

British Summer Sim Pairs



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**Wednesday
24th July 2019**

Welcome to the British Summer Simultaneous Pairs. Thank you for playing. I hope you enjoy the event and also the commentary provided by a leading expert. The commentator for this set of hands is John Williams.

Prizes in 2019

Heat winners: There will no longer be a prize draw for the heat winners from each club. The budget for these prizes has been added to that for the overall winners.

Overall winners: The overall winners of all Simultaneous Pairs events hosted by the English Bridge Union will each receive a cash prize of £100 per pair. This is an increase from £50 in 2018. The winners of the Bridge England Sims and the Club Stratified Sims will also receive this prize – these events were previously excluded from the prizes.

Host clubs: Every affiliated club which enters a heat of any EBU organised event, will be included in a random draw. One 'entry' in the draw is awarded for every ten tables (or part thereof) which take part in any single heat. The draw will be made at the AGM in November. One 'entry' in the draw is awarded for every ten tables (or part thereof) which take part in any single heat. The draw will be made at the AGM in November. These aspects are unchanged from 2018.

This prize draw allows the EBU to redistribute some of the proceeds back to the clubs which have participated, and it is hoped it will be reinvested in providing services and activities for its members, or supporting a local cause of its choosing.

You can find the full details, results and last year's prize winners at www.ebu.co.uk/sims/

Blue points are awarded to the top third of the field. Provisional master points are shown but the event is not finalised until all results are in and score corrections have been made. This usually takes about three weeks. It really helps us if you can keep your scorecard for that period. Clubs should keep travellers if still used.

Jeremy Dhondy, Chairman EBU

<p>♠97653 ♥QJ87 ♦K ♣875</p> <p>♠Q108 ♠AKJ ♥K9632 ♥5 ♦QJ5 ♦A1087632 ♣J3 ♣K6</p> <p>♠42 ♥A104 ♦94 ♣AQ10942</p>		<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>1♦</td><td>2♣</td></tr><tr><td>Dble</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♦</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>South is certainly worth his 2-level overcall, with a good 6-card suit and two aces. West would like to bid 2♥ now but to do so should promise a decent hand of roughly 10+ HCPs and a 5-card suit: he has the latter requirement but the useless jack of clubs should dissuade him from promising a good hand. The solution is to double, which promises only four hearts but possibly shows only the values to compete at the two level. This won't deter East from jump-rebidding with his excellent hand. The only trap to avoid now is 3NT by West, which would clearly spell disaster as the cards lie. Fortunately, West has a good alternative, which is to show his hearts (plus decent values for the bidding to date) so East can chance 3NT knowing that king of clubs is protected. The fall of diamond king after overtaking jack of spades makes for 11 easy tricks, regardless of the opening lead. A comfortable start for all enterprising EW bidders.</p>		West	North	East	South		Pass	1♦	2♣	Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass
West	North	East	South																
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<p>♠107643 ♥- ♦J876 ♣Q984</p> <p>♠Q ♠852 ♥1072 ♥A8653 ♦542 ♦AK93 ♣KJ7532 ♣6</p> <p>♠AKJ9 ♥KQJ94 ♦Q10 ♣A10</p>		<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♥</td><td>Dble</td></tr><tr><td>2♥</td><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td></tr><tr><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>East has an easy opening with a 5-card suit, two aces, a king and a singleton and a take-out double is perfect for South, with lots in reserve and a possible no-trump rebid in the offing. West's heart raise is not for everyone but is a good ploy, hopefully making life difficult for North. You may think that North is constrained to pass now – but think again: a five-card suit and a void, together with a smattering of points, make it imperative to risk bidding. Now EW have to be careful not to overstretch in competition. South must be equally cautious, knowing that partner can't have too much to offer. Assuming 4♠ by North is the contract of choice, the only danger to NS is a club lead from East, which declarer must view with extreme suspicion: rising with the ace may cost an overtrick some of the time but is essential here to avoid undoing the good work to date. +620 should score reasonably well.</p>		West	North	East	South			1♥	Dble	2♥	2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass			
West	North	East	South																
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<div><div><div>♠ AKJ103</div><div>♥ A</div><div>♦ K6</div><div>♣ KQ1072</div></div><div><div>♠ 87</div><div>♥ K1074</div><div>♦ 10753</div><div>♣ J96</div></div><div><div>♠ Q54</div><div>♥ QJ9653</div><div>♦ A84</div><div>♣ 8</div></div><div><div>♠ 962</div><div>♥ 82</div><div>♦ QJ92</div><div>♣ A543</div></div></div> <div><table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>20</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>7</td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table></div>	HCP		20	9	4	7	Makeable contracts								♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		N	5	2	-	5	3		S	5	2	-	5	3		E	-	-	1	-	-		W	-	-	1	-	-		<div>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>What should North open here? Well, in the days of strong twos, 2♠ might have been considered an option but even then, the suit isn't quite good enough, nor the overall trick potential. And 2♣, if the only strong bid available, is scarcely a viable alternative. 1♠ is unlikely to lead to a missed game. East would like to intervene but again, his hand lacks sufficient playing tricks, vulnerable opposite a passed partner. Assuming South raises spades, the only problem for North is overreaching; there will be many layouts where slam is laydown. Here there are two unavoidable losers. It's just a matter of luck - and perhaps attitude - as to whether NS score -50 or + 450.</p> <p>Good luck!...</p>	West	North	East	South				Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass					
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<div><div><div>♠ 72</div><div>♥ AQJ65</div><div>♦ J52</div><div>♣ K92</div></div><div><div>♠ J1098</div><div>♥ K8</div><div>♦ A1064</div><div>♣ A108</div></div><div><div>♠ AKQ3</div><div>♥ 9732</div><div>♦ 8</div><div>♣ 7643</div></div><div><div>♠ 654</div><div>♥ 104</div><div>♦ KQ973</div><div>♣ QJ5</div></div></div> <div><table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>8</td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table></div>	HCP		11	9	12	8	Makeable contracts								♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		N	-	2	1	-	1		S	-	2	1	-	1		E	1	-	-	2	-		W	1	-	-	2	-		<div>Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1NT</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Only a 12-count but look at those intermediates in the West hand! On a heart lead the defenders have conceded seven top tricks already and need to avoid setting up a second stop for declarer, which isn't easy unless a low one is led originally (or ace and another).</p> <p>2♠ is the most comfortable contract: this seems unreachable because East can't use Stayman safely after 1NT, in case the response is 2♦ (though in that case he could cast normality aside and respond 2♠ anyway). However, passing 1NT will be the normal choice. +90 may then be the normal result.</p> <p>Of course, if North fails to lead a heart at all then his side stands to benefit after careful play. The magic lead is a low diamond and when declarer ducks South must be careful to return the ♦7. Then declarer is doomed to accept a heart through, however he plays. Any plus score to NS will be magic.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT	All Pass														
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<div><div><div>♠ Q9764</div><div>♥ 63</div><div>♦ 8732</div><div>♣ AK</div></div><div><div>♠ 8</div><div>♥ 105</div><div>♦ 654</div><div>♣ QJ85432</div></div><div><div>♠ J103</div><div>♥ KQ874</div><div>♦ Q9</div><div>♣ 1096</div></div><div><div>♠ AK52</div><div>♥ AJ92</div><div>♦ AKJ10</div><div>♣ 7</div></div></div> <div><table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>20</td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table></div>	HCP		9	8	3	20	Makeable contracts								♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		N	-	6	4	6	6		S	-	6	4	6	6		E	1	-	-	-	-		W	1	-	-	-	-		<div>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>6♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>A splinter bid in clubs is not the best news North could receive and he's obliged to sign off in 4♠, albeit reluctantly. It's now a question as to whether South summons up a final try for slam. If he does, North will almost certainly take up the opportunity to recover lost ground.</p> <p>It needs both players to chance their arm if slam is to be reached and sure enough, it comes down to luck in terms of finding the diamond queen favourably placed. There are those who bid 50% slams on principle and those who don't. There's no right or wrong. However, fortune favours the brave (and lucky) here.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠	All Pass	
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♠ 9743

♥ AK

♦ 106

♣ 108532

♠ AK5

♥ 1094

♦ K84

♣ AJ76

♠ J1062

♥ QJ85

♦ J5

♣ Q94

♠ Q8

♥ 7632

♦ AQ9732

♣ K

HCP

7

15

7

11

Makeable contracts

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

♠ Q106

♥ A32

♦ K53

♣ J954

♠ K75432

♥ 84

♦ 72

♣ Q87

♠ 8

♥ KJ5

♦ AQJ109864

♣ 10

♠ AJ9

♥ Q10976

♦ -

♣ AK632

HCP

10

5

11

14

Makeable contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	4	-	4	-	-
S	4	-	4	-	-
E	-	2	-	-	-
W	-	2	-	-	-

♠ K10762

♥ KQ2

♦ 9653

♣ 3

♠ J83

♥ J

♦ K1074

♣ J10752

♠ 4

♥ 108654

♦ QJ82

♣ K86

♠ AQ95

♥ A973

♦ A

♣ AQ94

HCP

8

6

6

20

Makeable contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	2	1	5	7	6
S	2	1	5	7	6
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Board 18 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable

West

North

East

South

Pass

1♦

1NT

All Pass

This will be the usual auction, after which declarer will view dummy with distaste after the lead of ten of diamonds. However, granted X-Ray vision, he will win the first or second round and, having no easy access to dummy, lay down ace of clubs followed by a finesse of the ♣9. This yields four club tricks, one diamond and two spades: then, lo and behold, the spade queen drops to provide two overtricks. On this lie of the cards, declarer can even play differently: provided he hasn't won the first round of diamonds he can attack hearts, setting up yet another winner. However, this seems an unlikely line of play, to say the least.

It's impossible to judge what will constitute a good score to either side. This is another case where sheer tenacity will bear dividends for EW. They might be surprised to discover eventually that +90 isn't the end of the rainbow....

Board 19 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable

West

North

East

South

1♥

Pass

2♣

3♦

4♦

Pass

4♥

All Pass

Anything could happen here but the auction shown is not unreasonable. Both sides need to exercise caution – particularly EW who are vulnerable (this argues against a weak jump 2♠ on the West cards or too many diamonds bid by East – his heart holding is not auspicious). By the same token South must not go overboard in clubs, once he knows of the fit. Given the opportunity, a 4♦ cue-bid suits perfectly provided he remembers to pass partner's preference to 4♥ – the only making game.

On a diamond lead, even 4♥ will feel uncomfortable but declarer should prevail provided he does nothing silly. Game in clubs is simply doomed from the word go.

+420 is sure to score very well for NS. There is an unlikely top waiting for anyone who defends a doubled diamond contract at the four level or higher.

Board 20 : Dealer West : All vulnerable

West

North

East

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

1♣

Pass

1♠

Pass

4♦

Pass

4♥

Pass

4NT

Pass

5♦

Pass

6♠

All Pass

Note that both North and East have the shape and strength for a Lucas Two bid, as previously described. However, neither should take the opportunity: North would be fine if his heart values were in his 4-card diamond suit, whilst East's hand is simply too poor, vulnerable.

Strong three-suiters are notoriously difficult to bid accurately. The key bid here is North's 4♥, showing extra values and interest in slam. South then just needs to check that the king of spades isn't missing, which he does via RKCB. 13 tricks are available on careful play but surely 6♠ making will be the top score.

