MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS

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New Day, New Leader

In the last match yesterday Alpert suffered her first defeat to Belhara, who in turn got their first win, bringing balance to the force.

Mauberquez grabbed their chance to take a narrow lead with 89.72 to Alpert's 89.34.

Mauberquez are also undefeated after 6 matches but have mostly top teams left, as does Alpert.

In third we find Potter's wizards with 75.84 VPs and in 4th the Strawberries with 65.45.

The top-4 will qualify for the semifinals, and though we have only played 6 out of 11 matches, our two leading teams have created an early gap making them favourites to qualify for the semis.



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

Wednesday April 14

10:30 EST / 16:30 CET - Round 7 (14 boards) 12:40 EST / 18:40 CET - Round 8 (14 boards)

14:50 EST / 20:50 CET - Round 9 (14 boards)





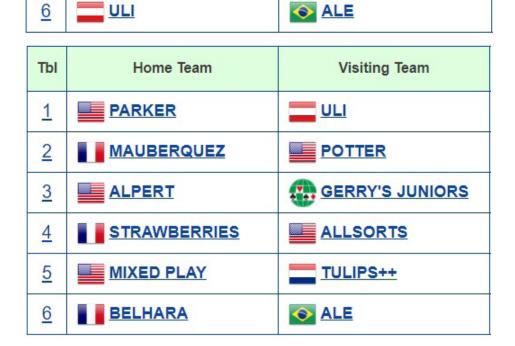
TULIPS++

MIXED PLAY

4

5

Round 9



ALLSORTS

BELHARA

Cross Table by Ranking

Ranking after round 6

rank	team	#	9	5	2	7	11	3	1	6	4	10	8	12	VP tot
1		9	٠			<u>14.19</u>	<u>19.38</u>			<u>16.21</u>	<u>13.23</u>		<u>13.48</u>	<u>13.23</u>	89.72
2		5		٠	<u>18.29</u>			<u>17.04</u>	17.77			<u>16.03</u>	5.36	<u>14.85</u>	89.34
3		2		<u>1.71</u>	٠			<u>2.96</u>	<u>15.66</u>	<u>19.47</u>		<u>17.63</u>		<u>18.41</u>	75.84
4		7	<u>5.81</u>			•	<u>12.71</u>		<u>10.66</u>	<u>6.28</u>	<u>16.03</u>		<u>13.96</u>		65.45
5		11	<u>0.62</u>			7.29	٠			7.84	<u>15.26</u>	<u>17.34</u>	<u>16.72</u>		65.07
6		3		<u>2.96</u>	<u>17.04</u>			٠	2.66		<u>7.84</u>	<u>16.88</u>		<u>11.87</u>	59.25
7		1		2.23	<u>4.34</u>	<u>9.34</u>		<u>17.34</u>	٠			<u>4.54</u>		20.00	57.79
8	TULIPS++	6	<u>3.79</u>		<u>0.53</u>	<u>13.72</u>	<u>12.16</u>			•	<u>5.81</u>		<u>19.28</u>		55.29
9	GERRY'S JUNIORS	4	<u>6.77</u>			<u>3.97</u>	<u>4.74</u>	<u>12.16</u>		<u>14.19</u>	٠		<u>10.97</u>		52.80
10		10		<u>3.97</u>	2.37		2.66	3.12	15.46			•		<u>19.47</u>	47.05
11	BELHARA	8	<u>6.52</u>	<u>14.64</u>		<u>6.04</u>	3.28			<u>0.72</u>	<u>9.03</u>		+		40.23
12		12	<u>6.77</u>	<u>5.15</u>	<u>1.59</u>			<u>8.13</u>	<u>0.00</u>			<u>0.53</u>		000	22.17



Future events

Monthly Mixed Teams in 2021

After your responses to our survey we have made the following date changes for our events :

- May 10 14 May Mixed Teams
- June 14 18 June Mixed Teams
- July 5 -9 July Mixed Teams
- August 9 13 August Mixed Teams

Registration via mmt.bridgeresults.org



First Board



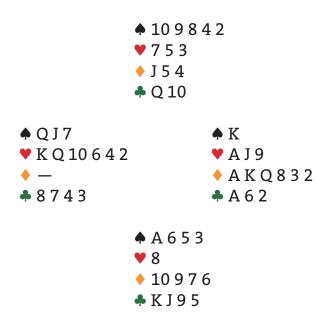
By Mark Horton

In a bridge match, all the boards have equal value, but some have (or at least appear to have) more value than others.

The last board and the fateful board 13 are two of my favourites, but recently I have observed that the opening deal is often one that offers opportunities. From a psychological point a view a good/bad result can have a significant role to play.

Welcome to the opening deal of Round 4:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



This is what you might call a 'regulation 6♥' for EW, but experience has demonstrated that there may sometimes be casualties.

Ale v Mixed Play

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Dicker	Ravenna	Brody	Garafulic
_	Pass	2NT	Pass
3 🔶 *	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT*	Pass
6♥*	All Pass		

That did not look too difficult did it? Once West had admitted to a sixth heart, East was off to the races.

Alas, the 4NT and 6♥ bids were not annotated so I cannot offer you an explanation, but I can tell you that South led the ♠A and declarer took all the remaining tricks, +980.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Thoma	Wooldridge	David	Edmonds
_	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♥	Pass
4 • *	Pass	4♠	Pass
5 🔶	Pass	6♦	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

2NT Hearts 4♦ Cue

South led the ♥8 and declarer drew trumps and claimed, no swing.

Allsorts v Potter

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
C Rimstedt	Ovesen	Huang	Uran
_	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5 ♣*	Pass	6♥	All Pass

1 ◆ Usually unbalanced
2 ◆ 6+ ◆, F1
2 ◆ 'About 8-11'
4NT RKCB
5 ◆ 1/4 key cards

North led the *****Q and declarer took dummy's ace, drew trumps and claimed, +980.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Beauchet	Dwyer	Sobel	Potter
_	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	3♥	Pass
4 • *	Pass	4♠*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	6♦	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

2♥ 'Natural positive'

- 4 Cue
- 4 RKCB
- 4NT 1 or 4

North led the ♠10 and South took the ace and switched to the ♦7, declarer ruffing with dummy's ♥K, drawing trumps and claiming.

Parker v Alpert

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Alpert	A Grossack	Versace	Parker
_	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2 • *	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3 • *	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4 •*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

2♥ Kokish
2♠ Relay, Kokish
2NT Game forcing, balanced, 24+
3♦ Transfer
3NT 3♥
4♦ Transfer

South led the ♦9 and declarer claimed, +480.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tebha	Hoyos	Rubenstein	S. Molson
_	—	1 • *	Pass
1♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♠*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣	Dble
Pass	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

1 ◆ 4 ◆ + unbalanced or 5 ◆
4 ◆ RKCB
4NT 1 key card

Declarer won the club lead with dummy's ace, cashed the ♥AJ, ruffed a diamond with the ♥K and went back to dummy with a heart, eventually claiming, +1430 and 11 IMPs.

Gerry's Juniors v Belhara

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
A L Tartarin	Rolf-Larsen	J J Tartarin	Rosthøj
_	Pass	2 • *	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3 • *	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠*	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4♠*	Pass
6 🔶 *	Pass	6♥	All Pass

2 Multi or 22-23
2 Pass or correct
2NT 22-23
3 Transfer
3 Asking for spade cue
3NT Spade control
4 RKCB
6 1 key card + void

North led the spade ten, South winning and returning the ♦6, declarer ruffing with the ten, drawing trumps and claiming, +980.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sokol	Sarian	L. Madsen	Kasler
_	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4	Pass
4♠	Pass	6♦	Dble
Pass	Pass	6♥	Dble
All Pass			



North led the \U00e94 and declarer won with dummy's ace, played a heart to the king and a spade for the king and ace. South returned a diamond, but declarer soon claimed, +1210 and 6 IMPs.

Tulips ++ v Mauberquez

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Both	Hugon	A Jansma
Pass	2♣*	Pass
Pass	3 🔶	Pass
Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	6♥	All Pass
	Both Pass Pass Pass	Both Hugon Pass 2♣* Pass 3♦ Pass 4♥ Pass 6♥

North led the **\$10** and declarer won with dummy's ace, drew trumps, cashed a diamond and claimed, +980.

2 🔶

Relay



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
J Jansma	Gombert	Levin	Willard
_	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

3 Splinter

North led the ♣Q and declarer took dummy's ace, cashed the ♥9 and claimed, +480 but a loss of 11 IMPs.

Uli v Strawberries

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Setton	W Schuster	Franceschetti	U Schuster
_	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2 🔶	Pass	2NT	Pass
3 🔶	Pass	3♥*	Pass
4 • *	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5 ♦ *	Pass	6♥	All Pass

3♥	Fit	4♦	Cue bid
4NT	RKCB	5 🔶	1 key card

South led the ♥8 and declarer claimed, +1430.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Primavera	T Bessis	Olivieri	V Bessis
_	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♠*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4 • *	Pass	4♠	Pass
5 🔶	Pass	6♥	All Pass

- 2♠ 'Any strong hand, not 4♥'
- 3♥ 'Game forcing, natural'
- 4**♣** Cue
- 4 Cue
- 4♠ Cue
- 5 First round control

North led the ♣10 and having taken dummy's ace, declarer cashed the ♥A and claimed.

Some good sequences, my vote for the best of them going to father-daughter Tartarin.

Victim of the Day Sylvie Willard



by Christina Lund Madsen

Please tell us your age, where you are from, where you live and how many husbands, children, grand-children and great grandchildren you have.

- I am 68 years old, I am from France, I live in Charente (Cognac ☺).

I had one husband, I am divorced and now I have a "boyfriend".

I have two children (a girl and a boy) and 5 grand-children and not yet great grandchildren (I am too young lol).

How did you begin to play bridge?

- I begin to play at the end of school (18 years). My parents were bridge players and they were afraid I stopped my university to play bridge so I had to finish before learning bridge.

What have you done besides playing bridge (education, jobs)?

- I was married at 20 and have quickly my 2 children so besides bridge I try to educate them

How did you become a bridge professional?

- I became a bridgepro after winning my first Venice Cup in 2005. Americans called Bénédicte and me and asked us to play in their team. The first time we played in Joyce Hampton's team with Sabine Auken, Daniela Von arnim and Jenny Wolpert.

What would you have become if not a bridge player?

- No idea. I love bridge and I am very fortunate. I had always the possibility to live with this passion.

How has your life been during Corona?

- I have the great chance to live out of a city in a great house with a great garden so no problem with the "confinement". For bridge it is terrible. I don't like too much to play online so I stopped playing. Now we have RealBridge and it's much better. You can see your opponents and chat with them and for safety it's also much better. ©

Which time was the worst for you during this past year?

- The worst for me is: I can't see my children and grand-children and my friends. And also no restaurants, no Apéro at the terrasse or coffee, no dinner because of the "couvre-feu". No social life.

What do you like to do when you don't play bridge?

- I like to walk with my dog in vines, to take care of the garden , to look at series on tv with my friend and to have diner with friends before the Covid.

Which is your best bridge memory?

- Winning my first Venice Cup.

How are female bridge players regarded in France?



- Better now. When I began playing bridge there was no regard for the female bridge. Now you can find good teams (not the best) with females.

How would your children describe you in 3 (English) words?

- The best mummy bridgeplayer.

Tell us something about yourself very few people know.

- I have not exactly a bad caractere, but if you bother me too much I can bite. I always say what I think (maybe too much sometimes).

If you were not French, which nationality would you like to be?

- I would be Italian because I like the mood of these people, I love their food and their national hymne. What do you secretly dream of at night?

- Now, about the end of Covid and to find again the ancient life.

If you had the chance to change something in your past, what would it be?

- To be more present with my children.

What is the most important lesson you learned in life that you would like to pass on to younger people?

- Live your passion to the full!

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Thomas Bessis, Dennis Bilde and Ida Grönkvist?

- I partner Dennis. He is a wonderful player (everything seems so simple when he plays) He is cool and always in a good mood. I am sure people are in the best conditions to play as well as they can in front of him.

I kiss Ida. I don't know her very well (only as opponent) but she is always smiling and always ok to drink a glass of wine!! I killThomas!! I know him since he was 2 days old and he is a very good friend. But I think he is a hard partner, very nervous and I need a cool partner.

If I was playing with Thomas and if he shouts at me because of a mistake, I can kill him because of my bad character. ©

(Sylvie nominated Alfredo Versace, who has already been a victim 8 months ago, so we will repost his interview during this week.)

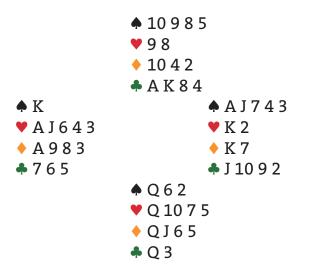
The Magic Number



By Mark Horton

Reviewing yesterday's action, I spotted this deal, which produced a significant swing in all six matches. It revolves around one of the most frequent equations in bridge - can you score the nine tricks required by your contract of 3NT?

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



The pre-destined contract for EW is 3NT. With only six top tricks declarer has some work to do, and also needs to keep the entry position in mind. For the mathematically minded, the chance of scoring five tricks in hearts is 17.76%, while you can expect to score four tricks in spades 26.64% of the time. Time to see how our stars performed:

Ale v Potter

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Michielsen	Ravenna	Huang	Garafulic
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the ♣A (I'm sure this would be David Bird's computer's top choice in Winning Notrump Leads) and switched to the ♦4.

Declarer put up dummy's king, played a spade to the king, a heart to the king, cashed the A and then played a heart to the jack.

When it held she cashed the ♥A and exited with a heart, South winning, cashing the ♣Q and exiting with the ♦Q. Declarer won and cashed a heart, but South had the last word with the ♦J and ♠Q, -100.

Could declarer have done better? We may find out later.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Thoma	Dwyer	David	Potter
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the *****K and switched to the *****10, declarer winning with the king and playing four rounds of hearts.

South won, cashed the ♣Q and only then (too late the hero!) switched to the ♦5.

Declarer won with the ace, cashed a heart and played a club, establishing a ninth trick, +600 and 12 IMPs.

Mixed Play v Parker

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Baroni	Brody	Donati	Dicker
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 🔶	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the \blacklozenge 5 and declarer won with dummy's ace, preserving the \blacklozenge K as an entry to hand. He unblocked the \clubsuit K, crossed to the heart king and ducked a spade, North winning with the eight and cashing the \clubsuit A.

When he continued with the king before switching to a diamond declarer scored an overtrick when the \blacklozenge Q fell under the ace. Having ducked a spade, declarer had two chances of getting up to nine tricks - with four spades and three hearts to go with two diamonds, or via two spades and five hearts.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Herrera	Tebha	Tomic	Rubenstein
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the \blacklozenge 5 and declarer won in hand, played a spade to the king, a heart to the king, cashed the \blacklozenge A and then played on hearts, South winning the fourth round and exiting with the \diamondsuit Q.

Declarer won in dummy, cashed the last heart and exited with a diamond, but the defenders had the rest, -100 and a 12 IMP swing.



Alpert v Allsorts

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bhargava	Hoyos	Kristinsson	S. Molson
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the \bigstar J and declarer won with the king and went after the hearts, South winning the fourth round as North pitched the \bigstar 8 and \bigstar 4. South's diamond exit was ducked to North's ten and he switched to the \clubsuit 4, South winning with the queen and exiting with a spade to dummy's king. North's \clubsuit AK were the setting tricks, -100.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Alpert	Beauchet	Fruscoloni	Sobel
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 🔶	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♣Q and continued the suit, North cashing the king and ace. South pitched the ♥7, so declarer finished with an overtrick and 12 IMPs.

Gerry's Juniors v Mauberquez

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Monod	Rose	Mauberquez	Bakhshi
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the \diamond Q and declarer won with the king, played a heart to the jack, unblocked the \blacklozenge K, came to hand with a heart, cashed the \blacklozenge A, played a diamond to the ace and cashed the \blacktriangledown A. When the queen refused to appear he exited with a club and North went up with the ace, cashed the \blacklozenge 10 and played the \blacklozenge 10, -200.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Petelko	Avon	Retter	Voldoire
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the ♦ 5 and when North followed with the two the seven took the trick. Declarer unblocked the king, played a spade to the ace, returned to hand with the ♥K and played three more rounds of hearts, North discarding the ♦ 10 and the ♠8. At this point, if South continues diamonds, or plays two rounds of clubs, declarer should score only eight tricks, but he exited with the ♠Q and declarer could cash two tricks in the suit and exit with the ♣J. One way or another, a ninth trick had to arrive, +600 and 13 IMPs.



The extra diamond trick did not really help declarer. As the cards lie it does allow time to play on clubs, but the spade/heart combination play remains the best chance.

Belhara v Uli

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Olivieri	Kasler	Schuster	Sarian
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 🔶	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the \diamond 5 and declarer was allowed to win with the seven. He played four rounds of hearts and North pitched two clubs. South won and returned the \clubsuit Q and North won with the king and exited with the \diamond 4. Declarer won, played the \clubsuit J and claimed the rest, +630.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rossard	Burgio	Romanowski	Mazzadi
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 🔶	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the \diamond 5 and declarer won with the king and played four rounds of hearts, North pitching a diamond and a club. South won and exited with the \diamond 2 to dummy's king. When declarer continued with a club North won with the king and switched to the \diamond 10 for the jack and queen. South cashed the \diamond Q and got off play with the \diamond Q, subsequently scoring a diamond for -100 and 12 IMPs.

Strawberries v Tulips++

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
J Jansma	T Bessis	Levin	V Bessis
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led the \$10 and declarer won with the king and played a club, North taking the king and continuing with the \$9. South won and switched to the \$5, declarer taking the king and exiting with the \$J. South won with the queen and exited with the \$6. Not blessed with second sight, declarer took the ace, crossed to the \$K and tried the hearts which left him with seven tricks, -200.

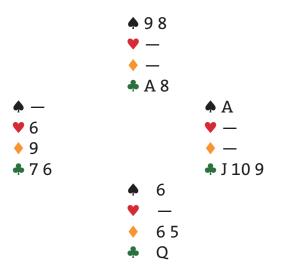
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Setton	Both	Franceschetti	A Jansma
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the \blacklozenge Q and declarer won with the king and played four rounds of hearts, North parting with a club and a diamond. South exited with a spade to the king and declarer exited with a club, North taking



the king and returning the ♠10 for the jack and queen. South switched to the ♦J and declarer took dummy's ace felling North's ten and cashed the ♦9.

This was the position:



If North discards a spade declarer parts with a club from dummy and can cash the last heart, but North throws another spade and declarer is squeezed!

Alas, North pitched a club on the ♦9 and North ended up giving the last trick to the ♠A, +600 and a 13 IMP swing on board 13.

I wish I had a Euro for every time I have written that!

BEBRIDGE

THE MARCH ISSUE HAS JUST BEEN RELEASED!



4 YA

In this issue

The March 2021 issue of **BeBRIDGE** is a veritable cornucopia. Discover the **Secrets of winning pairs** and read all about the **Transatlantic Seniors Cup**. Find out what it's like to be a **Director** and take our quiz about the **History of bridge**. **David Bird**'s Abbot is back with the latest instalment of the adventures of his bridge playing monks and **Frankly Speaking** meets **Fernando Lema**. Along with the regular articles that stimulate your 'little grey cells' it's an issue you can't afford to miss.

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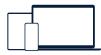
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