



22nd Madeira International Bridge Open

4th-10th November 2019

Sun/Monday 3/4th November

Bulletin 0

A Welcome from Miguel Teixeira

This year is our 22nd anniversary. We are very pleased with our continued success but this reality wouldn't be possible without the special contribution of all of you.

A special thanks to those of you who came to the first festival and for giving us the opportunity to continue to have you in our event. For those who have been with us since the beginning, year after year, let me say that it's with great pleasure that we welcome you again as we consider that you are part of our festival family.

I wish that you enjoy the tournaments as well as all the fun that our social programme offers.

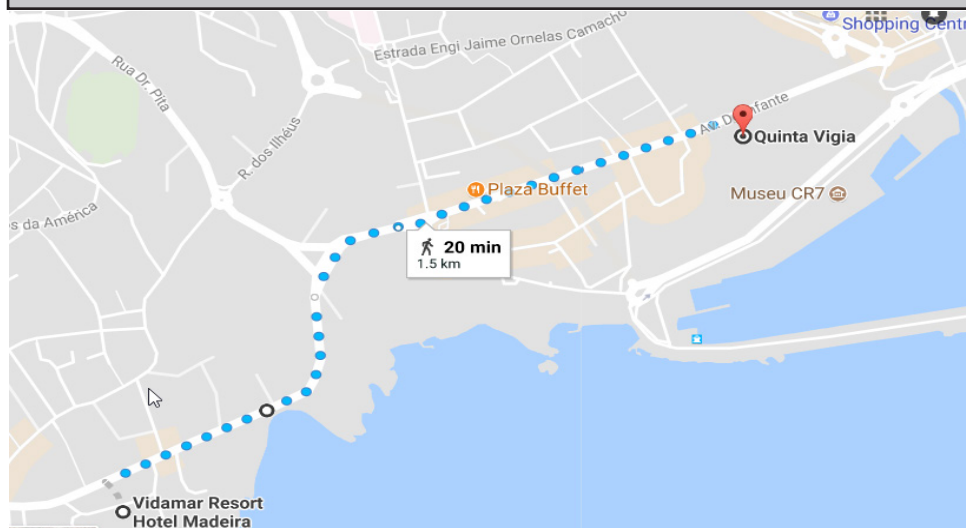
Last but not the least, I hope that when you go back home you make a note in your diary to come back to the festival next year, starting on the 2nd of November. And please don't forget to persuade all your family and friends.

2020 will be a very important year for Bridge in Madeira as we won't have only our event in November, but also from 17th till 27th June 2020 we will have the European Championships and for the first time there will be four categories: Open, Ladies, Senior and Mixed.

Here is to good bridge and good times,

Miguel Teixeira

N.B. The Monday Welcome Cocktail has been brought forward to 17.30 – not 18.00 as per the original program. Please see below for details of location.



Welcome Cocktails at the 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 on foot.

Bus 1, 2, 4 or 6 from the stop just past the Casa Madeirense restaurant. Get off at the stop below the Casino (the one after the Savoy).

Badges

The many of you who have played in earlier Madeira International Bridge Festivals will recall an envelope full of vouchers enabling you to partake of the bridge and various social activities, but as per last year 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 when you arrive you will be issued with a badge and this will serve to identify you for all your needs. This means 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.

Warm-Up Pairs – Monday 20.30

To enter the Welcome Pairs, register in the Congress Centre from 20.00 onwards.



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MAIN PROGRAMME 5th – 10th NOV 2019

Location - Congress Room + Selvagens 1-2-3

TUESDAY 5 th November	15:30	Closing time for Pairs Tournament Entries
	16:00	Open Pairs Tournament (1 st Session)
WEDNESDAY 6 th November	16:00	Open Pairs Tournament (2 nd Session)
THURSDAY 7 th November	16:00	Open Pairs Tournament (3 rd Session)
	20:00	Final Results
FRIDAY 8 th November	19.00	Deadline for Teams Tournament Entries
	20:00	Team Assignments
	20.30	Open Teams Tournament (1 st Session)
SATURDAY 9 th November	11:00	Open Teams Tournament (2 nd Session)
	13.15	Lunch Break (light lunch included)
	14:30	Open Teams Tournament (3 rd Session)
SUNDAY 10 th November	14:30	Open Teams Tournament (4 th Session)
	19:00	Final Results

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

Every morning at 10.30 from Tuesday, Mark Horton will conduct his 'Mark Your Card' to discuss the previous day's hands in Selvagens 1.

José Curado explains how to verify the deals using Hans Staveren's procedure.

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" before 19:30 on Friday evening 1st November 2019
2. Check the winning Euromillions numbers for Friday 1st November 2019 (the "future key").
3. Download the "past key" which will be published after the event (in Bulletin 7 and here)
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 the 5 numbers and 2 stars from the lottery results, comma separated (the program will prompt you).
5. Compare the hands generated this way with the hands actually played.

This is fully explained on the website at:

<https://www.bridge-madeira.com/hand-generator-security-keys/>



Charity Tournament

Friendship International Pairs, Sunday 3rd November, 2.30pm

New for 2019, and the brainchild of our friend Sveinni the enormous Icelander, the inaugural Inter-Nations Challenge starts at 2.30pm on Sunday 3rd November. No prizes, but glory for the nation with the highest combined/ average score. There is no limit on the number of pairs from any one country, and you can play with someone from a different country if you prefer.

The format is Swiss Pairs (six four-board matches). Scoring will be by matchpoints. Everyone will play the same four boards in each match. After every match, pairs will play other pairs with a similar cumulative score as them. Next round assignments will be displayed on the Bridge mates at the end of each match.



All players will move after each match. If a stationary seat is required, please write in large letters STATIONARY PLEASE on the envelope on your table at the start.

Each pair should also write their country (or countries) on their envelope as this will be used in the results in order to produce the final ranking list.

The entry fee is €15 per player (extra donations welcome). All proceeds will go to the Centro de Saúde de São João de Deus, a local mental health charity.

Come, play, win, and boast to your envious friends that you were there.

A Word from Your TDs

Welcome. We look forward to helping you all have an enjoyable, fair game every day.

Here are a few pointers for negotiating the different playing methods and styles.

Your opponents only need to alert a NT bid if it is NOT balanced, regardless of the range.

They should only alert a suit bid if it is not natural e.g. 2♥ if it is ♥ and a minor.

Of course, ALL artificial bids must be alerted.

If you want to know a bid's meaning please ASK.

Nothing needs to be announced.

Yesterday we had cause to make a ruling we hate – we gave the worst score to BOTH sides. If we cannot be clear what has happened because the four players do not cooperate with each other or the TD, we have no choice. So if you need to explain something to the TD, we ask you to trust us, and the process we follow. We promise you will get a chance to have your say.

And our first and final bridge tip: you need your partner to play well - so always be nice! Thank you very much.

Uma palavra dos seus TDs

Bem-vindo, estamos ansiosos para ajudá-lo a ter um jogo agradável e justo todos os dias.

Aqui estão algumas dicas para negociar os diferentes métodos e estilos de jogo dos seus adversários.

Os adversários só precisam alertar vozes de ST que mostrem mãos desbalanceadas, qualquer que seja o intervalo de pontos. E eles só devem alertar uma voz em naipe que não seja natural ex: 2♥ se mostrar ♥ e um menor qualquer.

E claro, TODAS as vozes artificiais devem ser alertadas. Se precisar saber o que uma voz quer dizer, PERGUNTE. Nada precisa ser anunciado.

Ontem tivemos de tomar uma decisão que odiamos - nós demos a pior pontuação para ambos os lados. Se não podemos ter certeza do que aconteceu, porque os quatro jogadores não cooperaram entre si ou com o TD, não temos escolha. Então, se precisar de explicar algo ao TD, pedimos que confie em nós e no processo que seguimos. Nós prometemos que terá uma oportunidade de dizer a sua versão dos factos.

A nossa primeira e última dica de bridge – Precisa que o seu parceiro jogue bem – portanto seja sempre amável com ele. Muito Obrigado.



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The **Welcome Desk** in the lobby of VidaMar Tower 2 will be open at the following times:
If you need help or information outside these times, please ask at the hotel's Reception Desk or speak to one of the Directors.

Thursday 31st October	10:30 – 13:00
	14:30 – 18:30
Friday 1st November	10:30 – 13:00
	14:30 – 18:30
Saturday 2nd November	14:00 – 19:00
Sunday 3rd November	14:00 – 18:00
Monday 4th November	10:30 – 13:00
	14:00 – 17:00
	19:00 – 21:30
Tuesday 5th November	10:30 – 13:00
	14:00 – 16:00
Wednesday 6th November	15:00 – 16:00
Thursday 7th November	15:00 – 16:00
Friday 8th November	18:00 – 21:00
Saturday 9th November	10:00 – 15:00
Sunday 10th November	13:30 – 16:00

COLLECTION OF BADGES/ENTRIES

If you have booked in advance, you can collect your Identity Badge from the Welcome Desk before 8pm on Monday 4th November (please contact us if you will be arriving later than this).

You must bring your Identity Badge to all events, including Social events.

If you booked the Intertours package, your badge can be collected from the Welcome Desk.

If you booked online, you will need to keep a note of your Confirmation number (the number is in the format 123-4567). If you cannot print the confirmation email, please take a photograph of it on your mobile phone and bring the phone with you to the Welcome Desk.

If you want to enter on the day, you will need to pay at the Welcome Desk, where you will be issued with an Identity Badge.

We can issue Identity Badges only to the person named on the badge.

Can You Help?

The archive of the Madeira Bridge Association was destroyed in 2007 in a fire at the historic Club Sports da Madeira. As a result, we no longer have results and bulletins from the Madeira International from 1998 to 2004 (and access to the 2005 bulletins only courtesy of bridgedaily-bulletins.nl).

If any collector happens to have any of this material, and is willing either to copy it or to lend it to us, we should be eternally grateful. Or if anyone has saved .pdf versions on a computer, please email them to us at open@bridge-madeira.com.



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SOCIAL PROGRAMME

- 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 Cocktail.
20:30 Closing Dinner and trophy presentation in the Ocean Room – Vidamar Resort Madeira, 2nd floor.

Any of the Social Programme events may be purchased at the Welcome Desk

ENTRY FEES

Pairs	€ 140.00
Teams	€ 155.00
Pairs + Teams	€ 260.00
Pairs + Teams + Traditional Dinner.....	€ 275.00
Pairs + Teams + Closing Dinner.....	€ 285.00
Pairs + Teams + Traditional + Closing Dinner.....	€ 295.00
Typical Dinner	€ 25.00
Friday Excursion.....	€ 25.00
Saturday Lunch (non-players).....	€...20.00
Closing Dinner	€...40.00

SIDE EVENTS

31st October – 11th November 2019

Congress Room

Thursday 31st Portuguese Simultaneous Pairs (€15*)	20:30
Friday 1st IMP Pairs 1 (€15*)	16:00
Saturday 2nd IMP Pairs 2 (€15*)	16:00
Sunday 3rd Charity Tournament (€15)	14.30
Monday 4th Warm-up Pairs (€15)	20:30
Monday 11th Cool-down Pairs (€10)	20:30

***€30 for all 3**



Optional Friday Excursions 8th November

Option A: Catamaran (limited availability)
coach leaves hotel 9:30



A relaxing trip along the south coast of Madeira, with a good chance of spotting whales and dolphins in all their magnificence and in their natural habitat. (3 hours)

Option B: South-West Tour (lunch included)
coach leaves hotel 10:00



Ribeira Brava – our first stop will be at this beautiful town on the South coast, named for the wild river which flows through it. The town boasts cafes, promenades, a market, a church and a fort.

Paúl do Mar – a fishing village known for its excellent surfing conditions and beautiful sunsets. Soon afterwards we stop at Jardim do Mar, a pretty seaside village surrounded by cliffs and adorned by the colourful gardens of its small houses.

Calheta - a charming place with beautiful scenery and one of the few sandy beaches on the island.

Ponta de Sol - a picturesque village on the sea, where we will break for lunch.

On the return journey we stop at Cabo Girão, the highest sea cliff in Europe, 580 metres high and famous for its suspended glass platform. Arrive back at the hotel at 16:00.

Option C: Levada Walk 'Sugar Route'
(lunch included) coach leaves hotel 10:00



Ribeira Brava – our first stop will be at this beautiful town on the South coast, named for the wild river which flows through it. The town boasts cafes, promenades, a market, a church and a fort.

The walk along the Levada Nova begins in Tabua, a village near Ribeira Brava. It is a pleasant walk, within most people's capabilities, and offers a view of this part of the island from a different perspective.

The beautiful landscapes are one of the main features of this walk. Between valleys and mountains, walkers can delight in the magnificent views over the villages. Small towns and plantations make up a unique landscape. Lunch at Ponta do Sol, a picturesque seaside village.

On the return journey we stop at Cabo Girão, the highest sea cliff in Europe, 580 metres high and famous for its suspended glass platform. Arrive back at the hotel at 16:00.

Please bring good walking shoes or boots, a warm coat (in case of low temperatures in the mountains) and a bottle of water. Grade: easy; Distance: 6.2 km; Duration: approximately 2½ hours.



Butler Pairs - Friday November 1st

Ceri Pierce

'Come and help in the Madeira Congress?'

'Oh yes please - that sounds like fun.'

And it is – serious fun. Welcome to Madeira to all bridge players, whether you are here for the 1st time or the 22nd time.

Having travelled over on Friday morning with a 5am start from Bristol Airport in the UK, I was feeling a little sorry for myself as I sat down on Friday afternoon in the IMP Pairs. I did feel slightly better when the first pair to arrive at our table told us that it had taken them 19 hours to travel from Germany on three flights, two of which were delayed: 1st flight – on time, fine; 2nd flight – delayed, oops; 3rd flight (they had managed to get to Lisbon by now) – also delayed, luckily for them!

Perhaps there should be an award for the longest journey – answers on a postcard please.

As part of my duties, I have been asked to write up the odd bridge hand (and there have been a few odd ones to be honest), so here we go..... I was going to write a Disaster of the Day hand - but playing with my newly met partner, Ron Tacchi, I am pleased to report that it was difficult to find one, unusually for me! We did have one bad board due to me mis-guessing the Diamond suit in a thin 3NT contract but that was not very interesting, if not a bit stupid.

This hand was a bit more thought-provoking, as five-level contracts often are. The five-level does not always belong to the opponents.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ —	♠ KQ109863	♠ J2
♥ 98543	♥ J	♥ AQ1072
♦ AK763	♦ 94	♦ J108
♣ K53	♣ 842	♣ QJ10
	♠ A754	
	♥ K6	
	♦ Q52	
	♣ A976	



West	North	East	South
—	Ron 3♠	Double	Me 4♠
All Pass			

Pre-empt is often a nightmare to deal with. On this occasion East tried his best over Ron's Three Spades with a Double and I had a simple raise to Four Spades. Now, poor old West has a problem, and after some unhappy shuffling about on his seat, placed a green card on the table. This was great for us as Five Hearts and Five Diamonds are cold for E/W.

The problem with these hands, is that a lot of the time, nobody really knows what on earth is going on. Assessing hands like this is very difficult, but West, with a void in spades and a five-five-three shape AND being non-vulnerable vs. vulnerable, I think fortune favours the brave and West really should try to make some sort of noise. As it happens, either Five Diamonds or Five Hearts would work well. You could also bid 4NT to show partner 'two places to play' (it is NOT Blackwood!). If partner (as he usually does) bids the suit you don't have, in this case, Five Clubs, you can bid Five Diamonds which would show Diamonds and Hearts and 'Voila!' Partner can choose in which suit to play.

I looked at the results for this board later and about two thirds of the pairs found the Five Heart contract. (several of which were doubled, making). Some found an adventurous Six Hearts. Which just proves my point that no-one really knows what is going on most of the time!

Towards the end of the evening, a pair sat down and my partner announced, 'It's the finish!'

'No it's not, there's one more round' (I hadn't realised he could not count – he had hidden it well until now).

'No, it's the Finnish!'. Two Finnish players sat down at the table..... A warning – do not play with Ron Tacchi unless you are prepared for some truly dreadful jokes, But seriously, what a delightful game we had, with delightful opponents. I am looking forward to the rest of the week.

Diolch yn fawr (answers on a post card).

Ceri



Diane Kurbalija Reflects on Last Year's Visit to Madeira

We first heard of the Madeira Congress many years ago. A friend was staying in the hotel venue and noticed a room set out for a Bridge competition. There were about 12 tables, I think, but no sign of activity; no directors, notices, results. She looked at the sunny Madeira weather and thought.... "no".

What a different scene greeted us for our first visit in November 2018; three huge rooms holding up to a hundred tables, busy experienced International directors setting up complex computer systems, and support staff handing out welcome gifts and personalising identity cards which would give access to special events and offers.

The busy atmosphere heralded a sociability and enjoyment which characterised the whole week and which was enhanced by great hospitality including an opening drinks party and a closing Dinner and Disco which went on well into the early hours.

However, do not be fooled. There is plenty to get the competitive juices flowing. The prize money is worth taking seriously and there's a chance to play against World Class Players. Last year we managed to rise to a table next to Welland and Auken (but soon plummeted back down the field). Also, it was great to see Bilde celebrating his successes in style.

Players came from all over the world. There was a very evident Nordic element which participated enthusiastically in any partying; there were players from the West Indies, England, Denmark, USA, Germany and, of course, from Wales.

There is really something to suit all tastes. If you like lying in the sun, going for a boat trip, shopping or any combination of those, followed by a friendly game and a relaxed dinner then the timings of the Pairs event will suit. They do not start until 4.00 p.m. and finish before 8.00p.m. This also suits you night birds who can finish at 8.30, head off to local clubs and bars and get out of bed next day in time for a late lunch before Session 2!

For those who like to make your Bridge challenging, the teams' weekend has a more strenuous feel but the Swiss Teams format means there is always something to play for.

Filip and I have given the Madeira Congress pride of place in our Bridge diary. We are looking forward to seeing old friends again and enjoying lazy mornings in the sun following a glass of Cava with breakfast. However, we hope to shape up for the Bridge competitions which we will be taking very seriously!

-20% DISCOUNT
MENU & DRINKS LIST
MAMMA MIA
KOI SUSHI
CASA DAS ESPETADAS

OCEAN BUFFET
€23 DRINKS INCLUDED

DINE AROUND

VIDAMAR RESORT HOTEL

The Vidamar Hotel is pleased to offer participants of the Madeira Open 2019 the discounts as above. Just show them your badge.



Madeira – the Hottest Ticket

Mark Horton

Every November the best bridge ticket involves a trip to Madeira to the legendary Festival, this year celebrating its 22nd incarnation.

It will surprise no one if this proves to be yet another record-breaker. There are numerous 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. Make sure you say a big thank you to Miguel Teixeira, Carlos Luiz, Pedro Nunes, Jose Julio, Betty Gois and Laura Woodruff.

Let's go back in time to the 2018 Festival to review some of the deals:

Sun Sea and Slams

The traditional start to the Festival is the warm-up pairs. In the even numbered years, Tacchi and I enjoy our annual outing where we always do just enough to make sure we are not amongst the prize-winners.

A New Bridge Magazine's David Bird is renowned for his dislike of low-level contracts, especially 1NT. Whilst these can be very important in a Pairs event they are not the type of deals that are designed to entertain the reader. Therefore, I make no apologies for selecting deals where more than seven tricks were required.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Tacchi	Seculer	Horton	Seculer
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♠*	Pass	6♥	All Pass

- 3♦ Fourth Suit Forcing
- 5♣ Cue-bid
- 5♠ Cue-bid

This was our last deal of the event and I survived the dreadful decision to open 1♠ (at the time I suspect the ♥3 had metamorphosed into a diamond). The key bid was Tacchi's decision to go past 5♥. He reasoned that missing the ♠K and those important trumps that East would not have bid 5♣ without a diamond control.

There was nothing to the play, and +1430 was worth 91.8/10.2.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Axelsdottir	Tacchi	Ludviksson	Horton
—	—	Pass	1NT
2♣*	Double*	2♦	Double
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
2♣	Clubs and a another suit		

North's double of 2♣ was intended as Stayman and the jump to 3♥ showed five spades and four hearts. West led the ♣8 and declarer won with the nine and played a spade. When West discarded a club, declarer went up with dummy's king and played the ♠J, covered by the queen and ace as West pitched the ♦2. Declarer continued with the ♣J and West won and tried a diamond. Declarer won with the ten and played the ♥4, putting up dummy's queen when West followed with the nine. Declarer cashed the ♠10 and when West parted with a club declarer came to hand with a heart and cashed three club tricks. On the last of these West pitched a diamond, so declarer also took the last two tricks for twelve in all and



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92-10; +660 would have produced exactly the same score.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 1098643	♠ J2	♠ AQ5
♥ A	♥ K43	♥ 9875
♦ AKJ52	♦ 1074	♦ 83
♣ 7	♣ KJ1052	♣ A843
	♠ K7	
	♥ QJ1062	
	♦ Q96	
	♣ Q96	

West	North	East	South
Gool	Tacchi	Hoebe	Horton
1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		
4NT	RKCB		
5♠	2 key cards +♠Q		

North led a spade and declarer went up with dummy's ace and played three rounds of diamonds, ruffing in dummy, followed by the ♠Q. They were the only pair to bid 6♠ so their reward was 0-102 (or should that be our reward?).

Following the Law

I had travelled more or less direct from the International Bridge Press Association's annual awards ceremony which takes place in October in Sanya, China, and now vies with the Oscars as one of the glitziest events of the year: http://www.jannersten.org:1500/~server/IBPA/archive/Awards/2018_IBPA_Awards_HBF_Sanya_%20Hi-Res.pdf

As a result, Bridge journalists around the world are busy typing until their fingers bleed in the hope of being nominated for and then winning one of the coveted awards thereby earning an all expenses paid trip to Sanya in 2020. One of the categories is for the Best Bid Hand of the Year.

Most people are familiar with the concept of the Law of Total Tricks - The total number of tricks available on a deal is equal to the total number of trumps each partnership holds in their best suits, being the sum of the number of tricks available to each side if they could choose trumps.

Although he did not invent it, it was

popularised by the brilliant American writer and player, Larry Cohen in two books, *The Law of Total Tricks* and *Following the Law*.

This deal from the Warm Up Pairs saw one pair apply the Law in spectacular style:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ —	♠ J10843	♠ K652
♥ AJ54	♥ K963	♥ 107
♦ A7543	♦ 10	♦ KQJ9862
♣ KJ107	♣ Q82	♣ —
	♠ AQ97	
	♥ Q82	
	♦ —	
	♣ A96543	

West	North	East	South
Schoonen	Bocker	Hop	Schneider
—	—	—	1♣
1♦	1♠	6♦!	Double
All Pass			

East reasoned that $7+5=12$ and bid the unbeatable slam, the reflex double from South giving E/W 92/10 match points.

Bridge the Old Way

Before the advent of BBO, Funbridge and Our Game, reporting on bridge meant watching at the table - not too difficult unless you play with screens, when it can sometimes be difficult to follow the play. In those pre-computer days, scoring a big event took a fair amount of time, but the advent of computers and Bridgemates changed all that. However, nothing is infallible and if something goes wrong then one has to resort to the old ways. The first session of the Pairs Championship saw the Bridgemates go on strike and I began to wonder if I might have to go in search of some travelling score sheets.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY


23rd Madeira International Bridge Open
29th October – 9th November 2020
(Main events 2nd – 8th November)



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Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ J52		♠ K9
♥ J9754		♥ 1032
♦ 97		♦ KQJ4
♣ 764		♣ Q1082
♠ A103		
♥ AKQ86		
♦ A6		
♣ AK9		
		
♠ Q8764		
♥ —		
♦ 108532		
♣ J53		

West	North	East	South
de Paauw	Paz	Snoeck	Luiz
—	Pass	Pass	2♦*
3NT	All Pass		
2♦	Weak only Multi		


Bidding a direct 3NT over a Multi with this type of hand is dubious - that should be reserved for hands with a running minor and major suit stoppers. It is better to start with a double, generally played as 13-15 balanced or any 19+.

All one can add is that N/S scored 156-48. Losing 1020 was worth 88-116 while the 25 pairs who reached 7NT collected 24-180.

For the players who have not spent the night partying, there is a morning seminar where I review the deals from the previous day. When more than 50 people turned up for the first one I was mildly surprised - but then I realised it was raining.

On day two of the Open Pairs my guinea pigs were Gerbrand Hop and Mark Thiele, hoping to consolidate after scoring 61.29% on the opening day.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 654		♠ Q92
♥ J10975		♥ KQ82
♦ J		♦ A1076
♣ AK92		♣ 73
♠ AK103		
♥ A4		
♦ K42		
♣ Q1064		
		
♠ J87		
♥ 63		
♦ Q9853		
♣ J85		

West North East South

Utter	Hop	Tulonon	Thiele
—	—	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♠*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
3♣	Puppet Stayman		
3♦	At least one four-card major		
3♠	Hearts		

North led the ♥J and declarer won with the ace and played a diamond, ducking when North produced the jack. North's next move was to lay down the ♣A, and when South followed with the eight he unwisely continued with the ♣2. Declarer won that and should now have tested the diamonds, cashing the king, then playing a diamond to dummy's ace followed by four rounds of spades. On the last of these, North, down to ♥1097 ♣K will be squeezed for an eleventh trick.


However, declarer did not spot this possibility and cashed dummy's hearts immediately for +630 and 73/131. +660 would have changed the score to 14/190.

A solid, not unlucky session saw N/S move up to fifth place - another 60% would surely see them on the podium.

Where the Action Is

By strategically placing myself at the start of session 3 I was able to see if some of the leading pairs could get away to a good start. Not for the first time I was lucky with my choice of which deals to follow.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ K8		♠ AQ62
♥ AK832		♥ Q5
♦ AQ97		♦ K2
♣ 95		♣ AQ1083
		
♠ J73		
♥ J64		
♦ J10843		
♣ K7		



West	North	East	South
<i>Nedelcu</i>	<i>Gromöller</i>	<i>Micescu</i>	<i>Häusler</i>
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

South led the ♠3 and declarer won with dummy's king and played three rounds of hearts. When the suit behaved, he cashed two more hearts, discarding three clubs. South was under pressure and I am sure declarer would have played for a club-diamond squeeze to have operated, but North parted with a spade, so declarer cashed his winners, making sure that trick thirteen was taken by the ♠2.

That gave E/W 17-187.

Two pairs went 'all in' and recorded +1520, one of them after the helpful lead of the $\heartsuit J$, the other after the more testing lead of the $\spadesuit 4$.

(K)Night Moves

By tradition, the first day of the teams championship involves a late night session. My unsubtle title pays homage to the fact that while play was going on in Madeira, at the same time the first game of the World Chess Championship was being contested in London, World Champion, Norway's Magnus Carlsen missing several opportunities during the seven hours it took to complete the game against the challenger from the USA, Fabiano Caruana.

By coincidence, the round 1 match I followed involved a team from Norway, Solbjort, who faced JustPlay.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ 9542
 ♥ K10764
 ♦ 3
 ♣ KQ9

♠ K7
 ♥ A952
 ♦ AQJ6
 ♣ J43

♠ A
 ♥ J8
 ♦ K1098542
 ♣ 1072

♠ QJ10863
 ♥ Q3
 ♦ 7
 ♣ A865

N
 W E
 S

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Valdur</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Halldor</i>	<i>Palma</i>
–	–	2♣*	2♠
3♥	4♠	5♦	All Pass
2♣	6♦ or nine cards in ♠+♥ or strong		

The 2♣ opening did not show to advantage as E/W reached the wrong game. South led the ♠Q but there were only ten tricks, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Häusler</i>	<i>Gabriel</i>	<i>Gromöller</i>	<i>Gisli</i>
–	–	3♦	3♠
3NT	4♠	Double	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

That was well-judged by Helmut Häusler and on a spade lead he took the first ten tricks, +630 and 12 IMPs to JustPlay, who won 28-0.

All Quiet on the Western Front

On the 11th November, the day that the guns fell silent to mark end of hostilities in the First World War exactly 100 years ago this was a title that could not be overlooked.

It also happened that in Rounds 4 & 5 the matches I followed were not exciting, the first of them producing a score line of just 7-1 with five flat boards.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 7654
♥ KJ108
♦ J102
♣ 64

♠ 832
♥ Q6
♦ A96
♣ 109873

♠ J9
♥ 943
♦ K843
♣ KQJ2

♠ AKQ10
♥ A752
♦ Q75
♣ A5

W N E S

In the Open Room N/S sailed into 4♥ and took ten tricks, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Paluchowski</i>	<i>Utter</i>	<i>Dmowski</i>	<i>Tulonen</i>
–	–	Pass	1♦
All Pass			



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In one of the morning seminars, we discussed how weak you could be when responding to an opening bid. Many years ago I wrote a 'Bols Bridge Tip' entitled 'Don't be afraid to Respond', suggesting that you should be happy to reply with very weak hands, an idea subsequently supported by Larry Cohen in *The Law of Total Tricks*. I'm willing to bet that none of the forty or so players who attended that particular seminar omitted to respond where South started with 1♦, thereby avoiding the loss of 11 IMPs.

This was one of those occasions when silence was definitely not golden.

Double Header

Saturday is a real test as the teams have to play six matches between 11.30 and 20.30. That's about the same length of time it takes to play back-to-back Baseball games.

In Round 6 Gladpack faced Team Sara Silva (do you think there should be a prize for the best team name?)

The first board was one of the most interesting play problems of the tournament:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ J98753		
♥ —		
♦ AQJ103		
♣ 84		
♠ Q1042		♠ A
♥ KQ873		♥ J1092
♦ 96		♦ K8754
♣ 63		♣ KJ10
	♠ K6	
	♥ A654	
	♦ 2	
	♣ AQ9752	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bartnes	Bilde	Bakke	Eyde
—	2♠*	Double	4♠
All Pass			

East led the ♥J and declarer won with dummy's ace, pitching a club, played a diamond to the ace and ran the ♦Q throwing a heart from dummy. He then threw a club on the jack of diamonds and West ruffed and exited with a heart, declarer ruffing and playing a spade. East won with the ace and exited with the ♥9 (the ♦K is a killer). Declarer ruffed, played a club to the queen,

pitched a diamond on the ♣A ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond and played a club ensuring a trick for the ♠J, +420.

West had given declarer a chance by returning a heart rather than a spade, as if he leaves trumps alone and takes the club finesse and then cross ruffs (using the ♠K to ruff a diamond) he will come to ten tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brian	Bogo	Hagen	Fastenj
—	1♠	Double	2♣
2♥	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

East led the ♥J and declarer won with the ace pitching a club, cashed the ♦A, ran the ♦Q throwing a heart and then threw another heart on the ♦J, West ruffing and exiting with a spade. East won and returned a heart (as mentioned before, the ♦K is the card to defeat the contract).

Declarer ruffed, took the club finesse, cashed the ♣A and ruffed a club. He then ruffed a diamond and ruffed a club, but lost the last two tricks to West's ♠Q10, a loss of 10 IMPs.

In the four-card ending declarer needed to cross to dummy with the ♠K and then play a winning club. If West ruffs with the ♠Q declarer throws the losing diamond away.

Look closely at the trump pips. They are such that as long as declarer does not allow anyone to score a cheap ruff only three trump tricks will be lost.

Having taken a discard on the ♦Q, declarer can take the club finesse, then cross-ruff, using the ♠K to ruff the third diamond before ruffing the fourth round with the ♠6. West can overruff with the ♠10, but declarer has already scored eight tricks and the ♠J987 are worth two more. This relies on East holding the ♠A, but the opening lead and the bidding more or less make that 100%.

This line, not playing trumps at all, will work even when East holds a doubleton ♠A.

CSI Madeira

There are plenty of English language programmes on Portuguese TV- many of them related to criminal investigations. The Round 8 encounter between Team Sara Silva and Sol Da Caparica was not without incident - let's investigate this deal:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A4
♥ Q982
♦ 432
♣ 9764

♠ K1072
♥ AK5
♦ K7
♣ KQJ10

♠ Q653
♥ 3
♦ AQ10
♣ A8532

♠ J98
♥ J10764
♦ J9865
♣ —

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fanha</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Morbey</i>	<i>Eyde</i>
–	–	–	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥*	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
7♠	All Pass		
3♣	Puppet Stayman		
3♦	At least one major		
3♥	Spades		
4NT	RKCB		
5♥	2 key cards		

Clearly there was confusion about the meaning of the 5NT bid. It should be a grand slam try, promising that the partnership has all five key-cards and the queen of trumps.

You may be wondering why $7\spadesuit$ was not doubled?

South was going to double in the hope of attracting a club lead, but North revealed that he held the ♠A by putting it to his forehead, after which South felt constrained to pass and North was enjoying himself far too much to double.

One down and -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brian	Cunha	Hagen	Costa
–	–	–	2♦*
Double	2♠*	3♣	3♥
3NT	All Pass		

Declarer took 12 tricks and 11 IMPs.

I wonder what the Great Shuffler has in store for us this year?

Butler Pairs I Results

	%IMPs	Names
1	72.8	Harry Burmania - John Linse
2	52.3	Cristina Minelli - Fabio Cremonesi
3	44.1	Svein Markussen - Roennaug Asla
4	40.9	Bruno Macedo - Pedro Macedo
5	36.1	Ron Tacchi - Ceri Pierce
6	34	Laura Woodruff - Henrique Ribeiro
7	29.5	Anne Schoonen - Gerbrand Hop
8	27.4	Hans Kreuning - Rob van den Bergh
9	27	Kees Scherders - Eva Bouwman
10	26.4	Gisli Thorarinsson - Thordur Sigurdsson
11	26	Kristin Oskarsdottir - Unnar Gudmundsson
12	25.2	Marcel Winkel - Svend Germann
13	22.6	Mirja Schraeverus-Meuer - Axel Meuer
14	20.3	Lars Carlsson - Leif-Erik Forsberg
15	18.9	Dennis Ottevanger - Gerrit van Gelderen
16	13.9	Paul Gagné - Diana Harris
17	13.4	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
18	9.4	Rosemarie Roderburg - Sybil Müller-Maubach
19	8.6	Erkki Juuri-Oja - Pirjo Juuri-Oja
20	5.4	Vigfus Vigfusson - Johanna Gisladottir
21	-1.1	Hans Metselaar - Mike Reuser
22	-1.2	René Stienen - Elly Schippers
23	-2.1	João Machado - José Macedo
24	-4.2	Leandre Alexis Logothetis - Daniele Logothetis Simon
25	-5	Pedro Morgado - Eduardo Fernandes
26	-10	Karl Behrens - Regina Behrens
27	-11.6	Nuno D Martins - Fábio Fernandes
28	-11.8	Solveig Bystrom - Nils Andersson
29	-12.1	Ulla Lindgren Fagerholm - Marianne Alopaeus
30	-26.3	Hrafnildur Skuladottir - Hulda Hjalmarsdóttir
31	-27.4	Harpa Fold Ingolfssdottir - Maria Bender
32	-28.2	Gunnar Gudmundsson - Sigurjona Bjorgvinsdottir
33	-28.7	Jochen Henne - Katrin Leuschner
34	-34.1	Nuno Menezes - Frederico Teixeira
35	-35.4	Gareth Bartley - Jutta Bartley
36	-37.2	Maria Kroppa - Lech Zwirello
37	-37.5	Heinrich Naegeli - Irene Naegeli
38	-38.3	Magni Olafsson - Reynir Vikar
39	-40.4	Michel Ingelbert - Françoise Ingelbert
40	-41.9	Edie van Os - Ria Bartolomij
41	-48.6	Lasse Utter - Marja Tulonen
42	-68.1	Filomena Morgado - Fátima Menezes



Simultaneous Selection

Ron Tacchi

The fifth round of the Portuguese National Simultaneous Pairs was scheduled for 20.30, Thursday October 31.

On Thursday I commenced my activities at 8.00 a.m. in the Bulletin Room and continued without respite, save my mid morning bica and pastel de nata in the little café opposite the hotel at 11.00, until after 18.30. Whereupon I decided that I had earned the right to a pre-prandial glass of beer and then dine on some piri piri chicken. Those who know me intimately will also know that during an evening meal I not only make full use of the cutlery but frequently the glassware as well.

So it was in high spirits I returned to the Vidamar at about 20.55 and decided as a matter of courtesy to call in at the Congress Centre to see how my fellow workers were coping with the Portuguese Simultaneous Pairs. Prior to arriving on this island I had spent some ten days in Portugal and had accustomed myself to the concept of Portuguese time and so I was confident that the event would have started but only very recently. I had completely forgotten about the extra ten minutes that are added for Madeiran time and immediately endplayed myself by asking if they needed any help to get started. This led to me suddenly partnering a charming gentlemen, Nuno Menezes. He speaks no English and I speak no Portuguese so with some broken French and a little assistance we had the briefest of systems agreed.

We finished above average which was pleasing as on two boards we gave away complete tops from not understanding each other (both of which broke Burn's Law). I have one tragedy where I lost focus and one success with which to regale you. I will start with my candidate for Mark Horton's *'Misplay These Hands With Me'*. I was sitting North.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ AJ10		
♥ Q864		
♦ Q6		
♣ AQ62		
♠ 874		♠ KQ96
♥ 5		♥ A7
♦ J7543		♦ K1092
♣ KJ54		♣ 973
		♠ 532
		♥ KJ10932
		♦ A8
		♣ 108

West	North	East	South
	<i>Me</i>		<i>Nuno</i>
–	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

I like to think of my Four Hearts bid as the 'Rodwell Corollary'. Most of you will be familiar with Meckstroth's Law 'when partner freely raises your six-card major bid game'. I have invented the Rodwell Corollary 'when partner with a six-card major freely raises bid game'.

The lead was the ace of hearts followed by another which I won on table whilst West discarded a small spade. I now took the spade finesse which East took with his queen and exited with a club to the king and my ace. I cashed the queen and ruffed a club in dummy and woodenly took a second spade finesse which you can already see was doomed to failure and a terrible result as most Easts had elected to lead the king of spades. Was I just unlucky or could I have made my contract? Of course I could, otherwise I would not be reporting on this deal. 'So how?' I hear you ask.

I am awash with trumps so after ruffing one club I can back to hand with a trump and ruff my final club. Now I just cash the ace of diamonds and exit with another, if East has the king he is endplayed into leading a spade or giving a ruff and discard and if it is with West I still can try



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the spade finesse. In effect I am doubling my chances of success.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A73	♠ Q10654	♠ KJ98
♥ Q32	♥ K87	♥ A65
♦ Q543	♦ 976	♦ A8
♣ QJ3	♣ A10	♣ K654
	♠ 2	
	♥ J1094	
	♦ KJ102	
	♣ 9872	

I was East and after a simple auction of 1NT – 3NT I received the lead of the ♦2 which I ducked in dummy and took North's nine with my ace. A small club to the jack brought North's ace and he returned a diamond to South's king. I won the diamond continuation with dummy's queen and took a successful finesse against the ♠Q and then another spade to dummy's ace on which South, after much thought discarded a club. This illuminated the complete distribution of the hand; South is virtually certain to be 1444. So I took advantage of South's unfortunate error by cashing three rounds of clubs, North discarding a heart and a spade and again with some anguish South parted with her winning diamond. Now I cashed my master spade and exited in the suit to force North to lead away from his ♥K. Was I jeopardising my contract by letting North's return run

to dummy's queen? I do not think so.

There are two good reasons why, the first is more nebulous but is worthy of consideration. If South had not discarded a club then I would have been forced to adopt this line to make my contract and would have succeeded or failed by two tricks. So by adopting this line I will always be beating those who were not fortunate enough to be presented with a trick.

Secondly, and probably more compelling, is answering the question as to why South discarded as she did. If she had the ♥K she could afford to discard a couple of small hearts and also keep her winning diamond, so it predicates that she was not the holder of that card.

Of course you would need to take some inspired views if South had initially led the jack of hearts. I will leave you to work out the double dummy line that succeeds. Some lines lead to interesting squeeze positions against South.



**The Simultaneous Pairs Winners:
Rob & Hans**

Portuguese Simultaneous Pairs Results

	%	Names
1	65.99	Rob van den Bergh - Hans Kreuning
2	63.69	Johanna Gisladdottir - Vigfus Vigfusson
3	60.12	Hans Metselaar - Mike Reuser
4	57.14	Marja Tulonen - Lasse Utter
4	57.14	Gisli Thorarinnsson - Thordur Sigurdsson
6	55.78	Elly Schippers - René Stienen
7	55.51	Bruno Macedo - Pedro Macedo
8	55.1	Erkki Juuri-Oja - Pirjo Juuri-Oja
9	54.61	João Machado - José Macedo
9	54.61	Lucia Grosmann - Han Bégas
11	53.74	Françoise Ingelbert - Michel Ingelbert
12	53.57	Pedro Morgado - Eduardo Fernandes
13	52.55	Sophie Leroux - Francis Gouffé
14	52.38	Kees Scherders - Eva Bouwman
15	51.79	Nuno Menezes - Ron Tacchi

16	51.36	Henneke Klaassen - John Linse
17	50.68	Laura Woodruff - Harry Burmania
18	49.49	Bruno Bacanhim - Luís M Silva
19	49.4	Solveig Bystrom - Nils Andersson
19	49.4	Alfredo Jorge Freitas - John Freitas
21	47.77	Bruno Neves - Robert Snapper
22	47.62	Hrafnildur Skuladottir - Hulda Hjalmarsdóttir
23	47.47	Kristin Oskarsdottir - Unnar Gudmundsson
24	46.88	Jutta Bartley - Gareth Bartley
25	43.45	Leandre Alexis Logothetis - Daniele Logothetis Simon
26	41.96	John Chambers - Clive Dunn
27	40.48	Karl Behrens - Regina Behrens
28	40.33	Jochen Henne - Katrin Leuschner
29	39.88	Ria Bartolomij - Edie van Os
30	33.78	Sigurjona Bjorgvinsdottir - Gunnar Gudmundsson
31	30.65	Fátima Menezes - Filomena Morgado