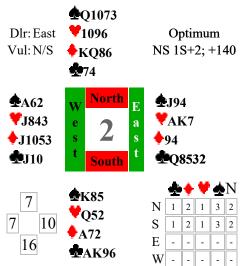


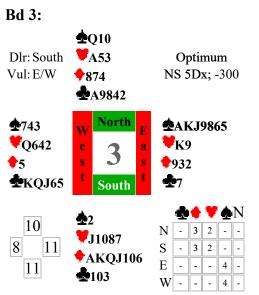
Analysis of Hands 15th Mar 2021

1S(N) - 4C(S) (this is a splinter showing a singleton C and a S raise to game (at least 4). Note it is way more useful than using 4C as Gerber. People who use 4C as Gerber looking for Aces do so because it is a level lower than 4NT. This is because they are trying for slams where they shouldn't be. North in response to 4C can bid 4D with his singleton. It is a control usually an Ace or King or shortage. This is ideal for South. If he now uses Keycard Blackwood, he discovers they are missing two out of the 5 Aces and it is best not to bid slam when this happens. (South doesn't know if it is the A or K of spades they are missing). Obviously it makes here because the K appears in front of you. Note the club holding Ax in North is ideal facing a singleton.

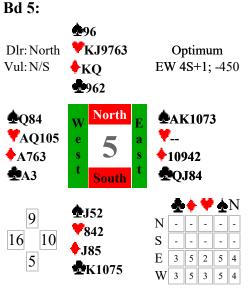
Bd2:



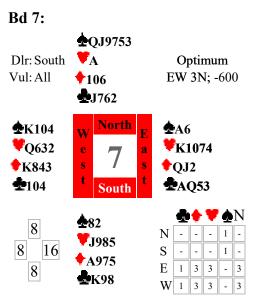
See one E/W pair overcalled 2C.It meets no requirement for what is needed for an overcall. This is despite everything I have said since I started this. It should have been doubled by N/S and should go 3 off. When this happens it cures this bad habit.



1D(S) - 1NT(N) or 2C - 2S(E). This should show 6 spades and an opening bid or if E only has 5 Spades it should be a good opening bid. I think West should raise it to 4S holding a singleton D. You should make 10 tricks in S losing one club, one D and one H. Set up the club early and you can enter dummy via a D ruff.

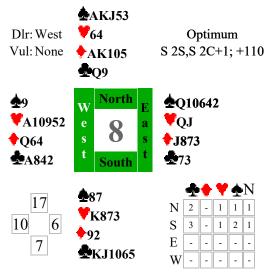


2H(N) (weak) – P – P – 2NT(W) (15/17) - 3H(E) (Transfer to S) – 3S(W) – 3NT(E) – 4S(W) (Because he holds 3 spades). I see a few N/S pairs were left play in 2H. This is wrong as West has a perfect 2NT overcall. I also see one E/W pair got to 6S. This is obviously because East overcalled 2S directly over the 2H opening. He is a bit weak for this but obviously because of the H void bid. West should not get carried away with his 16 points because the HQ should be discounted as he knows N definitely has the hearts over his cards. To make 10 tricks in S set up the diamonds first. Run the CQ through South and ruff a club in the West hand making sure it is with a small S and not the Q. You will now make 11 tricks as the last C in the East hand is discarded on the HA.



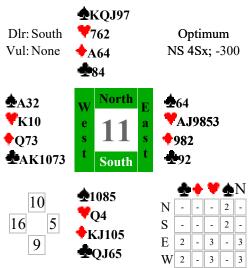
If N passes and does not open 2S it should go 1C(E) - 1H(W) (I would bid 1H in preference to 1D because it is a weak hand on which I am getting only one bid) - 2H(E) Hope nobody jumped to 3H with this balanced 16 count. That is the end of the auction. Important Lebensohl: Now if N opened 2S - Dbl(E) (Prefer this to 2NT because I have twofour card suits plus a 3 card suit and only one bare stop in Spades. Over to West. He knows his partner should have 4 hearts. Using Lebensohl if he bids a new suit at the 3 level he should show 9+. Therefore if he bids 3 H it should be 9+. Instead he bids Lebensohl 2NT. This demands East to bid 3C. East can ignore this demand if he is very strong and bid accordingly. Here with 16 he bids his 3C and West now bids 3H showing 8 or less hcp and hearts. If Clubs were his suit he would pass the demanded 3C bid or bid 3D showing diamonds and 8 or less. This is such a useful bid. (Note the printout says 3NT optimum contract. That simply will not be bid with 16 opposite 8 and holding 8 hearts)

Bd 8:



If W opens 1H North should simply overcall 1S and that will finish the auction. West should not bid again. If West did not open, North opens 1S. South responds 1NT. – North 2D (no jumping) – South (2S) - North (2NT) – asking South to bid 3NT if he holds 9 so 2NT is the contract. West will lead a small H, East inserting the J and not the Q. South wins with K. Now leads a club to the Q and a club back to J hit by the CA. Now West knows South has

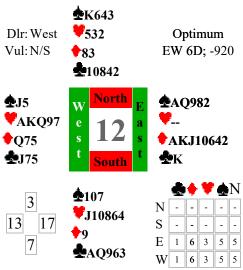
CKJ and HK (7hcp) so he cannot have HQ as that would be 9 and he would have bid 3NT. Therefore partner holds HQ. Therefore play HA and East should throw the HQ if it is not falling to get out of the way. N/S will be limited to 6 or 7 tricks depending on whether he gets an extra S trick in the ending.



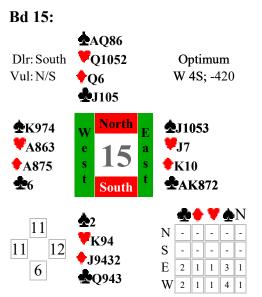
Bd 11:

If West opens a strong NT East will transfer into 2H which will finish the auction. North is in the wrong position to balance with 2S because he is not in the passout position. If he was sitting South when he sees that East passes 2H he should balance with 2S. However most are playing weak NT. 1C(W) - 1S(N) - Dbl(E.) (Not good enough to bid 2H) - 2S(S) - 2NT(W) - 3H(E). He knows West has strong NT and this should be the final bid as he didn't bid 3NT or he didn't bid 4H or the hearts were not good enough to bid 2H over the 1S bid. I see one pair bid and made 3NT because they guessed the HQ doubleton. If it didn't drop they would be going 4 off. It is losing bridge to bid 3NT on a hand like this. You will get far more bottoms than the rare top.



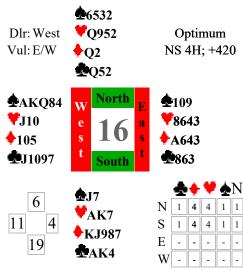


1H(W) - 2D(E) - 3D(W) (on 3 but there is no other rebid if playing a weak NT other than 2H) - 4NT(E) - 5C(1 Ace) - 6D as it is more likely it is the HA partner has. If the CA is lead the contract depends on the S finesse. If a H is led you make 13 tricks.

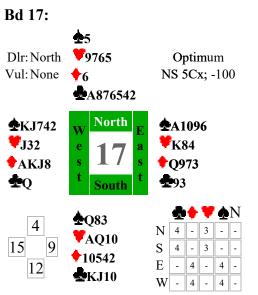


Some Wests might open 1D. I suspect most passed. 1C (E) – 1D(W as he can get more bids out of this 11 count) – 1S (E) (showing 5C/4S) – 4S(W) (He has an 11 count and adding on two extra for singleton usually. However remember partner has shown 5 clubs so this is a misfit of a hand and I would tend not to award the two extra points for the singleton. However all the points in West hand are controls so many would bid 4S. However there is a case for bidding 3S because of the misfit. When playing the hand I would not dare play trumps. There is crossruffing to be done. Try not to let South in to switch a S through the West hand. That is so important. However South can thwart you by inserting the 9. If he puts in the H4 run the H7 into North on the first lead of hearts. If South gets in he should lead his singleton S and North should play SAQ and another one to cut down the cross ruffing.



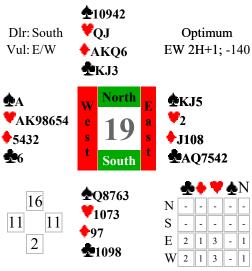


 $1S(W) - P - P - Dbl - P - 2H(N) - P - 2S^{**}$ by South showing a strong hand. If N has a S stop he should now bid 2NT. Instead he has to bid 3H showing minimum and nothing else to bid and that should finish the bidding. You can make this contract with an overtrick provided you set up the diamonds early. The HJ10 being doubleton is against the odds.

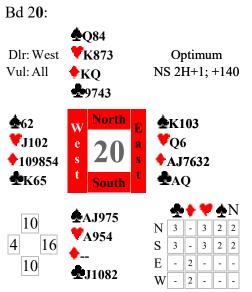


1NT(S) - 2S(W) - 3S(E) (asking partner to bid 4S if maximum. You will make 4S if you play South for the QS. You just lose 2 hearts and a club as the HJ is in the right position for you, and you can lead towards it using the diamond as an entry to do it.



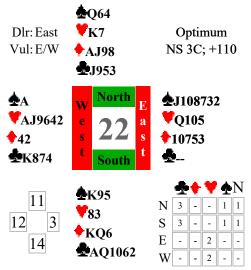


1H (W) – Dbl (N) – 2C(E) – P (S) – 2H(W) – P – P – 2S now by South showing less than 5hcp as he passed on the previous round and did not bid over 2C. West will probably now bid 3H. I see some got to 4H. There is no reason for this to happen. Partner has shown clubs, which does nothing for the West hand.



How did some N/S pairs bid to 4S? It does not make any sense. P(W) - P(N) - 1D(E) - 1S(S) - P(W) - 2D(N) (Promising 3 or 4 spades and asking South how good he is for his overcall. Double by East. - 2S(S) He is minimum. He could bid 2H but this would show extras. North is now likely to go to game if you bid 2H showing extras. Forget the void. Your partner holds a passed hand. Now West bids 3D (Having passed the previous round as he is very weak) 3D should go one off provided North switched a S through the K when in with the DK. The opening lead should be the CJ. Note N/S can make 3H. South can bid 3H in the passout position when 3D comes around to him. Note how the DKQ are in effect almost useless. If they were the KQ of clubs they would be much more valuable to N/S. Honour cards opposite a void in a side suit are almost never worth anything like their full value. It is best to have the honour cards opposite small cards in your Partner's hand. Above the DKQ produces no extra trick for N/S, whereas if they were the CKQ they would provide two extra tricks.

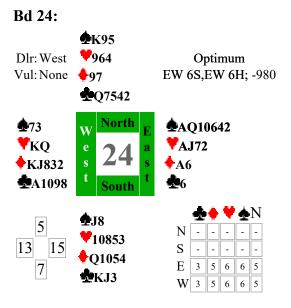




South opens 1NT West overcalls 2H. IF North doubles it is best to use it as takeout. The negative aspect of this is that you do not hold 4 spades. South will be bidding 3C. Despite what the results sheet says E/W will make 3H and N/S can make 4C.



When E opens 1D South will overcall 1S .West is not good enough to bid 2H so has to double and North should pre-empt to 3S. It is impossible now for E/W to get to 4H. East will quite likely bid 4C and West will bid 4D. To make 4D or 4H you need to guess that N has a doubleton DK. Impossible I think.



 $1D(W) - 1S(E) - 2C(W) - 2H(4^{th}$ suit forcing to game and not necessarily showing 4 of that suit) - 2NT (W) showing a H stop for NT. - 3S (E). This shows 6 spades as in effect the previous 2H bid showed 5 spades. West now raises to 4S. I think it is quite difficult to bid a slam here although West has perfect cards for East. If West had an extra Club honour and one honour less in one of the red suits there would be no slam on it.