MONTHLY MIXED TEAMS



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English Domination

The English teams are dominating halfway through the event. Netteale remain in front, followed by Harris, who made sure Netteale didn't break away from the field by beating them yesterday. Thus only 2.5 VPs separate the top trio, complete with BAMSA also a team occupied by a couple of English players.

In fourth we find the Turnips - and who knows? Perhaps the French will crush the English dreams just like at the recent Football World Cup.

We get many messages from you thanking us for organizing this event. This is only our third tournament this year, thankfully because of a full live bridge calendar. We as always appreciate your feedback in order to determine the future - and especially number of events next year.

	Ranking after round 4			
rk	team	VPs		
1	→ NETTEALE	57.20		
2	+ HARRIS	56.42		
3	BAMSA	54.78		
4	TURNIPS	48.40		
5	BAUERS REINDEERS	45.92		
6	ALPERT	37.81		
7	PARKER	37.41		
8	CHRISTMAS STARS	33.30		
9	P&P	30.54		
10	MEADOW	30.14		
11	DENMARK MIXED	28.28		
12	MESSI ADMIRERS	19.80		

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

December 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

Results

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Draw Round 5

Tbl	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	→ NETTEALE	BAMSA
2	+ HARRIS	BAUERS REINDEERS
3	TURNIPS	ALPERT
4	PARKER	CHRISTMAS STARS
5	P&P	MESSI ADMIRERS
6	MEADOW	DENMARK MIXED

Good King Wenceslas

Round 3



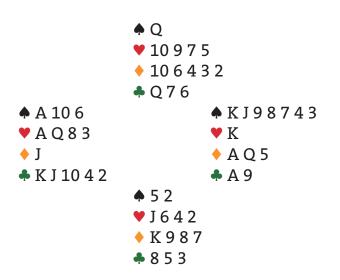
By Mark Horton

Having spent the morning writing up the report on Round 2 and making some corrections to the Wroclaw World Championship book, I popped out to enjoy some winter sunshine while starting to think about possible titles and introductions to the coverage of the next two rounds.

It used to be a Christmas tradition in England to visit all the local pubs in your area and sing Carols, collecting money for charity. Fortified by a beer and a few mince pies (or was it the other way round?) it was an enjoyable way of spending an evening, especially in the taverns that offered roaring fires to keep you warm.

My favourite carol provides my title – now all that is required that at least some of the kings featuring in Round 3 are favourably disposed.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



This has the appearance of being a routine grand slam (if such a thing exists). Here is how they managed at table one:

Netteale v Bauers Reindeer

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rojko	Paske	Sloofman	Gogoman
_	Pass	14	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♠*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
6♣*	Pass	7♠	All Pass

2. Artificial, game forcing 4NT RKCB

5♠ 2 key cards +♠Q 5NT Grand slam try

6**♣ ♣**K

South led the 45, +1510.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Seale	Smith	Gold	Bauer
_	Pass	14	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠	Pass
4 ♦*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
7♠	All Pass		

2. Game forcing

4♦ Splinter

4NT RKCB

5♥ 2 key cards

5NT Grand slam try

South led the ♥4, no swing.



Harris v Turnips

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lorenzini	Harris	Tartarin	Gold
_	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4 ♦ *	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	6♠	All Pass

4♦ Cue 4NT RKCB

5♥ 2 key cards

That was surprising, +1010.

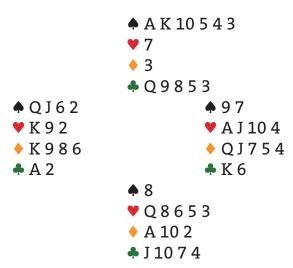
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gross	Franceschetti	Root	Setton
_	Pass	14	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	5NT	APass
7♠	All Pass		

2♣ Natural or balanced 4NT RKCB

5♥ 2 key cards5NT Grand slam try

That was worth 11 IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.



Netteale v Bauers Reindeer

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rojko	Paske	Sloofman	Gogoman
_	_	1.	1♥
Dble*	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♥*	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

2♥ Artificial, asking

Perhaps West thought 3♦ was forcing. For my money East might have bid 2NTover 2♠ and both players could have bid 3NT. It's a great deal for one of those 'You be the Jury, features.

Declarer had little trouble taking ten tricks, +130.

Claire Alpert (to the left)



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Seale	Smith	Gold	Bauer
_	_	Pass	Pass
1♣*	1♠	Dble*	Pass
1NT	2♠	3NT	All Pass

North led the ♠5 and when dummy's nine held declarer played on diamonds, got the heart wrong and finished with ten tricks, +630 and 11 IMPs.

Harris v Turnips

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lorenzini	Harris	Tartarin	Gold
_	_	1.	1♥
Dble*	1♠	Pass	2♣
3NT	4.	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Declarer won the diamond lead in dummy and played to ruff spades, losing only three tricks, +510.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gross	Franceschetti	Root	Setton
_	_	1.	Pass
1	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	Dble	All Pass	

South led the ♥8 and that gave declarer an easy route to ten tricks, +950 and 16 IMPs.

Alpert v P&P

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Alpert	Boyd- Bowman	Fruscoloni	Herrera
_	_	1♦	Pass
1♠	2♠*	Pass	3♥
3NT	All Pass		

2♠ Spades

North led the ♣5 and declarer won with dummy's king and played diamonds, South taking the second round and returning the ♣J. Declarer cashed three diamonds and then ran the ♥J, +630 as South had pitched two hearts.

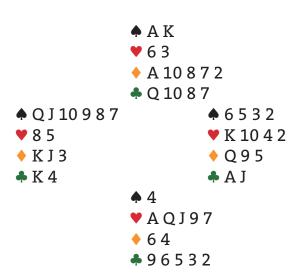
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rosenberg	Hoyos	Herrera	Seamon Molson
_	_	1♦	1♥
Dble*	1♠	Pass	2♣
3NT	4♣	Dble	All Pass

That looks familiar – and so was the score, +510 and a 15 IMP swing.

In Bamsa v Christmas Stars both teams recorded +750 in 3NT doubled while in Messi Admirers v Denmark Mixed the contracts were 4♣ and 3NT – and when the latter failed by a trick an IMP changed hands.

That leaves Meadow v Parker and the former picked up 15 IMPs, scoring +950 in 3NT doubled, while 5♦ was one down in the other room.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Netteale v Bauers Reindeer

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rojko	Paske	Sloofman	Gogoman
_	_	_	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

2♠ Weak
2NT Forcing
3♣ ♣A or ♣K
3♠ To play



North led the \clubsuit K, cashed the ace and switched to the \blacktriangledown 6 for a fast two down, -500.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Seale	Smith	Gold	Bauer
2♠*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

No double, no trouble, as they say. The same two down, but -200 was worth 7 IMPs.

Alpert v P&P

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Alpert	Boyd- Bowman	Fruscoloni	Herrera
_	_	_	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

3 ♦ 10-11, 4 ♠

Stopping in 3♠ meant -100.

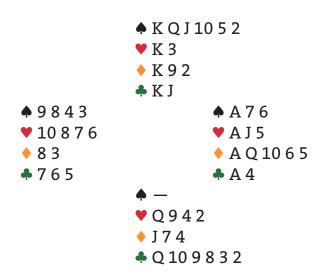
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rosenberg	Hoyos	Herrera	Seamon Molson
_	_	_	2♥*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

2♥ Hearts and a minor2NT Asking2.♣ 'Globa and minimum

3♣ 'Clubs and minimum I think'

West led the ♠Q and declarer won in dummy, played a heart to the queen and a club, West taking the king and switching to the ♠3. It was a good try, but declarer could pitch a diamond on a spade and that was +600 and 11 IMPs.

Board 9. Dealer North, EW Vul.



Harris v Turnips

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lorenzini	Harris	Tartarin	Gold
_	1NT*	Pass	2♠*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass



1NT 15-17 2♠ Clubs

West led the •8 and three rounds of the suit were followed by a heart for the jack and queen. East took the heart return and played two rounds of clubs, leaving declarer with two heart losers, four down, -800.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gross	Franceschetti	Root	Setton
_	1NT	Dble*	2♠

DblePenalties

South led the \$2 and declarer won and played back a club, South winning with the queen and continuing with the ten. Declarer ruffed and played the \$A and when South declined to ruff, pitching a club, he exited with a spade. North won, cashed another spade and now does best to switch to hearts.

When he played another spade declarer ruffed with the ◆10 and although South overruffed and switched to a heart



declarer could win and return the suit, South winning and exiting with a heart. North ruffed and played a spade, but declarer could win with dummy's ◆8 and had seven tricks, a minor triumph at -200 but a loss of 14 IMPs.

Alpert v P&P

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Alpert	Boyd- Bowman	Fruscoloni	P. Herrera
_	1♠	Dble	Pass
2♥	2♠	2NT	All Pass

I recall Terence Reese suggesting that with a hand like Wests you should bid 2♣ as partner was less likely to be enthusiastic. South led the ♣10 for the king and ace and declarer cashed the ♠A and continued with the queen, North winning and switching to the ♠K. Declarer won and exited with a diamond and when South won and exited with the ♥4 declarer could take North's king and was up to six tricks by cashing his diamonds. When South ducked the ♥5 declarer was only one down, -100.

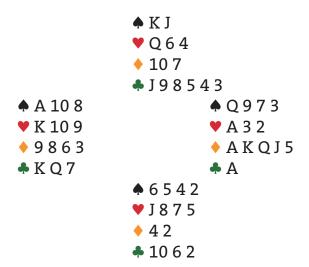
Would it have helped if North had switched to the ♠10? Perhaps, but the simple move is to play the ♣J.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rosenberg	Hoyos	G. Herrera	Seamon Molson
_	1♠	Dble	Pass
2♥	2♠	Dble	All Pass

East's second double did not turn out well, as declarer emerged with an overtrick, +570 and 10 IMPs.

As the matches drew to a close, another deal with slam potential appeared:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



Harris v Turnips

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lorenzini	Harris	Tartarin	Gold
_	_	1.	Pass
3NT	Pass	5NT*	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

5NT Pick a slam

South led the ♠4 and when North won with the king and returned the jack declarer claimed, +920.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gross	Franceschetti	Root	Setton
_	_	2NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	6♦	All Pass

South led the ♠6 and again the play did not take long, declarer taking dummy's ace, drawing trumps and claiming, +920.

Alpert v P&P

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Alpert	Boyd-Bowman		P. Herrera
_	_	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
4NT	Pass	6 ♦	All Pass

- 3♣ Puppet Stayman
- 3♦ At least one major

South led the \\$6 and declarer put up dummy's ace, drew a round of trumps and claimed.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rosenberg	Hoyos	G. Herrera	Seamon Molson
_	_	1♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	6♦	All Pass

South led the \$4 and North's king was the only trick for the defenders, +920. For economy of effort that would be hard to beat!

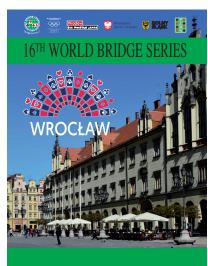
Alas, there were three casualties, two pairs stopping in 3NT while the remaining one had an accident after the sequence 1♦-2♠-2NT-Pass, where 1♦ was unbalanced unless 5♦(332) and 2♠ was 'artificial invitational, probably diamond support'. When that only costs you 6 IMPs you might consider buying a lottery ticket!

World Championship Book Wroclaw 2022

The official book of the World Bridge Series in Wroclaw will be released in 2023. The principal contributors will be Brian Senior, Barry Rigal, Mark Horton, Ron Tacchi, David Bird & Maurizio di Sacco.

The book is in full colour and includes many photographs from the championships, a full list of results and extensive coverage of the major championship events.

The book will be available from bridge suppliers around the world at the official retail price of £30, US\$35 and €35. It will also be available as an ebook from the Master Point Press web site at US\$30.





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