

**WELCOME TO MADEIRA 2014**

# 17<sup>th</sup> International Bridge Festival

## Madeira

### Funchal, November 3-9, 2014

#### November: Bridge is in Madeira!

It's November. Madeira is preparing itself for the 17<sup>th</sup> International Bridge Tournament. The Sea is warm, the mountains are at their best and the Vidamar is now ready to host the biggest



Last year's winning team at the prize-giving dinner

Portuguese bridge event of the year.

Good weather all week, places to go, spectacular views to see is what we

promise and deliver you every year. You can ask any of the

thousands of people that were here in any of the past tournaments.

This year the welcome cocktail will be held at the Madeira Wine Institute, near the city hall. On page 3 you have a map that shows how to get there.

Pedro Nunes

ENTRY FEES		
MONDAY WARM-UP	PAIRS	TEAMS
10 € / Player	100 €/Player	300 €/Team (up to 6 players)

## THE ENTRY FORMS

Welcome to Madeira and our 17<sup>th</sup> International Bridge Open!

Did you come with the Intertours/Vidamar package? If so, you have received an envelope with some forms and this bulletin.

Be sure to fill them in. You will have to bring them to the Welcome desk (on the Reception Desk nearest to the playing rooms) on Monday between 11:30 and 13:00 (if you arrived until Sunday) or Tuesday between 14:30 and 16:00 (if you arrive Monday or Tuesday) in order to receive your vouchers.

You will be then given your entry fee vouchers, both for the pairs and teams events, as well as any other vouchers you have requested in the forms you have filled.

Please note that if you are not staying in the hotel with the Special Bridge Package but still wish to participate in the social program you should let us know. Contact the Welcome desk Wednesday (from 14:30 to 16:00), where you will be given your Prize Giving Dinner vouchers and where you may buy any other voucher you need (as for Wednesday's typical dinner or for a non-player accompanying you to Sunday's dinner).

The Organization would like to warn you that you should not use your vouchers as markers on your latest bridge book while you're in the pool, or as wedges under the wobbling bed table, for if you lose them you will be required to buy new ones!

If you don't have the Intertours/Vidamar bridge package and you want to participate in all of the events, we have a deal for you - 200€ and you get:

- 1 Entry fee pairs tournament
- 1 Entry fee teams tournament
- 1 Typical dinner
- 1 Half day tour
- 1 Prize-giving dinner

You can purchase this special package Monday or Tuesday at the Welcome Desk - see page 8 for details on when it's open.

**Your Vouchers are like money - Don't lose them!**

## The Welcome Cocktail

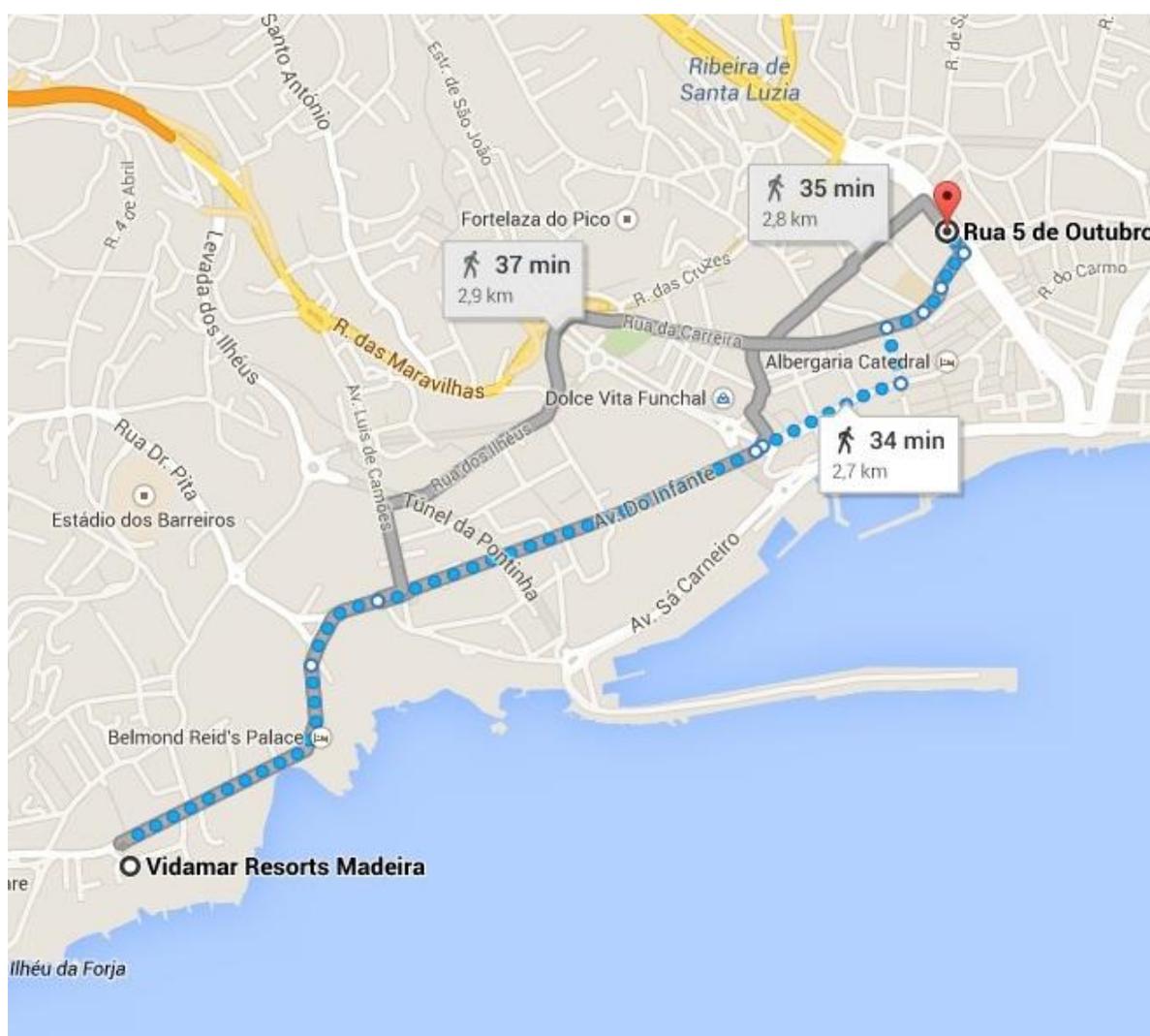
Wondering on how to get to the Madeira Wine Institute?

Have a look at the map below:

It's a 35 minute walk or an 8 minute drive from the hotel.

It's in the center of Funchal, near the city hall.

See you there!



## “O Lagar”

Our Wednesday typical dinner will be in the traditional restaurant “O Lagar”. There you will be able to eat the typical “espetada” and “milho frito” - it’s one of the best places in the island for that.

We will be, as always, entertained by a traditional folklore group.



The organizers asked Ron Tacchi to help with the bulletin this year.

He is a renowned bridge photographer and has ample experience with editing.

Here is the first part of his presentation.



### Who is Ron Tacchi?

Those of you who have attended European or World Bridge Championships since the European in Malta in 1999 will have had a greater than 90% chance of seeing me at the tournaments taking pictures for the Daily Bulletin and/or performing other tasks concerned with the bulletin.

Currently I am the layout-editor for Bridge Magazine which is now an internet, rather than printed, edition. Bridge Magazine would like to take this opportunity to give all the participants of this tournament a three-month free trial subscription to the magazine. To qualify for this all you need to do is approach me and hand over a piece of paper on which you have written your name and email address. As an additional incentive should you come to me with a story which is then published in the Bulletin, Bridge Magazine will offer a free bridge book, the story can be of a hand, triumph or disaster, or anything related to the tournament. Back in 2004 I detailed what it is like to be a Bulletin Photographer in one of the bulletins at the Olympiad - the article is reproduced below or can be viewed at

[http://www.bridgetoday.com/z\\_homepage/freebie\\_photographer.php](http://www.bridgetoday.com/z_homepage/freebie_photographer.php)):

I am constantly asked... well, frequently... well quite often... well, actually once or twice "*How does one become a Bridge Photographer and what does it entail?*"

The answer to the first part of the question is not overly easy to answer but the most important qualification is not to be a good enough bridge player to actually be a player in the tournament you are photographing. There are many that will tell you I more than adequately fulfill this criterion though I am highly respected as a second string kibitzer in the famed Vaupillon Club (inventor of the one table Howell).

As to subsequent qualifications these are lost in the mists of time and numerous bottles of either red or amber liquid though there is a dim recollection of there being written: "*Yesterday I couldn't spell fotographer but today I are one.*"

We must now consider the requirements to adequately carry out this onerous task. A bridge photographer needs, and the list is in order of priority:

- Patience.
- A sense of humour.
- A camera.
- A large supply of batteries.
- An even larger supply of batteries.

- Approximately half a hundredweight of ancillary equipment, and additional equipment so that other people can borrow it but will still leave you with enough to carry out your mission.

Now as to the taking of the photographs. This is third hardest part of the job but the one that is most apparent. Firstly I am going to tell you a trade secret, well known amongst the brotherhood of bridge photographers and that is: *Not every bridge player is photogenic*, there it is, the genie is out of the bottle, but of course this tournament is an exception.

This is one of several laws of bridge photography and some of the others postulate:

- **Law 1.** There will always be a caddy or Tournament Director growing out of the head of the player about to be photographed.
- **Law 2.** The one time of the day a player will decide to scratch him/herself is when the photographer arrives at the table.
- **Law 3.** The probability of a player visiting the toilet (or sneaking a cigarette as it is known in the trade) is inversely proportional to the distance of the photographer from the table.
- **Law 4.** At least six photographs of a player must be taken before there is one that is fit for publication in the Bulletin and it always turns out to be the second photograph taken.
- **Law 5.** The players who need to be photographed will be appearing on BBO (Bridge Base Online) and thus in the little cubicle where there is insufficient room for four players, a scorer and a mildly rotund photographer.
- **Law 6.** That perfect photograph of a player at the table is cropped by the layout editor to make him/her look gormless and thus the bridge photographer incurs the wrath of the player.

The second hardest part of the job is deciding who should be photographed in any one session. This involves pressing the legion of Bulletin editors, or at least those who are still standing, as to which matches they will be reporting and therefore deduce which players' photographs are required. This then means scouring the line ups and working out the location of the tables of the victims.

The hardest part is now trying to catalogue the numerous random photographs stored in the camera and this of course brings us back to the line ups, or random captain jottings, as they are jocularly called by bridge photographers. While they are of some use they do require that the players actually understand that if there is a cross against their name in the 'East' column that means they should sit in the East chair. It would appear that the huge amount of brain power required to play bridge at an international level frequently leaves insufficient processing power to carry out this somewhat mundane task.

To finish on a serious note I would like to take to thank all the players for being patient and allowing me to 'snap' away, I assure you I try to do it with the minimum amount of intrusion and fuss but should I occasionally fail then please forgive me, I was just trying to take your best side.

This year we had three sessions - separate events - before the official tournament starts. They were on last Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The local pair Joao Machado and Jose Macedo were the winners of Thursday's session.

The Friday session was won by another local pair - Nuno Martins and Fabio Fernandes.

On Saturday's session Gisli Thorarinsson and Thordur Sigurdsson were the winners.

They will all receive a prize at the welcome cocktail.

The Teams' Tournament will be broadcasted on BBO again this year.

We have been on BBO's vugraph since 2003. We were the first Portuguese tournament to be broadcasted there.

Table 1, closed room, will be online from round 1 - Friday evening.

David Bird will be commentating the play. David couldn't be here with us this year, but he sent us this article about the dreaded Flannery convention.

## The Unmentionable Convention

By David Bird

Can you imagine which method was described by the great Terence Reese as the 'worst bidding convention ever invented'? It was Flannery - an opening bid of 2♦ that shows 11-16 points with four spades and five hearts. Reese used to shake his head and mutter: 'Appalling waste of a bid! It deals with a hand type that causes no problems whatsoever, using natural bidding. The Bridge Base Online commentator, Roland Wald, agrees with this assessment and places it first in his list of the world's most awful conventions.

Flannery is nevertheless widely used by American players. It arose in the very last deal of a quarter-final match in the 2014 Rosenblum Cup. The mighty Nickell team faced Mazurkiewicz from Poland and the two teams were only 3 IMPs apart.

Dealer N  
EW vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Jassem	Weinstein	Maz'wicz	Levin
	2♦	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Steve Weinstein chose to open with a Flannery 2dx despite holding a maximum 16-count with two aces and two kings. The two side jacks might well be useful too, located in his long suits, and some would say that he was too strong for this opening bid. Bobby Levin did not assess his hand as worth a game-try and they stopped in 2sx.

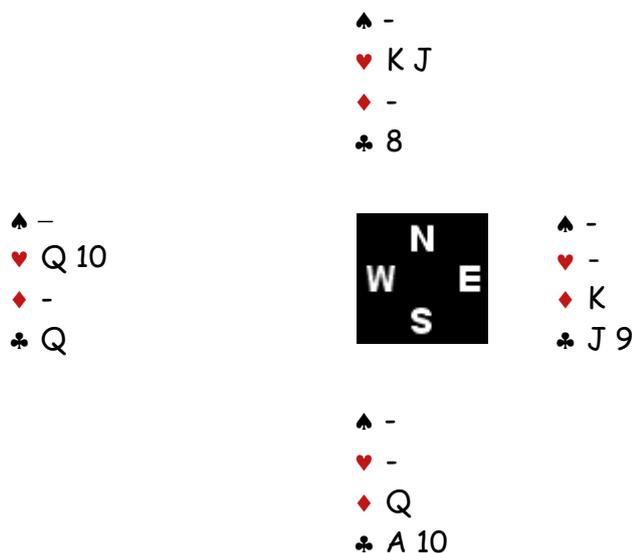
The bidding at the other table followed more traditional lines:

West	North	East	South
Meckstroth	Klukowsky	Rodwell	Gawrys
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Unencumbered by the dreaded 'F' convention, the Poles sailed into 4sx. If Piotr Gawrys could make ten tricks, they would win the match. One down and they would lose!

When Jeff Meckstroth led a trump, Eric Rodwell won with the king and returned a diamond to partner's jack. Meckstroth cashed the ♦A and declarer then needed the remaining tricks. Gawrys won the trump continuation with the ♠9, cashed the ♥A and led a low heart from

dummy. East discarded a club and declarer ruffed with the ♠8. A diamond ruff with the ♠J failed to bring down the king and declarer ruffed another heart with the ♠Q. A club to the dummy's king allowed him to draw the last trump with the ace, throwing a club from his hand. These cards remained:



The ♥K squeezed East in the minors. When he discarded the ♣9, declarer threw his ♦Q and scored the last two tricks with the ♣A and ♣10. A place in the semi-finals was theirs.

You think declarer was lucky to find East with five clubs, along with the diamond guard? Not particularly because *Gawrys* had played the deal as a double squeeze. West held the sole heart guard and East had the sole diamond guard. Neither defender could therefore retain a club guard, even if the suit broke 4-3. If you want to see what would happen in that case, put the deal into *Deep Finesse* and switch the ♥3 with the ♣3, so that both defenders guard the clubs. (When declarer draws the last trump with his dummy's ace, West has to discard a club from ♥Q-10 ♣Q-6 and East is squeezed on the next trick.)

What would Reese's reaction have been to this crucial deal? 'Justice was done,' he would have said. 'No-one playing *Flannery* deserves to reach the semi-finals!'

If you have a well-played hand or a fun story at the table, don't be shy!

Contact any of the bulletin staff or TD

## Program 2014

<b>Monday</b> (03/11/2014)	11.30	Welcome desk Opens
	18.00	Welcome Cocktail at Madeira Wine Institute
	<b>21.30</b>	<b>Warm-up Pairs</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> (04/11/2014)	09.00	Free morning(*)
	15.00	Welcome Desk Opens
	15.30	Pairs Tournament Entries - Confirmations
	16.15	Closing time for Pairs Tournament Entries
	<b>16.30</b>	<b>Open Pairs Tournament - 1st Session</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> (05/11/2014)	09.00	Free morning(*)
	14.30	Welcome Desk Opens
	<b>16.30</b>	<b>Open Pairs Tournament - 2nd Session</b>
	21.00	<b>Typical Dinner (**)</b> - Bus leaves at 20.30
<b>Thursday</b> (06/11/2014)	09.00	Free morning(*)
	<b>16.30</b>	<b>Open Pairs Tournament - 3rd Session</b>
	20.30	Final Results
<b>Friday</b> (07/11/2014)	09.30	<b>Half-day Tour(**)</b>
	20.45	Closing time for Teams Tournament Entries
	<b>21.00</b>	<b>Open Teams Tournament - 1st Session</b>
<b>Saturday</b> (08/11/2014)	09.00	Free morning
	<b>15.00</b>	<b>Open Teams Tournament - 2nd Session</b>
	<b>21.00</b>	<b>Open Teams Tournament - 3rd Session</b>
<b>Sunday</b> (09/11/2014)	<b>15.00</b>	<b>Open Teams Tournament - 4th Session</b>
	20.00	Final Results
	21.00	<b>Closing Dinner and Prize Giving</b>

(\*) Contact Intertours for more tours

(\*\*) Typical Dinner and Tour included in the Intertours/Hotel package

### The Half-day Tour can be one of the following:

- Boat Trip along the West coast of Madeira (limited places)
- Bus tour to Cabo Girão and Monte (taking about 3.5 hours).



Don't forget to visit our site at [www.bridge-madeira.com](http://www.bridge-madeira.com), where you may find all the information you need, including the Daily Bulletins. Use the left QR code to access the main page. On the right QR code you can access this bulletin directly.



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