EBED



Sim Pairs

Commentary by Graham Osborne

Wednesday 9th September 2020 Welcome to the English Bridge Education & Development (EBED) Simultaneous Pairs.

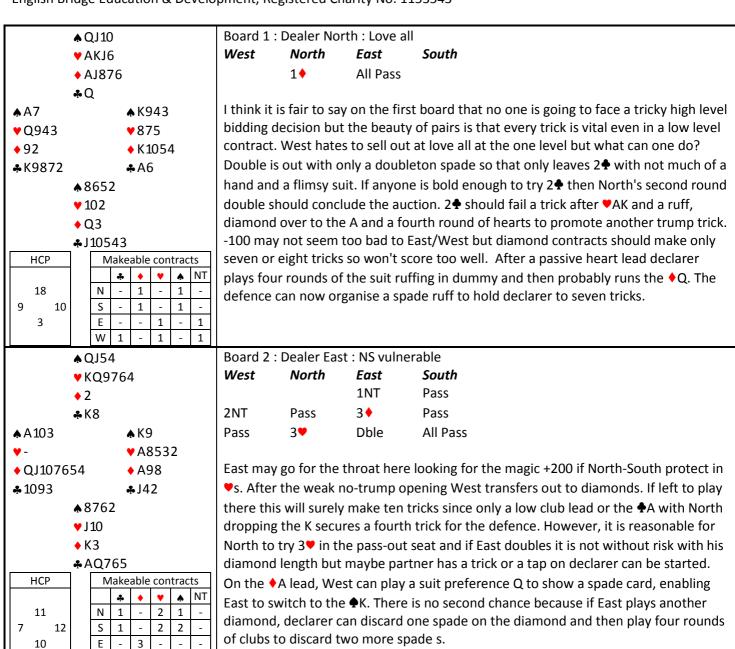
The proceeds raised by this event will go to EBED, the national charity for the promotion and development of duplicate bridge. Particularly, in the past few challenging months staff at EBED have worked hard to improve and develop the infrastructure for bridge teaching in England by launching the new e-learning portal EBS (English Bridge School), and to provide support for EBTA – the English Bridge Teachers Association – in order to enable its members to teach bridge online.

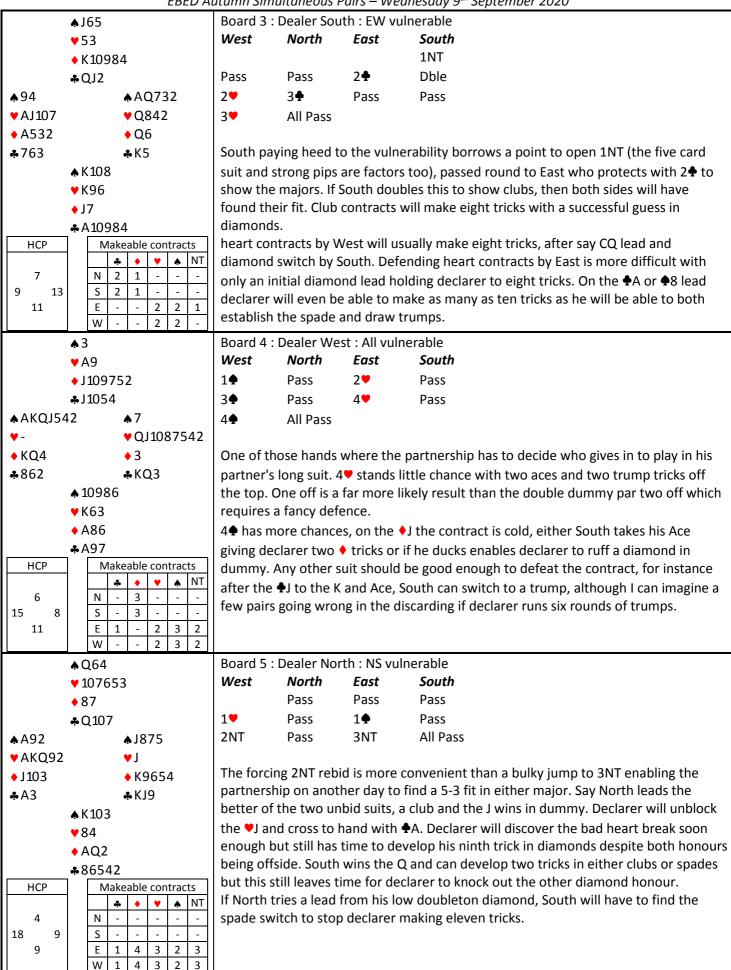
EBED also supplies "Bridge for All" teaching materials, organises teacher training and club director training courses, administers the Junior Award Scheme and supports county organisations and individual volunteers at the local level to run youth events.

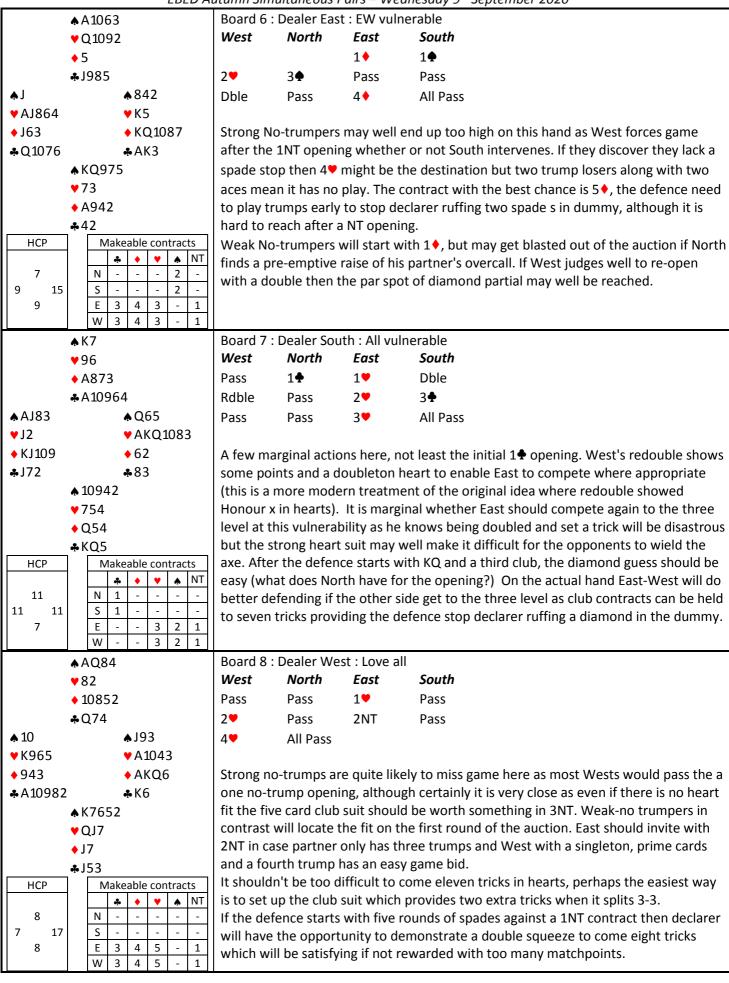
You can read more about EBED's activities in the current issue of English Bridge and at www.ebedcio.org.uk. If you wish to arrange a donation in favour of the charity, please do so at www.ebedcio.org.uk/donate. Do please encourage your friends to come to play in these events which are open to all and raise vital funds for our work. We sincerely thank you thank you for your support.

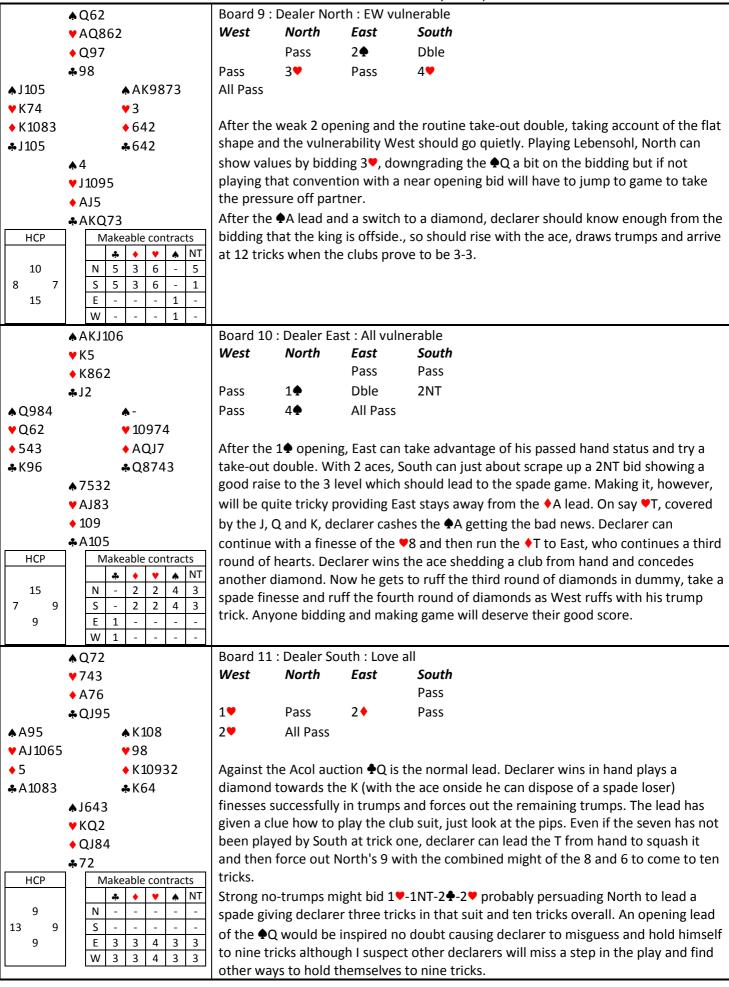
Giorgio Provenza Chief Executive

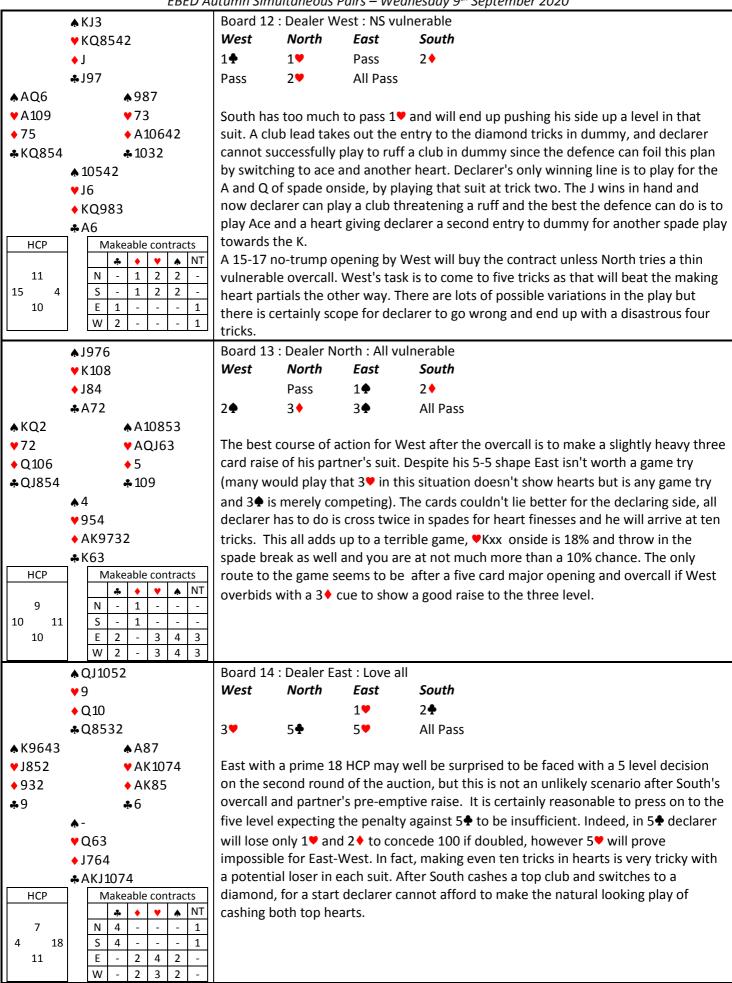
English Bridge Education & Development, Registered Charity No: 1153543

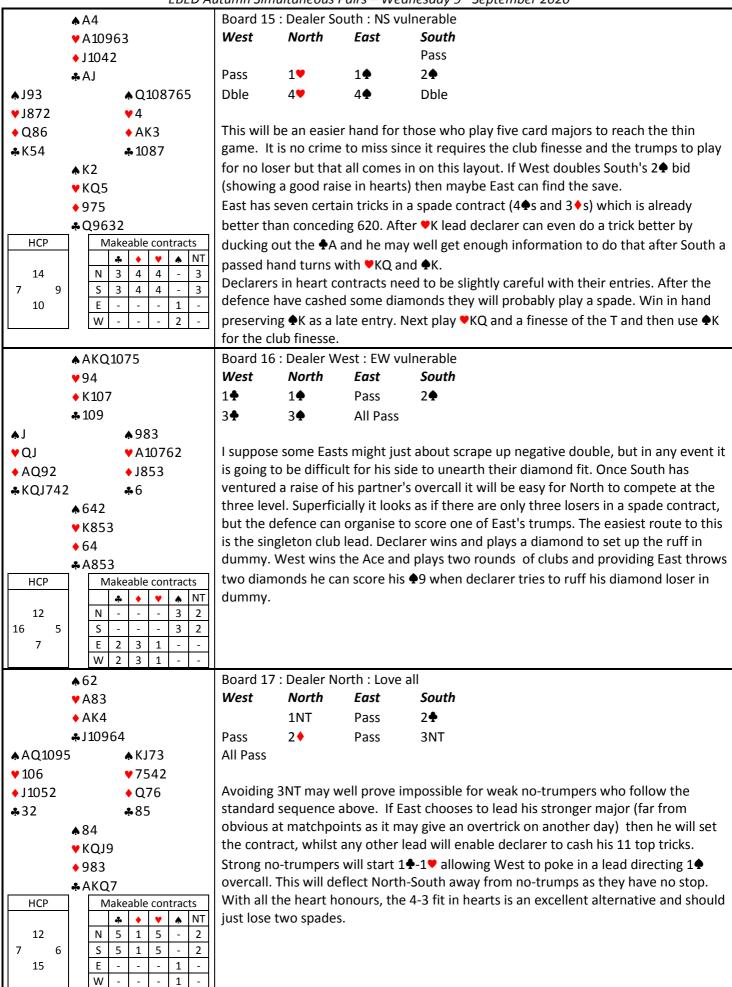


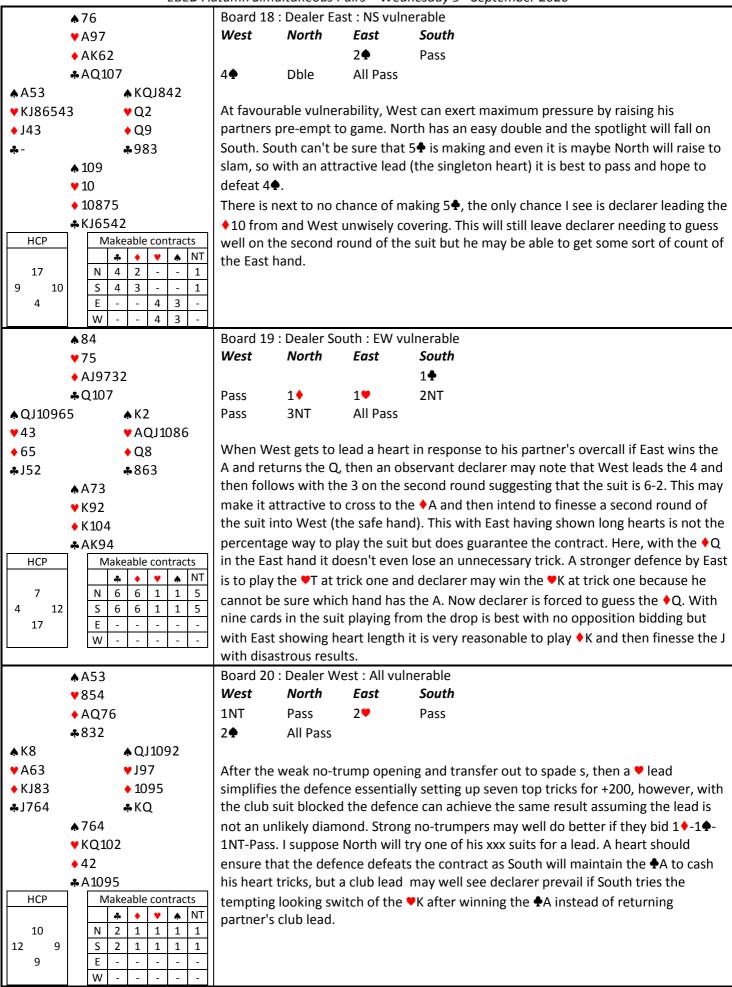


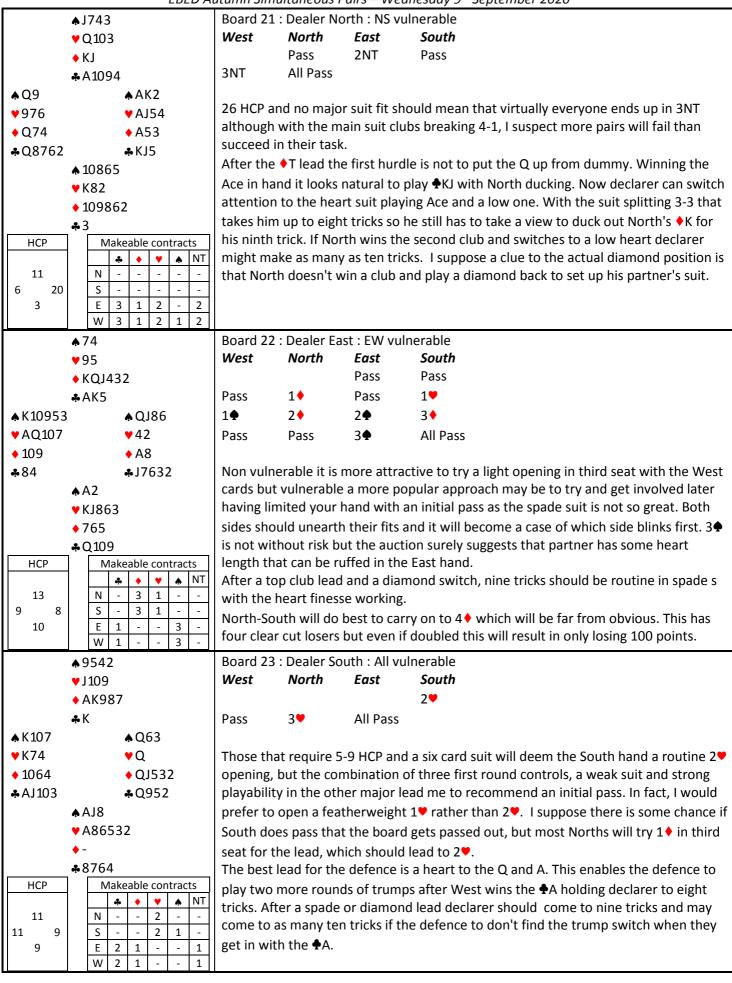


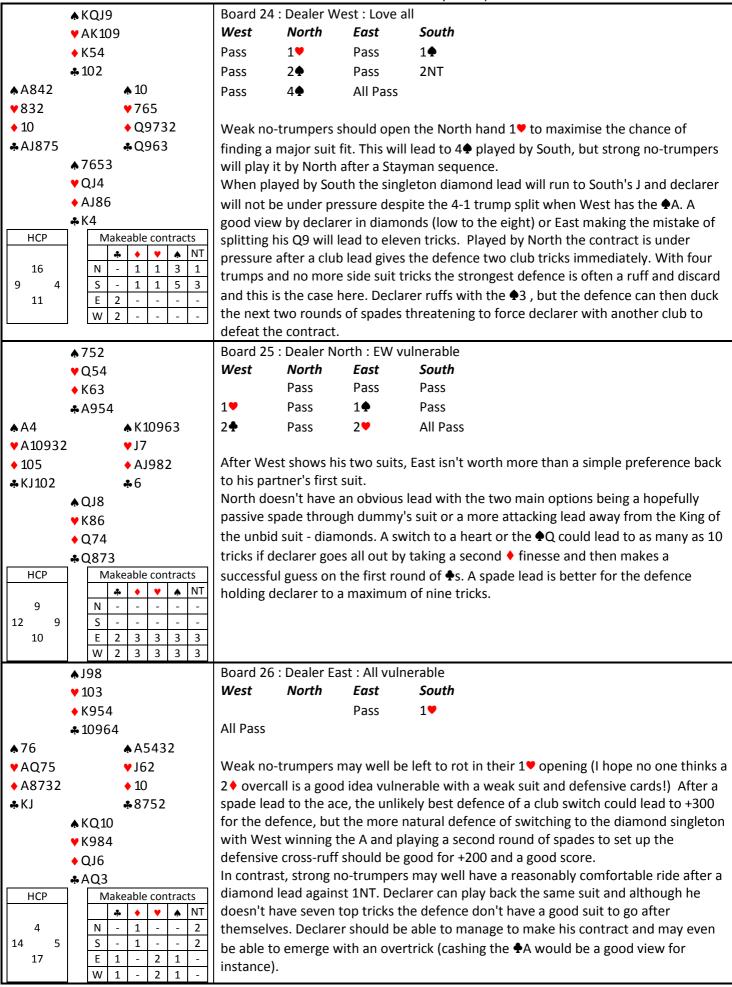


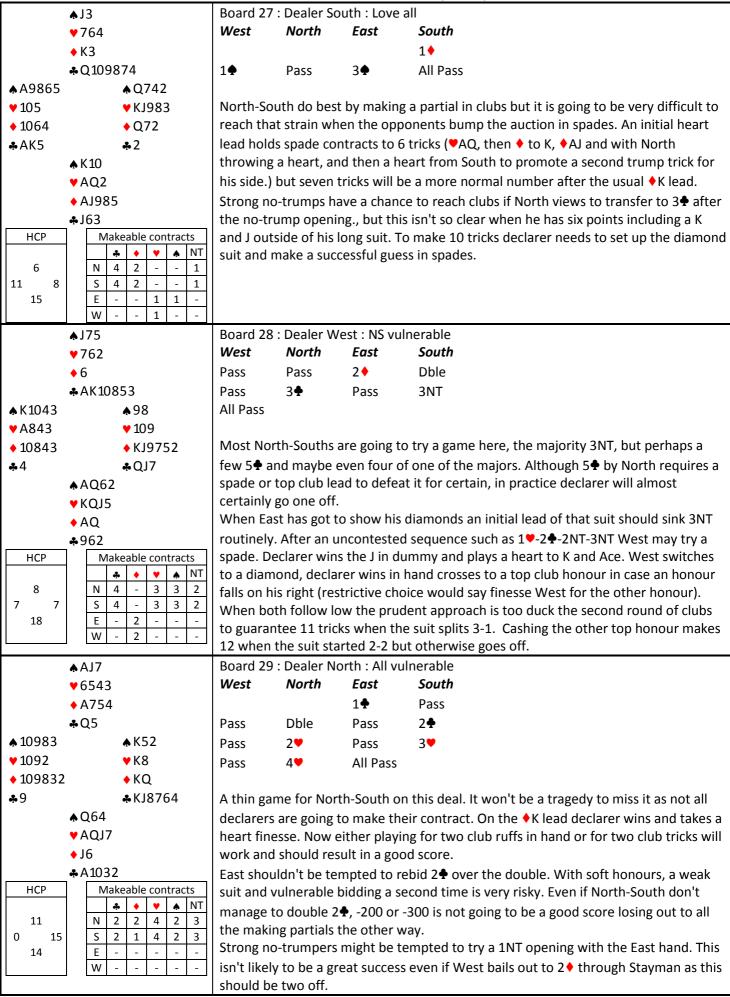


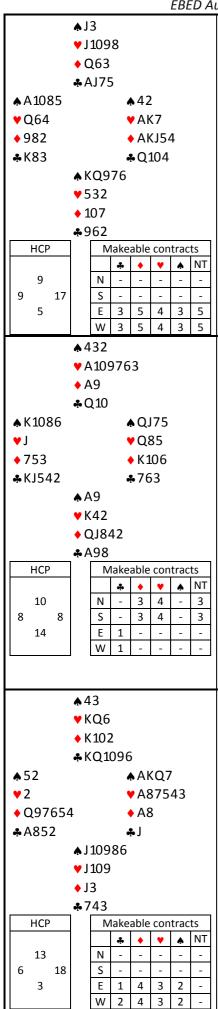












Board 30 : Dealer East : Love all					
West	North	East	South		
		1♦	Pass		
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass		
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass		

Against the weak no-trump sequence spades will have been bid naturally perhaps persuading South to try one of his three low suits. There is a good chance that either a club or heart will lead to 11 tricks. After a heart win the Q, finesse in dummy, cash another top ◆ to see the break and play a club to the king. North wins the K with the A and although a spade is best it is difficult to find and I think many would return a club giving declarer an easy ride. A strong no-trump sequence will be either a direct raise to 3NT (with the 4333 shape) or via Stayman, but now a spade lead is more likely putting more pressure on declarer. After a low spade lead to the J and a spade back, declarer wins and takes a diamond finesse. He now needs to play a club to the king and with a club finesse can still come to 11 tricks but I suspect some will end up with 10 tricks after this start.

Board 31 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable					
West	North	East	South		
			1NT		
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥		
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥		
All Pass					

With a 6 card suit, 2 aces and some strong intermediates North is definitely worth an invite and South has an obvious accept. Against a game that most people should bid, I suppose West might lead any of the suits apart from trumps. After a club lead declarer can't misguess and after winning the first trick in dummy may well play ♥A and then follow with a successful restricted choice finesse of the ten next leading to 12 tricks after the diamond finesse loses but the suit breaks 3-3. After a passive diamond lead, East wins the first trick with the king and it is natural to switch to the ♠Q. After winning it is best for declarer is to play ♥A, ♦A and then finesse in hearts again leading to 12 tricks. The best lead for the defence is a spade. Declarer wins the ace and should start on his side suit by running the ♦Q to the K. Now the defence can play two more rounds of ♠s forcing declarer to ruff and promoting a trump trick for themselves holding declarer to ten tricks.

Board 32 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable					
West	North	East	South		
Pass	1♣	Dble	Pass		
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass		
2♦	Pass	2 🛡	All Pass		

I suppose you might try a weak 2 opening as West if you had that club in your bag, the 6-4 shape is nice but you would like to have a better suit to put down in dummy if partner bids 3NT. The double and then change the suit sequence followed by East shows a strong hand say 17+HCP and too strong to overcall initially. West is worth another go over a 1♥ but will probably give up when East rebids his suit, he is close to 2NT but the misfit in heart and the weak club pips are warning signals.

There will no doubt be pairs trying 3NT or 4♥ so going plus should be at least reasonable for East-West. 3NT will fail by two or three tricks depending on the lead, (clubs is best for the defence). 4♥ has a play if the defence do not lead trumps.

Declarer needs hearts 3-3 and spades 4-3. The first condition is met but North can overuff when East attempts to ruff his spades loser to defeat the contract a trick.