



23rd Madeira International Bridge Open

2nd-8th November 2020

Tuesday 3rd November

Bulletin 1

Welcome to the Warm-Up Pairs

Twelve and a half tables contested the Warm-Up Pairs in the Congress Centre. After twelve rounds of two boards the North/South winners with 59.28% were Leszek Kawski and Adam Blachnio whilst with the very good score of 64.05% the East/West winners were Kauko Koistinen and Julius Sigurjonsson (pictured right). Full results and analysis will be published tomorrow.



New Safety Regulations

It is compulsory to wear a mask in all public spaces and circulation areas, both inside and in the open air, except at the beach, or while eating or drinking at a restaurant or bar.

In the playing area, masks may be removed while seated at the table, but must be put on when leaving the table (even to move between tables). Whenever a cleaning break is called, everyone must leave the playing area.

National regulations may change at any moment; if they do, we will post the changes in the bulletins.



One of the rooms in the Congress Centre showing the distancing between the tables.



Keeping You Safe

We are instigating protocols to ensure your safety whilst playing bridge. There are the six main areas.

1. There will be NO board sharing. Each table will have a complete set of boards for the whole session.

2. Competitors will be issued with a Bidding Box, It will be labelled with the player's Bridgmate number and they will only use that box for the whole tournament.

3. The table and its equipment will be completely cleaned every eight to ten deals. This includes the table itself, the screen, the Bridgmate and the chairs.

4. Every table will have a transparent perspex screen separating each player from the others.

5. Every table is at least two metres from any other table.

6. Every eight to ten boards competitors will be asked to leave the room and take fresh air for a minimum of five minutes.

All Events take place in the Congress Centre - it will open one hour before play commences.



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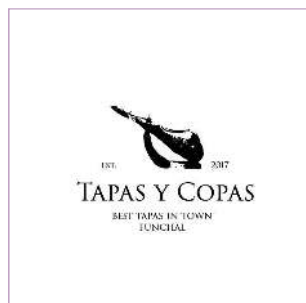


MAIN PROGRAMME 5th – 10th NOV 2019

Location - Congress Room

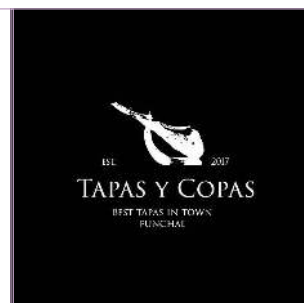
TUESDAY 3 rd November	15:30	Deadline for Pairs Tournament Entries
	16:00	Open Pairs Tournament (1st Session)
WEDNESDAY 4 th November	16:00	Open Pairs Tournament (2nd Session)
THURSDAY 5 th November	16:00	Open Pairs Tournament (3rd Session)
	20:00	Final Results
FRIDAY 6 th November	18:00	Deadline for Teams Tournament Entries
	20:00	Team Assignments
	20:30	Open Teams Tournament (1st Session)
SATURDAY 7 th November	11:00	Open Teams Tournament (2nd Session)
	13:15	Lunch Break (light lunch included)
	14:30	Open Teams Tournament (3rd Session)
SUNDAY 8 th November	14:30	Open Teams Tournament (4th Session)
	19:00	Final Results

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



The TAPAS Y COPAS restaurant (on the opposite side of the road to the hotel) is giving a 10% discount to all participants in the Madeira bridge Festival. To claim this just show your badge before you order.

And as a second generous guesture they are offering the winners of the Open Pairs a €50 voucher.



José Curado explains how to verify the deals using Hans van 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 30th October 2020
2. Check the winning Euromillions numbers for Friday 30th October 2020 (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/>



INTER-NATIONS CHALLENGE (CHARITY EVENT)

Sunday 1st November, 14:30

The Inter-Nations Challenge Charity Event is fast becoming one of the new traditions of the Madeira Festival. Twelve pairs joined in for a duplicate in aid of Centro de Saúde de São João de Deus, a local mental health charity.

The event raised a total of €415. A scratch partnership of Sveinn Eiriksson and Marc van Beijsterveld won by a clear ten percent.

Let us hope that next year numbers will have recovered and that this excellent event can raise even more money for this worthy cause.



NOT ENOUGH ♦ ♦ ♦ AND ♥ ♥ ♥ IN YOUR LIFE?

Get more sparkle at The Ritz Café Dinner and Show



**Special rate for our friends at the Madeira International Bridge Open
Saturday 31st October & Saturday 7th November at 7.30pm**

**3 Course Dinner (including wine) €40* (€45 usual price)
The incomparable Sian Lesley's Show and Dancing afterwards**

**Ring (+351) 291281405 or email reservations@theritzmadeira.com
– quote "Bridge + your badge number"**



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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.

Tuesday 3 rd November	10:30 – 13:00
	14:30 – 16:00
Wednesday 4 th November	15:00 – 16:00
Thursday 5 th November	15:00 – 16:00
Friday 6 th November	18:00 – 21:00
Saturday 7 th November	13:00 – 16:00
Sunday 8 th November	14:30 – 16:00

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 4th November 20:45 - Traditional Dinner.

Traditional Madeiran dinner of espetada with folk dancing and music
COACH LEAVES THE HOTEL VIDAMAR, OUTSIDE THE LOBBY
TOWER 2 AT 20:15 (it takes 15 minutes). Return to the hotel at 23:30.

FRIDAY 6th November

Coach leaves the Hotel VidaMar for your chosen excursion option.
Details of excursions can be found later in this bulletin.
Further information is available at the Welcome Desk.

SUNDAY 8th November

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

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 bridgedailybulletins.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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ENTRY FEES

Pairs	€ 140.00
Teams	€ 155.00
Pairs + Team	€ 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

29 th October – 9 th November 2020	Congress Room
Thursday 29 th Portuguese Simultaneous Pairs (€15*)	20:30
Friday 30 th IMP Pairs 1 (€15*)	16:00
Saturday 31 st IMP Pairs 2 (€15*)	16:00
Sunday 1 st Charity Tournament (€15)	14.30
Monday 2 nd Warm-up Pairs (€15)	20:30
Monday 9 th Cool-down Pairs (€10)	20:30

*€30 for all 3

-20%
DISCOUNT

**MAMMA MIA
RESTAURANT**
MENU & DRINKS LIST

OCEAN BUFFET

€23.00

DRINKS INCLUDED



The VidaMar Hotel is pleased to offer participants of the Madeira Open 2020 the discounts as above. Just show them your badge.



Optional Excursions Friday 6th November

Option A: **The East** (full day, lunch included) coach leaves hotel 09:30



The coach leaves the hotel at 9:30 for the drive up to Pico do Areeiro, Madeira's third-highest peak (1818m), from which you may enjoy the breathtaking views. From the mountain head down to Ribeiro Frio to admire the famous laurisilva forest (UNESCO World Heritage site), with an optional short levada walk to the Balcões view-point (level, easy, ≈ 30 minutes).

The next stop is Santana, with its traditional thatched houses and its vineyards. After lunch at the Quinta do Furão, drive to Ponta de São Lourenço, the far eastern headland, which boasts a wonderful combination of volcanic rocks, blue sea and nature. You will have time to take photographs before heading back to the hotel.

Option B: **Levada Walk** (½ day, lunch included) coach leaves hotel 09:45



The coach leaves the hotel at 9:45 for a relaxing, easy 7km half-day walk along one of Madeira's famed levadas.

The walk starts at Referta, on the north-eastern side of the island, and leads walkers on an exploration of some of the native fauna and flora of Madeira and its abundant and varied fruit trees. In the first part of the walk, you will be able to admire the imposing volcanic outcrop of Penha de Águia and enjoy the agricultural terraces cultivated by local residents.

Lunch at the Quinta do Furão before returning to the hotel.

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: 7 km; Duration: approximately 2¾ hours.

Option C: **Catamaran** (limited availability) coach leaves hotel 10:00



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)





Ron Tacchi Continues His Reflections

Dear Diary

From time to time I shall put finger to keyboard and relate things of dubious interest that have occurred recently here in Madeira. I shall try and persuade others to provide me with interesting gossip, useful information and especially any derring-do at the bridge table. If you are the owner of such tales then either email them to me at 'madeira@vaupillon.com' or better still come and see me in the Bulletin Office in Selvagens 5.

I was originally scheduled to fly to Madeira on Friday 30th October but unfortunately the flight was cancelled and my trip brought forward by two days. At the time I was not pleased, especially with the way the airline initially handled the problem, but it was case of bad news, good news. If I had had to take the Friday flight there would have been substantial problems for me as at midnight on the Thursday France went into complete lockdown and in theory I would not have been allowed to leave my *Département*. I have not yet considered what my problems might be for the return, too busy enjoying the sun and ambiance of Madeira to care yet.

After a mere six-hour nervous wait my Covid test came back negative which allowed me to visit the bar and meet up with Laura, Svenni and Ceri whereupon I renewed my friendship with CRF (*Carvalho Ribeiro Ferreira* - Superior Portuguese Brandy with an intense and complex aroma), the upshot being that I was not the first person down to breakfast the following morning.

Thursday was the Portuguese National Simultaneous Pairs and Andrei Kavalenka from Belarus was without a partner so I had the pleasure of playing with him and as is frequently the case when you have never played with someone we had the excellent result of finishing in first place. Andrei had had a marathon trip to get here, more of that in a later edition, of nearly ten days.

Whilst chatting with someone about bridge, a fortunate coincidence, I was asked what is the best way to tackle Q953 opposite A1074. You can assume limitless entries and no indication of distribution – everything is a priori. The answer somewhat surprised me – you might like to think about it and let me know your opinion via the methods listed above. Being of a slightly nerdy disposition I actually calculated the result by examining every possible distribution within an Excel spreadsheet. If there is a clamouring for my workings I shall publish them at a later date.

On Saturday night I went to the Ritz Café and Dinner Show (there is information on page three) and was amazed at how much I enjoyed the evening. I had one of the best fillet steaks in a long while and it was actually cooked to my liking. The ever-young Sian Lesley performed brilliantly belting out classics and being accompanied by her band of four youthful dancers. I do heartily recommend a visit next Saturday, you can contact the venue direct yourself or I am quite happy to act as a central reservation point.

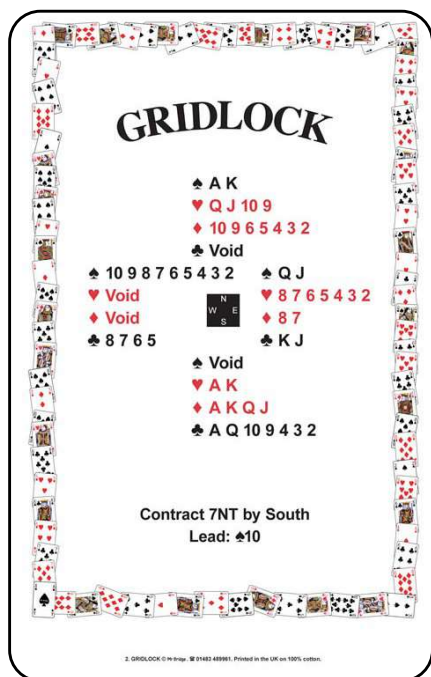
Every morning as a penance towards the several thousand calories I have consumed over breakfast I climb the stairs from the second floor to the fourth. I have a question for you – why might that stir a memory of a Hitchcock film? Answers on a postcard please to the Bulletin Room. As an aside about breakfast one of the things I like is that the staff are virtually unchanged from when I first visited six years ago and remember me. I do not need to mention that I would like a double espresso, it arrives as if by magic, neither do I need to say that I would like my omelette *baveuse* as again the omelette lady knows me and has cooked over fifty of them for me already (*my proof reader's suggestion that they were all cooked today is mostly false*).



THE BIG LITTLE CARD

Laura Woodruff

There is a famous hand that appears on a tea-towel, in which a suit is blocked in such a way that it appears impossible to unblock it. Eventually, after taking the tea-towel to bed with you three nights in a row, you work out the spectacular unblocking play, and can revert to sleeping with your teddy bear instead of with an item of household linen.



It's not often that one of those seemingly impossible puzzle hands appears in real life. In the first IMP Pairs of the 2020 Madeira International, however, this conundrum was dealt as Board 22. I'm sorry to say that the present author failed to find the winning line.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ K42
♥ AQJ97
♦ 4
♣ AKQ10
♠ 873
♥ K65
♦ J6
♣ 76432

You are in 4♥ as North, after East has shown a lot of diamonds and some strength. Assuming the clubs don't break 4-0, you have ten winners: five trumps and five clubs. Conversely, you have a diamond loser and must avoid losing three

spades. The ♠A might be onside, but you don't want to rely on a favourable position. Or the ♠A might be doubleton, but if you draw trumps before playing spades you will be forced before you can enjoy your ♠K.

Oh how you wish you could swap the ♣10 and ♣7. Or have a bigger spot card among dummy's trumps. Sadly, passing cards under the table is against the rules (and someone is bound to notice).

The problem is therefore to draw trumps but still be able to reach the long club on the table for a spade discard. There is no possibility that you will be able to cash four rounds of clubs before drawing trumps: someone will ruff, and then you will have lost a diamond and a trump, and will still have at least two unavoidable spade losers.

i) Let's take the play on helpful defence first. East leads the ace of diamonds, followed by the king. It looks natural to ruff, does it not? If you do, you will not make the contract. The key play is to discard the ♣10 on the second round of diamonds. Now you can play for trumps 3-2 and clubs 3-1, with the club shortage in the short trump hand. This is not an unlikely lie of the cards when East has shown great length in diamonds.

You can draw two rounds of trumps, preserving the ♥K as your entry to dummy, and cash the ace, king and queen of clubs. You draw the last trump with the king, and discard two spades on the ♣7 and ♣6. You lose two diamonds and a spade, for a nice big plus score.

ii) Now let's try it on a more difficult defence. East again leads the ♦A but switches to a club (or a trump). You still need to discard the ♣10 on the second round of diamonds, but how do you get to the ♦J in dummy to play that second round? You can't use the king of trumps as an entry, because then you won't be able to reach the long clubs later. Sadly, dummy's small trumps are both smaller than your small trumps, so there is no second trump entry.

The answer is to strip East's round suits: on a trick two club switch, cash two rounds of trumps





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ending in dummy, and exit a diamond (discarding a spade); on a trick two trump switch, play one round of clubs and a further round of trumps ending in dummy. Again, you play dummy's second diamond, throwing a spade. In either case, East has only pointy cards left, and must give you a spade trick or a ruff and discard.

iii) Finally, if no one has played any diamonds – if East anticipates the end-play danger and leads a club or a trump – you find a different method of end-playing him.

Again, you eliminate East's club and trumps, but this time you draw the second trump IN YOUR OWN HAND. You exit your diamond, which East has to win, because dummy's jack is just sitting there in the way. Now he has the choice of cashing his ace of spades, giving you the king;

or playing two more rounds of diamonds, allowing you to discard your ♣10 and then giving you a ruff and discard (which you sadly cannot take advantage of, because you need dummy's last trump to draw West's last trump and get to the long clubs).

Here is the full hand:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ K42		♠ A106
♥ AQJ97		♥ 102
♦ 4		♦ AKQ9532
♣ AKQ10		♣ J
♠ QJ95		♠ 873
♥ 843		♥ K65
♦ 1087		♦ J6
♣ 985		♣ 76432



Note that the contract cannot be made from the South hand: a spade lead through the king kills it. You will also have noted that the seemingly useless jack of diamonds is in fact a critical card: without it in dummy, you would not be able to prevent West from winning the first or second round of diamonds and playing a spade through the king.



**IMP Pairs 1 winners:
Bengt Emanuelsson and Haakan Tjarnemo**

The final results table for the first IMP Pairs is as follows:

Position	IMPs	Name
1	45.67	Bengt Emanuelsson - Haakan Tjarnemo
2	17.33	René Stienen - Elly Schippers
3	16.00	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
4	14.00	Ron Tacchi - Andrei Kavalenka
5	3.00	Laura Woodruff - José Júlio Curado
6	-8.33	Cisca Vorselman - Koen Poppe
7	-33.33	Harry Burmania - John Linse
8	-54.33	Rosemarie Roderburg - Sybil Müller-Maubach



Mystic Mark

Mark Horton

Mark Horton cannot provide you with the winning numbers for the next EuroMillions draw, but he is prepared to predict what might happen on some of the deals from the warm up pairs.

You may be familiar with the infinite monkey theory which suggests that a monkey using a typewriter will, at some point type the complete works of Shakespeare. Trying to predict what might happen on any given bridge deal is a task of the same magnitude, but nevertheless an enjoyable one. I recall one deal where E/W might bid a grand slam which might or might not make. One pair did, but went one down, -50. When they compared notes with another pair they confirmed that they had collected +50. 'They were one down in 7♦?' 'No, came the reply, they were one down in 2♠.' It was the early days of the Multi, and over South's 2♦ West had bid 2♠ on his void, imagining it must be for take-out. Looking at a singleton spade his partner took a different view.

Time for a few rash predictions.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ KQ9853	
	♥ J95	
	♦ AQ8	
	♣ 8	
♠ J42	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ A
♥ Q74		♥ AK1062
♦ 962		♦ J10753
♣ QJ74		♣ 65
	♠ 1076	
	♥ 83	
	♦ K4	
	♣ AK10932	

West	North	East	South
–	1♠	2♠*	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
2♠ Michaels			

Imagine that East cashes two hearts and then switches to a diamond. Declarer wins with dummy's king and plays a spade to the queen and ace. The fate of the contract will turn on how declarer tackles the spade suit. However, declarer should

not go wrong. If East's shape was 2-5-5-1 he might have switched to a club at trick two, hoping to put West in with a heart to score a club ruff. Even without that inference, the spade finesse looks the best bet.

More than half the field will make 4♠. A few heroes will find the good save in 5♥.



Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ AJ4	
	♥ 54	
	♦ Q10542	
	♣ Q43	
♠ K10652	<div>W N E S</div>	♠ 3
♥ 9872		♥ AQJ106
♦ J9		♦ A763
♣ J8		♣ 976
	♠ Q987	
	♥ K3	
	♦ K8	
	♣ AK1052	

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♥	1NT
2♥	3NT	All Pass	

West might respond 3♥, but then North makes the same bid.

On a heart lead declarer gets in with the ♥K and has only one chance for the contract, to play West for the ♠K10. The alternative is to settle for one down by knocking out the ♦A.

On balance that might be the right thing to do. I predict 25% of the field will make 3NT.



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Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ AKJ1082		
♥ 2		
♦ A743		
♣ K9		
♠ Q964		♠ 75
♥ 7653		♥ AKJ1096
♦ 9		♦ 102
♣ AQ74		♣ 652
		♠ 3
		♥ Q4
		♦ KQJ865
		♣ J1083



West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	2♥	Double
4♥	4♠	All Pass	

Declarer must lose three tricks in spades.

The interest lies in what might happen if West decides to bid 5♥. Having bid 4♠ North can leave the decision to partner and as long as South doubles N/S should be on to a very good thing, as they can start with three rounds of spades (South discarding the ♦K on the second round). That promotes the ♥Q and declarer need to be careful to avoid -1100.

I'm feeling lucky (more on this phrase later in the tournament perhaps) so I'll go for at least five pairs doing just that.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ A10532		
♥ 54		
♦ —		
♣ AK10952		
♠ Q76		♠ K84
♥ K9732		♥ Q86
♦ 8652		♦ J10973
♣ 7		♣ J8
		♠ J9
		♥ AJ10
		♦ AKQ4
		♣ Q643



West	North	East	South
—	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♦*	Pass	5NT*
Pass	6♣	All Pass	
2♥	Fourth suit (game) forcing		
4♣	RKCB		
4NT	2 key cards and ♣Q		
5♦	King ask		
5NT	No ♥K, no ♠K, ♦K		

6♣ is easy to make, but not so easy to bid. You could also start with an inverted raise of 2♣, but with 1♣ hardly ever guaranteeing four cards responding 1♦ is simpler.

As the cards lie 6NT makes, declarer having the choice between two finesses in either spades or hearts.

My guess - only 3 pairs will go for the match point bonanza and bid 6NT.

I'll be back with more hopeless predictions tomorrow.

You can mail your questions to me at: mark-horton007@hotmail.com

When the results become available tomorrow morning we shall examine the actual results versus Mark's prognostics.



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Winners of the second IMP Pairs: João Machado and José Macedo

The final results table for the second IMP Pairs is as follows

Position	IMPs	Name
1	28,33	João Machado - José Macedo
2	14,33	Haakan Tjarnemo - Bengt Emanuelsson
3	12,67	Harry Burmania - John Linse
4	9,33	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
5	-2,67	René Stienen - Elly Schippers
6	-6,00	Heimo Adelsberger - Renate Adelsberger
7	-25,00	Rosemarie Roderburg - Sybil Müller-Maubach
8	-31,00	Koen Poppe - Cisca Vorselman

For the duration of the Madeira festival you will be able to play through some of the more interesting hands on the 'bridgebee' app. The link on your PC is:

<https://bridgebee.app/sets/289/madeira-bridge-festival>

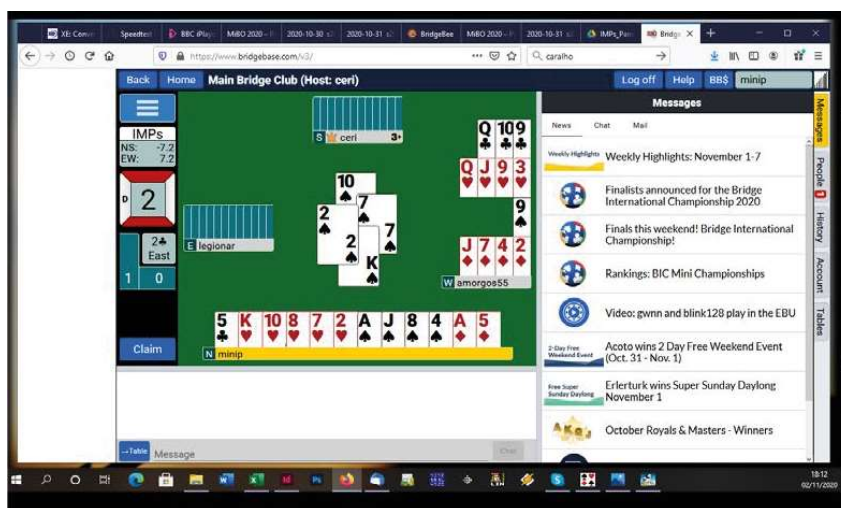
This will be available free until the end of the festival.

bridgebee



NEW FOR 2020: VIRTUAL MADEIRA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE OPEN

Online sessions are available to all on BBO – unless you're in Madeira, of course, in which case we're expecting to see you at the table.



ONLINE OPEN PAIRS (BBO \$8 per session)

Tuesday 3rd, Wednesday 4th, Thursday 5th November at 17:00

Three sessions of Matchpoint Pairs on BBO. Players may enter any or all of the three sessions. The online tournament qualifier will take place over two sessions. The third session will be a final for the top of the field, for those who have played in both of the qualifying sessions, plus an open final.

ONLINE OPEN SWISS TEAMS (BBO \$5 per session)

Friday 6 th November	For each day the start time will be
Saturday 7 th November	approximately one hour after
Sunday 8 th November	the live session commences.

You may register as a pair and be assigned team mates by the system, or register as a foursome if you are familiar with how to do this on BBO. Instructions will be available later in the week for how to join as a team, rather than as a pair.

To register for all events on BBO, go to COMPETITIVE – ALL TOURNAMENTS and search for host iBEX_12 (Madeira Festival), then click to invite your partner, who must also be online on BBO.

Registration will be open two hours prior to the start of play each day.



The Charity Pairs

Ron Tacchi

On Sunday afternoon twelve pairs arrived to play the Charity Pairs which is fast becoming part of the Madeira Festival schedule. A six-table zig-zag Mitchell soon got started. My partner, Andrei, and I had a somewhat dismal first half but the next twelve boards gave us better fortune and in fact for the last two rounds our average was over 72% allowing us to finish in the upper half, just above average.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 82			
♥ AQ106543			
♦ QJ2			
♣ 6			
♠ J65			♠ A974
♥ KJ8			♥ 72
♦ 108543			♦ 76
♣ A4			♣ KJ975
			♠ KQ103
			♥ 9
			♦ AK9
			♣ Q10832

West	North	East	South
	Ron		Andrei
–	1♥	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
2♣	game forcing		

I considered my hand fully worthy of an opening bid. Certainly I was not going to pass and I was far too good for a three-level pre-empt and opening 4♥ always leads to the opposition bidding 4♠. My cunning plan was to rebid hearts until partner got the message, which as you can see was the plan I dutifully and successfully carried out. Half the field failed to reach Four Hearts which was a plus for us if the contract was successful.

West was yet another member of the Brother Hubert appreciation society and so led a trump. A lead which did not receive approval from his partner as his king was headed by declarer's ace. The queen of trumps confirmed the 3-2 heart split and a small spade towards dummy was won by the queen. A diamond back to hand was followed

by another spade, this time East rose with his ace and perhaps believing I had real full-value opening bid exited with a spade allowing me to discard my losing club and thus gaining a valuable overtrick for our first top of the session.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A43			
♥ AQJ6			
♦ AK64			
♣ 86			
♠ Q9			♠ J108
♥ K10874			♥ 9532
♦ 10			♦ Q9
♣ Q9543			♣ AKJ10
			♠ K7652
			♥ –
			♦ J87532
			♣ 72

West	North	East	South
	Ron		Andrei
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♦	Double	5♦
5♥	Double	All Pass	

There are some amongst us who might consider East's Double adventurous. The upshot was that my partner found the testing bid of 5♦. This put sufficient pressure on West to risk 5♥. I somewhat confidently placed a red card on what used to be the green baize but is now some green plastic laminate. The ace and king of diamonds forced declarer to ruff and when he elected to tackle the trump suit by leading the king I took the easy option of cashing my winning trumps and exiting with the last one restricting declarer to two trumps and five clubs and 1100 in the plus column for us. This was not a top for us as one pair reached the 'optimistic' contract of 6♦. I am not privy to the auction but West managed to find the lead of a heart, the only suit to give away the contract.



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Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ AQ102
 ♥ 87652
 ♦ 4
 ♣ QJ8
 ♠ J9754
 ♥ K93
 ♦ J102
 ♣ 54
 ♠ 8
 ♥ AQJ10
 ♦ K97653
 ♣ 72
 ♠ K63
 ♥ 4
 ♦ AQ8
 ♣ AK10963



West	North	East	South
	<i>Ron</i>		<i>Andrei</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	2♦	3♣
Pass	4♦*	Pass	6♣
All Pass			
4♦ splinter agreeing clubs			

Perhaps chastened by the result of an adventurous double on the previous hand East decided that her third-in-hand holding was not worth an opening bid so allowing South to open 1♣. My heart suit may not have been the strongest imaginable but it had length and having passed I should not get into too much trouble if I bid my shape out. East now awoke from her reverie

and essayed 2♦. There are a lot pf players out there who would now bash out 3NT or just 2NT but Andrei made what I believe to be a better bid of 3♣ which describes his hand exactly. I could now show support for clubs along with a singleton diamond by making a splinter bid. Partner having controls in every suit went straight to 6♣. When West led his partner's suit an overtrick was possible as the spades were kindly situated. A top to finish the session.



The winners of the Charity Pairs: Sveinn Eiriksson and Marc van Beijsterveldt

The final results table is as follows

Position	Percentage	Name
1	65.83	Sveinn R Eiriksson - Marc van Beijsterveldt
2	55.83	Haakan Tjarnemo - Bengt Emanuelsson
3	55	David Kok - Leo Huvers
4	54.58	Laura Woodruff - Eduardo Fernandes
5	52.5	Mark Thiele - Renee Verdegaal
6	52.08	Ron Tacchi - Andrei Kavalenka
7	50.83	Gareth Bartley - Jutta Bartley
8	47.08	Renate Adelsberger - Heimo Adelsberger
9	45	Cisca Vorselman - Koen Poppe
10	43.33	Niels Steenstrup Zeeberg - Christian Lahrman
11	42.08	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
12	35.83	Rosemarie Roderburg - Sybil Müller-Maubach



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