MONTHLY INVITATIONAL TEAMS



TOP ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS • **MIT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG**



The last match of the round robin Wolfson bested leaders Bertheau close to a blitz, thus passing both Bertheau and Gupta on the leaderboard to take the first place. Intoxicated by their success, they picked Bertheau in their semifinal. That was wrong. Bertheau came back to win and enter the final once again.

Gupta and Moss had the pleasure of each other's company, and after the first set Moss must have been close to withdrawing, being down 85.1-20. However they put up an admirable fight, making Gupta and kibitzers sweat in the early summer heat, yet at the end their 43-IMP pickup proved to little and so Gupta faces Bertheau in today's final.

Yesterday we parted with six teams; after the last match of the round robin, Tommy Garvey of Ireland sent us this text:

"Your competition was great - absolutely super field and great spirit. Never for one moment worried about the live broadcasts. Shame we did not play better but enjoyed none the less."

It is nothing like the real thing, yet we try our best to make online bridge enjoyable and are grateful that our efforts are appreciated and we get to watch you all play!

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 Final

10:00 Eastern Time / 16:00 CET – Final Segment 1 (14 boards)

After 10 minutes break - Final Segment 2 (14 boards)

After 10 minutes break - Final Segment 3 (14 boards)

Today's Schedule

Ranking after round 7

rk	team	VPs
1	WOLFSON David Berkowitz, Alon Birman, Gary Cohler, Steve Garner, Dror Padon, Jeff Wolfson	86.98
2	GUPTA David Gold, Naren Gupta, Daniel Korbel, Zia Mahmood, Bauke Muller, Simon de Wijs	84.60
3	Peter Bertheau, Gunnar Hallberg, Simon Hult, Oren Toledano, Daniel Zagorin, Ami Zamir	78.08
4	MOSS Vincent Demuy, Geoff Hampson, Jacek Kalita, Roger Lee, Bobby Levin, Sylvia Moss, Michal Nowosadzki	75.92
5	Per-Ola Cullin, Gary Donner, Kevin Dwyer, Joe Grue, Marion Michielsen, Brad Moss, Cecilia Rimstedt, Sandra Rimstedt	65.59
6	IRELAND Leslie Amoils, Grainne Barton, John Carroll, Nick FitzGibbon, Tommy Garvey, Tom Hanlon, Hugh McGann, Adam Mesbur, Mark Moran	58.21
7	LEBOWITZ Dennis Bilde, Adam Grossack, Zachary Grossack, Larry Lebowitz, Agustin Madala, Michael Rosenberg	56.02
8	PALMA Joao Barbosa, Carlos Fernandez, Joaquin Pacareu, Antonio Palma, Paulo Sarmento, Juan Carlos Ventin, Frederic Wrang, Fredrik Nystrom	54.60

SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
	10.1	<u>27</u>	37.1	<u>33</u>	70.1
BERTHEAU		<u>45</u>	45	<u>57</u>	102

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
GUPTA	6.1	<u>79</u>	85.1	<u>39</u>	124.1
MOSS		20	20	<u>82</u>	102

Results

Event website mit.bridgeresults.org

Victim of the Day Tom Hanlon





What is your age, residence, place of birth; how many women do you claim and how many children have you fathered?

- I wish you asked me 2 days ago as I was 53 but with a birthday yesterday I am now 54. I live in Dublin and father one son, 32 years old. I only claim one woman, my beautiful partner Nuala (who is peeping over my shoulder as I type).

What your background in terms of education and occupation?

by Christina Lund Madsen

- The day I had to accept my college place coincided with the day I was offered a job in insurance, instant cash to fund my 18-year-old idea of life was more alluring. In hindsight it was good timing as I would have flunked college 100%, playing bridge all day in the common room.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- As a 13-14 year old. My mother thought it would be a good idea to send me to bridge classes. I went with my best friend (his dad was giving the class) because the idea of getting out to the local hotel midweek, sneak a few drinks disguised as soft drinks and the chance of maybe meeting some girls taking the class (pipe dream)

What is your most unforgettable bridge memory, good or bad?

- Best memory is winning the 2006 silver medal at the European championships as part of an unheralded Irish team. We knew we were thought of as complete outsiders but we worked so hard and really believed we had a chance.

Worse memory is also winning the 2006 silver medal at the European championships as we were cheated out of the gold medal by Fantoni / Nunes, and all the other championship medals Ireland and other countries were robbed of by the cheating pairs.

How have you fared during Corona?

- Actually pretty well. My life pre covid was a lot of travel so it's been really good to spend time at home and not be always packing a bag but Nuala might be getting tired of me as she has my bag packed ready to go for the first tournament back F2F when it happens.

How would your exes describe you in three words?

- Lucky, lucky, lucky.

What do you dream about?

- Being a rock star.

Based on your experience, which opening line would you recommend for a man trying to pick up a woman (or man) at a bar?

- I have retired and so have my secrets, wait for the book!!

Have you ever paid anyone to let you win at something?

- Well yes! At the European championships in Opatija we had a big party and an armwrestling tournament began. A very beefy bartender was taking on all comers and beating everyone quite easily. I offered him €100 to let me win when I took him on. He duly obliged and my reputation of being stronger than I look was born!

(Unfortunately, Christina whipping my butt later meant the legend was smashed very quickly.)



You have partnered poker star Gus Hansen on several occasions (in bridge that is). What is it like playing with him?

- Complicated but very entertaining. He is a system nut or is that he has a nutty system. Some of it was genius though. Like whenever the partner bids 2C it creates a game force! So with a weak hand you would have to jump to 3C. We had some great and mostly successful auctions. When we won the pro-am at the Copenhagen Bridge Invitational in 2010 it was with this system.

What makes you laugh?

- My friends in Les's suite at the nationals

What makes you cry?

- When it hits me the JLO is really gone.

What do you do really well and where do you see room for improvement?

- Dancing and Dancing.



Vincent Demuy's question for you: "My suit is clean again, when are we playing next?" - Hey Dude, anytime, anyplace, anywhere!!!

If you could have done something differently in your life, what would it be?

- Nothing, I am a firm believer that changing one thing, changes everything and I am happy the way things have worked out so far!!

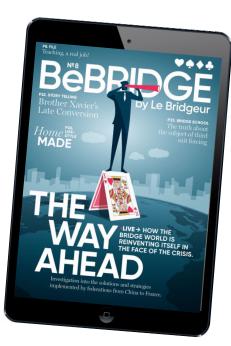
Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Jacek Kalita, Alon Birman and Peter Bertheau? - Kill Jacek, I had a massive party in my room at the end of the Boston nationals about 10 years ago. There was an ocean to drink but somehow, he found my stash of grey goose and polished it off.

Kiss no guy, not even for this article, sorry christina so I guess I will partner both Alon and Peter, both great choices!!

We will be back with more victims in the next edition of the Monthly Invitational Teams - hopefully in August.

BEBRIDGE

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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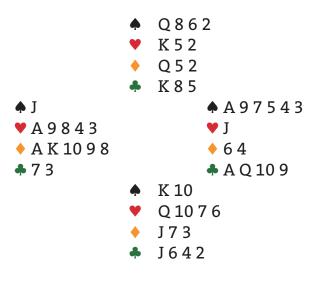
A Round of No Importance



By Mark Horton

Going in to the final round Bertheau and Gupta were already safe and Wolfson and Moss were in strong position. Wolfson were up against the leaders, but they had more than 14 VP in hand over fifth placed Donner.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.



Bertheau v Wolfson

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Birman	Zagorin	Padon	Bertheau
_	_	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 🔶	Pass	3NT	All Pass

With a horrible hand to lead from South opted for the ♣2 for the king and ace and declarer continued with a diamond to the eight and queen. North returned the ♣8 and South won with the jack and switched to the ♥7. It was too late, as with the diamonds behaving declarer was assured of nine tricks, +600. If North had switched to a spade at trick two, declarer would have had little hope of securing nine tricks. A tough defence to find, and the other four North players who faced it also returned a club at trick three. The solution for declarer is to clear his club tricks immediately, retaining the A as an entry.

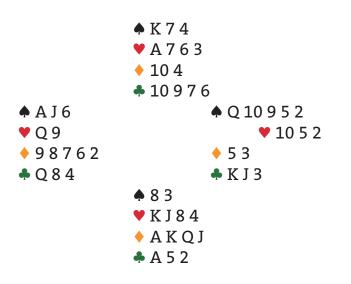
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Wolfson	Hult	Garner
_	_	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led the ♣4 for the king and ace and declarer continued with a diamond to the king and then ran the ♣J (the best chance of losing only two trump tricks at 38.75%) South taking the king and adroitly switching to the ♥7. Declarer took dummy's ace, ruffed a heart and played the ♠A followed by the nine. North won and returned the ♣8 setting up a fourth trick for the defence, -50 and a 12 IMP swing.

If declarer leaves trumps alone and plays on cross-ruff lines then ten tricks should not be too difficult to collect (there is even a chance of eleven).

At the table where the Secretary Bird and the Rueful Rabbit were in opposition RR accidently dropped the \bigstar K on to the table against 4 \bigstar . As dummy HH magnanimously told him to pick it up, but SB would have none of it, thereby ensuring that the contract had no chance of making.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Bertheau v Wolfson

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Birman	Zagorin	Padon	Bertheau
_	_	_	2 ♦ *
Pass	2♠*	Dble	Pass
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

2 | 18-19

2 Transfer to 2NT

The defenders led spades, declarer winning the third round of the suit, cashing the ♥A and playing a heart to the jack and queen and claiming nine tricks, +150.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Wolfson	Hult	Garner
_	_	_	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♥
All Pass			



East led the ♥ 2 for the queen and ace and declarer drew trumps and played a spade to the king, claiming 11 tricks when it held, +200 and a couple of IMPs.

Donner v Ireland

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Amoils	Dwyer	Hanlon	C Rimstedt
—	_	_	1♣*
Pass	1 • *	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

1 2+*

1♦ 4+♥

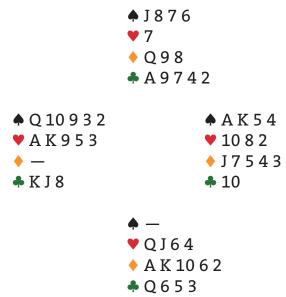
3♥ 18-19 balanced with 4♥

West found the threatening lead of the 4 for the six, king and ace and declarer played a heart to the ace and a heart, putting up the king when East followed with the three and five. That resulted in 11 tricks, +650.

I wondered if any East would play the ♥10 on the second round of the suit - no-one did and it probably would not have helped.



_		_		_		_
Board	9. C)eal	er N	lorth	. EW	Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cullin	FitzGibbon	Michielsen	Mesbur
_	_	_	1♣*
Pass	1 • *	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

1♣ 17+ 1♦ 'Less than 8' 1NT 17-19 2♣ 'Non-promissory'

West led the <2 and declarer won with the queen, played a heart to the ace and a heart to the jack. After winning the diamond return declarer drew the outstanding trump and played a spade to the king, securing ten tricks but losing an IMP.

4♥ was reached (and made) at all the other tables but Les Amoils was the only defender to find the testing club lead.

Bertheau v Wolfson

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Birman	Zagorin	Padon	Bertheau
_	Pass	Pass	1♦
2 🔶 *	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

2 Majors

3 Invitational+ in spades

South led the ♦A and declarer ruffed in dummy and played a spade to the ace, South pitching the ♦2. The ♣10 lost to North's ace and the return of the ♦8 forced dummy to ruff. Declarer played the ♥AK but North ruffed the king and exited with the ♠8. Declarer won with dummy's ten and played the ♥3, South winning with the jack as North pitched the ♣4. Now any red card holds declarer to nine tricks, but South exited with the ♣5 and declarer could score two club tricks and then play a heart, +620.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Wolfson	Hult	Garner
_	Pass	Pass	1♦
2 •*	3 🔶	4♠	5 🔶
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

2 Majors

Given that North had presumably shown only a modest raise with 3♦ (he could have bid 2♥/2♠ with various types of good raise, South's decision to take the 'save' was a surprise, given the defensive nature of his hand. Although in theory EW can make 4♠ it is not a laydown as we saw in the other room.

West led the ♥K and switched to the ♠9 for the jack, king and a ruff. Declarer played the ♥Q, discarding a spade when West followed with the three and then took two rounds of clubs, West taking the queen with the king, cashing the jack and exiting with the ♠3. Declarer ruffed, ruffed a heart with dummy's ♦Q and exited with a club. East ruffed and exited with a trump and had another trump to come, -500, but another 3 IMPs for Wolfson.

If declarer ruffs a heart before playing two rounds of clubs he should be able to score nine tricks.

4 was reached six times, declarer failing four times. This was the stand out result:

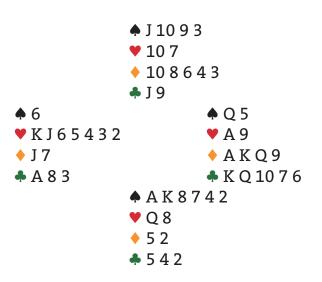
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Madala	Nowosadzki	Bilde	Kalita
_	-	_	1♦
2 🔶 *	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4	4NT*	Dble	5♣
Dble	All Pass		

2 Majors

4. 'Meant as short'

West led the ♥K and then switched to the ♦10. Declarer ruffed and advanced the ♣Q, ducking when West covered with the king. He ruffed the spade return, drew trumps via the finesse, cashed the ♦Q and played another diamond, soon claiming via the ruffing finesse in hearts, +550 and 10 IMPs against 4♠ one down.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Birman	Zagorin	Padon	Bertheau
_	_	_	2♠
3♥	4♠	5NT*	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

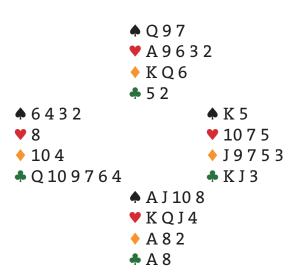
5NT Pick a slam

North led the \bigstar J and South won with the king and continued with the ace. Declarer ruffed and played two rounds of hearts, +980.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Berkowitz	Hult	Cohler
_	_	_	2♠

The defenders took all their tricks, but that was only -500 and a 10 IMP loss. Five pairs bid a slam, two of them playing

in 6.



Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Birman	Zagorin	Padon	Bertheau
_	_	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3 • *
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	5 ♣*
Dble	5 🔶 *	Pass	6♥*
All Pass			

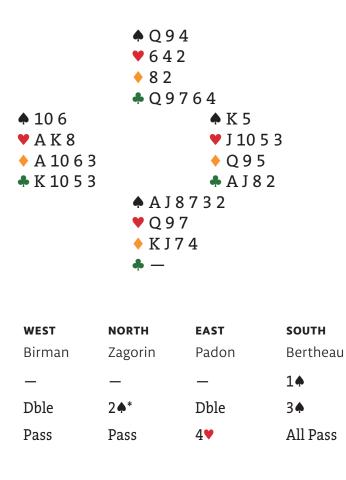
- 3**.** Puppet
- 3 /1 or 2/4 cards'
- 3 Hearts
- 4. Cue bid with hearts
- 4 RKCB
- 5 4 key cards
- 5♦ ♥Q?
- 6♥ 'Yes, no extras'

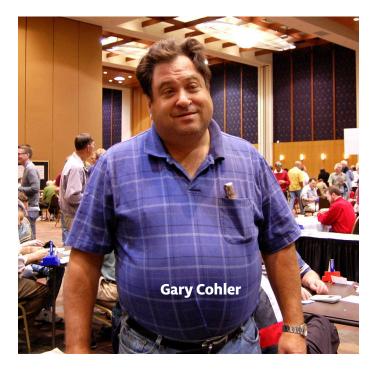
West led the �6 and declarer won, drew trumps and advanced the �Q, claiming when it was covered, +1460. After the club lead it is a classic 'five or seven' deal.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Berkowitz	Hult	Cohler
—	_	Pass	2NT
Pass	3 • *	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

No swing here, but two pairs stopped in 4♥ and lost 13 IMPs.

Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.





South led the A and continued with the two for the queen and king and declarer played a heart to the ace, followed by a diamond for the eight, nine and jack.

South returned the <6 but declarer ran it to the queen, played a heart to the king and a third heart. South won and forced out the last trump with a spade, but declarer played a diamond to the ten, cashed the <K and claimed, +620.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Berkowitz	Hult	Cohler
_	_	_	1♠
Dble	2♠*	3♥	3♠
All Pass			

2 Weak raise

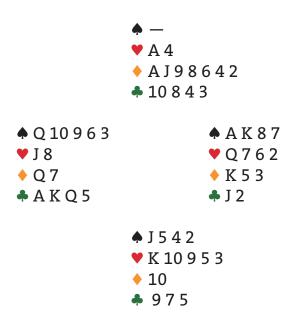
West led the \blacktriangleleft A and when East followed with the jack he switched to the \blacklozenge 10 for the queen, king and ace (only a club switch beats 3 \blacklozenge).

2 Weak

Declarer played the \bigstar K West taking the ace and exiting with a spade to dummy's nine. A diamond to the jack was followed by a diamond ruff and now a heart to nine established a ninth trick, +140 and 13 IMPs.

Four pairs reached 4♥, but it was only made twice.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Birman	Zagorin	Padon	Bertheau
1♠	2♦	2NT*	Pass
4♠	4NT*	Pass	5♣
Dble	Pass	Pass	5 🔶
Dble	All Pass		

2NT Invitational with 4♠ 4NT ♦+♣

East led the AK and declarer ruffed, played a heart to the king and the >10 for the queen and ace.



East won the next diamond and exited with the ♥6 and declarer won, cashed the ♦9 and exited with a club.

East won with the jack and played a spade and declarer lost three more clubs for -800.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hallberg	Berkowitz	Hult	Cohler
1♠	3♦	4♠	All Pass

North led the ♦A and continued with the jack, South ruffing and returning the ♥3. North took the ace and played the ♦6, ruffed and overruffed by declarer who claimed nine tricks, -100 and 14 IMPs to Wolfson, completing a 64-8, 19.17-0.83 VP win that saw them top the Round Robin.

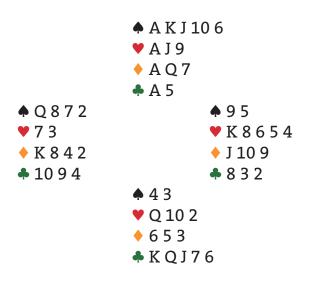
Solo

By Mark Horton



If your email address includes the numbers 007 it is perhaps suggesting of something. You could ask me next time you see me, but if I told you, then of course I'd have to kill you. The word solo has many possible definitions, one of them relating to the game of Solo Whist. It was also the title of one of the James Bond 'continuation' novels. This short report on the semifinals features three deals which each contained one unique result.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.



Wolfson v Bertheau

west Zamir	NORTH Wolfson	EAST Toledano	south Garner
_	_	2♥*	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♥ 'Can be 5' 2NT 'Relay to 3♣' West led the ♥7 and East won with the king and switched to the ♣3. Declarer won with dummy's ace, played the ♥J to the queen and a spade to the jack. He cashed his club winners and repeated the spade finesse, +690.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Berkowitz	Hult	Cohler	Hallberg
_	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♥5 and when dummy's ten held declarer took a spade finesse, cashed five clubs and repeated the spade finesse, +720 and an IMP.

Gupta v Moss

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Moss	Gold	Lee	Zia
_	_	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2 🔶 *
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

2♥ Kokish

2 Kokish

2NT '24/25ish, balanced'

- 4• '5 clubs 332 slam try'
- 4 'Not sure I have natural'

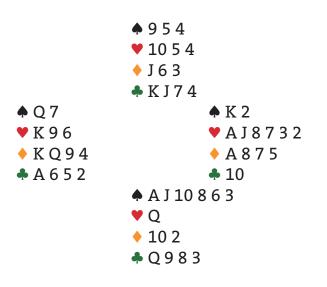
East led the \blacklozenge J and declarer won with the queen and played the ace, king and jack of spades, claiming, +1430.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
de Wijs	Levin	Muller	Hampson
_	_	2♥*	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♥ 'Could be 5, could be very weak'

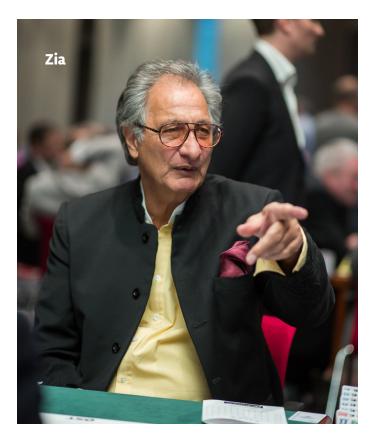
Here too East led the \blacklozenge J and having won with the queen declarer cashed five clubs and then played three rounds of spades, +690 but a 13 IMP loss.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.



Wolfson v Bertheau

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zamir	Wolfson	Toledano	Garner
_	_	1♥	1♠
4♥	All Pass		



South led the ♣8 and declarer won with dummy's ace and cashed the ♥K, the appearance of the queen soon resulting in a claim, +680.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Berkowitz	Hult	Cohler	Hallberg
_	_	1♥	2♠
3♠*	Pass	4	Pass
5♣	Dble	Rdbl	Pass
5 🔶	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT*	Pass	6♦	All Pass

3♠ 3♥

5NT 'Pick'

South led the ♣8 and declarer won, drew trumps ending in dummy and cashed the ♥K, soon claiming, +1370 and 12 IMPs.

4♥ 'Wide'

Gupta v Moss

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Moss	Gold	Lee	Zia
_	_	1♥	3♠
4♥	All Pass		

Declarer collected 12 tricks, +680.

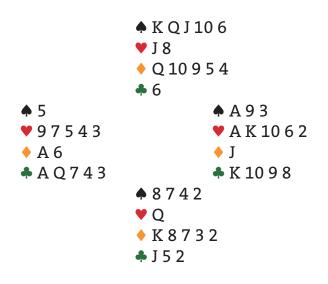
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
de Wijs	Levin	Muller	Hampson
_	_	1♥	2♠
2NT*	3♠	4♥	All Pass

2NT 'Limit+,♥ fit'

Here South led the \blacklozenge 10, declarer claiming as soon as diamonds divided, no swing.



Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



Wolfson v Bertheau

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Zagorin	Birman	Bertheau	Padon
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♠*	Dble	Pass	Pass
4♣	Pass	4	Pass
4♠*	Pass	5 ♦ *	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

3 Splinter

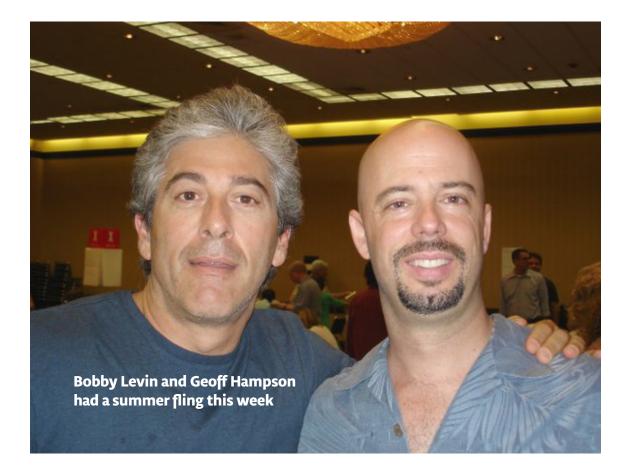
4 RKCB

5♦ 2 key cards, without ♥Q

That was an easy +1460.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Berkowitz	Hult	Cohler	Hallberg
Pass	2♠	3♥	4♠

5♥ 'Strongest'



East might have bid 5♠, when West could have continued with 6♣, but even then it is not clear that 7♥ will be reached - East is opposite a passed hand. East knew his partner held two aces and the ♥Q. As a passed hand he could not have the ♣Q as well, which explains why he didn't bid 6♣ over 5♠. Had he done so West would almost certainly have bid 7♥.

Gupta v Moss

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hampson	Gold	Levin	Zia
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♠*	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♠*	Pass	6♥	All Pass

3♠ 'Trying to splinter'
3NT 'Forcing I hope'
4NT RKCB
5♠ 2 key cards +♥Q

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Korbel	Nowosadzki	Gupta	Kalita
D	D A *	-11	
Pass	2♠*	Dble	4♠

2♠ 'Spades + minor' 4NT Two places to play

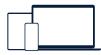
Should West take another bid? Maybe, but for me the real interest lies in the fact that in this age of light opening bids no West was prepared to open 1♥. It would have hard to stop short of 7♥ then.



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