

# 46. Your treat(ment)

*By Ron Klinger*

The Alt Invitational, held in April, was organized by bid72, bridge 24 and netbridgeonline, together with BBO (Bridge Base Online). There were eight teams, playing a round-robin, followed by semi-finals and a final. These were the teams:

<b>Blass</b>	Josef Blass, Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Jacek Kalita, Michael Nowosadski, Jacek Pszczola (Pepsi)
<b>De Botton</b>	Janet de Botton, Thomas Charlsen, Jason Hackett, Thor Erik Hoftaniska, Alexander Hydes, Artur Malinowski
<b>Hungary</b>	Miklos Dumbovich, Gal Hegedus, Csaba Szabo, Balasz Szegedi, Gabor Winkler
<b>Upmark</b>	Peter Bertheau, Per Ola Cullin, Simon Hult, Marion Michielsen, Fredrik Nyström, Mikael Rimstedt, Ola Rimstedt, Johan Upmark
<b>Meltzer</b>	Rose Meltzer, Nikolay Demirev, Bartosz Chmurski, Piotr Nawrocki, Piotr Tuczynski, Piotr Wiankowski
<b>Milner</b>	Reese Milner, Hemant Lall, Sabine Auken, Roy Welland
<b>Street</b>	Paul Street, Kamel Fergani, Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Ron Pachtman, Fred Pollack, Piotr Zatorski
<b>Team NL</b>	Maarten Schollaardt, Merijn Groenenboom, Danny Molenaar, Tim Verbeek, Joris van Lankveld, Berend van den Bos, Bart Nab, Bob Drijver, Guy Mendes de Leon, Thibo Sprinkhuizen
<b>Zhao</b>	Zhao Chen, Liu Jing, Bauke Muller, Ricco van Prooijen, Louk Verhees, Simon de Wijs

**Round 2:** **BLASS** beat **HUNGARY** by 47-42 (12.23-7.77) **STREET** beat **MELTZER** 55-43 (12.75-7.25) **TEAM NL** beat **MILNER** by 76-37 (17.01-2.99) and **DE BOTTON** beat **ZHAO** by 50-36 (13.15-6.85).

## Ranking after Day1, Round 2:

1. **TEAM NL** 30.35
2. **DE BOTTON** 29.79
3. **BLASS** 28.24
4. **MELTZER** 24.94
5. **STREET** 19.41
6. **HUNGARY** 12.13
7. **ZHAO** 9.84
8. **MILNER** 5.30

East dealer : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1♣	Pass
1♥	?		

What would you do as North with:

- ♠ K4
- ♥ AK7
- ♦ QJ106
- ♣ KQJ5

Round 2 : Board 20

East dealer : Both vulnerable

	North	
	♠ K4	
	♥ AK7	
	♦ QJ106	
	♣ KQJ5	
West		East
♠ 1087		♠ AQ
♥ J542		♥ Q963
♦ K8743		♦ A
♣ A		♣ 1087642
	South	
	♠ J96532	
	♥ 108	
	♦ 952	
	♣ 93	

BLASS vs HUNGARY

BLASS North-South:

West	North	East	South
		1♣	Pass
1♥	1NT	2♥	2♠
3♥	Pass	4♥	Dble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

North began with ♥A, ♥K, ♥7. West cashed the ♣A, finessed the ♠Q, ruffed a club, crossed to the ♦A and played a club. North won and returned the ♦Q. Declarer ruffed and gave up another club for one down, -200.

HUNGARY North-South:

West	North	East	South
		1♣	Pass
1♥	Dble	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

North also began with ♥A, ♥K and the ♥7. Declarer took a bizarre line in playing for clubs 3-3 and went three down, -300 and 3 Imps to HUNGARY.

So, what would you and your partner do with the North hand, Double or bid 1NT? A 1NT overcall in the direct seat, immediately after the opening bid, is commonly played as 15-18 points. When it starts 1X : Pass : 1Y with natural bidding, the situation is different. The opponents usually have about 18 points or more. It is now unlikely that your side has game.

Not only that, but coming in with 15-16 points is also very risky. What if they have 23-24 points? Now partner will have next to nothing and you might incur a severe penalty. That is why some pairs adjust the range of the 1NT overcall in this position to 16-19 points or 17-19 points. That accounts for North's 1NT in the first auction. Clearly you should have an agreement in your partnership(s) for the range of 1NT here. We play it as 17-19.

At one table in MELTZER vs STREET, it went 1♣ : Pass : 1♥ : 1NT, 3♥, all pass. North led the ♣K and declarer made ten tricks, +170. At the other table, it went 1♣ : Pass : 1♦ (4+ hearts) : Double (takeout of hearts), 3♦ (0-1 diamond, splinter raise to 3♥) : Pass : 3♥, all pass. North led ♥A, ♥K, ♥7 and West made nine tricks for +140, but -1 Imp.

In MILNER vs TEAM NL, both sides reached 3♥ via the same auctions as in the above para. Both made nine tricks, +140, no swing.

This was one of yesterday's problems:

East dealer : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	1♥ <sup>(2)</sup>	1♣	Pass
		3♥	?

(1) 4+ hearts

(2) For takeout, like a takeout double over a natural 1♥

What would you do as South with:

♠ J96532  
♥ 108  
♦ 952  
♣ 93

The auctions and results at the other six tables were more or less predictable. The scores in the remaining match left the others in the shade.

East dealer : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
♠ 1087	♠ K4	♠ AQ	♠ J96532
♥ J542	♥ AK7	♥ Q963	♥ 108
♦ K8743	♦ QJ106	♦ A	♦ 952
♣ A	♣ KQJ5	♣ 1087642	♣ 93

ZHAO North-South:

West	North	East	South
1♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	1♥ <sup>(2)</sup>	1♣	Pass
Pass	3NT	3♥	3♠?
Dble	Pass	Pass	4♠
		Pass	Pass

(1) 4+ hearts

(2) For takeout, like a takeout double over a natural 1♥

Expectation for South's 3♠ is about 9-11 points, about 8 losers. One might be forgiven for shading down to a good 8 points or a superb 7, but a semi-balanced 1-count? West led the ♣A: five – two (suit-preference for diamonds) – three. Then came ♦3 to ♦A, club ruff, ♦K, diamond ruff with ♠Q, club ruffed with the ♠J, spade to the king and ace and West still had the ♠10 to come, four light, East-West +1100.

You would not expect that to be a pick-up, but at the other table, South for **DE BOTTON** also reached 4♠ doubled, via 2♣ (10-15 points, 5+ clubs) : Pass : Pass : 3NT, Pass : Pass : Double : Pass, Pass : Pass : 4♠ : Double, all pass. The play began the same way, but when East played the third club, South ruffed with the ♠6. West over-ruffed with the ♠8 and played a fourth diamond. East ruffed with the ♠A, followed by the fourth club, which promoted the ♠10. South ruffed with the ♠9 and West over-ruffed with the ♠10 for five off, East-West +1400 and 7 Imps to **ZHAO**.

With both sides vulnerable, South deals and opens 1♠. What would you do as West with:

♠ K  
♥ J7  
♦ AQ975  
♣ AJ973

If you play a 2NT overcall, both minors, can only be a weak hand, you would overcall 2♦. If you play 2NT can be wide-ranging, a popular approach, then 2NT appeals. You and your partner(s) need to agree on the treatment, but in general it is preferable to show a 2-suiter hand if you can, rather than show just one suit.

The West players were divided between these actions, but the 2NT bidders had the better results.

Round 2 : Board 23

South dealer : Both vulnerable

	North	
	♠ 92	
	♥ 1065	
	♦ KJ842	
	♣ K106	
West		East
♠ K		♠ J10843
♥ J7		♥ K84
♦ AQ975		♦ 103
♣ AJ973		♣ 854
	South	
	♠ AQ765	
	♥ AQ932	
	♦ 6	
	♣ Q2	

With [ZHAO](#) North-South, it went 1♠ : 2NT : Pass : 3♣, all pass. East lost a diamond, 2 hearts, a spade and 2 clubs, two down, -200. With [DE BOTTON](#) North-South: 1♠ : 2NT : Double : 3♣, 3♥ : Pass : 3♠, all pass. North's double is looking for penalties and South could have passed (best played as forcing here). North would then have doubled 3♣. As it was, West began with ♣A, ♦A. South went one down, -100 and 7 Imps to [ZHAO](#).

[TEAM NL](#) North South collected 100 after 1♠ : 2NT : Pass : 3♣, all pass. With [MILNER](#) North-South it went: 1♠ : 2NT : Double : 3♣, 3♥, all pass. The play began ♣A, club to the queen, ♦6 taken by the ♦A, ♥7 switch: five - eight - nine, ♠A and South emerged with ten tricks, +170 and 2 Imps to [MILNER](#).

This was the second of yesterday's questions:

South dealer : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1♠
2♦	Pass	Pass	?

What would you do as South with:

♠ AQ765  
♥ AQ932  
♦ 6  
♣ Q2

South dealer : Both vulnerable

	North	
	♠ 92	
	♥ 1065	
	♦ KJ842	
	♣ K106	
West		East
♠ K		♠ J10843
♥ J7		♥ K84
♦ AQ975		♦ 103
♣ AJ973		♣ 854
	South	
	♠ AQ765	
	♥ AQ932	
	♦ 6	
	♣ Q2	

Things were more exciting in the other matches. With [BLASS](#) North-South: 1♠ : 2NT : Pass : 3♣, 3♥, all pass. South made nine tricks, +140. At the other table, with [HUNGARY](#) North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♠
2♦	Pass	Pass	Dble!
Pass	Pass	Pass	

There is a strong inclination in this auction for South to balance with 2♥, but a takeout double is much better. It allows for the possibility of a penalty pass by North, which is what happened. If North does not have a penalty pass, North can bid 2♠ with two spades or with 3 spades and a weak hand (below 6 points because of the failure to bid 2♠ over 3♦) or bid 2♥, also very weak (failure to make a negative double over 2♦). If the worst happens and North bids 3♣, South can bid 3♥, which should show the 5-5 pattern, but the worst does not always happen.

The spade lead went to the ace and South returned the ♣Q. West won and played the ♦5: two – ten – six, followed by a club to the jack and king. North brought back another spade: jack – queen – ♦7. West continued clubs. North won and played the ♥10, four, queen. South cashed the ♥A and reverted to a spade. West pitched a club and North ruffed. North exited with a heart and West ditched his last club. North was down to K-J-8 and West had ♦A-Q-9. West played the ♦3 to the ♦9. North won, but West had the last two tricks with the ♦A-Q.

That was two down, North-South +500 and 8 Imps to [HUNGARY](#).

The board was flat in the fourth match, but excitement still abounded. At both tables it went 1♠ : 2♦ : Pass : Pass, Double, all pass. With [STREET](#) East-West: North led the ♠9: three – ace – king. South switched to the ♦6: seven – jack – three. North returned the ♠2: jack – queen – ♦5. West played the ♦9. North took the ♦K and returned a diamond. West won with the ♦Q, cashed the ♦A and the ♣A: six – four – queen! (to avoid the endplay) and exited with a club. North won with the ♣10, cashed the ♣K (South pitching his last spade) and the ♦8 and played a heart. South took two heart tricks for three down, N-S +800. Had South kept his last spade, the ♦8 would have squeezed dummy for four down, N-S +1100.

With [MELTZER](#) East-West: South won with the spade lead and switched to the ♣Q, ace. West played ♦5 and North won with the ♦J. Back came the ♥6, four, queen, and South reverted to the ♣2: nine – ten – four. North cashed the ♣K and exited with his second spade: ten – queen – ♦7. The ♥J went to the ♥A and South returned a spade, ruffed with the ♦Q and over-ruffed. North played the ♥2 to dummy's ♦10. West pitched one club on the ♥K and one on the ♠J. North ruffed this for three down, N-S +800, no swing.

## Problems for Tomorrow:

1. South dealer : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣ <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass	1NT <sup>(1)</sup>
Pass	3♣ <sup>(3)</sup>	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3NT

- (1) 13-15 points  
(2) Simple Stayman  
(3) 5+ clubs, forcing

What would you lead as West from:

♠ 87  
♥ 109  
♦ KQ10876  
♣ J86

2. (a) Right-hand opponent passes. With both sides vulnerable, what do you do with:

♠ 854  
♥ KQJ1093  
♦ A3  
♣ 94

(b) East dealer : Both vulnerable

North  
♠ J97  
♥ A876  
♦ Q10752  
♣ A

South  
♠ 854  
♥ KQJ1093  
♦ A3  
♣ 94

West	North	East	South
Dble	2NT <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♥ <sup>(2)</sup>

- (1) 11+ points, 4+ hearts  
(2) Not forcing

West leads the ♣5. Plan the play.

**Why not discuss the problem by phone with your bridge partners and compare your answers and your reasoning?**

*Why is bra singular and panties plural?*