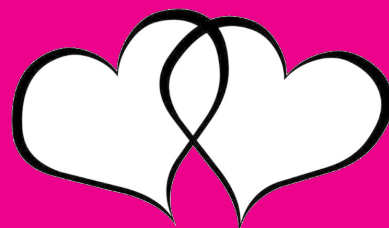


MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS • MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG

Field and Tension Thickens

We have rarely seen such a close top 3:

1. SWEDEN MIXED 111.74
2. ROBINSON 110.69
3. TESS 109.34

Tess has 19.70 VPs down to 9th place and so the top 3 are all ready for the Quarter-finals if Tess avoid a blitz in our last match today. Alpert look comfortable in 4th place, while BAMSA in the coveted 8th spot have Austerlitz, Parker and Dreamland breathing down their neck.

We remind the top 3 to be ready to announce their choice of QF-opponent right after the last results are up. Write to mmt@bridgeresults.org or contact one of the organizers directly.



Ingunn Uran sent us this picture from Nittedal, a village just outside of Oslo

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 January 14

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

13:20 EST / 19:20 CET – Q-final (28 boards)

The top 3 must send us their choice of opponent as soon as possible after the last round.

Draw Round 10

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

Ranking after Round 9

1	 SWEDEN MIXED	111.74	10	 PARKER	89.50
2	 ROBINSON	110.69	11	 DREAMLAND	88.76
3	 TESS	109.34	12	 WILSON	82.71
4	 ALPERT	107.69	13	 MEDIUM RARE	79.44
5	 ISRADEN	104.74	14	 KLEOPATRA	78.31
6	 LEFT COAST	100.81	15	 BEETLECATS	77.72
7	 JUST SIPPIN	95.55	16	 IMPEACHER SQUAD	74.69
8	 BAMSA	93.32	17	 TURKISH NATIONAL MIXED TEAM	64.80
9	 AUSTERLITZ	89.64	18	 NEW ENGLANDERS	60.55

Format

Ten rounds of swiss (14 boards/match). The top 8 teams qualify for the quarterfinals. For info about the KOs, 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

The Big Match



By Mark Horton

Having watched Manchester United go to the top of the Barclay's Premiership for the first time since Sir Alex Ferguson retired and ready for the collision with Liverpool at the weekend, I settled down to follow another top of the table battle between Bamsa and Robinson.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Selway	Wolpert	Preddy	Schwartz
—	Pass	1NT*	Dble*
2♠*	4♥	Pass	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

1NT 15-17
Dble 4♥/♠ + 5♦/♣
2♠ Clubs

North led the ♦9 and South won with the ace, switched to the ♥K, cashed the ♠A and played a second heart, two down, -300 and 6 IMPs.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Z. Grossack	Peterkin	Robinson	Punch
—	Pass	1NT*	2♦*
3NT	4♠	Dble	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

1NT 14-17
2♦ ♦ and a major

South led the ♠6 and declarer took North's queen with the ace and cashed the clubs, but had to lose the last four tricks, -50.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Z. Grossack	Peterkin	Robinson	Punch
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Zach Grossack
by Peg Kaplan



East led the ♣8 and declarer took West's jack with the ace and played the ♥J, West winning with the king and returning the ♦3 taken by dummy's ace. East won the second heart and played the ♦K, but declarer ruffed, drew the outstanding trump and played spades, +620.

It was a good example of it rarely being wrong to raise partner with four card support.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Selway	Wolpert	Preddy	Schwartz
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

The defenders started with three rounds of hearts, declarer quickly recording +170, but losing 10 IMPs.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Z. Grossack	Peterkin	Robinson	Punch
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Dble	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the ♥3 and declarer won with dummy's queen and played on clubs, West taking the third round and exiting with a heart. Declarer won with dummy's jack and forced out the ♠A for +430.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Selway	Wolpert	Preddy	Schwartz
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	2♠*	All Pass

2♠ Spades and a minor

South led the ♣5 and North won with the queen and switched to the ♥Q, South taking the ace and playing back the ♣J, declarer ruffing and playing a heart to the king followed by a spade for the queen and ace.

A diamond to the jack saw North win with the queen and play the ♣A forcing declarer to ruff. A diamond saw South win with the ace and now a spade leads to three down, but South exited with a heart and declarer ruffed and played a diamond ensuring one more trick.

She was two down, -100 but recovered 8 IMPs.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Z. Grossack	Peterkin	Robinson	Punch
Pass	1NT	Dble	2♣*
Dble*	All Pass		

2♣ Clubs and another, 4+/4+
Dble Penalty orientated



Linda Robinson and
Eric Schwartz

West led the ♠7 and East won with the ten and switched to the ♥6, West winning with the jack and returning the ♣7 to dummy's king. The ♥9 was covered by the ten and West overtook it with the king and switched to the ♦5, East winning with the king and returning the ♣J which West won with the ace to play a second spade. East won with the jack and now tried the ♠A which allowed declarer to ruff, draw the last trump and score an unlikely six tricks, -500.

The defenders could have done a trick better. Perhaps simplest is for West to start with a club and then play two more rounds of the suit at the first opportunity - the old story of playing trumps when you clearly hold the balance of power.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Selway	Wolpert	Preddy	Schwartz
Pass	1♣	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

After the lead of the ♣Q declarer won with the ace, played the ♦K followed by the jack and then played the ♠ followed by the ten, eventually emerging with 11 tricks, +460, so only 1 IMP changed hands.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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



Kay Preddy (in white)
Photo: Francesca Canali

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Z. Grossack	Peterkin	Robinson	Punch	Selway	Wolpert	Preddy	Schwartz
—	—	1♦	1♠	—	—	1NT*	Pass
Dble*	3♦*	4♥	Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♠*	Pass
4♠*	Dble*	Pass*	Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
5♥*	Pass	6♥	All Pass	4♥	All Pass		

3♦ Mixed raise
 4♠ RKCB
 Dble Don't lead a spade
 Pass Odd number of key cards (I think)
 5♥ I am not sure what pass was

Perhaps a free bid of 3♥ was enough with East's hand?

When a favourable position in diamonds did not ensue there were only 11 tricks, -50.

1NT 15-17
 2♦ Transfer
 2♠ Good hand, 4+♥
 3♦ Retransfer

That saw Basma score 11 IMPs to get home 34-24. They had a tougher run the last two matches and find themselves in 8th place, while Robinson went on to score two big wins to climb to second place and quarter-final spot with one match to go.

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

Marie Eggeling

by Christina Lund Madsen



How old are you, where do you live and are you single?

- I'm 30, live in Munich (Germany) and yes, single (unfortunately ☹).

What do you do for a living?

- I'm about to finish my PhD in Psychology, then I'll be looking for a new job.

How has life been for you in Germany during Corona?

- For me personally, not too bad. I really miss travelling and live bridge tournaments, but I was able to continue my research and my PhD online without many problems. For other people it is so much harder, so I consider myself lucky.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- When I was 11 at a local bridge club, which was very active in recruiting juniors. It was coincidental because no-one from my family plays bridge, I had no idea what it was until then and there aren't many bridge players in Germany who devote themselves to teaching juniors.

What was the highlight of your junior years?

- This is difficult! I played in lots of international youth championships and had a great time. Becoming European girls champion with my former partner and best friend Katharina Brinck in 2014 was definitely an extraordinary highlight though!

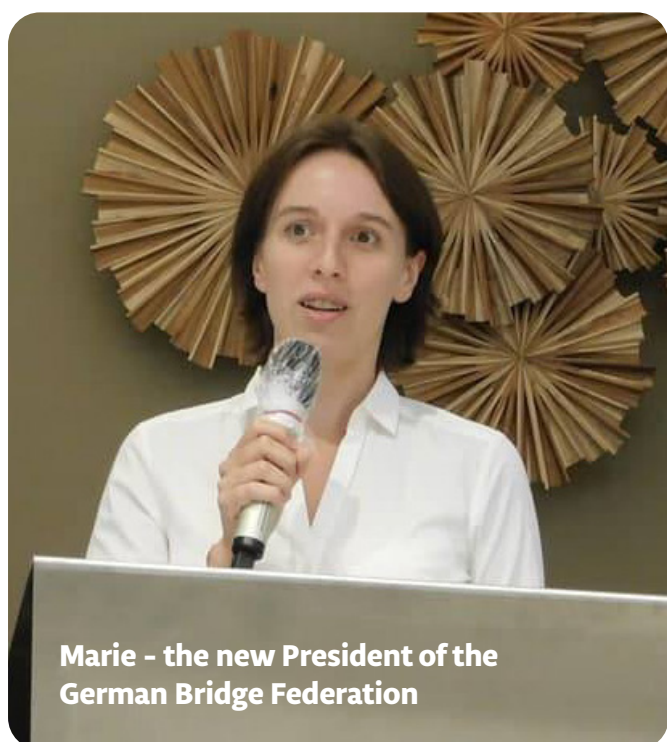
What are your ambitions within bridge?

- To play in the German open team one day would be great – but for now, I'd love to win a medal in a European or World Mixed Championship.

What interests do you have outside of bridge?

- Travelling – my favorite place is New Zealand, where I've been three times already. Spending time with my friends, interesting discussions about anything, being outside in nature...

Tell us about a childhood memory that made a big impression on you.



Marie Eggeling with her partner Paul Grünke



- When I was a child, my family used to spend a few weeks in Denmark each summer – always the same place, it felt like a second home. Sometimes at night, my father took me and one of my brothers to the beach to look at the stars. I remember the darkness (very unusual for someone who grew up in a city) and my father telling us funny stories about aliens as well as impressive facts, like how long it would take to reach a certain star if we were able to travel at the speed of light. This was quite impressive.

Samantha Punch's question for you: How did you end up being the President of the German Bridge Federation (DBV) and what are your plans for your term of office?

- Right. So to be honest, without Corona I wouldn't be President of the German Federation now. I had been thinking about

it before, because a lot needs to be done in Germany regarding bridge. The average age of German bridge players is in the 70s, too few younger people start playing and I thought that the DBV was not doing enough to change that.

Elections were supposed to be in March and the former president wasn't going to run again, but I had always thought "Maybe one day, but now there are so many other things to do" (like doing my PhD, playing lots of bridge, travelling the world). Then Corona came, the elections were postponed until summer, there was no more live bridge or travels and I ended up being very active in organizing online bridge for German players. At some point there was a moment where I felt quite annoyed about something the former committee had done and just thought "Whatever, I'll do it". And that's how I ended up being the president 😊.

I do have high ambitions for my term(s) of office, because somehow I still believe in dreaming big.

Long-term I want to change the image of bridge (most people don't even know what it is, or think it's only played by old English ladies, a problem you might be familiar with) – something like “Queen's gambit” but for bridge would be awesome.

Short-term I'm reorganizing the juniors, starting work in teaching and public relations and basically try getting people together who are willing to do something. It feels a little bit like becoming CEO of a maybe-failing company overnight without any leadership experience.

But apart from the fact that I don't get money for it and it's a crazy job, it is really interesting and challenging and something worth putting effort (and my heart) into.

Describe how you would like your life to look in 15 years.

- Disregarding the fact that I'm single, I would really like to have children at some point (soon), so they should be of an appropriate age to learn bridge in 15 years. Obviously, I will have saved the German Bridge Federation and bridge will be something more common, like Chess. Besides, I would like to have an interesting but not too time-consuming job, which allows me to still play a lot of bridge, travel and spend time with friends. Let's see how that'll work out.

Tell us something very few people know about you.

- I'm really into fantasy (books and series). I grew up loving Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings and others followed. They distract me from stress and stupid things

in real life (like global pandemics, etc.) and keep my inner teenager awake.

How would your best friend describe you in three words?

- Smart, insecure, determined. (I asked him. Also, I agree.)

What is your biggest regret?

- Puh. In life, if I regret anything, then the things I didn't do. Like not taking a risk or going for an adventure because of overthinking or insecurities. Or not being completely honest to someone.

In bridge: all the stupid mistakes, far too many to tell!

What has been the most challenging time of your life so far?

- The past few weeks, to be honest. And some parts of my teenager years seemed to be very challenging at this time, of course. Like when my parents divorced when I was 14, or when my grandmother died when I was 16.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Mikael Grönkvist, Noga Tal and Fredrik Helness?

- I only really know Mikael, so I guess I'll better play bridge with him. ☺ Kiss Fredrik and kill Noga (sorry).

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

- Nicolas Hammond. Can you tell us something about your methods to detect cheating in bridge, especially regarding online bridge right now?

The Unlucky Expert

by Christina Lund Madsen



The very first board of the event was a potential club slam. It was bid and made by ten pairs, two pairs played 5♣, five pairs were in 3NT. And then there was a lonely result in the EW-column.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
B. Levin	Donn	Jansma	Winestock
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

- 1♣ 16+
- 1♥ 8-11 any shape but not 5+ spades
- 2♠ Any 3-suited hand
- 2NT Asking
- 3♥ 4414-shape
- 4♣ Forces 4♦ to show slam try somewhere
- 4♦ She forced me to bid this

After a nice precision auction, NS reached the optimal contract.

Jan Jansma found the good lead of a club as did Giovanni Donati and Mike Cappelletti. If West now ducks the spade, declarer does not have enough entries to ruff two diamonds in hand and lead towards the spades and has to reply on the (successful) heart finesse.

Four players led a spade, and now declarer has the tempo to ruff two diamonds in hand and lead spades toward the KQJ7 one more time, not depending on the heart finesse to work, assuming West ducks the spade the first time.

Where Donati led a club, Baroni as West correctly ducked the spade first time, but when she also did a second time, declarer's problems were over, however holding the ♥K there was no winning defense besides the psychological.



Betty Levin in scenery surroundings



Martine Rossard

Round 4 presented a classic high-level decision with its consequential big swings:

Board 3. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rossard	Eide	Romanowski	Blaagestad
—	—	—	1♣
2♠	Dble	4♠	5♣
Pass	5♦	5♠	Dble
All Pass			

One player found the only defense to make declarer go wrong. After Jansma's clubd lead, she won the spade the first time (ducking would have been better) but now she returned the ♥5!

That gave declarer a losing option. With clubs 2-2, he can always ruff two diamonds and pitch two hearts on the spades. With clubs 3-1, declarer can win the ♥A, draw trumps and due to the ♥QT play for a ruffing finesse through East's king to pitch one diamond and ruff the other.

So this is how Josh Donn played. The problem was the East did not hold the ♥K. So he went a lonely one off and is our strongest candidate for the most unlucky expert so far in the event. We happily receive additional nominations.

You may think Bobby Levin was the player behind this defense, but no - it is a distant relative, Betty Levin.

Judging by the auction East knew his partner to hold short clubs and even if 5♠ could not make, it might be a rare vulnerable save against 5♦. Little did he know his partner held such good diamonds...

It is hard to blame North for leading the ckK, but it turned out fatal. Rossard ruffed, and rather than playing a diamond (North being a favourite to hold the ace), she played spades first. South won, played a diamond and North switched to a heart; alas, too late.

Rossard played the ace, pulled the last trump, pitched a heart on the ♦K and could set up the ♣9 for her 11th trick and +850.

Our family encounter the other table went like this:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
G. Helness	B. Delestre	F. Helness	D. Delestre
—	—	—	1♣
2♠	3♦	4♠	5♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

With her club void Mama Helness did not have faith in junior's doubles and pulled.

Blandine Delestre found the lead of the ♦A, and upon seeing dummy she switched to a heart. West won and ruffed a club to play the ♦K and discard a heart, but when South held both spades and a single diamond, the contract was one off, -200, for a 14 IMP swing for French Austerlitz against the Norwegian Kleopatra.

May the Force be with you

Tracey Bauer from the Left Coast sent us this picture taken at 5:30 AM yesterday morning when she was going for a walk to wake up for the first match at 7:30 AM at the US West Coast.

George Lucas lives near Tracey and funded the Imagination Park, where you find heroes like Indiana Jones and Yoda. Tracey sent a prayer to Yoda asking the force to be with her team yesterday - and listen did he do. Left Coast (Tracey Bauer, Debbie Benner, Arti Bhargava, Amy Casanova, Ish Delmonte, Omer Ekinci, Nicolas Hammond, Bjorgvin Kristinnsson, Hal Montgomery) had a good day and appear a strong contender for a spot in the top-8.



Tracey Bauer



Two Lucas Legends watching over the visitors in Imagination Park



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How to kibitz the Monthly 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!