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From: [John-Eldar Pedersen](#)

To: [Roland Wald](#)

Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2005 5:55 PM

Subject: Farmen Invitational -

Hi.

This is for the commentators, and I hope it can be some help for you. Roland, please send this information to the commentators.

The intention with "Farmen Invitational" is competition between high rated players, and good bridge is important. We also will keep alive social contact between good friends. Host: John-Eldar.

The host earlier lived in the same region as **Team Sortland**, and all players there are good friends of him, and he has met them all in competitions for several years. John-Eldar and Haakon has also won several tournaments together. The last was this year in May.

John moved to, and lived in Tromsø last 8 years. There he became good friends with the players which he earlier only knew from competitions. Together with Trond and Stein he established frequent private meetings with cardplay ++. Now John-Eldar is retired and back in the region at his old family farm. He has the opportunity to invite and host a dozen people, and he uses this opportunity for bridge events.

Most of the high rated players living in Tromsø has for many years meant (I believe) that the bridge hegemony in northern Norway was in Tromsø. Since Team Sortland (400 km away) won this year's national team competition, and Team Tromsø with among other also has Peter, Rune and Trond on the team, was knocked out early and not qualified for national finale, John-Eldar now has invited them all to get proved once for all, where the bridge-hegemony belongs.

John-Eldar, Gunnar, Espen and Stein was also knocked out and did not reach national finale, but played on other teams.

Here is some information about the participants:

Peter Marstrander - Rated as National Grand Master

Is a former national winner for team, and a former winner of European junior team. Peter is still responsible for bidding competition in the magazine "Bridge in Norway". He has been a board member of Tromsø bridgeclub for many years, and it is right to say that he belongs to "the inner circle" in Tromsø's bridge milieu. Peter is very pleasant as bridge-partner also, and he is clever to make his partner better with the table.

Rune Brendeford Anderssen - Rated as National Grand Master

Played on the same team as Peter when they won national team competition. Rune has temperament. Favorite partner: Peter.

Trond "Uncle" Hegrand - Rated as National Grand Master

Among friends mostly named "Uncle" - but in the last we also call him "Wirkola". Wirkola was a former famous Norwegian ski-jumper.

In a bidding sequence it is not unusual that "Uncle" make a sudden jump to game or slam, and not use normal methods. Standard rule for partner is that "Uncle" now is using "Wirkola", and bids both hands alone. For a raise partner need more than 3 ace values. He is using this "metode" also in serious competition, and we who know his capacity, are still wondering: how is it possible to get about 95% hit with that kind of bidding. The answer is: He has an excellent good nose for what is happening around the table! Trond is our cook at Saturday. Menu: Lutefisk (seafood).

Trond and John-Eldar has played many tournaments together with very good results.

John-Eldar Pedersen - Rated as National Grand Master

"The Farmer" and host for the second Farmen Invitational. John-Eldar lived 8 years in Tromsø, retired and moved to "Farmen" 6 months ago. Beside bridge he is a hunter. (Moose and ptarmigan). Outdoor life and Svalbard is also a great passion. He is a very good player in chess and Backgammon.

John is normally the system-maker in a partnership. He started his bridgeline playing Blue Club, then Power Precision, but now he believes only in a natural system with extras. John-Eldar is also the cook Friday. Menu: Moose. Private website: www.nordpol.no

Stein Eliassen - He is a very good player, serious in bid and play, and of course he has seen "the light" in bridge. He is always looking for the opportunity to make diamond 7 getting last trick. He is very clever to look for "the only chance". Partner can be as stupid as possible, he never says a word about that. Stein is a high-rated player in Backgammon.

Gunnar Harr - rated as National Grand Master

Former winner of European junior team. He is young (26), and the bidding has a character of modern junior bridge, and he is updated in new bidding theory. Gunnar also likes to play poker, at the time most on internet. Favorite partner: Espen

Espen Larsen - It is not so much to say about Espen. He is a very good and serious bridgeplayer, and the reason why he is invited is that he belongs to the "inner circle bridgemilieu" in northern Norway. He is also updated in modern bidding theory. Favorite partner: Gunnar

Team Sortland - last seasons national team winners. (all rated as national Grand Masters)

Haakon Bergsrud - Olav Ellingsen - They are playing precision, do I need to say more? Haakon is a "thinker", and the partner can be very tired with the table, because of this thinking. In most situations Haakon is thinking right. Olav has temperament. Haakon and Olav will not split partnership during this tournament because of the system.

Paal Tore Fondvik - Sigve Smørdal. Paal is our computerspecialist, and if something doesn't work during BBO vugraph, he is responsible. Paal is also responsible for the regional internet bridge site <http://www.lovebridge.no/index.php> and was responsible for websites during "Norsk bridgefestival". Sigve got best players prize during last national team competition.

Regards

John-Eldar Pedersen