MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS

ONLINE BRIDGE EVENTS • MMT.BRIDGERESULTS.ORG

Birthday Date in the Top

Mauberquez (125 VPs) and Alpert (117 VPs) continue their flirt at the top, and in our first match today they meet for the first time... Let's see if Mauberquez will be a gentleman

and give Claire Alpert some table presents, since today is her birthday.

Also right above the 100 VP-line are the Strawberries (and Parker, possessing the last two spots in the top-4. However Potter is crouching in 5th place, ready to attack should the chance appear, and Uli, Tulips++ and Ale are all still in the fight for the top-4.

To the winner of the RR (whoever that may be): Please don't forget to inform us of your choice of opponent in the semifinals.



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 April 15

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

12:40 EST / 18:40 CET - Round 11 (14 boards)

15:15 EST / 21:15 CET – Semifinal segment I/II (16 boards)



Semifinals

The winner of the Round Robin can choose their semifinalopponent between the teams placed 3-4. We kindly ask you to inform us of your choice directly after the last match, so we can prepare the line-up-system. Write to mmt@bridgeresults.org or directly to one of the organizers.

Cross Table by Ranking

Ranking after round 9

rank	team	#	9	5	7	1	2	11	6	3	4	10	8	12	VP tot
1		9	٠		<u>14.19</u>	<u>8.72</u>	<u>17.34</u>	<u>19.38</u>	<u>16.21</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>13.23</u>		<u>13.48</u>	<u>13.23</u>	125.78
2		5		۲	<u>5.36</u>	<u>17.77</u>	<u>18.29</u>		<u>7.56</u>	<u>17.04</u>	<u>15.66</u>	<u>16.03</u>	<u>5.36</u>	<u>14.85</u>	117.92
3		7	<u>5.81</u>	14.64	٠	<u>10.66</u>	<u>7.03</u>	<u>12.71</u>	<u>6.28</u>		<u>16.03</u>	16.55	<u>13.96</u>		103.67
4		1	<u>11.28</u>	2.23	<u>9.34</u>	*	<u>4.34</u>	<u>15.85</u>		<u>17.34</u>	<u>16.21</u>	<u>4.54</u>		20.00	101.13
5		2	2.66	<u>1.71</u>	<u>12.97</u>	<u>15.66</u>	٠		<u>19.47</u>	<u>2.96</u>	<u>7.29</u>	<u>17.63</u>		<u>18.41</u>	98.76
6		11	<u>0.62</u>		7.29	<u>4.15</u>		۲	<u>7.84</u>	<u>7.29</u>	<u>15.26</u>	<u>17.34</u>	<u>16.72</u>	15.26	91.77
7	TULIPS++	6	<u>3.79</u>	<u>12.44</u>	<u>13.72</u>		<u>0.53</u>	<u>12.16</u>	٠		<u>5.81</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>19.28</u>	<u>12.97</u>	90.70
8		3	<u>10.00</u>	2.96		2.66	<u>17.04</u>	<u>12.71</u>		*	<u>7.84</u>	<u>16.88</u>	<u>7.03</u>	<u>11.87</u>	88.99
9	GERRY'S JUNIORS	4	<u>6.77</u>	4.34	<u>3.97</u>	<u>3.79</u>	<u>12.71</u>	<u>4.74</u>	<u>14.19</u>	<u>12.16</u>	٠		<u>10.97</u>		73.64
10		10		<u>3.97</u>	<u>3.45</u>	<u>15.46</u>	2.37	<u>2.66</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>3.12</u>		۲	<u>11.87</u>	<u>19.47</u>	72.37
11	BELHARA	8	<u>6.52</u>	14.64	<u>6.04</u>			<u>3.28</u>	<u>0.72</u>	<u>12.97</u>	<u>9.03</u>	<u>8.13</u>	+	<u>6.52</u>	67.85
12		12	<u>6.77</u>	<u>5.15</u>		<u>0.00</u>	<u>1.59</u>	<u>4.74</u>	<u>7.03</u>	<u>8.13</u>		<u>0.53</u>	<u>13.48</u>	•	47.42



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



Wordsworth's Syndrome



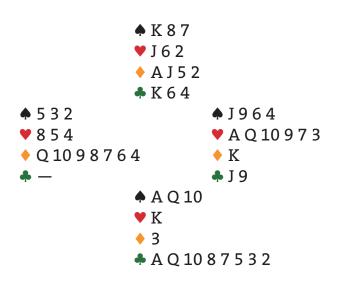
By Mark Horton

Whenever possible I like to take a walk before the start of the day's play. The area where I live is close to the countryside and at the moment there are echoes of his famous poem everywhere:

> 'I wandered lonely as a cloud That floats on high o'er vales and hills, When all at once I saw a crowd, A host, of golden daffodils;

Back in front of my computer I soon spotted a host, but they were club rather than trumpet shaped:

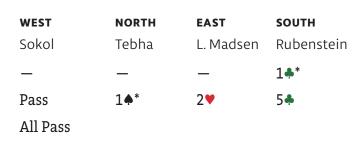
Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.



With 12 tricks on top how many would reach 6*? After 1*-2NT what would South rebid, keeping in mind that 1* may well promise only 2+*? Perhaps 3*? I also wondered if any pairs would be able to use a bid of 4* at some point to ask for key cards.

Time to join the contestants and see how they fared:

Parker v Gerry's Juniors



1 2++

1 Transfer to notrumps

A heart lead to the ace was followed by a claim, +420.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Baroni	Bakhshi	Donati	Rose
_	_	_	1♣
Pass	1♦	1♥	3♣
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Same lead, same outcome, no swing.

Strawberries v Potter

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
C Rimstedt	T Bessis	Huang	V Bessis
_	—	—	1♣
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣
All Dass			

All Pass

2NT Invitational

Oops! +170.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Setton	Dwyer	Franceschetti	Potter	Alpert	Both	Versace	A Jansma
_	_	_	1+	_	_	_	1♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass	3NT	Pass	6♣
All Pass				All Pass			

East led the **V**Q and declarer claimed all the tricks, no doubt being surprised to discover it was worth 8 IMPs.

EAST

Levin

Dble

NORTH

Hoyos

2♥*

West led the ♥8, +920.

Belhara v Allsorts

	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Ovesen	A L Tartarin	Uran	J J Tartarin
souтн S. Molson	_	_	_	1♣
1	Pass	2NT	Pass	4♣
6 ♣	Pass	4 • *	Pass	5♣
	All Pass			

2♥ Balanced invite

Alpert v Tulips++

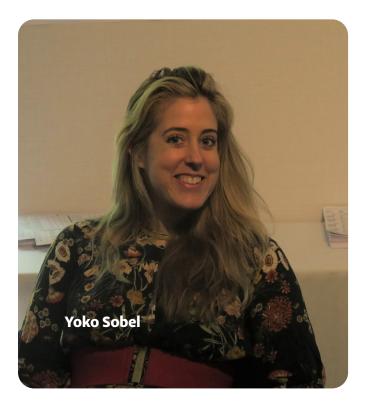
WEST

Pass

All Pass

J Jansma

West led the > 10, +920.



With controls in both majors, 5+ was perhaps conservative. If South had bid 4♥ and heard North bid 4 that should be enough to goon to slam.

West led the ♠2, +420.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kasler	Beauchet	Sarian	Sobel
_	_	_	1♣
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT*	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

2NT 11-12 balanced 4 RKCB 4NT 2 key cards, no **+**Q

An excellent auction that collected 11 IMPs.

Mixed Play v Uli

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
U Schuster	Wooldridge	W Schuster	Edmonds
_	_	_	1+
Pass	2NT	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

East led the \diamond 4 and declarer managed to slip a heart past East for +440.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Herrera	Primavera	Tomic	Olivieri
_	_	_	1♣*
Pass	1♦	2♥	Dble*
Pass	3♥*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

1♣ 2+♣
Dble'Good hand'
3♥ 'Game forcing'
4♣ '1 suit, game forcing'
4♣ Cue
4NT RKCB
5♥ 2 key cards, no ♣Q

Another sound effort for 10 IMPs.

Mauberquez v Ale

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Poncioni	Voldoire	Quiroga	Avon
_	_	_	1♣
Pass	1♦	1♥	5♣
All Pass			



A heart lead to the ace was followed by a spade and a claim, +420.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Monod	David	Mauberquez	Thoma
_	—	_	1♣
Pass	1♦	1♥	3
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠
Pass	4 • *	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

4◆ Cue bid
4♥ Cue bid
4NT RKCB
5◆ 2 key cards +♣Q

A heart lead, +920 and 11 IMPs.

If you have been keeping count you will have observed that five pairs bid the slam, which suggests this was quite a tough deal.

BEBRIDGE

THE MARCH ISSUE HAS JUST BEEN RELEASED!



A AA

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.

Why digital?

Always have your magazine at your fingertips. You can read BeBRIDGE wherever you are. No need to worry about the size of the font as you can zoom in on every page.

Want to join the club?

It couldn't be simpler to subscribe: - **through the website:** bridge-eshop.com/en/ - **by phone** at: +33 (0)1 42 96 25 50 - **by email** at: abonnement@lebridgeur.com

7 -

Bridging Academia, Policy and Practice Conference

Monday 28 June – Thursday 1 July 2021 (Ten 2-hour sessions online)



Case studies: Australia, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, India, Japan, Norway, Poland, UK, USA

Join *Bridge: A MindSport for All* (BAMSA) global network and share best practice Free international conference for academics, bridge players, teachers & NBO administrators

 28 June: Benefits of bridge as a sport Opening: World Bridge Federation President [1A] Bridge as a Mindsport 13:00 (BST UK) / 08:00 (EDT) [1B] Wellbeing & Bridge 16:30 (BST UK) / 11:30 (EDT) Keynote: Prof Martin Seligman (USA) Bridge at the Top (Jill Levin & Chip Martel) 	 30 June: How can bridge be more inclusive? [3A] Ageing, Intergenerationality & Bridge 10:00 (BST UK) / 05:00 (EDT) [3B] Gender, Sexism & Bridge 15:00 (BST UK) / 10:00 (EDT) Panel 1 Women's Bridge: Pros & Cons Panel 2 Sexism within the Game: Solutions?
 29 June: The future hybrid of F2F & online [2A] Covid Impacts on Bridge 11:30 (BST UK) / 06:30 (EDT) [2B] Digital Bridge & Cheating 19:30 (BST UK) / 14:30 (EDT) Panel: Jan Kamras (EBL), Eric Laurant (WBF) Boye Brogeland & Steve Weinstein 	 1 July: How to transform the image of bridge? [4A] New Approaches to Recruitment 13:00 (BST UK) / 08:00 (EDT) Panel 1 Teaching & Retaining Learners Panel 2 How to get more Bridge into Schools [4B] Marketing Bridge 16:30 (BST UK)/11:30 (EDT)

29 June Conference Pairs + Q&A with RealBridge 15:00 (BST UK) / 10:00 (EDT) 30 June Bridge Taster for First-timers 18:30 (BST UK) / 13:30 (EDT)

Over 60 presenters from 20 countries. Full programme and to sign up:

https://bridgemindsport.org/conference-2021/

@bridgemindsport

Queries: bamsa@stir.ac.uk

#BAMSA2021











Victim of the Day Alfredo Versace

by Christina Lund Madsen



(First published in August 2020)

How old are you now, where were you born, where do you live and have you ever had a normal job?

- I'm 51 years old, I live in Rome and I was born in Turin. I had only one job outside of bridge, but it was not real. I enjoyed helping my uncle in a restaurant with my cousins for two years when I was a child.

How has your life in Italy been during corona and how is it today?

- During lockdown I stayed in the house waiting for better times helping my kids. Buying food and cook something until things would be better.

We got Lucky in Rome, we never really suffered from the virus, but the news that were coming from the North of Italy struggled our hearts. So we heard all the news all the time hoping in a better situation.

How did you begin to play bridge?

- I started to play bridge at 9 years old because my grandparents owned a bridge club, so when I went to visit them I started to kibitz and soon my curiosity became bigger and bigger... Up to advising me at 16 years to stop to study and start a serious professional bridge life. Thankfully forever to Maria Teresa Lavazza who took me in her team when I was 15 years old and won my first Italian Championship. She has been an important part of my life. Teaching me the way to behave and helping me always. Italo Santia was my bridge mentor. What would you have become if not a bridge player?

- I can't imagine my life without bridge. Only chance to work without it is to become a chef, I'm pretty good in a kitchen.

Tell us about your children and about being a father.

- I love my kids, I have three boys at 20, 18 and 13 years of age, and I have a wonderful relation with them. I took example from my own father. The maximum he did with me was to look at me with a bad face showing he totally disagreed with me. Probably I have been too soft with them, but I love the way they grew up, they are funny with max respect of all people. Except their father and mother... (obviously I'm joking. ☉)

Of your many moments in bridge, which is your best memory?

- Only time I really argued strongly with Lorenzo was about the education of my son.☺

We were travelling on a train and we started fighting. We got lucky that a child psychologist was travelling close to us. She decided to put herself in the middle of the fight and finally we stopped.

Mustafa's question for you:

Which game do you think you are better at, Barbu or Bridge? - I feel barbu.. In bridge a lot of people beat me every day. In barbu it is pretty hard. And the advantage to play alone without seeing Don Lorenzo in front of my eyes... That's probably the best part.

Not many people know this, but you are also a champion on the dance floor. What do you like to do besides bridge and dancing?

- Dancing is not really my hobby, but ok. Actually I'm free up to 4 o'clock in the afternoon, then I start to play online and I'm pretty busy. My life changed a little but still I like to play tennis and we organize soccer matches with my kids, their friends and bridge players in Rome and sometimes they come from outside. Funny, we enjoy a lot! Pezzana Stadium, we have also a page on Facebook.

How would Lorenzo Lauria describe you in 3 words? (words, not waves with his arms)

- How does Lorenzo describe me?.. Irresponsible... Funny... and... Untrusthworthy. ☺

At some point you were going to play for Monaco. It was the big news and gossip of the Bridge world. What happened?

- Monaco was a nice short experience. Something changed in the Monaco rules about national teams and we took different paths. I had a good time with Pierre and he behaved very nicely with us, and now I'm really happy to come back to play for Italy.

As an Italian, how do you feel about the case of Fantoni-Nunes?



 Very sad speaking about them, I just do for you, Christina, I really don't like. We have been friends and teammates for a long time, then some things in our friendship changed just before they moved to play for Monaco. Success, money and the sensation that nobody can touch you can be dangerous in life. They paid the biggest price. I remember those days... articles in every Italian newspaper, in the news on television. So bad especially when you have a daughter or son. I hate public gogna (italian word). After 5 years I can say that it's time to stop. I like to forgive people and give them occasion to show they work hard on themselves. I know I will not be popular at all now, but that's my nature, sorry.



If you could look at your past and give a good advice to a younger you, what would it be?

- Advise to Young Alfredo?? Hard, he would never follow advices. People tried, but one I can easily say:

"Alfredo, stay away from the gambling world."

It almost destroyed my life. I say almost because now for 2-3 years I'm far away from this world. A great therapist, doctor Florinda, and Emanuela, who left me alone 2 or 3 times helped me a lot. Now I feel ok about that, but... never say never. ©

What makes you laugh?

- Make me laugh, what? All.

What makes you cry?

- Cry? All... I'm very sensibile, maybe too much.

Who would you like to partner, kiss, kill between Geir Helgemo, Zia Mahmood and Jeff Meckstroth?

- Easiest question ever... Kiss Zia, he is funny and good looking. Kill Jeff, so he will stop to beat me at the table (two world final Bermuda Bowls are enough) and play with Helgie... Easy to play with and I prefer not to kiss him. ©

(This interview is from August 2020, but reprinted here after Sylvie Willard nominated Alfredo yesterday. We can never have too much Versace.)

The Elimination Game

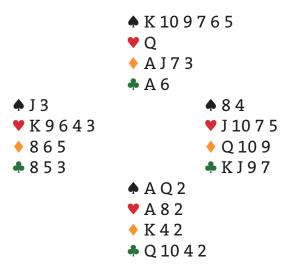


By Mark Horton

I think everyone appreciates that it is rarely a bad idea to eliminate one or more side suits, especially when you can retain trumps in both hands.

That possibility had a role to play on this deal from the ninth round, but that was by no means the only point of interest:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.





6♠ is a reasonable spot on the NS cards, even though there are only ten tricks on top.

However, aside from the fact that you might not bid it, if you do there is still the small matter of acquiring the requisite number of tricks.

Parker v Uli

Open Room

west Primavera	NORTH A Grossack	EAST Olivieri	south Parker
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3 🔶	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5 🔶
Pass	6 🔶	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

All Pass

2♥ Spades
4♥ RKCB ◆
4NT 0-3 key cards for diamonds
5♣ ◆Q ask

West led the ♣5 and when declarer played low from dummy East won with the king and switched to the ♥5.

Declarer won with the ace, drew trumps, unblocked the ♣A, came to hand with the ♦K, cashed the ♣Q and then took the diamond finesse, -100.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tebha	Burgio	Rubenstein	Mazzadi
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3 🔶	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

West led the ♦ 5 for the three, ten and king and declarer drew trumps and played two rounds of clubs, East winning with the king and exiting with the ♥5.

In due course declarer had to take the diamond finesse, no swing.

Mauberquez v Potter

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Dwyer	Gombert	C Rimstedt	Willard
_	_	Pass	1NT*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

1NT 14-16

West led the \blacklozenge 5 and with nothing at stake declarer played dummy's jack, took East's queen with the king, drew trumps and played two rounds of clubs, finishing with 11 tricks,+650.



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Monod	Michielsen	Mauberquez	Cullin
_	_	Pass	1NT*
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4 • *	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5 🔶 *
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

1NT 15-16

- 3. Game forcing with 4.
- 3♠ 'Ask 3+♠ 4+♦
- 4♦ 'Short ♥, slam interest'

4NT RKCB

- 5 **3** key cards
- 5♥ ♠Q?

West led the ♣3 and East won with the king and switched to the ♥5. Declarer won, cashed the ♠Q, ruffed a heart and cashed the remaining spades. He unblocked the ♣K, came to hand with a diamond and cashed the ♣Q, West pitching the ♥K. Declarer must have known the shape by now as all the hearts had gone and he had seen East play the nine and ten of diamonds. He played a diamond to the jack and was two down,-200 and 13 IMPs the poorer.

Alpert v Gerry's Juniors

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rosthøj	Hoyos	Rolf-Larsen	S. Molson
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

West led the ♠J and declarer won with the queen, cashed the ♥A, ruffed a heart, came back to the ♠A, ruffed a heart and played two rounds of clubs. East won with the king but could not play a heart or a diamond, so fell back on the ♣9. Declarer put in the ten and claimed when West followed with the eight, +1430.

There you see the power of the elimination game in the hands of a champion.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Alpert	Retter	Versace	Petelko
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3 🔶	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

3 Game forcing

4 Minimum



Declarer won West's lead of the ♣8 with dummy's ace, drew trumps and eliminated hearts using the ♦K as an entry. She then played dummy's ♣6 and East won and exited with a heart at which point declarer claimed the rest, a well played +680, but a loss of 13 IMPs.

Strawberries v Allsorts

Open Room			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bhargarva	T Bessis	Kristinsson	V Bessis
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3 🔶	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Dble	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

West led the \$3 and declarer went up with dummy's ace, drew trumps, eliminated hearts and played a club to endplay East, +1430. These World Champions know how to play!

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Setton	Beauchet	Franceschetti	Sobel
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

4♥ Shortage

West led the ♥3 so when dummy's queen held declarer was more or less assured of 12 tricks, +680, but 13 IMPs were lost.

Mixed Play v Tulips++

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
J Jansma	Wooldridge	Levin	Edmonds
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3 🔶	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

West attacked with the ♥3 and declarer was soon claiming, +1430.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Dicker	Both	Brody	A Jansma
_	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

4♠ Minimum, 3♠

West led the \$\\$3 and declarer won with dummy's ten, played a diamond to the king, cashed the \$\\$A and took the diamond finesse. A second trick had to be lost, -100 and a 17 IMP swing.

Belhara v Ale

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Thoma	de Luna	David	Appertet
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Declarer won West's ◆ 5 lead with the king and soon took the losing diamond finesse, +650.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Romanowski	Ravenna	Rossard	Garafulic
_	_	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

West led the ♥3 and that was that, +1430 and 13 IMPs.

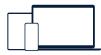
To sum up: If you reach 6♠ and West leads a heart you are home; on a spade lead you should play to eliminate the hearts before playing two rounds of clubs. You do the same after a diamond lead. If West leads a club you either win, eliminate hearts and only then play a second club (easy if East has doubled a club cue bid) or let East win the king and then cash your trumps before deciding how to tackle the diamonds once the ♣J does not appear.



Free, unlimited bridge on BBO



Your online bridge club Social play. ACBL Games. Tournaments. Solitaire.



Computer, tablet or mobile phone: Play on your favorite device!