*	2♥*
3♣	Pass	3♠*	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

1♦ 10-15, 2+♦
Dble 3♥
2♥ Good raise

That was worth 10 IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Wolfson	Grue	Garner	Moss
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♠*	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	All Pass

3♠ Splinter

Despite West's lack of enthusiasm East bid the slam that depended on the heart finesse. That was -50.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Wolfson	Grue	Garner	Moss
—	—	1♠	3♣
4♣*	5♣	5♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

South led the ♦5 and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the ♥7 to the queen. When it held he cashed the ace, ruffed a heart, came to hand with a club and ruffed a heart. He then drew trumps and played a diamond to the jack, +1460.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S Rimstedt	Birman	Donner	Padon
—	—	1♠	3♣
4♠	All Pass		



Jeff Wolfson

That represented a swing of 13 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Wolfson	Grue	Garner	Moss
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

2♣ Drury
3♦ Natural, game forcing

East led the ♠3 for the ten, jack and ace and declarer drew trumps and played a club to the nine, continuing with the ♣K pitching a heart and claiming 11 tricks, +650.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S Rimstedt	Birman	Donner	Padon
—	—	—	3♣
All Pass			

West led the ♥3, the defenders gathering three tricks, +130 but an 11 IMP loss.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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



North led the ♥A and continued with the queen, declarer ruffing and playing a spade to the queen. When that held she ruffed a heart and cashed the ♠A. She continued with three rounds of diamonds, South ruffing and exiting with the ♣2. Declarer took the ace and continued with the king and then the ten, ruffed in dummy. That was nine tricks, but North took the last two with the major suit kings, -100 and 5 IMPs.

If declarer takes a round of clubs before playing diamonds North's queen appears. Now playing diamonds works as when South ruffs declarer simply covers the enforced club return and North is helpless.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Wolfson	Grue	Garner	Moss
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♥	2♦	Pass
3♦	3♥	All Pass	

5♦ is a decent contract for EW - it can only be defeated by an unlikely club lead and even then North will have to underlead his hearts when in with the ♠K. David Gold and Zia made 5♦, as did Simon Hult and Gunnar Hallberg.

As the half came to an end, Wolfson led 34-25.

East led the ♦K and switched to the ♥5, declarer winning with the king and returning the ♦10. East took the jack and played a second heart, declarer winning, ruffing a diamond and playing a spade to the king for an eighth trick, -100.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S Rimstedt	Birman	Donner	Padon
—	—	1♦*	Pass
1♠	2♥	Dble*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

1♦ 10+/15, 2+♦ Dble 3♠

♠ A J 5 4 3
♥ 8 4 2
♦ J 9 5
♣ K 4

♠ 7 6
♥ A Q 7 6 5 3
♦ K 7 2
♣ A 10

♠ K 10 9 8
♥ K 9
♦ Q 10 4 3
♣ 9 6 2

♠ Q 2
♥ J 10
♦ A 8 6
♣ Q J 8 7 5 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Wolfson	Grue	Garner	Moss
—	—	Pass	2♣*
2♥	Dble*	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♥	All Pass

By now I would have thought the entire world would have been aware of Meckstroth's Law, which advocates bidding game when partner freely raises your six-card major. Declarer had no problem taking ten tricks, +170.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S Rimstedt	Birman	Donner	Padon
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	1NT	2♣
2♥	All Pass		

When I saw this sequence I wondered if there should be a corollary to Meckstroth's Law along the lines of raising partner's known six-card major to game (there is no point in raising to 3♥ as partner will then go on to 4♥ in any event). No swing and remarkably no-one reached game with the EW cards.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Wolfson	Grue	Garner	Moss
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	All Pass		

North led the ♥J and declarer played three rounds of the suit, South ruffing with the ♦8 and continuing with the four which meant the defenders took five tricks, -90.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S Rimstedt	Birman	Donner	Padon
—	—	—	2♠
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

With both red suits under control and a useful card in partner's suit North found a sharp double. South led the ♠K and then switched to the ♣3 when North unblocked the jack. Declarer unblocked the clubs and ducked a heart to North's queen. When the ♠8 came back declarer took the ace and played a club, but when South proved to have the queen he could cash his spades for -500 and 11 IMPs.

As the play went declarer missed a difficult chance. After winning the club switch say he ducks a diamond, North winning with the nine and returning the ♠8. Declarer covers with the nine and South wins and plays a second club. Having won in dummy declarer cashes the ♦A. He then takes two rounds of hearts ending in hand and exits with a club forcing South to lead into the ♠A7, giving declarer the last four tricks.

On board 17 West held ♠A ♥KQ6 ♦AK ♣AKQT632. There is no scientific way to bid hands like this - give partner just the



Dror Padon
Photo: ACBL

♥J and you have a play for 6♣. Seven of the eight pairs bid a slam (two were allowed to make!) both sides attempting 6♣ in our featured match. Partner's hand was ♠KQ842 ♥72 ♦JT764 ♣8.

Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Wolfson	Grue	Garner	Moss
—	—	—	1♠
Dble	Pass	2♥	2♠
4♥	All Pass		

South led the ♣J and declarer took dummy's ace and continued with the ♠5, South winning with the queen and returning a club. Declarer won in dummy and gave up a club to North's queen. Back came the ♠4 and when declarer pitched a diamond South won with the ace and returned the ♠9. Declarer pitched a diamond on dummy's king, cashed the ♦A, ruffed a diamond, played a heart to the ten and ruffed a diamond, South's overruff meaning one down, -100.

As the cards lie declarer must ruff the second round of spades and take a heart finesse. He can then ruff another spade, draw trumps and play South for a doubleton king of diamonds.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S Rimstedt	Birman	Donner	Padon
—	—	—	1♠
Dble	2♠*	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

2♠ Weak raise
3♣ Stayman

North led the ♠3 and South took the ace and switched to the ♣J. Declarer won with the ace, cashed the ♠K pitching a diamond, ruffed a spade and played two rounds of clubs. North won and exited with the ♦9 which declarer won with the ten. When the ♦K fell under the ace she continued with the ♥A followed by the ♥J and all South score was the ♥K, +620 and a 12 IMP swing that saw Donner home, 50-46, 11.08-8.92 VP.



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