21st Madeira International Bridge Open

5th-11th November 2018

Tuesday 30th October

Bulletin 0

The Vidamar Hotel

The Vidamar Hotel is once again the venue for the Madeira International Bridge Open; this year we reach number 21. A very grown-up milestone. Within the bulletin you will find the schedule for the bridge and also the social events.

As per last year Mark Horton will 'Mark Your Card' every morning at 10.30 from Tuesday onwards and look at some of the interesting deals from the previous day's play.

On Monday 5th November there will be the Welcome Cocktail Party at the 'Quinta Vigia' – the official residence of the President of Madeira. A map of the route from the hotel is inside this bulletin (*see page 2*).

Here we are again this year and ready to WELCOME YOU ALL!

Every year we do our best to improve and have a better tournament – that is our aim – and it is very gratifying to see so many of you coming back year after year.

As the organiser I wish you an excellent stay with a lot of excitement at the bridge table but I also hope you have plenty of time to explore our wonderful island.

Have fun!

Miguel Teixeira

Badges

The many of you who have played in the Madeira International Bridge Open will recall an envelope full of vouchers enabling you to partake of the bridge and various social activities, but now we can misquote the famous line from *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*, 'Vouchers, we don't need no stinkin' vouchers'. The reason being that now when you arrive you will be issued with a badge and this will serve to identify you for all your needs. It does mean that you must remember to have your badge with you at all times, otherwise you may find you are invited to go back to your room to find the offending badge.

The web-site has been redesigned and relaunched. On the website you will be able to find the programme of events, all the results and, of course, these bulletins. The address is http://www.bridge-madeira.com/ or you can use the QR code on the right.

Michael Gromöller reflects on another visit to Madeira.

Back again! Its my 8th time in the last 9 years now playing the Madeira Festival in the beginning of November. Meanwhile there are a lot of international Festivals arround, but Madeira is nearly always on my plan. We have mostly sunny weather – playing times are nearly wonderful – organisation works every year – money prizes are good – playing area is great – hotel is perfect! I am invited by the organisers and spend nice time with them every year to go to dinner, to speak about improvements and so on.

Today I have a nice hand. A friend of mine told me that he got the hand in 1972 at the European Juniors Championship from Michael Rosenberg as a problem:

♠ AJ432
♥ AK92
♦ K5
♣ K7

♠ Q65
♥ QJ10876
♦ A2
♣ A9

You are playing in 7♥ and receive a heart lead. How do you play and WHY? (See Page 4)

Route to Welcome Cocktail Party at the Quinta Vigia 18.00 Monday

NOTE: Please collect your Identity Badge from the Welcome Desk until Monday 5th of November (if you arrive after 5th November please contact the Welcome Desk)
The Welcome Desk will be open from 1st November (opening times on page 5).
Without your badge you will not be able to partake in any of the activities: bridge or social, so please ensure you avail yourself of your badge.

SIDE EVENTS PROGRAMME 1st – 12th NOV 2018

Location– Congress Room

THURSDAY 1st November	21:00	Portuguese Simultaneous Pairs – **€15 pp***
FRIDAY 2nd November	16:30	IMP Pairs Tournament (1st tournament) – **€15 pp***
SATURDAY 3rd November	16:30	IMP Pairs Tournament (2nd tournament) – **€15 pp***
MONDAY 5th November	21:00	Warm-up Pairs – **€15 pp**
MONDAY 12th November	21:00	Cool-down Pairs – **€10 pp**

***€30 for all three**

MAIN PROGRAMME 6th – 11th NOV 2018

Location - Congress Room + Selvagens 1-2-3

TUESDAY 6th November	10.30	Table allocation for pairs
	16:00	Closing time for Pairs Tournament Entries
	16:30	Open Pairs Tournament (1st Session)
WEDNESDAY 7th November	16:30	Open Pairs Tournament (2nd Session)
THURSDAY 8th November	16:30	Open Pairs Tournament (3rd Session)
	20:30	Final Results
FRIDAY 9th November	18.00	Table allocation for Teams
	20:00	Deadline for Teams Tournament Entries
	20.30	Open Teams Tournament (1st Session)
SATURDAY 10th November	11:30	Open Teams Tournament (2nd Session)
	13.45	Lunch Break (light lunch included)
	15:30	Open Teams Tournament (3rd Session)
SUNDAY 11th November	15:00	Open Teams Tournament (4th Session)
	19:30	Final Results

NOTE: Please arrive 30 minutes before the start to guarantee your place

Every morning from Tuesday onwards, Mark Horton will conduct his 'Mark Your Card' to discuss the previous day's hands in Selvagens 1

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

MONDAY 5th November	18:00 - Welcome Cocktail Party – Quinta Vigia – official residence of the President of Madeira ***(all welcome)*** **Address**: Avenida do Infante, 1, 9000-015 Funchal 5 minutes by car or 20-30 minutes by foot Map on Page 2
WEDNESDAY 7th November	21:15 - Traditional Dinner Restaurant "O Lagar", traditional restaurant in Estreito de Camara de Lobos, tradicional "Espetada" with folklore animation **COACH LEAVES THE HOTEL VIDAMAR, OUTSIDE THE LOBBY TOWER 2, AT 20:45** (it takes 15 minutes). Return to the hotel at 23:30
FRIDAY 9th November	Coach leaves the Hotel for your chosen excursion option Details of excursions choices will be published in a later bulletin. Further information is available at the Welcome Desk.
SUNDAY 11th November	19:30 Collection of cash prizes from Administration Office 19.45 Cocktail 20:30 Closing Dinner and trophy presentation in the Ocean Room – Vidamar Resort Madeira, 2nd floor

We'll Meet Again…

Every year, when I am returning to the Dutch autumn after having enjoyed the Madeira Bridge Festival, I must think of this famous song of 'The Forces' Sweetheart', Vera Lynn, during World War II.

Well, not because I might have the feeling that bridge is war. No, at Madeira it is even the contrary.

Some bridge experts told me that the Madeira Bridge festival might be the most peaceful and best organized bridge tournament in the world and I can imagine that. Besides, this beautiful island with its fine climate and very good hotels and restaurants really is the perfect host for a bridge tournament, especially in this part of the year.

So, it is no surprise that the tournament is still growing and that most participants from all over Europe are revisiting year after year and make friends.

My 21st participation is almost to come. I still have to be patient for a short while, but after that we all will meet again and I am looking forward to it.

Gerard Limmen

Solution to Michael Gromöller's problem on page 2.

You cash 10 tricks ending in South. If on the 10th trick West discards a spade, then spades must be 4-1 and your only chance is try to catch singleton king of spades with East!

DESK OPENING HOURS

Subject	English		Portuguese	
IDENTITY BADGES **CREDENCIAIS**	IDENTITY BADGES		CREDENCIAIS	
	Your identity badge is personal to you and not transferrable. It must be presented at all sessions.		As credenciais são pessoais e intransmissíveis. Devem ser apresentadas em todos os eventos.	
WELCOME DESK **BALCÃO de BOAS-VINDAS**	**Opening times**		**Hórario de funcionamento**	
	Thursday 1st	10.30 – 13.00	Quinta-feira 1°	10.30 – 13.00
		14.00 – 18.30		14.00 – 18.30
	Friday 2nd	10.30 – 13.00	Sexta-feira 2°	10.30 – 13.00
		14.00 – 18.30		14.00 – 18.30
	Saturday 3rd	14.00 – 19.30	Sábado 3°	14.00 – 19.30
	Sunday 4th	14.00 – 18.00	Domingo 4°	14.00 – 18.00
	Monday 5th	10.30 – 13.00	Segunda-feira 5°	10.30 – 13.00
		14.00 – 18.00		14.00 – 18.00
		19.00 – 21.30		19.00 – 21.30
	Tuesday 6th	10.30 – 13.00	Terça-feira 6°	10.30 – 13.00
		14.00 – 16.30		14.00 – 16.30
	Wednesday 7th	15.00 – 16.30	Quarta-feira 7°	15.00 – 16.30
	Thursday 8th	15.00 – 16.30	Quinta-feira 8°	15.00 – 16.30
	Friday 9th	18.00 – 21.00	Sexta-feira 9°	18.00 – 21.00
	Saturday 10th	10.30 – 11.30	Sábado 10°	10.30 – 11.30
		14.00 – 15.00		14.00 – 15.00
	Sunday 11th	14.00 – 16.00	Domingo 11°	14.00 – 16.00
REGISTRATION & TABLE ALLOCATIONS **INSCRIÇÕES & DISTRIBUÇÃO**	Pairs:		Pares:	
	Tuesday 6th	10.30 – 16.00	Terça-feira 6°	10.30 – 16.00
	Teams:		Equipas:	
	Friday 9th	18.00 – 20.00	Sexta-feira 9°	18.00 – 20.00
TOURNAMENT OFFICE Selvagens V, Tower 2) **SECRETARIADO DO EVENTO (Sala Selvagens V, Torre 2)**	Friday 9th	18.00 – 20.00	Sexta-feira 9°	18.00 – 20.00
	Saturday 10th	10.00 – 11.30	Sábado 10°	10.00 – 11.30
		13.30 – 15.30		13.30 – 15.30
	Sunday 11th	19.30 – 20.30	Domingo 11°	19.30 – 20.30
	Cash prizes may be collected between these times. Please bring a form of identification.		Os prémios em dinheiro podem ser recolhidos entre esses horários. Devem apresentar uma forma de identificação.	
INTERTOURS DESK **BALCÃO INTERTOURS**	Monday 5th	14.00 – 17.00	Segunda-feira 5°	14.00 – 17.00
	Tuesday 6th	10.30 – 13.00	Terça-feira 6°	10.30 – 13.00

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please bring your identity badge to all events

NOTA IMPORTANTE: As credenciais devem ser apresentadas em todos os eventos

How are the deals generated?

Hans van Staveren

As most of you will know hands in major championships have been computer generated for a very long time. Since the year 2000 that is always done by the program BigDeal that I have written. Sources and documentation of BigDeal are available through http://www.xs4all.nl/~sater since then. Nobody has yet found an error in the program and by now it should be regarded as a safe one to use.

However, and that is a big however, even though the program is OK it could still be misused. A real blatant misuse would be if the Tournament Organizer (TO for short) would smuggle an interesting hand into an otherwise normal set. A little less blatant would be if the TO created a set of hands, looked at it, and for whatever reason decided to make a new one. There are also rumours every now and then that if three sessions are played in a day that the TO picks the most interesting set for the evening session. Clearly all of this is very bad and should not happen.

There is only one good way to use BigDeal, or any other dealing program. Generate the hands, duplicate them and play them. Never even look at the hands. The players should be the first to see them. And I am pretty much convinced that - at least at WBF and EBL events - this is what happened. There are, however, always rumours, and until now the TO has no defence against them. He can only say he is honest but cannot prove it.

Some years ago, I developed a method that will allow the players to check the honesty of the TO after the event. From the player perspective it looks as follows:

Before the tournament the TO publishes a short file containing information about the various phases of the tournament, and the board numbers per session. This was done by the Organisation for this tournament, see the web site www.bridge-madeira.com or this bulletin.

This file also contains a big number, called a checksum

Interested players can keep a copy of this file until after the tournament

After the tournament the TO publishes this file again, with a slight modification, and another file containing all the numbers used to generate all the hands of the sessions

Interested players can now run the same software used by the TO in generating all the hands of the tournament and compare it to the hands they played. They should all be the same.

There is a lot of technology involved in this software, and if you are not into computer science and/or mathematics most of it will probably not be understandable to you. However, if you are, or know someone who is, the detailed documentation and the software is here: http://www.xs4all.nl/~sater/SquareDeal.zip, currently containing exactly the software used in this tournament. Later it will be updated.

It is important to realize that the use of this software basically takes away all the freedom of the TO. He must generate the predetermined hands and has no liberty left whatsoever to change them. In WBF and EBL tournaments this is done by Maurizio Di Sacco, here it is done by José Júlio Curado. Both are very keen to have this freedom taken away. All this means that if you use this method there is an answer to players who doubt the hands were made honestly. From now on you can just ask them to generate the hands themselves. If they find a difference it is time to investigate.

Also, hands generated this way are not distinguishable from hands made the “old-fashioned” way. The king of clubs will be singleton just as often...

I am currently employed in this tournament as a TD. Should anyone want a more technical update or discussion feel free to talk to me.

Sveinn Eiriksson Muses On The Participation Figures Of The Festival.

Finally it is November again and I can go once more to the Madeira Bridge Festival. My first tournament was in 2003. Maria Lara told me about this beautiful island in the Atlantic Ocean that had a very nice bridge tournament. I at first thought she was talking about Iceland, so quickly and very enthusiastically agreed. After that it was hard to say I could not go to Madeira. The last couple of years I have been asked how the participation was during the first years of the festival. I had no good answers as my long-term memory seems to be more of a short-term...

So I decided to look online for results and participation. I had no problems finding results and participation back till 2005 but no information prior to that. It seems that there was a fire where copies of the earlier bulletins were stored and no one else has kept those old copies. As I am not very fond of hearing the same question over and over, I decided to make a table with participants from 2005 until 2017 and publish it in the bulletin, hoping everyone reads that instead of asking me ☺. For my own curiosity I have added the Icelandic players who took part. And here are the results:

	Warmup Pairs	Pairs	Teams	Iceland players
2005	9	33	15	8
2006	27	66	34	22
2007	48	108	47	46
2008	45	96	38	34
2009	46	90	37	8
2010	39	99	41	12
2011	70	138	56	24
2012	77	142	62	26
2013	73	140	63	24
2014	89	155	68	29
2015	95	156	76	20
2016	110	165	76	40
2017	115	193	89	42

2005 was a very special year as the participation reached an all-time low, at least since 2003. The reason for this is that the World Championships were held in Portugal in September/October and it seems players thought it was too much to go to both tournaments, with so short a time between tournaments.

The bank crisis had a big affect on Icelandic participation so it quickly went from 34 players to 8 but has steadily risen to over 40 since. The reason for so many Icelanders in 2007 and 2008 was that we could buy a direct flight from Reykjavik to Funchal. It is nice to look at the years where the attendance took big jumps. Notably 2007, 2011 and 2017. I was also hoping that looking at the table would help me estimate the participation for 2018. I think it made me more confused than before. Anyway, for the fun of it, I estimate that we will have 202 pairs in the Open Pairs. I hope 2018 will be the first year with 200+ pairs and 100+ teams.

At finally I hope everyone has a great week (or longer) here on Madeira and on behalf of the organisers I hope you go back home with the same good reviews about Madeira as you have done before. If anyone knows the numbers of participation from other countries than Iceland or has spare time to count them. Please email those numbers to me at: svenni@bridge.is, and I will add them to my table. And if you have copies of the bulletins from before 2005. Could you please make a copy and send/email/fax to one of the organisers, so we can have a full archive of earlier results on the festival homepage.

THE BADGES

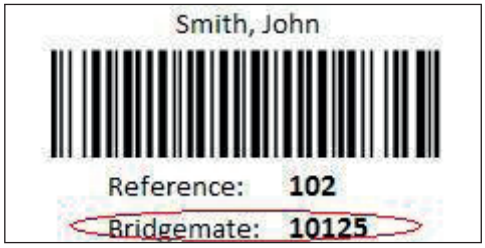
This year we are all wearing badges. These badges will be issued at the Welcome Desk when you register (see earlier opening times). They are your identification and will be all you need to participate in every event. They show your name, a barcode, a reference number, your player number, and QR-codes for easy access to our website and to the Results pages for the Pairs and Teams. The main programme is printed on the reverse, so that you can see all the session times and what is happening on which day.

You will need your badge to attend any of the social programme activities. Someone will be there to scan your barcode.

The Bridgemate number, as shown in the photo (right), is your player number. You will need to enter this number into the Bridgemate machine at the start of the Pairs and before every match in the Teams (or whenever the machine asks for your number). This will ensure that your name will always appear correctly on the screens and in the results.

Don't forget to bring your badge whenever you are playing.

Monday	18:00	Welcome Cocktail	Friday	09:30	Boat Trip*
(05/11/2018)	21:00	Warm-up Pairs	(09/11/2018)	09:45	Bus Tour*
Tuesday	10:30	"Mark your Card"		10:00	Jeep Tour*
(06/11/2018)	10:30	Starting Pos Assig		10:30	"Mark your Card"
	18:00	Pairs Clos. Time		19:00	Starting Pos Assig
	16:34	Pairs 1st Sec		20:00	Teams Clos. Time
Wednesday	10:30	"Mark your Card"		21:34	Teams 1st Sec
(07/11/2018)	16:34	Pairs 2nd Sec	Saturday	11:34	Teams 2nd Sec
	20:45	Dinner*	(10/11/2018)	13:45	Light Lunch
Thursday	10:30	"Mark your Card"		15:34	Teams 3rd Sec
(08/11/2018)	16:34	Pairs 3rd Sec	Sunday	15:34	Teams 4th Sec
	20:30	Pairs Final Res.	(11/11/2018)	19:00	Teams Final Res.
				19:30	Cocktail
	* -- Optional			20:30	Closing Dinner



Yet again the Vidamar Hotel restaurants are offering a 20% discount to all participants of the festival. All you need to claim this benefit is your badge.

Make Mine a Madeira

Ron Tacchi & Mark Horton recall some of the highlights from the 2017 Festival

There is no stopping the extraordinary phenomena that is the Madeira Bridge Festival. Last year it celebrated its 20th anniversary – and, to no one's surprise it produced yet another record-breaking entry. There are many reasons why this tournament is so successful; the location, the venue, the nightlife, the weather, the cuisine – they all play a part, but the people who organise and run the event also go a long way to make it special. Miguel Teixeira and his partner Betty, Carlos Luiz, Pedro Nunes and Jose Julio are the organisers and they have put together a tremendous team, the Directors Rui Marques, Marc van Beijsterveldt, Hans van Staveren and Marieke Quant are all top class and we have been told that the Bulletin team is not too shabby either.

Last year's anniversary was celebrated with an extraordinary fireworks display (we thought we were back in London on New Year's Eve) and an announcement that because of the extra level of participation the prize pool would be increased by a massive €5000!

Eye Catching

The great thing about a Pairs event is that you have to be razor sharp if you want to do well, taking risks that you might well avoid in the more serious world of team play. Here are a few of the deals that caught the eye in Monday's warm up event.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

	♠ K4 ♥ AJ1054 ♦ 1076 ♣ J87	
♠ 1093 ♥ KQ83 ♦ AJ85 ♣ 65	N W E S	♠ A875 ♥ 92 ♦ 9432 ♣ Q43
	♠ QJ62 ♥ 76 ♦ KQ ♣ AK1092	

If South opens 1NT North will transfer to hearts and then bid 3NT, a game that cannot be defeated as the cards lie. However, not everyone likes to start with 1NT on a 4-2-2-5 pattern and at one table after South preferred 1♣ West came in with a double. North should bid 1♥ now, but his blood was up and he redoubled. When East bid 1♠ South decided this was one of the times when it was right to defend a doubled contract at the one-level.

After leading the king of clubs, the strongest defence is to switch to a spade – the defenders will be able to play three rounds of trump and then a heart will put North in to lead a club through for an easy +800. That's not an easy play to find, but after a heart switch North can duck the king and the defenders will still collect +500.However, North took the ace of hearts and returned the jack, declarer winning with the queen and ducking a spade to South's queen (yes, North could have made life a little easier by putting up the king). Hoping North had started with the ♣Q South now tried a low club and thus allowed this 'impossible' contract to roll home.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ AQ1096 ♥ 5 ♦ J8 ♣ Q9765	
♠ 874 ♥ 8 ♦ AQ5 ♣ AJ10832	N W E S	♠ 53 ♥ AKQ97432 ♦ 32 ♣ K
	♠ KJ2 ♥ J106 ♦ K109764 ♣ 4	

When East opens 4♥, how many of you would be brave enough to bid 4♠ with the North hand? Of course, you would already have opened 2♠.

West doubled 4♠ and the defenders started with two rounds of hearts. Declarer ruffed and ran the eight of diamonds, West winning and making the plausible but mistaken switch to a trump. Declarer won in hand and played a second diamond, West winning and cashing the ace of clubs (a diamond is the way to collect +300). When the king fell West played the jack of clubs and East ruffed declarer's queen. Now it's simple to overruff and play winning diamonds. West can ruff at some point, but declarer overruffs, draws the outstanding trump with dummy's king and cashes the long diamonds.

Beware of Banana Skins

The concept of slipping on a banana skin is one that bridge players are all too aware of. It is far too easy to end up looking foolish at this game as you will discover when we show some of the deals from the opening session of the Pairs Championship.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ AQ1072 ♥ KQJ6 ♦ — ♣ 10542	
♠ 54 ♥ A872 ♦ Q97 ♣ K876	N W E S	♠ K963 ♥ 4 ♦ A10532 ♣ J93
	♠ J8 ♥ 10953 ♦ KJ864 ♣ AQ	

After 1♠-2♦-2♥-4♥ East led the nine of clubs and declarer won with dummy's ace and ran the jack of spades, East winning with the king and returning a club to West's king, the latter exiting with a spade. Declarer won, played the jack of hearts, ruffed a club and played a heart. West took the ace and thought it was a good idea to exit with a heart.

That saw declarer claim the rest for 153.8/14.2.

If West exits with a diamond declarer will be two down, only 34.4/133.6.

The 4-1 trump break is unlucky, but so is the fact that West didn't hold the ♦A, because then, after taking the ace of hearts he would have to lead it to defeat 4♥.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ 53 ♥ 6 ♦ AQ9632 ♣ 10854	
♠ A10942 ♥ J94 ♦ — ♣ KQ762	N W E S	♠ Q76 ♥ AK32 ♦ 1087 ♣ AJ3
	♠ KJ8 ♥ Q10875 ♦ KJ54 ♣ 9	

Just about everyone reached 4♠ on this deal.

When North leads the six of hearts declarer wins with dummy's ace and has to decide how to tackle the spades. The odds line is to start with the ♠Q which will give you four tricks just over 71% of the time (and all five if North happens to have the singleton jack).

Declarer was not au fait with this particular banana – sorry combination – and he played a spade to the ace followed by a spade to the queen, turning 107.3/60.7 into 64.8/103.2.

Bananas don't come much bigger than this one:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

	♠ QJ985 ♥ A75 ♦ Q6 ♣ Q83	
♠ 107643 ♥ — ♦ A10832 ♣ 972	N W E S	♠ A ♥ J109432 ♦ J5 ♣ A654
	♠ K2 ♥ KQ86 ♦ K974 ♣ KJ10	

After 1♠-2♣* (game forcing)-2♠ East though it was a good idea to come in with 3♥. That was -1100 and a rare 168/0.

Postscript

No bananas were damaged during the writing of this report, but a number of the more horrendous accidents have been omitted to avoid undue embarrassment.

The Pairs title went to Magnus Eidur Magnusson & Sveinn R Eiriksson, who finished a mere 0.5 matchpoints ahead of Gerbrand Hop & Mark Thiele, who were less than a top clear of Sylvia & Franz Terraneo, these three pairs finishing well clear of the pack.

You can see the detailed results at: http://www.abridgemadeira.com/ficheiros/s171109cl_3.pdf

http://www.abridgemadeira.com/ficheiros/s171109p_3.pdf or use QR codes below

Team Championship

Last year there were four BBO tables, allowing us to follow two matches each round.

The last match of the first night (or to be more accurate the first match of the following day) was the one that contained all the action.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ A87642 ♥ J ♦ K87 ♣ A103	
♠ KQJ3 ♥ KQ763 ♦ 102 ♣ 72	N W E S	♠ 109 ♥ 8542 ♦ AQJ43 ♣ 86
	♠ 5 ♥ A109 ♦ 965 ♣ KQJ954	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bartnes	*Goldberg*	*Simonsen*	*Koistinen*
–	–	Pass	1♣
1♥	1♠	3♦*	Pass
3♥	Double*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

The lead of a small heart gave declarer nine tricks immediately; had the ten of diamonds been chosen that is a fast one down and the king of hearts would have achieved the same result but at a slower pace.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hausler	*Bogo*	*Gromoeller*	*Easting*
–	–	Pass	1♣
2♣*	Double	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	3♥	Pass
Pass	3♠	All Pass	
2♣	majors		

North's persistence with his spades knowing West had at least four of them showed considerable bravery. The defence collected their three diamond tricks and three trump tricks to inflict a two trick defeat and 13 IMPs to Espada.

On Saturday the teams have to play six matches.

This was round 4:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ 643 ♥ A105 ♦ AK53 ♣ 1098	
♠ A107 ♥ 943 ♦ 4 ♣ AKJ653	N W E S	♠ KJ95 ♥ KQJ2 ♦ Q9762 ♣ —
	♠ Q82 ♥ 876 ♦ J108 ♣ Q742	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Louk	*Espen*	*Ricco*	*Bodil*
–	–	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Guttomerse	*Drijver*	*Chediak*	*Nab*
–	–	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

This was the only table where 3NT was declared from the West seat. The lead was a small diamond (a well-known English international suggests that when the opponents lead through a suit that has been rebid then they have a very strong holding). Perhaps declarer had not heard of the adage and played the six taken by South's ten. A club was returned to the ace, ten with a diamond discarded from dummy. A small heart from declarer to dummy's king held the trick and was followed by a small spade successfully finessing against the queen. Another low heart was won in dummy and declarer's ace of spades took the next trick. Declarer now fell from grace by cashing the king of clubs setting up a further four winners for the defence. He had only to play a major suit card from his hand to succeed. If he plays a heart North perforce wins and he cannot lead a club or cash two diamonds so he exits with a his last spade. Now declarer takes dummy's two major-suit winners and his last three cards are ♦Q97; he calmly plays the queen and either the third diamond is established or South has to give you the club trick.

All declarers playing 3NT from the East hand had no problems in bringing home the contract.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ 7 ♥ AQJ ♦ K104 ♣ A97543	
♠ KJ1054 ♥ 10 ♦ 953 ♣ KJ82	N W E S	♠ AQ986 ♥ K76432 ♦ 2 ♣ 10
	♠ 32 ♥ 985 ♦ AQJ876 ♣ Q6	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Louk	*Espen*	*Ricco*	*Bodil*
–	–	–	3♦
Pass	5♦	Double	Pass
5♠	Double	All Pass	

The power of the preempt is aptly shown here. Five Diamonds is booked to fail by two tricks on best defence and Five Spades suffers from a depressing lack of aces.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Guttomerse	*Drijver*	*Chediak*	*Nab*
–	–	–	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠*	Double	5♦
All Pass			

South had a different weapon available to him, namely a very weak no-trump and through a series of relays they arrived in Five Diamonds. West's spade did not get the defence off to the best start – a heart lead beats the contract out of hand by two tricks. East won with his ace and returned a diamond giving declarer a chance to make his contract. He must lead a small club towards his queen – not such an unlikely manoeuvre, if clubs are 3-2 chances are excellent. Here West wins with his king and exits with a heart, to succeed take the ace and come to hand with a trump and then finesse against West's club holding and ruff out the clubs whilst still having a trump entry to dummy. My co-editor was wondering if declarer was caught nabbing.

Round 6 featured some challenging deals:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ K42 ♥ 7 ♦ Q10843 ♣ A432	
♠ AQ10 ♥ Q9842 ♦ 2 ♣ 10876	N W E S	♠ J65 ♥ J10653 ♦ AK976 ♣ —
	♠ 9873 ♥ AK ♦ J5 ♣ KQJ95	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Farmolt	*Simon*	*Blanset*	*Artmer*
–	–	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	2♠*	3♠
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♥	Double	All Pass	

North's initial response reminds me of a system that is popular in Poland – MAFIA – which stands for 'majors always first in answering'. However, leading the two of spades against 5♥ doubled was not a triumph and when the contract in the other room was 5♣ down two it cost 10 IMPs.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ Q732 ♥ K54 ♦ A964 ♣ Q6	
♠ AK98654 ♥ 62 ♦ K3 ♣ 109	N W E S	♠ J ♥ Q973 ♦ 872 ♣ K5432
	♠ 10 ♥ AJ108 ♦ QJ105 ♣ AJ87	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Farmolt	*Simon*	*Blanset*	*Artmer*
1♠	Pass	1NT	Double
2♠	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

Opposite a partner who had doubled 1NT for takeout of spades North should have done something over 3♠ – put me down for a double. The contract finished three down, -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Terraneo	*Fredin*	*Terraneo*	*Zeeberg*
4♠	Pass	Pass	Double

North led the ♥4 and South won with the ace and switched to the ♦Q for the king and ace. The defenders continued with two more rounds of diamonds and declarer ruffed and played a heart, North going up with the king and switching to the queen of clubs. Declarer ducked in dummy and South won the next club and played a third round of the suit. When declarer made the mistake of ruffing with the ♠5 North could overruff and still had another spade to come for -1100.

To 'escape' for -800, declarer must ruff with the nine of spades. When North discards declarer must play a low spade towards the jack.

The upshot was that E/W lost 14 IMPs and Minty Zeebergs FC had won 31-15.

On BBO you can't follow everything at once, but you can record matches and check them later for highlights. That's how the report on Rounds 7 & 8 was compiled.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

North: ♠ K92 ♥ — ♦ AK7653 ♣ KQ32

West: ♠ Q764 ♥ A743 ♦ J82 ♣ 96

East: ♠ 5 ♥ KJ9652 ♦ Q4 ♣ 10875

South: ♠ AJ1083 ♥ Q108 ♦ 109 ♣ AJ4

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Layton	*Terraneo*	*Kreuning*	*Terraneo*
–	–	2♦*	2♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	
2♦	Multi		

West led the ace of hearts and declarer ruffed in dummy and ran the nine of spades. When West took this trick, declarer's problems were over. The club return was taken in hand, a heart ruffed with the ♠K, hand entered with a club and trumps draw followed by a claim, +980.

However, if West ducks the nine of spades, declarer cannot possibly come to more than 11 tricks.

The bidding and play in the other room were identical – no swing and a missed opportunity for both sides.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Anne	*van Prooijen*	*Mark*	*Verhees*
–	–	2♥	2♠
3♥	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Once again West missed the chance to be a hero.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nab	*Hop*	*Drijver*	*Thiele*
–	–	2♦*	2♠
3♥	5♥*	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

Stopping in 5♠ is the winning decision – in theory. In practice it cost 11 IMPs.

We wonder, did anyone find the killing defence?

It was the team named in honour of Nuno Matos, comprising Miguel Teixeira, Diego Brenner, Carlos Luiz and Nuno Paz that captured the title, a fitting tribute to a man who had attended every one of the previous Festivals before his tragic death at the 2016 tournament.

Your Organisers

Miguel Teixeira
Organiser

Carlos Luiz
Organiser

Pedro Nunes
Organiser

ENTRY FEES

Pairs	€ 140.00
Teams	€ 155.00
Pairs + Teams	€ 260.00
Pairs + Teams + Typical Dinner	€ 275.00
Pairs + Teams + Closing Dinner	€ 285.00
Pairs + Teams + Typical Dinner + Closing Dinner.	€ 295.00
Typical Dinner	€ 25.00
Friday Tour (half-day tour / Catamaran / Jeep)	€ 25.00
Closing Dinner	€ 40.00

José Curado explains how to verify the deals using Hans Staveren's procedure as described on Page 6.

In short, if someone wants to check that there is no hanky-panky going on with the procedure they should:

1 - Download the "present key" from http://bit.ly/2018pKs before Friday evening (02.NOV.2018:20:00) or click on link in footer menu on new website

2 - Check Euromillions lottery numbers (the "future key")

3 - Download the "past key" that will be published after the event (presumably in Bulletin 7)

4 - Run the program (download from http://www.xs4all.nl/~sater/SquareDeal.zip) using the 3-part key according to the instructions - the "present" and "past" files and insert the 5 numbers and 2 stars, as presented in the official results, comma separated, when prompted by the program.

5 -Compare the hands generated this way with the hands actually played.

Your Directors

José Júlio Curado – co-Chief Tournament Director: In October 1996 I decided I wanted to know the Laws of Bridge. Two years later I was invited to direct the first edition of this tournament with Rui Marques. I liked it so much that I kept coming back and in 2005 I moved to Madeira. By the end of this 12-day week, you will understand why. Have Fun!

Ton Kooijman – co-Chief Tournament Director: I celebrate this year my fifty years of being a tournament director of which thirty with an European title. I have been to bridge events in Portugal; Estoril and the Algarve, several times but this is my first time in Madeira and I expect to enjoy that very much; as I am sure all participants will.

Hans van Staveren: has been a TD at this tournament for 5 years. I love the possibility to get away from the Dutch cold so late in the year. The Madeira tournament has a great atmosphere. Apart from being a TD I am busy in international bridge as an IT manager, and I am the author of various bridge related software. Among others I am responsible for every unlucky distribution you noticed in the last 18 years, since the program BigDeal is mine. This tournament there is also some new software in use about which you read elsewhere in this bulletin.

Marc van Beijsterveldt: 58 years old, husband to Maria, father of five, grandfather of seven. My 3rd festival in Madeira and I love it. It is certainly one of the top three festivals I have been to! Working at the office of the Dutch Federation for over 27 years. Organising national competitions, the federation's simultaneous tournament for affiliated clubs (17.000+ is the record, now down to appr. 11.000 but still huge), organising many logistics for the national teams (mainly travelling, hotels etc.) and many ad hoc. EBL and WBF director since 1993. Have worked in international championships, tournaments and festivals on all continents.

Nicole Barclay: I learned to play bridge back home in New Zealand and have enjoyed mild success as a player. But these days almost all my time is taken up running events, untangling IT and helping friends turn their bridge dreams into reality. I'm mad about languages, people and technology – bridge gives me the chance to learn more and indulge in all three every day. My life is not quite all bridge – I have a wonderful partner, together he and I love to travel, combining my oh so infrequent trips back down under, with long stopovers in Asia and short breaks to Europe. My latest passion is photography – I am strictly amateur and love to practice.

Frederico Palma: I have been involved with contract Bridge since 2006 when, influenced by my father, I started to learn the game. In the beginning of 2008 when I was playing my first tournaments, I met Mariana who later became my wife, and we are proud parents of two beautiful girls. Since then I have fell in love not only with Mariana but also with the game, where I have found wonderful people that I'm honoured to name as close friends. I started directing in Lisbon in Centro de Bridge de Lisboa. It hasn't been an easy task, but I would like to continue developing my directing skills, and that's why i am joining the directing team in Madeira this year.

OUR SPONSORS

FUNCHAL CITY COUNCIL: Our local City Council, based in the palace built in 1758 by the Counts of Carvalhal. The Council provides a vast range of services to residents and visitors alike.

MADEIRA TOURISM: The Tourism Board for the Madeira Archipelago. On their website you will find information about events and activities, transport and accommodation in Madeira and Porto Santo. There is a link to subscribe to the tourism newsletter.

APM – MADEIRA PROMOTION BUREAU: The association which coordinates the promotion of Madeira as a destination to the domestic and international markets.

DRJD – REGIONAL DIRECTORATE OF YOUTH & SPORT: The arm of the regional government responsible for summer camps, internet cafés, youth associations, volunteering and many other youth programmes.

MC COMPUTERS: Acknowledged leader in the regional IT market, developing and managing technology projects for the biggest public and private clients.

NOS MADEIRA: Portuguese media and communications company with a regional base in Madeira, leader in cable television distribution. NOS is also the home-video distributor for Walt Disney Pictures, Warner Bros., DreamWorks and Paramount Pictures releases in the Portuguese market, alongside launching several independent and European titles.

ECM – MADEIRA BREWERY: Established in 1872 and the largest producer and distributor of beverages in the region, ECM manufactures, markets and distributes its own brands of beers, soft drinks and water, and also represents major brands in other products categories (spirits, wines, juices and nectars, waters, milks, olive oils, vinegars and sauces).

VIDAMAR RESORT MADEIRA: Our beautiful venue for the International Bridge Open, VidaMar Resort Madeira is one of three 5-star resorts in the hotel chain. The Madeira Resort has outstanding facilities, including the Thalasso Sea Spa, and direct access to the Atlantic Ocean.

INTERTOURS: Our partner agency, Intertours was founded in 1980 and specialises group travel, focusing on experiential, sustainable, accessible, and wellness tourism. Please contact them if you need information about excursions, travel or accommodation in Madeira and Porto Santo.