



## CONGRESS 2018 PLAYS of the DAY



Leif Stabell, pictured here with his brother and bridge partner, Tolle, has been kind enough to analyse a hand from the preliminary rounds for us.

From the second qualifying session:

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

6C is a reasonable slam for East-West, but most pairs languished in 3NT, making 11 or 12 tricks.

Eight East players found themselves in 6C and got a club lead from South to the Jack and King. You have 11 tricks on top, and it looks like your 12<sup>th</sup> must come from a successful finesse in hearts or a good guess in spades. How do you maximise your chances?

The correct play is a heart to the Ace, heart ruff, club to dummy, heart ruff, QJ of diamonds, club to dummy and cash the diamonds. If nothing good has happened, play a spade and guess whether to finesse the Jack or put up the King.

This time, however, the King of hearts comes down and you do not need to rely on a spade guess. The full deal:

**Board 25 E/W Vul - Dealer North**

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

Of the 12 pairs in 6C, 4 got a helpful spade lead from South and had no further problem. 8 got a passive club or diamond lead, but two of them failed to ruff out the King of hearts and ended up mis-guessing spades. +1370 gave 80% score. 6 pairs made 6NT – 3 of them after helpful heart or spade leads.

## THE SIDE BAR

I was asked by many people to include one of Saritha's Bridge poems, so here it is:

### Bridge of Life

Bridge is a game of cards  
Which mimics Life as well.  
Is that really true?  
Or does Life mimic bridge.  
It's hard to tell.  
Maybe both complement  
Each other,  
For in Bridge As in Life  
Your endeavour is to do well.  
Partnerships matter, They're special  
And each one is different  
That one can tell.  
Who brings out the best in you,  
with who you do not do well.  
Other people are also  
In your Life,  
In Duplicate bridge, it is the same,  
Some are fair and stick to the rules,  
While others do not care.  
Some are bullies and some pretend  
to be true, Some are rude and ill  
mannered. However, That  
definitely shouldn't affect you.  
You have to be true to Yourself  
In Bridge as in Life, You do not  
always have the choice  
Of the cards Life deals to you.  
However,  
The fact is,  
And facts are always true,  
Your behaviour  
And your thoughts  
Rest entirely with you.  
So, if Life and Bridge upset you,  
The problem  
Lies within you.  
Bridge is a hand of cards  
As it is of Life as well.  
Each card and each game  
Has a story to tell.  
Love ♥ your Life  
And enjoy Bridge as well,  
Navigating the pitfalls,  
One can stand Tall  
With a smile on the face.  
As Life is not a race,  
Everyone has a say.  
Play Fair, and enjoy Bridge  
It is Life's way.

*Saritha Mathur*



Here are the top 25 placings after three gruelling sessions and a total of 78 challenging boards. The top 22 pairs will make up the Championship sessions and compete against each other behind screens! Congratulations to Cape Town's Imtiaz Kaprey and Maureen Narunsky on heading the list of a very strong field with a true international flavour. But, spare a thought for the 23<sup>rd</sup> qualifiers, Roz Bernstein and Sharon Lang who miss out on a place in the Championship by 0,34%, with Pretoria's Jack Dorfan and Errol Pieters; Reunion's Patrice Dordhain and Patrick Hamel and KZN'S Lindi Honey and Mignon Leigh also only decimal points out of the top 22.

1	Imtiaz Kaprey & Maureen Narunsky	5334/ 8580	62.17
2	Alon Apteker & Craig Gower	5206/ 8580	60.68
3	Michael Alexander & Glen Holman	5156/ 8580	60.09
4	Larry Chemaly & James Grant	5148/ 8580	60.00
5	Ashley Bach & Michael Cornell	5087/ 8580	59.29
6	Nicola Bateman & Merle Modlin	5039/ 8580	58.73
7	Diniar & Nancy Minwalla	5017/ 8580	58.47
8	Val Bloom & Tas Nestoridis	4884/ 8360	58.42
9	Greg Hingle & Di Rosslee	4952/ 8580	57.72
10	Di Adrain & Roger Wilson	4814/ 8360	57.58
11	Jude Apteker & Robert Stephens	4805/ 8360	57.48
12	Barney & Entha Zagnoev	4772/ 8360	57.08
13	Marc & Sylviane Vervenne	4759/ 8360	56.93
14	Yvonne Hulett & Beth Oldacre	4872/ 8580	56.78
15	Noah Apteker & Bernard Donde	4865/ 8580	56.70
16	Andrzej Chmielowski & Harun Ebrahim	4657/ 8250	56.45
17	Ghita Sandler & Irene Sundelson	4683/ 8360	56.02
18	Olve Gravrak & Sverre Johnsen	4791/ 8580	55.84
19	Malcolm Siegel & Robert Sulcas	4786/ 8580	55.78
20	Joe Mohamed & Shiraz Patel	4767/ 8580	55.56
21	Joy Rothenberg & Sam Trocki	4755/ 8580	55.42
22	Andrew Brooke & Andrew Cruise	4596/ 8360	54.98
23	Roz Bernstein & Sharon Lang	4568/ 8360	54.64
24	Jack Dorfan & Errol Pieters	4654/ 8580	54.24
25=	Patrice Dordhain & Patrick Hamel	4534/ 8360	54.23
25=	Lindi Honey & Mignon Leigh	4653/ 8580	54.23

Good luck to all those who qualified for the Championship group! We are also confident that the other four sections will continue to be fought out with the same vigour and courtesy as we know will be evidenced in the top group.

