# The Welsh Bridge Union Autumn Simultaneous Pairs Tuesday 4th September 2018 Session 4276



Dear Bridge Player

Thank you for supporting the WBU Simultaneous Pairs - I hope you enjoyed the hands and the commentary, which was done for us by Mike Tedd and we are very grateful to him.

The funds raised from this event will help support the Wales Air Ambulance (http://www.walesairambulance.com/) and the WBU and its work with the development of bridge in Wales.

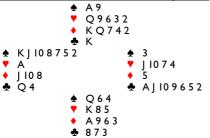
Please tell your friends at other clubs who may not have played in this event that we will be running another one in the Spring as we normally do and we would love to have them join us - as with this one, it will be run over a week, with five sets of hands available, one for each day, so you can play every night if you want to – and we certainly hope you will try and play more than once!

The results of this event can be found at www.ecatsbridge.com - just click on the link to Sims and you will see how to find them.

Best wishes - and enjoy your bridge!

https://welshbridgeunion.org/

# **Board I. Dealer North. Vulnerability None**

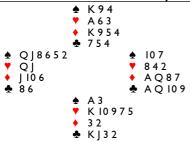


After North opens I♥, what should South bid if East bids 3♣(weak)?

 $3^{\blacktriangledown}$  is possible, especially if  $1^{\blacktriangledown}$  shows 5+. That might lead to  $4^{\blacktriangledown}$  which North will have to play well to be only 1 down.

West will be tempted to bid s, but supporting East's s works better. Any plus score on this hand will score well.

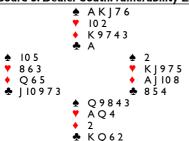
Board 2. Dealer East. Vulnerability N/S



After a weak NT from East, South does best to bid a brave vulnerable 2♥. North should raise to 3♥ after West's 2♠. West may give up now, fearful that 4♥ is making thanks to the doubleton ♥QJ but bidding 3♠ works better as this is one down while 3♥ just makes for 140.

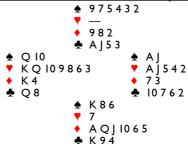
If South passes INT, it is harder for South to come into the auction after INT-2♥(transfer)-2♠, and 2♠ should make.

Board 3. Dealer South. Vulnerability E/W



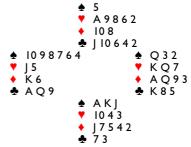
This is an instructive hand to bid. 6♠ is an excellent contract, with no need to take the ♥ finesse. The critical bid is North's response to South's I♠ opening. It is often bad to splinter with a singleton Ace – KQxx is a poor holding opposite a small singleton, but good here opposite a singleton Ace. But if North responds a Jacoby 2NT showing a good hand with ♠ support and then South shows the single ♠, the slam is easy to bid.

Board 4. Dealer West. Vulnerability All



East-West may fancy their chances in ♥s here, but it is North-South who can make game in 4♣+1 or 5♠. After East-West start 1♥-3♥, South has to bid a brave vulnerable 4♠ to get a chance of game; if South passes, 3♥ making will be a very good result for East-West, if West has the sense to pass this hand, having no Aces or singletons.

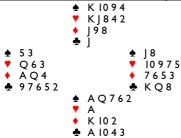
Board 5. Dealer North. Vulnerability N/S



East-West have 26 points and will usually reach game. 4♠ is most likely to be bid, and is easily beaten.

3NT is less likely to be bid, but harder to beat. To do this the defence have to play on ♥s with North keeping the Ace for the third round to then enjoy more ♥ winners.

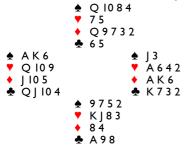
# Board 6. Dealer East. Vulnerability E/W



6♠ by South is a reasonable contract — if (as here) the major suits behave you don't need the ♦ finesse. Bidding 6♠ is not easy though. If North splinters to show the single ♣, South will be excited. But a start like 1♠-3♠-4♣ (cue)-4♥(cue, denying a ♦ control) will not encourage South.

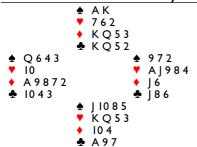
This is a good hand for "mini-splinters", where l = 3.4 shows a single  $\frac{1}{2}$  in a hand worth at least a raise to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## **Board 7. Dealer South. Vulnerability All**



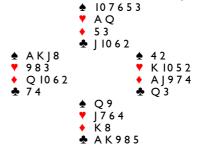
East-West should quickly reach 3NT. With East as declarer, this can be held to 9 tricks on a ♠ lead. However West will usually be declarer after opening or rebidding INT and can make I1 tricks by playing ♥s towards the Q109. Taking the double finesse in ♥s doesn't work so well, though.

**Board 8. Dealer West. Vulnerability None** 



This is another hand where 3NT should be easily bid, this time by North-South. With both red Aces onside and \$3-3, the play isn't very interesting. Ten tricks should be the very frequent result.

Board 9. Dealer North. Vulnerability E/W

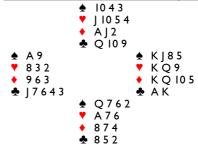


With the points 20-20 this is a part-score hand. Only South has a genuine opening bid, of I♣ or a weak INT.

After a INT opener, North does well to pass rather than transfer to 2♠ with such a mouldy suit. INT makes 8 tricks unless East-West attack ◆s early, when 7 tricks will be the limit and indeed South can go down if the ♥ finesse is risked.

Those who open  $1 wilder ext{ will usually get to play in } 2 or 3 for a safe +110, which may not be a good result.$ 

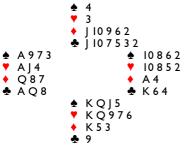
**Board 10. Dealer East. Vulnerability All** 



Yet another easy-to-bid 3NT, usually after East opens 2NT.

Declarer may have to work hard to make 9 tricks, but equally the defence will find it hard not to be helpful. For example a ♠ lead gives a trick, East can then cash the ♣AK and use the ♠A to cross for a finesse of the ♦10. The only passive opening lead turns out to be a ♣ but even then declarer can prevail.

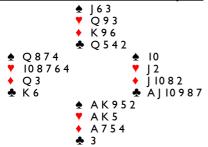
# **Board 11. Dealer South. Vulnerability None**



After South opens I♥ and West overcalls INT, East-West may find the 4-4 ♠ fit and bid to 4♠. After an obvious singleton ♥ lead declarer will be tempted to play ♠Ace and another, getting a rude shock and ending two down.

Played with care, 3NT can be made and +400 will be a very good score for East-West.

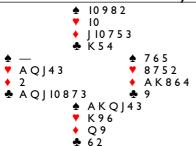
### Board 12. Dealer West. Vulnerability N/S



After two passes, East may open a cheeky 1♣ or 3♣, but South should always reach 4♠.

Good play makes this contract. After ruffing the second  $\clubsuit$ , control is clearly a problem, so it is important to keep dummy's useful trumps and not play the  $\spadesuit A$  or  $\spadesuit K$  early. There are several variations, but the defence can be held to three tricks — one in each minor and the  $\spadesuit Q$ .

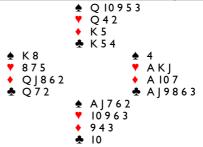
Board 13. Dealer North. Vulnerability All



The bidding may start quietly: South opens 1♠, West bids 2♠, North raises to 2♠. Whether South passes or bids 3♠, West will bid 4♥. Now East must like the hand – partner should have at most one ♠, and any finesses will be odds on. Raising to 5♥ looks right, and West, with the void can bid 6♥.

This makes easily, indeed 7♥ can make if North covers when ♣AQ are played.

# Board 14. Dealer East. Vulnerability None

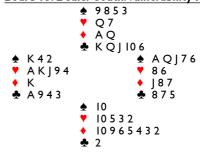


If South bids a fanciful I♠ over East's I♣, North may bid 4♠. If doubled, this can cost 500 on perfect defence.

With a free run, East-West will reach  $5\clubsuit$  or 3NT.  $5\clubsuit$  is fairly easy, but 3NT is certainly not. After winning the  $\bigstar$ K, declarer has to guess which minor finesse to take. The  $\bigstar$  one works thanks to the doubleton K onside, but  $\clubsuit$ s looks more promising.

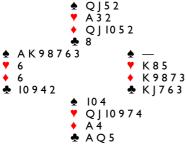
But how to tackle s? No problem if the K is doubleton onside, but leading the Q works if the 10 is singleton offside, while leading small works if the K is single onside. A toss up!

Board 15. Dealer South. Vulnerability N/S



After West opens I♥, North's overcall of 2♣ makes it a little difficult for East-West, but they will still usually reach the decent 4♠ contract. This can be made double dummy, but the unfavourable layouts in the black suits make it hard, and most people will go down in practical play. For example if the ◆K is led at trick 2 after winning the ♣A, the 4th round of ♣s promotes a trump trick.

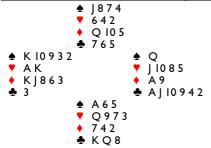
# Board 16. Dealer West. Vulnerability E/W



Most Wests will open 3♠ but a few will try 4♠. After a 3♠ opener, South should bid 4♥ and will probably play there just making.

After a 4♠ opening, South may bid 5♥ which is one down, possibly doubled by East. 4♠ plays very badly, three down, so could be doubled for 800 to North-South. However in most sequences North-South have no clear reason to double.

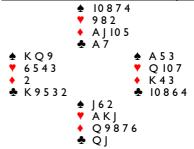
### **Board 17. Dealer North. Vulnerability None**



Although 4♠ can be made, 3NT is a more likely contract for East-West. The bidding might go I♠-I♠-2♠-2↑-2NT-3NT.

In 3NT the cards lie badly and there are serious communication problems, so although 9 tricks can be set up, 3NT will fail unless the defence are helpful to declarer.

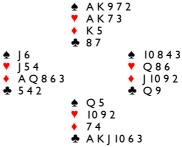
# Board 18. Dealer East. Vulnerability N/S



INT by North-South after South opens a weak NT is the likely contract here, although if South opens  $I \spadesuit a \spadesuit$  partscore may ensue.

Things lie well, and 9 tricks are available in either strain, so those in ◆s will fare badly, and the few optimists in 3NT will prosper.

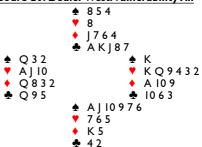
# Board 19. Dealer South. Vulnerability E/W



Thanks to the favourable positions in both minors, 6♣ and 6NT can be made here, although both are poor contracts. (6♣ is slightly better as it protects the ♦K.)

If South opens I ♣ North may be tempted, but 3NT will be the normal contract, making I2 tricks on the likely ♦ lead. Without the ♦ lead declarer may settle for II tricks rather than risk leading towards the ♦K and so get a poor score.

### Board 20. Dealer West. Vulnerability All

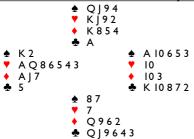


Despite having most of the points, East-West should be held to 8 tricks in  $\P$ s, while North-South can make  $\P$ .

Assuming West and North pass, East will open I. Without interference East-West may start I. 24-27 when West does well to pass; II points, but the J isn't working and the shape and suit quality are very poor.

If South bids  $1 \triangleq \text{ or } 2 \triangleq$ , North-South might play in a  $\triangleq$  partscore, but game is unlikely to be bid.

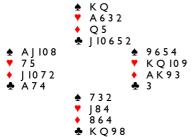
# Board 21. Dealer North. Vulnerability N/S



West may be surprised to hear North open I here – the recommended choice with this 4441 shape. Should East and South pass, West does best to pass and collect 200 or 300.

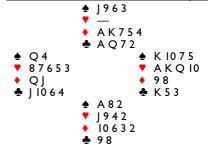
If East bids over I, East-West are destined to get a minus score. They can make 2, of course, but can never play there after the opening I. Any South who plays in swill not enjoy that either. So there will be very few successful contracts on this hand.

# Board 22. Dealer East. Vulnerability E/W



Another 4441 to open, and again I♥ is the recommended opening, this time by East. With North-South silent, the bidding might start I♥-1♠-2♠ when West might make a try with say 3♦ which East might like, bidding 4♠. Such optimism is well rewarded — the fit is perfect and 4♠ can be made thanks to the ♦Q onside, even if declarer loses two trump finesses.

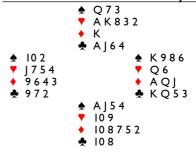
# **Board 23. Dealer South. Vulnerability All**



The normal start here will be I♦ from North and double by East. Those who play that I♦ shows 4+ cards will be able to bid 2♦ with the South hand. Then after 2♥ by West and 3♦ by North, North-South will make I30 in a ♦ partscore, or do even better by earning 200 defending 3♥.

If the opening I → may be less than 4 cards, South should pass East's double, North may make a takeout double when West bids ♥ s. This could lead to South playing in NT's which is unlikely to go very well.

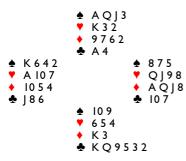
# Board 24. Dealer West. Vulnerability None



West will squirm when seeing East's double of North's opening I♥. Assuming South correctly passes, 2♦ is the right bid, but some may bid INT, or even worse pass.

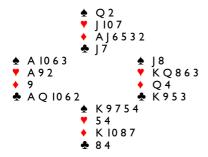
North will double 2♦ for takeout when South should bid 2♠ which should make. If East-West bid on they have no making contract and could even get doubled for a very bad score.

# Board 25. Dealer North. Vulnerability E/W



North-South have only 22 points, and the chance of  $5\Phi$  making for them must be less than 10%, but with everything right,  $5\Phi$  rolls home. 3NT is a bit better contract than  $5\Phi$  and that also makes - 10 tricks for +430. Bidding either game will lead to an undeserved good score.

**Board 26. Dealer East. Vulnerability All** 

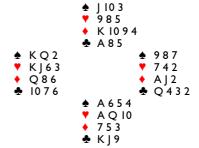


Here 6♥ can only be beaten if the defence find an opening ♠ lead; without it, a ♦ ruff can be negotiated before drawing trumps and running the ♣s.

6♣ should never make though – the ♦ ruff is an extra trick in ♥s, not in ♣s.

6♥ might be bid if East opens a light I♥ and the bidding starts I♥-2♠-3♠-3H, but the normal contract will be 4♥ making II or I2 tricks.

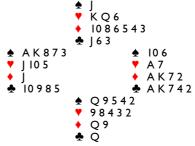
Board 27. Dealer South. Vulnerability None



North-South will usually play this in INT.

If South is declarer, West may lead a ♥ making 8 tricks fairly straightforward. If North is declarer, a ♥ lead presents more problems, and indeed double dummy the defence can hold INT to 7 tricks. But there are lots of opportunities for the defence to go wrong and so it will be very hard to avoid helping declarer make 8 tricks.

Board 28. Dealer West. Vulnerability N/S

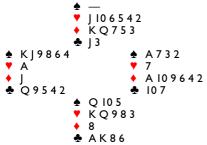


North-South do well to keep quiet here. Any contract their way could be expensive.

East-West can make 6♣ by taking every right view: win the lead (a ♥ is most challenging); then, keeping the ♣5, play ♦A and a ruff, ♣A and another ♦ ruff, then lead the precious ♣5 to finesse the ♣7 and draw the last trump.

Any pairs who bid 64 and find this line will deserve the splendid result!

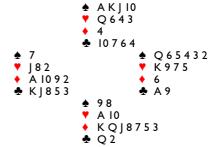
#### Board 29. Dealer North. Vulnerability All



This is a lively hand to test people's judgement. What should North call first? Too good for a weak 2, too light for I♥, so I'd pass and await developments. East should pass and South opens I♥, pleasing North. But then West bids ♠s, North should bid 4♥ and East will bid 4♠.

Now for the judgement: North-South should judge to bid their easy-to-make 5 and East-West have to judge to bid 5. This can be made, but even one down doubled is a good save.

#### **Board 30. Dealer East. Vulnerability None**



With the poor suit and 4 s as well, East should refrain from a weak 2 opening but may be unable to resist 1 fafter North-South start 1 -1 s. South would then rebid s which North would do well to pass knowing the s are not a great asset.

2 just makes for North-South.

Despite my criticism, an opening 2♠ works well here; it can apparently be made (not easily) and it would provoke South into 3♦ which fails.

# LLANGOLLEN CONGRESS 24Th & 25Th november 2018 At the Bryn howel hotel llangollen

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