



24th Madeira International Bridge Open

1st-7th November 2021

Tuesday 2nd November

Bulletin 1

Charity Pairs - Another Success

The first three pairs in the Charity Pairs event were **Karl Gretar Karlsson & Johann Aevarsson** from Iceland, **Nick Nautilus & Francisco P Coutinho** representing The Rest of World and **Roenaug Asla & Anne-Lill Hellemann** hailing from Scandinavia.

A wonderful turn out of 44 pairs competed to win the event which was held in aid of the Associacao de Paralisia Cerebral da Madeira. The Association promotes social inclusion and provides support for people with cerebral palsy and related neurological conditions along with their families. The entry fees raised €1330 but we are still accepting donations which can be given at the Welcome Desk. On Sunday we will reveal the total amount raised and we have high hopes that it will be a new record.

The ranking of the various countries was in first place Iceland, second was The Netherlands with The Rest of The World taking the third spot.

You can find out more about this Funchal-based charity at their website www.apcmadeira.com.



The players attending the Charity Pairs in the Congress Centre

Availability of Bulletins

Normally bulletins will be available at breakfast in the Ocean Restaurant of the Hotel VidaMar. Copies will also be found at the Welcome Desk and under the scoring monitor. A short while before events commence in the Congress Center they will also be available there. The one place you will not find a bulletin is in the Bulletin Office as we will have distributed all of our copies as above.

Keeping You Safe

Masks must be worn in all indoor public spaces, including shops, hotel foyers and so on except while eating and drinking. Masks are not required out of doors. Both rules and advice are constantly changing. We will try and keep you up to date but you can visit the Regional Government's Official Page at:

[http://www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb/useful-info/corona-virus-\(covid-19\)/information-to-visitors-\(covid-19\)](http://www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb/useful-info/corona-virus-(covid-19)/information-to-visitors-(covid-19)).



The Bridge Madeira website also has Covid information available.

To help protect everyone we ask you to be vigilant in following all the rules that are in force, especially those requiring you to wear masks.

To further protect you in all competitions there will be no sharing of boards. Each table will have its own set; where there is a stationary pair only they should handle the boards.



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MAIN PROGRAMME 2nd – 7th November 2021

Location - Congress Room + Selvagens 1-2-3

TUESDAY 2nd November	15.00	Closing time for Pairs Tournament Entries
	16.00	Open Pairs Tournament (1st Session)
WEDNESDAY 3rd November	16.00	Open Pairs Tournament (2nd Session)
THURSDAY 4th November	16.00	Open Pairs Tournament (3rd Session)
	20.00	Final Results
FRIDAY 5th November	18.00	Deadline for Teams Tournament Entries
	20.00	Team Assignments
	20.30	Open Teams Tournament (1st Session)
SATURDAY 6th November	11.00	Open Teams Tournament (2nd Session)
	13.15	Lunch Break (light lunch included)
	14.30	Open Teams Tournament (3rd Session)
SUNDAY 7th 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.

To summarise, 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 Monday 1st November 2021 at <https://www.bridge-madeira.com/hand-generator-security-keys>
2. Check the winning Euromillions numbers for Friday 29th October 2021 (the “future key”).
3. Download the “past key” which will be published after the event (in Bulletin 7 and on the Security Key page)
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 + biggest prize value in Portugal from the lottery results, comma separated (the program will prompt you). Example of format: 10,15,18,32,49+3,9 E 155.676,29
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/>



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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 2nd November	10.30 - 13.00
	14.00 - 16.00
Wednesday 3rd November	15.00 - 16.00
Thursday 4th November	15.00 - 16.00
Friday 5th November	18.00 - 20.30
Saturday 6th November	Closed
Sunday 7th November	13.00 - 14.30

SIDE EVENTS

28th October – 8th November 2021	Congress Room
Monday 8th Cool-down Pairs (€10)	20.30

COLLECTION OF BADGES/ENTRIES

If you have booked in advance, you can collect your Identity Badge from the Welcome Desk.

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

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.

Every morning at 10.30 Mark Horton will deliver his "Mark Your Card" discussion in Selvagens 1 on the interesting deals of the previous day.





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SOCIAL PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 3th 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 5th November

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

SUNDAY 7th 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

ENTRY FEES

Pairs	€ 170.00
Teams	€ 160.00
Pairs + Team	€ 270.00
Pairs + Teams + Traditional Dinner	€ 295.00
Pairs + Teams + Closing Dinner	€ 305.00
Pairs + Teams + Traditional + Closing Dinner	€ 315.00
Typical Dinner	€ 25.00
Friday Excursion	€ 25.00
Saturday Lunch (non-players)	€ 25.00
Closing Dinner	€ 40.00

All the results and the ongoing program of play are available on the website: www.bridge-madeira.com. You can use the QR code from your phone or tablet.





Optional Excursions Friday 5th November

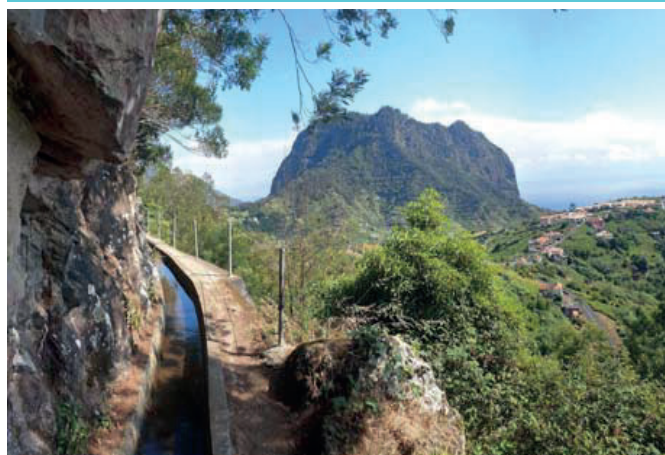
Option A: The East (full day, lunch included)
coach leaves hotel 09.30



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 viewpoint (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)





Give 'em the Old Razzle Dazzle

Mark Horton

Dining out after the Charity Pairs event in aid of the Associacao de Paralisia Cerebral da Madeira, someone happened to mention the musical Chicago and it is perhaps the best known song from the show which provides my title.

I was fortunate to be partnering world champion Jovi Smederevac – join me for some of our adventures.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A4
♥ AJ62
♦ 10874
♣ KQ2

♠ QJ9
♥ Q54
♦ KQJ92
♣ 108

♠ 1082
♥ 87
♦ 65
♣ AJ9543

♠ K7653
♥ K1093
♦ A3
♣ 76

W N E S

West	North	East	South
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

East led the ♣A and continued the suit, declarer winning with the king. When a player leads an unsupported ace it is generally either from a short suit or a long one and here West's clubs suggested that it was the latter so declarer placed West with the heart length, crossed to the ♥K and then ran the ten. With spades 3-3 that soon added up to +680 and 42/0.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ A4
♥ 107642
♦ 102
♣ AQ107

♠ KQJ85
♥ 9
♦ KQ
♣ K9862

♠ 63
♥ AQJ8
♦ AJ643
♣ 43

♠ 10972
♥ K53
♦ 9875
♣ J5

W N E S

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♥3 for the nine, ten and queen and declarer played a spade for the king and ace. When North returned the ♥4 declarer played the jack, South won with the king and found the devastating switch to the ♣J which gave the defenders three tricks in the suit. You see how World Champions defend! Annoyingly because North has the ♦10 virtually any defence will do and +50 was only worth 22/20.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 54
 ♥ A95
 ♦ A852
 ♣ A1074

♠ 973
 ♥ KQ10762
 ♦ —
 ♣ KJ63

♠ KQ62
 ♥ J8
 ♦ KJ1064
 ♣ 92

♠ AJ108
 ♥ 43
 ♦ Q973
 ♣ Q85

N
 W E
 S

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦*	3♥	Double*
All Pass			
1♦	Blue Club		

What do you think North should do over South's take-out double? 3NT is a possibility, but if you can score nine tricks then you should be able to take a decent penalty from 3♥ by passing. You could bid 4♣, but it doesn't appeal, especially at this form of scoring.

South led the ♦J for the queen, ace and a ruff and declarer played a spade for the queen and ace and followed it with a heart to the ten. South won with the jack, and switched to a club. North won and played a spade, South winning and playing a third spade, North's ruff ensuring one down. Not for the first time -200 proved to be the 'kiss of death', 42/0.



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Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ AQ2	♠ 108
♥ Q3	♥ K98542
♦ KJ10	♦ Q82
♣ Q10653	♣ AJ
♠ 97654	♠ KJ3
♥ AJ6	♥ 107
♦ 543	♦ A976
♣ 42	♣ K987



West	North	East	South
–	–	2♥	Double
Pass	3♥*	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦*	Pass	4♠*
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

South's light entry into the auction gave North a problem. I toyed with the idea of a Reese like jump to 3NT, but eventually sanity prevailed and I settled for a cue-bid. When South bid 4♣ I thought I was too good for a simple raise to game so tried an advance cue-bid and then went back to clubs. It's the sort of hand that is always popular in bidding contests – how to stop in a part-score when you have the values for game. 6♣ was three down, collecting just 1/41. Stopping in 5♣ would have been worth 18/24.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A862	♠ J10754
♥ 7542	♥ KJ9
♦ Q1072	♦ J9
♣ Q	♣ J42
♠ K9	♠ Q3
♥ Q106	♥ A83
♦ 854	♦ AK63
♣ K10763	♣ A985



West	North	East	South
–	–	–	1♣*
Pass	1♥*	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
1♣	17+		
1♥	6+ fewer than 3 controls		
2♣	Stayman		

West led the ♦8 and declarer won in hand and ducked a heart, East winning with the nine and switching to a club. West won with the king and returned a club declarer taking East's jack with the ace and ducking a second heart. East won and naturally played a third club, West winning with the ten and playing a fourth club. Declarer won, cashed the ♥A and had nine tricks and 37/5.

West bid well to avoid an initial club lead (naturally the Rueful Rabbit would accidentally hit upon the ♣K!) which left declarer struggling for tricks. She appreciated that the defenders were likely to attack the club suit and her play was predicated on that possibility. If East had switched to a spade after winning the second heart declarer would have had no answer, but as the cards lie once West plays a second club declarer can get home by immediately establishing her second trick in the suit. If West wins and plays back a club declarer wins and must now cash three diamonds which catches West in a squeeze. Forced to keep both spades he must either pitch a club, allowing declarer to play two rounds of hearts or throw a heart with a similar outcome.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

STACKING BOARDS

Please may we ask you to stack the boards upside down in and order on the chair provided (not on the floor).

Thank you.



A Girl's Best Friend

Ron Tacchi

'Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend' is a well known song performed by Marilyn Monroe in the film 'Gentlemen Prefer Blondes'. In the Charity Pairs they were friends for not just the girls but for the scratch pairing of your humble scribe and another stalwart of the Bulletin Production Team, the blonde Ceri Pierce. By now we are an established partnership as today we will start by playing our 25th board together. The next statement may now come as a surprise. This disquisition is going to be about contracts played in diamonds. In 24 boards we played a diamond contract six times – we will examine four of them.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 854			
♥ J8			
♦ AKQ98			
♣ J86			
♠ KQJ103			♠ 62
♥ Q106			♥ K9743
♦ J4			♦ 762
♣ Q102			♣ 973
			♠ A97
			♥ A52
			♦ 1053
			♣ AK54

West	North	East	South
	Tacchi		Pierce
1♠	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

My partner, not unnaturally, was mildly excited after I had managed to drag out an overcall, but in my defence, I thought my suit was reasonably solid and I certainly was well prepared for a diamond lead should the opposition win the contract. Somehow we giddily reached the heights of Five Diamonds, unfortunately passing the cold contract of 3NT. I was greeted with a spade lead, which I studiously ducked but then took the second one. The contract appears hopeless, but making hopeless contracts is what gets written up in the bulletin (especially if it is the bulletin editor who performs this feat of prestidigitation), the question is how did I succeed? At trick three

I took two rounds of trumps and to show that I was at the top of my game I even noted the fall of the jack and so cunningly entered dummy with the ten and in tempo played a small club off the table. Almost without pausing for thought West automatically played low, much to his chagrin, as my ♣J took the trick and when the suit split kindly I discarded my losing spade and was writing +400 in the in column.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ A652			
♥ A108			
♦ Q3			
♣ J874			
♠ KQJ109			♠ 3
♥ Q32			♥ K94
♦ J9			♦ K107642
♣ Q105			♣ A92
			♠ 874
			♥ J765
			♦ A85
			♣ K63

West	North	East	South
Pierce		Tacchi	
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	All Pass

Not the world's most exciting auction but it got us to a not unreasonable contract. Looking at the cards one can see that eight tricks in no-trumps does not overly tax a declarer. Our modest system did not come up no-trumps. South sneakily led a small club away from his king so I was forced to take North's jack with my ace. When I essayed a small spade North took his ace and continued with a club to his partner's king, whereupon he switched to a heart and when dummy played small North withheld his ace, a mistake as he was about to discover, for I won in hand with the ♥K. I then crossed to dummy with a club and proceeded to cash a couple of spades which took care of my losing hearts. All that was needed now was to take a winning trump finesse and finish with triumphantly felling the doubleton queen. So my haul was ten tricks. I had hoped this would be an excellent score as I had beaten



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par but there were some generous North-South partnerships who allowed East-West to make an overtrick in either 2♠ or 2NT and so our score was just below average.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ 752	♠ Q863	♠ KJ
♥ J2	♥ AKQ95	♥ 1084
♦ A86	♦ 43	♦ KQ10952
♣ J9762	♣ 85	♣ AK
	N W E S	
	♠ A1094	
	♥ 763	
	♦ J7	
	♣ Q1043	

West	North	East	South
<i>Pierce</i>		<i>Tacchi</i>	
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♥	2♦	Double
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	4♦	All Pass

I was not going to allow the opposition to play this hand after the brave support shown to me by my partner. The opening lead was a small heart which North won with the queen, thereby pinpointing the location of all the heart honours. The defence now immediately switched to a small spade. I was now at the crossroads, would I just make my contract or would I go down? I needed to take the right guess in this suit. After South's

double (be it negative or support) there must be some points in that hand and without the ♠A at best it would only five points, not a definitive placing of the ace but I also remembered a piece of advice a world champion gave me when she said "If you have no indication as to the placement of an ace, place it with the opening leader." A piece of advice that has stood me in good stead ever since. So the two indicators suggested I play the jack and when West plays his ace all I have to do is ruff a heart in dummy to score 70%.

On Board 23, our penultimate challenge, I was dealt:

♠ A862
♥ 7542
♦ Q1072
♣ Q

And heard my partner open a strong no-trump. At this stage to move up in the order we needed a couple of very good scores from the last two deals. I decided to go a little off centre and try Stayman and when my partner showed no major by bidding 2♦ I let the bidding die there. We got an average so my flight of fancy at least did not cost dear.

At the end of a very pleasant evening we finished in a respectable 19th spot with a score of 53%. After frantically getting the results into the bulletin so that you would all have an exciting read with your breakfast we upped and awayed to the Sabor da India Restaurant for copious amounts of fine food and, in my case, copious quantities of beer.

-10%
BARS

Except Sabor a Mar Restaurant

-10%
THALASSO SEA SPA

Except products

25€
BUFFET DINNER

Ocean Restaurant
(drinks included)



VidaMar is pleased to offer participants in the Madeira Open 2021 the discounts as above. Just show your badge.



What are the Odds?

Ceri Pierce

This hand appeared in Sunday's Charity Pairs:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ K842	
♥ K	
♦ K954	
♣ AK102	
♠ —	♠ 10963
♥ AQJ108765432	♥ —
♦ Q	♦ A108763
♣ 3	♣ 964
♠ AQJ75	
♥ 9	
♦ J2	
♣ QJ875	

If West had been dealer, it would have been straightforward to open 4NT asking for specific aces and then bid 6♥ when partner responds 6♦, assuming that the hearts will break 1-1, in which direction you do not care.

However, North was dealer and opened the bidding. This generated an interesting array of results from 5♠ doubled making by N/S for +650 to 6♥ doubled making by E/W for -1210, the par being 6♠ doubled -1 for -100.

I cannot remember ever picking up an 11 card suit before, so decided to investigate the odds of this happening. Who better to consult than Hans van Staveren, who developed the software behind the 'Big Deal', a hand generation program that has been used to deal every hand in the Bermuda Bowl (and many other events, obviously) since 2000.

I was reliably informed that the odds are approximately.....

4 million to 1

I am not sure how many bridge hands I have played in my life time but have estimated that if a tournament player plays once a week in a local event of 24 boards, and plays 12 weekends of the year in a national congress of 96 boards – that's around 2,400 boards a year. In which case one would only pick a hand like this every 1,666 years or so.

A related observation made by Hans, was that as part of the validation of the Big Deal software, an analysis of the shuffling behaviour (of

real people) and the resulting distribution of the cards over three sections playing in a bridge event was made. It was found that the top section shuffled more effectively than the other two sections. They produced hands that were closer to the distributional expectations. The reason behind this was concluded to be that the top section contained younger people, and as a good shuffle should consist of 7 riffle shuffles (or more), this is more difficult for players with older hands – and hence older people shuffle worse! Using this reasoning, a successful application for funding towards a bridge dealing machine was made to the Dutch City of Amersfoort, on the basis that it aided the participation in sport for older people.

And finally -

The number of possible bridge deals is
53,644,737,765,488,792,839,237,440,000.

This is equal (approximately) to the number of grams of the mass of the planet earth.

For the mathematicians amongst you, that is equal to $52!/13!13!13!13!$, where ! is the mathematical factorial symbol ($4! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 = 24$, $13! = 1 \times 2 \times \dots \times 12 \times 13 = 6227020800$).

If this is incorrect, I am not the person to let know.

An additional observation from the editor poses the question "Which two hand distributions have exactly the same probability of occurring." Answers to the Bulletin Room please.



See Page 7 for the reason for this photo.



Warm-Up Pairs Results

Rank	Names
1	Christian Lahrmann - Daniel Brandgaard
2	Nick Nautilus - Frederic Boldt
3	Jon Ingthorsson - Kristinn Olafsson
4	Jan Sohl - Axel Meuer
5	Omid Karimi-Müller - Helmut Horacek
6	Lars Carlsson - Leif-Erik Forsberg
7	Alan Bailey - Jette Bailey
8	Stefán Jónsson - Rosemary Shaw
9	Harry Burmania - John Linse
10	Igor Kravchenko - Andrei Kavalenka
11	Conny ten Cate - Mike Reuser
12	Maija Romanovska - Ilse Andersone
13	Bernódus Kristinsson - Ómar Óskarsson
14	Adrians Imsa - Jurijs Balasovs
15	Sebastian Reim - Guido Hopfenheit
16	Julius Sigurjonsson - Kauko Koistinen
17	Magnus Asgrimsson - Thorsteinn Bergsson
18	Anne Gladiator - Michael Gromoeller
19	Bjorn Wenneberg - Henrik Wegnelius
20	Nis Rasmussen - Jesper Kragh
21	Paul Grünke - Alexander Smirnov
22	Ómar Olgeirsson - Gunnlaugur Saevarsson
23	Sibrand van Oosten - Rob van den Bergh
24	Koen Poppe - Cisca Vorselman
25	Robert Boeddeker - Flora Zarkesch
26	Mirja Schraeverus-Meuer - Christa Schraeverus
27	Unnar Gudmundsson - Kristin Oskarsdottir
28	Christina Lund Madsen - Henning Ostergaard
29	Eva Poppe - Chris Westerbeek
30	Alejandro Bianchedi - Margie Cole
31	Lasse Utter - Maria Tulonen
32	Niels Steenstrup Zeeberg - Flemming Poulsen
33	Peter Koppens - Anton Zegwaard
34	Sabine Würdermann - Michael Pauly
35	David Ludviksson - Emma Axelsdottir
36	Tomas Ruth - Knut Kiste
37	Marie Eggeling - Michael Böcker
38	Lone 'Mama' Kiaer - Jeppe Juhl
39	Jovanka Smederevac - Heimo Adelsberger
40	Rens Philipsen - Robbie de Koster
41	Anna Nielsen - Aron Thorfinsson
42	Lisbeth Smed - Ingrid Ledertoug
43	Eduardo Fernandes - Pedro Morgado
44	Ron Tacchi - Mark Horton

45	Marco Zomer - Frank van Gool
46	João Machado - José Macedo
47	Karl Gretar Karlsson - Johann Aevarsson
48	Tommy Bergdahl - Peter Görnandt
49	Janis Romanovskis - Maris Purgailis
50	Adalsteinn Jörgensen - Svala K Palsdottir
51	Gisli Thorarinsson - Thordur Sigurdsson
52	Jonina Palsdottir - Sveinn Símonarson
53	Marianne Mathiesen - Lise Reimann
54	Alex Hannon - Gitte Hecht-Johansen
55	Pirjo Juuri-Oja - Erkki Juuri-Oja
56	Lech Zwirello - Maria Kroppa
57	Nuno Baltazar - Pedro Salgueiro
58	Ronald Halkes - Loes Janssen
59	Margarida Alves Correia - Eduardo de Soveral
60	Símon Sveinsson - Karl Bjornsson
61	Haakan Tjarnemo - Pia Petaja
62	Kasper Konow - Lars Villinger
63	Eeva Parvianinen - Olli Jalonen
64	Renate Adelsberger - Alexander Wernle
65	Miguel Sarmento - Isabel Sarmento
66	Jan Clementsson - Bengt Emanuelsson
67	Malcolm Staalækker - Peter Dekker
68	Sigurdur Jón Björgvinsson - Sveinn Ragnarsson
69	Espen Haugstad - Hilde Vollen
70	Martin Taylor - Justin Hackett
71	Vigfus Vigfusson - Johanna Gisladdottir
72	Vigfus Pálsson - Barbara Hackett
73	Birgir Olafsson - Gudni Ingvarsson
74	Barbara Von Kleist - Anne Gromöller
75	Ullamaija Kiiski - Virve Berg
76	René Stienen - Elly Schippers
77	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
78	Jutta Bartley - Gareth Bartley
79	Agnes Wesseling - Niels van der Gaast
80	Latifa Ouazanni - Didier Imbert
81	Eva Reiner - Pierre Carbonnier
82	Magnus Thorkelsson - Matthias Einarsson
83	Camilla Flensted-Jensen - Knud Flensted-Jensen
84	Eiríkur Rosberg Areliusson - Bjarni Holm Hauksson
85	Cristina Steiger - Adolfo Steiger
86	Hrefna Hardardottir - Haukur Magnusson
87	Frederic Wilt - Hege Marie Salseng
88	Rosemarie Roderburg - Sybil Müller-Maubach



The Top One

Mark Horton

Brian Clough was one of only four managers to have won the top division of the English Football League managing two different clubs. He was often described as ‘the greatest manager England never had’, a reference to the fact that he was never chosen to manage the national team, the Football Association fearing his outspoken comments. Perhaps his most famous observation came in response to a question about his career in management:

“I wouldn’t say I was the best manager in the business. But I was in the top one”.

Earlier this year a colleague was considering coming to Madeira and he asked me how the Festival compared to similar events. There was an easy reply to that:

“I wouldn’t say Maderia was the best bridge Festival in the world. But it’s in the top one”.

I arrived on Saturday, and I happened to pick up the hand records for the pre-tournament event played on Thursday. This deal was interesting:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ J52	♠ N ♥ W ♦ S ♣ E	♠ AK109
♥ AK10854		♥ 76
♦ —		♦ AKQ862
♣ AJ93		♣ 8

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

I have no idea if anyone followed my possible sequence, but several pairs bid a slam, with 6♥ and 6NT being the most popular. As long as things don’t break badly the former is a decent spot, declarer planning to score dummy’s five top cards and also ruff a club.

6NT needs the ♠Q to be onside to have any chance, but an initial club lead looks hard to handle. Suppose you are declaring from the West hand and North leads the ♣4, South contributing the queen. Do you see any chance other than a doubleton ♥QJ?

If you start by assuming that South also holds the ♣K (North would be unlikely to lead away from an unsupported king against 6NT) then it makes sense to duck the first round of clubs. If South continues the suit you put in the jack and then cash a top heart. If nothing interesting happens you run the ♠J. If that works you are up to eleven tricks and if your luck is in the full deal looks like this:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ J52	♠ N ♥ W ♦ S ♣ E	♠ Q8643
♥ AK10854		♥ J9
♦ —		♦ 1093
♣ AJ93		♣ 1074

♠ J52	♠ N ♥ W ♦ S ♣ E	♠ AK109
♥ AK10854		♥ 76
♦ —		♦ AKQ862
♣ AJ93		♣ 8

♠ 7
♥ Q32
♦ J754
♣ KQ652

As you can see, South will not enjoy having to discard on dummy’s winning spades!



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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.



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