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19th International Bridge Festival

Madeira

Funchal, November 7-13, 2016

The Italians Win!

Massimiliano di Franco and Andrea Manno are this year's winners of the pairs tournament. These Italians scored 58,06% yesterday and it was more than enough to secure the first place in this competition with a 66.17% average.

The Danish pair Gregers Bjarnarson and Anders Hagen ended up second overall, 5% behind the leaders.



Andrea Manno and Massimiliano di Franco
 - The winning pair

The Pakistani/Israeli pair Waseem Naqvi - Eliran Argelazi were third on the last session with 65.92%. It got them up to third overall.

The first Portuguese during the pair was Reinaldo Timóteo and Antonio C Palma, a position they held throughout the tournament. They finished 7th,

with a score of 59.58%.

The winners of yesterday's session were Mark Thiele and Renée Verdegaal, having scored 66.78% on the session, they were 4th overall. Hans Metselaar and Leo Huvers are also from Holland. They were second yesterday, just 0.44% behind.

We hope you have enjoyed your bridge-free day and now we prepare ourselves to the Teams' Tournament. Record-shattering numbers are expected.

Pedro Nunes

ENTRY FEES
TEAMS
135 €/Player

Pairs' Tournament - Provisional Results

Rank	%	Pair	Ses. Rank	Ses. %
1	66,17	167 Massimiliano Di Franco - Andrea Manno	20	58,06
2	61,17	90 Gregers Bjarnarson - Anders Hagen	7	61,64
3	61,12	168 Waseem Naqvi - Eliran Argelazi	3	65,92
4	60,90	47 Mark Thiele - Renée Verdegaal	1	66,78
5	60,61	201 Thomas Burg - Ulrike Schreckenberger	30	56,79
6	59,66	105 Halldor Svanbergsson - Kristinn Kristinsson	19	58,69
7	59,58	70 Reinaldo Timóteo - António Campos Palma	41	55,15
8	59,22	174 Peder Skaj - Peter Bertheau	10	61,25
9	58,75	223 Igor Kravchenko - Serguei Poletaev	62	52,53
10	58,50	230 Andreas Babsch - Peter Steiner	18	59,18
11	58,38	113 Bjorn Sture Valen - Erik Dahl	13	60,10
12	58,11	114 Simon Ortmann - Daniel Bang-Ortmann	34	56,27
13	57,69	128 Roennaug Asla - Svein Markussen	5	62,01
14	57,42	101 Niels Steenstrup Zeeberg - Peter Fredin	50	53,98
15	57,05	10 Slavi Matakiev - Grigor Gegov	68	52,04
16	56,76	41 Signe Buus Thomsen - Susanne Buus Thomsen	64	52,40
17	56,69	104 Sveinn R Eiriksson - Bjarni Einarsson	95	48,74
18	56,68	130 Flora Zarkesch - Robert Boeddeker	16	59,75
19	56,64	154 Manuel Oliveira - Jorge Cruzeiro	12	61,19
20	56,56	67 Arild Aarmot - Simon Lovik	36	56,18
21	56,50	7 Bjorg Houmoller - Jonas Houmoller	54	53,72
22	56,44	147 Saha Ouda - Hans Kreuning	60	52,85
23	56,04	165 Lisbeth Grove - Katrine Martensen-Larsen	15	59,92
24	56,03	110 Hans Metselaar - Leo Huvers	2	66,34
25	55,82	170 Andrei Kavalenka - Aleh Tsimakhovich	47	54,10
26	55,80	1 Carlos Pellegrini - Felix Zimmermann	29	56,81
27	55,74	124 John Vaage - John Herland	53	53,76
28	55,65	69 Ilse-Betina Artmer - Joseph Simon	28	56,83
29	55,40	87 Barbara Von Kleist - Sabine Würdermann	38	55,79
30	55,33	52 Adrian Potcovaru - Laurentio Potcovaru	40	55,28
31	55,29	233 Mads Eyde - Mikael Rimstedt	33	56,48
32	55,21	106 Kathryn Hertz - Eckhard Böhlke	8	61,53
33	55,18	84 Jan Mikkelsen - Sverre Johnsen	11	61,21
34	55,12	72 Gerard Limmen - George Schipper	4	63,26
35	55,11	222 Jean-François Lacan - Philippe Cronier	37	56,01
36	55,10	8 Aida Jansma - Jan Jansma	100	48,29
37	54,82	26 Knut Kiste - Tomas Ruth	21	57,97
38	54,68	206 Maria Bender - Stefania Sigurbjörnsdotir	84	50,09
39	54,58	5 Inez Van Eijck - Willem Van Eijck	117	46,40
40	54,58	30 Henning Ostergaard - Lars Blakset	48	54,07
41	54,55	62 Lone Kiaer - Jeppe Juhl	23	57,84
42	54,49	164 Connie Goldberg - Kauko Koistinen	71	51,72
43	54,36	24 Ronny Jorstad - Kaj Jorstad	77	50,90
44	54,25	161 Gabriele Cappeller - Joachim Cappeller	9	61,49
45	54,15	61 Sebastian Reim - Matthias Schueller	43	54,80
46	54,09	133 Flemming Poulsen - Stig Farholt	118	46,39
47	53,87	224 Julius Sigurjonsson - Karlis Rubins	25	57,70
48	53,80	166 Robert Franzel - Alexander Milavec	26	57,65
49	53,63	93 Anne Schoonen - Mark Kaptein	39	55,39
50	53,57	204 Nadia Bekkouche - Flemming Danielsen	87	49,59
51	53,56	227 Adalsteinn Jorgensen - Svala K Palsdottir	86	49,71
52	53,50	91 Höskuldur Gunnarsson - Sveinbjörn Eyjolfsson	6	61,96
53	53,08	64 Bengt Emanuelsson - Haakan Tjærnemo	97	48,66
54	53,03	94 Gabriel Gislason - Gisli Steingrimsson	14	59,99
55	53,01	13 Ilya Feranchuck - Maris Purgailis	44	54,69
56	52,87	29 Geir Engebretsen - Haldis Guttormsen	131	44,72
57	52,85	53 Egil Hansen - Svein-Harald Riisnas	57	53,34
58	52,74	14 Virginia Chediak - Bodil Oigarden	108	46,83
59	52,64	181 Mike Reuser - Jan De Winter	80	50,33

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60	52,43	42	Mary Gordon-Smith - Stefano Tommasini	69	51,91
61	52,37	144	Margit Straeter - Bernhard Straeter	103	47,63
62	52,32	108	Karl Greter Karlsson - Johann Aevarsson	27	57,61
63	52,28	71	Alec Smalley - Barbara Lewis	93	49,11
64	52,26	221	Y Khanukova - V Khanukov	137	43,64
65	52,15	150	Clas Nyberg - Vesa Leskela	142	42,37
66	51,93	86	Fábio Fernandes - Nuno D Martins	89	49,46
67	51,80	131	Tineke Poland - Frits Gootjes	111	46,66
68	51,79	212	Tehanne Collard - Benedicte Cronier	42	55,01
69	51,08	141	Emil Buus Thomsen - Johanne Bilde	90	49,45
70	51,06	184	Peter Basse - Peter Teisen	55	53,70
71	50,85	183	Luís M Silva - Nuno Pereira	56	53,35
72	50,64	88	Liet Relou - Peer Relou	66	52,25
73	50,56	187	Olli Puurtinen - Alberto Nobre	45	54,43
74	50,54	143	Jasper Williams - Peter Zwart	31	56,66
75	50,45	4	Carlos Luiz - Miguel Teixeira	112	46,66
76	50,32	121	Gunnar Thordarson - Eyjolfur Magnusson	105	47,23
77	50,19	81	Charlotte Brandgaard - Peter Farholt	134	43,87
78	50,18	50	Anne-Lill Hellemann - Rolf Tolle	113	46,62
79	50,05	192	Sanna Kitti - Kirsi Virtanen	82	50,17
80	50,02	149	Hans Van Ommeren - Arjen Salari	122	46,02
81	49,90	74	Tyge Fogh - Rasmus Nielsen	49	54,03
82	49,87	33	Svetomir Gotzov - Tihomir Takov	32	56,58
83	49,68	207	Alfried Bocker - Gabi Schneider	129	44,98
84	49,67	44	João Machado - José Macedo	24	57,75
85	49,62	232	Sieglende Svensson - Gunnar von Kleist	22	57,93
86	49,60	182	Aase Mogstad - Eirin Halvorsen	96	48,69
87	49,45	210	Wiveca Jongeneel - Jos Winkelman	70	51,91
88	49,34	126	António Valente - Robert Snapper	101	47,87
89	49,33	151	Toine van Hoof - Janine Van Ipenburg	114	46,50
90	48,81	11	Lucia Grosmann - Han Bégas	46	54,31
91	48,80	83	Sabine Melcher - Silvia Klasberg-Brawanski	65	52,35
92	48,76	22	Ragnheidur Haraldsdottir - Rosemary Shaw	83	50,15
93	48,75	171	Gisli Thorarinsson - Thordur Sigurdsson	115	46,48
94	48,74	228	Gabriella Parra - Marcel Winkel	63	52,43
95	48,72	173	Roswitha Hörnlein - Peter Zelnik	75	51,23
96	48,69	49	Odd A Mollersen - Oyvind Brudevold	61	52,68
97	48,69	21	Sjoerd Zandvoort - Fredrik Magendans	35	56,25
98	48,66	205	Harpa Fold Ingolfsdottir - Sigthrudur Blondal	85	50,00
99	48,65	193	José Carlos Henriques - Rui Pinto	119	46,38
100	48,44	148	Françoise Ingelbert - Michel Ingelbert	58	53,31
101	48,42	213	Ellen Vigmostad - Harald Nordby	144	42,00
102	48,38	54	Sophie Leroux - Francis Gouffé	81	50,27
103	48,37	43	Charlotte Monberg - Jacob Monberg	74	51,32
104	48,30	142	Robbie de Koster - Dafydd Williams	124	45,87
105	48,23	191	Vegard Gjelstad - Vetle Skori	72	51,69
106	48,20	146	Frank-Christian Otto - Anne Heyl	132	44,41
107	48,20	202	Mariana Leitão - Frederico Palma	59	53,30
108	47,95	112	Margit Daschiel - Gerald Daschiel	110	46,78
109	47,90	27	Diana Harris - Paul Gagné	73	51,37
110	47,62	68	Ulla Korre Pedersen - Eric Korre Horten	91	49,40
111	47,61	34	Mouchette Velraeds - Sherina Stougie	138	43,41
112	47,40	134	Eva Sternfeld - Peter Gyimesi	107	47,13
113	47,38	231	Anne Schaltz - Troels Kristensen	79	50,34
114	47,26	32	Joop Mevius - Gerrit Neppelenbroek	104	47,39
115	47,14	73	Mihaela Comanescu - Lucian Comanescu	102	47,82
116	47,10	31	Olof Thorsteindottir - Gudny Gudjonsdottir	152	38,37
117	47,09	28	Lisbeth Eide - Arne Andreasen	67	52,16
118	47,01	169	Lee Rosenthal - Marcia Green	133	44,23
119	46,89	189	John Freitas - José A Fernandes	125	45,77
120	46,78	145	Jutta Bartley - Gareth Bartley	92	49,21
121	46,76	125	Pirjo Juuri-Oja - Erkki Juuri-Oja	52	53,76
122	46,73	6	Sybil Müller-Maubach - Rosemarie Roderburg	123	45,96
123	46,68	107	Paul Fenn - Monique Leblanc	127	45,45

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124	46,64	163	Johann Stefansson - Thorvaldur Palmason	120	46,25
125	46,44	229	Gudmundur Snorrason - Anne Nielsen	51	53,88
126	46,07	63	Klaus Lindner - Agnes Lischka-Lindner	135	43,83
127	46,07	127	Renate Hansen - Dieter Schulz	130	44,95
128	45,94	129	Larysa Kuzniatsova - Sidortsava Valiantsina	148	40,34
129	45,71	46	Miguel T Ascensão - Ricardo Fernandes	106	47,14
130	45,62	85	Erik Slump - Petra Erne	109	46,81
131	45,53	9	Hrafnildur Skuladottir - Gudmundur Johannsson	17	59,45
132	45,46	209	Unnar Gudmundsson - Kristín Óskarsdóttir	78	50,90
133	45,21	102	Daniele Logothetis-Simon - Alex Logothetis	128	45,36
134	45,17	109	Nora Gabler - Ingrid Hlavicza	116	46,45
135	45,14	111	Maria F Vasconcelos Dias - Nuno Baltazar	149	40,17
136	45,11	92	Isabel Sarmento - Miguel Sarmento	76	51,17
137	45,09	51	Doris Lamb - Edith Wassmuth	99	48,44
138	45,04	162	Trudy van den Bichelaer - Robert van den Bichelaer	155	37,78
139	45,03	23	Gitte Hecht-Johansen - Szczepan Smoczynski	162	34,81
140	44,24	45	Dominique Custers - José A Pereira	98	48,53
141	44,13	2	Maria do Rosário Bouchet - Margarida Alves Correia	160	36,30
142	44,11	185	Mirjam Abraham - Ludger Silva	88	49,59
143	44,06	25	Isabel Manso - José Lima	154	38,24
144	44,03	208	Pia Cremer - Christina Altman	146	41,61
145	44,02	188	Gerwin Middelkoop - Pim Vermeulen	139	43,05
146	44,01	122	Ronald Halkes - Loes Jansen	163	34,58
147	43,93	203	V Kristjonsdottir - B Theodorsson	157	37,20
148	43,87	225	Elisabeth Lach - Ulrike Sander-Reis	158	36,75
149	43,54	3	Ingibjorg Gudmundsdottir - Hulda Hjalmarsdóttir	121	46,05
150	43,19	172	Frederico Teixeira - Luís A Correia	145	41,87
151	42,92	123	Sigrun Thorvarsdottir - Sigrídur Fridriksdóttir	94	49,07
152	42,76	82	David Ludviksson - Emma Axelsdottir	153	38,25
153	42,38	66	Gero Artmer - Rui Moniz	126	45,53
154	41,84	132	Henrique Ribeiro - Pedro Morgado	161	35,58
155	41,05	103	José M Freitas - Nuno Menezes	136	43,70
156	39,37	186	Bruno Abreu - Gonçalo Esmeraldo	151	38,94
157	38,87	211	Marion Broderick - Pedro Nunes	147	40,69
158	38,43	226	Magnus Asgrimsson - Thorsteinn Bergsson	156	37,51
159	38,35	48	Edith Wendling - Barbara Olszewski	143	42,20
160	37,84	153	Tatyana Udaltsova - Liudmila Nestsiazonak	141	43,01
161	37,83	12	Monika Tekampe - Rita Ulbricht	150	39,07
162	37,30	65	Sharon Lowensteijn - Ingeborg Slikker	164	30,97
163	36,72	89	Gardy Machemer - Heidrun Steuernagel	140	43,02
164	34,90	190	Markazyta Nikitsenka - Aksana Chuzakova	159	36,47
165	32,65	152	Pierewiet Kreuning - Ria Bartolomij	165	28,40

These results are provisional until the start of tonight's session,
pending material corrections.

The final results will be published on Bulletin 7

There are now 76 teams registered. If, by any chance, you haven't
entered your team yet, contact immediately one of the TDs

Pairs Third Session

As there were several pairs who were East/West of whom I wished to watch I decided to sit behind Virginia Chediak and Bodil Oigarden from Norway. They did not have a winning session, the opposition were not friendly and there was the occasional self-immolation.

The second board they played must have given them hope.

The Lure of Pairs

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

		♠	Q 10 8 4		
		♥	A 10 9 5 3		
		♦	8 3		
		♣	3 2		
♠	A 7 3			♠	9 6 5
♥	Q J 4			♥	K 8 2
♦	9 7			♦	A Q J 10
♣	A 8 6 5 4			♣	Q J 10
		♠	K J 2		
		♥	7 6		
		♦	K 6 5 4 2		
		♣	K 9 7		
West	North	East	South		
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass		
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass		

On a small heart lead declarer won in hand with the queen. He continued with a diamond to the ten which South smoothly ducked. The club queen followed covered by the king and won in hand with the ace. Declarer now had the perennial pairs problem. He now had ten tricks: five clubs, two diamonds, two hearts and a spade. If the diamond finesse had truly succeeded then he could make more, perhaps twelve if the ♦K was trebleton. Perhaps swayed by the knowledge that had South taken the king of diamonds at trick two and switched to a spade his contract would have failed, he essayed the finesse a second time and now this time South had a much clearer picture of the hand and took her king and switched to the king of spades to defeat the contract. This was worth 94%.

False-carding with a singleton

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

		♠	J		
		♥	A 9 5 2		
		♦	K J 9 2		
		♣	J 5 4 2		
♠	10 7 6 3			♠	A 9 8
♥	K J 10 8 3			♥	Q 7
♦	Q		♦	7 5 4	
♣	10 6 3		♣	A K 9 8 7	
		♠	K Q 5 4 2		
		♥	6 4		
		♦	A 10 8 6 3		
		♣	Q		
West	North	East	South		
—	—	—	1♠		
Pass	INT	Pass	2♦		
Pass	3♦	All Pass			

I was sitting between North and East and saw the lead of the six of clubs. I subsequently discovered that E/W were playing MUD even with three to the ten, thus West's lead could have been either 1063 or just 63. East played the king and South the queen. East, like I, thought long and hard. Both her and I thought she was false-carding with ♣Q10 and so East attempted to cash the ace of clubs presenting declarer with an extra trick and 87%. So it seems that not only Papa can false-card with a singleton.

1 2 3 - That's how elementary it's going to be

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

	West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
	1NT	Pass	2♦*	Pass
	2♠*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

- 2♦ Artificial game-force
- 2♠ Three spades

The question is how did declarer lose 1, 2 or 3 trump tricks?

Firstly the theory: the single dummy analyser says your best chance for four tricks is to lead the jack and that your best chance for at least three tricks is to play low towards the ten. Taking the questions in reverse order.

Three tricks: declarer won the heart lead in hand and played a spade towards dummy – whoops!!!

Two tricks: declarer won a diamond in dummy and led the jack of spades. Now South had two tricks by force.

One trick: start with a low spade toward the ten, when the queen appears win with the ace and play the eight and let it run. Strangely and counter-intuitively to my mind the analyser suggests in this situation a low card towards the jack is the most successful line.

It was at this point as they used to say in the now defunct News of The World, 'I made my excuses and left.' My chosen pair finished just under 50% for the session and a third of the way in the final rankings.

The tournament director will give you an envelope with your starting position. Write your team name and the player's names on the envelope. Your whole team should sit down at the same table. Inside you will put the vouchers of all the team members. Make sure we can read your names correctly - Make sure to use capitals so that you don't get upset later...

Have Cards - Will Travel

By Mark Horton

Having lost track of the number of articles I have written over the years, the toughest part is usually the selection of the title and the theme that it relates to. Book, movies and television series are a constant source of inspiration - I'm sure you can think of many titles that might be suitable for use. In the days when I was an active bridge professional I had some business cards printed that bore the legend *Have Cards - Will Travel*.

I wonder if any of you know where the inspiration for that came from?
I'll reveal the answer at the end.

The final session of the Pairs Championship delivered a host of interesting deals.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Artmer	Jan	Simon	Aida
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Dble	5♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	5NT	Dble	All Pass

There is an old Russian proverb that goes 'Having said A you have to say B'. Having doubled 5♣ West felt she had to double 5♠, but it would have been wiser to pass.

East led the four of clubs and declarer won with dummy's king and played a heart for the ten and king. Unless West is playing a very deep game that looks like ♥A10 doubleton, so declarer can simply play a second heart. If West returns a club declarer can afford to rise with the ace and cash all his red suit winners. That will lead to a two card ending - and if West has started out with the ♠K and the ♣Q she will have been squeezed for an overtrick.

However, paying homage to the expression that 'Even Homer Nods' declarer took the spade finesse and West won and returned a club. When the jack lost to the queen the contract was three down and -500 was a complete zero. Making 5NT doubled would not quite have reversed the scores - Carlos Luiz & Miguel Teixeira made 6♥.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Timóteo	Jan	Palma	Aida
—	—	Pass	1♣*
1♠	2♠*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
1♣	Polish Club		
2♠	Spade stopper		

If North is in 3NT a spade lead is sure to hold declarer to nine tricks, but North-South's well defined system meant that South was at the helm which meant that a spade lead would make declarer a present of an overtrick.

However, West did not oblige and his choice of a heart restricted declarer to +600 and only 52.7-101.3. The overtrick would have changed that to 110.4-43.6.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lowensteijn	Jan	Slikker	Aida
—	1♠	4♥	All Pass

South led the two of spades and declarer went up with dummy's ace and took eleven tricks, NS scoring 97.5-56.5. A second overtrick would have changed the score to 39-115.

The question you will be asking is how do you take one more?

On a spade lead taking the ace is right. One way to get up to a dozen tricks is to cash dummy's ace of clubs and then play all your trumps. In the three card ending North must keep the ♦K guarded, but must also keep a top spade to cover the threat of declarer's spade ten - and three into two won't go.

On a diamond lead declarer has more than one way to succeed; one is to play dummy's three! North wins and plays a club and you take dummy's ace, ruff a diamond high, cross to dummy with a heart and ruff a second diamond. Then you can draw trumps and goback to dummy with a spade to cash two diamonds.

On a club lead you could cash both the black aces, and then follow the line after a spade lead, but there is a very pretty alternative. You duck the club, win the club return with dummy's ace, cash the ace of diamonds, ruff a diamond high, cross to dummy with a heart, ruff a club and then play trumps, reaching the following ending:

	♠		K J		
	♥		—		
	♦		K		
	♣		J		
♠	A Q			♠	10 4
♥	—			♥	K Q
♦	Q			♦	—
♣	8			♣	—
		♠	9 8 2		
		♥	—		
		♦	J		
		♣	—		

When you play your penultimate trump, discarding the queen of spades, North must also pitch a spade and now you can cross to dummy's ace of spades, ruff a card to hand and cash a spade.

Is there any way to reach 6♥?

Well, I suppose East might overcall 1♠ with 3♠, saying 'I have a solid suit partner - do you have a spade stopper (why worry about clubs and diamonds) when West might well bid 6♥.

Two pairs made 6NT - but on the lead of the ♦10 and the ♠6. Four pairs went down in 6♥ (one of them doubled) on a spade lead. Nora Gabler & Ingrid Hlaviczka were the only pair to make 6♥ when South led a club.

On the some days you realise you would have been better off staying in bed.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Emanuelsson	Jan	Tjärnemo	Aida
Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

- 2NT Transfer to diamonds
- 3♣ Likes diamonds
- 4♣ Cue bid
- 4♥ Cue bid
- 4NT RKCB
- 5♠ 2 key cards +♦Q

6♦ looks reasonable to me. It will make whenever the spades are 3-3 or the ♥QJ are doubleton or whenever there is a spade/heart squeeze. However, there was a decidedly unfortunate fly in the ointment - the trumps were 5-0. Even here declarer would have been OK if East had also started with three spades as he would have been subjected to a trump coup.

Only two pairs reached the doomed slam so N/S collected only 12.2-141.8.

The funniest result came at the table where North opened a strong 1♣ and East overcalled 1♦. That was doubled and when E/W stood their ground it cost 1100.

As we finish with the pairs I'll remind you about the point I made in one of my previous articles - consistently find the right opening lead and you will be a winner:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lindner	Jan	Lindner	Aida
—	2♦*	Dble	2♥*
Pass	Pass	3♦	3♥
Pass	Pass	3NT	All Pass

- 2♦ Multi
- 2♥ Pass or correct

Why West did not volunteer 3♣ over 2♥ is as mysterious as the Multi (there is a subtle pun in there for educated readers). However, East was determined not to be denied his birthright.

If South starts with two rounds of hearts North's spade switch will give the defenders the first seven tricks and almost all the matchpoints. South's spade lead saw declarer take 13 tricks - 35-119.

My title was derived from an American Western television series - Have Gun - Will Travel. This series follows the adventures of a man calling himself Paladin taking his name from that of the foremost knights in Charlemagne's court. He is a gentleman gunfighter (played by Richard Boone). Paladin is a soldier of fortune, accepting commissions from people who seek to engage his services. He charges steep fees from clients who can afford to hire him, but he will work for free when poor people need his help. Paladin gives out a business card imprinted with Have Gun Will Travel and a drawing of a knight chess piece.

Quiz corner
by Michael Gromoeller

QUIZ 5

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

West	North	East	South
—	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West leads the jack of diamonds to East's queen !

Solution to QUIZ 4, from Bulletin 3:

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

West leads ♠ 10. What is the best line of play?

If the diamonds are 2-2 you do not have a problem at all. Assuming West is not giving you a trick by leading away from the king, you put up the ♠A at trick 1. If diamonds are 3-1 (but you do not know that yet) you will need 4 club tricks to make 12 tricks! Play a diamond to the ace and the jack (!) to the king. You see that you now have a diamond loser and need to play club to the 10! Cash queen of clubs and cross to the dummy with the ace of hearts. Play the king of clubs and discard the queen of spades. This trick is ruffed and a heart comes back. Cross to dummy with ♦2 (!) to the ♦4 and claim 12 tricks. If you failed to unblock the second diamond you are doomed to be locked in your hand!

The Commentator's Curse Blessing

By Ron Tacchi

As you will have noted in previous missives I have banged on remorselessly about the commentator's curse in that as soon as you sit behind someone their results plummet. Obviously it is nothing to do with the commentator and must either be chance or a player's death wish when he is being kibitzed by a member of the Bulletin Team. On this occasion the pair being watched had a magnificent session and finished second in the overall rankings. This of course was entirely due to the good vibrations of the Bulletin Reporter and nothing to do with their consummate skill and the occasional Kamikaze opponent. I had selected my table with great care, firstly there was a spare chair from which I could view the proceedings, secondly Hans (who has been frequently mentioned in earlier articles) was playing East/West and thirdly one of the pair North/South was on the same plane as me from Lisbon to Madeira – extremely scientific reasoning as you no doubt can see.

Who are this mighty pair? I hear you cry. They are Anders Hagen – North, and Gregers Bjarnarson – South. Both from Denmark – incidentally my Danish correspondent Ulla was first in The Warm Up Pairs the previous evening. Whilst we are on tangents it is also noteworthy that the Warm Up Pairs had 110 entries, an increase of 16% over last year and the Open Pairs have 165 entries, an increase of 5% over Madeira XVIII.

As they were sitting at Table 10 the first board to be played was Board 19 and it showed the direction their session was going to follow:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠	Q J 2		
	♥	K 5		
	♦	8 6 5 3		
	♣	A 10 9 7		
♠	10 7 6		♠	A K 9 8 5
♥	Q J 10 7 3		♥	A 9 2
♦	Q 2		♦	K 10
♣	K 8 5		♣	6 4 3
	♠	4 3		
	♥	8 6 4		
	♦	A J 9 7 4		
	♣	Q J 2		
West	North		East	South
—	Hagen		—	Bjarnarson
Pass	Pass		1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass		Pass	Double
Redouble	2NT		Double	3♦
Pass	Pass		Double	All Pass

A typical pairs auction with N/S unwilling to sell out at the two-level resulted in a delicate doubled part-score for South.

West commenced hostilities with the queen of hearts with declarer playing small in dummy. At trick two West continued with his smallest spade to the queen and king. East cashed the ace of hearts and a third round of the suit was ruffed in dummy. A small trump from dummy was covered by the ten and South paused before playing the ace and a small one. The spotlight was now on East – cashing the ace of spades obviously takes the contract down, but he had calculated that Two Spades was a making contract. This is in fact true but on reasonable defence East has to play North for king doubleton in hearts and the queen and jack of spades, he may well do so but as there is little other chance of making the contract but would that happen at all the other tables? As a result of his cogitations he switched to a club in the hope he could defeat the contract by two tricks but of course instead he had handed declarer the contract, +470 and 99% of the matchpoints.

On the following board the opposition failed to bid their solid game so for the first table their score was 96%.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

		♠	A Q J 9		
		♥	K 10 7		
		♦	A J 9		
		♣	A Q 2		
♠	10 8 7 5 4			♠	3 2
♥	9 3			♥	A 6 5 4
♦	10 6 3			♦	Q 7 4 2
♣	K 7 5			♣	10 8 3
		♠	K 6		
		♥	Q J 8 2		
		♦	K 8 5		
		♣	J 9 6 4		
West	North	East	South		
	Hagen		Bjarnarson		
—	2NT	Pass	3NT		
	All Pass				

Many declarers received the helpful lead of a small diamond giving the twelfth trick immediately. At this table a heart was led and now declarer had more work to do to find the extra trick. He cleared the heart suit and took one successful finesse in clubs. He then crossed to dummy in spades and called for the jack of clubs, covered by West and won with the ace. Declarer now cashed his three spade winners discarding a diamond and a club from dummy. The crossroads had now been reached. In his hand declarer $\diamond A J 9$ and dummy had $\diamond K 8 \clubsuit 9$. He could now take the diamond finesse or play for East to have been squeezed in the minors. He chose the latter and was rewarded not only with a better score but also that warm smug inner feeling of having successfully squeezed an opponent.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

		♠	9 6 4 2		
		♥	K J 6 5 3		
		♦	10 7 2		
		♣	9		
♠	K Q J			♠	A 10 8 5
♥	4			♥	10 9
♦	K 9 4			♦	A Q J 6 5 3
♣	K J 8 5 4 2			♣	7
		♠	7 3		
		♥	A Q 8 7 2		
		♦	8		
		♣	A Q 10 6 3		
West	North	East	South		
	Hagen		Bjarnarson		
—	—	1♦	1♥		
2♣	4♥	Pass	Pass		
5♣	Pass	Pass	Double		
	All Pass				

West made a unilateral decision to play in her suit. South was not overly troubled to find a red card in response to this derring-do. Once declarer got forced in hearts there was never going to be a happy ending and -1100 was entered on the score sheet and another near 100% for our intrepid heroes.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠	J 10 6 3		
	♥	J 10 8 7		
	♦	6 3		
	♣	8 4 3		
♠	7 2		♠	K 9 4
♥	9 6 5 2		♥	K 3
♦	A J		♦	K Q 10 9 8 7 4
♣	A K J 6 5		♣	Q
	♠	A Q 8 5		
	♥	A Q 4		
	♦	5 2		
	♣	10 9 7 2		
West	North		East	South
—	Hagen		Bjarnarson	
Pass	Pass		1♦	Pass
INT	Pass		3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass			

East protected with One Diamond and when partner essayed INT showed more than a minimum protective bid with a jump to Three Diamonds. West with his thirteen count believed game was the correct denomination and bid 3NT. Had North listened to the bidding? Would he lead a club? No, West had by now announced a sure (perhaps doubly sure) stop in opener's suit and North unerringly led the jack of hearts. The result was N/S took the first eight tricks in the majors for four light. The lead produced a swing of seven tricks. Had North unthinkingly led his partner's suit declarer would have wrapped up twelve tricks. Another 90% board.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

	♠	A 7 6 4		
	♥	A K 10 7 5 4 3		
	♦	9		
	♣	5		
♠	10		♠	K Q 8 3
♥	J 6		♥	2
♦	K J 10 6		♦	8 7 3
♣	K Q J 7 6 3		♣	10 9 8 4 2
	♠	J 9 5 2		
	♥	Q 9 8		
	♦	A Q 5 4 2		
	♣	A		
West	North		East	South
—	Hagen		Bjarnarson	
2♣	2♥		5♣	1♦
Pass	5♥		All Pass	Double

North did not appear to fancy his defensive values and so pressed on with his seven-card heart suit. Had he passed and North leads his singleton diamond they would have collected +500. However the defenders gave declarer second prize when the opening lead was the king of spades. Now declarer has twelve tricks for +480 and 78% of the matchpoints.

After ten boards our Danish compatriots had scored nearly 80%. They continued in this vein and aside from a poor penultimate hand with an overambitious slam finished with a score 71.26% and second place seven percent ahead of the third placed pair

Thiele's Throw-in

By Toine van Hoof

After last year's landslide (first, second, fourth and ninth) the Dutch did not do particularly well in the Open Pairs this time. Mark Thiele and Renée Verdegaal were the only Dutch pair in the Top-10. They scored a consecutive 55.6%, 60.3% and 66.8%, and if only the tournament had lasted a session longer they undoubtedly would have reached the podium. Now they ended in fourth with a solid average score of 60.9%. Thiele made an excellent declarer play on this hand:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠	K J 6 5 3		
	♥	—		
	♦	K 10 9 7		
	♣	K J 7 2		
♠	A Q 7		♠	10 4
♥	7		♥	A K Q J 10 9 8 3
♦	A Q 5 4 3		♦	2
♣	A 8 5 4		♣	9 6
	♠	9 8 2		
	♥	6 5 4 2		
	♦	J 8 6		
	♣	Q 10 3		
West	North	East	South	
Verdegaal		Thiele		
	1♠	4♥	All Pass	

On the lead of a spade from South, it seems that declarer cannot make more than eleven tricks. Thiele thought otherwise. He went up with the ace of spades, made the key play of cashing the ace of clubs and ran eight rounds of hearts. In dummy he kept ♠Q and ♦AQ. North was forced to hold on to ♠K and ♦Kx. Now Thiele threw North in with a spade and made the last two tricks with ♦AQ. Plus 480 to E/W yielded them 75%.



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Patrocinador

Program 2016

Friday (11/11/2016)	09.30	Half-day Tour(**)
	20.00	Welcome Desk Opens
	20.45	Closing time for Teams Tournament Entries
	21.00	Welcome Desk Closes
	21.00	Open Teams Tournament - 1st Session
Saturday (12/11/2016)	09.00	Free morning
	14.00	Welcome Desk Opens
	15.00	Welcome Desk Closes
	15.00	Open Teams Tournament - 2nd Session
	21.00	Open Teams Tournament - 3rd Session
Sunday (13/11/2016)	15.00	Open Teams Tournament - 4th Session
	19:30	Final Results
	20.00	Prize Giving
	21.00	Closing Dinner

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