## Analysis of hands Nov $23^{\text {rd }} \mathbf{2 0 2 0}$

## Bd 1.



I suspect most opened 2C. With an unbalanced hand like this I open 1S. Partner will bid 2S showing $6-10$. Now rebid 3 H asking him to bid 4 S if he has good heart support and maximum for his 2 S bid. It looks like you are trying to get to game. He will jump to 4 S because he has good hearts, plus 4 trumps and is in the upper range. Then go on and bid 6S. If you had opened 2C partner will bid 2D and you bid 2S. You are now at the 2 level before you have shown your suit. You now cannot find out if he has useful cards as bidding is too high, Note if there was KQx of clubs instead of KQx of hearts you wouldn't make 6S. Values are in the wrong place.

## Bd 2.



1S - 3S (10 + 1 extra) - 4S. Funny almost nobody beat it. Club lead and you lose two clubs one heart and one D and all because the CA is over the KQ. If it was in South hand 4 S would be rigid.

## Bd 3:



Should be played in 1NT by East. South opens 1H, West doubles and East will respond 1NT. It will also play well in Diamonds but East is more likely to respond 1NT than 2D. South should not bid 2 H as its hand has already been shown. No reason to be any higher on E/W cards.

Bd 7.


You should make 11 tricks in hearts because of position of DK You can ruff a $S$ and Club in North hand and when you lead winning diamonds the long hearts have to ruff in West hand. I notice someone went 4 S on $\mathrm{E} / \mathrm{W}$ cards. This breaks the law of total tricks. It can be beaten doubled by 3 tricks for 800 . E/W have 9 spades so the law says you can compete to the 3 level so sacrificing at the 4 level should be punished for 800 . It says optimum contract is 6 D but nobody in the world is going to play in Diamonds after partner opens 1 H showing 5 .

## Bd 9.



After 1S by N and 1NT by South I notice the robot doubled on a 13 count in the West hand. This is wrong vulnerable. Obviously the Robot can detect what East has. The reason why it is wrong is because N might be very strong and next thing E/W are getting hammered vulnerable for no reason. I cannot emphasise strongly how wrong it is. As it happens their cards are well placed but hearts should be held to 8 tricks despite the good layout of the cards for them

## Bd 10:

| Dlr: East <br> Vul: All | AK753 <br> 462 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Optimum } \\ \text { NS } 1 \mathrm{~S}+2 ;+140 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4K64 <br> KQJ5 <br> J9 <br> 4Q985 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { +Q108 } \\ & 76432 \\ & +82 \\ & \text { HA103 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
|  | 4. 332 <br> A10 <br> -Q1064 <br> 3KJ74 | $8 \geqslant 4 \mathrm{~N}$ |  |  |  |
| 11 |  | N | 3 | - |  |
| 126 |  | S | 3 | - |  |
| 11 |  | E |  | 1 |  |
|  |  | W |  | 1 |  |

1NT weak by West and East transfers into 2H. North might double 2H on the way past holding 4 spades (for takeout) but it isn't that easy. If sitting South he definitely should double because he would be in the passout position. If North did double, South should bid 2 NT indicating he doesn't hold 4 spades but he holds 4 cards in both minors and asks N to bid his minor. N bids 3D. In 3D after H lead win, draw trumps and exit on H10. E/W are now in difficulty because of the spade 9 in N hand. If you guess the Club position you definitely should make 3D but you could even end up making 10 tricks by setting up the S9 in North hand as well.

## Bd 11:



2S and nowhere else. You are overbidding if you went higher. IS - 1NT or 2D depending on how strong you play 1NT and 2S rebid by South and get off the bus.

## Bd 13:



It's stretching to be any higher than 2 H or 3 H . If you open 1 NT and hear partner bidding 2 D showing 5 hearts you could jump to 3 H to show you are maximum with 14 hcp and four hearts. Partner has only 10 , but he has two small doubletons which are each1 hcp extra so might go on to 4H. On normal CK lead you should lose a club, a heart and two spade tricks. Data sheet will say you can make 11 because you can trap HQ and DQ10 are doubleton offside so you can make 11 tricks. On normal H play of K first and then a low one towards AJ you have to go Ace. Now say you cash DK followed by DA on the lead of the winning D9 or DJ, North will ruff with winning HQ before cashing SA and K and then play a club to his partner's winning Q. You now only make 9 tricks.

## Bd 14.



West will open 1D and North will bid either 1H or 2NT showing the lowest two unbid suits. Clubs and Hearts (IT IS WRONG FOR NORTH TO DOUBLE WITH A SINGLETON SPADE.) Whatever bid comes back to west he will double to show he had strong 1D opening and the other unbid suit Spades. East will bid 2 S or 3 S depending on the level of the bidding. After a heart lead a spade switch is best by N. Eventually East can ruff a club in his hand to finesse the DQ . If $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{S}$ did not play more trumps $\mathrm{E} / \mathrm{W}$ will be able to make 10 tricks on a cross ruff in 4 S . It's so important not to draw trumps here but to try and make them separately. The difficult part of the defence is for North to let the lead of the club around to his partner C10 so he can lead a second round of trumps.

## Bd 15.



6S shouldn't make and that is only because the two hands are mirror images of one another. The East hand is the worst 11 you could ever find. Small cards are totally empty. You should lose a club and a heart. Only way to avoid slam is not to go looking with the poor 11 count opposite the 20/22 2NT opening. Remember you are only right if he has maximum and here despite the 22 there is no slam. Usually $30 / 31$ if you have a $4 / 4$ fit will produce 6 of a suit but
here there is no small doubleton to award yourself an extra point. It is so important for N not to discard a club from Jxx. This holding turns up so often and partner holds doubleton Qx.

## Bd 18.



West will open 1D and N probably overcall 1H. East doubles showing S and C and now West will bid 2C and that really should finish the auction as South doesn't really have a bid. N/S will lose two heart tricks if playing in that suit in a contract.

## Bd 19:



If South opens a weak NT it is very difficult now to get to 6 H . West will double, North will bid 2 S and East will jump to 4 H as West's double should be $16+$. There is no reason for West to bid again looking at 3 small diamonds. He knows his AKQJ of spades are facing one spade or a void so are not as useful as usual if there are diamond losers. However if South opened 1C now West will overcall 1S (NOT DOUBLE) and East will bid 2H forcing for one round. Now West can jump to 4C showing Singleton club and probably 4 hearts. East can cuebid DA and East will bid 4NT Keycard Blackwood. East will show two Keycards plus the

HQ by bidding 5S. ie. The HK and DA and because he had shown 5 hearts and he actually has six, he can count the extra heart as the equivalent of the HQ. Now West knows his long spades can be used for D discards..

Bd 20.


I notice a number of people bid a slam but it is not a good contract. $2 \mathrm{C}-2 \mathrm{D}-2 \mathrm{H}-$ and South is as well to raise to 4 H as NT doesn't look right with 4 small spades and partner might even have 6 hearts. Note 3 H here in response to 2 H is stronger than that jump to 4 H . In play if West keeps three spades and his four clubs to the J discarding his DQ then North has to play for the drop of the SQ to make the contract. I suspect people did not discard correctly when defending this hand. It says the optimum contract is 7NT but it isn't saying you should bid it. You have to drop doubleton SQ and also finesse club 9.

Bd 22.


Open 1C and when you hear 1H you just about have a reverse bid of 2D. (16+ always) Singleton in your partner's suit makes this borderline. Partner now bids 3C which you should
all start to play as positive showing $9+$. West if holding 8 or less can bid 2 NT to the reverse bid to show a minimum hand. It commands the reverse bidder to bid 3C. The reverse bidder can ignore this request if its $18 / 19$ or really strong suits. As East does not have a great hand he will probably now bid 3NT in response to 3 C in case partner just has 9 points. West with 17 bids 4C saying No I want to go further in clubs. East can now bid 4NT Keycard Blackwood and hears a response of 5 H which shows two out of the 5 Aces and No Queen of clubs, so they should settle in 6C. Note 6NT will make from East but can be beaten from West if a Heart is led through the AQJ because you now have a club and a heart loser. 6C cannot be beaten. I am mystified by printout saying 6 NT can make from East. It cannot if a heart is led by South.

Bd 23


West will open 1D, North will double and South will bid 1S as he is forced to bid. North should not jump to 4 S despite holding 19 hcp . You should bring down the level of your bid here by 1 ( 3 S is even one too high.)

## Bd 24

| Dlr: WestVul: None | $\$ 10$ <br> ${ }^{1064}$ <br> -AKQ52 <br> ※AQJ8 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Optimum } \\ & \text { NS 4H; +420 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 <br> ${ }^{*} \mathrm{AQ} 7$ <br> - 5964 <br> 4K63 | w North | \$ 58765 <br> K9 <br> \$108 <br> $\$ 10952$ |  |  |  |
|  | e 24 |  |  |  |  |
|  | s 24 |  |  |  |  |
|  | South |  |  |  |  |
| $\overbrace{12}^{16}$ | +AK93 J8532 | 4*VN |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | N | 3 | 4 |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 73 \\ & +774 \end{aligned}$ | E |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

I noticed a table where West opened 1 NT . N doubled and East bid 2H thinking it was still a transfer. Most dispense with transfers after a penalty double of 1NT and so would bid 2S here. You need to agree this with your partner after the double that you do not play transfers in this situation..

