Madeira International Bridge Open 2026
2nd - 8th November 2026
VidaMar Resort, Funchal

www.bridge-madeira.com
Email: bulletin@bridge-madeira.com

Sunday 8th November - evening

Bulletin 7

Farewell From Madeira



The winners of the 2026 Teams: Selena
Piotr Tuczynski (PL), Tim van de Paverd (NL)
Selena Pepic (RS), Bartosz Chmurski (PL)



2nd place: FLY AND DUCK
Alexandru Pana (CH), Jaroslaw Kaczorowski (PL), Rita Mucha (CH), Tadeusz Kowalczewski (PL)



3rd place: Villa encosta do sol (GER)
Michael Gromoeller, Ole Farwig, Marius Gündel, Helmut Haeusler

The final results of the Teams are in.

Huge congratulations to **Selena** who has won for the second year running, after leading or almost leading the field throughout the event.

Going in to the last round **Selena** had a healthy lead with 162.97 VP. Several teams were vying for the remaining places. **Villa encosta do sol** started round 12 on 145.13, **MAKE** on 145.11, **Salonen** on 145.01 and **DON JULIO** on 143.10.

When the dust settled the final rankings were as follows:

1st place **Selena** - 173.41; 2nd place **FLY AND DUCK** - 160.69; 3rd place **Villa encosta do sol** - 155.57.

We hope that you have enjoyed our 29th Bridge Festival as much as we have, and we very much hope you will return next year for our 30th anniversary.

Charity Total

The Charity Pairs on Sunday 1st November raised €3350 for ALVD Madeira. Miguel Teixeira has added €650 from the organisation, giving a total of **€4000** for this excellent cause. Thank you to everyone who took part, and especially those who donated generously.

Cool Down Pairs

The Cool Down Pairs on Monday evening will take place at 20:30 in Selvagens.

30th Madeira International Bridge Open

Make sure you don't miss the next tournament – put the dates in your diary.

Full programme: **28th October – 8th November 2027**

Main events: 2nd – 7th November 2027

We look forward to seeing you again next year for our 30th anniversary.

Remains of the Day

Mark Horton

Round 8

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

	♠ Q ♥ AQ43 ♦ AQ9632 ♣ 96	
♠ A872 ♥ 87 ♦ 54 ♣ Q8754	N W E S	♠ J9543 ♥ K1065 ♦ J10 ♣ AJ
	♠ K106 ♥ J92 ♦ K87 ♣ K1032	

Villa Encosta Do Sol v Don Julio

Open Room

West	North	East	South
D Wrang	*Gündel*	*F Wrang*	*Farwig*
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	1♠	1NT
2♠	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the ♠7 and when dummy's ♠Q held declarer played a club to the king and a diamond to the queen, cashing out for nine tricks, +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hausler	*Eiriksson*	*Gromöller*	*Giulius*
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	2♠	3♦
3♠	4♦	All Pass	



East led the ♠3 and West took the ♠A and switched to the ♥8, East winning with the ♥K, cashing the ♣A and then going back to hearts. Declarer won with dummy's ♥J, cashed the ♦K and claimed, +130, but 7 IMPs to Villa Encosta Do Sol.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	♠ K863 ♥ KQ6 ♦ J1096 ♣ 104	
♠ QJ104 ♥ 1097 ♦ KQ872 ♣ A	N W E S	♠ A75 ♥ 8543 ♦ 43 ♣ Q963
	♠ 92 ♥ AJ2 ♦ A5 ♣ KJ8752	

Villa Encosta Do Sol v Don Julio

Open Room

West	North	East	South
D Wrang	*Gündel*	*F Wrang*	*Farwig*
1♦	Pass	1♥	2♣
2♥	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♦4 and declarer took dummy's ♦A, played a heart to the queen and the ♣10 for the queen, king and ace. West cashed the ♦K then switched to the ♠J for the king and ace and that was two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hausler	*Eiriksson*	*Gromöller*	*Giulius*
1♦	Pass	1♥	2♣
All Pass			

West led the ♠Q, continued with the ♠10 and then played the ♥10, declarer taking dummy's ♥K and playing the ♣10, covered all around. West continued with the ♥9 and declarer won with the ♥A, cashed the ♣J and continued with the ♣8, East winning and returning the ♦3, declarer taking the ace and claiming, +90 and 7 IMPs to Don Julio.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Villa Encosta Do Sol v Don Julio

Open Room

West	North	East	South
D Wrang	*Gündel*	*F Wrang*	*Farwig*
1♣	1♠	Dble*	2♠
Pass	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♠Q and declarer won with the ♠A and played a club for the jack and ace, North returning the ♠5 to dummy's ♠J. When a diamond to the jack held declarer played a heart for the nine and jack, won the spade return discarding a diamond from dummy, played a club to the queen and the ♥Q, finishing with ten tricks, +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hausler	*Eiriksson*	*Gromöller*	*Giulius*
1NT*	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

1NT 12-14
2♣ Stayman

CORRECTION

There was an error in the auction reported in the hand at the top of p.16 in Bulletin 6 (Board 1). The actual auction was:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Paverd	*Madeira*	*Pepic*	*Sarmento*
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	2♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			



North led the ♠5 and South won with the ♠Q and returned the ♠9. Declarer ran the ♦J and North won and played another spade. Declarer won and played a club to the jack, North winning, cashing two spades and exiting with the ♥K, declarer having pitched two hearts from dummy. Declarer won with the ♥A and cashed two clubs, squeezing North in the red suits for the rest of the tricks, one down, -100 and 12 IMPs to Don Julio who won 22-7, 14.96 - 5.04 VP.

Round 9

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Selena v Fly and Duck

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Pana	*Tuczyński*	*Mucha*	*Chmurski*
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East led the ♦5 and West won with the ♦A and switched to the ♠2. When declarer played dummy's ♠3 East won with the ♠10, cashed the ♠A and continued with the ♠4, West ruffing for one down, -50.

Did you spot that if declarer plays dummy's ♠K at trick two West's failure to lead the ♠Q will be expensive?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Pepic	*Kowalczewski*	*Paverd*	*Kaczorowski*
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

When East led the ♣4 declarer could win, cash the ♥A, unblock the ♣J, play a heart to the queen and cash two clubs discarding spades for +450 and 11 IMPs to Fly and Duck.

Anyone who has read The Mysterious Multi will know that South might have opened 2♥, promising a limited hand with a 4441/4450 which always contains 4♥. Were that to happen an inspired North might guess to play in 3NT, which is unbeatable.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ AK108 ♥ 3 ♦ K1095 ♣ AK84	
♠ 9754 ♥ K106 ♦ 6 ♣ J10763	N W E S	♠ Q32 ♥ AJ754 ♦ QJ832 ♣ —
	♠ J6 ♥ Q982 ♦ A74 ♣ Q952	

Selena v Fly and Duck

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Pana	*Tuczyński*	*Mucha*	*Chmurski*
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	1♥	1NT
2♥	Dble*	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the ♥6 and East won with the ♥A and returned the ♥4, West winning with the ♥10, cashing the ♥K and switching to the ♣3. Having pitched a diamond and a club from dummy declarer won with the ♣A and played the ♠8, ensuring nine tricks, +600.

If West starts with the ♥10 and declarer is allowed to win with the ♥Q, cashing the ♣Q reveals the 5-0 split and declarer can easily come to nine tricks.

Were declarer to play a club to the king at trick two and see East pitch a diamond the contract might still be made. One way to do that is to cash two more clubs. East can part with a second diamond but then has to find another discard from ♠Q32 ♥AJ75 ♦QJ8. The best chance is to pitch a spade, hoping that declarer will finesse.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Pepic	*Kowalczewski*	*Paverd*	*Kaczorowski*
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	1♥	1NT
2♥	Dble*	All Pass	

South led the ♠J and North won with the ♠A. Now the best defence is to return a heart which should result in two down. However, it was tempting to play two more rounds of spades and South ruffed and switched to the ♥9. Declarer won with dummy's ♥10 and now missed a difficult opportunity – he must ruff a club and exit with the ♦8. South can win and play another heart, but declarer wins and plays the ♦Q discarding dummy's ♠9. North wins and plays a club, but declarer ruffs, cashes the ♦J and plays a diamond escaping for one down.

When declarer continued with dummy's ♦6 it was North's turn to shine – he must put in the ♦10/9. When he followed with the ♦5 declarer put in the ♦8 and South won with the ♦A. At this point South needs to switch to a club. Then the best declarer can do is cross ruff for one down. When South exited with the ♥8 declarer won with the ♥J. He can now ruff a diamond, ruff a club, cash the ♥A and play the ♦Q for +670.

According to the play record declarer crossed to dummy's ♥K and played the ♠9, at which point the screen displays 7 tricks claimed. I doubt that is what happened, but the result is entered as -200 and 9 IMPs to Selena who recorded a narrow victory, 19-16, 11.27-8.73 VP.

Random Jottings

Mark Horton

During Round 11 of the teams I spotted two interesting deals.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠ 752 ♥ Q1084 ♦ QJ4 ♣ A62	
♠ K108 ♥ K2 ♦ A763 ♣ KQ93	N W E S	♠ 94 ♥ 973 ♦ 1085 ♣ J854
	♠ AQJ63 ♥ AJ65 ♦ K92 ♣ 10	

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♣!	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

After West's esoteric overcall North must choose between a direct raise in spades or a negative double. The latter leads to 4♥.

When West leads a top club against 4♠ declarer wins in dummy and takes a losing spade finesse. He ruffs the club return, cashes a top spade and should then play a diamond to the queen and run the ten of hearts. West can win and play another club, but declarer ruffs and plays another diamond. West can win, but dummy's ♠7 can deal with a fourth round of clubs.

If you play in 4♥ you win the club lead in dummy, run the ♥10, ruff the club return, cash the ♥A and play the ♠Q. West wins, but declarer ruffs the club return and plays a diamond.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ Q32 ♥ AK9862 ♦ Q53 ♣ A	
♠ 105 ♥ 743 ♦ AKJ87 ♣ Q82	N W E S	♠ AJ6 ♥ 105 ♦ 96 ♣ J109765
	♠ K9874 ♥ QJ ♦ 1042 ♣ K43	

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	1♥	2♣	Pass
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Talking to a World Champion in the lift it became apparent that not everyone is familiar with Meckstroth's Law ('when partner freely raises your six card major bid game'). That usually means bidding 4♥/4♠, but this deal introduces a potentially useful adjunct in that you can also consider bidding 3NT.

9,774



9,774 boards were dealt at this festival. Spare a thought for our amazing dealers Gianluca Barrese and Eduardo Fernandes (photo). They also lug tables and equipment around Madeira, assisted by our photographer Marco Teixeira and by Pedro Macedo. Thanks also to Pedro Nunes who organises our servers and networks amongst other things. And let's not forget the entire backstage crew – the tireless team who spend months organising this event and make this festival sparkle.

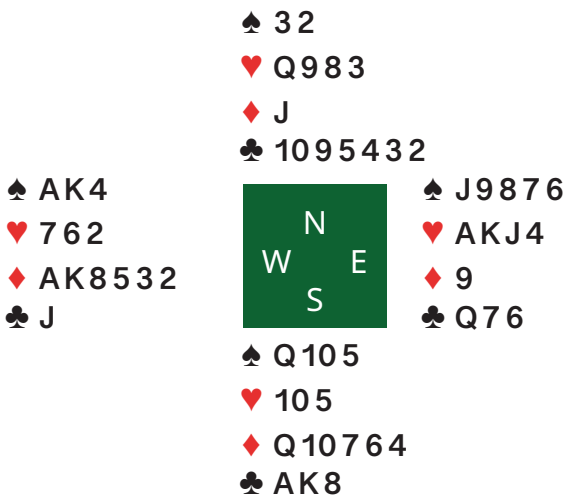
Without them, we'd just be a bunch of people staring at empty tables.
Thank you.

Endgame

Mark Horton

In the last round, this deal resulted in a major swing in several matches:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



At all four tables the contract was 4♠ by East, South leading a top club and switching to a diamond.

One way to make 4♠ is to win the diamond switch, cash a top spade, come to hand with a heart, ruff a club, cash a spade and play the ♦K discarding a club. You then take a heart finesse and are up to 10 tricks.

There is a pretty line for 11 tricks.

Declarer plays a heart to the jack at trick two, crosses to dummy with a spade, ruffs a diamond, goes back to dummy with a spade, cashes the ♦K pitching a heart, ruffs a diamond, and plays the ♥AK. South, down to ♠Q ♦Q ♣K8 is helpless.

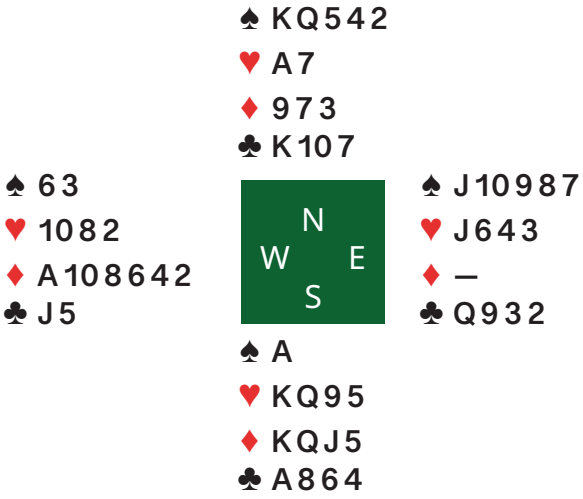
Suppose declarer tries to cash a second diamond at trick three, ruffed by North and overruffed. One way to get home from here is to cash dummy's top spades, take the heart finesse, and play the ♥AK. If South ruffs and plays the ♦Q declarer discards a heart and South is endplayed. Discarding a club allows declarer to ruff a club establishing the ♣Q and parting with a diamond sees declarer play a fourth heart. If South pitches a diamond declarer ruffs in dummy, ruffs a diamond and exits with a spade scoring the ♣Q at the end, while parting with a club sees declarer discard a diamond. North wins but must then play a club allowing declarer to ruff in dummy, establishing the ♣Q.

Declarer can also make by playing for a crossruff.

Bastion Smaku gained 10 IMPs for making 4♠ against de Botton and there was a similar swing in the match between **Selena** and **MAKE**.

One of the best deals of the tournament appeared on the penultimate deal:

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



Diego Brenner and Miguel Teixeira bid to 6NT and West led a spade to declarer's ♠A.

Diego played the ♦K and West took the ♦A, East discarding a club, and continued with a second spade. Declarer could win and cash two diamonds, catching East in a rare repeating squeeze. Discarding a club allowed declarer to cash three tricks in the suit, this time squeezing East in the majors.

Diego pointed out that if West switched to a club after taking the first diamond (or ducks and then switches to the ♣J) the squeeze will only be worth one trick.

If declarer wins with dummy's ♣K and cashes a diamond East, having already discarded a spade, now parts with a heart. Declarer can cash four hearts, but East is discarding after dummy. That is also true if declarer wins the club switch in hand.

If West tries ducking the ♦K and ♦Q, East is in trouble, as parting with a spade allows declarer to cross to dummy with the ♥A and play three rounds of spades. East wins, but will be squeezed when declarer cashes the long spade.

A great hand to finish the tournament!

It's All in the Lead

This deal was brought to us by Marten La Haye, who tells us about a very succesful lead from his partner, Philippus von Gool, played in Session 2 of the Open Pairs:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ K74 ♥ K8 ♦ K1093 ♣ Q942	
♠ 62 ♥ AJ754 ♦ J82 ♣ J65	N W E S	♠ J1053 ♥ 1063 ♦ A74 ♣ A83
	♠ AQ98 ♥ Q92 ♦ Q65 ♣ K107	

West	North	East	South
La Haye		*van Gool*	
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Looking at the auction, it seems pretty straightforward to lead a heart, but the question is what heart card should East lead? Philippus made the very succesful choice of the ten of hearts, the only lead that allows the defence to collect four heart tricks.

When declarer wins the ♥K, East will eventually get back in with one of his aces. A heart return then sees the defence cash another four heart tricks. Declarer had to find some uncomfortable discards on these and eventually went down three and 95% to E/W.

Aiport Transfers

If you have booked an airport transfer for your departure flight, please check the printed list on the boards near the Welcome Desk.

For group arrangements please contact the transfer co-ordinator via (+351) 936 921 423 (WhatsApp message).

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Final Teams Rankings

	VPs	Team
1	173.41	Selena
2	160.69	FLY AND DUCK
3	155.57	Villa encosta do sol 1
4	154.67	MAKE
5	154.57	Salonen
6	152.40	Comando Txuleton
7	150.45	GOTARD
8	150.08	Bastion Smaku - The Castle of Flavor
9	149.17	De Botton
10	147.27	Solar express
11	147.01	NorNed
12	146.20	NUNO MATOS
13	144.85	PORTUGALÊS
14	144.72	Lasse Stefanz Orkester
15	144.43	Bachexo
16	144.30	Een ons te veel
17	144.02	Meritum
18	143.99	DON JULIO
19	142.99	Ases da Invicta
20	141.97	Just Made
21	141.70	Mamma mia
22	140.02	Weasel
23	139.57	The usual suspects
24	139.25	RICH
25	138.79	Warburg Plan B
26	138.68	Balloo
27	137.58	Erichsen
28	137.15	HONG OVER
29	136.99	MAMA VEED
30	136.06	Stonecutters
31	135.67	TAMAT
32	135.51	Vicuña
33	135.46	CABANOS
34	135.29	Star
35	135.08	Uk team
36	133.22	Loki
37	132.27	Huijben
38	132.24	Bagladies
39	131.99	Bidtrainer
40	131.81	ARGENTINA
41	131.43	Stantons
42	131.32	Undercover
43	131.30	Sushi
44	129.61	Plan B
45	128.85	Rodeo Totale
46	128.40	Ronnie and friends
47	128.38	Egil
48	128.10	EMI
49	128.08	JOÃO FERREIRA
50	127.87	Pekelsi
51	127.78	Temptation Island
52	126.48	Norway, Aarmot
53	125.53	Playmates
54	125.40	The Noise Festival
55	125.19	Ponte Para o Futuro
56	125.10	Flora and Friends
57	125.02	Canada ladies
58	124.71	Repeat Bet
59	124.62	Danish Dynamite
60	123.40	Frysland-Utrecht Combo
61	122.56	Gwn goed beetpakken
62	121.97	Nyyyt
63	121.26	ARKI
64	121.21	C-jam
65	120.72	Belgium and France Team
66	120.64	Villa encosta do sol 2
67	120.29	Reisegruppe Reichenau
68	119.66	TOLLE
69	119.26	Secret Agents
70	119.18	Anchor
71	119.00	AroundtheBlockaFewTimes
72	118.71	TEAMM netherlandssss
73	118.12	Trebet
74	117.74	Purple Reign
75	117.71	wimajope
76	117.66	5 Bruxas
77	117.46	All 4 Suzy
78	116.98	CRUZEIRO
79	116.50	The MASK
80	116.16	LOLa
81	116.00	Sand in the brain
82	115.67	SweGer
83	115.50	3P&N
84	115.48	BAMBI
85	115.32	BeAlert
86	114.58	Brooklyn Bridgers
87	114.34	Fruitvliegjes
88	113.73	PJ Double
89	113.32	Lekta
90	112.73	Beers for Fears
91	112.49	Ice-Dan Vikings
92	112.13	Old Chelsea
93	112.01	New Friends
94	111.42	SPAINPOR
95	111.40	Where is my mind
96	110.83	FROST
97	110.69	Suzie Q
98	109.41	sarmentos
99	109.21	Inez
100	108.77	Trojans Conquer Madeira
101	108.56	Madeira
102	107.04	Vriendenkring
103	106.82	Three S's and the Law
104	106.61	X-Factor
105	105.61	Carbonnier
106	104.66	Northern Lights
107	103.84	ANNECY
108	103.44	Born to Bid
109	101.70	Honra do Porto
110	101.61	Galoviç
111	101.41	PLAJ
112	101.04	Top of nothing
113	101.01	Masuria
114	100.21	ODBC
115	99.31	Dutch Miracles
116	98.88	Quarteto de Ouro
117	98.79	SÃO VICENTE
118	97.81	Another Level
119	97.34	MMGG
120	96.48	XTrouble
121	95.21	FAR ICE
122	95.01	France and Portugal
123	94.85	Old and in the Way
124	94.47	Pocariça
125	94.14	Celtic Connection
126	92.10	ABBA
127	92.04	Skuli og skytturnar
128	91.52	Oslo bridgeklubb
129	84.59	Kregam
130	81.49	Norman French
131	80.70	Dark N´Stormy
132	80.24	Fora do Baralho
133	79.85	BLUE ICE
134	79.34	The Billys
135	77.73	Taxi og frú
136	73.95	AKKUR