

MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS • MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG

GOAT – Greatest Of All Times

Beetlecats (Alejandro Bianchedi, Margie Cole, Jodi Edmonds, John Hurd, Sandra Rimstedt, Joel Wooldridge) took the lead overnight in a tight field with 41.78 VPs ahead of IMPeacher Squad, BAMSA and Sweden Mixed, all with 39 VPs, yet the field is tightly packed with excitement, and we predict even the last placed team will be a contender for the top-8.

To the right you see three members of the Beetlecats (Alejandro Bianchedi and Margie Cole in front and Sandra Rimstedt to the right) along with players all participating in the Monthly Mixed Teams (besides the GOAT).

By coincidence (or due to the organizers' careful planning) our Victim of the Day is Alejandro Bianchedi. Good luck to all today!



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 January 12

10:30 EST / 16:30 CET – Round 4 (14 boards)

12:50 EST / 18:50 CET – Round 5 (14 boards)

15:10 EST / 21:10 CET – Round 6 (14 boards)

Draw Round 4

| Tbl | Home Team | Visiting Team |
|-----|--|--|
| 1 |  <u>BEETLECATS</u> |  <u>IMPEACHER SQUAD</u> |
| 2 |  <u>BAMSA</u> |  <u>SWEDEN MIXED</u> |
| 3 |  <u>ROBINSON</u> |  <u>ISRADEN</u> |
| 4 |  <u>ALPERT</u> |  <u>JUST SIPPIN</u> |
| 5 |  <u>TESS</u> |  <u>DREAMLAND</u> |
| 6 |  <u>KLEOPATRA</u> |  <u>AUSTERLITZ</u> |
| 7 |  <u>LEFT COAST</u> |  <u>MEDIUM RARE</u> |
| 8 |  <u>TURKISH NATIONAL MIXED TEAM</u> |  <u>PARKER</u> |
| 9 |  <u>NEW ENGLANDERS</u> |  <u>WILSON</u> |

Convention Cards

It is not mandatory to upload convention cards for this event. However we ask you to prepare a few sentences to inform opponents of your basic system and carding at the beginning of each match, especially if you play something unusual to allow them to discuss their defense briefly. Please alert all bids that may come as a surprise to the opponents. Remember we all come from different countries and bridge cultures.

Results

Future events
mmt.bridgeresults.org

Results after Round 3

| | | | | | |
|---|--|-------|----|--|-------|
| 1 |  <u>BEETLECATS</u> | 41.78 | 10 |  <u>DREAMLAND</u> | 31.21 |
| 2 |  <u>IMPEACHER SQUAD</u> | 39.58 | 11 |  <u>KLEOPATRA</u> | 27.88 |
| 3 |  <u>BAMSA</u> | 39.38 | 12 |  <u>LEFT COAST</u> | 26.12 |
| 4 |  <u>SWEDEN MIXED</u> | 39.35 | 13 |  <u>MEDIUM RARE</u> | 25.70 |
| 5 |  <u>ROBINSON</u> | 36.29 | 14 |  <u>AUSTERLITZ</u> | 21.74 |
| 6 |  <u>ALPERT</u> | 35.91 | 15 |  <u>TURKISH NATIONAL MIXED TEAM</u> | 21.00 |
| 7 |  <u>ISRADEN</u> | 34.80 | 16 |  <u>NEW ENGLANDERS</u> | 20.63 |
| 8 |  <u>JUST SIPPIN</u> | 33.72 | 17 |  <u>PARKER</u> | 19.04 |
| 9 |  <u>TESS</u> | 31.60 | 18 |  <u>WILSON</u> | 14.27 |

Format

Ten rounds of swiss (14 boards/match). The top 8 teams qualify for the quarterfinals on Thursday. See the CoC on mmt.bridgeresults.org for more info.

Monthly Mixed Teams in 2021

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 8 - 12 February | February Mixed Teams | Registration |
| 8 - 12 March | St. Louis Mixed Teams | Registration |
| 22 - 26 March | March Mixed Teams | Registration |
| 12 - 16 April | April Mixed Teams | |
| 17 - 21 May | May Mixed Teams | |
| 7 - 11 June | June Mixed Teams | |

See the full calendar for 2021 at mmt.bridgeresults.org

Garozzo was Right

By Mark Horton



There can be little doubt that Benito Garozzo was right when he said that a player who always found the best opening lead would win everything on offer and we saw a perfect example on this deal from the match between Parker and Wilson in the opening round:

Board 3. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|--------|--------------|--------|--------|
| Baroni | van Prooijen | Donati | Wilson |
| — | — | — | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | 1♥ | Pass |
| 1NT | Pass | 2♣* | Pass |
| 2♦* | Pass | 3♣* | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |

2♣ Gazzili 2♦ 8+ 3♣ Both majors 15-17

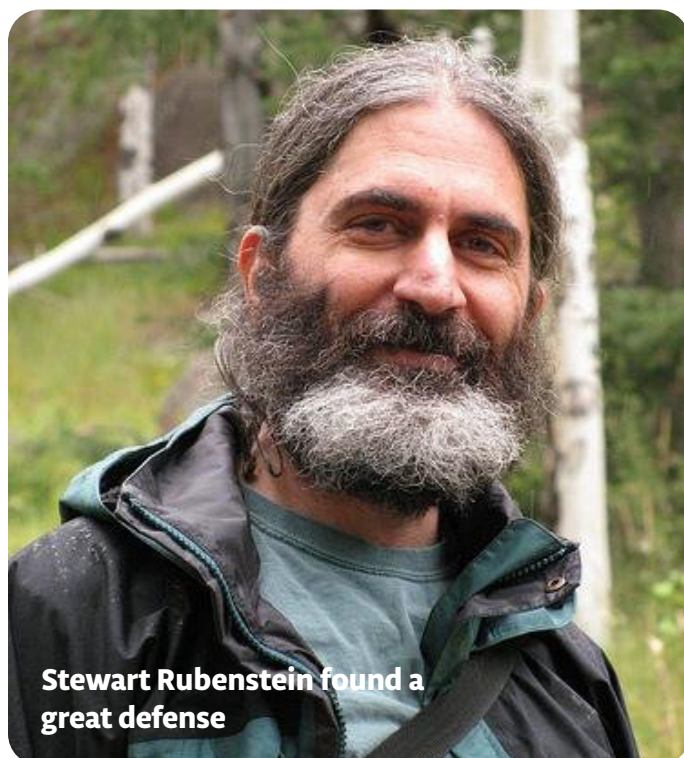
North led the ♣A and South followed with the queen but the opening lead meant the defenders could cash only three tricks in the suit to go with the ♦A, +600.

Holding only four clubs if North was determined to lead one there is something to be said for starting with the two, but one might also consider leading a passive spade.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|---------|-------|--------|------------|
| Larsson | Tebha | Kiljan | Rubenstein |
| — | — | — | Pass |
| Pass | 1♣* | Dble | 1♥* |
| 1NT | Pass | 2♥ | Pass |
| 2NT | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

1♣ 2+♣ 1♥ Spades

North led the ♠10 and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the ♦4. South lost no time in putting up the ace and switching to the ♣Q, -100 and a 12 IMP pickup.



Stewart Rubenstein found a great defense



Veri Kiljan

Declarer won the lead of the ♥9 with the ace, ran the ♠7 to West's ten, won the heart return with dummy's jack and ran the ♣9. With the black suits behaving it was easy to score 11 tricks, +660.

Closed Room

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|---------|-------|----------|------------|
| Larsson | Tebha | Kiljan | Rubenstein |
| — | — | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | 1♣* | Pass | 1♥* |
| Pass | 1NT* | Pass | 2♦* |
| Pass | 2♥ | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | |

No matter how bad your contract may appear, you should never give up hope. This innocuous looking deal from round 1 is a classic example:

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

- 1♣ 2+♣
- 1♥ Spades
- 1NT 17-19, balanced
- 2♦ Artificial game force

Obviously NS had an accident.

West led the ♦2 and declarer won with dummy's ace, played a spade to the ace, a club to the ace and a second spade, East winning with the king and exiting with the ♥5. When the jack held declarer played a diamond to the king and ruffed a diamond, east discarding a spade. West won the next trick with the ♠Q as dummy and East pitched clubs and West exited with a heart which left declarer with only nine tricks, -50 and an 11 IMP loss.

As the play went, East should have pitched a club on the third round of diamonds.

As declarer quickly realised all he had to do was find clubs 3-3 with West holding the queen and he would have survived his breach of Burn's Law.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|----------|--------------|--------|--------|
| Baroni | van Prooijen | Donati | Wilson |
| — | — | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3♣* |
| Pass | 3♦* | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass | | | |

3♣ Asks about spades 3♦ Not 3 spades

DISCOVER THE NEW

BeBRIDGE

♥♣♦♠ by Le Bridgeur

THE JANUARY ISSUE
HAS JUST BEEN
RELEASED!



In this issue

The first 2021 issue of **BeBRIDGE** is packed with outstanding articles. **The Riddle of the Hands** updates you on the race to stamp out online cheating, while **The Online Contact Bridge League** offers an insight into some of the strongest online events. **David Bird's** Abbot is here with the latest instalment of the adventures of his bridge playing monks and **Alain Lévy** takes a penetrating look at 2 over one game forcing. Add to those all the regular articles that will maximise your bridge playing skills and fine tune your bidding systems it's an issue you must have.

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Victim of the Day

Alejandro Bianchedi

by Christina Lund Madsen



When and where were you born, where do you live and how many wives and children do you have?

- I was born october 26th 1967 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where I live. I had one wife, mother of my two kids, Bruno (21) and Dana (19). Now I'm living with Pam and her daughter all together with Uma (dog) and Roma (cat) in a nice house.

How has life been for you in Argentina during Covid?

- Very bad, we had the longest quarantine in the world and it was not effective. Many cases and deaths per day and it continues. My personal life has changed, I am a bridge teacher and we had to turn everything to BBO. My students got used quickly and we are managing very well. Also not traveling and staying home was strange, but we soon found many good things to do all together. I am very happy that a group of young kids started bridge (my kids and son in law and friends' kids) and I am their coach and mentor. So happy to have them and hope I can go with them to the next World Junior Championship.

Tell us about your life when there is no Covid.

- Well, I cant remember was so long time ago! But I think I've always been a bridge teacher when I am home, then I started to play also professionally. I love my bridge travels, first representing my country, then with Lavazza and now with Margie.



Alejandro playing bridge with his grandparents and mother

I am very happy to meet people and share life with them, but I am also happy to be at home with my family.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- My parents and grand parents where playing bridge (sort of) and I was always very interested in any kind of game. Once my parents were taking lessons Sunday nights and one of their friends didn't come and the teacher asked me to play (I was 8/9 years old) and that was my first. Then they recruited me for the Argentinian juniors and thats all started.

What interests/occupations do you have outside bridge?

- I am organizing a game with around 100 people. It's a fantasy game of Argentinian soccer and we have a lot of fun. I am the manager so that makes me very busy. It's the ALEPRODE (PRO = pronosticos DE = deportivos - means sports forecast).



Margie Cole and Alejandro go to tournaments in the mountains...

I also like to play table tennis and tennis. I like making asados and share with friends and family.

Rate these activities according to what you like best: Tennis, Bridge, Dancing.

Bridge is by far the best. I like my students, I like to play and it is far more than a job. Playing tennis is fun, I don't do that as often and my opps always get mad at me because of my very effective (non)style. I prefer table tennis, and I love dancing, especially latin music. I lived six years in Venezuela and spent three of them going to discos every weekend to watch them dancing. Finally I decided to try and now I can move my legs, I took lessons with a cousin. Salsa Casino is the best, but Merengue and Bachata I like too. So: BRIDGE, DANCING, TENNIS.

Agustin Madala's question for you: Tell the story about a lady who hired you to play a pair event and made some miscalculation about your fee.

- It was Giovanna, an Italian lovely old lady who used to play every day at the club with good players. She asked me to go to

Punta del Este for a weekend tournament (I was just starting my professional career). I told her my fee, we played, enjoyed and had a good result.

The last day she asked me to go with her to the bank, I waited outside, then we got to the hotel and there she took a big pack of dollars from her chest and gave it to me. It was 5.000 dollars! I said "Giovanna, I told you cinquecento (500), non cinquemilla (5000)." Of course I gave her the 4500 back and she said it looked very expensive but she didn't know me, she was going to pay and then wouldn't invite me anymore. After that we played many times together, so many fun stories about her.

Tell us about yourself as a teenager.

- I was a very ludic young guy, always asking my friends what to play, I played all the time and everything. Organized meetings at home and play anything till late morning.

As a boy I remember staying at home alone (I have two older sisters and both parents were busy psychoanalysts) and put little cars and run races, play with dices and cards, or with little figures of soccer players, and later when everybody was home I tell them how they did.

"Mom, you won two races or came second in the GENERALA today," but I recall being a happy kid. I soon started bridge, I had to share school and friends with tournaments and trips but was good.

What is the strangest thing a female admirer ever did to get your attention?

- Once after a closing ceremony at a Brazilian tournament (I was with my wife the entire week but she left the last day) I went to bed alone of course and the telephone rings. I picked up, nobody answered. Then the door knocks. I go out

and see a woman that I hadn't noticed before, who wanted to enter in my room... Can't tell more.

And my first girlfriend (ex at that time) knew I was going to Europe to play a tournament, so she said: "I will go to Europe too to visit my sister (I was in Venezuela with my new girlfriend, my ex was in Argentina). Let's meet in Paris for a couple of days" and both of us arranged our schedule to combine one day in Paris. It was a great idea of hers, but I chose the Venezuelan, who I married, and we spent 20 years together, divorced 8 years ago.

What is your greatest weakness?

- I have almost no more hair!
I trust people and maybe I am a little naive. It could be a weakness or strength, who knows? I want people to like me so I feel bad when they don't.

What has been the highlight of your life?

- Of course having my two kids, since they were born having them sleeping on my chest is the best memory. Professionally all the Lavazza time (5 years playing in such a great team with excellent players) was unforgettable I have to thank Agustin and the rest of the team for that, also was stressful but many satisfactions. Now with Margie we had great time traveling and playing together, much more relaxed and fun!

What is the most immoral thing you ever did?

- I am a straight one so didn't do many in my life, maybe once I put more vegetables at the supermarket after they weighted.

How would your children describe you in three words?



...and by the sea.

(Thank you to Margie for the great pictures)

- Fun, caring and giving.

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

- I am happy with my past so I don't think I would like to change anything.

What goals do you have for the rest of your life?

- I would like to live healthy and happy for the rest of my life, helping my close people to achieve their goals.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Giorgia Botta, Ida Grönkvist and John Kranyak?

- You made an easy one, I would kiss Ida, partner Giorgia (we have played together and well many times) and kill John, because he is a tough opponent at the table and he used to smoke.

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

- I would like to nominate Perlita Sultan: What happened in that place near Medellin in 2019 we went with Pam and had a crazy spiritual adventure?

Four Swings and a Funeral

By Toine van Hoof



This hand from Round 3 produced a mournful push in one match and large swings in four other matches.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Alpert vs. Robinson

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|-------|---------|----------|--------|
| Hoyos | Kranyak | Molson | Wortel |
| — | — | — | 1♣ |
| 1♠ | 2♦ | 2NT* | 3♦ |
| 3♠ | Dble | Pass | 4♦ |
| Pass | 5♦ | All Pass | |

2NT Mixed raise or three card limit

In the closed room Charlie Hoyos missed the opportunity to direct the lead when he rebid his JTxxxx over 3♦.

With nothing else to go on Janice Molson led a spade. Declarer pitched a heart on the ♠A and made eleven tricks.

In the open room Zachary Grossack made the smart bid of 3♥:

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|-------------|---------|----------|--------|
| Z. Grossack | Versace | Robinson | Alpert |
| — | — | — | 1♣ |
| 1♠ | 2♦ | 2♠ | 3♦ |
| 3♥ | 3♠* | Pass | 4♦ |
| Pass | 5♦ | All Pass | |

Linda Robinson duly led the ♥4. After winning the first trick with the ♥Q and cashing the ♥A Grossack shifted to the ♣5, burying the heart ruff.

In his defence it must be noted that EW play 3rd and 5th, so East could have started with J943 and had given suit preference holding the ♣A. If declarer has a 3=2=7=1 a club return would be necessary but that hand is hardly compatible with the bid of 3♠.



Linda Robinson



Alix Taylor & Peter Boyd-Bowman

IMPeacher Squad vs. Sweden Mixed

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------------|-------|----------|--------|
| Gunnarsson | Sobel | Ahlen | Nelken |
| — | — | — | 1♣ |
| 1♠ | Dble | 3♠ | Pass |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

East led the ♠6 and declarer cashed her ten tricks for 430.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|--------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Taylor | M. Lemborn | Boyd-Bowman | S. Lemborn |
| — | — | — | 1♦* |
| 1♠ | Dble | 2♠ | 3♣* |
| Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 4♣ |
| Pass | 4♦ | Pass | 4♥ |
| Pass | 4NT | Pass | 5♣* |
| Pass | 6♦ | All Pass | |

1♦ 11-16, can be short
 3♣ ♦+♣; ♣ can be longer
 5♣ 1 or 4 KC

EW were more ambitious at the other table. Warned by South's 4♥ cue bid Alix Taylor kept her mouse from the ♥A and scored plus 50 and 10 IMPs.

Kleopatra vs. Israden

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Pedersen | F. Helness | Rasmussen | G. Helness |
| — | — | — | 1NT |
| 2♣* | Dble* | 2♠ | 3♣ |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

2♣ majors Dble Values

Turkish National Mixed Team vs. Dreamland

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| He | Aluf | Luo | Sanus |
| — | — | — | 1♣ |
| 1♠ | 2♦ | 3♣* | 3♦ |
| Pass | 3♥ | Pass | 3♠ |
| Pass | 4♣* | Pass | 5♦ |
| All Pass | | | |

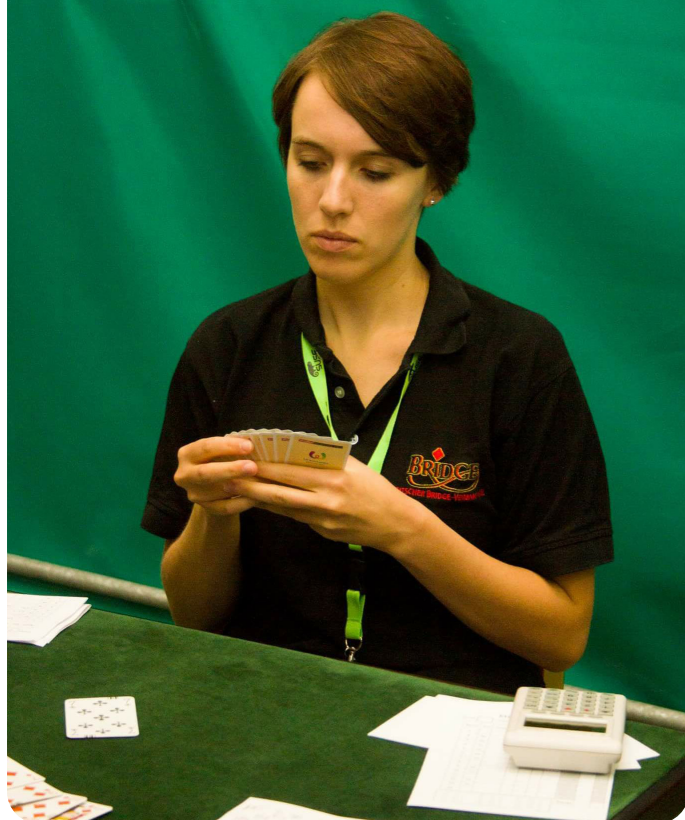
3♣ 6-9, 4+♠ 4♣ cue

Cindy He passed over 3♦ so her partner Jeff Luo led a spade for minus 400.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| Kizilok | Chan | Kutuk | Chen |
| — | — | — | 1♣ |
| 1♠ | Dble | 4♠ | Pass |
| Pass | 6♦ | All Pass | |

The 1♦ opener by South ensured that a diamond contract was right-sided but North jumped to 6♦ at his second turn. All was well for NS when West led the ♥A. Plus 920 gave the Canadians 11 IMPs.

Marie Eggeling - BAMSA



The lead from Jan Pedersen was ♠J, holding Gunn Helness to ten tricks.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|-----------|---------|
| Eide | Saada | Blågestad | Bareket |
| — | — | — | 1♣ |
| Pass | 1♦* | Pass | 2♦ |
| Pass | 2♥ | Pass | 3♥ |
| Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 3NT |
| Pass | 4♦ | Pass | 4♥ |
| Pass | 6♦ | All Pass | |

1♦ Walsh

Ilan Bareket and Nathalie Saada had a nice bidding sequence towards 6♦, which proved to be unmakeable: minus 50 and a loss of 10 IMPs.

Bamsa vs. Parker

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|--------|----------|-------------|-------|
| Parker | Peterkin | A. Grossack | Punch |
| — | — | — | 1♣ |
| Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 2♦ |
| Pass | 2♥ | Pass | 2♠* |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

2♠ Good in context; asking half ♠ stop

West did not overcall so East led the ♣J. Stephen Peterkin won per force with the ace, crossed to the ♦K and played a heart from dummy which produced the second overtrick.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|----------|-------|--------|------------|
| Eggeling | Tebha | Grunke | Rubenstein |
| — | — | — | 1NT |
| 2♣* | Dble* | 2♠ | Dble* |
| All Pass | | | |

1NT 13+ - 17
Dble on 2♣
Dble on 2♠

2♣ majors
Defensive hand
Take-out

NS apparently disagreed about the meaning of the double on 2♠ and scored -870: 16 IMPs to Bamsa.



Nathalie Saada



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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!