# British Winter Virtual Sim Pairs in memory of <br> Peter Jordan 



## Tuesday

$12^{\text {th }}$ January 2021

Welcome to the British Winter Simultaneous Pairs，which we expect will continue to be played mainly online．I hope you enjoy the event and also the commentary provided by a leading expert．The commentator for this set of hands is Michael Byrne．Please note that the Tuesday event will be in memory of Peter Jordan，the EBU＇s widely－known and much－loved Competitions department member who for many years was also responsible for running our overseas congresses．Barbara Jordan will be donating trophies for the winners on that day．

This is the start of the 2021 Simultaneous Pairs season，so it＇s a new year for prizes．Every host club will be entered in to a prize draw made at the AGM in November．So the club at which you have played today has a chance to win one of ten cash prizes of $£ 250$ ．The prize for the overall winners of each Sim Pairs is $£ 100$ ，and we wish you luck in trying to win it．

You can find all the full details，results and last year＇s prize winners at www．ebu．co．uk／sims／
You can earn Blue points and they are awarded to the top third of the field．Don＇t be too impatient for the results！ Provisional results will appear quickly but they won＇t be finalised and nor will the Master Point awards until all results are in and score corrections have been made．This can take up to three weeks．It really helps us if you can keep your scorecard for that period．
Coming up in February（ $1^{\text {st }}$ to $4^{\text {th }}$ ）is the Junior Squad Simultaneous Pairs which raises money to help Junior Bridge． I hope you will support this event and look forward to you playing．

Ian Payn，Chairman EBU

| AJ63 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 1 ：Dealer North ：Love all |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark$ J7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| －K63 |  |  |  |  |  |  | A simple hand to start with，as EW with 8 hearts between them and 24 points will |
| ＊A10732 |  |  |  |  |  |  | surely buy the contract in their best strain and the only question is how many |
| ＾Q54 <br> － 1042 <br> －A975 <br> \＆K84 | ＾AK9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AQ863 |  |  |  |  |  | The hands fit reasonably well and game has a fair chance，I would most pairs to |
|  | －Q1084 |  |  |  |  |  | get there with a sequence such as 1ヶ－1NT－2－－3¢－4ヤ，even playing traditional Acol |
|  | ＊6 |  |  |  |  |  | a 33439 count is not quite worth a two level response． |
| ＾10872 |  |  |  |  |  |  | On the natural lead of the Q East faces an uphill battle providing that the |
| －K95 |  |  |  |  |  |  | defenders force declarer every time they get the lead．It certainly can be made |
| －J2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | after this start（double dummy）since the JV dropping means that East can just |
| ¢QJ95 |  |  |  |  |  |  | about hold their losses to one trick in each suit other than spades，but the timing |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  | to the queen，then ruff the next club and lead a diamond to the 9．This just about |
| $\begin{array}{lll} & 9 & \\ 9 & & 15 \\ & 7 & \end{array}$ |  | － | － | $\checkmark$ | $\wedge$ | NT | results in ten tricks when everything breaks and the J $\downarrow$ drops，all very fanciful． |
|  | N | 2 | － | － | － |  | The $J \diamond$ lead beats it out of hand，but this won＇t be a natural choice if East has bid the suit． |
|  | S | 2 | － | － | － |  |  |
|  | E | － | 4 | 3 | － | － |  |
|  | W | － | 4 | 4 | － | 1 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 2 ：Dealer East ：NS vulnerable |
| －K965 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| －A8653 |  |  |  |  |  |  | NS immediately strike back with a game of their own，but many will be left |
| \＆K7 |  |  |  |  |  |  | disappointed at the end of trick one． |
| A 109765 | －KJ32 |  |  |  |  |  | With 27 points and two balanced hands the obvious contract is 3NT，reached in |
| $\checkmark$ J8 | $\checkmark$ A432 |  |  |  |  |  | 4 bids if NS are playing strong（1NT－2e－2ヶ－3NT）and a few more if NS are playing |
| $\checkmark 74$ | －K92 |  |  |  |  |  | weak（1＊－1＊－1NT－2ヶ－3ヶ－3NT or similar）． |
| \&J1086 | ¢43 |  |  |  |  |  | West will start with the 10，and declarer will pin all their hopes on one of the |
|  | A A4 |  |  |  |  |  | kings being well placed，at the end of trick one he will know the spade king is |
|  | －Q107 |  |  |  |  |  | wrong and at the end of trick two he will know the diamond king is wrong，and |
|  | －QJ10 |  |  |  |  |  | that he is going off． |
|  | ＊AQ952 |  |  |  |  |  | Since nearly everyone in the country will go down，one off will not be the end of |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  | first，because that sets up a $6^{\text {th }}$ trick for the defence and a second under－trick． |
|  |  | ＊ | － | $\checkmark$ | $\cdots$ | NT |  |
| 12 | N | 4 | 5 | 5 | － | 3 | There might be more interest than that in the bidding because some East players |
| $\begin{array}{lll} 2 & & 11 \\ & 15 & \end{array}$ | S | 3 | 4 | 3 | － | 2 | will open（＂I had both majors and we were non vulnerable＂）now they might |
|  | E | － | － | － | 2 | － | either push NS into 3NT by North（oops）or into a different game entirely，4\％ |
|  | W | － | － | － | 2 | － | apparently making 11 tricks，although I＇ll believe that when I see it． |





| ^Q1075 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable <br> West has a marginal opening bid, and what he opens will have a serious effect on what contract his side ends up in. <br> Those that open 1NT will see partner transfer to spades and then bid 3 NT , since |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark$ A9873 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -98 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ¢98 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ^32 |  | AAKJ94 |  |  |  |  |  |
| - J65 |  |  |  |  |  |  | East has no real interest in playing in clubs and shouldn't bother bidding the suit |
| - KJ1043 | - AQ5 |  |  |  |  |  | with 8 points in his short suits. West will pass and NS will cash 5 heart tricks and |
| -KQJ |  |  | -106 | 652 |  |  | the A for a quick and brutal two down. |
| - 86 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Those that pass will see East open 14, they will respond 2 and now East |
| $\checkmark K 1042$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | will reverse into $3 \boldsymbol{2}$. (Not pretty but not much alternative). With hearts now |
| - 762 |  |  |  |  |  |  | the $4^{\text {th }}$ suit, EW will avoid no trumps and come to play in 5 or 4 . 5 looks |
| -A743 |  |  |  |  |  |  | like it has fair chances, but 4alll go down on repeated heart forces. (Yes, I can |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  | see 4ay make by ruffing the $2^{\text {nd }}$ heart and playing a spade to the 9 , but normal |
| $\begin{array}{lll} & 6 \\ 11 & & 16\end{array}$ | N | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  | declarers don't have a good peek before they play the hand - well, most don't |
|  | , |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  | E | 4 | 5 |  | 4 | 1 |  |
|  |  | 4 | 5 |  | 4 | 1 |  |
| . 062 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable |
| $\checkmark 7532$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -Q98 |  |  |  |  |  |  | This time East's decision whether or not to open will simply determine which |
| -1073 |  |  |  |  |  |  | hand plays the final contract, rather than what |
| ^A94 | - K1085 |  |  |  |  |  | With 29 points between the two hands, no major suit fit and stoppers in every |
| $\checkmark$ AKJ |  | - Q8 |  |  |  |  | suit I am confident everyone will play in 3NT (maybe 4NT at a stretch). |
| -K42 | - J1073 |  |  |  |  |  | If East opens 1NT then a heart will be led, and declarer will have a choice of suits |
| - K982 |  |  | AJ6 |  |  |  | to attack. Actually if East passes then West will play 3NT and also get a heart lead, |
| A 173 |  |  |  |  |  |  | so let's look at the play. |
| $\checkmark 10964$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | Declarer might choose to play on spades, setting up an extra trick there, then |
| - A65 |  |  |  |  |  |  | after winning the second heart will probably try the club finesse. This will |
| *Q54 |  |  |  |  |  |  | eventually lead to the loss of 1 spade, 1 club and the defence can cash the long |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\cdots$ | - | $\checkmark$ | $\cdots$ |  | Alternatively, declarer might attack diamonds, after the $K$ wins he can switch to |
| $18 \quad 11$ | N |  |  |  |  |  | spades then clubs for ten tricks...not so fast, after the club finesse loses the |
|  | S |  | - | - |  |  | defence can cash two diamond tricks to hold declarer to the same 9. |
|  | E | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | A frustrating deal, anyone that did make a tenth trick (running the de is the only |
|  | W 5 |  | 5 | 4 | 4 |  | play to make 11 so I discounting that) well done, this hand shows the beauty of |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | pairs - every trick matters! |
| $\rightarrow 5$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all |
| - Q75 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -AJ94 |  |  |  |  |  |  | After East passes South will choose between 1ヶ, 2V and no hearts at all, but all |
| *AKJ63 |  |  |  |  |  |  | roads should lead to the same final contract - or will it? |
| A K 76432 |  | $\xrightarrow{\wedge} \mathrm{AJ} 109$ |  |  |  |  | A $2 \checkmark$ opening will probably work best as that shuts up West, North will raise to |
| - KJ2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | game and there the matter will rest. A 1\% opening (or a pass) works worst as |
| -3 | -K10765 |  |  |  |  |  | West can overcall 2 and East will bid 4 $\uparrow$, a good save. |
| -1097 | -542 |  |  |  |  |  | Playing in hearts an innocuous 3 will be led, if South runs that to his king then |
| $\uparrow$ - 08 |  |  | it's a quick one down, West will ruff the diamond return and play a spade and |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\checkmark$ A108643 |  |  |  |  |  | lose the first 4 tricks. (It is possible West will get two ruffs and South then runs |
| - Q82 |  |  |  |  |  |  | the $Q$ to West's bare king, that seems unlikely). |
| -08 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Instead if South rises with the ace care is still needed, best play is the AV followed |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  | pitching two diamonds (or spades) as West ruffs, there will |
|  |  | $\cdots$ | - | $\stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{*}$ | , | NT | be a spade to lose but no more. |
| $7{ }^{75}$ | N | ${ }^{*}$ | 3 | 4 |  |  | Playing in spades there are 5 top tricks to lose for -300, a good save if everyone |
|  | S | 4 | 2 | 4 |  | 2 | makes $4 \checkmark$ but a bad one if they go off. |
| 10 | E |  |  | - | 2 |  | The best sacrifices of all get the opponents to the 5 level - there is no making 5 |
|  | w |  | - | - | 2 |  | on a diamond lead whatever you do! |



| ^A1074 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 18 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable <br> This time a marginal game awaits EW, although one doomed to failure. East will open 1a, or 1 NT , those opening will either play in 3NT (if West rates their hand as a two level response) or 1 NT (if West doesn't). |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark$ - 8432 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -96 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *) 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - 93 | QJ65 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - Q1076 | -K5 |  |  |  |  |  | Those opening will probably reach 3 NT , as will the strong no trumpers who will get raised to game via stayman. |
| - KJ82 | AQ7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - K43 |  |  |  |  |  |  | will get raised to game via stayman. <br> Played by East there doesn't seem to be much chance of 9 tricks, 6 are on top |
| $\rightarrow$ - ${ }^{\text {8 }} 8$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | ( 4 diamonds and 2 clubs) and one can easily be built up (a heart trick), the $8^{\text {th }}$ might come from spades, but the $9^{\text {th }}$ trick is a long way off. |
| $\checkmark$ A9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -10543 |  |  |  |  |  |  | However played by West there is a good chance of 9 tricks, surely North will lead a heart. This will be ducked to the ace and a heart back to the king gives West two quick tricks and time to build up a spade trick for 9. <br> Even if the unlucky declarers can't appreciate the irony I would hope they can appreciate the symmetry - those in game make a part-score and those in part-score make a game. |
| Q1096 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $9 \quad$6 | N |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |
|  | W |  | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | J8 |  |  |  |  |  | Sout |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | many tricks are made in the inevitable |
| - 1074 | - 53 |  |  |  |  |  | With EW silent North will respond $2 \downarrow$ and South will rebid 2 4 , no controversies |
| $\checkmark 984$ | - A106 |  |  |  |  |  | so far. Holding soft values (queens and jacks), no aces and a fitting honour in |
| $\begin{aligned} & 9743 \\ & * \text { AJ7 } \end{aligned}$ | - A62 |  |  |  |  |  | spades there seems little else for North to do but shoot out 3NT, which will surely |
|  | -96532 |  |  |  |  |  | be the room contract. |
| ^AKJ862 |  |  |  |  |  |  | North has an easy 12 tricks - 3 hearts, 6 spades and 3 diamonds, but there is just |
| - K53 |  |  |  |  |  |  | the small matter of 3 missing aces, and it will be up to EW to make sure that |
| -105 |  |  |  |  |  |  | neither of them "goes to bed" with an ace. |
| -108 |  |  |  |  |  |  | A club will surely be led at every table, it will go to the ace and the jack back to the King. If North leads a diamond to the ten and one back to the jack he paints a picture of his whole hand, it will be easy for East to cash the AY. Instead he should try the queen from hand (crossing to the and leading one to the king is best but risks disaster when spades are $4-1$ ) hoping a dozing East will win and continue clubs. |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | * | - | , | , |  |  |
| ${ }_{5}{ }_{11}^{16} 8$ | N |  | 4 | 4 | 4 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4 | 4 | 4 |  |  |
|  | w |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 20 : Dealer West : All vulnerable |
| $\checkmark 1076542$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - QJ94 |  |  |  |  |  |  | This time EW have a possible slam, but sadly today is the day when the finesses all lose. (That sounds like a good title for the next James Bond film, I better make a note of that) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A.J1093 | $\wedge A Q 42$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ K3 | $\checkmark$ A |  |  |  |  |  | Assuming North can resist opening a dirty weak $2 \checkmark$ in second seat then EW will |
| -A1075 | -K6 |  |  |  |  |  | have a free run. Assuming East opens 1\% and West responds $1 *$ then East is well |
| - 754 | * $\cdot$ AQJ 1032 |  |  |  |  |  | worth a jump to 2and when West raises to 3a (to show 4 card support and |
| AK875 |  | non-minimum) East might well "take the black(wood)" and then bid 6a when one |  |
| - QJ98 |  |  |  |  |  |  | key card is missing. |
| -832 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Alternatively if West responds 1 then East might bid $3 \vee$ or $4 \vee$ as shortage, West might take the view to sign off with the $K \curlyvee$ wasted, they will stop safely in game. On a heart lead East wins and crosses to the $A$ to run the Ja, a second entry is |
| * K6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HCP |  |  |  |  |  |  | Makeable contracts |
|  |  | $\cdots$ | - | - | $\wedge$ |  |  |  |
| $8 \begin{array}{lll} \\ 8 & & \\ & & 20\end{array}$ | N |  |  | 1 |  |  | ( $75 \%$ ) as there are a few handling charges, but still a good slam none the less. |
|  | 5 |  | - | 1 |  |  | ell bid if you reached it, although my kind words will be of little consolation for |
| 9 | - | 5 | 3 |  | 5 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 |  |  |  |  |




|  | A 110542 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\checkmark 73$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -53 |  |  |  |  |  |  | South does not in any way have an opening bid, but that won't stop some people who will open whatever local poison they fancy, which will lead to some unusual results (more on that later!). |
| - 8876 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 |  |  |  |  |
| - KQJ |  | $\checkmark$ A964 |  |  |  |  | Assuming most EW pairs get a free run then 3NT seems the best resting stop, |
| $\because A Q 9542$ |  |  | A | KJ10 |  |  | perhaps $1 \%-2-2-2 N-3 N T$ is a fair auction, the West hand is close to rebidding on values but the clubs are poor and a singleton in partner's suit is always a liability. |
|  |  | * 103 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ^AQ97 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark 10852$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | The trouble is that 3NT will only make 9 tricks, and even that requires West |
| -Q984 |  |  |  |  |  |  | to cash out and run for home, taking a diamond finesse (a reasonable line of play |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | when North discards on the $3^{\text {rd }}$ heart) is a quick one down. I would expect most defenders to lead spades (maybe South might avoid it if somehow East is declarer? Unlikely) so +400 will have to do, whether or not |
| HCP | co |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | * | - | $\checkmark$ | $\wedge$ |  | South blocks the suit. |
| ${ }_{15}{ }^{2} \quad 12$ | N |  |  |  |  |  | Any Souths that do open 1* will get what they deserve when West overcalls and East blasts $3 N T$, as they won't know to lead a spade! |
|  | S |  | 5 | - |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 5 | 4 | 1 |  |  |
| 97432 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 28 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable |
| - Q106 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - K105 |  |  |  |  |  |  | This time EW have enormous combined assets and the over-bidders will win as the low point count 6NT is cold. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - KQ6 | $\wedge$ A85 |  |  |  |  |  | Those playing a weak no trump will start 10-1v-1NT, now East has a tricky choice, |
| K3 | $\checkmark$ AJ872 |  |  |  |  |  | perhaps a practical 4 NT is right with all those queens and jacks, that is certainly |
| - AJ97 | -Q43 |  |  |  |  |  | quantitative (although some might play as an ask in which case the meaning is |
| -Q542 | - AJ |  |  |  |  |  | less clear). Those playing a strong NT will bid $1 \mathrm{NT}-2 \boldsymbol{-} 2 \mathrm{~V}-4 \mathrm{NT}$ at which point West |
| - 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  | will give a blackwood response and explain that whilst he knew the bid was |
| 54 |  |  |  |  |  |  | quantitative, he didn't realise his partner knew that as well. |
| - 862 |  |  |  |  |  |  | (I am assuming of course that North passes throughout, the vulnerability acting as |
| -K108763 |  |  |  |  |  |  | a suitable deterrent). |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  | On a spade lead West should play $K \vee$, heart to the Jack, then play on diamonds |
|  |  | - | - | $\checkmark$ | $\cdots$ |  | pting to finesse the 10 (North has shown up with 6 spades, 3 hearts and at |
| $15 \quad 16$ | N |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | S |  |  |  |  |  | least one club) but South's club discards may give the game away. I think few |
|  |  |  | 5 | 6 | 4 |  | pairs will bid a slam so +490 will still score respectably for |
| A. 882 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Board 29 : Dealer North : All vulnerable |
| $\checkmark 6$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| -1086 |  |  |  |  |  |  | NS can make a miracle 3NT, will anyone reach it? Let's find out... <br> North will pass and East will also, unless playing a 2 suited opening (and even |
|  | J98 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - AKQ6 | - 93 |  |  |  |  |  | then the hand is too weak, you need respectable suits at this score) which gives |
| $\checkmark$ A1043 | - J9852 |  |  |  |  |  | South a free go. |
| -943 | -QJ752 |  |  |  |  |  | 14, 1s and a gratuitous upgrade to 2 NT are all possibilities. 1 might get a double |
| -102 |  |  | 5 |  |  |  | from West and North is worth a jump to $3 \boldsymbol{\&}$, that might well prompt South to have a stab at 3NT. A 2NT opening will certainly get raised to 3NT, North simply |
| 754 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - KQ7 |  |  |  |  |  |  | has no other choice. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | A 1a opening (ghastly) will be passed out, at least NS will make it, even on |
| *AK43 |  |  |  |  |  |  | a diamond attack. |
| HCP | Makeable contracts |  |  |  |  |  | The play in 3NT is very simply, 9 tricks on any lead by forcing out the A P , no chance of a tenth |
| $13{ }^{4} 4$ |  | * | - | $\checkmark$ | $\cdots$ | NT | Well done if you chanced your arm and made 600, bad luck if you played it safe and scored something else. |
|  | N | 3 |  |  | 1 | 3 |  |
|  | S | 3 |  |  | 1 |  |  |
| 19 | E |  | 2 | 2 |  |  |  |
|  | w |  | 2 | 2 |  |  |  |



