# Friendly Bridge Classes

## at Newburn Leisure Centre

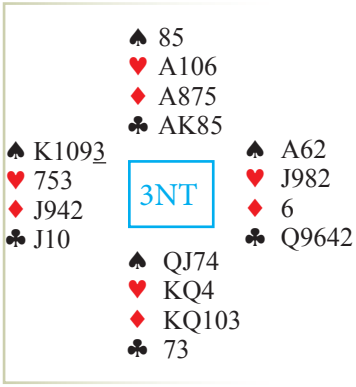



# A SERIES OF LESSONS FOR CLUB PLAYERS AUTUMN TERM 2013


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## STRIP AND THROW IN

| N | S |
|---|---|
| 1C | 3NT |




9 tricks look certain, probably 10! 3 hearts, 2 clubs and 4 diamonds look likely. On the lead, a spade trick becomes certain.

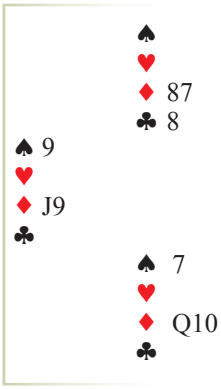
Declarer needs to be careful how the diamonds are played (i.e. one of two top honours first. to protect the Q10 tenace & possibly the A8 near tenace)

West LED ♠3

TRICK 1. East wins with ♠A
TRICK 2. East returns ♠6 to ♠Q and west's ♠K
(*♠6 is highest from what is now a doubleton*)

TRICK 3. West continues with ♠10. Won by south with ♠J
TRICK 4. South (*correctly*) plays ♦K to maintain tenace.
TRICK5 ♦3 is led towards ♦A and east shows out !?!?
So now there is a diamond loser! OR IS THERE?

West obviously started with four diamonds and four spades.
He has only five cards in hearts and clubs.
So what if we strip these two suits?
Let us see. Play ♣AK and ♥AKQ and we are now left with - -




All we have to do now is to play ♠7 to west's ♠9.

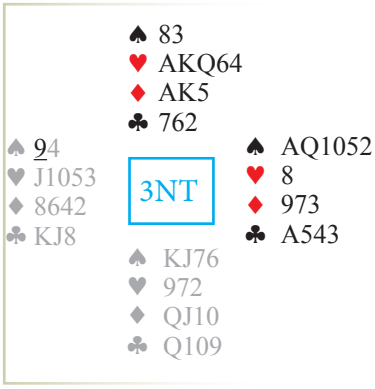
West is now forced to lead from his ♦J9 which gives us two diamond tricks!

Brunton - August 26th

## ARE YOU A 'THINKING' DEFENDER?

| N | E | S | W |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1H | 1S | 1NT* | P |
| 2NT | P | 3NT | |

Cramlington - Sept 13th



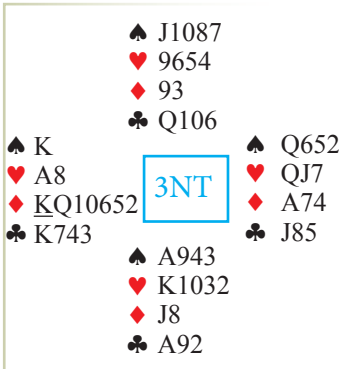

West leads ♠9.
So east **knows** that declarer has ♠K and ♠J.
With two top spades to remove and only one entry, east realises that the spade suit will not set this contract.
**Would you find the club switch at the table** *and which club would you lead*?

Switches in mid game should be:
**A low card** to say continue this suit.
**A high card** to say no interest in this suit.

## FAILURE TO WRIGGLE COSTS N/S - 800

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | P | P |
| P | | | |

Cramlington - Sept 13th




There are many variations of the wriggle and you should really should play one. We recommend:
With a 5 card suit, you would transfer.
With two 4 card suits, south should pass. This pass requests north to XX.
South then bids his lowest ranking 4 card suit and today BINGO you play in a 4/4.
Possibly - west might now bid diamonds.
*Sheets on the wriggle are available.*

West LED ♦K
East **MUST** overtake this & return ♦7

# WRIGGLES AFTER 1NT X.

In this country most Acol players use a weak 1NT (12-14). It is a very good descriptive and pre-emptive bid, but it has its dangers. Although every first round double of a *suit* bid is for 'take out', a double of 1NT is for penalties, and if partner is weak, you need some form of wriggle to escape into a suit contract.

***There are many variations of wriggle. This one includes the possibility that, on rare occasions you may need to transfer into a FOUR card suit.***

## The Easy Bit - Transfer into any five card suit if 1NT is doubled

After 1NT has been doubled, responder can use the opponent's double as an opportunity to ***transfer*** into ***any*** five card suit that they hold. (Minors as well as majors).
Do so with 0-5 points. With 6+ HCPs we suggest that you pass!

| N | | E | | S | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | - | X | - | XX | requires opener to transfer to clubs. |
| 1NT | - | X | - | 2♣ | requires opener to transfer to diamonds. |
| 1NT | - | X | - | 2♦ | requires opener to transfer to hearts. |
| 1NT | - | X | - | 2♥ | requires opener to transfer to spades. |

***ALL transfer bids after a double must be alerted. (Not announced).***

Although these are no more than weakness takeouts, they ensure that the contract is being played by the stronger hand. The lead is coming *around* to the probable tenaces, rather than *through* them.)

## The Harder Bit - What to do when you do not have a five card suit

If you are very weak and ***do not*** have a ***five*** card suit, you could choose one of these options:

a. With a 4-3-3-3 shape, and 4+ HCPs, pass. Look confident. *Partner will alert and re-double! Still looking confident, pass the re-double & hope your LHO panics and bids. They often do.*

b. With a 4-3-3-3 shape, and 0-3 HCPs, you are in real trouble! Pretend that you have a five card suit and transfer into your only four card suit! Do this even if not doubled. ***You will be!***

c. With two four card suits (4-4-3-2 shape) responder will PASS, and ***that pass must be alerted by opener because it is forcing!*** The pass requests opener to XX (re-double) for one of two reasons.

c1. With 6+ pts. responder can pass partner's redouble to play in 1NT XX hopefully into a game score. Although the number of times that partner has the pts. to allow 1NT xx to make are rare, it does put extra pressure on the defenders.

c2. With 0-5 pts. responder can now bid the lower of his ***TWO*** four card suits. e.g.

| Opener | Responder |
|---|---|
| ♠ K96 | ♠ 1054 |
| ♥ AQ87 | ♥ 9632 |
| ♦ K864 | ♦ Q9 |
| ♣ J7 | ♣ Q852 |

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | Pass | p |
| XX | X | 2♣ | X |
| 2♦ | X | 2♥ | ? |

The 1st two attempts to find a reasonable fit fail, but the 3rd attempt strikes gold

| Opener | Responder |
|---|---|
| ♠ K963 | ♠ J1064 |
| ♥ AQ8 | ♥ 9632 |
| ♦ K864 | ♦ Q9 |
| ♣ J7 | ♣ Q852 |

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | Pass | p |
| XX | X | 2♥ | X |
| 2♠ | | ? | |

Because responder's lowest 4 card suit is hearts, this makes it easy for opener to 'Find the Fit.'

| Opener |
|---|
| ♠ K96 |
| ♥ AQ8 |
| ♦ K10864 |
| ♣ J7 |

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | Pass | p |
| 2♦ | | | |

***Of course OPENER could bid a five card suit if they had one, (Rather than re-doubling!)***

# WRIGGLES AFTER 1NT X.

## The Even Harder Bit - When the X is made in 'Protective Position.'

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | pass | pass | **X** |
| pass* | pass | **?** | |

**? In this auction, north can choose between :**

Opener knows that responder does not have a 5 card major. (No transfer).

**PASS** showing a willingness to play in 1NT x. (*or a 4-3-3-3 hand where there is no sensible alternative).*
**XX** showing a five card minor. Opener bids 2♣ and responder either passes or bids 2♦.
This bid ***now*** allows you to play in 2♣ or 2♦ with a weak five or six card suit.
**2♣** showing four clubs and four of a higher ranking suit.
**2♦** showing four diamonds and four of a major.
**2♥** showing four/four in the majors.

*Each of these bids guarantees TWO 4 card suits*

Pass* Remember that the 1NT opener can bid a five card suit at this point.

## Thinking ahead *might* avert disaster!

Partner has opened 1NT and you find yourself with this hand. RHO opponent has also passed

♠ Q74
♥ 10943
♦ 532
♣ 1087

Don't think that you might have a lucky escape and pass. *(but do think who you are playing.)*
With 0-3 pts, pre-empt the situation by making an immediate transfer to hearts.
A small lie but now LHO who must have 12+ pts. may double your 2♦
either to show diamonds or as a takeout. ***You*** *know* that you have only 2 pts. The opponents don't.
Your 2♦ bid gives nothing away about the strength of your hand.

## *Try these after a Direct X.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ♠ 854<br>♥ 532<br>♦ Q972<br>♣ KQ6 | ♠ Q85<br>♥ 53<br>♦ Q9753<br>♣ 963 | ♠ 854<br>♥ J532<br>♦ Q972<br>♣ 63 | ♠ 854<br>♥ 9532<br>♦ Q9<br>♣ Q1063 |
| ♠ K1062<br>♥ AQ8<br>♦ K863<br>♣ J7 | ♠ K1062<br>♥ AQ84<br>♦ K86<br>♣ J7 | ♠ K1062<br>♥ AQ8<br>♦ K863<br>♣ J7 | ♠ K1062<br>♥ AQ8<br>♦ K863<br>♣ J7 |

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | p | p |
| XX | p | p | ? |

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | 2♣ | p |
| 2♦ | | | |

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | p | p |
| XX | p | 2♦ | |

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | p | p |
| XX | p | 2♣ | p |
| 2♦ | X | 2♥ | |

## *Try these after a Protective X.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ♠ K106<br>♥ AQ8<br>♦ K8643<br>♣ J7 | ♠ 854<br>♥ 9532<br>♦ Q97<br>♣ Q85 | ♠ K1062<br>♥ AQ<br>♦ K863<br>♣ J97 | ♠ Q954<br>♥ J732<br>♦ Q109<br>♣ 86 |
| ♠ K1062<br>♥ AQ<br>♦ K86<br>♣ J1072 | ♠ 854<br>♥ 532<br>♦ Q10972<br>♣ Q6 | | |

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | p | p | X |
| 2♦ | | | |

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | p | p | X |
| p | p | 2♥ | X |
| 2♠ | | | |

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | p | p | X |
| p | p | **xx** | p |
| 2♣ | p | 2♦ | |

# AROUND THE CLUBS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ AK<br>♥ KQJ85<br>♦ A842<br>♣ 65 | |
| ♠ J972<br>♥ 6432<br>♦ 9<br>♣ KQ93 | 3NT | ♠ 863<br>♥ A109<br>♦ Q76<br>♣ 10874 |
| | ♠ Q1054<br>♥ 7<br>♦ KJ1053<br>♣ AJ2 | |

Occasionally a hand crops up with many many teaching points. This is one such hand.

**1. BIDDING**

a.) ***Should south open?*** **YES** it has two of the three criteria we use
7 loser, 3 controls. It also conforms to the rule of 19.

b.) ***Should north Jump Shift with this big hand?*** **NO**
It does not have a solid 6 card suit. Do not take up your own bidding space.

c.) South bids 1♠ to show 5 diamonds and 4 spades.

d.) ***Should north bid NTs or support diamonds?*** **NO**
North must make a forcing bid. (2♣ is 4th suit forcing. - Remember?)

e.) South will now bid 2NT to show the club stop (without three hearts.)

d.) IF north got excited he may investigate a diamond slam,
but to play in 5D is not going to score well

**2. LEAD AGAINST 3NT**

a.) ***Should west lead*** ♣3? **YES** it is the 'correct' lead.
(Unfortunately, it does not work well today). Declarer wins with ♣J.
♣K lead is wrong because it promises KQ10x at worst. Declarer must duck.

Remember the lead of a king against NTs asks partner to throw any honour they have.

**2. LEAD AGAINST 5D or 6D**

b.) ***Should west lead*** ♣K? **YES**
It establishes a fast winner. The ♣3 (4th highest lead) is poor.

**MAKING A PLAN IN 5♦**

It looks like you will lose ♥A, ♣6 and you need to find ♦Q.
but after checking each of your suits, you should notice that
you have an 'EXTRA' spade winner.
So your plan is to throw the ♣6 on ♠Q.
1st you must get to dummy to unblock ♠A & ♠K.
You could do this by leading a spade or you could test trumps.

TRICK 1. Win ♣A
TRICK 2. Lead ♦J* If ♦Q is with west, this may tempt west to cover or ponder,
but west plays 9 without any pondering so win ♦A. *(It looks as if ♦Q is in* ***east's*** *hand.)*
TRICKS 3 & 4 Unblock ♠A and ♠K
TRICK 5 Lead ♦2 to ♦K (or finesse ♦10 if you are in 6♦)
TRICK 6. Play ♠Q and throw ♣6.
TRICK 7. Play a ♥7 to ♥K and east's ♥A. East will cash ♦Q
but the rest of the tricks are yours.

* In 6♦ watching opponents reactions can reduce the guesswork a little and odds are slightly in favour of a 3-1 break

**MAKING A PLAN IN 3NT**

There are 6 top tricks. Three spades, two diamonds and one club.
On the '*correct*' lead you have no worries. Win ♣J and establish to heart winners or two diamond winners.
On the CK lead, clubs look dangerous and you must duck, leaving west on lead.
TRICK 1. Duck ♣A
TRICK 2. West now has an impossible task.
If west continues clubs you win and immediately establish diamonds or hearts.
If west switches to diamonds you find ♦Q
If west switches to hearts, play the ♥K. East will win ♥A and lead a club.
but now, because all your hearts are winners simply win ♣A and run for home.

# AROUND THE CLUBS

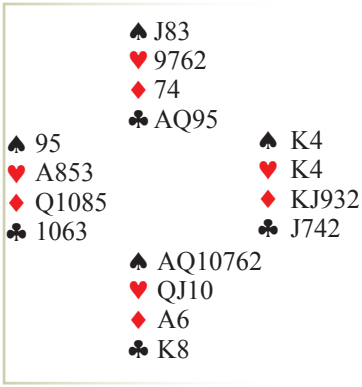
## ONE, TWO, THAT'LL DO!

**BIDDING**

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1S** | **P** | **2S** | **P** |
| **4S** | | | |

**OR**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1S** | **P** | **1NT** | **2D** |
| **3S** | **P** | **4S** | |




**SUPPORTING WITH 3!**

Board 11 from Monday's duplicate occured just after Liz, one of Inga's students had attended a class about supporting with 3 card suits.

Although most north's would respond 1NT to south's 1♠, a better option might be 2♠. North has 3 spades and can ruff a 3rd round of diamonds. In other words the 3 spades are 'working'.
You will also notice that 2♠ has more pre-emptive value than 1NT.

South with 16 pts. but more importantly, a 5 loser hand can raise to 4♠ directly.

On a 1NT response from north, south can only rebid 3♠ leaving more scope to go wrong.

IF south had only four spades, 2♠ would be passed unless there were 17+pts. in opener's hand when the rebid would be 2NT to guard against the possibility of only 3 card support.

**PLAY IN 4♠** by South ♦5 LEAD

Sadly, no one made the 11 tricks that are 'there for the taking'.

You should count 4 potential losers after the diamond lead. (2 hearts, ♦7 and a possible failure of the trump finesse.

DID YOU - -
SEE - that the ♦7 can be discarded on ♣Q, and did you do that immediately because the ♦7 was a FAST loser?

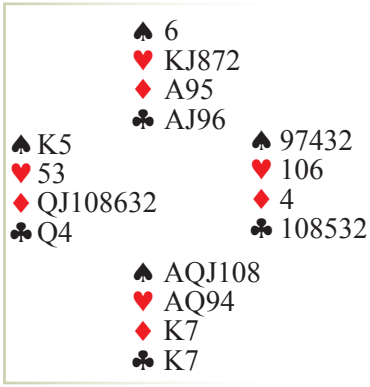
Only after this play, and being in the right hand, should you try the trump finesse.

IF it fails you *may* lose a heart ruff, but if you did lose a heart ruff, that would take you back to the ten tricks which is all you can make if you simply played ♠A.

## WHEN A SIMPLE FINESSE SHOULD BE YOUR LAST OPTION

**BIDDING (at our table)**

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1♠ | 3♦ | 3NT | P |
| 4NT | P* | 5H | P |
| **6NT** | P | P | P |




West's weak jump overcall makes it harder for N/S to find the best contract.

North has the values to bid 3NT but 3♥ would still be forcing. Without a diamond stop south could still bid 3♠ followed by 3NT from north.

Anyway -
19 and 13 ish with ♦A almost guaranteed, enables south to investigate slam.

Only one pair bid 6♥.
Lenny and Sue bid 6NT for a top.

7♥ failed because everyone appeared to take the unnecessary spade finesse.

**PLAY in 7♥** by North ♦4 LEAD

Win and test trumps. They break. Picture north as the master hand. Can you recognise that there are 3 losers? ♣9, ♣J and ♦5

Everyone finessed the ♠Q and made 12 tricks - BUT after the 2-2 trump break, don't risk an immediatte finesse. Try ♣6 to ♣A and ♣7 to ♣K.

When ♣Q falls, your 13 tricks are there without taking a finesse. Simply ruff the two remaining losers! (♣9 and ♦5)

IF the ♣Q did NOT fall, play a 3rd club and ruff.
IF the ♣Q still did not fall, you can then take the spade finesse. BUT - - the overcall suggests that the ♠K is with west, and with 6+ diamonds west is likely to be short in other suits. You might be wise to play a ruffing finesse.

# WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

A sheet for those who ask "How many points do you need to - - -?" (*Both sides vul.*)

**You have only 8 HCPs**

Partner opens 1♥
What do you respond with -

♠ 964
♥ J98
♦ AK74
♣ 643

Top left. 1NT *(6-9 No ruffing potential)*

Partner opens 1♥
What do you respond with -

♠ 964
♥ J983
♦ AK7
♣ 643

Top right. 2♥ *(6-9 Eight card fit. (10 loser)*

Partner opens 1♥
What do you respond with -

♠ 96
♥ J98
♦ AK74
♣ 6432

Middle left. 2♥ *(6-9 Semi fit and club ruff)*

Partner opens 1♥
What do you respond with -

♠ 96
♥ J9832
♦ AK74
♣ 64

Middle right. 3♥ *(Big fit and 8 loser)*

Partner opens 1♥
What do you respond with -

♠ 96
♥ J9
♦ AK7432
♣ 643

Bottom left. 1NT *(6-9 Not four spades)*

Partner opens 1♥
What do you respond with -

♠ 9
♥ J10983
♦ AK874
♣ 64

Bottom right. 4♥ *(Big fit and good 5 card side suit)*

---

Do you PASS or OPEN with these 9 pts.

♠ 9
♥ Q10983
♦ AK1074
♣ 64

1♥ *(Higher of two 5s. 6 loser, 3 controls)*

Do you PASS or OPEN with these 10pts

♠ 95
♥ J9843
♦ AK62
♣ Q6

Pass *(Only 10 pts. and an 8 loser )*

---

Do you PASS or OVERCALL with these 8 HCPs?

RHO opens 1♥

♠ 109
♥ 9
♦ AK7432
♣ J643

2♦ *(Although this shows 10 ish pts. the hand has good shape.)*

Do you PASS, X or OVERCALL with these 13 HCPs

RHO opens 1♥

♠ KJ10
♥ J109
♦ AK7
♣ J643

Pass *(No bid available)*

---

Do you PASS or SUPPORT with these 6 pts?

Partner opens 1♣
RHO overcalls 1♥

♠ K1095
♥ 85
♦ 74
♣ K10643

X *(A negative double showing FOUR spades & 6+ pts. Forcing for 1 round)*

with these 12 pts. do you PASS, X, or respond - 1S, - 2S, - 2C, - 3C, 1NT - 2NT - 3NT ?

Partner opens 1♣
RHO overcalls 1♥

♠ KJ1095
♥ AQ
♦ 74
♣ K1064

1♠ *(showng FIVE spades & 6+pts. Forcing for 1 round)*

# WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

## A sheet for those of you who ask "When should I draw trumps?"

**1**

♠ KQ964
♥ 865
♦ K7
♣ Q32

♥K LEAD — 4♠ by south — After winning with ♥A should you draw trumps?

♠ J1085
♥ A94
♦ AQ43
♣ KJ

**2**

♠ KQ964
♥ 865
♦ K7
♣ Q32

♥K LEAD — 4♠ by south — After winning with ♥A should you draw trumps?

♠ AJ108
♥ A94
♦ AQ43
♣ J10

Two similar looking hands with an identical dummy in each.
Until you can recognise the difference between these two hands your results will not improve!

In Hand 1, after the lead, you have 4 fast losers ♠A, ♣A and two losing hearts. As soon as the opponents regain the lead, they will cash these four tricks. YOU MUST LEARN TO RECOGNISE that one of your suits (*diamonds*) has a spare winner, on which you can throw a losing heart without having to give the lead away.

Win ♥A and play ♦3 to ♦K. Then ♦7 to the ♦A.
On the ♦Q throw ♥6 and NOW draw trumps!

In Hand 2, you have top trumps and can draw the opponents trumps without having to give the lead away.

If you play the same way as Hand 1 you will be 'unlucky'

WEST
♠ 73
♥ KQJ10
♦ 86
♣ A954

because west started with only two diamonds and ruffed your ♦Q. Although you can overuff, you now cannot throw a heart loser and you will lose two hearts and two clubs

## Having recognised the need - "HOW should you draw trumps on these two hands?"

With a long solid side suit you should obviously draw trumps as soon as possible - - but HOW?
Do you finesse in trumps (8 ever 9 never) and which way, or do you play them off the top?

The bidding on both hands is identical. So is the lead. ♦4 (*MUD on the 1st. Low from an honour on the 2nd*).
If you can recognise the problem on the hands you are on the way to the solution. If not, you need to be lucky.
Does the bidding give you a clue or does the dummy hand provide the answer?

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1♠ | P | 2♣ | 2♦ |
| 2NT | P | 3♠ | P |
| 4♠ | | | |

♠ K103
♥ K74
♦ 95
♣ KQJ74

♠ Q52
♥ QJ82
♦ 743
♣ 652

4♠ by S

♠ 98
♥ A103
♦ KQJ1082
♣ 109

♠ AJ764
♥ 965
♦ A6
♣ A83

You KNOW the technique to use because we have covered it many many times, but - at the table, did you recognise avoidance play?

**Did you stop and think before playing to trick 1?**

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1♠ | P | 2♣ | 2♦ |
| 3♣ | P | 3♠ | P |
| 4♠ | | | |

♠ K103
♥ 974
♦ 95
♣ KQJ72

♠ 52
♥ A1083
♦ Q764
♣ 965

4♠ by S

♠ Q98
♥ QJ2
♦ KJ10832
♣ 10

♠ AJ764
♥ K65
♦ A
♣ A843

## SLOW YOUR GAME DOWN. IT IS NOT A RACE!

## INTER CLUB TEAMS OF 8 (Board 24)

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| P | P | 1C | 2S |
| X | 4S | 5C | P |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ QJ107<br>♥ K64<br>♦ J94 | |
| ♠ 2<br>♥ A10532<br>♦ Q8632<br>♣ 92 | ♣ K43 | ♠ 65<br>♥ 97<br>♦ AK<br>♣ AQJ10875 |
| | ♠ AK9843<br>♥ QJ8<br>♦ 1075<br>♣ 6 | |

♠A LEAD against east's 5♣ contract.

Trick 1 ♠A holds
Trick 2 South switches to a diamond. Win ♦A
*All this contract needs is a 3-3 break in diamonds. BUT you cannot draw trumps immediately. There is work to be done first!*

| | |
|---|---|
| Trick 3 | Cash ♦K |
| Trick 4 | Ruff ♠6 |
| Trick 5 | Throw ♥7 on ♦Q |
| Trick 6 | Play ♣9 to ♣Q |
| Trick 7 | Cash ♣A and concede ♣K |

South should find the heart switch at trick 2 if north plays ♠Q on south's ♠A. *(A McKenney signal for a heart switch).*
Declarer must now win ♥A, play to ♦A,♦K,
then ruff ♠6 and throw ♥9 on ♦Q. *Just a change of order.*

## INTER CLUB TEAMS OF 8 (Board 23)

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1C | 2NT | P | 4H |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ K65432<br>♥ QJ4<br>♦ 1072 | |
| ♠ 97<br>♥ K7652<br>♦ AKQJ93<br>♣ | ♣ 4 | ♠ AQJ<br>♥ 1093<br>♦ 5<br>♣ K98752 |
| | ♠ 108<br>♥ A8<br>♦ 864<br>♣ AQJ1063 | |

♠10 LEAD against east's 4♥ contract.

*2NT was a conventional bid showing 5/5 in two suits of the same colour (red in this case) and a 5 loser or better.*
*With such a wonderful side suit the only task is to draw trumps*

South kindly led from the doubleton spade.
North even more kindly played ♠K. (*Irrelevant here but he shouldn't).*

| | |
|---|---|
| Trick 1 | Win ♠K with ♠A |
| Trick 2 | Lead ♥10 - ♥8 - ♥2 - ♥Q |
| Trick 3 | Win spade return with ♠Q |
| Trick 4 | Lead ♥3 towards dummy's ♥K. South wins ♥A. |

Game over when the last trump is drawn.

## MONDAY DUPLICATE (Board 3)

| N | E | S | W |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1H | P | 1S | P |
| 2D | P | 3NT | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ 5<br>♥ A10862<br>♦ KQ1053 | |
| ♠ J1062<br>♥ Q75<br>♦ AJ7<br>♣ 942 | ♣ J6 | ♠ AK84<br>♥ J943<br>♦ 64<br>♣ Q105 |
| | ♠ Q973<br>♥ K<br>♦ 982<br>♣ AK873 | |

♥7 LEAD (*works well*)
I received some friendly fire from my lovely partner for this one. As north, I opened 1♥ with this 10 count and the fairly standard auction ended in partner playing in 3NT for a very poor score. West led ♥7? East contributed ♥4 and declarer won ♥K.

The natural play at trick 2 is ♦2 to the ♦K
IF west rises with ♦A you have 8 tricks.
Duck a heart continuation to east losing 2 hearts and 2 spades.

IF west plays low at trick 2 you return to the south hand with ♣A and lead a second diamond. Again 8 tricks with 1 to find.

Not a certain 9 tricks but it has chances. East is squeezed on the run of diamonds. It made 6 times and went off 5 times.

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1H | P | 2NT | P |
| 3C | P | 4NT | P |
| 5C | P | 6H | |

♠ KQ
♥ Q9765
♦ KQ74
♣ A6

♠ A952
♥ -
♦ 1053
♣ KJ10732

♠ 10873
♥ J2
♦ J82
♣ Q954

♠ J64
♥ AK10843
♦ A96
♣ 8

**BIDDING NEWBURN BOARD 3**

The perfect hand for Jacoby 2NT & Roman Key Card Blackwood.

North's 2NT is Jacoby.
South's 3♣ shows a singleton or void in clubs.
4NT is RCKB, where trump king counts as a 5th ace.
5♣ shows 0 or 3 Key Cards.

The hand plays itself for 12 tricks.

ON MONDAY, NO-ONE BID THE SLAM!!

At one table west overcalled 2♣ which made it harder but north is a 5 loser!

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1H | P | 2H | P |
| 2NT | P | 3H | |

♠ 64
♥ AKQJ
♦ 1086
♣ AK83

♠ K9873
♥ 62
♦ 974
♣ Q75

♠ AQ2
♥ 843
♦ AJ53
♣ 1096

♠ J105
♥ 10975
♦ KQ2
♣ J42

**LEADS NEWBURN BOARD 13**

North should open 1♥.
South rebids 2♥ to show 4ish to 8ish pts.
North's rebid of 2NT shows a balanced 17/18 count.
The reason for rebidding outside of the apparent major fit is that south may have supported with only three hearts.
*(with a balanced 15/16 opener would pass the 2♥ response)*

e.g ♠ J105 ♥ J97 ♦ KJ432 ♣ 54

I have included this hand because I watched at least two people give declarer the contract through the poor lead of ♣9. Both east's defended themselves with an explanation that it was a MUD lead.
Look at the effect. Declarer calls for ♣2 from dummy and poor west must rise with ♣Q giving declarer FOUR club tricks!!!!!!!!
IF east leads ♣10, west does not need to play ♣Q *(unless ♣J is played)*

As long as Declarer leads TOWARDS ♦KQ2 *twice* he will now make 10 tricks

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1H | 2D | P | P |
| P | | | |

♠ 1063
♥ 107
♦ 1053
♣ AKQ85

♠ AKJ5
♥ QJ6
♦ Q9764
♣ 10

♠ Q942
♥ A84
♦ 82
♣ 7432

♠ 87
♥ K9532
♦ AKJ
♣ J96

**FORCING DEFENCE BRUNTON BOARD ??**

1♥ would not be my choice of opening bid with a balanced 12 count. (1NT)
2♦ is a dreadful overcall and there was uncertainty about it's strength.
*(A takeout double is not perfect but it **would** locate the 4/4 spade fit).*

Although the 'forcing defence' is usually used when an opponent has four trumps, it appeared to provide the obvious lead here.
♣A - followed by ♣K which declarer ruffed.
Unable to draw trumps, declarer then ran *(finessed)* ♥Q to south's ♥K
A third club from south forced declarer to ruff again.

Declarer led to ♥A and back to ♥J - which north ruffed.
A fourth top club was led and declarer ruffed again. *South threw a spade.*

Declarer now tried to cash ♠A and ♠K but ♠K was ruffed by south's ♦J.
South's ♦A & ♦K then removed declarer's last two trumps and south cashed two winning hearts for +300. This was a rare top on an evening where we were completely thrashed by five of our students - and the rest of the room.

## 21 HCPs & PARTNER OPENS

**BIDDING**

| N | E | S | W |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1C** | **2NT*** | **4NT** | **P** |
| **5D** | **P** | **6NT** | |

*Unusual 2NT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ A10754<br>♥ 4<br>♦ 8<br>♣ KQJ953 | |
| ♠ Q963<br>♥ 82<br>♦ 6<br>♣ 108742 | | ♠ 8<br>♥ A9753<br>♦ K75432<br>♣ 6 |
| | ♠ KJ<br>♥ KQJ106<br>♦ AQJ109<br>♣ A | |

Board 8 from Monday's duplicate.

The 1st question is would you open the north hand?

I think -YES it conforms to 2 of the 3 criteria we suggest. (7 loser & 3 controls).

The 2nd question is should east overcall?

There are conventional bids that show two suited hands and here a 'Unusual 2NT' could be used to show 5 /5 in the two lowest unbid suits. Without such a gadget, a 1♦ overcall is unwise with such a poor suit AND 5 of a major but there is a feeling that you should do something!

PLAY IN 6NT by South ♦6 LEAD

DEFENCE
Assuming that east overcalled in diamonds, west led ♦6. East MUST NOT play ♦K. This would give declarer 5 diamond tricks!!!! The ♦K can ***never be caught*** because declarer can only ever finesse once!!

DECLARER
Picture south as the MASTER HAND

No spade losers. No club losers.
1 heart loser - 1 diamond loser.

*After winning with ♦Q*
Trick 2 Declarer must unblock ♣A.
Trick 3 Declarer should play ♥K
North wins ♥A and returns - - ? WIN!
Trick 5 Enter dummy with ♠A and run your top three club tricks.
Discarding ♦J,♦10, and ♦9.
**IF** east (who is squeezed on the clubs) throws a heart, you are home.

On a spade lead, (east will be under even more pressure,) win in hand and proceed as before. When clubs don't break, re-enter your hand with a diamond finesse.

## OUR OLD FRIEND

**BIDDING**

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1D** | **1H** | **X** | **P** |
| **4S** | | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ 10953<br>♥ A105<br>♦ Q<br>♣ AJ854 | |
| ♠ 762<br>♥ KQ9764<br>♦ 63<br>♣ K2 | | ♠ A8<br>♥ J8<br>♦ 1042<br>♣ Q109763 |
| | ♠ KQJ4<br>♥ 32<br>♦ AKJ9875<br>♣ - | |

Yes the Negative double was missed again by five pairs who ended up in a diamond contract (or NTs?)!

After a 1♥ overcall north has a classic **X** to show FOUR of the other major.
South is now a 4 loser hand and can jump to 4♠.

Experienced pairs might have found a splinter bid of 4♣ to get them to slam.

PLAY IN 6♠ by South ♥K LEAD

On a normal day (when diamonds and trumps behave) 6♠ is cold.

Picturing south as the MASTER HAND, you have one spade loser and one heart loser.

Win ♥A lead and throw ♥3 on ♣A.
Unblock ♦Q and draw trumps.

Board 11 from Monday's duplicate.

| Contract | Score | Matchpoints |
|---|---|---|
| 3D+3 | 170 | 1 |
| 5D+1 | 420 | 9 |
| 5D+1 | 420 | 9 |
| 4S+1 | 450 | 14 |
| 4S+1 | 450 | 14 |
| 4S+1 | 450 | 14 |
| 5D | 400 | 6 |
| 3S+1 | 170 | 1 |
| 2S+3 | 200 | 4 |
| 4S+2 | 480 | 21 |
| 4S+2 | 480 | 21 |
| 3NT +2 | 460 | 18 |

# PLAYING TO WIN, 3RD IN HAND - against NT contracts.

A popular saying often heard in Bridge circles, is that you should ***never finesse against partner.***

You are east. **West leads ♦3**, which card should you play?

**LEAD ♦3**

Dummy
♦ 764

♦A10932 ♦ KJ8

♦ Q5

The principle is simple.

If there is nothing to guard in dummy you must play your highest non-touching card*

To play the jack you would be finessing against partner, and you mustn't!
As you can see by having a peek through south's cards.

**LEAD ♦3**

Dummy
♦ 764

♦ A9832 ♦ QJ10

♦ K5

The principle is simple.

Try to win with the lower or lowest of touching high cards.

To play the queen you would be telling partner that you do not have the jack or ten!
West would assume that declarer has the jack and may switch to another suit if he gets on lead.

**LEAD ♦J**

Dummy
♦ 764

♦ AJ1082 ♦ K97

♦ Q5

The principle is simple.

Partner **can not** have ♦Q but **may have** ♦A

To play low on partner's jack is to give declarer a trick to which he is not entitled. Play ♦K and return ♦9. *With TWO cards remaining play hi-lo (9-7)*

**LEAD ♦Q**

Dummy
♦ 864

♦ QJ1032 ♦ A7

♦ K95

The principle is simple.

**Don't block the suit!**
Win ♦A and return ♦7

If you play low, partner will continue with ♦J and you will be forced to win ♦A. If you are lucky partner will have an entry card, but s/he has not yet knocked out declarer's ♦K

**SOUTH PLAYS IN 3NT - LEAD ♠3**

♠ Q62
♥ KQ104
♦ 109
♣ KJ86

♠ K843 ♠ AJ9
♥ J765 ♥ 32
♦ A43 ♦ 8765
♣ 73 ♣ 1054

♠ 1072
♥ A98
♦ KQJ2
♣ AQ9

This shows everyone that west holds only four spades!

If east, wins ♠A, declarer will always make ♠Q.
♠A should be kept to guard ♠Q!
East should try to win the trick with the next highest card, the ♠J. It works well and the contract is set!

IF south had held the ♠K the ♠J would lose to the ♠K but declarer would only make 1 spade trick.

If east played ♠A declarer would score two tricks with ♠Q and ♠K.

♠ Q62
♥ KQ104
♦ 109
♣ KJ86

♠ 10843 ♠ AJ9
♥ J765 ♥ 32
♦ A43 ♦ 8765
♣ 73 ♣ 1054

♠ K72
♥ A98
♦ KQJ2
♣ AQ9

If you are guarding an honour in dummy you can try to win with your 2nd highest card if it is a 9 or higher,

On the last example, ask yourself whether it is possible that west started with ♦AK876 !!?!?

**LEAD ♦7**

Dummy
♦ J52

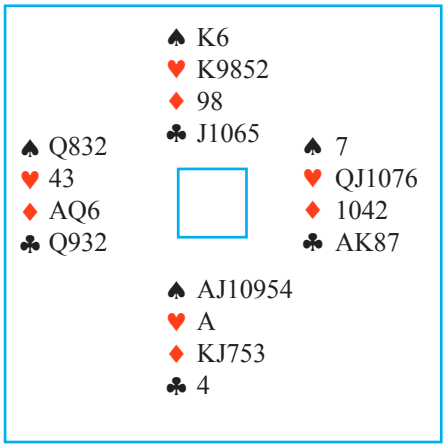
♦ A10876 ♦ Q93

♦K3

The principle is simple.

Try to keep a guard of dummy's honours

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1S | P | 1NT | 2H |
| 3D | P | 3NT | P |
| 4S | | | |




**CRAMLINGTON**

Contract 4♠ by south. ♥4 LEAD (*Hi -Lo in partner's suit*)
Immediately notice that you can throw losing ♣4 on ♥K !!!

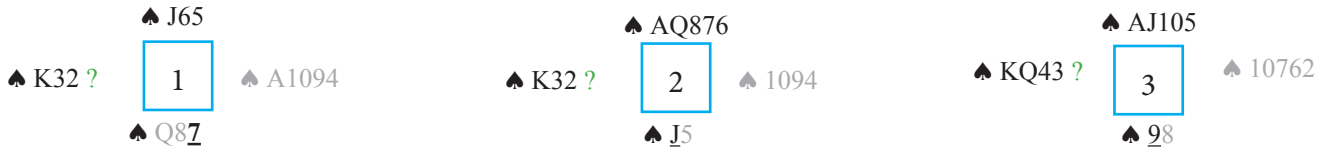
But DON'T simply lead ♠4 to ♠K. because - -
defenders make mistakes don't they?

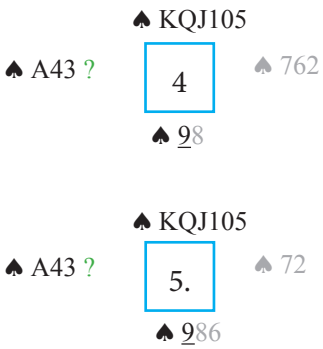
At trick 2, declarer led ♠**JACK**
**and would you believe it, west covered with ♠Q?**

THEN after declarer threw ♣4 on ♥K,
declarer led ♦9
**and would you believe it, east covered with ♦10 ?!!!?!**

♠Q can NEVER BE CAPTURED!
When ♦10 is foolishly sacrificed, declarer has K,J,8,7,

**BORING TIP** **2ND HAND PLAYS LOW**

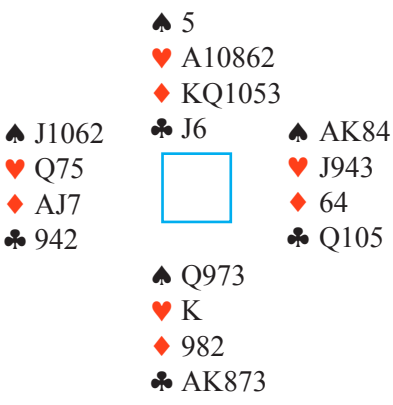



1. Do NOT rise with your king.
2. Cover the jack. Play low if declarer leads the 5.
3. Play queen to establish your king
4. Against NTs play low and watch partners card. (2) Win CA on 2nd round.
5. Against NTs play low and watch partners card. (7) Duck again on 2nd round.

On boards 4 & 5 the count signal by east tells you how many times you need to duck.

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1H | P | 1S | P |
| 2D | P | 3NT | |




## MONDAY DUPLICATE

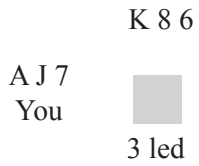
♥5 LEAD (*works well*)
I received some friendly fire from my lovely partner for this one. As north, I opened 1♥ with this 10 count and the fairly standard auction ended in partner playing in 3NT for a very poor score. West led ♥5? East contributed ♥9 and declarer won ♥K.

The natural play at trick 2 is ♦2 to the ♦K
IF west rises with ♦A you have 8 tricks.
Duck a heart continuation to east losing 2 hearts and 2 spades.

IF west plays low at trick 2 you return to the south hand with ♣A and lead a second diamond. Again 8 tricks with 1 to find

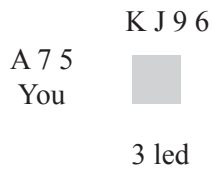
Not a certain 9 tricks but it has chances. East is squeezed on the run of diamonds. It made 6 times and went off 5 times.

## *Generally, 2nd hand plays low*

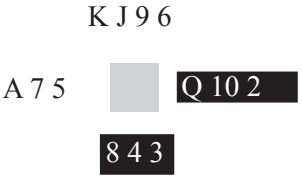



Here is an excellent illustration of the one liner ***'2nd hand plays low'.***
When south plays the 3 towards the king, you must play low or you will give declarer three tricks instead of two.

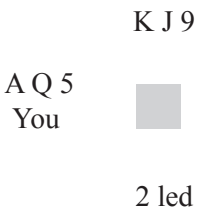


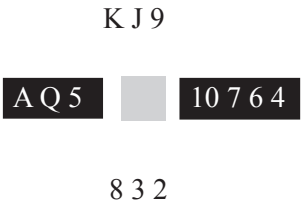

If you play the ace declarer will always make the king. If you duck smoothly, there is a good chance that declarer will finesse the jack, and that partner has the queen. *Obviously, against a suit contract, consider whether the bidding might suggest a singleton in declarer's hand.*

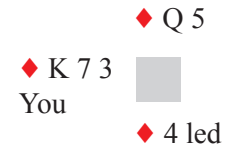



## *But there are exceptions!*



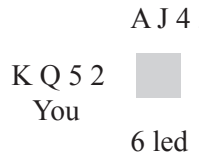

When you have the ace AND queen, your best chance of making two tricks in the suit is to play the ace on the first round, and return the 5.
Declarer may worry that it was a doubleton and that you will ruff if the second round finesse loses to east. So he will often rise with the king.
Remember declarer cannot see your hand.



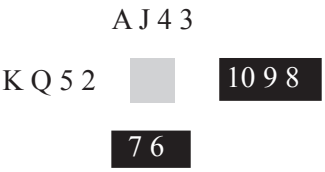



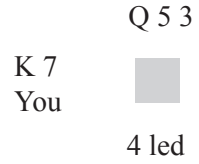

Contract 4♠. ***With only two cards in dummy***, don't be fooled into never making your ♦K.
Play ♦K or ♦Q wins, then ♦5 to declarer's ♦A and declarer's 3rd diamond is ruffed!



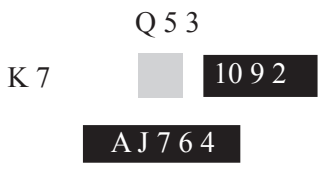




If declarer is in a trump contract, don't play low in this situation or you will not even make one trick! Declarer will finesse the jack, play the ace, and then ruff the 4!




Contract 3NT. ***With only two cards***, don't be fooled into losing your diamond trick.
Play the king.







### *FISHING FOR THE QUEEN*

Against a trump contract, prepare yourself and **NEVER** cover trump leads by declarer.
Declarer leads ♠J and you hold ♠Q76, dummy has ♠A8432.
Remember declarer holds four cards in the suit so partner has only one, at most.
Play low. If you play your queen on the jack, declarer will play the ace ***crashing*** partners king, and giving declarer five tricks instead of four.

**VERY BIG TIP** - As soon as dummy is faced you should **predict** what declarer is likely to do, and **decide, before declarer plays to dummy,** what you will do!

After an opening bid of 1NT by partner:
2♣ is Stayman
2♦ is a transfer to hearts
2♥ is a transfer to spades
2♠ does not have a purpose unless you agree with partner what it should be.

There are a number of ways that you could use the bid but we suggest the following.
2♠ is a question to opener.
Do you have 12 or 13 points? If so rebid 2NT
Do you have 14 points? If so rebid 3♣

There are two main types of hand where this is useful.

**The first type of hand is when you have a balanced 11 or 12 count with no four card major. e.g.**

♠ KJ95
♥ Q3
♦ AJ3
♣ K653

♠ Q87
♥ K103
♦ 964
♣ AQ95

| N | S |
|---|---|
| 1NT | 2♠ |
| 3♣ | 3NT |

In this first sequence north's rebid shows 14 pts.
and south adds 14 to his 11, and bids game

♠ K952
♥ J3
♦ AJ3
♣ KJ53

♠ Q87
♥ K83
♦ 964
♣ AQ95

| N | S |
|---|---|
| 1NT | 2♠ |
| 2NT | pass |

In the second sequence north's rebid shows
12/13 pts. South adds 13 to his 11, and passes.

**Using 2♠ to show 11 HCPs means that a response to 1NT of 2NT now shows precisely 12 pts.**
It must be said that experienced players do not think that the separation of one point is as relevant as the feel of the hand.
An 11 count with a good five card suit with stuffing ( 8s, 9s and 10s is worth 12 HCPs). and some 12 counts are poor.

**The second type of hand is when you hold a weak 6+card minor suit. e.g.**

♠ KJ95
♥ Q32
♦ AJ3
♣ K65

♠ 87
♥ J3
♦ 964
♣ Q109432

| N | S |
|---|---|
| 1NT | 2♠ |
| 3♣ | pass |

♠ K952
♥ J3
♦ AJ3
♣ KJ53

♠ 87
♥ 83
♦ K987542
♣ 32

| N | S |
|---|---|
| 1NT | 2♠ |
| 2NT | 3♦ |

Obviously with these south hands you do not care whether partner has 12, 13 or 14 points, you simply want to play in a minor part score. Because 2♣ is Stayman and 2♦ is a transfer to hearts, you can never play in 2♣ or 2♦.
The cheapest part score you can get to is 3♣ or 3♦ and using 2♠ after partner's 1NT is the way to get there.

When you bid 2♠ partner does not know (or need to know) which type of hand you have.
After a 1NT opening, responder is always in control of the subsequent auction.

If opponents overcall after a1NT opening bid by partner all bids now have a natural meaning.
If opponents **x** you have to agree with partner whether you make natural bids or use a wriggle.

**After an opening bid of 2NT, 3♠ has a different meaning.**

**3♣ is still Stayman (or Puppet Stayman if you play it)**
**3♦ is still a transfer to hearts and**
**3♥ is still a transfer to spades**
**3♠ shows specifically 5 spades AND 4 hearts. You cannot bid this shape using transfers. Think about it !**

**You can show 5 hearts and 4 spades by transferring to hearts and then bidding 3♠.**

# Balanced Bidding?

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | X | XX | P |
| 2C | 2NT | P | 3NT |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ AK10<br>♥ Q9<br>♦ KQ764<br>♣ QJ2 | |
| ♠ QJ2<br>♥ AKJ8<br>♦ J1053<br>♣ 106 | | ♠ 9763<br>♥ 1032<br>♦ 9<br>♣ K9853 |
| | ♠ 854<br>♥ 7654<br>♦ A82<br>♣ A74 | |

***SUCCESSFUL WRIGGLING!***

West opens 1NT vulnerable against not.
North doubles for penalties and east redoubles (a transfer to clubs)
West completes the transfer
and north inexpicably lets E/W off the hook by bidding 2NT?*!
South bids game. East LEADS ♣5

Although it is possible (double dummy) for north to catch west's four diamonds, he doesn't.
AND when north plays three diamonds, east discards two hearts.

When west gets in with ♦J he cashes ♥A and when east follows with ♥10, the defence is now an open book. ♥8 is the setting trick.

I shudder to think how 1NT X would have fared.
2♣x should escape for -200

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1S | P | P | P |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ 7<br>♥ 974<br>♦ J965<br>♣ Q10852 | |
| ♠ AJ109<br>♥ J653<br>♦ A3<br>♣ A96 | | ♠ Q862<br>♥ 1082<br>♦ KQ87<br>♣ 74 |
| | ♠ K543<br>♥ AKQ<br>♦ 1042<br>♣ KJ3 | |

***NO PROTECTION HERE!***

South with a balance 16 count, bids 1♠.
West with a balanced 14 count and four spades passes.
North passes and east in protective position would normally do anything to keep the bidding alive, but with four trumps, east should also pass.

West led a heart and despite south cashing the 1st three heart tricks, South was 2 off for -200.
NOTE
IF N/S were non-vulnerable -100 would be a good score for N/S, as E/W can make at least 8 tricks in spades or NTs for 110/120.

Would you as east dare to bid 1NT in protective position?
Would you as east finesse ♠Q and then lead ♠2 to ♠10 - THEN cash ♦A and return to hand with a diamond to ♦K in order to repeat the marked finesse?

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | P | 3NT | P |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ 863<br>♥ KJ4<br>♦ Q872<br>♣ AKJ | |
| ♠ K10974<br>♥ 10852<br>♦ J6<br>♣ 93 | | ♠ A52<br>♥ 97<br>♦ A10953<br>♣ Q82 |
| | ♠ QJ<br>♥ AQ63<br>♦ K4<br>♣ 107654 | |

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1C | P | 1D | P |
| 1H | P | 1S | P |
| 2C | P | P | P |

***VERY UNLUCKY!***

Hide the greyed out hands and decide, as south, what would you open on this semi-balance 12 count? Would 1NT be **right or wrong?**

Suppose you open 1♣ and north responds 1♠.
Unable to 'reverse' would you really want to rebid this rubbish club suit?

If partner responded 1♦ you would have a straight forward rebid of 1♥.
and after a 4th suit force, would probably play in a safe 2♣.
(*On another day*) if partner responded 1♥, you have a simple rebid of 2♥

If you open 1NT partner might bid Stayman, transfer, pass or as here, 3NT.
You pay you money and take your chance!
Sadly on this hand the ♠10 lead kills the contract but on most days this will be the only making contract on your combined 26 HCPs.

17 pairs played this board - 16 were in 3NT - none making.
One pair played in 2♥ making 8 tricks for a top. Not recommended!

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ A86<br>♥ Q74<br>♦ A2<br>♣ Q10876 | |
| ♠ 1054<br>♥ A62<br>♦ KQJ<br>♣ AK54 | | ♠ KQJ97<br>♥ J1093<br>♦ 98<br>♣ J3 |
| | ♠ 32<br>♥ K85<br>♦ 1076543<br>♣ 92 | |

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1C | P | 1S | P |
| 2NT | P | 3H | P |
| 3NT/4S | | | |

***BIDDING***

WEST 1♣ obvious. 2NT = 17/18 balanced. 3NT = to play?
EAST 1♠ = four+ spades 6+ pts. 3♥ = 5/4 forcing.
*4♠ is cold but west with good minor suits 3-3-3-4 opts for 3NT.*

***LEAD*** ♣6.

Despite the club open by west, north has entries and 5 clubs.
Typically on a 'bad' night ♣J holds the trick. (South follows with ♣9)

***PLANNING***

On the lead declarer has 3 club tricks and 1 heart.
Spades look like a good source of tricks and there are 2 diamonds.
Is there a problem? - Well entries to dummy are not good but ♠A might drop or may be played if defenders assume west has only two spades!
At trick 2 declarer leads ♠7 towards ♠10 to establish spade winners.

***DUCKING*** North notices south's ♠3 and ducks. Who has the ♠2?
If declarer started with 10-2, the 2 will be played next and ♠A will be taken.
BUT - declarer returns ♠5!! so north ducks again.

***COUNT SIGNALS*** South follows with ♠2.
This hi-lo count signal from south shows that, despite the auction, west started with 3 spades not 2! Declarer continues with ♠K. Won by north.
South discards ♦6 a 'neutral' card showing no interest in anything.
North has a 'safe exit card with ♣7. Won by west with ♣A.

Declarer now plays ♦K. Won by north's ♦A and another club is returned.
Declarer gives in! She cashes ♦Q, ♦J, and ♥A and exits with a heart for one down.

***PLAYING FOR SPLIT HONOURS*** With good stops in the minors and a fortuotis lead, declarer had time (at trick 2) to set up the 9th trick in hearts (2 spades, 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and 3 clubs is 9!)
If declarer played for split honours, 10 tricks are available when hearts break 3-3. Run ♥J at trick 2 This will lose to north's ♥Q. Declarer would win the club return and enter dummy with ♠K to repeat heart finesse by running ♥10. IF this is too hard - - maybe you should have played in the 5-3 fit making 10 tricks in spades!?! Who knows?

***COVERING HONOURS - OR NOT***

**IF** declarer played ♥J, south MUST NOT 'cover an honour with an honour' because ♥J is touching ♥10 & ♥9.
**Don't cover touching honours**!! The effect of covering here would be to set up an entry to dummy for declarer.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ J82<br>♥ 5<br>♦ K654<br>♣ J8642 | |
| ♠ KQ6<br>♥ 10742<br>♦ QJ3<br>♣ AQ7 | | ♠ 109753<br>♥ **Q983**<br>♦ A102<br>♣ 10 |
| | ♠ A4<br>♥ AKJ6<br>♦ 987<br>♣ K953 | |

*The hand has been rotated*

| S | W | E | N |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1H | P | P | P |

***Cramlington***

***NO PROTECTION AGAIN***

An almost identical hand (in principle) to the one shown last week where the player in protective position should NOT take any action, because they have four of LHOs suit.

Apart from one N/S pair playing in 5♣ X for -1400, +200 for E/W was a shared top

One E/W brilliantly made 3♠, but +140 is not as good as +200

***PROTECT ON HAND 12***

On Monday this hand was not handled well.

West passes and north opens 1♣. Passsed around to west who should X. East will pass!

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| P | 1C | P | P |
| X | P | P | P |

or

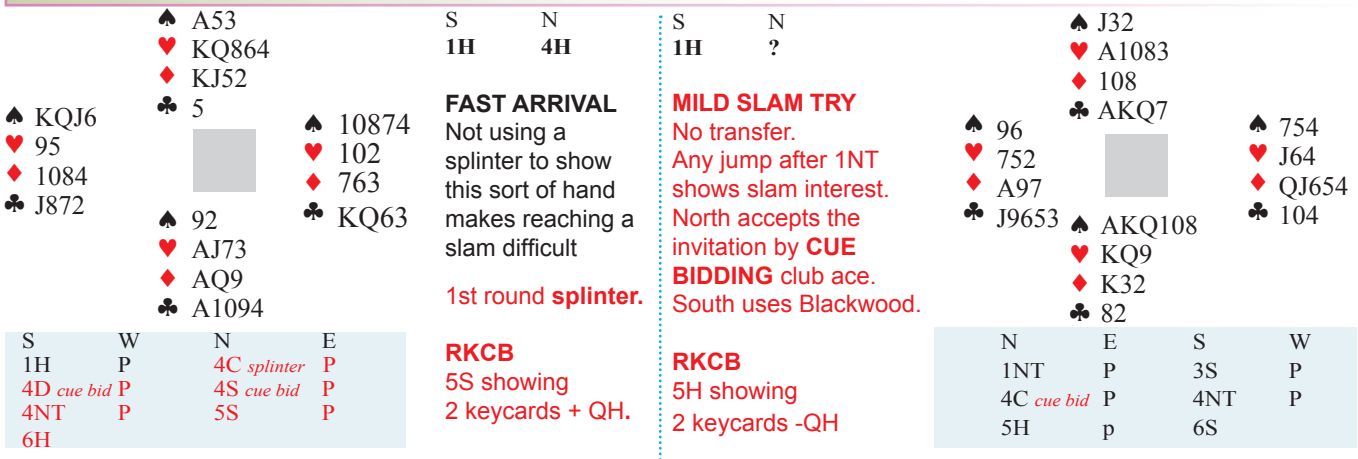
West opens 1NT, north overcalls 2♣ and east should X.

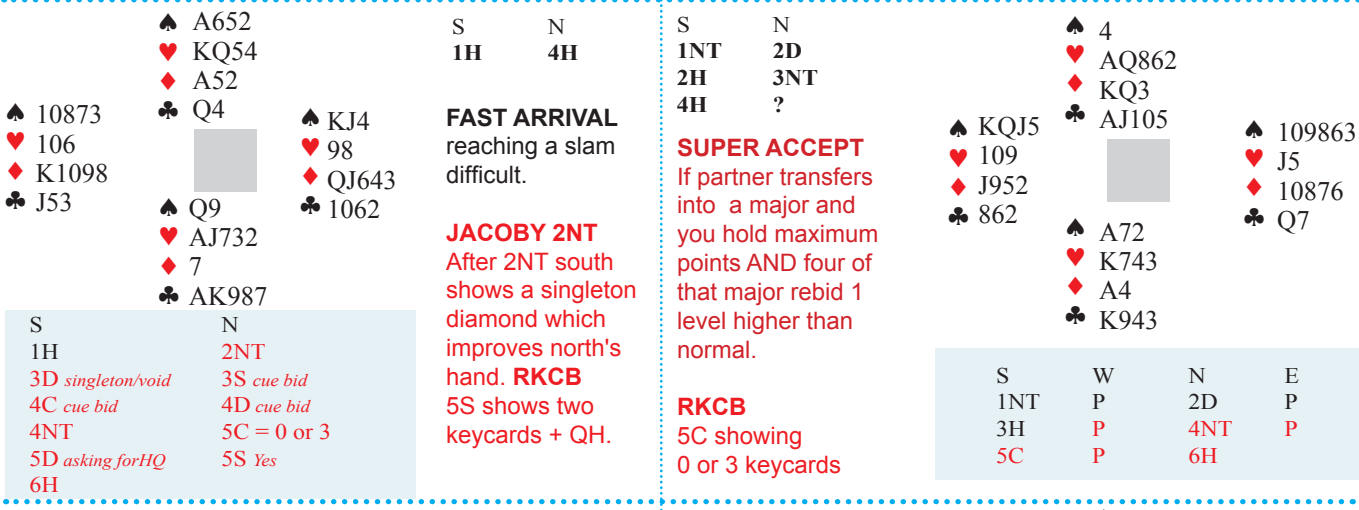
| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | 2C | X | |

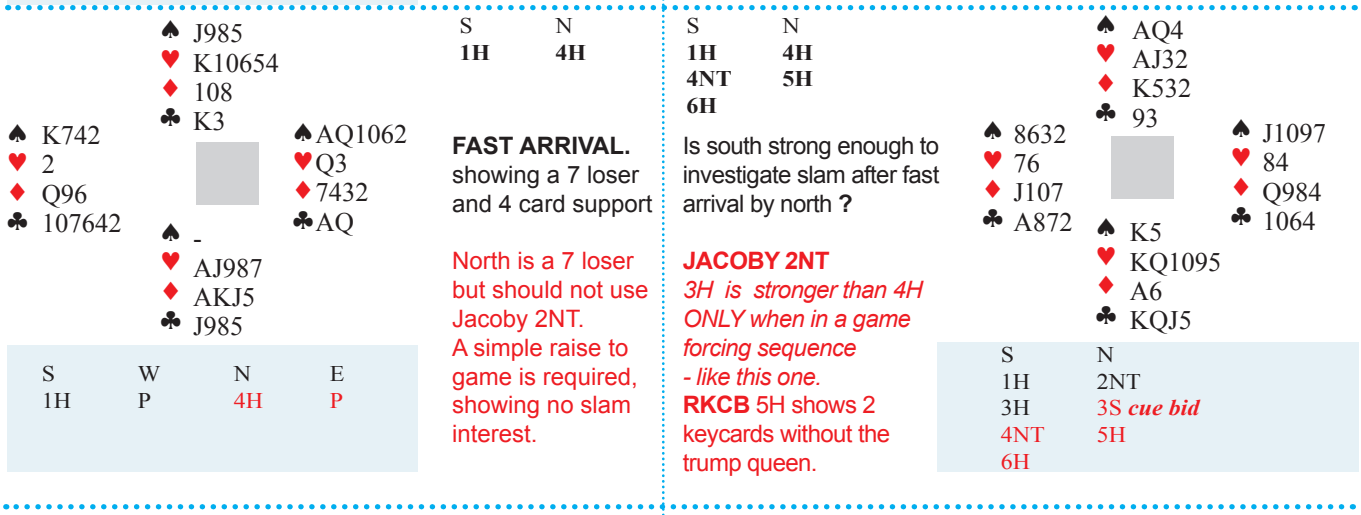
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ AJ3<br>♥ Q952<br>♦ Q<br>♣ K10752 | |
| ♠ Q95<br>♥ AKJ6<br>♦ J1092<br>♣ 63 | | ♠ K108<br>♥ 7<br>♦ A743<br>♣ AQJ98 |
| | ♠ 7642<br>♥ 10843<br>♦ K865<br>♣ 4 | |

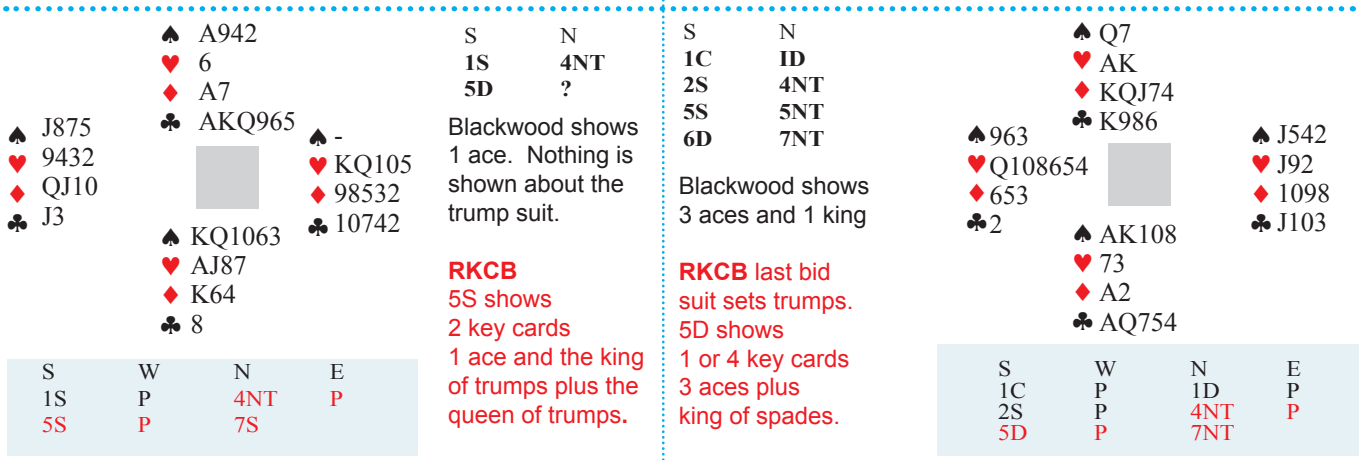
**E/W should record scores of +200/500**

# SLAM BIDDING



| N | E | S | W |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1S | P/2C | 4C* | P |
| 4NT | P | 5D | P |
| 5H | P | 6S | |
| *Splinter | | | |

4NT = RKCB
5D = 1 key card
5H = Do you have trump queen
6S = Yes

## SPLIT HONOURS & TENACE

**Played in 6♠ – ♣4 lead**

Your only concern is trumps.
A8 is a tenace but you are missing 2 honours.
Get into the south hand to lead ♠Q.
IF west ducks, run it, and it holds.
Obviously, if west covers, win with ace.
When hearts break 3/3 you do not need the diamond finesse (thankfully). You should only lose the ♠J.

♠ A8762
♥ A73
♦ K42
♣ A5

♠ KJ5
♥ 1094
♦ Q8
♣ J9842

♠ 3
♥ J82
♦ 10653
♣ KQ1073

♠ Q1094
♥ KQ65
♦ AJ97
♣ 6

*Newburn Duplicate*

IF your spades had been, ♠ A8762
♠ Q543 with no tenace, you would have to finesse differently. i.e.
Play ♠A and then low to ♠Q, hoping ♠K was in east's hand (*or that they split 2-2*)

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1S | P | 2D | P |
| 2S | P | 4S | |

## RUFFING FINESSE

**Played in 4♠ - ♥3 lead**

Recognise the 'danger hand' problem in the club suit (*if east gets on lead*).

Do not finesse ♥Q.
Win ♥A and draw trumps.
Cash ♦A & run ♦Q, throwing ♥J.

♠ KQ10
♥ A52
♦ AQJ2
♣ 765

♠ 72
♥ 10863
♦ 1097
♣ A1094

♠ 5
♥ K974
♦ K8654
♣ QJ8

♠ AJ98643
♥ QJ
♦ 3
♣ K32

| E | S | W | N |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1S | 2H | P | **4H** |
| P | P | P | P/X |

## RUFFING FINESSE

**Played in 4♥ - ♠2 lead**

East wins ♠A, and cashes ♦A at trick 2
(Hoping to put west back on lead with a spade for a diamond ruff at trick 3).

### PLAY

With all the points likely to be with east, the normal club finesse looks doomed! SO - - - play a ruffing finesse! After drawing trumps, win ♣A and 'run'♣Q throwing a diamond.

♠ 65
♥ Q985
♦ 103
♣ AQJ108

♠ Q92
♥ 72
♦ Q98652
♣ 93

♠ AJ874
♥ A6
♦ A
♣ K7654

♠ K103
♥ KJ1043
♦ KJ74
♣ 2

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1S | P/2H | 2S | 3H |
| 3S | 4H | P | 6H |

## RUFFING FINESSE

**Played in 6♥ – ♠2 lead**

Hoping dummy has a spade singleton or void on the auction, south optimistically bids to 6♥. West's opening lead is the ♠2, won by east's ace. At trick two, east returns the ♣J.

South knows that east should have played the ♠K (the lower of two touching honours) if holding both the ace AND king. South can also count 22 HCPs between his hand and dummy, and east has just shown 5 HCP.
Therefore, west must hold both the ♠K and ♣K to justify an opening bid.

South, should therefore reject the club finesse and try a ruffing finesse in spades.
At trick two, he wins the ♣A and draws trumps.

South now leads the ♠J through west for a ruffing finesse. If west covers, then dummy ruffs and south returns to his hand via a trump to play spade winners, throwing club losers from dummy. If west ducks the ♠J, then south pitches a club from dummy and continues with the ♠10.
Either way, South's losing clubs can be ruffed in dummy to make the contract.

♠ Q
♥ KJ962
♦ K963
♣ 432

♠ K8732
♥ 4
♦ AQ54
♣ K76

♠ A65
♥ 3
♦ J10872
♣ J1098

♠ J1094
♥ AQ10875
♦ -
♣ AQ5

# THE REVERSE BID

One of the most relevant sayings in bridge is that ***"Opener's rebid defines the hand'.***
After sorting your cards and **before** you open the bidding, you must recognise the shape of your hand.
You must also have a clear idea of what your rebid will be whatever subsequent bids are because your hand does not remain the same strength. It gets better or worse depending on how the auction proceeds
e.g. You pick up - Only 11HCPS but you have 3 controls and it is a 5 loser (if you find a fit) and you have a descriptive rebid for any turn of events.

N
♠ KQxx
♥ 109
♦ AQ10983
♣ 4

Auction 1

| N | E | S | W |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1D | 1S | 2C | P |
| 2D | | | |

On the 1st auction your right hand opponent overcalls in *your* 2nd suit and then partner bids clubs, your short suit.
This is now a **weaker hand** and you must put the brakes on with 2♦.

Auction 2

| N | E | S | W |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1D | 1H | 1S | P |
| 3S | | | |

On this 2nd auction, your RHO bids your short suit but partner bids spades. This is wonderful news and with a genuine 5 loser you can now jump to 3♠ with this **strong hand**.
NOTE When a fit is revealed, opener should rebid 7 loser and 6 loser hands the same. Only jump with a 5 loser or 17+ pts.

---

This is the type of hand that I would expect partner to have if he reversed. It shows 5/4 in diamonds and hearts AND 17+ HCPs

♠ K82
♥ AQ104
♦ AKJ63
♣ 7

W 1D 2H

E 1S 3NT

♠ Q1054
♥ J9
♦ 842
♣ AJ102

Now that I know partner has 17+pts I can bid game in 3NT because I have the 4th suit and 8 HCPs.

---

If partner reversed on this hand we would be in serious trouble. It has the shape but not the strength to reverse. Partner's rebid on this hand should be 2♦

Partner

♠ J82
♥ AQ54
♦ AQ763
♣ 7

W 1D 2D

E 1S pass

Me

♠ Q1054
♥ J9
♦ 842
♣ AJ102

If partner had foolishly reversed to 2♥ I would go assume 17+ and bid 3NT. After the correct rebid of 2♦ I would happily pass.

---

With a minimum opening bid, partner cannot rebid his heart suit but when **I** rebid a new suit (*forcing*), partner should realise that my hand is stronger and looking for game.

Partner

♠ J82
♥ AQ54
♦ AQ763
♣ 7

W 1D 2D 4H

E 1S 2H

Me

♠ KQ1054
♥ K973
♦ KJ8
♣ 10

Despite partner's minimum rebid of 2♦ I can happily bid again because I am stronger. *(Somewhere close to an opening hand.)*

---

Partner's rebid on this hand is NOT a reverse. It simply shows four card support for my hearts and a normal opening hand.

Partner

♠ J2
♥ AQ54
♦ AQ763
♣ 75

W 1D 2H

E 1H pass

Me

♠ Q10543
♥ K973
♦ 4
♣ J102

I have ***just*** enough pts. to respond, but can only ever bid once with this hand. So I respond 1♥ rather than 1♠. If I had responded 1♠, partner would bid 2♦. Then what?