



25th Madeira International Bridge Open

7th-13th November 2022

Thursday 10th November

Bulletin 3

O Lagar Welcomes Over 200 Revellers



A hard afternoon in the second round of the pairs saw Jerzy Skwark and Marek Blat move up from seventh position to take the lead with 61.50%, Olav Ellestad and Frederic Wilt maintained second place with 60.96%, and a startling second session saw Carlos Luiz and Nuno Paz rocket up from 45th place to be third with 60.80%. There is still a lot of bridge to play and an excellent session from someone in the peleton could easily upset the leaders.

Over 200 participants climbed aboard several buses to be whisked up to the O Lagar resaurant for the traditional Madeiran dinner where they enjoyed copious food and drink and traditional folklore dancing which the attendees joined in boisterously.

Tomorrow morning are the optional excursions. The coaches leave after 9.00 so please ensure you arise bright and early and do not miss the bus. There are some minor changes to departure times: The Boat Trip will now depart at 9.15 rather than 10.00; The Levada Walk will depart at 9.00 and not 9.45. There is no change to the North West Tour, that is still 9.30. If you have not yet booked and would like to do so then the Welcome desk will be happy to assist you. As always you will need your badge to be allowed onto the coach.



Inside your bulletin today you will find panels from IntoBridge with a challenge from Zia. Tomorrow we will have an indepth interview with one of the founders of this new company, where we will learn about what is available on their website. Furthermore, details of the prizes that are being offered for best bid and best play of the tournament will be revealed. To win one the hand details must be brought to the bulletin room.

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.





XXV Madeira Bridge Festival



MAIN PROGRAMME 7th – 13th November 2022

Location - Congress Room + Selvagens 1-2-3

THURSDAY 10 th November	16.00	Open Pairs Tournament Session 3
	20.00	Final Results
FRIDAY 11 th November	18.00	Deadline for Teams Tournament Entries
	19.30	Team Assignments
	20.30	Open Teams Tournament Session 1 (3 matches)
SATURDAY 12 th November	11.00	Open Teams Tournament Session 2 (2 matches)
	13.15	Lunch Break (light lunch included)
	14.30	Open Teams Tournament Session 3 (4 matches)
SUNDAY 13 th November	14.30	Open Teams Tournament Session 4 (3 matches)
	19.00	Final Results

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

REYKJAVIK
BRIDGE
FESTIVAL

**The Reykjavik
Bridge Festival** **2023**

will be held in Harpa Concert hall
on 26th of January through 29th of January

reykjavikbridgefestival.com



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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 Reception Desk or speak to one of the Directors.

Thursday 10 th November	14.30 – 16.00
Friday 11 th November	18.00 – 20.30
Saturday 12 th November	Closed
Sunday 13 th November	13.00 – 14.30

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 11th November

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

SUNDAY 13th November

20.30 Closing Dinner and trophy presentation in the
Ocean Room – Hotel VidaMar, 2nd floor.

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

SIDE EVENTS

Monday 14th Cool-down Pairs (€10)

20.30

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.



Optional Excursions Friday 11th November

Option A: The North West (full day, inc. lunch)
coach leaves hotel 09.30



First stop Fanal, with its magical dancing forest and – depending on the weather – its looking-glass lake brim full. Next we descend towards Porto Moniz and the famous natural bathing pools; then Seixal and a 15-20 minute walk to one of the prettiest black beaches in Europe, with a magnificent vista from the varied shades of green of the mountains to the blue sea.

We take lunch at São Vicente at about 13.20, and will then visit the Volcanism Centre near the grottos of São Vicente (the caves are currently closed, but if they have reopened by November a guided tour will be included). We return to Funchal via Serra de Água where you may try a glass of poncha, a product of our island.

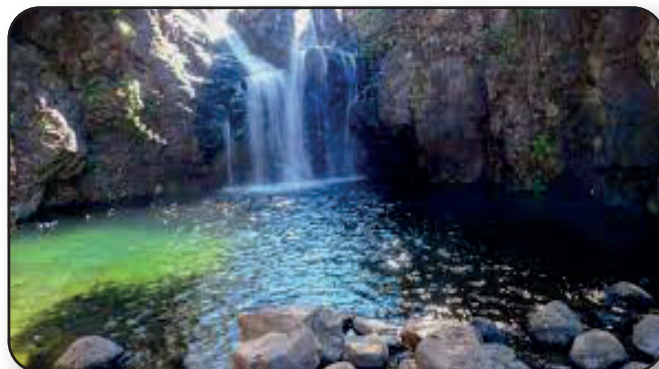
Arrive back at VidaMar at approximately 16.15.

Option C: Catamaran (limited availability)
coach leaves hotel 09.15



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: Levada Walk (½ day, lunch included)
coach leaves hotel 09.00



Our first stop will be Paúl da Serra, the widest and longest plateau on the island at 24km². From here our walk along the wonderful Levada do Alecrim* (the Rosemary Levada) will take about 2¼ hours.

We will take lunch at São Vicente, on the island's north coast, and on the way back to Funchal will stop at the famous poncha bar at Serra de Água, where you may taste this popular and typical madeiran drink.

Return to VidaMar at approximately 15.30.

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 2¼ hours.

**If the weather at Paúl da Serra is inclement, as it can be in November, we will head downhill and walk the Levada da Fajã da Ama (the Nursemaid's Cliff Levada) at São Vicente, near the Estrada das Ginjas (Cherry Road); the degree of difficulty is the same, but this levada is at a lower altitude.*

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



Hors de Combat

Ron Tacchi

I was hors de combat for the Warm Up Pairs, I was lying in my bed in an unhappy state. So to write an article about a set of boards in which I neither played nor watched I have resorted to examining the frequencies and finding boards where the differential between the top score and the bottom score is the greatest. The game is then to try and work out how these two scores came into being. Our first case is a mere difference of 1960

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ KQJ4		♠ 10
♥ A4		♥ QJ1083
♦ 97		♦ KJ102
♣ KJ864		♣ 1095
♠ 86532	N W E S	
♥ K972		
♦ Q864		
♣ —		
♠ A97		
♥ 65		
♦ A53		
♣ AQ732		

The top score for N/S was 6♣ and it seems that there are many sensible routes to this contract, though they may well have had to deal with some persistent intervention. Six pairs succeeded in reaching the top contract. That was the good side, what was the on the obverse of the coin? The answer is Four Hearts Doubled by East and made. One can make a case for the bidding as 1♣-1♥-X-4♥-P-P-X, though that would not be my choice. The next question is how was it made and I suspect the answer is that a club was led and ruffed in dummy. A spade from dummy will be taken by the defence and now they must set up a diamond ruff otherwise declarer is home by establishing the fifth spade. If the spade was won by North they may well have had a strong urge to cut down on ruffs by playing ace and another trump and that would have been fatal.

Our next effort ups the ante to 2100.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ A6		♠ Q984
♥ AJ1032		♥ 64
♦ Q4		♦ AKJ1053
♣ Q952		♣ 3
♠ K10532	N W E S	
♥ Q95		
♦ 872		
♣ A8		
♠ J7		
♥ K87		
♦ 96		
♣ KJ10764		

From the North side Four Hearts was the contract which does not seem too left field, however being successful after the lead of the king of diamonds does. How do we surmise that the contract succeeded. I suggest one possible answer was that West's card to trick one was misinterpreted by East who then switched to a club taken by West and when the diamond attack was continued, it gave up the contract and a score of 620. This means the E/W score must have been 1480 – an unusual score and devotees of the esoteric will know that is four of a major redoubled, vulnerable with an overtrick. So one can see that 4♠ is quite a likely contract and even countenance the Double but the Redouble shows a supreme level of confidence in partner, but who trusted who? The real question to ask now is how was the overtrick made after the lead of the jack of hearts. I can see two possibilities, the first being that South did not believe partner would underlead an ace and so let the jack pass and West gratefully took the queen. The other possibility is that the jack held and North decided to cut down on ruffs in the dummy by playing ace and another trump.

Our final offering has a difference of 2130;



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Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 6		♠ Q985
♥ K9762		♥ J5
♦ 7		♦ AQ864
♣ AJ9852		♣ 63

♠ J73		♠ AK1042
♥ A84		♥ Q103
♦ K10953		♦ J2
♣ KQ		♣ 1074



It may surprise you that neither of the contracts reached the game level. The positive score for N/S came about when East played in 3♦ Doubled.

It was not a success, and when only four tricks were stacked in front of declarer 1400 was being written in the out column. We can speculate that the bid came about after West made a two-suited overcall after an initial 1♦-P-1♠ and then East made a 3♦ bid saying 'you choose', and when South doubled West believed that passing would get East to bid one of the round suits.

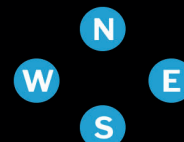
The good score for E/W came about when they were allowed to play in Three Hearts Doubled. Obviously some sort of two-suiter call was made by West as the final contract was played by East. On careful play the contract will succeed for a score of 730. On the actual diamond lead you must not take a second round to discard your losing spade for then you will lose trump control as you will be forced in diamonds, the winning line is to lead immediately a small trump to the ♥9, then you are in control and can establish your clubs. Normally you establish your side suit before tackling trumps but on this hand it is the other way round.

Let me ask you how would you play this hand?

On today's deal, you, playing as South, become declarer in 3NT, and West, on the left, leads the ♦5, on which East plays the ♦10.

What is the best line of play?

♠ AQ8
♥ A872
♦ 6
♣ QJ986



♠ J73
♥ K5
♦ KJ74
♣ A1052



Do you play bridge online?

 [IntoBridge.com](https://www.IntoBridge.com)



The Abbot's Dream

Mark Horton

David Bird is justly famed as a writer and BBO Commentator, well known in the latter capacity for his dislike of low-level contracts. With that in mind, this article is dedicated to David.

The opening session of the Pairs Championship was a slamfest! The opening deal gave a hint of what was in store:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A63		
♥ K95		
♦ AKJ75		
♣ K9		
♠ J10987	N W E S	♠ K542
♥ J10		♥ A8742
♦ 10		♦ 42
♣ QJ1074		♣ 82
♠ Q		
♥ Q63		
♦ Q9863		
♣ A653		

Six Diamonds is a poor contract, but with the ♥J10 coming down the pairs who bid it usually scored 185/7 (two declarers went down).

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A10543		
♥ QJ95		
♦ J6		
♣ 62		
♠ 97	N W E S	♠ KJ82
♥ A82		♥ 10
♦ 8752		♦ AKQ9
♣ AJ93		♣ KQ85
♠ Q6		
♥ K7643		
♦ 1043		
♣ 1074		

If you take the right view in spades, you can score 12 tricks in clubs. Four pairs bid 6♣, but only two of them recorded +920, scoring 191/1.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ AQ1065		
♥ J95		
♦ K943		
♣ K		
♠ J87	N W E S	♠ K942
♥ 106		♥ AK82
♦ J82		♦ 6
♣ Q10432		♣ 9876
♠ 3		
♥ Q743		
♦ AQ1075		
♣ AJ5		

Mike Reuser and Manuel Jesus R Madriñan bid the N/S cards to 6♦ and somehow emerged with 12 tricks (!) for +1370 and 192/0.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ QJ53		
♥ Q		
♦ A85		
♣ AJ1084		
♠ K10964	N W E S	♠ 872
♥ 975		♥ J6
♦ 93		♦ J742
♣ K92		♣ 7653
♠ A		
♥ AK108432		
♦ KQ106		
♣ Q		

West	North	East	South
Groot	Schipper	Wauters	Limmen
–	–	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	7♥
All Pass			
2♦	Waiting		
3♥	Sets hearts		
4♣	Cue		
4NT	RKCB		
5♠	2 keycards +♥Q		

Many pairs bid a grand slam, those scoring +1520



or +1510 collecting 182/10 and 168/24 respectively. However, a few went down.

How should you play?

One option is to cash all your red winners. That makes if the diamonds come in (a 60.9% chance) and still leaves you with squeeze chances (on the actual hand West is helpless, being squeezed by the last heart). Note that a spade lead does not alter anything. (If East has both black kings and West four diamonds headed by the jack the squeeze fails as East is discarding after dummy.)

You might leave the diamonds alone, cashing all your hearts and then either take the club finesse or hope for four diamond tricks.

At my featured table Nora Groot found the brilliant lead of the ♣9! Naturally declarer took dummy's ace, cashed the ♥Q, came to hand with a spade and cashed all his remaining hearts before taking a top diamond, crossing to dummy with the ♦A and playing a third round. When East followed with the ♦7 declarer 'knew' his last card was the ♣K and confidently played the ♦Q. West's devastating lead netted 188/4.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ AQ865
 ♥ A10642
 ♦ —
 ♣ 1032

♠ 3
 ♥ J93
 ♦ QJ10975
 ♣ 765

♠ 1042
 ♥ K8
 ♦ K8432
 ♣ K84

♠ KJ97
 ♥ Q75
 ♦ A6
 ♣ AQJ9

N
 W E
 S

If the bidding starts 1NT-2♥ and South breaks the transfer, North will at least investigate the possibility of a slam. As the cards lie you would be hard pressed to go down in 6♠, regardless of how you tackle the hearts (the optimum approach is to start with a low card towards the queen). Those who bid 6♠ received 166/26.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 54
♥ KQJ8654
♦ 1095
♣ 8

♠ Q32
♥ 7
♦ 872
♣ AKQ1096

♠ 86
♥ A2
♦ AKQJ643
♣ 52

♠ AKJ1097
♥ 1093
♦ —
♣ J743

W N E S

West	North	East	South
<i>Hellemann</i>	<i>Hardardottir</i>	<i>Tolle</i>	<i>Jakobsdottir</i>
1♣*	3♥	4NT*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	6♦	Double
All Pass			
1♣	3+♣		
4NT	Blackwood		
5♦	One Ace		

After North's intervention Rolf Tolle decided he wanted to play in a slam, and asked for aces (not keycards, as no suit was agreed). When his partner admitted to one, he left North on lead. South made a gallant attempt by doubling, clearly saying that there might be a lead to beat it other than a heart. North duly led....the ♣8 and that was +1190 and 100%.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 93
♥ Q
♦ AKJ932
♣ 8642

♠ J5
♥ AJ10765
♦ Q854
♣ Q

♠ Q8764
♥ K92
♦ 10
♣ J953

♠ AK102
♥ 843
♦ 76
♣ AK107

Diagram illustrating a bridge hand layout. The cards are distributed among four players (North, South, East, West) and a central dummy. The cards are: North: ♠ 93, ♥ Q, ♦ AKJ932, ♣ 8642; South: ♠ J5, ♥ AJ10765, ♦ Q854, ♣ Q; East: ♠ Q8764, ♥ K92, ♦ 10, ♣ J953; West: ♠ AK102, ♥ 843, ♦ 76, ♣ AK107. The dummy is represented by a green box with 'N' (North) and 'S' (South) labels.

No one bid 6♦ and hardly anyone playing in diamonds took 12 tricks. To do that you have to start with a diamond to the jack (it gives you an 87.6% chance of five tricks and here the appearance of the ten allows you to subsequently finesse the nine). +400 was 177/15 but even +170 was worth 146/46.



Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ K
♥ Q107
♦ KQ543
♣ Q1054

♠ 9753
♥ 98
♦ J10972
♣ A7

W N E S

♠ Q10642
♥ KJ642
♦ 86
♣ J

♠ AJ8
♥ A53
♦ A
♣ K98632

If you reach 6♣ West needs to find a heart lead.
+920 was 165/27.

At one table N/S bid 1♦-2♣-3♣-3♦-3NT-4♣-4♦-4♥-4♠-6♣ and West led a diamond, hoping East might be able to secure a ruff.

Elsewhere one East overcalled 2♦(!) and N/S had an accident, finishing in 3♣.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ AJ976
♥ —
♦ AK109
♣ AK53

♠ 852
♥ 109642
♦ —
♣ Q9642

♠ KQ4
♥ AK3
♦ Q74
♣ J1087

♠ 103
♥ QJ875
♦ J86532
♣ —

W N E S

When the bidding starts 1NT-Pass-2♦* one option for North is to bid 2♥ for takeout. If East then bids 2♥ South's possibilities might be affected by systemic matters (of course South can always pass, and then consider the matter if North doubles). Three pairs bid 6♦, two going down, while the third was doubled and recorded +1540 giving us our third 100% result so far.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 10
♥ A7
♦ QJ85
♣ AKJ954

♠ KJ3
♥ J982
♦ 1063
♣ Q82

W N E S

♠ Q654
♥ Q6543
♦ K4
♣ 106

♠ A9872
♥ K10
♦ A972
♣ 73

After 1♣-1♠ what should North rebid?

The consensus at my morning review of the deals was that 3♣ was best, but my own view is that North should rebid 2♦. On the Kaplan-Rubens Hand Evaluator it rates 18.65!

Anyway, you want to reach 6♦, which nets you at least 180.6/11.4.

If you were defending a diamond contract as East, and didn't cover the queen you gave declarer a guess on the next round for the overtrick.

If you covered it do you think declarer considered playing you for $\spadesuit$ K10 alone?

To my surprise, there were no further slams in the remaining six deals.

Perhaps today we will see a run of fascinating 1NT contracts – I'm sure David can hardly wait.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

26th Madeira International Bridge Open
2nd-13th November 2023
(Main Events 6th-12th November)



Warm Up Pairs

Ceri Pierce

Monday saw over 100 pairs warming up ready for battle later in the week. Congratulations to the winners Julius Sigurjonsson and Simon Hult (North South) and Even Morken and Olav Ellestadh (East West).

I played in this with my friend from Lithuania, Andrei Kavalenka, famed for his dedication to the Festival. It took him 40 days and 40 nights to get here and back again in 2020 when Covid restrictions made travelling very difficult, enduring 20 days of self-isolation in a hotel in Poland (ten each way). He has been here for several days now, but this was his first day at the bridge table, having spent his time so far enjoying the fantastic hiking and spectacular scenery on offer in Madeira.

Having attended Mark Horton's "Mark Your Cards" session this morning (which I can highly recommend), a common theme was the power of pre-empting. Pre-empting to the highest possible level as quickly as possible can make life very difficult for the opponents and of course the faster you arrive the less space the opponents have to find the correct contract and also the less likely they are to double.

This hand was really unlucky for the pre-emptors however.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 1032		
♥ KJ95		
♦ J92		
♣ KQ6		
♠ A8		♠ 97
♥ 108632		♥ —
♦ 83		♦ AKQ107654
♣ J843		♣ 972
		♠ KQJ654
		♥ AQ74
		♦ —
		♣ A105

What would you open with the East hand? There are a number of options available; 3♦, 4♦, 5♦, 3NT. All are valid bids. I think my choice would be 3NT showing a solid running suit - you do not mind playing at the four level and there is always

the chance that you will find partner with something tasty.

At our table, East opened 5♦. Now what do you do as South, You have two alternatives really - double or 5♠, which you can afford as your spade suit is so good.

Either way, you are now unlikely to find out if a slam is available as opps have taken up all the space for you to explore. At the table I chose a double and we settled in 5♥.

Oh No, I thought (or some such similar words), we should be in six, losing only the ace of spades. So why was it unfortunate for the pre-emptors? The 5-0 heart break made the slam impossible to make as West always makes a trump trick and the ace of spades. Had we bid 6♠, that would also have gone off, because of the same 5-0 heart break - but this time because West can give his partner a heart ruff at trick one. If he fails to do this (a diamond lead seems likely on the bidding) he will win the ace of trumps the moment declarer tries to draw them and still give his partner a heart ruff.

With five cards missing in the trump suit, the odds of a 3-2 break are 68%, a 4-1 break is 28%, and a 5-0 break is just 4%. Had North/South been left to their own devices bidding the 96% slam would have been a trivial matter, but they would have gone off. Unlucky for East/West despite their excellent 5♦ bid.

The East hand is quite interesting. As an aside, if North opens 1NT what would you do? Would you pre-empt? I once held a very similar hand with seven diamonds to the AKQJ in a top event. My options at favourable vulnerability seemed to be 2♦, 3♦, 4♦, 5♦, Double or Pass? As opps were red I decided to lurk as I would be on lead against a NT contract, and could always sacrifice later if it seemed appropriate. I could not believe my luck whe, they bid to 3NT and I cashed the first seven tricks. I am not sure if this was the correct action to have taken - perhaps someone can tell me - but you cannot argue with success and 15 years later the player I passed against (a top Scottish International) asked me why oh why had I passed - she had never forgotten it.



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Another example of the power of the pre-empt:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 73		
♥ 986543		
♦ 1087		
♣ K6		
♠ QJ98642		♠ AK105
♥ 7		♥ AK2
♦ 96		♦ KQ3
♣ J84		♣ 752
♠ —		
♥ QJ10		
♦ AJ542		
♣ AQ1093		



West made an aggressive 3♠ opening bid (not everyone's cup of tea, but it proved very effective), partner raised to 4♠. As South what do you do now? Once again, they have made your life difficult. You don't know if East has a weak or strong hand. The only thing you know is that your partner has not bid over 3♠. I think South is almost duty bound to either double or bid 4NT here. At the table I chose 4NT, hoping it emphasised the minor suits and no wish to penalise. Partner bid 5♥ instead of a minor with his six card heart suit. This will go one off and it is not too difficult for East to double it as the ace and king of trumps are normally good for two tricks and a third trick in the form of a diamond is very likely.

As happens, at our table, East made the wrong decision and bid 5♠ which goes two off, losing three clubs and a diamond. Two points spring to mind. Firstly, it is often the case that if you think you can make 11 tricks (as East was hoping), it is unlikely that your opponents will make their contract, so doubling is usually a safe bet. Secondly there is that old adage 'the five level belongs to the opponents'. Had East heeded this then they would have netted a plus score instead of a minus. Note that although 4♠ does not make either, it keeps the opponents out of their making 4♥ contract (although it is admitted that it is not an easy one to bid - but if bridge was an easy game, we would not be playing it!).

Did you get it right?

Let me tell you how you should have played it...

We have:

- 1 trick in ♠
- 2 tricks in ♥
- 1 trick in ♦
- 4 tricks in ♣

♠ AQ8
♥ A872
♦ 6
♣ QJ986

♠ 10965
♥ Q6
♦ AQ952
♣ K4

♠ K42
♥ J10943
♦ 1083
♣ 73

♠ J73
♥ K5
♦ KJ74
♣ A1052

One chance is to take the ♣ finesse and find out that East is the player who started with the ♣K. If this is not the case, we can still hope for the ♠ finesse to provide the 9th trick, as from the lead, we can deduct that West is the player with ♦AQ. If East had any of those cards, they would have likely played it to the first trick. There is no fast entry for East's hand, so our ♦ suit is protected.

Does it matter if we win the lead with the ♦K or the ♦J? Winning with the ♦K might create the false impression that East holds the ♦J. If West wins the ♣ with the King, it would be almost impossible for them to resist the urge to play a low ♦ to their partner's Jack, expecting the contract to be down in a matter of seconds. This play doesn't prevent us from enjoying any of our other chances to make the contract, assuming indeed that West started with the ♦AQ.

Do you want to see more of these puzzles?

IntoBridge.com



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Marcek Winkel sent me this hand from the Open Pairs Session 1

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 54		
♥ KQJ8654		
♦ 1095		
♣ 8		
♠ Q32		♠ 86
♥ 7		♥ A2
♦ 872		♦ AKQJ643
♣ AKQ1096		♣ 52
		♠ AKJ1097
		♥ 1093
		♦ —
		♣ J743

At one table West opened, non-vulnerable, with a heavy 3♣. Never bid weak over weak, is an old bridge saying, that maybe should be revised. North just came in with 3♥ and after 4♦ by East, South had an automatic 4♥ bid. West had some extra values for his previous bid and supported diamonds. That ran to South who insisted on hearts, so 5♥ was the final contract, doubled by East. East led his highest club and declarer did not take long to ruff the second round and start ruffing diamond in dummy and clubs in his hand. That gave East the opportunity to let go of one of his spades whereafter declarer ended up two down for a poor score of 38,43%.

After ruffing the second round of clubs, all declarer had to do is play a small heart. E/W cannot now find a way to defeat the contract. If East ducks the heart, declarer will ruff the third round of spades to play another heart: curtains. After an initial diamond lead, declarer seems to have more troubles, but that is not true. He ruffs in dummy and ruffs the third spade high in his hand to ruff a second diamond. He repeats this exercise once more. If East wants to over ruff one of these spades to play a trump, there will be a doubled overtrick, since dummy has a few spare spades to play, when all trumps are gone.

Willem and Inez van Eijck tackled this hands way better. First of all Inez opened 1♣, as all players should do if they want partner to bid any game. After 3♥ Willem choose to bid a practical 3NT. After 4♥ behind him by Rob van den Bergh, Willem bidone more time in NT: 4NT. That silenced everyone. His bravery was rewarded when Inez had the spade guard and all Van den Bergh could do is cash two tricks in that suit before Van Eijck could claim the rest of the tricks for a gigantic 78,44% score.

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With the compliments of 25th Madeira International Bridge Open



Open Pairs Standings - Day 2

Rk.	%	Names
1	61.5	Jerzy Skwark - Marek Blat
2	60.96	Olav Ellestad - Frederic Wilt
3	60.8	Nuno Paz - Carlos Luiz
4	60.18	Slawomir Zawislak - Lena Leszczynska
5	59.52	Gerwin Middelkoop - Arjen Salari
6	59.5	Marcel Swidde - Svend Germann
7	59.05	Willem van Eijck - Inez van Eijck
8	59.01	Ralph Retzlaff - Matthias Schueller
9	58.85	Anam Tebha - Stephen Zolotow
10	58.33	Luís Castaño - Pedro Morbey
11	57.9	Harald Nordby - Jan Trollvik
12	57.7	Thomas Burg - Peter Zelnik
13	57.69	John Vermehren Norris - Christian Lahrman
14	57.44	Grzegorz Superson - Adrian Bakalarz
15	57.4	Diego Brenner - Miguel Teixeira
16	57.38	Ralf Schlotmann - Claus Daehr
17	57.02	Egil Hansen - Allie Hoenstok
18	56.86	Igor Grzejdzia - Sabina Grzejdzia
19	56.84	Jacek Szczerba - Dariusz Kulpinski
20	56.8	Frank van Gorp - Arjan Roelofs
21	56.76	Peter Bertheau - Torbjörn Arffman
22	56.65	Andreas Babsch - Michael Gromoeller
23	56.62	Magnus Asgrimsson - Thorsteinn Bergsson
24	56.52	Alexandru Pana - Rita Mucha
25	56.44	Henning Ostergaard - Christina Lund Madsen
26	56.42	Julius Sigurjonsson - Simon Hult
27	56.4	Adrians Imsa - Ivars Rubenis
28	56.1	Kathryn Hertz - Eckhard Böhlke
29	56.04	Michael Pauly - Sebastian Reim
30	55.95	Betty Speelman - Justin van der Kam
31	55.89	Harm Van Urk - Hanneke Kreijns
32	55.87	Lotte Nerem - Annie Storm
33	55.85	Björn Thorláksson - Frímann Stefánsson
34	55.83	Paul Wauters - Nora Groot
35	55.8	Andreas Westman - Patrik Eriksson
36	55.68	Berend Pluim - Monique van de Walle
37	55.59	Harry Burmania - Willem Flisijn
38	55.5	Rolf Tolle - Anne-Lill Hellemann
39	55.37	Sveinn R Eiriksson - Magnus Eidur Magnusson
40	55.21	Nikolaj la Cour - Anette Vainer
41	55.14	Paulo Gonçalves Pereira - Jorge Cruzeiro
42	55.13	Julio Fernandez Rey - Francisco M Costa
43	55.13	Svala Pálsdóttir - Adalsteinn Jörgensen
44	55.06	Franz Roettger - Kerstin Sosnowski
45	54.82	Beatrix Wodniansky - John Linse
46	54.82	Anne Gladiator - Andrea Reim
47	54.75	Jan de Winter - Hans Metselaar
48	54.73	Jonas Tjarnemo - Björn Ohlsson

49	54.66	Nick Nautilus - Frederic Boldt
50	54.63	Odd Skodje - Wim van Luijk
51	54.6	Andrzej Jeleniewski - Andrei Kavalenka
52	54.44	Grazyna Busse - Piotr Busse
53	54.39	Shahzaad Natt - India Natt
54	54.33	Rui Pinto - António Rocha Pinto
55	54.21	Adriaan Vos - Dirk Nap
56	54.13	Omar Oskarsson - Bernódus Kristinsson
57	54.01	Stefan Fuchs - Sabine Bogner
58	53.97	Loekie Ahrens - Frank van Wezel
59	53.9	Aris Verburgh - Onno Janssens
60	53.82	Sigurdur Skagfjord - Thorgils Torfi Jónsson
61	53.77	Mads Eyde - Knut Blakset
62	53.48	Sten Bjertnes - Laura Woodruff
63	53.43	Poul Mogensen - Susan Just
64	53.22	Svanhildur Hall - Hallveig Karlsdóttir
65	53.1	Robert Boeddeker - Flora Zarkesch
66	52.92	Kristinn Olafsson - Jon Ingthorsson
67	52.84	Bjorn Sture Valen - Erik Dahl
68	52.69	Robert Kwiatkowski - Sylwester Cieslak
69	52.68	Halldór Thorvaldsson - Hjálmar Pálsson
70	52.66	Vigfus Vigfusson - Johanna Gísladóttir
71	52.53	Arild Aarmot - Sverre Pallesen
72	52.53	Marie Eggeling - Michael Böcker
73	52.45	Erik Berg - Espen Haugstad
74	52.37	Lisbeth Eide - Torgeir Maanum
75	52.32	Maria Tulonen - Lasse Utter
76	52.29	João Campos Ferreira - Miguel Lima
77	52.11	Ambrose Holmes-Mackie - Niall Igoe
78	52.02	Flemming Bogh-Sorensen - Birgitte Randrup
79	51.93	Lisbeth Grove - Lars Mikkelsen
80	51.91	Henrik Frydenlund - Annette R Frydenlund
81	51.76	René van Dijk - Marin Engelberts
82	51.74	Katherine Ortmann - Simon Ortmann
83	51.63	Dagbjort Hannesdóttir - Una Arnadóttir
84	51.46	Eeva Parvianinen - Olli Jalonen
85	51.46	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
86	51.45	Tomas Ruth - Knut Kiste
87	51.43	Pedro Sampaio Nunes - João Cabral
88	51.37	João Machado - José Macedo
89	51.34	Lone 'Mama' Kiaer - Jeppe Juhl
90	51.05	Olafur Johansson - Bjarni Sveinsson
91	51.01	Pajak Stanislaw - Andrzej Iwanski
92	51	Mark Thiele - Renée Verdegaal
93	50.93	Mike Reuser - Manuel Jesus R Madriñan
94	50.68	Agneta Arle - Martin Arle
95	50.65	Jan ten Cate - Conny ten Cate
96	50.57	Marten La Haye - Johan Pieters
97	50.48	Torfason Thorbergur - Sigurdur Gunnarsson
98	50.28	Pim Vermeulen - Marloes van Heist



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99	50.26	Ricardo Teixeira - Paulo Pinto
100	50.21	Kirsten Steen Moller - Peter Basse
101	50.07	Miguel Ramos - Inês Cunha
102	50.06	Svein Markussen - Roennaug Asla
103	50.06	Seija Lahtinen - Jussi Angervo
104	49.85	Pétur Sigurdsson - Hannes Sigurdsson
105	49.75	Paulo Pessanha - Eduardo Pinto
106	49.7	Haakan Tjarnemo - Bengt Emanuelsson
107	49.67	Sjo Huynen - Connie van der Ven
108	49.67	João Fanha - Kevin Peeters
109	49.58	Mick Barendregt - Ed van Santen
110	49.41	Peter Kroezen - Maria van der List
111	49.38	Asbjorn Gunnarsen - Ellen Vigmostad
112	49.16	Henk Bunt - Domien Silvius
113	49.11	Hans Kreuning - Rob van den Bergh
114	49.11	Ricardo Fernandes - Nuno Pereira
115	49.07	Andrew Clery - Andrew Conway
116	48.85	Ernst Hopstaken - Joop Stronks
117	48.75	Haldis Guttormsen - Hans Arne Forseth
118	48.64	Rosemary Shaw - Stefan Jonsson
119	48.5	Boudewijn van Peer - Corne Hendriks
120	48.48	Eva-Lotta Freiner - Pierre Carbonnier
121	48.23	David Ueland - Joakim Johansen
122	48.22	Wiveca Jongeneel - Jos Winkelman
123	48.19	Mark Kaptein - Mariken Schoenmakers
124	48.13	Floris Vlaanderen - Frits Vlaanderen
125	47.86	Mary Carmen Ferradas - Francisco Rocha
126	47.85	George Schipper - Gerard Limmen
127	47.72	Morten Henningsen - Charlotte Auken
128	47.5	Edeltraud Gregoritsch - Johann Zeugner
129	47.47	Marijke Justitz - Janine Benz
130	47.39	Françoise Ingelbert - Michel Ingelbert
131	47.31	Ann-Sophie Anderson - Oskar Stenberg
132	47.24	Soffia Danielsdottir - Hrafnildur Skuladottir
133	47.21	Lucian Comanescu - Mihaela Comanescu
134	47.1	Stefan Skorchev - Steve Root
135	47.03	Martin Cantor - Kjeld Hansen
136	46.95	Berthold Engel - Ulrike Schreckenberger
137	46.85	Birna Stefnisdottir - Adalsteinn Steinthorsson
138	46.78	Shelley Shieff - Anne Catchpole
139	46.66	Piotr Kardasinski - Liliana Suflida
140	46.54	Niels Steenstrup Zeeberg - Daniel Brandgaard
141	46.42	Magnus Thorkelsson - Sigurdur Gislason
142	46.41	Omid Karimi-Müller - Helmut Horacek
143	46.14	Kristin Oskarsdottir - Unnar Gudmundsson
144	45.94	Volkert Struyken - Peter Vlas
145	45.84	José Nuno Moraes - Rita Arraiano
146	45.77	Conchi Barros Parra - João Fatal
147	45.69	Pedro Morgado - Eduardo Fernandes
148	45.63	Aurora Carrera Covelo - Araceli Gil De Somorrostro
149	45.56	Gitte Hecht-Johansen - Sonja Bech
150	45.53	Even Morken - Stine Froeyse
151	45.41	Maria Kroppa - Lech Zwirello

152	45.41	Luís Álvares Ribeiro - Jorge Lopes
153	45.38	Eelkje van der Veen - Age Tolsma
154	45.34	Matthias Einarsson - Gudmundur Einarsson
155	45.21	Gunnar Björn Helgason - Einar Jonsson
156	45.08	Ingrid Ledertoug - Lisbeth Smed
157	45.07	Fred Sundwall - Leif-Erik Forsberg
158	45.01	Louise Selway - Florian Weiss
159	44.89	Victor Oranje - Jacqueline Oranje
160	44.49	Birgitte Rønn - Tyge Fogh
161	44.35	Jaap van den Berg - Henk de Vet
162	44.26	Hrefna Hardardottir - Soley Jakobsdottir
163	44.21	Cho Sjoeding - Esther Sijthoff
164	44.12	Leandre Alexis Logothetis - Daniele Logothetis Simon
165	44.03	Frederico Teixeira - Luís M Silva
166	43.66	Alex Hannon - Szczepan Smoczyński
167	43.59	Lars Carlsson - Birgit Bärlund
168	43.41	Bruno Macedo - Nuno D Martins
169	43.31	Rosemarie Roderburg - Sybil Müller-Maubach
170	43.3	James Thrower - Helen Rose
171	43.19	Maurice Bonne - Erik van Dijk
172	43.17	Marie-José de Bruine - Kees Vlak
173	42.96	Carmen Rodriguez - Victoria Criado del Rey
174	42.85	Amir Pishdad - Christa Pishdad
175	42.73	Miguel Sarmiento - Isabel Sarmiento
176	42.08	Maricarmen Vázquez Zarate - Sabela Domínguez Vaz
177	42.04	Manuela Malpica - Maria Dolores Valeiro
178	41.96	Gudni Ingvarsson - Birgir Olafsson
179	41.3	Frank van Gool - Thijs Hoebe
180	41.17	Olof Thorarensen - Helgi Bergmann Sigurdsson
181	41.1	Jon Gudmundsson - Sigurdur Valdimarsson
182	40.85	Hilde Vollen - Hege Marie Salseng
183	40.53	David Ludviksson - Emma Axelsdottir
184	40.51	Paul Vandenbroeck - Noor Johnson
185	40.23	Asa Kristinsdottir - Sveinn Simonarson
186	40.07	Karl-Heinz Heine - Helga Alisch
187	39.24	Reynir Vikar - Magni Olafsson
188	38.98	Ronald Kakebeen - Josseke Jonker
189	38.14	Carla van Ekeren - Ronald Paping
190	37.79	Álvaro C Machado - João Amaral
191	37.13	Helena Felgas - Margarida Alves Correia
192	36.16	Gareth Bartley - Jutta Bartley
193	34.18	Skuli Sigurdsson - Vigdis Sigurjonsdottir
194	33.71	Helene Britz-Cocker - Angelika Darwazeh-Ruehl