



26th Madeira International Bridge Open

6th-12th November 2023

Bulletin 0

Monday 6th November

A Welcome from Miguel Teixeira

When I started preparing for this year's tournament, I noticed that it began on 2nd November, an unforgettable date for me because as it was on that date that the Madeira International Bridge Open began 25 years ago, and on the same day my daughter Carolina was born. Carolina today works on the Welcome Desk as part of the team.

It has been a wonderful journey, and it gives me enormous satisfaction that we have reached our 26th year with the biggest participation ever. It is an accolade from our visitors for which we are most grateful. Thank you all.

This year's tournament will retain the same successful format as in recent years.

I hope that your stay on this beautiful island is a pleasurable one, and that you enjoy participating in our festival of bridge.

All the best.

Miguel Teixeira



On Sunday afternoon 63 pairs contested the Charity Challenge, 21 pairs from Iceland and a similar number from Northern Europe, those of you not arithmetically challenged will have deduced that yet again the same number of players hailed from Southern Europe. After 24 boards of cut and thrust **Lars Neilsen and Mette Drogemuller** emerged as winners with 65.97%, they were followed by **Antonio Palmer and Maya Heed** on 62.08% and in third place came **Gabriel Gislason and Gisli Steingrimsen** with 60.21%.

A full report will be available in tomorrow's bulletin along with a first count of how much money was raised for the charity.

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• 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.
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**The Welcome Cocktail Party will be held at the Hotel VidaMar at
18.00 Monday 6th November**

WARM-UP PAIRS – MONDAY 20.30

To enter, please arrive in the Selvagens suites in the VidaMar Hotel from 20.00 onwards.



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MAIN PROGRAMME 6th – 12th November 2022

Location - Congress Room + Selvagens 1-2-3

MONDAY 6 th November	20.30	Closing time for Pairs Tournament Entries
TUESDAY 7 th November	16.00	Open Pairs Tournament Session 1
WEDNESDAY 8 th November	16.00	Open Pairs Tournament Session 2
THURSDAY 9 th November	16.00 20.00	Open Pairs Tournament Session 3 Final Results
FRIDAY 10 th November	18.00 19.30 20.30	Team Assignments Deadline for Teams Tournament Entries Open Teams Tournament Session 1 (3 matches)
SATURDAY 11 th November	11.00 13.15 14.30	Open Teams Tournament Session 2 (2 matches) Lunch Break (light lunch included) Open Teams Tournament Session 3 (4 matches)
SUNDAY 12 th November	14.30 19.00	Open Teams Tournament Session 4 (3 matches) Final Results

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

**The Reykjavik
Bridge Festival**

will be held in Harpa Concert hall
on 25th of January through 28th of January

2024

REYKJAVIK
BRIDGE
FESTIVAL

reykjavikbridgefestival.com

INTER-NATIONS CHALLENGE (CHARITY EVENT)

Sunday 5th November, 16.00

The proceeds from this year's Charity Challenge tournament will go to the Special Education Unit at the Dr. Horácio Bento de Gouveia Middle School.

Over the past few years, the school has developed a focus on inclusivity, initiating and managing new approaches, policies and educational practices to conform with current national and regional legislation.

This focus challenges all of us to follow a clear path, the path of inclusion: of building a more democratic school, based on universal rights, principles and fundamental values that are widely shared; a school for all, without exceptions, and for each individual; a universal school, where each child and young person is given the care, attention and respect they deserve in a mainstream environment, and the opportunity to realise their full learning potential; where individual difference is seen not as a problem but rather as a value, enriching and challenging the creativity and professionalism of education professionals.

It was in this spirit that in 2013 the school embraced the challenge of creating an in-house Special Education Unit. In the intervening period the unit has remoulded itself to better meet the needs of the children it serves, and to meet the guidelines and legal framework.

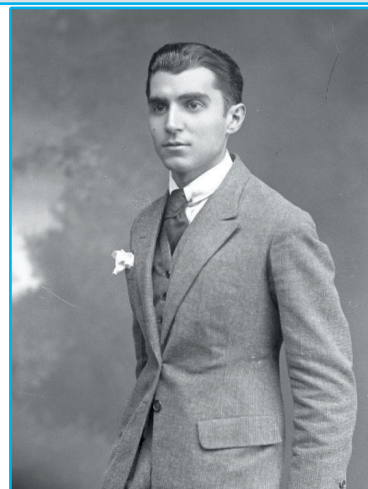
Hence, the Special Education Unit:

- Forms part of the continuum of educational responses provided by the school for pupils with identified long-term difficulties in communication, interaction, cognition or learning;
- Offers a dynamic, supportive structure which brings together human and material resources with a view to achieving inclusion up to the end of compulsory schooling, and promotes flexibility in the curriculum;
- Promotes a sense of belonging and participation in children and young people in school classes, routines and activities, by a range of strategies which facilitate access to the curriculum;
- Promotes and supports access to leisure, social participation and independent living;
- Develops interdisciplinary intervention methods to facilitate learning processes, autonomy and adjustment to the school context;
- Encourages the creation of structured environments, rich in communication and interaction, which foster learning;
- Supports the process of transition to post-school life, making the most of existing school resources and establishing partnerships, and inviting the community to participate and enrich the educational process of these students;
- Promotes consistent involvement of families, and utilises technical interventions at a therapeutic level, or any other services which will benefit the students.

The implementation of these policies is possible only with everyone's involvement - everyone. And by 'everyone' we mean not only the school, but the entire community. Ultimately, it is the community - with its dynamism and the people who are part of it - which guides and gives meaning to the values the school follows. Each one of us has an important role to play in the great challenge which is the education and social integration of our young people. Each of us is an irreplaceable and essential contributor to the development of a more open, inclusive and humane society.

The Teaching Team of the Special Education Unit

Elisabete Carvalho and Maria João Martins



Horácio de Ornelas Bento de Gouveia (5 September 1901 - 23 May 1983) was a Madeiran writer, poet, journalist and teacher.



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The **Welcome Desk** in the lobby of VidaMar Tower 2 will be open at the following times:

Thursday 2 nd November	19.00 – 20.30
Friday 3 rd November	14.30 – 16.00
Saturday 4 th November	14.30 – 16.00
Sunday 5 th November	14.30 – 16.00
Monday 6 th November	10.30 – 13.00 14.30 – 16.30 19.30 – 20.30
Tuesday 7 th November	10.30 – 13.00 14.30 – 16.00
Wednesday 8 th November	14.30 – 16.00
Thursday 9 th November	14.30 – 16.00
Friday 10 th November	18.00 – 20.30
Saturday 11 th November	13.30 – 14.30
Sunday 12 th November	13.00 – 14.30

If you need help or information outside these times, please ask at the hotel's Reception Desk or speak to one of the Directors.

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.





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SOCIAL PROGRAMME

- MONDAY 6th November** 18.00 – Welcome Cocktail – Hotel VidaMar.
- WEDNESDAY 8th 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 10th 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 12th 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

ENTRY FEES

Pairs	€ 170.00
Teams	€ 170.00
Pairs + Team	€ 285.00
Pairs + Traditional Dinner	€ 200.00
Pairs + Teams + Traditional Dinner	€ 310.00
Pairs + Teams + Closing Dinner	€ 315.00
Pairs + Teams + Traditional + Closing Dinner	€ 330.00
Traditional Dinner	€ 30.00
Friday Excursion	€ 30.00
Saturday Lunch (non-players)	€ 20.00
Closing Dinner	€ 45.00

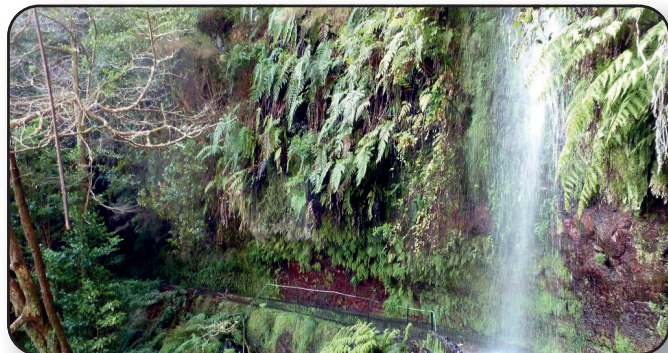
SIDE EVENTS

2 nd November – 13 th November 2023	Congress Room
Thursday 2 nd Portuguese Simultaneous Pairs (€10)	20.30
Friday 3 rd IMP Pairs 1 (€10)	16.00
Saturday 4 th IMP Pairs 2 (€10)	16.00
Sunday 5 th Charity Tournament (€15)	16.00
Monday 6 th Warm-up Pairs (€15)	20.30
Monday 13 th Cool-down Pairs (€10)	20.30



Optional Excursions Friday 10th November

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

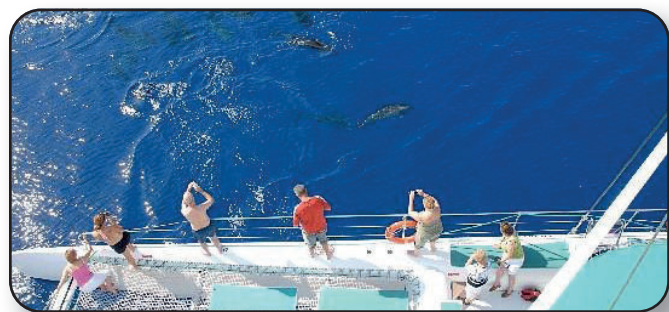


The amazing Levada do Rei (King's Levada), which runs for 5.3 km and takes about 3½ hours to walk. The levada offers spectacular views of the agricultural terraces of São Jorge and Santana. The walk starts and finishes in the same location and rises from 530m to 710m along the contours of the island's interior through mature natural forest rich in biodiversity.

The tunnels formed by the luxuriant vegetation allow sight of a wide variety of species including Madeira laurels, bay trees, Madeira mahogany and animal species such as firecrest and finch. We will take lunch at the hotel Quinta do Furão and return to VidaMar at approximately 15:00.

Please bring good walking shoes or boots, a warm coat (in case of low temperatures in the mountains) and a bottle of water. Grade: easy; total distance: 10.6 km; Duration: approx. 3½ hours.

Option C: Catamaran (limited availability)
coach leaves hotel 9.00



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).

Option B: Over the Mountains (full day, lunch included)
coach leaves hotel 09.15



First stop Monte, a small village on the hills 6km above Funchal where you can see the remains of the almost-forgotten rack-and-pinion railway which used to connect Monte to Funchal, in particular the original base station which still stands at the foot of the hill. Monte is notable for its gardens and older green spaces, some of which are open to the public, and their exotic plants and flowers. Monte is now linked to Funchal and the Botanical Gardens by cable car. Next we will head to Ribeiro Frio, taking in a 30-minute walk along the levada to the Miradouro dos Balcões, a route lined with beautiful trees, flowers and rock formations ending in a stupendous view of some of Madeira's highest peaks; along the way you will meet some of the island's birds, which are used to visitors. You can take the time to enjoy the vegetation and the superb landscapes. We will take lunch at the hotel Quinta do Furão in the Santana area. We return to Funchal via the Guindaste viewpoint, where we will make a brief stop to admire the breathtaking view of the north coast. Return to VidaMar approximately 16.15.

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



Ron Tacchi Reflects On This Year's Festival

As I pen this disquisition from my office on a cold, windy and rainy day in the French countryside I suddenly realise that in a few days time I will be boarding a plane for Madeira for the 26th iteration of the Madeira Festival. It also strikes me that this is the tenth time I will grace the VidaMar, as they say, time flies when you are having fun. To me it is incredible that in October 2014 I set off for this distant island unknown to me, to a place called Funchal to help with the Bulletin. I enjoyed it so much that I have managed to persuade the organisers to have me back every year since, including those difficult 'Covid Years'. For me we have become a close-knit family joined together in arranging one of the very best festivals in the bridge calendar. It seems that I am not the only one, for when I consulted the festival website it seems we already have a record breaking entry, easily surpassing that of 2018. The Madeira Festival is back bigger and better than ever.

As in recent years my trusty team and I will endeavour to have the Bulletins ready for you to peruse whilst taking your breakfast. You will be able to pick up a copy of the Bulletin in the Ocean Restaurant of the VidaMar Hotel. They will also be available at the Welcome Desk and also beneath the screen showing the scores where additionally there will be copies of previous bulletins. Should the early version you require be absent then inform the Welcome Desk who in turn will ask us to print additional copies. You will also be able to find them in the Conference Centre about twenty minutes before play starts.

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.



VidaMar
HOTELS & RESORTS
MADEIRA ★★★★★

-10%
THALASSO SEA SPA

Except products, entries
and therapeutic massages*

25€
BUFFET DINNER

Ocean Restaurant
(drinks included)

*Discount cannot be combined with other
promotions or specials offers



The French, Blind Pigs and Acorns

Ron Tacchi

How are those three items in the title related? For the first: as many of you know I reside in France and I have been asked as to why there are so few French visitors to this festival. One of the answers is that the French bridge scene provides them with an enormous number of bridge vacations and cruises. I played in a simultaneous here in France a couple of weeks ago. At the end of the session we received a very well produced booklet in full colour analysing all of the deals. It also contained details of 43 bridge vacations all over the world, each monitored by well-known French players. It also said that this list was not exhaustive. From the number of emails I receive there must be at least six other outlets providing such a service and thus you can imagine how many possibilities there are for French *bridgeurs* to holiday both home and abroad and embrace their passion for the game. Within France nearly all players use the SEF (*Système d'Enseignement Français*) which is the five-card major bidding system taught to all new players in France. Thus whenever a French *bridgeur* meets another *bridgeur* they have a system in common and can sit down and play with little or no discussion.

Now to blind pigs and acorns - this came about as I was chatting to someone with whom I worked in the USA. We jointly recalled that our team leader would often use the expression 'Even a blind pig can find an acorn.' He would utter these words whenever someone did something very well but it was not expected of them.

This goes back to the simultaneous mentioned above and I was the blind pig. To do well in a Pairs event you need a modicum of good fortune. My good fortune was twofold, firstly I had a good partner (but not my normal partner) and secondly the movement was a Howell and we were lucky enough that we had the hands the majority of the time. Here are three examples where we were given the opportunity to collect a good result.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 6		♠ AQ10753
♥ 10974		♥ AQ52
♦ 109543		♦ Q6
♣ 842		♣ 7
♠ KJ942	N W S E	
♥ K3		
♦ A82		
♣ A105		
♠ 8		
♥ J86		
♦ KJ7		
♣ KQJ963		

West	North	East	South
-	-	1♠	2♣
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	Pass	7♠	All Pass

Our auction started well, the 3♠ bid after the club cue-bid agreed spades, showed interest in slam and confirmed the 3♣ as a control. 5♦ showed three or zero keycards and then confusion reigned. West took the 5♥ bid to ask for the trump queen and he then decided his fifth trump was equivalent to the queen and so showed it along with the king of hearts. East was unsure as to our methods after the 5♦ response and 'marked time' with 5♥ hoping partner would do something sensible. He assumed that 6♥ showed additional values and as everything had been going our way chanced the grand slam.

The lead of the ♣K revealed twelve tricks for declarer but it was not unreasonable to place the minor suit honours with South after his intervention. The opening lead was won and the trumps drawn in one round. Three rounds of hearts saw a diamond discarded from dummy and then the last heart ruffed. Declarer now ran all his trumps and South was the victim of a squeeze. He bared his diamond king in the vain hope his partner held the queen and so declarer took the thirteenth trick with his queen along with 99% of the matchpoints.



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Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

		♠ A854	
		♥ AQ72	
		♦ A96	
		♣ 53	
♠ J10			♠ KQ9763
♥ K			♥ 105
♦ Q85			♦ 1073
♣ KQJ8742			♣ 109
		♠ 2	
		♥ J98643	
		♦ KJ42	
		♣ A6	

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

Declarer took the opening lead of the king of clubs with the ace and immediately played a spade to the ace and ruffed a spade. He continued with his plan of eliminating the spade suit with a small heart towards dummy to see the welcome sight of the trump king which was taken by the ace. Another spade was ruffed with the jack - just imagine if West had been dealt ♥K10 and had played the king on the first round, partner would not have been amused to lose an unnecessary trick. A second round of trumps to the queen allowed the final spade to be ruffed. Having completed the elimination all declarer had to do was to decide how to play the diamond suit. With East having been proven to hold the ♠KQ then for his opening bid West should have the ♦Q for his Double. So declarer exited with his club, if West won the trick then he was endplayed and if East won the trick declarer would have to play him for the ♦10. In practice West hopped up with an honour and so declarer had twelve tricks and well over 90% of the match points.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

		♠ J95	
		♥ J	
		♦ AKJ1054	
		♣ K82	
♠ AQ74			♠ K3
♥ K4			♥ AQ98653
♦ 8632			♦ 7
♣ Q95			♣ A106
		♠ 10862	
		♥ 1072	
		♦ Q9	
		♣ J743	

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	1♥	Pass
1♠	2♦	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

South led the ♦Q which held the trick and continued with another that declarer ruffed. From the bidding it is most likely that North holds the ♣K and South the spade length. There seems to be no obvious squeeze for the twelfth trick but as Terence Reese used to say when he ventured onto the backgammon table at the Saint James club 'Watch and wonder'. Declarer took two rounds of hearts finishing in dummy and then played the ♣Q, covered by North and taken by the ace. Now declarer had successfully transferred the club menace from North to South and so when the trumps were run the four of spades provided the twelfth trick and again a score well in excess of 90%.

At the end of the session we had scored high on 72% and were first out of 1551 pairs. Fortunately the title of this article did not have room for 'Blowing One's Own Trumpet'.



Memory Lane

Mark Horton

It's time to look back at some of the deals from the 2022 Festival.

Charity Pairs

I was intending a watching-brief, but when Carlos Luiz dropped by to kibitz, we decided to play – remarkably the first time we have sat opposite each other in the 25 years of the Festival.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A7			
♥ AQJ1032			
♦ 76			
♣ AK9			
♠ 63			♠ KQ109854
♥ K65			♥ —
♦ AJ1095			♦ K83
♣ Q85			♣ 732
	♠ J2		
	♥ 9874		
	♦ Q42		
	♣ J1064		

West	North	East	South
—	Carlos		Mark
Pass	—	4♠	Pass
	Double	All Pass	

East's decision to open 4♠ left little room for manoeuvre. If N/S can make 11 tricks then it is likely that 4♠ will go down, so I decided to let matters rest. When I elected to lead the ♦2 declarer was not hard pressed to record an overtrick and pick up 10.1 IMPs.

Notice that if N/S play in 5♥ the defenders need to do the right thing. On a spade lead declarer wins and plays back a spade, putting East in the hot seat. That's one reason why if East opens 3♠ West might do well to respond 4♦ - a fit non-jump.

Warm Up Pairs

When your opponents reach a contract that appears to be unbeatable, you may sometimes be able to deflect declarer from the winning line:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Asgrimsson	Thiele	Bergsson	Verdegaal
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♣*
3♠	4♣	4♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	
3♣	Clubs and heart support		

North led a club and declarer took the ace and played a diamond, North following with the queen! A spade to the king and ace saw North return the ♠6. Given the bidding and North's play of the ♦Q do you blame declarer for playing North for a 3-5-1-4 pattern and finessing?

It was a spectacular defence that netted Mark Thiele and Renée Verdegaal 98/4.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

27th Madeira International Bridge Open
31st October - 11th November 2024
(Main Events 5th-10th November)



XXVI Madeira Bridge Festival



Pairs Championship

Everyone likes to bid a grand slam – as long as you can make it:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ K 10 9 6 4	♠ Q J 5 3	♠ 8 7 2
♥ 9 7 5	♥ Q	♥ J 6
♦ 9 3	♦ A 8 5	♦ J 7 4 2
♣ K 9 2	♣ A J 10 8 4	♣ 7 6 5 3
	♠ A	
	♥ A K 10 8 4 3 2	
	♦ K Q 10 6	
	♣ 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 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

It looks pretty much routine to reach 4♥.

When East leads the ♦Q one option is to win and test the trumps. If they are 2-2 you can then play a spade to the king, come back to hand with a trump and play a second spade.

When trumps prove to be 3-1 you must draw the outstanding one and play a spade to the ten. What you must avoid is playing only two rounds of trumps before playing a spade, as then East wins, cashes two diamonds allowing West to discard two spades and then plays a spade for West to ruff.

On general principles it looks right to duck the opening lead. If West wins and switches to a spade East can win and play the ♦J but even though the ♦A gets ruffed, declarer has the rest.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
–	–	Pass	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Double
3NT	Pass	6NT	All Pass

South's double backfired when North led the ♦Q!



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Declarer won, played the ♠K to South's ace, won the diamond return and cashed the clubs. This was the position when declarer played dummy's ♠Q:

♠ —	♠ J	♠ Q
♥ A10	♥ 53	♥ Q97
♦ J2	♦ 8	♦ —
♣ —	♣ —	♣ —
	♠ —	
	♥ KJ	
	♦ 109	
	♣ —	

As you can see, South had no answer.

+1440 concludes coverage of the 2022 Pairs Championship with yet another 100% solution!

Teams

In many sports the penultimate day of play is regarded as significant for those hoping to have a chance of victory. That is definitely the case on the long-Saturday of the Madeira Festival!

In Round 8 Nuno Matos faced Resi:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ AKJ85	♠ 62	♠ Q1043
♥ KJ8	♥ Q10654	♥ A7
♦ 6	♦ K10752	♦ AQ3
♣ KQ103	♣ 4	♣ A876
	♠ 97	
	♥ 932	
	♦ J984	
	♣ J952	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Schreckenberger	Teixeira	Engel	Brenner
—	—	1NT	Pass
2♥*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♠	Pass
7♠	All Pass		

South led the ♠7 and declarer won with dummy's jack, cashed the ♠A and then played the ♣K. When both defenders followed with a small card declarer continued with the ♣3 and claimed.

Imagine South had played the ♣9 on the first round of the suit? If that is a singleton it means North started with ♣J542 and playing a low club to the ace will now be fatal.

This is a well-known situation and one way that (sometimes) avoids the problem is for declarer to start the suit by leading a low club from the ace to four. That way South might be reluctant to play the nine in case partner has the singleton ten. It would not have been an issue here, with the ten on view in dummy!

By chance we know that elsewhere Anne Gladiator did drop the ♣9, but declarer did not take the bait!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Paz	Gromoeller	Luiz	Babsch
—	—	1NT	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
7♠	All Pass		
2♥	Transfer		
2NT	4♠, maximum		
3♥	Retransfer		
4NT	RKCB		
5♣	3 keycards		
5♦	♠Q?		
5NT	Yes		

Here declarer started clubs by playing low to the ace, so dropping the nine would only have given him an anxious moment for a second.

Bridge writers are not usually attracted by low-level contracts. Not least because they frequently contain many potential twists and turns that can be hard to analyse with limited time at one's disposal.

However, they can contain instructive points, as for example, this deal from Round 5 of the teams:

To prove they can be interesting I'll conclude with a humble part score:



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Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ J
 ♥ K9543
 ♦ K983
 ♣ J94

♠ A874
 ♥ AJ108
 ♦ 754
 ♣ 86

♠ 10653
 ♥ 72
 ♦ A1062
 ♣ A72

♠ KQ92
 ♥ Q6
 ♦ QJ
 ♣ KQ1053

West	North	East	South
	<i>Sørensen</i>		<i>Randrup</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Double	1♥	1♠	1NT
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Looking briefly at all four hands it appears that declarer is likely to lose a spade, three trumps, a diamond and a club.

East led the ♠3 and West took the ace and switched to the ♦7, East winning with the ace and returning the ♦2 to dummy's queen. Declarer

cashed dummy's top spades, discarding a club and a diamond and then ruffed a spade before cashing the ♦K and playing a club to the king followed by the ♣Q, East taking the ace. These cards remained:

♠ —
 ♥ K954
 ♦ —
 ♣ —

♠ —
 ♥ AJ108
 ♦ —
 ♣ —

♠ —
 ♥ 72
 ♦ 10
 ♣ 7

♠ —
 ♥ Q6
 ♦ —
 ♣ 105

Whatever East did next, West could only score two trump tricks.

How did Flemming Bøgh Sørensen appreciate that it was best to leave the trump suit well alone? The clue came from West's double, suggesting that he would be short in clubs. If East had also appreciated that, an initial club lead would have set up an unavoidable ruff to defeat the contract.

We are searching for players who have attended the Madeira Festival 25 or 26 times. If you are one of these special people please let the organising team know. You can leave your details at the Welcome Desk or contact a member of the Bulletin staff in the Executive MeetingRoom (at the other end of the fourth floor from the playing area).



Madeira - Well Worth Waiting For

Martin Cantor

An English proverb has it that “everything comes to those who wait”. Complete nonsense of course, unless you can bring yourself to believe that at 70 I still have a chance of representing my country at rugby. But sometimes patience is rewarded; after many years where work or family commitments got in the way, in 2022 I finally got to play in the Madeira International Bridge Congress. It was well worth the wait. Great setting, fabulous organisation, convenient timings, excellent playing conditions. It would have been better if I’d played better, but that’s not exactly a first for me, and I enjoyed the bridge despite the below par performance. For me the outstanding deal of the week was this one, even though my team lost 11 IMPs on it, and I got some (in my opinion unjustified) stick for it from teammates. I was West, my partner was Kjeld ‘Kello’ Hansen.

Open Teams. Match 10

Board 2. Dealer East, N/S Vul

♠ AKQ	♠ J10862	♠ 943
♥ K4	♥ AQJ7	♥ 65
♦ 10974	♦ A8	♦ KJ32
♣ A532	♣ 109	♣ KQJ6
	♠ 75	
	♥ 109832	
	♦ Q65	
	♣ 874	



West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	Pass
1NT	2♥*	3NT	All Pass
2♥	both majors at least 5-4		

North led the ♠J, and my analysis went thus. I have seven tricks in the black suits, no more, no less (good aren’t I). So I need two tricks from the red suits (I hope you’re still following). Now, if South has the ♥K then I just need a trick from diamonds, and North would likely hold the ♦A for the vulnerable overcall. But the odds are against finding the ♥A onside, and I surely don’t want to

base a plan on that, but maybe I can keep it as a last resort. The alternatives are either:

two tricks from diamonds. This would need ♦AQ(+) in North, or singleton queen in South; or

one diamond trick, then throwing North in to give me a heart. This would need North to hold the ♦A stiff, or to fail to unblock it if not stiff. It would also need me to cash just the right number of clubs before executing the throw-in (see below).

These both seemed reasonable lines, but was there something more to consider? The clear danger was a heart lead from South. Would this be automatic? I checked the opponents’ convention card, and was pleased to see that the lead of the jack was consistent with a holding of AJ10+ or KJ10+, also that they did not seem to be playing Smith. Which meant that if a diamond lost to South at trick two, he might return a spade. In which case I would only fail if South held ♦AQ, and in that case I had no winning line. It seemed to me that the combined chances of North holding both diamond honours, or of North holding just one and South continuing spades, were significantly higher than the throw-in.

So that is what I played for, winning trick one with the ♠Q (allowing for North’s lead from AJ10+ or KJ10+ and immediately playing a diamond., North following with the 8. I still had choices. I could go up with the king and, if it held, then if it dropped South’s queen I was home and dry, and if not I would still have the option of cashing the ‘right’ number of clubs for the throw-in, whether North had started with ♦A8 or ♦AQ8. Or I could finesse, making if North had both honours, or if South had one only and continued spades. I chose the latter option, South won the ♦Q and promptly played a heart for a two trick set.

In the other room, on essentially the same auction, West cashed all the black winners, then led a diamond up. North, having come under some pressure on the run of the clubs, had discarded the small diamond and so was endplayed. Not easy for North to see that he could discard the winning spades, or one of those and a heart,



or even two hearts. Or, most spectacularly of all, discard the diamond ace (after which the ♦8 can go too). And this is why I referred earlier to cashing “the right number of clubs”. Because if you cash one too many North (say with 5512 shape) can jettison that diamond ace.

So, can West legitimately make 3NT? No. As described above, on the natural spade lead, not if North is alive to the danger of the throw-in and either gets rid of the diamond ace, or keeps it with the small one and takes the first round of the suit. The same applies on a club lead. The less natural lead of a red suit honour also beats

it. Only the absurd lead of a small red card allows West to make by force.

So much for the theory, what about the practice? Seventy-four of the eighty-four tables played 3NT. The five times East was declarer it was down. But of the 69 times that West declared, it made 41 times, even on a couple of occasions after a top heart lead. Which goes to show how tough a hand it was to defend. If you defeated it by throwing the ♦A away on a club, then I suggest you call into the Bulletin Office and get your name in lights.

A Tale From The IMP Pairs 1

Ceri Pierce

The first of the IMP Pairs was held on Friday at 4pm, a very civilised time to play leaving the day free to enjoy the fab weather and the night free to enjoy dinner and a bottle of wine. As I said last year, it is important to get one's priorities in life right.

The IMP Pairs this year was a Swiss affair with six 4-board rounds. The bulletin staff paired up to chance their arm following an extensive system discussion which went along the lines of “Shall we play Acol or 2 over 1?”.

Bridge can be a cruel game if you are on the wrong side of the table. Fortune smiled on our opponents when they landed in a top contract in the first match.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ Q8543			
♥ J10974			
♦ J52			
♣ —			
♠ 97			♠ A62
♥ 6			♥ AQ2
♦ Q87			♦ A943
♣ K986532			♣ AQJ
			♠ KJ10
			♥ K853
			♦ K106
			♣ 1074

West	North	East	South
<i>Fernades</i>	<i>Tacchi</i>	<i>Morgado</i>	<i>Pierce</i>
-	-	Pass	
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT*	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	6NT	All Pass

3NT was alerted by East as five spades and four hearts, but West thought 3NT was natural with a passed hand. East duly bid 4♠ and then as far as he was concerned his partner's next bid of 5♣ was a cue-bid and he placed 6NT on the table.

On lead as South, it was apparent that there had been a misunderstanding and I was smacking my lips waiting for all my kings to make. However, the last laugh was on me. What to lead? I opted for a passive club as I did not want to give away what could be the setting trick. Alas – wrong! As you can see declarer can make seven clubs, the ♠A and ♥A and to rub salt into the wounds the diamonds broke 3-3 with the king on the right side for twelve tricks.

The only lead to beat this contract was a spade from ♠KJ10 but alas I did not have Mystic Meg sitting at my shoulder.



The Festival Begins

Portuguese Sim Pairs - Ceri Pierce

I arrived in Madeira on Wednesday evening, having left the UK on a particularly miserable afternoon. It was 22 degrees when I landed (at 8pm) with no wind. The view of the island's twinkling lights as the plane approached was nothing short of magical and when I was whisked off for a superb meal and an excellent bottle of wine sitting outside in the warm night air, I literally heaved a sigh of relief to be back here again. I am sure you will feel the same and if you don't then it can only be because it is your first time here. I exaggerate not.

The start to the 26th Festival of Bridge commenced with a relatively calm pairs event on Thursday evening. Weather reports from players around Europe also revealed bad weather, early snow, giant hailstones, floods and storms. A sad reflection on the world's climate problems, I fear.

Our esteemed editor, the lovely Ron Tacchi (you cannot miss him – look out for the shirt) found that all trains to Paris were to be cancelled on the day of his flight due to Storm Ciaran – presumably because of the potential for trees and such stuff to be blown onto the lines. He was not convinced that the flight would not be cancelled either, but made the safety play of setting off a day early to Paris (he does actually live in France by the way) to ensure his departure to Madeira. Meanwhile back at home, it was, let's say, a somewhat moist day, one tree blew down and there was no electricity for 7 hours.

On to the bridge. I played with our very own Eduardo in the Simultaneous Pair. Eduardo works tirelessly behind the scenes (as do many others) to ensure that this festival runs smoothly – he can usually be found locked up in the Directors Room sorting out boards, equipment, supplies – you name it. And if not, he can be found driving around the Island delivering/collecting people and bridge paraphernalia. I am surprised that he actually finds time to play bridge.

However, he did and as usual there were some interesting hands.:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ AKQ109843
♥ 93
♦ 95
♣ J

♠ 62
♥ A6
♦ 10732
♣ 108654

W N E S

♠ 5
♥ J
♦ AKQJ8
♣ KQ9732

♠ J7
♥ KQ1087542
♦ 64
♣ A

This deal came along – a problem for which there is no easy solution – the word poker springs to mind.:

The bidding proceeded :

West	North	East	South
<i>Pierce</i>	<i>Bützow</i>	<i>Fernandez</i>	<i>Niemi</i>
–	–	1♣	4♥
Pass	4♠	5♣	Pass
Pass	5♠	Double	All Pass

A stressful decision at the five-level for North/South which one cannot sensibly get right or wrong – you just have no way of knowing. I have no problem with the 5♠ bid which emerged from North. However, my partner knew what to do with that – again having little choice in practice other than to double. More words, such as rock and hard place spring to mind.

The play commenced with ♦A, discouraged with the ♦2 followed by the ♦K. Just in case partner needed to know what to play next, the ♦10 was played to ask for a heart switch. A heart to the ace and a heart ruff netted a score of 500 to East/West.

Many pairs played in 5♠ – mostly undoubled – in which case North/South get a good board. It's all a bit of a conundrum. Note that had North/South played in 5♥, then they would only go one off for a great score because there is no spade ruff available. East's singleton trump is the only entry to his partner's hand – which removes his trump!

The moral of the story is that high level bidding is very hard to get right. Knowing whether



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to pass, bid on or double is very difficult. Players today will push the bidding up as high as possible as quickly as possible in order to make their opponents guess (and hopefully make the wrong decision).

The frequencies for this board are shown below – those that played in Five Spades undoubled got a good board as did those who pushed East/West to bid 6♣.

5♣	E = ♥K	-400	5 13
5♠x	N -2 ♦A	-500	0 18
5♣	E = ♠J	-400	5 13
5♣	E = ♥K	-400	5 13
6♣	E -1 ♠J	50	14 4
6♠	N -2 ♦A	-200	11 7
6♠x	W -1 ♠J	100	16 2
5♦	E = ♣A	-400	5 13
5♠	N +1 ♥J	680	18 0
5♠	N -2 ♦A	-200	11 7

Here is another high-level decision.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ AK109		
♥ KQ7632		
♦ —		
♣ K94		
♠ J73		♠ Q85
♥ 85		♥ 4
♦ KJ10952		♦ AQ763
♣ 62		♣ AJ75
		♠ 642
		♥ AJ109
		♦ 84
		♣ Q1083

In the olden days (i.e., a couple of years ago) the bidding would be likely to proceed as follows:

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	Double	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

If East wanders in to the auction with 4♦ in response to his partner's double, East will bid 5♦ and North/South are left guessing what the winning action is.

In today's world the bidding could even proceed :

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
3♦(yes!)	Double	5♦	?
Pass	?		
?	who knows!		

Even if North/South find their heart fit, they are left with a sweaty guess at the five-level, which is not a great place to be, especially in the warm weather. As it happens 5♥ does make and 5♦ goes just two off, so the winning action in pairs is to bid 5♥.

The frequencies from this board were :

4♥	N +1 ♦A	650	14 4
5♥	N -1 ♦A	-100	0 18
4♥	N +1 ♦A	650	14 4
5♠x	E -2 ♦A	500	5 13
4♦	W -1 ♥K	100	2 16
5♥	N = ♦A	650	14 4
5♠x	E -2 ♥A	500	5 13
4♥	N +1 ♠8	650	14 4
5♥	N = ♦A	650	14 4
4♥	N = ♠5	620	8 10

Happy pre-empting folks. Enjoy the rest of the tournament.

Diolch.

Simultaneous Pairs Results

	Names
1	Harry Burmania - John Linse
2	Marit Aastrand - Per Hult
3	Michel Ingelbert - Françoise Ingelbert
4	Haakan Tjarnemo - Bengt Emanuelsson
5	Gisli Thorarinsson - Thordur Sigurdsson
6	Pierre Carbonnier - Eva Reiner
7	Eduardo Fernandes - Ceri Pierce
8	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
9	Nick Nautilus - Jacob Bereslavsky
10	Ron Tacchi - Allie Hoenstok
11	Lasse Utter - Maria Tulonen

12	Leena Bützow - Seppo Niemi
13	Hannes Sigurdsson - Petur Reimarsson
14	Laura Woodruff - Nuno D Martins
15	João Machado - José Macedo
16	Torfason Thorbergur - Sigurdur Gunnarsson
17	Anna Nielsen - Aron Thorfinsson
18	Lucian Comanescu - Mihaela Comanescu
19	Roennaug Asla - Svein Markussen
20	Harpa Fold Ingolfssdottir - Erle Vilborg Adolfsdottir



More Tales From The IMP Pairs 1

Ron Tacchi

On Friday afternoon I sat down to play in the IMP Pairs with Ceri, my comrade from the Bulletin Team. The bridge gods had not been smiling on our efforts. At one point in the proceedings we reached a score of zero IMPs but on the scoring screen it was recorded as -0.00, we were rated as negative even when we had nothing – I could tell how the session would end.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

		♠ A9873	
		♥ —	
		♦ AK1062	
		♣ Q76	
♠ Q5	W N E S	♠ 1062	
♥ KQJ752		♥ A10984	
♦ 9		♦ 85	
♣ K832		♣ A94	
		♠ KJ4	
		♥ 63	
		♦ QJ743	
		♣ J105	

West	North	East	South
	<i>Me</i>		<i>Ceri</i>
–	1♠	Pass	2♠
3♥	4♠	All Pass	

On the lead of a heart I ruffed in hand and then made the lazy play of a spade to the jack, my excuse is that I was tired and irritable and a successful spade finesse would garner me ten tricks. Of course when the spade finesse lost another heart forced me to ruff. I was not lost yet, all I had to do was to tackle the club suit, but I was annoyed with myself for taking an unnecessary losing finesse. As Gerald Hoffnung's bricklayer said 'at this point I lost my presence of mind' and I took another round of trumps. Now I was truly lost and failed as I would lose control as soon as I broached the club suit. Of course the correct way to make your contract is to take one round of trumps and then tackle the club suit. If the defence persists with hearts you are protected

against a third round by dummy's trumps and if they try playing for a diamond ruff you can now draw a second round of trumps and establish your club trick. The contract is always cold if the trumps break 3-2.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ AKJ6	
	♥ A74	
	♦ 1072	
	♣ J54	
♠ 932	W N E S	♠ Q84
♥ 3		♥ QJ952
♦ K94		♦ 53
♣ Q109872		♣ K63
	♠ 1075	
	♥ K1086	
	♦ AQJ86	
	♣ A	

West	North	East	South
	<i>Me</i>		<i>Ceri</i>
–	–	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Prior to sitting down I had been chatting with my partner and said that one of things I liked to do was play a contract in a Moysian fit (after Alphonse 'Sonny' Moysie, who died fifty years ago) and as if by magic one came my way. The lead was the queen of hearts which I took in hand. I followed this up with a losing diamond finesse. I took the club return in dummy and now played a small spade to the jack – yet another losing finesse and when East continued hearts West had the temerity to trump it but now I had the rest of the tricks as I could ruff the club return in dummy, draw trumps and cash the diamonds. So in spite of the slings and arrows of outrageous distribution I had brought home the game contract – you can make Five Diamonds but it would require some incredible card reading.



A Year Is A Very Long Time

IMP Pairs 2 - Mark Horton

A part from an unsuccessful attempt to win the coveted Staff Pairs at the World Championships in Marrakech (I still can't understand why the Director didn't stop the event two rounds before the end!) it is almost exactly a year since I sat at the table. Then, as now it was a last-minute partnership with the legendary Carlos Luiz, designed to help the organisers by avoiding a half-table in the IMP Pairs 2.

Here is a brief selection from the event:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 2	♠ AK10875	♠ —
♥ AK54	♥ Q1082	♥ J6
♦ A9652	♦ —	♦ KQJ1074
♣ A92	♣ J43	♣ Q10875
	♠ QJ9643	
	♥ 973	
	♦ 83	
	♣ K6	

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2♠
Double	4♠	4NT*	Pass
5♦	5♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	6♦	Pass
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

Once South has opened 2♠ North is never going to let E/W play the hand (unless they reach the dizzy heights of 7♦). The only question is what, if any, is the best strategy to attempt to 'steal' the deal at a low level. Passing is an option, but it gives E/W room to manoeuvre. A subtle raise to 3♠ is a possibility, but takes little space away from East. A splinter bid of 4♦ is another idea, but risks telling E/W how to tackle that suit if a high card is missing.

15 pairs bid 6♦, three making it, four going one down and the rest having to double 6♠.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 3	♠ KJ10742	♠ A6
♥ 1084	♥ 7	♥ J965
♦ K1097	♦ Q64	♦ A85
♣ KQ1043	♣ 972	♣ J865
	♠ Q985	
	♥ AKQ32	
	♦ J32	
	♣ A	

West	North	East	South
2♠	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

4♥ is an easier contract than 3NT – and if North responds 3♣ it will be reached in short order.

If West leads a spade against 3NT declarer will be in a very strong position, and nine tricks should always be recorded. A passive lead will make declarer work much harder, but it is still possible to prevail. Suppose West leads a diamond?

Declarer wins in hand with the jack (it would be tempting but wrong for East to win and switch to spades) and unblocks the ♣A. Now the winning line for declarer is to play a spade! I saw this at the table, but was overcome by a touch of the Oscar Wilde's (I can resist everything except temptation) and crossed to dummy with a diamond hoping that one or both of clubs and hearts would provide the necessary tricks.

7 pairs made the heart game, only two scoring nine tricks in 3NT.



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Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ J108		
	♥ 86		
	♦ 543		
	♣ J8542		
♠ K943	W N E S	♠ A62	
♥ QJ54		♥ 32	
♦ 2		♦ AJ10987	
♣ KQ76		♣ A10	
	♠ Q75		
	♥ AK1097		
	♦ KQ6		
	♣ 93		

West	North	East	South
–	–	1♦	1♥
Double	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the ♥8 and South won with the ♥K and continued with the ♥10, declarer winning with the jack and playing a diamond for the jack and king. Now South cleared the hearts, declarer discarding diamonds from dummy. That was not the simplest line of play, but it led to an amusing situation (if you have a sense of humour) when North discarded one of his spades. Declarer reached this position:

	♠ J10		
	♥ —		
	♦ 54		
	♣ J8		
♠ K943	W N E S	♠ A62	
♥ —		♥ —	
♦ —		♦ A109	
♣ Q7		♣ —	
	♠ Q75		
	♥ 9		
	♦ Q6		
	♣ —		

When she cashed the ♣Q throwing dummy's nine of diamonds what can South discard? The best chance is to pitch the ♥9, but declarer can then take three rounds of spades, and South has to lead into dummy's diamond tenace.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ 5	
	♥ 987	
	♦ AJ8754	
	♣ Q103	
♠ K9762	♠ N ♥ W E ♦ S	♠ 4
♥ 62		♥ KJ543
♦ Q10		♦ K93
♣ AJ76		♣ 8542
	♠ AQJ1083	
	♥ AQ10	
	♦ 62	
	♣ K9	

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the ♣6 and declarer won with the nine and played the ♠A followed by the ♠10, East discarding a heart. West took the next spade and exited with heart, declarer taking East's jack with the queen and playing the ♣K. West won and exited with a club to dummy's queen. Now declarer played a low diamond from dummy and West could win and cash a club, but was then in trouble. For example, exiting with a spade allows declarer to win, while East, forced to hold on to two diamonds must blank the ♥K (of course it doesn't matter here). Exiting with the ♦Q is best, but declarer still has the heart finesse in reserve.

Four pairs made 3NT while three made 4♠ (West needs to find a diamond lead to beat it).

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ K7	
	♥ AK842	
	♦ AQ	
	♣ KJ64	
♠ J9654	♠ N ♥ W E ♦ S	♠ 1082
♥ J10		♥ Q754
♦ K		♦ 87432
♣ Q9872		♣ 10
	♠ AQ3	
	♥ 93	
	♦ J10965	
	♣ A53	



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West	North	East	South
–	–	–	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	6NT	All Pass	
2♣	Checkback		
2♦	Not 3♥		

3NT is a better bid over 3♣, suggesting a solid spade stopper. 3♥ would be the bid with a doubleton honour in the suit. However, 6NT is the likely

resting place once South has opened the bidding. On a spade lead declarer, short of entries to hand cannot afford the luxury of trying to find the doubleton king of diamonds onside but winning in dummy and cashing the ♦A executes a reverse Rabbi's Rule. With 12 tricks now on top declarer can take the club finesse for a meaningless over-trick. 15 pairs bid 6NT, one of them having the good fortune to be doubled which translated into +1880. (Where was the redouble?!).

IMP Pairs 2 Results

	Names
1	Dennis Ottevanger - Agnes Wesseling
2	Haakan Tjarnemo - Bengt Emanuelsson
3	Nick Nautilus - Jacob Bereslavsky
4	Harry Burmania - John Linse
5	Aron Thorfinsson - Birkir Jon Jonsson
6	Inda Hronn Bjornsdottir - Björn Thorláksson
7	Hans Metselaar - Mike Reuser
8	Marit Aastrand - Per Hult
9	Tomas Kreglewski - Hanna Kalotka-Kreglewski
10	Christian Lahrmann - Mads Eyde
11	John Arblaster - Mel Barlow
12	Lars K Nielsen - Mette Drogemuller
13	Sigurdur Skagfjord - Kristinn Kristjansson
14	Sigfinnur Snorrasson - Sveinn Símonarson
15	Pierre Carbonnier - Eva Reiner
16	Anne-Lill Hellemann - Rolf Tolle
17	Mark Horton - Carlos Luiz
18	Gabriel Gislason - Gisli Steingrimsson
19	Vigfus Palsson - Rosemary Shaw
20	Laura Woodruff - Nuno D Martins
21	David Ludviksson - Emma Axelsdottir
22	Jon Gunnar Sigurjonsson - Hulda Gisladdottir
23	Mihaela Comanescu - Lucian Comanescu
24	Leena Bützow - Seppo Niemi
25	Michel Ingelbert - Françoise Ingelbert
26	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann

27	Matthias Einarsson - Gudmundur Einarsson
28	Jeppe Juhl - Lone 'Mama' Kiaer
29	Ron Tacchi - Ceri Pierce
30	Steinar Jonsson - Stefan Johansson
31	Svala Pálsdóttir - Bryndis Thorsteinsdottir
32	Pekka Söderlin - Liisa Jalkanen
33	Wiveca Jongeneel - Jos Winkelman
34	Heinrich Naegeli - Irene Naegeli
34	Hrafnildur Skuladottir - Jórunn Kristinsdóttir
36	Anna Nielsen - Arngunnur Regina Jonsdottir
37	Gisli Thorarinsson - Thordur Sigurdsson
38	Magnus Thorkelsson - Ingvar Ingvarsson
39	Omar Oskarsson - Bernódus Kristinsson
40	Ingibjorg Gudmundsdottir - Vigdis Sigurjonsdottir
41	Hannes Sigurdsson - Petur Reimarsson
42	Stefansson Frimann - Hermann Fridriksson
43	Pim Vermeulen - Marie-José de Bruine
44	Lasse Utter - Maria Tulonen
45	Torfason Thorbergur - Sigurdur Gunnarsson
46	Lech Zwirello - Maria Kroppa
47	Svanhildur Hall - Hallveig Karlsdóttir
48	Kristian Albertsson - Sigurdur Gislason
49	José Macedo - João Machado
50	Eduardo Fernandes - Pedro Morgado



A Girl's Best Friend

Ron Tacchi

In the Portuguese National Simultaneous held on Thursday evening Laura Woodruff, part of the well-oiled festival team, was sitting in the East seat and ended in 3NT.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 63		
♥ 642		
♦ AJ65		
♣ 10732		
♠ KJ8		♠ A752
♥ AQ103		♥ 875
♦ 10732		♦ Q8
♣ Q4		♣ AK96
		♠ Q1094
		♥ KJ9
		♦ K94
		♣ J85

West	North	East	South
Martins		Woodruff	
–	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Laura received the lead of the ♠10 and dummy's jack held the trick. Declarer's problem was that communication between the two hands was not straightforward. So perhaps taking a leaf from Zia's new book *Bridge, A Love Story* Laura played a small diamond from dummy and put in the ♦8 from hand, South won with the ♦9 and continued with the ♠9. That was taken in dummy with the king. Communications were still a problem and so another diamond from dummy went to the queen and South's king. South persisted with another spade giving declarer four tricks in the suit. Now with the aid of a successful heart finesse declarer had nine tricks for two thirds of the matchpoints.

IMP Pairs 1 Results

	Names
1	Mads Eyde - Christian Lahrman
2	Dennis Ottevanger - Agnes Wesseling
3	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
4	Pedro Morgado - Eduardo Fernandes
5	Gisli Thorarinsson - Thordur Sigurdsson
6	Svala K Palsdottir - Birkir Jon Jonsson
7	Pierre Carbonnier - Eva Reiner
8	Allie Hoenstok - Jacob Bereslavsky
9	Lasse Utter - Maria Tulonen
10	Heinrich Naegeli - Irene Naegeli
11	Pekka Söderlin - Liisa Jalkanen
12	Haakan Tjarnemo - Bengt Emanuelsson
13	Michel Ingelbert - Françoise Ingelbert
13	Mel Barlow - John Arblaster
15	Harry Burmania - John Linse

16	Harald Nordby - Ellen Vigmostad
17	Marit Aastrand - Per Hult
17	Vigfus Vigfusson - Johanna Gisladdottir
19	Sigurdur Skagfjord - Kristinn Kristjansson
20	Hannes Sigurdsson - Petur Reimarsson
21	Svanhildur Hall - Hallveig Karlsdóttir
22	Mihaela Comanescu - Lucian Comanescu
23	Mike Reuser - Hans Metselaar
24	Ron Tacchi - Ceri Pierce
25	Torfason Thorbergur - Sigurdur Gunnarsson
26	Pim Vermeulen - Marie-José de Bruine
27	Wiveca Jongeneel - Jos Winkelman
28	José Macedo - João Machado



Charity Challenge Results

	Names
1	Lars K Nielsen - Mette Drogemuller
2	António Campos Palma - Maya Bjork Heed
3	Gabriel Gislason - Gisli Steingrimsson
4	Rolf Tolle - Svein Markussen
5	Bernódus Kristinsson - Omar Oskarsson
6	Vigfus Vigfusson - Johanna Gisladdottir
7	Nick Nautilus - Michael Scheible
8	Armin Wlad - Aleksander Wlad
9	Mihaela Comanescu - Lucian Comanescu
10	Flora Zarkesch - Robert Boeddeker
11	Maria van der List - Peter Kroezen
12	Allie Hoenstok - Birgir Olafsson
13	Hans Metselaar - Mike Reuser
14	Lech Zwirello - Maria Kroppa
15	Frimann Stefansson - Kristinn Kristjansson
16	Andrea Nilsson - Christian Lahrmann
17	Han Begas - Lucia Grosmann
18	Ron Tacchi - Mark Horton
19	Sverrir Thorisson - Gunnlaugur Karlsson
20	Laura Woodruff - Valerie Bee
21	Wiveca Jongeneel - Jos Winkelman
21	Svanhildur Hall - Sigurdur Skagfjord
23	Lisbeth Grove - Lars Mikkelsen
24	René Stienen - Elly Schippers
25	Eduardo Fernandes - Pedro Morgado
26	Haakan Tjarnemo - Bengt Emanuelsson
27	Björn Thorláksson - Thordur Sigurdsson
28	Mark Kaptein - Mariken Schoenmakers
29	Sonja Bech - Gitte Hecht-Johansen
30	Marit Aastrand - Per Hult
31	Dennis Ottevanger - Agnes Wesseling
32	David Ludviksson - Emma Axelsdottir
33	Pierre Carbonnier - Eva Reiner
33	Thorbergur Torfason - Sigurdur Gunnarsson

35	Hrafnildur Skuladottir - Jörunn Kristinsdóttir
36	Frederico Teixeira - Filipe Gonçalves
37	Poul Mogensen - Susan Just
38	Mads Eyde - Lone 'Mama' Kiaer
39	Sveinbjörn Eyjolfsson - Thorvaldur Palmason
40	Jan Oomkens - Margreet Kiers
41	Liisa Jalkanen - Pekka Söderlin
42	Lasse Utter - Maria Tulonen
42	Vigfus Palsson - Rosemary Shaw
44	Tyge Fogh - Birgitte Rønn
45	Anne-Lill Hellemann - Roennaug Asla
46	Liliana Suflida - Piotr Kardasinski
47	Rosemarie Roderburg - Sybil Müller-Maubach
48	Sigurdur Gislason - Kristian Albertsson
49	Harald Nordby - Ellen Vigmostad
50	Skuli Sigurdsson - Asa Kristinsdottir
51	Jon Gunnar Sigurjonsson - Hulda Gisladdottir
51	Ingibjorg Gudmundsdottir - Vigdis Sigurjonsdottir
53	Justyna Kalisoras - Maciej Kedzierski
54	Sigfinnur Snorrason - Sveinn Símonarson
55	Hallveig Karlsdóttir - Hermann Fridriksson
56	Stefano Szenberg - Jacob Bereslavsky
57	Hannes Sigurdsson - Petur Reimarsson
58	John Korver - Ankie Korver-de Haas
59	Matthias Einarsson - Gudmundur Einarsson
60	Helga Alisch - Karl-Heinz Heine
61	Ingvar Ingvarsson - Magnus Thorkelsson
62	Michel Ingelbert - Françoise Ingelbert



XXVI Madeira Bridge Festival



OUR SPONSORS



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

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



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

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



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

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



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

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





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Buffet of the day at 25€
10% on SPA (except products)*

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Your Directors



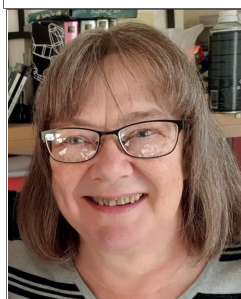
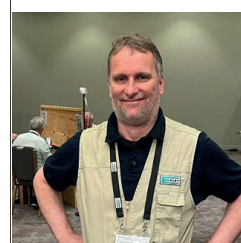
José Júlio Curado – co-Chief Tournament Director: In October 1996 I decided I wanted to know the Laws of Bridge. Two years later I was invited to direct the first edition of this tournament with Rui Marques. I liked it so much that I kept coming back and in 2005 I moved to Madeira. By the end of this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

Marc van Beijsterveldt: 63 years old and this year directing in my 8th festival. Ever since my first time in Madeira it has been my favourite bridge festival. I have directed all over the world and they all have their pluses and minuses, but Madeira is exceptional. Apart from directing since 1994 in world and European championships and festivals all around Europe, I have been working at the office of the Dutch Bridge Federation for more than 30 years but just this year had to leave due to dramatically decreasing membership numbers. I now have even more time to be a TD than I had before.



Hans van Staveren: Apart from being a TD I do many other things in the bridge world, mainly computer and network related. I am present at all major EBL and WBF championships. I am also known for the de-facto standard dealing program BigDeal and various other programs doing movements, seeding and some other stuff which most players find extremely boring. It is a lousy job, but someone has got to do it. I have been to Madeira many times, my guess is ten times or so, and I like it very much. Great atmosphere, great weather, well organized tournament.

Jacob Duschek: is a Danish tournament director living in Copenhagen. He was awarded the EBL Tournament Director title in 2013 and has been directing regularly at EBL Championships since then. He is the author of the textbook 'A Guide to the Bridge Laws'. His best results as a player are a bronze medal in 2011 and a silver medal in 2012 at the Danish teams championship. When not directing or writing about the bridge laws, he works full-time as a software developer in the pension industry. He has a son (22) and twin daughters (19).



Sarah Amos: I began my TD career in Wales where I am a National Director and still run many events. I subsequently joined the EBU TD panel over 20 years ago which has allowed me to work all over the UK, running all types of bridge events from club games to home internationals. I love the variety that directing brings me, along with the chance to meet a huge range of different personalities and levels of bridge player.

I have two beautiful daughters, Ruth who lives and works in Shetland and Rachel who teaches bridge online and would make a very fine Tournament Director.

Diarmuid Reddan: Diarmuid Reddan is an Irish Tournament Director recently promoted to NBO International Director and also directed at the Europeans in Dublin in 2012.

Diarmuid has also represented The CBAI playing in the Camrose in 2013 and has been NPC to various Irish teams with his most recent one being the Irish Mixed Team in Madeira in June 2022.

Other interests are golf and rugby.

