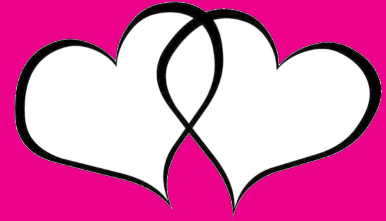


MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



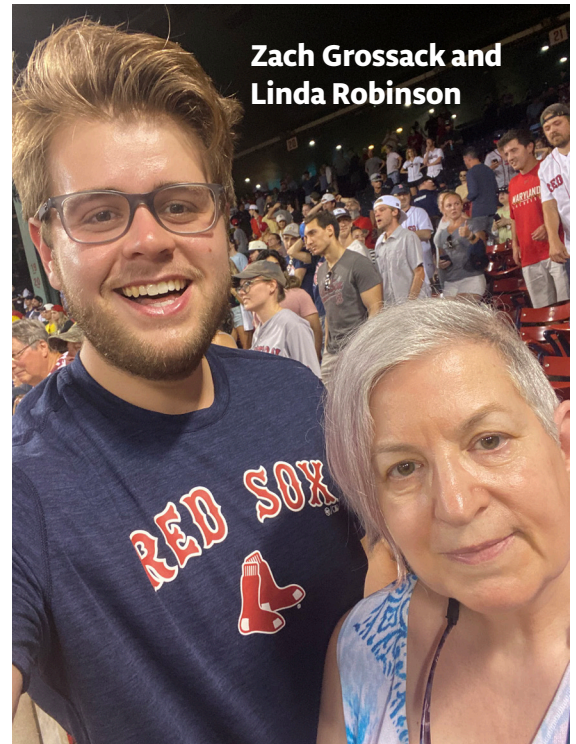
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Game on for Parker

Team Parker continues to rule the leaderboard of the Fall Mixed Teams. They have more than 13 VPs down to second, Juniors & Old Boys, and in comparison only 1 VP separates the teams placed 2 to 4. Most of the top placed teams have yet to play each other, so the scoreboard can change within a match.

Yesterday we remembered Eric Schwartz, who was married to Linda Robinson from Team Parker. Linda was so motivated that she dragged Zach Grossack to the top of the butler with a record score not even seen at the beginning of the pandemic (albeit after two matches only, but important to gloat when you can).

We love to be back!



Zach Grossack and
Linda Robinson

All players should enter BBO 5 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

September 21st

10:00 EST / 16:00 CET – R5 (16 boards)

12:15 EST / 18:15 CET – R6 (16 boards)









Same schedule throughout the week

Results & Draw

Draw Round 5

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	 <u>JUNIORS & OLD BOYS</u>	 <u>PARKER</u>
2	 <u>MEADOW</u>	 <u>CROCODILE</u>
3	 <u>MIXING IT UP</u>	 <u>TURNIPS</u>
4	 <u>PATALIX</u>	 <u>SNAPDRAGON</u>

Draw Round 6

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	 <u>PARKER</u>	 <u>MEADOW</u>
2	 <u>TURNIPS</u>	 <u>JUNIORS & OLD BOYS</u>
3	 <u>CROCODILE</u>	 <u>PATALIX</u>
4	 <u>SNAPDRAGON</u>	 <u>MIXING IT UP</u>

Results

Ranking after round 4		
rk	team	VPs
1	 <u>PARKER</u>	59.76
2	 <u>JUNIORS & OLD BOYS</u>	46.42
3	 <u>TURNIPS</u>	45.55
4	 <u>MEADOW</u>	45.43
5	 <u>MIXING IT UP</u>	41.98
6	 <u>SNAPDRAGON</u>	33.65
7	 <u>CROCODILE</u>	31.69
8	 <u>PATALIX</u>	15.52

Octet

Round 3

By Mark Horton



The luck of the draw meant that in Round 3 the four leading teams were in opposition.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

On this deal NS can make 3NT, but how easy is it to reach?
By the same token EW are close to making 4♥ – it takes a trump lead to beat it.

Mixing it Up v Parker

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rubenstein	Smith	Tebha	Bauer
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1NT Forcing

West's decision to pas throughout was conservative.

East led the ♥2 and West took the ace and returned the five, declarer cashing winners for +630.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Burns	A Grossack	Raywood	Parker
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♣
Dble	3♣	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

West cashed her winners for +200 and 13 IMPs.

Do you think East should have bid 3♥? It is not much of a hand, but all partner's values rate to be in the red suits and you do have a fifth heart.



Crocodile v Snapdragon

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Knottenbelt	Barel	D Gold	Katz
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Dble	Pass	Pass	5♣
Dble	All Pass		

1NT 'Up to 11'

2♣ Better minor

3♦ 'Shows stopper'

Terence Reese maintained that Qx was a good holding in a notrump contract so he would have approved of South's 3♦.

I wonder why North did not bid 3NT over that? Perhaps he thought that 3♠ implied a heart stopper on the grounds that he had not bid 3♥ over 3♦?

West cashed her winners for +200.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Liran	Paske	Popliliov	Nettleton
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT*
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

2NT 5♠ and 4+♣, 16-18.

If West wanted to bid, then 3♣ over 2NT would clearly be for takeout.

5♣ losing -100 meant a couple of IMPs changed hands.

Patalix v Juniors & Old Boys

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Sigsgaard	Boyd-Bowman	Plejdrup	Taylor
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

Once again West was not interested in getting involved, +130.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Stone	Lund Madsen	Herrera	Sokol
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Dble	3♣	All Pass	

With East unwilling to bid we had a push.



Thomas Paske
Photo: WBF

Meadow v Turnips

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lorenzini	Tokay	Tartarin	Marceddu
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Dble	3♣	All Pass	

A regulation +130.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kutuk	Franceschetti	Ekinci	Setton
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Dble	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

Here East had the opportunity to bid hearts at the two-level. I wonder if he considered bidding 3♦ over 3♣?



Omer Ekinci

World Championship Book Salsomaggiore 2022

The official book of the World Championships in Italy will be released on or before the start of the World Bridge Series in Wroclaw later this year.

The principal contributors will be *Brian Senior, Barry Rigal, Mark Horton, Marek Wojcicki, Daniel Gulyas & Ron Tacchi*.

The book will include 300 pages of all results, photographs and extensive coverage of the four championship events.



The book will be available from bridge suppliers around the world at the official retail price of £25, US\$35 and €30.

- distributed by Master Point Press



Tea Interval

By Mark Horton



One of the many excellent aspects of cricket is the enforced breaks for lunch and tea, during which the spectators have an opportunity to take refreshment. If we have exhausted our supply of champagne, we usually switch to white burgundy. As the third round was drawing to a close, I was about to shoulder arms when this deal appeared onscreen:

Board 10. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Meadow v Turnips

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lorenzini	Tokay	Tartarin	Marceddu
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

4NT RKCB
5♥ 2 key cards

West's decision to play in notrumps proved to be a good one. He knew an ace was missing so it allowed for the possibility that there might be a hole in the spade suit. North led the ♣7 and declarer won with the ace, unblocked the jack (South discarding the ♦6) and advanced the ♠J, putting up dummy's ace. Two more clubs saw South discard a second diamond and the ♥2 as declarer parted with a diamond and a spade. Declarer continued with a heart to the ace and a heart back to dummy's queen, cashed the last club discarding a spade and played the ♦7. When South's jack appeared there were 12 tricks, +1440.



Cedric Lorenzini
Photo: WBF

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kutuk	Franceschetti	Ekinci	Setton
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

North led the ♦A and declarer had no trouble collecting 11 tricks but lost 13 IMPs. Note that if North leads a club South will be able to score a ruff and defeat the contract.

This was not the only match in which 6NT was reached. In Patalix v Juniors and Old Boys the contract in the Open Room was 5♠ by East and when South led a heart declarer survived.

In the replay EW duplicated the Lorenzini auction and North led the ♣3. Declarer won with the ace, crossed to dummy with a heart and played a diamond for the king and ace. Now a spade from North is a killer, as it attacks declarer's communications but back came the ♥10 and declarer won, unblocked the ♣J, went to dummy with the ♠K and cashed three clubs. South was feeling the heat and pitched a diamond, but declarer did not read the position and pitched the ♦10, relying on the spade finesse which meant the loss of 13 IMPs.

In Parker v Mixing it Up both sides tried 6♠, Chris Parker's club lead as South securing an extra undertrick and 3 IMPs.

Crocodile gained 13 IMPs by stopping in 4♠ and scoring up with teammates -100 from 6♠.

I imagine you are wondering about the best line in 6NT?

On a club lead I think you should unblock the clubs, South discarding a heart. You then advance the ♠J going up with dummy's ace when North does not play the queen (ask Zia if you want to know why). You play a diamond for the king and ace, win the club return and cash two more clubs pitching a diamond and two spades. Then you cash three hearts ending in hand and find that the last of them squeezes South.

Suppose North finds the stronger defence of withholding the ♦A?

Then you must cash a top heart, cross to dummy with a heart and play the winning clubs. Followed by dummy's remaining heart. South will be down to ♠Q8 ♦J8 and forced to pitch a diamond. It might appear that you then have to guess the diamond position but look at the spade pips. If South has the ♦A he will be able to exit with the ♠Q and the ♠8 will be the setting trick.



Gary Donner 1953-2022

by Christina Lund Madsen



Gary Donner, a MMT-supporter and regular participant, passed away during the World Championships in August; an event he was supposed to attend until cancer got in the way. We repost this "Victim of the Day"-interview with him from August 2020.

Please tell us your age, where you live, occupation, professional background.

- I am 67, live in South Carolina and have a second home in NYC. I am a retired partner in a consulting and software company. My professional background is just that, consulting and software. All my jobs since school have been in those fields.

Where have you been hiding during corona?

- I have been in my own little bubble at home in South Carolina. My wife and I have the two best pandemic hobbies, bridge (for me only) and golf for both of us. We can do both of those without trouble during the pandemic.

What are your interests outside of bridge?

- Golf, travel and in particular travel to see whales and other ocean creatures. Our two best friends and us have been lucky that we "discovered" Patrick Dykstra who conducts whale trips to various parts of the world and we have done as many as we have had time for. On all his trips we get to spend hours and hours swimming with whales and other creatures.

How did you become absorbed by the bridge world?

- I played one year in high school and pretty much didn't play again for 30 years. Then when I got separated from my first wife, I was in an elevator in the building I lived in with 3 women, and they asked me if I played bridge and could be a fourth. I said yes. Never saw them again but started playing. I always went to tournaments but was not really serious, not a student of the game. As our business became more established I had more time and started to play more and at some point realized to get good I needed to play with pros who would see the mistakes that I made but didn't even see. I have been absorbed since.

What has surprised you the most?

- In bridge, I would say how many mistakes the best players in the world make. Of course their mistakes are better than mine. I am always reminded of something John Wooden, probably the greatest American college basketball coach, said: "The team that makes the most mistakes usually wins".

I think in bridge this is true, one is always being tested and the best players are very aggressive (especially after they see how I defend a hand). So they make lots of mistakes which cost them a little in order to have a few hands where they gain a lot.

Which is your best bridge memory so far?

- By far my best memory is the 2019 USBF mixed trials where we made it to the finals of the bracket to be USA2. Sadly we lost but we had a great team and all

had a lot of fun. And we were always the underdogs. But it proved to me that there was hope for me in this crazy game.

You are known to have many women on your teams, also in open events. Is that deliberate, and if so, what are your reasons?

- I have always liked women. My best friend, besides my wife, is a woman. In business I always worked with women too. And if you look at women I play or team with now, they are not amongst the best women in the world, they are amongst the best bridge players in the world.

What are your dreams and ambitions within bridge?

- I would like to become a grand life master. I need lots more points and obviously to win a national event. Getting up there in years, I have to say the pandemic has not helped me reach this goal.

If Corona disappeared overnight, what is the first thing you would do?

- Go somewhere to swim with whales. Where would depend on the season.

What were you like as a child?

- I was a very slow developer. In fact I did not learn how to read until the end of 2nd grade (so I was 8 1/2 years old). I also had really bad hand/eye coordination. And I kept pretty much to myself. My parents were very worried about me. Once I learned how to read though I would read everything. I have always been a loner though and had very few friends but the ones I have are very close to me. I never applied myself in school but have always dived into things that interested me. Most of this is still true today.



By which three words would your wife describe you?

- Stubborn, relentless and creative (business wise).

Who would you partner, kill, kiss between Eric Rodwell, Chris Willenken and Cecilia Rimstedt?

- I don't want to give up Cecilia as a partner. Eric is good for giving you major complicated system changes within the last 48 hours of playing with him. I think that qualifies as grounds for murder. So I guess I am kissing Chris. Maybe I would like it (Isn't there a Katie Perry song like that?).

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

- Between the ages of 25 and 50 I almost never worked out. I did not take very good care of myself. I would be far healthier today if I had done a better job of that.

Appearances can be Deceptive - Round 4

By Mark Horton



Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

East led the ♦2 and declarer won with the queen, took two rounds of trumps and claimed, +1010.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
A Grossack	Bareket	Parker	Saada
—	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♦*	Pass	6♣*
Pass	7♥	All Pass	

This looks like a regulation 7♥ where there are several ways to score all the tricks. The only danger from North's point of view is that South might hold three small spades.

4NT RKCB
 5♣ 1 key card
 5♦ ♥Q?
 6♣ ♥Q+♣K

Parker v Crocodile

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Liran	Robinson	Poplilov	Z Grossack
—	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♦*	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Preferring 4♥ to 3♥ is a matter of taste.

East led the ♥6 and declarer won with dummy's ten, ruffed a club with the ♥J and cashed the ♥K, claiming, +1510 and 11 IMPs.

Juniors & Old Boys v Mixing it Up

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Raywood	Lund Madsen	Burns	McNay
—	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	5♣*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	7♥	All Pass	

3♠+4♣ Cue
 4NT RKCB
 5♣ 1 key card
 5♦ ♥Q?

5♣ Exclusion Blackwood
 5♥ 0 keycards

I don't know why South preferred 6♥ to 6♣.

North-South were not sure whether they play 0314 or 1430 after exclusion, so North decided to gamble that South held the trump queen. *(All North wanted was to enquire after the trump queen, but she hopelessly used exclusion rather than simply 4N and excellently managed to muddle the bidding/CLM)*

East led the ♣10 and declarer ruffed, cashed the ♥AK, played three rounds of spades, ruffing and claimed, +1510.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hammelev	Aquino	Krefeld	Hotamisligil
—	2♣*	Pass	2♠*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	6♣*
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

2♠ 3 controls, same suit
 2NT 22-24
 3♣ Stayman
 4♣ Natural
 4♠ 'Undiscussed'

There is nothing wrong with opening 2♣, although it does consume a round of bidding.

I leave you to decide where things went off the rails – would 3♥ be a better rebid than 2NT? Perhaps bidding 6♦ over 6♣ would have saved the day?

It meant the loss of 11 IMPs.

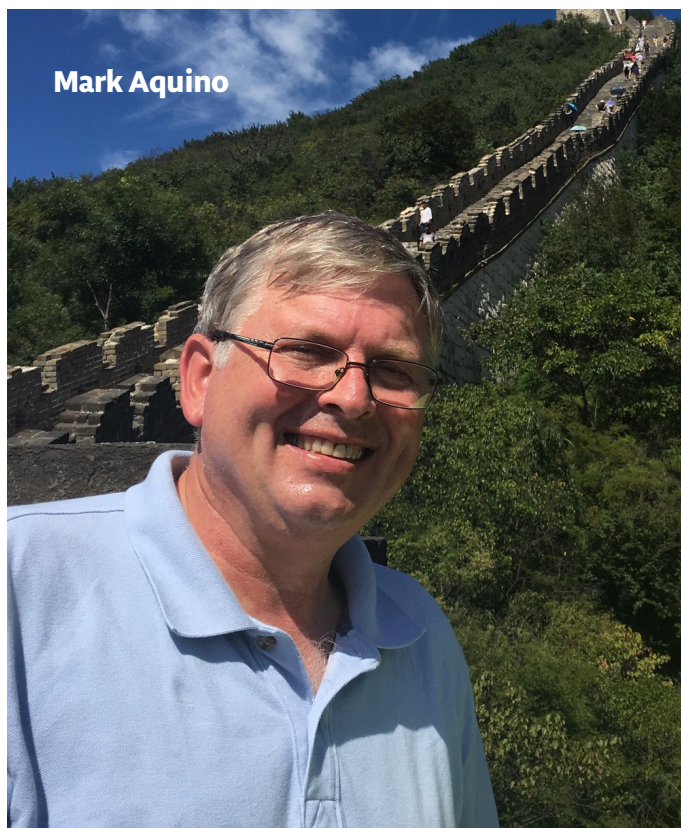
Snapdragon v Meadow

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kutuk	Paske	Ekinci	Nettleton
—	2♣*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

3♣ 'Natural and good hand'

That was a big surprise, as one would expect 4♥ to be forcing. (Writing in the Acol Index Eric Crowhurst explains it as 'natural and forcing showing three or four-card support.') An alternative approach is for South to rebid 4♦, a cue bid agreeing hearts.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Knottenbelt	Tokay	D Gold	Meadow
—	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			



Alas, I cannot tell you the meaning of 2♦
- it is frequently played as a waiting bid,
although some partnerships use it to show
any positive response, with 2♥ promising
0-3 points.

Turnips v Patalix

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Stone	Franceschetti	Herrera	Setton
—	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	7♥	All Pass	

What's not to like!

Declarer ruffed the club lead, played two
rounds of trumps ending in dummy and
claimed.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lorenzini	Boyd- Bowman	Tartarin	Taylor
—	2♣*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	7♥	All Pass	

3♣ 5+♣ at least two of the top three
honours

West led the ♦J and declarer won with
dummy's ace, played a heart to the ten,
ruffed a club high, ruffed a diamond,
ruffed a club high and cashed the ♥J for an
honourable push.



Alix Taylor and
Peter Boyd-Bowman



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