MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



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And the Winner is...?

Parker proved to be the wrong choice for Mauberquez this time as the French lost their semifinal. Alpert vs. Potter was a nailbiter, Alpert emerging victorious by 1.1 IMP.

After the semifinals the two emerging winners decided they had enough excitement for one day. So for the first time in the MMT-history the final has been postponed by request of the two finalists. Maybe it is a sign that the world is opening up that someone has better things to do on a Friday...

This means the Sunday entertainment is guaranteed. At 11:30/17:30 Parker and Alpert cross blades on BBO, and you are all invited.



Monthly Invitational Teams Next Week

April 22-26 MMT organize a top-8 invitational event for open teams on BBO. The field is the strongest seen online yet with Meckwell, Helgeness, Brink-Drijver, Lauria-Versace and all the rest who will be offended not being mentioned by name. See the field and follow the results via mit.bridgeresults.org. Come kibitz!

Next Event

May Mixed Teams

May 10-14

Registration via mmt.bridgeresults.org

Results

SEMIFINAL

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
MAUBERQUEZ	10.1	<u>33</u>	43.1	<u>29</u>	72.1
PARKER		<u>49</u>	49	<u>37</u>	86

team	c/o	Seg1	Sum1	Seg2	Total
ALPERT	6.1	<u>36</u>	42.1	28	70.1
POTTER		28	28	41	69

The final will be played Sunday April 18th 11:30/17:30 on BBO. Kibitzers are welcome.

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 Mixed Teams June 14 - 18

July 5 -9 **July Mixed Teams**

August 9 - 13 August Mixed Teams



Registration via mmt.bridgeresults.org

Survivors

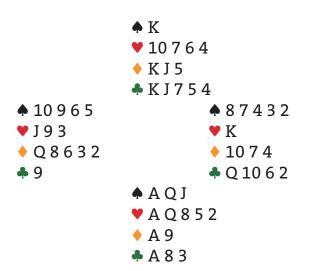
From the Semifinals



By Mark Horton

Going into the last session of the semifinals all four teams were still in the running. Parker's lead against Mauberquez was only 5.9 and Alpert's 14.1 advantage over Potter was far from decisive.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



Mauberquez v Parker

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tebha	Gombert	Rubenstein	Willard
_	Pass	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

2♣ 'F1,any strong hand'
4♦ 'Honour control in ♠, ♣ and ♦'
4NT 'BW'
4NT 4/1 key cards

West led the ♣9 and declarer won with the ace, played the ♠J to dummy's king and the ♥4 for the king and ace.

After cashing the ♥Q declarer played a club, winning with dummy's king when West pitched the ♦6.

Declarer cashed dummy's ◆K, came to hand with the ◆A, cashed the top spades discarding a diamond and a club and exited with a heart, forcing West to offer up a ruff and discard. A well played +980.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Maurin	A Grossack	Hugon	Parker
_	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2 ♦*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	6♥*
All Pass			

2♦ Waiting
2NT 22-24
3♣ Stayman
3♥ 4/5 ♥
4♠ Blackwood
4NT 1/4
5♣ ♥Q?
6♥ Yes, no outside kings

West led the \$10 and having won with dummy's king declarer played a heart to the king and ace, cashed the queen and then eliminated the spades pitching a diamond and a club from dummy.



Declarer continued with two rounds of diamonds and then exited with a heart but West could exit with a club and that was -50 and a 14 IMP swing.

Alpert v Potter

ıllin V	NORTH /ersace L♣	EAST Michielsen Pass	south Alpert 1♥	1 ♣ 1 ♦ 2♥	4-
	2♥	Pass	4NT*	2NT	-
ass 5	5 ♦ *	Pass	5♥		

4NT RKCB 5♦ 0/3 key cards

All Pass

All Pass

West led the ♣9 for the jack, queen and ace and declarer crossed to the ♠K and played two rounds of hearts, claiming 11 tricks, +450.

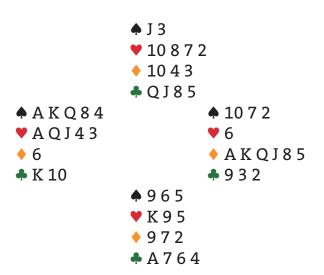
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S. Molson	Dwyer	Hoyos	C Rimstedt
_	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♥	Pass	6♥

East led the ♠2 and declarer won with the king, played two rounds of hearts and cashed the top spades pitching clubs before exiting with a heart. West returned the ♣9 for the jack, queen and ace and declarer continued with a club to the king, a heart to the eight and the ♥2 before cashing the ♠A and taking the finesse for +980 and 11 IMPs.

I would love to know what the computer thinks West should lead against 6♠. If you are also interested then get hold of a copy of Winning Suit Contact Leads by David Bird and Taf Anthias.

That meant both trailing teams had started with a big swing.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.



Mauberquez v Parker

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tebha	Gombert	Rubenstein	Willard
_	_	1.	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

1 ♦ 4+ ♦ unbalanced or 5 ♦ 4NT RKCB 5 ♣ 1/4 key cards

North led the ♣Q and South won with the ace and switched to the ♥5. Declarer took the ace, cashed two top spades, crossed to dummy with a diamond, ruffed a diamond high, went back to dummy with the ♠10 and claimed, +980.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Maurin	A Grossack	Hugon	Parker
_	_	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass



Here North led the ♣J, +480 but a loss of 11 IMPs.

Alpert v Potter

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cullin	Versace	Michielsen	Alpert
_	_	1♦*	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass

After the lead of the extstyle Q to the ace and a heart switch, declarer took the ace, ruffed a heart, drew trumps and claimed, +480.

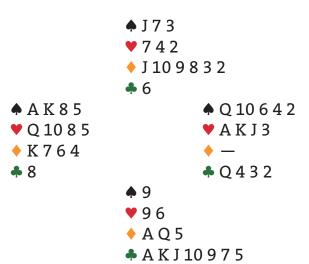
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S. Molson	Dwyer	Hoyos	C Rimstedt
_	_	1.	Pass
1♠	Pass	2 •	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

4NT RKCB

5♣ 1/4 key cards

Here declarer went down the route of ruffing a diamond after the ♠J appeared, +980 and 11 IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.



Mauberquez v Parker

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tebha	Gombert	Rubenstein	Willard
_	_	1♠	2♣
4♣*	Pass	4♠	5♣
Pass	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

4♣ Splinter



South led the ♣A and then tried to cash the ♠A. Declarer ruffed, played a spade to the king, ruffed a diamond, cashed the ♠Q, crossed to dummy with the ♥10, ruffed a diamond, went back to dummy by overtaking the ♥J and drew the outstanding trump, +680.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Maurin	A Grossack	Hugon	Parker
_	_	1♠	2.
2NT*	Pass	3♥	5♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

2NT 4♠, game forcing

West led the ♠A and continued with the eight, declarer ruffing and playing three rounds of clubs. East won and saw East follow with the ten, having previously pitched the eight and five. If East had led a low heart at this point a diamond return would have meant four down, but East cashed the ♥K so the penalty was -500 and the swing was 5 IMPs.

Alpert v Potter

Open Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Cullin	Versace	Michielsen	Alpert
_	_	1♠	2♣
4♣*	Pass	4 ♦*	5♣
Dble*	All Pass		

4♣ Splinter **4**♦ Cuebid DbleNegative

West led the ♠K and then switched to the ♠6, East ruffing and cashing the ♥K. When West followed with the five East continued with the three and West won and simply played back a heart. Declarer had to lose a trump and a diamond, -800.

Closed Room

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S. Molson	Dwyer	Hoyos	C Rimstedt
_	_	1♠	2♣
4♣*	Pass	4♦*	5♣
5♦*	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

South led the *K and then attempted to cash the *A. That meant declarer could adopt the dummy reversal we have already seen, using dummy's hearts as entries, +1430 and 12 IMPs.



The swings on boards 2 and 6 meant that Alpert and Parker had the advantage. The latter had plenty in hand and went on to win 86-72.1 but the other match was a nail biter.

On the last board East held ♠QT6 ♥A7432 ♦J4 ♣953 and saw partner open 1♠, North overcalling 5♦ at all four tables. Your lead?

Everyone went with the ♠6 and that allowed declarer to pitch a loser on dummy's ♠A for +400. If East had guessed to start with the ♥A the defenders would have taken three tricks - and Alpert's winning margin of 1.1 IMPs would have been wiped out.

The final between Alpert and Parker will be played Sunday at 11:30/17:30 on BBO.





THE MARCH ISSUE HAS JUST BEEN RELEASED!



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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