

The analysis is based on *4-card Majors, Weak No-Trump (Strong NT mentioned), Transfers and Weak Two Openings in 3 suits.*

<p>                 ♠ Q3                  ♥ K106                  ♦ K653                  ♣ Q1054                  ♠ J6                      ♠ AK10854                  ♥ Q52                    ♥ J8                  ♦ QJ42                  ♦ A98                  ♣ J986                   ♣ A3                  ♠ 972                  ♥ A9743                  ♦ 107                  ♣ K72             </p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		10		7	16	7		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N			2			S			1			E	1	2		3	2	W	1	2		3	2	<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Nil All</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>East's rebid will vary, but I prefer 2S, as the heart Jack is of limited value.</p> <p>If West is maximum for his 1NT response (not here0,) he can make a forward move.</p> <p>After such auctions the lead from a suit of substance is recommended. South may start with the lead of the club 2. Careful defence will hold declarer to nine tricks.</p> <p>The lead of the doubleton diamond 10 will be fatal as with the favourable trump divide declarer will be in a position to make ten tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South		P	1S	P	1NT	P	2S	P	P	P		
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<p>                 ♠ 10652                  ♥ 10653                  ♦ Q74                  ♣ A8                  ♠ KQ873                  ♠ A                  ♥ -                            ♥ KQJ                  ♦ 652                        ♦ AJ1098                  ♣ KJ964                   ♣ 10532                  ♠ J94                  ♥ A98742                  ♦ K3                  ♣ Q7             </p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td></tr> </table>	HCP		6		9	15	10		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N						S						E	6	5		3	4	W	6	5		3	4	<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS Vulnerable</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1D</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1H*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1S*</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2H</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3C</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>South with a six card suit may intervene on the first round of bidding. At adverse vulnerability with a poor suit, a jump to 2H is dangerous.</p> <p>West's bid of 1S should show five and he will hope to be in a position to show the club suit later.</p> <p>East's double shows a good hand (<u>extra values is the usual explanation given!</u>) and West has now a difficult choice of bids. He can bid clubs, support diamonds or pass. The final contract will vary between game in no trump or five of a minor or doubling a heart contract.</p> <p>6 Clubs will also be a success for the brave souls who get there.</p>	West	North	East	South			1D	1H*	1S*	2H	X	P	3C	P	3NT	P	P	P		
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♠ 732  
 ♥ Q82  
 ♦ A106  
 ♣ 10974  
 ♠ AK108      ♠ QJ54  
 ♥ AK763      ♥ J1094  
 ♦ 8            ♦ KQ42  
 ♣ 653           ♣ Q  
 ♠ 96  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ J9753  
 ♣ AKJ82

HCP	
6	
14	11
9	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	2	1			
S	1	1			
E			4	4	1
W			4	4	1

Board 3 : Dealer South : EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			P
2H*	P	4H*	P
P	P		

The Flannery convention is ideally suited for this type of hand. The opening bid of 2H by West shows 5 hearts, 4 spades and eleven to fifteen points (not strong enough to reverse). It is a convention worth looking up and having in your armoury. **(Ed: Not easy if playing weak twos in any format!)** East has a good fit in both majors but is without an ace and should content himself by bidding game in a major. In lower level contracts the five four fit can cope better with a forcing defence. The 4 4 fit is more appropriate for higher level contracts as the fifth card in the second suit will provide a discard. It is debatable if East should use a splinter bid in this hand. If it is employed, there is a danger of getting too high as there are three unavoidable losers.

♠ 1054  
 ♥ J854  
 ♦ 953  
 ♣ 987  
 ♠ Q87            ♠ AJ963  
 ♥ 1092           ♥ 3  
 ♦ 642            ♦ 1087  
 ♣ K1053         ♣ AQJ4  
 ♠ K2  
 ♥ AKQ76  
 ♦ AKQJ  
 ♣ 62

HCP	
1	
8	12
22	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N		4	4		2
S		4	4		2
E	2			2	
W	2			2	

Board 4 : Dealer West : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
P	P	1S	X
P	2H	P	4H
P	P	P	

South has a powerful hand and is fully justified in bidding game once the heart fit is discovered.

If West raises to 2S on the first round of bidding, South can make a second takeout double and the heart fit will be discovered.

North has an entry in the trump suit and will be able to play a spade towards the King for his tenth trick.

It is not easy for EW to sacrifice in 4S which turns out to be a good save against the heart game.

<p>♠ AJ9 ♥ AK654 ♦ QJ1098 ♣ -</p> <p>♠ Q102                      ♠ 43 ♥ Q                              ♥ 10873 ♦ AK6                            ♦ 532 ♣ KQ7654                      ♣ A983</p> <p>♠ K8765 ♥ J92 ♦ 74 ♣ J102</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	HCP		15		16	4	5		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N		3	4	3		S		3	4	3		E	3					W	3					<p>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS Vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>West</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>North</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>East</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>South</b></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1H</td> <td>P</td> <td>1S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2C</td> <td>2D</td> <td>3C</td> <td>3H</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>4H</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5C*</td> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Many South players will give a simple raise in hearts on the first round. The bid of 1S has the advantage of helping North evaluate his hand as the bidding develops. It will be a difficult decision for West – whether to sacrifice in clubs or defend 4H. A club force will put 4H in difficulty but careful play will see this contract home. 5C is straight forward with just one diamond, two spades and a heart loser.</p>	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>		1H	P	1S	2C	2D	3C	3H	P	4H	P	P	5C*	X	P	P	P			
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<p>♠ J53 ♥ K972 ♦ J83 ♣ Q76</p> <p>♠ A98                              ♠ KQ1062 ♥ J105                            ♥ 43 ♦ A106                            ♦ Q74 ♣ A1094                         ♣ K85</p> <p>♠ 74 ♥ AQ86 ♦ K952 ♣ J32</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td></td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td></td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		7		13	10	10		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N			1			S			1			E	4	1		3	2	W	4	1		3	2	<p>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW Vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>West</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>North</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>East</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>South</b></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1C</td> <td>P</td> <td>1S</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>2S*</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Some East players may pass 1NT but with a doubleton small heart a spade contract is best. South has a difficult opening lead. Any minor suit lead will cost and it is not clear to start with the heart Ace. South may settle for a trump lead (not ideal) and it will work here. Frequently a trump lead will pick up partner's honour card and lose a tempo to the opposition. There are four tricks for the defence provided they do not get too active. Partnerships in a spade contract will fare better than their NT counterparts.</p>	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>			P	P	1C	P	1S	P	1NT	P	2S*	P	P	P		
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♠ AKJ2  
 ♥ 53  
 ♦ Q10982  
 ♣ Q7  
 ♠ 97                      ♠ Q1086  
 ♥ AKQ8                    ♥ J9642  
 ♦ J53                      ♦ AK  
 ♣ KJ102                   ♣ A5  
 ♠ 543  
 ♥ 107  
 ♦ 764  
 ♣ 986543

HCP	
12	
14	14
0	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	3	2	5	2	5
W	3	2	5	2	5

Board 7 : Dealer South : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			P
1C	1D	1H*	P
2H	P	4H	P
P	P		

After a 1D overcall, East's bid of 1H may only show four; similarly a bid of 1S may also show only four. An initial double will show two four card majors.

In the above hand West will simply raise to 2H and the normal heart game will be reached. Unusually a no trump contract will score better if West makes a good guess in the club suit. But most days of the week the heart game will be reached and eleven tricks is the limit on the hand.

♠ Q9  
 ♥ K75  
 ♦ QJ10984  
 ♣ A3  
 ♠ AK842                    ♠ 1065  
 ♥ QJ1042                   ♥ 986  
 ♦ A2                      ♦ K63  
 ♣ 2                         ♣ Q875  
 ♠ J73  
 ♥ A3  
 ♦ 75  
 ♣ KJ10964

HCP	
12	
14	5
9	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	2	3			1
S	2	3			1
E			3	3	
W			3	3	

Board 8 : Dealer West : Nil All

West	North	East	South
1S	2D*	P	3C*
3H	P	3S	P
P	P		

All players may join in the action on this board. It is best for East to pass at his first turn. A bid might show some values – misleading partner who might go astray as the bidding progresses.

South with a good six card suit opposite a partner who has bid is fully justified in introducing his club suit.

West will introduce his other five card major.

Now East will probably give preference to a spade contract. Nine tricks are the limit for either side.

<p style="margin: 0;">♠ AJ98 ♥ AKJ6 ♦ QJ ♣ K87</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 10                      ♠ 7 ♥ Q107532              ♥ 8 ♦ 107                      ♦ AK8543 ♣ Q1093                  ♣ AJ642</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KQ65432 ♥ 94 ♦ 962 ♣ 5</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">19</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>4</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	HCP		19		4	12	5		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N				4	4	S				4		E	4	3	1			W	4	3	1			<p>Board 9 : Dealer North : EW Vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1C</td> <td>1D</td> <td>2S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>4S</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>After North opens 1C, it will be difficult for EW to find their vulnerable sacrifice in Clubs.</p> <p>South's bid of 2S shows a six card suit (or seven) and 5 to 7 high card points. North with soft values in the minors will settle for 4S.</p> <p>After scoring two top diamonds, it will be necessary for East to cash the Club Ace – otherwise South can take the heart finesse and discard a losing club.</p> <p>Taking the heart finesse is a risky play. If it loses you have generated another loser and floored the contract. But here it could win all the sweets.</p>	West	North	East	South		1C	1D	2S	P	4S	P	P	P			
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P	4S	P	P																																																										
P																																																													

<p style="margin: 0;">♠ K2 ♥ A984 ♦ KJ94 ♣ K105</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AJ1053                      ♠ 98 ♥ 10                              ♥ QJ652 ♦ Q7532                      ♦ A10 ♣ A6                              ♣ 9873</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q764 ♥ K73 ♦ 86 ♣ QJ42</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td></td></tr> </table>	HCP		14		11	7	8		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2		2		2	S	2		2		2	E				1		W				1		<p>Board 10 : Dealer East : All Vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1S</td> <td>X</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>2C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2D*</td> <td>P</td> <td>2S</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Again, it is likely that all four players will get involved in the auction. North has just about enough for a takeout double – holding four of the other major and tolerance for three suits. West will show his second five card suit and East will give preference to spades. The final contract is likely to be 2S by West.</p> <p>West will do well to scramble seven tricks and will need to rise with the trump Ace if South switches to a spade after over ruffing dummy. The likely lead will be a low club by North.</p> <p>It will be necessary for North to split his diamond honours when a low diamond is played towards dummy.</p>	West	North	East	South			P	P	1S	X	1NT	2C	2D*	P	2S	P	P	P		
HCP																																																																	
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1S	X	1NT	2C																																																														
2D*	P	2S	P																																																														
P	P																																																																

♠ K10932  
 ♥ 1092  
 ♦ K102  
 ♣ J9  
 ♠ QJ74      ♠ A5  
 ♥ K86      ♥ J73  
 ♦ 74      ♦ AQ86  
 ♣ K843      ♣ A762  
 ♠ 86  
 ♥ AQ54  
 ♦ J953  
 ♣ Q105

HCP		
7		
9	15	
9		

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	4	2	2	2	2
W	4	1	2	2	2

Board 11 : Dealer South : Nil All

West	North	East	South
			P
P	P	1NT	P
2C	P	2D	P
2NT*	P	P	P
P			

West will check for a four card major and invite to game with 2NT in his next bid.

\*With a nondescript nine points he should not unilaterally bid 3NT on his second bid. East with minimum (for his NT opening) will decline the game invitation.

If South leads his best suit (hearts) East can make nine tricks. The favourable lie of the cards will see East score 2 spades, 2H (after the lead), 2D (the finesse is right) and 3C. A possible diamond lead will hold declarer to eight tricks. Leading your best suit against a NT contract will cost here but it will be right more often than not.

♠ QJ  
 ♥ KQ10876  
 ♦ 542  
 ♣ K4  
 ♠ A5      ♠ K109876  
 ♥ A43      ♥ 5  
 ♦ A8      ♦ KJ6  
 ♣ AQJ1087      ♣ 652  
 ♠ 432  
 ♥ J92  
 ♦ Q10973  
 ♣ 93

HCP		
11		
19	7	
3		

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	6	2	1	6	4
W	6	2	1	6	4

Board 12 : Dealer West : NS Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1C	2H*	2S*	P
3H	P	3S	P
4S	P	P	P

North's 2H overcall will show a six card suit and usually at unfavourable vulnerability will be at the upper range of a weak 2 bid. East mentions his spade suit immediately (sometimes only 5 card) and this bid is best played as forcing for one round.

West's bid of 3H shows a strong hand and asks partner to further describe his hand. East shows a sixth spade and West raises to 4S. 6S is not a bad contract.

It appears it will make if the club finesse scores. Here the club finesse loses but the favourable spade situation allows twelve tricks come home.

Optimists who bid to the small slam will score well.

♠ 1092  
 ♥ A8  
 ♦ 8643  
 ♣ 10962  
 ♠ KQ8                      ♠ J7654  
 ♥ KJ1094                  ♥ 7  
 ♦ 10                          ♦ KQJ975  
 ♣ AK83                      ♣ J  
 ♠ A3  
 ♥ Q6532  
 ♦ A2  
 ♣ Q754

HCP	
4	
16	8
12	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	1	4		4	2
W	1	4		4	2

Board 13 : Dealer North : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	P	P	1H
P	P	2D	P
2NT*	P	3S*	P
4S	P	P	P

This is a difficult bidding hand to reach the optimum contract of 4S. Some intrepid East players will open 1D and West will have to judge well not to advance past 4S. If East passes on the first round of bidding some West players may overcall 1NT over South's 1H opening and that will pave the way for the spade game to be reached. Holding a side suit singleton is not ideal for the NT overcall.

Some partnerships use the Ghestem convention even in fourth position. Ghestem is a convention that enables two five cards to be shown after an opening of a suit by right hand opponent. In this hand East will bid 3C showing the exclusive suits. It is surprising how many people forget the convention.

♠ A  
 ♥ AJ64  
 ♦ K98  
 ♣ KQ863  
 ♠ K54                      ♠ J107632  
 ♥ Q9                        ♥ 53  
 ♦ QJ432                  ♦ 106  
 ♣ A74                      ♣ J92  
 ♠ Q98  
 ♥ K10872  
 ♦ A75  
 ♣ 105

HCP	
17	
12	2
9	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	6	2	6	2	5
S	6	3	6	2	5
E					
W					

Board 14 : Dealer East : Nil All

West	North	East	South
		P	P
1D	2C	P	2H
P	3S*	P	4D
P	4NT	P	5H
P	6H	P	P
P			

With only one spade North does best to overcall clubs on his first bid. South introduces his heart suit (not 6 card as he would have opened) and this bid will generally show club tolerance. North peeps up and his jump to 3S agrees hearts (showing 4) and a singleton spade. After Roman Key Card Blackwood North realises there is one Ace missing and the queen of trumps. Holding nine trumps he is hopeful for a favourable break. He feels all his cards are working and bids 6H.

Any partnership that bid the heart slam can congratulate themselves.

<p>♠ AJ10 ♥ KJ3 ♦ AQ5 ♣ 7542</p> <p>♠ 743                      ♠ 962 ♥ AQ10976                ♥ 854 ♦ J84                        ♦ 10763 ♣ 9                            ♣ QJ6</p> <p>♠ KQ85 ♥ 2 ♦ K92 ♣ AK1083</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	HCP		15		7	3	15		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	6	5	3	6	6	S	6	5	3	6	6	E						W						<p>Board 15 : Dealer South : NS Vulnerable</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>West</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>North</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>East</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>South</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1C</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1H</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>The 3NT bid by North will show 13 to 15 high card points and two stoppers in the suit overcalled. South has no reason to advance over that bid.</p> <p>North is unlikely to divine the club position and eleven tricks will be the normal result. Note that East must play low smoothly on the play of the first club. If perchance West had the club Jack and it fell on the first round the odds favour a finesse of the 10 on the second play of the suit.</p> <p>The only slight clue to discovering the club position is that South has a singleton heart and there is likely to be a singleton in another hand. West with long hearts is thus favourite to have the side suit singleton should one exist.</p>	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>				1C	1H	3NT	P	P	P			
HCP																																																													
15																																																													
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W																																																													
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			1C																																																										
1H	3NT	P	P																																																										
P																																																													

<p>♠ 7 ♥ J10932 ♦ 9 ♣ J109864</p> <p>♠ K83                      ♠ AQJ942 ♥ KQ65                    ♥ 7 ♦ Q8763                  ♦ AJ5 ♣ 2                         ♣ K75</p> <p>♠ 1065 ♥ A84 ♦ K1042 ♣ AQ3</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td></td><td>4</td><td></td><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>4</td><td></td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		2		10	15	13		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	3		2			S	3		2			E		4		4	3	W		4		4	2	<p>Board 16 : Dealer West : EW Vulnerable</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>West</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>North</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>East</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>South</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3S*</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Some West players may open on this hand. The diamond suit is of poor quality and it is an Aceless hand.</p> <p>After a 1S opening by partner, West can bid 3S – a hand showing the equivalent of 11 points and highly invitational. If West opens there is a real danger of the bidding going too high.</p> <p>A club contract is a good save for NS as ten tricks are the limit for EW.</p> <p>If South makes a takeout double of 1S, North with two five card suits may push to the five level at favourable vulnerability.</p> <p>A spade lead is best for the defence and East has too much work to do to score eleven tricks.</p>	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>	P	P	1S	P	3S*	P	4S	P	P	P		
HCP																																																													
2																																																													
10	15																																																												
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Makeable contracts																																																													
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																								
N	3		2																																																										
S	3		2																																																										
E		4		4	3																																																								
W		4		4	2																																																								
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>																																																										
P	P	1S	P																																																										
3S*	P	4S	P																																																										
P	P																																																												



♠ AK3  
 ♥ AK10862  
 ♦ KQ76  
 ♣ -  
 ♠ QJ86                      ♠ 102  
 ♥ 93                              ♥ QJ7  
 ♦ 108                            ♦ 532  
 ♣ AK1032                      ♣ QJ764  
                                  ♠ 9754  
                                  ♥ 54  
                                  ♦ AJ94  
                                  ♣ 985

HCP	
19	
10	6
5	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N		7	5	3	2
S		7	5	3	2
E	1				
W	1				

Board 17 : Dealer North : Nil All

West	North	East	South
	1H	P	1S
P	3D	P	5D
P	6D	P	P
P			

North will jump in diamonds on the second round of bidding. South with a minimum hand and four card diamond support will raise to game. Optimistic North players might bid 7D but many pairs will be happy to reach 6D. In the play with diamonds dividing 3/2 the hearts can be established for an easy thirteen tricks. Note the success of bidding a second suit. Given the opportunity it is always better to give partner a choice. NS players who insist on a major suit contract will be disappointed as only eleven tricks are available in the major suit.

♠ 103  
 ♥ K843  
 ♦ J96  
 ♣ Q963  
 ♠ K7                              ♠ AQJ652  
 ♥ AQ75                            ♥ 1096  
 ♦ AKQ104                        ♦ 2  
 ♣ J5                                ♣ A74  
                                  ♠ 984  
                                  ♥ J2  
                                  ♦ 8753  
                                  ♣ K1082

HCP	
6	
19	11
4	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	2	7	5	7	7
W	2	7	5	7	7

Board 18 : Dealer East : NS Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1S	P
2D	P	2S	P
4NT*	P	5S*	P
6S	P	P	P

The 2S rebid by East is likely to show six cards in the suit. West with an excellent hand uses Roman Key Card Blackwood and with all the key cards advances to 6S. He judges that the diamond suit will provide useful discards if necessary. If a low heart is led at trick one declarer may finesse and lose a trick. On a club lead declarer can win, draw trumps and the favourable diamond break will allow four losers to be discarded. Pairs who play in a NT slam will score well. The brave souls who reach 7NT will have their day in the sun.

♠ K86  
 ♥ KJ63  
 ♦ J54  
 ♣ KJ7  
 ♠ A3                      ♠ Q  
 ♥ AQ85                    ♥ 10972  
 ♦ 2                            ♦ Q10876  
 ♣ Q98532                ♣ A64  
                                  ♠ J1097542  
                                  ♥ 4  
                                  ♦ AK93  
                                  ♣ 10

HCP	
12	
12	8
8	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N		1		3	
S		1		3	
E	3		3		
W	3		3		

Board 19 : Dealer South : EW Vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
			3S
P	4S	P	P
P			

South, with a good side suit, is worth an opening bid of 3S (there are some who might open 4).

It is difficult to find the winning defence to defeat 4S. Firstly West must lead a diamond and when South leads the spade Jack, West must rise with spade Ace and lead a club to his partner's Ace. A diamond ruff and the heart Ace will lead to four tricks for the defence.

Once South recognises the 2 diamond lead as a singleton, he may get a chance to find the winning play. If West plays low on the spade Jack, South should rise with the King and follow with diamond finesse, confining his losers to the three aces.

♠ Q107  
 ♥ Q7  
 ♦ Q73  
 ♣ AKJ103  
 ♠ AJ64                      ♠ 832  
 ♥ 543                        ♥ KJ82  
 ♦ J96                        ♦ A105  
 ♣ 754                        ♣ Q96  
                                  ♠ K95  
                                  ♥ A1096  
                                  ♦ K842  
                                  ♣ 82

HCP	
14	
6	10
10	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	3	3	3	2	3
S	3	3	3	2	2
E					
W					

Board 20 : Dealer West : All Vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
			2C
P	1NT*	P	3NT
P	2D	P	
P	P	P	

With a good five card club suit, there is a possibility that North might upgrade his hand to a strong NT opening. If that happens 3NT will be reached and East has no winning opening lead on the hand.

Good guess work in the major suits will see North make nine tricks. South may also succeed but a diamond lead from West could will lead to five tricks for the defence.

It is probable that North's choice of opening bid will be the deciding factor on the hand.

♠ K  
 ♥ 9864  
 ♦ Q1097  
 ♣ AQ75  
 ♠ Q654                      ♠ J1083  
 ♥ Q752                      ♥ AK3  
 ♦ K65                        ♦ AJ  
 ♣ J8                            ♣ K1032  
 ♠ A972  
 ♥ J10  
 ♦ 8432  
 ♣ 964

HCP	
11	
8	16
5	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	1	1	3	3	3
W	1	1	3	3	3

Board 21 : Dealer North : NS Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	P	1NT	P
P	P		

West with a poor 8 points should pass his partner's strong NT opening. If West bids, 4S will be reached and despite the favourable minor suit positions, that contract is likely to fail. Many good players who favour the strong no trump opening recommend a pass from partner with a balanced 8 points. That is the winning action here and if declarer manages nine tricks in no trump he will score well. In a spade contract there are likely three trump losers in addition to the club Ace.

♠ QJ1072  
 ♥ QJ6  
 ♦ A64  
 ♣ A8  
 ♠ 653                      ♠ K4  
 ♥ 732                      ♥ AK984  
 ♦ 109872                  ♦ Q5  
 ♣ J3                        ♣ Q964  
 ♠ A98  
 ♥ 105  
 ♦ KJ3  
 ♣ K10752

HCP	
14	
1	14
11	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	3	3	3	5	5
S	3	3	3	5	5
E					
W					

Board 22 : Dealer East : EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1H	P
P	1S	P	2H*
P	2NT	P	3NT
P	P	P	

2H is an inquiry as to the strength of the 1S overcall. 2NT shows more than minimum with hearts protected. South judges to raise to a NT game though many NS will play in 4S. There are eleven tricks available in either contract. In a NT contract the likely low heart lead will see declarer win and take the spade finesse. The diamond Queen will appear on the second play of the suit and North scores a comfortable eleven tricks.

♠ K54  
 ♥ QJ42  
 ♦ K82  
 ♣ J32  
 ♠ 109862      ♠ 73  
 ♥ K105      ♥ 9876  
 ♦ AJ65      ♦ Q3  
 ♣ 9      ♣ AK865  
 ♠ AQJ  
 ♥ A3  
 ♦ 10974  
 ♣ Q1074

HCP		Makeable contracts				
10		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
8	9	N	1	1		2
		S	1	1		2
		E			1	
13		W			1	

Board 23 : Dealer South : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1C
P	1H	P	1NT
P	P	P	

After the likely spade lead, even with 23 high card points, 1NT is not an easy make. If South discovers East has five clubs headed by the Ace King, he may deduce that West is favourite to have both the diamond Ace and heart King. If he reads the position correctly he can score 3 spades, 3 hearts, 1 club and 1 diamond. Making eight tricks will be a good score for NS.

♠ A872  
 ♥ 1074  
 ♦ A5  
 ♣ Q542  
 ♠ K105      ♠ QJ964  
 ♥ J86      ♥ Q52  
 ♦ K762      ♦ Q84  
 ♣ J86      ♣ K3  
 ♠ 3  
 ♥ AK93  
 ♦ J1093  
 ♣ A1097

HCP		Makeable contracts				
10		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
8	10	N	4	1	3	1
		S	4	1	3	1
		E				
12		W				

Board 24 : Dealer West : Nil All

West	North	East	South
			X
P	P	1S	X
2S*	X	P	3C
P	P		

“Watch the third man” is an oft quoted bridge maxim. Light openings in third position are common and partner in such situations needs to be careful about doubling a part score for penalty later in a competitive auction. After partner’s take out double, North needs to take some action. He may simply bid 3C but either way the club fit should be located. West is too balanced to advance to the three level with just an eight card fit and risks a penalty double.

♠ QJ107  
 ♥ KQ10  
 ♦ AK  
 ♣ J1084  
 ♠ AK62                      ♠ 854  
 ♥ 3                              ♥ AJ762  
 ♦ 84                             ♦ QJ92  
 ♣ AKQ763                   ♣ 5  
                                  ♠ 93  
                                  ♥ 9854  
                                  ♦ 107653  
                                  ♣ 92

HCP	
16	
18	8
0	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	2	2	1	3	2
W	2	2	1	3	2

Board 25 : Dealer North : EW Vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	1NT	P	P
2C*	P	2D	P
2S*	P	P	P

There are many varied conventions that will enable you to compete over opponent's 1NT opening. Gay Keaveney recommends the following as the most flexible: 2C = clubs and another; 2D = Majors or D and a major with D longer if it is the second option. Over 2C partner can pass with clubs or bid 2D with better diamonds and the second suit will be discovered. In this hand West will get to show both black suits and a spade contract will be reached. Eight tricks are available in either black suit. If West doubles the strong no trump opening for penalty and East passes NS will have a difficult time as there is no escape from a substantial penalty.

♠ A53  
 ♥ J  
 ♦ AJ9863  
 ♣ J84  
 ♠ J106                      ♠ KQ87  
 ♥ Q96542                  ♥ A83  
 ♦ 4                             ♦ K7  
 ♣ A76                        ♣ 10953  
                                  ♠ 942  
                                  ♥ K107  
                                  ♦ Q1052  
                                  ♣ KQ2

HCP	
11	
7	12
10	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N		2			
S		2			
E	1		2	2	
W	1		2	2	

Board 26 : Dealer East : All Vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
		1C	P
2H*	P	P	P

A popular modern convention is a jump to the two level in a major after partner opens one of a minor – the jump will show a six (or 7) card suit and 5 to 8 points. It follows a different auction if you bid the major at the one level, your partner bids a new suit or rebids his first suit, then a repeat bid by you of the major will show a six card suit and 9 to 11 points. If North intervenes in this hand with a bid of 3D(dangerous) East may compete to 3H. South with 10 points and four card diamond support is unlikely to remain silent and will probably bid 4D. A double by EW will yield plus 500. North's bid of 3D without the requisite values causes the problem.

♠ A863  
 ♥ 854  
 ♦ QJ96  
 ♣ 108  
 ♠ J1052                      ♠ K974  
 ♥ AJ1097                    ♥ KQ  
 ♦ -                              ♦ K103  
 ♣ AQ96                      ♣ KJ43  
 ♠ Q  
 ♥ 632  
 ♦ A87542  
 ♣ 752

HCP	
7	
12	15
6	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N		1			
S		1			
E	5		5	6	4
W	5		5	6	4

Board 27 : Dealer South : Nil All

West	North	East	South
			P
1H	P	1S	P
2S*	P	3C*	P
4D*	P	4S	P
P	P		

There is no need for West to be jumping around in his rebid. As sometimes the 2S bidder might only have three cards in the suit East makes a forward move with a bid of 3C. West makes up ground with a bid of 4D showing a singleton or void in diamonds and obviously agreeing spades. East's diamond King is of little value and without an Ace signs off in 4S. Even if he uses Roman Key Card Blackwood he will realise that a cashing key card and the trump queen are missing. In the play there are likely to be two trump losers as it is against the odds to drop the singleton queen.

♠ 87  
 ♥ AJ932  
 ♦ A4  
 ♣ 9876  
 ♠ 52                              ♠ AK643  
 ♥ 76                              ♥ 1054  
 ♦ 109732                    ♦ QJ8  
 ♣ AQ32                      ♣ 104  
 ♠ QJ109  
 ♥ KQ8  
 ♦ K65  
 ♣ KJ5

HCP	
9	
6	10
15	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	2		2	1	1
S	2		2	1	1
E		1			
W		1			

Board 28 : Dealer West : NS Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
P	P	1S	1NT
P	2D	P	2H
P	2NT	P	P
P			

East at favourable vulnerability is likely to open 1S in 3<sup>rd</sup> position. North will transfer to hearts and invite game with 2NT. South judges to pass with good values in spades. Only a diamond lead will cause trouble for the declarer. On a spade lead, declarer is a step ahead and can knock out the second spade honour and come to nine tricks. Playing in a heart contract there are five tricks for the defence – 2 spades, 2 clubs and a club ruff.

♠AJ974  
 ♥Q7  
 ♦K87  
 ♣A92  
 ♠KQ2                      ♠10653  
 ♥64                              ♥108  
 ♦Q1094                      ♦AJ53  
 ♣10875                      ♣KQ4  
 ♠8  
 ♥AKJ9532  
 ♦62  
 ♣J63

HCP	
14	
7	10
9	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N			4		3
S			4		3
E	1	1		1	
W	1	1		1	

Board 29 : Dealer North : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1S	P	2H
P	2NT	P	4H
P	P	P	

Playing old style methods, South with an excellent seven card suit will become declarer in 4H.  
 West will likely lead the diamond 10 and if diamonds are continued South will ruff.  
 Two club losers look likely. Can anything be done to avoid this?  
 The spade suit offers the only possibility. An early spade to the Ace can be followed with a spade ruff. A heart to the Queen and another spade ruff can follow. Trumps are drawn and a losing club is discarded on the spade Jack.  
 4H is not unreasonable, as on another day if spades are not favourably placed, a diamond to the King might score.

♠J  
 ♥AK642  
 ♦9432  
 ♣KJ4  
 ♠AKQ9654                      ♠10732  
 ♥Q                                      ♥J93  
 ♦KJ                                      ♦AQ85  
 ♣532                                      ♣108  
 ♠8  
 ♥10875  
 ♦1076  
 ♣AQ976

HCP	
12	
15	7
6	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	2		1		
S	2		1		
E		2		4	
W		2		4	

Board 30 : Dealer East : Nil All

West	North	East	South
		P	P
1S	2H	2S	3H
4S	P	P	P

The heart King will be led asking partner to show count. South should play the heart 8, indicating four. North will know after partner's heart support there is no future in continuing the suit. Partner has shown four hearts. He has not played the 10, so the 8 is looking for a switch to the lower ranking suit. North will switch to club 4 and the defence will take three tricks.  
 If North woodenly continues hearts at trick two, declarer will score twelve tricks.  
 A diamond switch will fare only a trick better. North should realise if partner has a diamond winner it cannot disappear.

♠ A876  
 ♥ J7  
 ♦ AK10643  
 ♣ 9  
 ♠ KQ104      ♠ 32  
 ♥ 109          ♥ KQ53  
 ♦ 8              ♦ QJ9  
 ♣ KQJ653      ♣ A1082  
 ♠ J95  
 ♥ A8642  
 ♦ 752  
 ♣ 74

HCP	
12	
11	12
5	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N		2	1		
S		2			
E	4				1
W	4				1

Board 31 : Dealer South : NS Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			P
1C	1D	1H*	2D
2S	P	2NT	P
3C*	P	P	P

East's bid of 1H over the 1D overall may only show four cards in the suit. A double would show two four card majors. West's bid of 2S denies three (or more) hearts and will show longer clubs. East tries 2NT – natural with cover in diamonds. West with poor red suits retreats to 3 C which is a wise decision. Should North stretch to 3D a timely X from East will produce plus 200, usually a good score in pairs. Ten tricks is the limit of the hand in a club contract.

♠ QJ10652  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ K4  
 ♣ A963  
 ♠ 74              ♠ K93  
 ♥ A1098432      ♥ Q7  
 ♦ Q52              ♦ J87  
 ♣ 8                  ♣ KQJ102  
 ♠ A8  
 ♥ KJ6  
 ♦ A10963  
 ♣ 754

HCP	
10	
6	12
12	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	2	2		4	2
S	2	2	1	4	2
E					
W					

Board 32 : Dealer West : EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
3H	3S*	P	4S
P	P	P	

West has nothing to spare for his 3H opening. North at favourable vulnerability introduces his spade suit and South judges to raise to the spade game. South is probably the only person who has his bid. After the lead of the club King, prospects do not look good. Declarer wins and plays a heart to the Jack. West can see nothing better than to return a heart. Declarer discards a club. He follows with two top diamonds and a diamond ruff. Next he leads the spade queen and runs it if East does not cover. Another club disappears on the established diamond. Finesses succeed, suits break favourably and NS will score plus 420.



