

The analysis is based on *4-card Majors, Weak No-Trump (Strong NT mentioned), Transfers and Weak Two Openings in 3 suits*. **Rebecca O’Keeffe & Gilda Pender**

<p style="margin: 0;">♠ AQ2 ♥ 8754 ♦ 53 ♣ 10542</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J9863                      ♠ K10754 ♥ 106                              ♥ K3 ♦ QJ42                          ♦ 108 ♣ K8                                ♣ AQ63</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ - ♥ AQJ92 ♦ AK976 ♣ J97</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <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>2</td><td>3</td><td></td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td></tr> </table>	HCP		6		7	12	15		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	2	3		2	S	2	2	3		2	E				3		W				2		<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Nil All</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>2♠*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>4♠</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">After a 1♠ opening by East, South’s 2♠ bid will either show Hearts and a minor (Michael’s) or Hearts and Diamonds (Ghestem). West has a poor hand but a 3♠ bid feels right. With a known 9 card fit and a likely Spade lead, North may push for the game (this could be directly or when South doubles over 3♠) – winning when N/S can make 10 tricks or when E/W can too. Many Easts will bid 4♠, opposite a weak partner with 5 spades and hearts lying well for declarer. North can find a X, having already shown their shape.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">The play: the DK lead for count will lead to taking 2D, 1H and 1S. Note N/S will make 4H if they get a spade lead (which is likely).</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	1♠	2♠*	3♠	4♥	4♠	X	Pass	Pass	Pass	
HCP																																																													
6																																																													
7	12																																																												
15																																																													
Makeable contracts																																																													
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																								
N	2	2	3		2																																																								
S	2	2	3		2																																																								
E				3																																																									
W				2																																																									
West	North	East	South																																																										
	Pass	1♠	2♠*																																																										
3♠	4♥	4♠	X																																																										
Pass	Pass	Pass																																																											

<p style="margin: 0;">♠ A54 ♥ KQJ8 ♦ J9543 ♣ 2</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ K10                              ♠ Q8762 ♥ 64                                ♥ A32 ♦ A8                                ♦ 72 ♣ KQJ9863                      ♣ A105</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J93 ♥ 10976 ♦ KQ106 ♣ 74</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <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>1</td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>5</td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>5</td><td></td><td></td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	HCP		11		13	10	6		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N		1	1			S		2	2			E	5			3	3	W	5			3	3	<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS Vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>X</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">West has a very nice hand for the 2♣ rebid and could easily bid 3♣ if preferred. Once East shows interest in progressing, West will try for the 3NT game. North’s X over the 1♣ opening is not without risk – minimum points, vulnerable and opposite a passed partner but the single club makes it hard to pass.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">The play: 9 tricks on top after North leads a Heart. For those who end up in 5♣, good news in that they will get the same 600 score and will be able to set up the spades to get rid of any other loser.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	Pass	1♣	X	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass		
HCP																																																																					
11																																																																					
13	10																																																																				
6																																																																					
Makeable contracts																																																																					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																																
N		1	1																																																																		
S		2	2																																																																		
E	5			3	3																																																																
W	5			3	3																																																																
West	North	East	South																																																																		
		Pass	Pass																																																																		
1♣	X	1♠	Pass																																																																		
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass																																																																		
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass																																																																		
Pass	Pass																																																																				

♠ 1064  
 ♥ KQ6  
 ♦ A86  
 ♣ KQ65  
 ♠ 932                      ♠ KQ  
 ♥ A9873                    ♥ J542  
 ♦ 1043                      ♦ QJ75  
 ♣ J9                           ♣ 1083  
 ♠ AJ875  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ K92  
 ♣ A742

HCP	
14	
5	9
12	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	5	3	1	5	4
S	5	3	1	5	4
E					
W					

Board 3 : Dealer South : EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT / 4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Partnerships that have a response of 3NT to a major available showing a 33(43) shape and 12-15 points will give a lot of information to their partner – who will be able to choose where to play – but with a singleton heart, South is likely to choose to play the contract in 4♠.

Those who bid slower and show 5/4 in the black suits give North the opportunity to choose to play in 3NT instead – not attractive in teams, but a potentially good score in pairs....

The lead of a diamond may deliver 3 tricks for the defence, but on any other lead North should be able to generate 11 tricks for a great score.

♠ QJ1096  
 ♥ AKQ52  
 ♦ -  
 ♣ A103  
 ♠ 854                      ♠ AK2  
 ♥ 3                           ♥ 109  
 ♦ AK8643                ♦ Q109  
 ♣ 985                      ♣ KQJ76  
 ♠ 73  
 ♥ J8764  
 ♦ J752  
 ♣ 42

HCP	
16	
7	15
2	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N			4	2	
S			4	2	
E	3	5			1
W	4	5			1

Board 4 : Dealer West : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
2♦*	4♦*	X	4♥
Pass	Pass	5♦	Pass
Pass	X	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Partnerships that play 2♦ as multi will miss the fun on this hand. After a weak two in Diamonds opening, North has the perfect bid of 4♦ to be able to show 5/5 in Majors and a game force hand. East is likely to double to show a good hand and South has an easy 4♥ bid.

East has a choice, play or defend? As North has at most 3 cards in the minors and we have a 9 card Diamond suit, it looks like N/S will make 10 tricks and 5♦ will go down one or two tricks, so bidding looks better. North now has a difficult decision. Those who choose to bid will be initially disappointed when it goes down one – but this disappointment will turn to delight when they discover that 5♦ makes!

♠ KJ10972  
 ♥ KJ  
 ♦ 65  
 ♣ 874  
 ♠ 3  
 ♥ 973  
 ♦ AK102  
 ♣ QJ1032  
 ♠ AQ85  
 ♥ 42  
 ♦ J93  
 ♣ K965

HCP	
8	
10	12
10	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N				1	
S					
E	3	6	6		1
W	3	6	6		1

Board 5 : Dealer North : NS Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	2♠	3♥	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

It is not the most appealing weak two bid ever, but most Norths are likely to want to put pressure on their opponents and will find an opening bid. East has a tricky bid when North opens 2♠. Those brave enough to overcall 3♥ get rewarded and will find a nice game contract.

Over a 3♥ bid South has a difficult decision, 3♠ or 4? The majority are likely to bid 4♠ and on this hand it is likely to work out fine as West is likely to bid 5♥ where 12 tricks make but need a favourable lie of the cards. Those Wests who take the opportunity to double 4♠ will be well rewarded as N/S go down 3 for 800. Having 4 card trump support usually means bidding to the 4 level is standard, but adverse vulnerability, no singletons and a lot of losers may make this a hand for South to be more cautious!

♠ 864  
 ♥ A72  
 ♦ KJ1074  
 ♣ A6  
 ♠ A3  
 ♥ QJ8  
 ♦ Q5  
 ♣ J109872  
 ♠ Q109752  
 ♥ 3  
 ♦ 932  
 ♣ K43

HCP	
12	
10	13
5	

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

Board 6 : Dealer East : EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1♥	2♠
X	3♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The 2♠ bid is marginal by South but at this vulnerability it is useful to disrupt your opponents! North is likely to bid 3♠ with three card support and A A K, but before you make this bid you need to decide what your action is over 4♥ (as your opponents will likely bid it).

Competing is absolutely essential in bridge and your aim should be to put as much pressure on your opponents as possible and be as awkward as you can. However, it also means thinking about how far to bid, how fast and what score you think your opponents might make....

The play: N/S need to ensure they setup their Diamond trick early enough in the play - otherwise it goes away on the long clubs.

♠ J843  
 ♥ AK652  
 ♦ QJ9  
 ♣ 8  
 ♠ KQ106      ♠ A  
 ♥ 74            ♥ Q983  
 ♦ AK3            ♦ 754  
 ♣ KJ96           ♣ Q10743  
 ♠ 9752  
 ♥ J10  
 ♦ 10862  
 ♣ A62

HCP	
11	
16	8
5	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	4	1	2	1	3
W	4	1	2	1	3

Board 7 : Dealer South : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

After several very competitive auctions, this is likely to be more straightforward and many pairs will be allowed to play in 1NT. A friendly lie of the cards provides 9 tricks for declarer but not many will bid the game.

However, some Norths will get in on the action (even opposite a passed partner) and bid 2♥ over a 1♠ opening. This makes it more difficult for E/W, but interestingly it may also make it easier for them to reach 3NT.

Over a 2♥ bid, East is likely to pass and West may reopen with a double. East may now choose to show clubs and play there, but it is not inconceivable that 3NT may be bid given the heart suit of East.

♠ A  
 ♥ 1032  
 ♦ K104  
 ♣ K87543  
 ♠ Q764      ♠ KJ98  
 ♥ AKJ        ♥ 7654  
 ♦ J976        ♦ 53  
 ♣ Q6           ♣ A92  
 ♠ 10532  
 ♥ Q98  
 ♦ AQ82  
 ♣ J10

HCP	
10	
13	8
9	

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

Board 8 : Dealer West : Nil All

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Those playing weak NT will almost certainly play the contract in 1NT from West. A small club lead from North and Declarer will make 7, 8 or 9 tricks depending on how brave they are feeling and whether and when they take the Heart finesse and if the opposition cashes 4 diamond tricks.

Those playing strong NT find their spade fit and should make at least 9 tricks. This is likely to be a better score than the NT brigade as you don't have to worry about whether to take the heart finesse and have ruffing potential in both hands.

♠ K7  
 ♥ J10985  
 ♦ K1085  
 ♣ Q4  
 ♠ AJ8                      ♠ Q42  
 ♥ A76                      ♥ Q42  
 ♦ A63                      ♦ QJ94  
 ♣ AJ98                      ♣ 1072  
 ♠ 109653  
 ♥ K3  
 ♦ 72  
 ♣ K653

HCP	
9	
18	7
6	

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

Board 9 : Dealer North : EW Vulnerable

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

One of those hands where you have the required combined 25 count, but are likely to go down in 3NT. Any West that evaluates their hand as worth a 1NT rebid (15-17) due to the poor shape and poor intermediaries in all four suits will score well on this hand as partner will pass. However, more likely is a 2NT rebid. If this shows 17/18 rather than 18/19, then you still have chances to stay at the two level, but most people are likely to be in 3NT.

The play: Only 8 tricks for E/W and that includes reading Kx in Hearts with the South hand so scoring two heart tricks. On the HJ lead best to duck and upon winning the HK with the HA, then work on diamonds leading low from declarers hand.

♠ A74  
 ♥ KQ82  
 ♦ AK742  
 ♣ A  
 ♠ J10832                      ♠ 65  
 ♥ 43                      ♥ J1095  
 ♦ J3                      ♦ Q86  
 ♣ K643                      ♣ 8752  
 ♠ KQ9  
 ♥ A76  
 ♦ 1095  
 ♣ QJ109

HCP	
20	
5	3
12	

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

Board 10 : Dealer East : All Vulnerable

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	6NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

North has multiple choices when their partner opens. They may well bid 6NT direct over partner's 1NT opening with 20 HCP and a 5 card suit, but the possibility of finding a heart fit shouldn't be overlooked, so Stayman might be a better opening shot. When partner denies, 3♦ indicates a diamond suit alongside the promised 4 card major. South is likely to settle for 3NT at which point North could invite with a 20 count opposite a possible 12 – but the fifth diamond makes 6 more attractive.

The play to 12 tricks is delicate giving up a club trick and then squeezing East so they cannot hold onto both the third diamond and the fourth heart. Count, count, count.....

<p>♠ KJ6 ♥ AJ84 ♦ Q98 ♣ KQ6</p> <p>♠ 74                      ♠ AQ5 ♥ K9                      ♥ Q1073 ♦ A1032                  ♦ KJ ♣ A9432                  ♣ J1085</p> <p>♠ 109832 ♥ 652 ♦ 7654 ♣ 7</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;">16</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">0</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><th>N</th><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><th>S</th><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><th>E</th><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td></tr> <tr><th>W</th><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td></tr> </table>	HCP		16		11	13	0		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N						S						E	4	2	3	2	3	W	5	3	3	2	3	<p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Nil All</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>West could open on this hand, but with 11 points and 5/4 in clubs and diamonds, your rebid situation is limited (with 5/4 D &amp; C then you get to show both suits but not here). So, pass may be a good option.</p> <p>If you pass then North is likely to open 1♥, which will come round to West who is likely to bid a protective 1NT. East may now be interested and even though partner is a passed hand could well attempt 2NT which is likely to be accepted meaning E/W find their way to the winning 3NT game.</p> <p>If West does open, then North is the one who is likely to overcall 1NT and then will struggle to avoid being doubled wherever they try and end up. Assuming they end in 2S, E/W can take 8 tricks in the defence as long as they set up heart tricks before declarer setups discards on the clubs, scoring a nice +500.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
HCP																																																																	
16																																																																	
11	13																																																																
0																																																																	
Makeable contracts																																																																	
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																												
N																																																																	
S																																																																	
E	4	2	3	2	3																																																												
W	5	3	3	2	3																																																												
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																																																														
			Pass																																																														
Pass	1♥	Pass	Pass																																																														
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass																																																														
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass																																																														

<p>♠ 95 ♥ J83 ♦ Q43 ♣ AK1042</p> <p>♠ AK764                  ♠ QJ10 ♥ K642                  ♥ A1095 ♦ AK9                    ♦ 1062 ♣ 7                        ♣ 863</p> <p>♠ 832 ♥ Q7 ♦ J875 ♣ QJ95</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;">17</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</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><th>N</th><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><th>S</th><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><th>E</th><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td></tr> <tr><th>W</th><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		10		17	7	6		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	1					S	1					E		1	5	4	2	W		1	5	4	2	<p>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS Vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>West has an awkward rebid and unless 2♥ is forcing in your partnership, 3♥ seems the sensible bid with 17HCP and a 5 loser hand. Partner has a nice fit for both suits but with no cue available settles for 4♥.</p> <p>The play: Playing in our 4/4 fit, we have discards available in our 5/3 fit and score one more trick than those in 4♠.</p> <p>TIP: Given the choice of two suits, playing in a 4-4 fit often produces more tricks than playing in the 5-3 alternative, as you can set up your long suit for discards.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass		
HCP																																																													
10																																																													
17	7																																																												
6																																																													
Makeable contracts																																																													
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																								
N	1																																																												
S	1																																																												
E		1	5	4	2																																																								
W		1	5	4	2																																																								
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																																																										
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass																																																										
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass																																																										
Pass	Pass																																																												

♠ J3  
 ♥ K432  
 ♦ A10  
 ♣ AJ974  
 ♠ Q642                      ♠ A108  
 ♥ A976                      ♥ J5  
 ♦ KQ62                      ♦ J854  
 ♣ 3                              ♣ K862  
                                  ♠ K975  
                                  ♥ Q108  
                                  ♦ 973  
                                  ♣ Q105

HCP	
13	
11	9
7	

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

Board 13 : Dealer North : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass
X	Pass	2♦	3♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Inevitably when you open 1♣ on the North hand, your partner makes life difficult and you're left thinking it might have been better to open a slightly off centre 1NT. On the hand, your 2♣ rebid is not allowed to win the day and E/W find their diamond fit.

South has a difficult decision to make over 2♦ but may well decide that 3♣ is the right bid to make.

On the expected ♦ lead, it is likely that North will score 8 tricks for minus one, but a better score than E/W scoring 9 tricks in diamonds – except of course if East finds a skinny pairs X.

♠ A9842  
 ♥ 764  
 ♦ K96  
 ♣ K6  
 ♠ Q107                      ♠ KJ6  
 ♥ 1092                      ♥ KQJ8  
 ♦ J87                        ♦ Q543  
 ♣ AQJ2                      ♣ 83  
                                  ♠ 53  
                                  ♥ A53  
                                  ♦ A102  
                                  ♣ 109754

HCP	
10	
10	12
8	

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

Board 14 : Dealer East : Nil All

West	North	East	South
		1NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Almost all tables will play the hand in 1NT, but there could be a range of possible results on the board.

On the 10♣ lead, if East puts the K with North and rises with the A the suit is now blocked and declarer can come to 8 tricks. It takes an unlikely spade lead from South, ducked by North, to set up 7 tricks for the defence and a well earned top.

♠ KQ86  
 ♥ 8  
 ♦ A9754  
 ♣ 1094  
 ♠ -                      ♠ AJ754  
 ♥ AQJ10642        ♥ 953  
 ♦ Q8                    ♦ KJ3  
 ♣ QJ32                ♣ K8  
                          ♠ 10932  
                          ♥ K7  
                          ♦ 1062  
                          ♣ A765

HCP	
9	
12	12
7	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	3	1	5	1	4
W	3	1	5	1	4

Board 15 : Dealer South : NS Vulnerable

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

West could bypass bidding 2♣, but it is likely to be better to show your second suit – though it would be a very sad day if partner passed...

On this hand, 4♥ is likely to be the standard contract across the room, with easy 11 tricks once the heart finesse works.

♠ 8  
 ♥ J8742  
 ♦ 6432  
 ♣ 863  
 ♠ J75                    ♠ Q109642  
 ♥ Q                      ♥ 1065  
 ♦ 10975                ♦ AJ  
 ♣ AQ752                ♣ K4  
                          ♠ AK3  
                          ♥ AK93  
                          ♦ KQ8  
                          ♣ J109

HCP	
1	
9	10
20	

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

Board 16 : Dealer West : EW Vulnerable

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	Pass	2♠	X
3♠	Pass	Pass	X
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Third in hand, some players may choose not to bid 2♠ at adverse vulnerability, while others will assume it is exactly the right time to make life difficult for the opponents. The obvious double from South and West can get in on the action and bid 3♠. South won't let this auction go without a fight and North is likely to bid 4♥ with no defensive values. The vulnerability is likely to put E/W off competing further.

East will have to find the inspired lead or switch of the CK in order to knock 4♥, otherwise one of the club losers disappears on the Spade winner and declarer wraps up 10 tricks.



♠ AKQJ9  
 ♥ Q432  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ A74

♠ 7642                      ♠ 103  
 ♥ AJ95                      ♥ K6  
 ♦ K6                              ♦ A75  
 ♣ J65                              ♣ KQ10832

♠ 85  
 ♥ 1087  
 ♦ Q1098432  
 ♣ 9

HCP	
17	
9	12
2	

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

Board 17 : Dealer North : Nil All

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	1♠	2♣	Pass
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
3♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

When 2♣ comes back around to North, options are to X (for take-out) or bid 2♥. With only 1 card in diamonds and South unlikely to have a penalty pass of the 2♣ overcall, the 2♥ bid feels best. South converts back to 2♠ preferring to play in the guaranteed 5/2 fit and West (having previously passed) can now bid 3♣ with minimal values.

Declarer will likely make 9 tricks losing 2 spades, 1 club and a Diamond ruff.

♠ AQ73  
 ♥ QJ4  
 ♦ AQ107  
 ♣ J3

♠ K1064                      ♠ J985  
 ♥ 9763                      ♥ A1082  
 ♦ J65                              ♦ K32  
 ♣ 82                              ♣ A9

♠ 2  
 ♥ K5  
 ♦ 984  
 ♣ KQ107654

HCP	
16	
4	12
8	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	5	3	1	1	2
S	4	3	1	1	2
E					
W					

Board 18 : Dealer East : NS Vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
		1NT	Pass
Pass	X	Pass	Pass
2♥*	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

\*Hearts and Spades

This will not be a flat board. Over East 1NT opening, partnerships with a natural 2♣ overcall available won't be able to resist bidding. Some South bidders may even venture a 3♣ pre-emptive overcall.

If South does overcall, will North (with the best hand at the table) be able to pass? 3NT declarer by North will be played a few times and likely making 10 tricks. East defenders who start their defence with the A♥ and continue a ♥, knocking out the entry to the club suit, should do the Lotto this weekend.

♠ AJ53  
 ♥ 763  
 ♦ 632  
 ♣ K109

♠ 7  
 ♥ AJ108  
 ♦ Q10874  
 ♣ Q82

♠ Q864  
 ♥ 954  
 ♦ K  
 ♣ AJ754

♠ K1092  
 ♥ KQ2  
 ♦ AJ95  
 ♣ 63

HCP	
8	
9	10
13	

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

Board 19 : Dealer South : EW Vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
			1NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

E/W will do well to interfere at adverse vulnerability – but it works out very well for them if they do bid.

Most N/S are going to be allowed play in 1NT. Success will be based on the spade finesse and how helpful the defence are!

♠ 8765  
 ♥ K5  
 ♦ J1062  
 ♣ 1098

♠ AKJ10  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ 875  
 ♣ AJ742

♠ 4  
 ♥ J963  
 ♦ AQ4  
 ♣ KQ653

♠ Q932  
 ♥ AQ8742  
 ♦ K93  
 ♣ -

HCP	
4	
13	12
11	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N			1		
S			1		
E	6	1		1	4
W	6	1		1	3

Board 20 : Dealer West : All Vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South may have been ready and planning to bid Hearts, but East steals their thunder meaning that E/W have a free ride. Over the 1♠ bid, East could easily bid 2♦ as fourth suit forcing, but with the AQ and only 12 points 3NT looks like a good plan.

Playing it wide open, East can make 10 tricks for a better score than 5♣. As it happens on this hand 6♣ comes in if you choose the right finesse.

♠ A63  
 ♥ 9643  
 ♦ K4  
 ♣ J632

♠ 754                      ♠ QJ1098  
 ♥ AKQ2                    ♥ J  
 ♦ J72                        ♦ AQ95  
 ♣ A94                        ♣ K107

♠ K2  
 ♥ 10875  
 ♦ 10863  
 ♣ Q85

HCP	
8	
14	13
4	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	3	4	3	5	5
W	3	4	3	5	5

Board 21 : Dealer North : NS Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West has a difficult hand to bid when partner opens 1♠. Not able to bid 2♥ and with 3NT likely to deny a major, potentially the best bid available is the 'white lie' bid of 2♣ – just waiting to see what partner does next. Fortunately, partner bids 2♦ and West has another decision to make – 3NT or 4♠?

At teams you would probably play in the major fit, but in pairs 3NT might well appeal – especially as you are expecting a Heart lead! 3NT is duly rewarded and should make the same 11 tricks for a good score for E/W

♠ A74  
 ♥ 10854  
 ♦ Q76  
 ♣ K85

♠ J1086                      ♠ KQ2  
 ♥ A                            ♥ K62  
 ♦ A1082                    ♦ J93  
 ♣ A962                        ♣ Q1074

♠ 953  
 ♥ QJ973  
 ♦ K54  
 ♣ J3

HCP	
9	
13	11
7	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	4	3	1	3	2
W	4	3	1	3	2

Board 22 : Dealer East : EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Sadly, partner will pass the 2NT bid, but it is the right call as Declarer should make only 8 tricks losing 3H, 1S and 1C trick.

TIP: 4-4-4-1 hands are some of the most difficult to bid in bridge. The best strategy is to start with a minor (typically 1♦ unless this is your singleton in which case bid 1♣). This allows you to find a fit where possible, but it also means that if you end up having to be slightly less than truthful about the shape of your hand, then you are not lying about your major suit holding....

<p>♠ 10 ♥ 103 ♦ K852 ♣ AQ9874</p> <p>♠ A53                      ♠ KQ982 ♥ AQJ98                    ♥ K6 ♦ J643                        ♦ Q107 ♣ 10                            ♣ J65</p> <p>♠ J764 ♥ 7542 ♦ A9 ♣ K32</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>8</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></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td></td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> </table>	HCP		9		12	11	8		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	3					S	3					E		2	3	3		W		2	3	3		<p>Board 23 : Dealer South : All Vulnerable</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>North doesn't have a great 2♣ overcall, but the 6-card suit and major shortage makes it just worth the bid.</p> <p>The club shortage and nice controls will encourage West to bid the 4♠ game. If the defence work out a diamond ruff is needed, then the game is always minus one.</p> <p>If no diamond ruff, then East should win the right trump in hand (with the two trump honours) and the fall of the 10 from the North hand is the only indication that a finesse of the 9 through South is needed to pick up the 4:1 trump break.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				Pass	1♥	2♣	2♠	3♣	4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
HCP																																																													
9																																																													
12	11																																																												
8																																																													
Makeable contracts																																																													
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																								
N	3																																																												
S	3																																																												
E		2	3	3																																																									
W		2	3	3																																																									
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																																																										
			Pass																																																										
1♥	2♣	2♠	3♣																																																										
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass																																																										

<p>♠ QJ72 ♥ AK82 ♦ 6 ♣ KJ97</p> <p>♠ 943                      ♠ A65 ♥ Q54                      ♥ J93 ♦ KQ832                  ♦ AJ107 ♣ Q5                        ♣ A84</p> <p>♠ K108 ♥ 1076 ♦ 954 ♣ 10632</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>3</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>1</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td></td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	HCP		14		9	14	3		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	3		2	1		S	3		2	1		E		2			1	W		2			1	<p>Board 24 : Dealer West : Nil All</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♦</td> <td>X</td> <td>XX</td> <td>2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>East's XX shows a strong hand and an interest in penalising the opponents' contract. As neither East nor West has a penalty X of 2♣, East settles for the 2♦ partscore.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	Pass	1♣	Pass	Pass	1♦	X	XX	2♣	Pass	Pass	2♦	Pass	Pass	Pass		
HCP																																																																	
14																																																																	
9	14																																																																
3																																																																	
Makeable contracts																																																																	
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																												
N	3		2	1																																																													
S	3		2	1																																																													
E		2			1																																																												
W		2			1																																																												
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																																																														
Pass	1♣	Pass	Pass																																																														
1♦	X	XX	2♣																																																														
Pass	Pass	2♦	Pass																																																														
Pass	Pass																																																																

♠ J1072  
 ♥ J63  
 ♦ 102  
 ♣ KQJ10  
 ♠ AK843      ♠ 65  
 ♥ 75            ♥ AKQ9  
 ♦ 63            ♦ AKQJ7  
 ♣ 9864           ♣ 73  
 ♠ Q9  
 ♥ 10842  
 ♦ 9854  
 ♣ A52

HCP	
8	
7	19
6	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E	2	4	4	3	3
W	2	4	4	3	3

Board 25 : Dealer North : EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦	Pass	5♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Over the reverse 2♥, West is forced to bid again – and nothing is really appealing. You can't bid 2NT, as this would promise a club stop. You could bid 3♦ and give partner simple preference. You could bid 2♠ to show a fifth spade (though some partnerships will assume this shows 6) – or you could bid 3♣ which is fourth suit forcing, but is your hand good enough?

Over a 2♠ response, partner is likely to ask for a ♣ stopper and when West denies the ♣ stop will East will likely bid 5♦. The defence to defeat 5♦? Lead a diamond and when declarer ruffs the third Heart in dummy there is no easy return back to their hand to draw trumps.

♠ Q83  
 ♥ 842  
 ♦ Q10  
 ♣ KJ654  
 ♠ AJ72      ♠ K105  
 ♥ AJ73      ♥ 6  
 ♦ A32      ♦ K987  
 ♣ 32         ♣ A10987  
 ♠ 964  
 ♥ KQ1095  
 ♦ J654  
 ♣ Q

HCP	
8	
14	10
8	

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

Board 26 : Dealer East : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Those who upgrade their hand to be worth a strong NT will reach 3NT and get a very good score, but most will open a weak 1NT and there they will play.

<p>♠ KQ954 ♥ Q64 ♦ Q53 ♣ A2</p> <p>♠ A10                      ♠ J87 ♥ A7                         ♥ 10932 ♦ KJ864                    ♦ 10972 ♣ K1098                    ♣ Q3</p> <p>♠ 632 ♥ KJ85 ♦ A ♣ J7654</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;">13</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">9</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 style="text-align: center;">2</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	HCP		13		15	3	9		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2		2	3	2	S	2		2	3	2	E		2				W		2				<p>Board 27 : Dealer South : Nil All</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1♦</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Some Souths may bid a 2♦ (cue bid) in support of partner's spades but the ♠632 are not that appealing.</p> <p>A trump lead is needed to reduce the diamond ruffs available in dummy but the ♦10 lead feels natural. Plus 170 will be a popular score by North.</p> <p>Maybe South should have found the 2♦ cue bid!</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass	
HCP																																																													
13																																																													
15	3																																																												
9																																																													
Makeable contracts																																																													
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																								
N	2		2	3	2																																																								
S	2		2	3	2																																																								
E		2																																																											
W		2																																																											
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																																																										
			Pass																																																										
1♦	1♠	Pass	2♠																																																										
Pass	Pass	Pass																																																											

<p>♠ Q10864 ♥ KQ54 ♦ K2 ♣ 64</p> <p>♠ J3                         ♠ AK2 ♥ A863                    ♥ J92 ♦ 854                        ♦ J96 ♣ J1083                    ♣ KQ52</p> <p>♠ 975 ♥ 107 ♦ AQ1073 ♣ A97</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;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</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 style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	HCP		10		6	14	10		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N		2	1	3	1	S		2	1	3	1	E	1					W	1					<p>Board 28 : Dealer West : NS Vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♣</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Even though you have passed previously as North, it is still likely to be tempting to compete over 1NT, especially if you can show the majors. However, at adverse vulnerability, I have sympathy for those who decide to pass as North.</p> <p>If you do compete, whether you play Anti, Landy or any other system, the end result is likely to be 2♠ from South. Eight or nine tricks are likely, which is better than playing against NT going down 1 or 2 non vulnerable.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1NT	Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass	
HCP																																																													
10																																																													
6	14																																																												
10																																																													
Makeable contracts																																																													
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																								
N		2	1	3	1																																																								
S		2	1	3	1																																																								
E	1																																																												
W	1																																																												
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																																																										
		1NT	Pass																																																										
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠																																																										
Pass	Pass	Pass																																																											

♠ J  
 ♥ A8654  
 ♦ AKQJ62  
 ♣ 5  
 ♠ 98642                      ♠ AK103  
 ♥ K72                              ♥ QJ1093  
 ♦ 954                              ♦ 7  
 ♣ 93                                ♣ Q104  
 ♠ Q75  
 ♥ -  
 ♦ 1083  
 ♣ AKJ8762

HCP	
15	
3	12
10	

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

Board 29 : Dealer North : All Vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	1♦	1♥	2♣
2♥	Pass	Pass	X
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East will either X or overcall 1♥. Over West's 2♥ bid, North may be wondering whether a double is penalties or take out? Partnership agreement on this sort of bidding would be great to have but can be difficult.

If North passes, will South reopen with a X? Those that do will be in the money as North will happily pass - and may be so delighted that they buy the next round!

♠ A3  
 ♥ K109875  
 ♦ 7  
 ♣ Q865  
 ♠ KJ9654                      ♠ 72  
 ♥ A3                              ♥ Q62  
 ♦ 102                              ♦ 9865  
 ♣ K32                              ♣ A1094  
 ♠ Q108  
 ♥ J4  
 ♦ AKQJ43  
 ♣ J7

HCP	
9	
11	6
14	

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

Board 30 : Dealer East : Nil All

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
		Pass	1♦
1♠	X	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Another hand where partnership agreement is essential. Over interference is a double followed by a suit stronger or weaker than bidding the suit initially?

Some partnerships play 2 level responses after an overcall as non-forcing, but not this N/S.

North is not strong enough to respond 2♥ initially. X followed by the 2♥ bid shows the weaker hand with 6+ hearts.

♠ K42  
 ♥ 94  
 ♦ 5  
 ♣ KJ107652  
 ♠ A98                      ♠ QJ10753  
 ♥ AK1063                  ♥ Q  
 ♦ QJ6                      ♦ A9  
 ♣ A8                        ♣ Q943  
 ♠ 6  
 ♥ J8752  
 ♦ K1087432  
 ♣ -

HCP	
7	
18	11
4	

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

Board 31 : Dealer South : NS Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Any Souths for a 3♦ pre-empt opening? Not with those hearts!

E/W who settle for game will get a good score on the board as many will strive for more.

When 5♦ shows 1KC, West asks about the trump Q and 6♠ shows the trump Q and no side kings. With the unfortunate heart suit distribution and the missing Ks badly placed, not enough discards are available and declarer will likely make 11 tricks.

♠ KJ983  
 ♥ -  
 ♦ 10742  
 ♣ Q852  
 ♠ AQ                        ♠ 7652  
 ♥ Q10962                  ♥ A873  
 ♦ J53                      ♦ KQ96  
 ♣ 1063                      ♣ K  
 ♠ 104  
 ♥ KJ54  
 ♦ A8  
 ♣ AJ974

HCP	
6	
9	12
13	

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

Board 32 : Dealer West : EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	X	Pass	2NT
X	Pass	3♥	X
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East may well pass with a terrible 12 count, opposite a passed partner and vulnerable playing a pairs competition. But we came to play, so this East opens!

This leads to an active auction ending with a X that shows we all paid our entry fee.

Diamond lead is best for the defence. In many cases, 9 tricks will be made.