



CONGRESS 2018 PLAY of the DAY

And here's yet another one from Leif Stabell from the second session of the Pairs' final.

Here's the full deal. The dealer is North; nobody vulnerable.

♠AK83	
♥4	
♦J642	
♣KQ63	
♠J107	♠5
♥QJ6	♥K875
♦K853	♦AQ1097
♣J54	♣982
♠Q8642	
♥A10932	
♦-	
♣A107	



Leif Stabell

And the bidding:

N	S
L.Stabell	T.Stabell
1♦	1♠
2♠	3♦ ¹⁾
4♣ ²⁾	4♦ ²⁾
4♥ ²⁾	5♠
6♠	pass

1) Short suit trial bid 2) Cue bids

West led the Jack of spades, but the play didn't take long: Ace of spades, Ace of heart, heart ruff, diamond ruff, heart ruff, King of spades, club to the Ace, Queen of spades, give up a heart. The only other pair to record +980 was MS Mohamed and Shazaad Patel in the President section. Perhaps a bit worrying that nobody in the Championships section reached the near-laydown slam?



DAILY BULLETIN

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THE SIDE BAR

The Pairs event is over, now for the Teams tournament. It started with a full Swiss session. Here is the



after the first round, showing the top twelve contending teams with their accumulated Victory Points.

1	Leif-Erik Stabell & Tolle Stabell & Sverre Johnsen & Olve Gravråk	39.24
2	James Grant & Larry Chemaly & Nicola Bateman & Merle Modlin	33.10
3	Mary Mutch & Val Stephenson & Beth Oldacre & Yvonne Hulett	29.86
4	Brenda Foster & Ann Sturrock & Hilary Nick & Kitty Cruise	29.44
5	Desiree Pieters & Chris Child & Errol Pieters & Jack Dorfan & Lloyd Murison	28.50
6	Ghita Sandler & Irene Sundelson & Michele Alexander & Jocelyn Ashberg	28.50
7	Patrick Hamel & Patrice Dordhain & Catherine Aouate & Régine Wan Hoi	28.46
8	Val Taylor & Ruth Shaw & Merlyn Munro & Gabriella Hunter	27.88
9	Alon Apteker & Craig Gower & Michael Cornell & Ashley Bach	27.50
10	Bernard Donde & Noah Apteker & Robert Stephens & Hennie Fick	26.03
11	Neville Eber & Chris Bosenberg & Val Bloom & Tas Nestoridis	25.47
12	Anne-Marie Waterman & Janet Colebank & Susanne Braatvedt & Delys Shepard	24.76

The Teams has started in earnest with a long Swiss session. But not to forget the just finished Pairs, with the Championship title going to the Gauteng pair of Nicola Bateman and Merle Modlin on 1031 points, with the New Zealanders Ashley Bach and Michael Conell clinching the runners-up spot with 1016 points. No other pair cracked the 1000 point barrier!



Merle Modlin and Nicola Bateman



Ashley Bach and Michael Cornell



Neville Eber and Chris Bosenberg



Jenni Gautschi and Peta Balderson

All the finals, including of course, the Championship, were played in the fast, furious and fun Barometer format.

The Congress section was always going to be hotly contested with at least six pairs who would not have been out of place in the Championship. And so it was, with final honours going to Gauteng's Chris Bosenberg and Neville Eber with 1040, followed in second place by the visiting Stabell brothers, Leif-Erik and Tolle on 1031; again no-one else over the 1000 mark.

In the Plate division, another Gauteng pair, Peta Balderson and Jenni Gautschi on 916 just pipped – by 2 points! – Roy and Ella Danilowitz of Johannesburg, who's 914 was the only other score above 900.

Our lovely visitors from Reunion, Catherine Aouate and Regine Wan Hoi's 929 points was enough to win the President section from Gauteng's Patsi Shefer and Jackie Solovei who garnered 922 points; two other pairs also cracked the 900 mark – Pat Fritz and Trish McLean and another Gauteng pair, Sharon Izerel and Charmaine Lobel.

And finally, in the Vice-President division, Gauteng's Marcel Norman and Louise Tager led from start to finish winning with a whopping 1108 points from (also from Gauteng) Ebrahim Cassim and Ahmed Patel who achieved 1051 points; two other local pairs, Ruth Shaw and Val Taylor and Mohamed Cassim and Ebrahim Moosa also had the distinction of scoring over 1000.

Congratulations to all the high achievers, and also to all those who competed so well and so fairly, and who made the Pairs' tournament the success it undoubtedly was. Because, as that late great Liverpool soccer manager, Bill Shankly, once said "*It's for the players!*"



