

## Analysis of Hands Mar 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

**Bd1:** Dlr: North  
Vul: None

♠A65  
♥AK  
♦A854  
♣A642

Optimum  
NS 1S+2; +140

♠Q83  
♥J1064  
♦K9  
♣KQJ10

North  
West  
1  
East  
South

♠942  
♥Q932  
♦QJ3  
♣983

19  
12 5  
4

♠KJ107  
♥875  
♦10762  
♣75

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	2	4	2	3	2
S	2	4	2	3	2
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Only comment I have to make here is that a number of South players obviously responded 1D or 1S to the 1C opening on the South cards. It is a flat 4hcp. **I have constantly reminded people week after week not to be responding on flat hands with less than 5 (5 is even stretching it without a 5 card suit. The negative 1D should not be used. It serves no function and worst of all it loses the natural 1D response. Negative 1D bids are okay if playing a strong 1C opening 16/17+ but not in Natural 5 card Major systems.)** The reason I know this happened is because quite a few tables ended up in 3NT – 2 on the N/S cards, and one in 4S -2. These results tell me what South did respond and North then went to 3NT, 2NT or 4S on its 19 hcp after the response. Those who played in 1C made it. West has a suitable hand to balance with 1NT which will go 1 off. (showing 10 to 14). It says N/S can make 2NT but that is only if he does not lose a S trick to the SQ. Unlikely that he will not lose a S trick. Note that if a S is led to the K and then the J led, West should not cover.

### Bd 2:

♠AQJ96  
♥K1072  
♦J84  
♣Q

Optimum  
NS 3H; +140

Dlr: East  
Vul: N/S  
♠K10852  
♥43  
♦--  
♣AKJ972

North  
West  
2  
East  
South

♠4  
♥A95  
♦K109752  
♣654

13  
11 7  
9

♠73  
♥QJ86  
♦AQ63  
♣1083

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	-	1	3	1	-
S	-	2	3	1	-
E	2	-	-	-	1
W	2	-	-	-	1

West opens 1C and N should overcall 1S rather than double, holding 5. Double is not outrageous but 1S is better. East should not bid 2D. It will go pass, pass and probably 2C by West, because he knows his partner is short in spades. North can now bid 2H and East will bid 3C. South will now bid 3H holding a 9 count. On a forcing club lead it is best to draw trumps rather than let E/W make the trumps separately. Note to finesse the S when you land in the South hand.

**Bd 3:**

♣J74  
 Dlr: South ♥AKJ2 Optimum  
 Vul: E/W ♦AQJ8 NS 2Nx, NS 3Dx; -100  
 ♣J5

♠KQ3	W	North	E	♠A965
♥10987	e	3	a	♥Q654
♦954	s		s	♦3
♣AK10	t	South	t	♣9432

  

17	♠1082	♣♦♥♠N
12	♥3	N - 2 - - 1
6	♦K10762	S - 2 - - 1
5	♣Q876	E 2 - 2 1 -
		W 2 - 2 1 -

An example of a 12 count in the West hand that should not open a 12/14 NT Vulnerable. If it does, North should double and if East passes so should South. If E/W are playing rescue bids they will probably get to 2H and South will probably try 3D which goes 1 off. 2H makes.

**Bd 5:**

♠5432  
 Dlr: North ♥AK10 Optimum  
 Vul: N/S ♦K732 EW 3N+1; -430  
 ♣54

♠J	W	North	E	♠AKQ
♥98	e	5	a	♥J6532
♦A95	s		s	♦Q64
♣AQJ10932	t	South	t	♣K6

  

10	♠109876	♣♦♥♠N
12	♥Q74	N - - - -
15	♦J108	S - - - -
3	♣87	E 5 3 3 1 4
		W 5 3 3 1 4

If it goes 1H(E) – 2C(W) – 2NT (E)(15/17) – West can try a quantitative 4NT holding a 12 count and what looks like 7 tricks in one suit. East will pass holding a 15 count in the 15/17 range. Something similar can happen after a strong NT opening. (ie. 1NT -4NT quantitative. Better if you play 1NT – 3C strong and slam invitational. East will just bid 3NT.)

**Bd 6:**

Dlr: East      ♠Q7653      Optimum  
 Vul: E/W      ♥KJ      NS 4H; +420  
                  ♦A74  
                  ♣A62

♠AKJ	North	♠1092
♥Q85	West	♥6
♦3	6	♦QJ109865
♣KQJ983	South	♣105

14	♠84	♣♦♥♠N
16	♥A1097432	N - - 4 1 -
3	♦K2	S - - 4 1 -
7	♣74	E 1 2 - - -
		W 1 2 - - -

East is not good enough to open 3D vul and should pass. South non vul will open 3H and North has a borderline raise to 4H in case partner has a max opening. It can be made but only if the HJ is finessed and you will go wrong if East has not opened 3D. South will have no clue that East holds 7 diamonds implying he is short in hearts.

**Bd 7:**

Dlr: South      ♠AKQ9432      Optimum  
 Vul: All      ♥53      EW 7Dx; +1400  
                  ♦J  
                  ♣1083

♠1085	North	♠J
♥10	West	♥Q87642
♦KQ109763	7	♦542
♣95	South	♣A72

10	♠76	♣♦♥♠N
5	♥AKJ9	N 5 - 3 6 6
7	♦A8	S 5 - 3 6 6
18	♣KQJ64	E - 2 - - -
		W - 2 - - -

**Why did some play this in NT holding 9 spades. This is so wrong and shows people aren't thinking.** 1C(S) – 1S(N) – 2NT (18/19) – 3S(N) (showing 6) – 4S(S) – 4NT(N) – 5H (two out of 5 aces and no SQ) – 6S (N).

**Bd 9:**

Dir: North ♠A1073 Optimum  
 Vul: E/W ♥KJ87643 NS 5Hx; -500  
 ♦10  
 ♣4

♠J6	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align:center">9</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>South</td><td>t</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	9			S	South	t	♠K98
W		North	E								
9											
S		South	t								
♥Q102	♥A5										
♦AKJ73	♦9652										
♣Q53		♣AK82									

  

	♠Q542	♣♦♥♠N
8	♥9	N - - 2 - -
13 14	♦Q84	S - - 2 - -
5	♣J10976	E 3 5 - - 4
		W 3 5 - - 4

If N opens 3H, East just about has a takeout double. A disadvantage of this bid is the fact that he only holds 3 spades on a weak enough hand, vulnerable. West should really respond 3NT. (not bid diamonds). You should make at least 9 tricks in that contract provided the DJ is finessed. (Remember North has 7 hearts so likely to be short in Diamonds).

**Bd 11.**

Dir: South ♠5 Optimum  
 Vul: None ♥Q10952 EW 1S+2; -140  
 ♦AQJ  
 ♣7642

♠AJ97	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align:center">11</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>South</td><td>t</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	11			S	South	t	♠K84
W		North	E								
11											
S		South	t								
♥A76	♥843										
♦62	♦K9743										
♣K1098		♣A3									

  

	♠Q10632	♣♦♥♠N
9	♥KJ	N - - - - -
12 10	♦1085	S - - - - -
9	♣QJ5	E 1 2 1 3 2
		W 1 2 1 3 2

If West opens a 12/14 NT, neither North nor South have overcalling values, though I see numerous players couldn't find a green pass card in their box in the N and S seats. It is just wrong to be overcalling on flat hands without values and absolutely no distribution. If N/S bid East should double and collect 300 to 500.

**Bd 13:**

Dlr: North ♠98  
 Vul: All ♥J108 Optimum  
 ♦9542 NS 2C+1; +110  
 ♣KQJ9

♠A10742	W	North	E	♠QJ
♥543	e 13 s t	13	a s t	♥K9762
♦QJ76				♦K3
♣3				♣8542
		South		

	♠K653	♣♥♥♠N
7	♥AQ	N 3 1 - - 1
7 9	♦A108	S 3 1 - - 1
17	♣A1076	E - - - 1 -
		W - - - 1 -

Should go 1C(S) – 1D(N) – 1NT(S) (15/17) end of auction. How did so many end up higher going down? **You should not rebid 2NT on 17 after a 1 level suit response by your partner.** If South plays it, he gets a S trick on the lead to make 8 tricks but that's it. If N plays it, on a H lead he only makes 7 tricks.

**Bd 14:**

Dlr: East ♠973  
 Vul: None ♥AK85 Optimum  
 ♦865 NS 6H; +980  
 ♣K83

♠865	W	North	E	♠AQ
♥642	e 14 s t	14	a s t	♥109
♦QJ43				♦AK10972
♣Q54				♣J92
		South		

	♠KJ1042	♣♥♥♠N
10	♥QJ73	N 4 - 6 5 -
5 14	♦--	S 4 - 6 5 -
11	♣A1076	E - 2 - - 1
		W - 2 - - 1

There is no reason for E/W to end up in 5D. Holding 6 diamonds and a badly placed AQ of S (South remember has overcalled 1S) East has a dreadful hand in H and clubs. 1D(E) – 1S(S) – 2D(W) – N can bid 2S but he is a bit too strong for that. Instead he could bid 3D, showing Spade support and asking South how good was his 1S overcall. South can now bid 3H and North will raise to 4H. Leading spades once from the North hand makes 12 tricks. Do not draw three rounds of trumps before you lead the first S from dummy. (Two rounds only) You need a H to ruff another D being led at you. **This hand shows the benefit of playing in a 4/4 fit over a 5/3 fit. (Nearly always better unless there are very poor breaks in the 4/4 fit.)** The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> cards in the non trump suit provide useful discards.

**Bd 15:**

Dir: South     ♠A52     Optimum  
 Vul: N/S     ♥AJ84     EW 5Dx; +300  
                ♦954  
                ♣J82

♠QJ	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td rowspan="2">e</td><td rowspan="2">15</td><td rowspan="2">a</td></tr> <tr><td rowspan="2">s</td><td rowspan="2">t</td></tr> <tr><td>South</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	e	15	a	s	t	South			♠4
W		North	E										
e		15	a										
				s	t								
South													
♥K973	♥Q105												
♦AKJ3	♦Q10876												
♣K94		♣10765											

	♠K1098763	♣♦♥♠N
	♥62	N - - - 4 2
	♦2	S - - - 4 2
	♣AQ3	E 1 3 1 - -
		W 1 3 1 - -

3S (S) – Dbl (W) – N (most passed) – 4D(E) – Pass - Pass(W) Devalue the QJ of S. A lot to be said in favour of a 4S bid now by North but it depends where partner's values are. You expect decent values for a vulnerable 3S opening). You do make 10 tricks. The reason 4S makes is because South has the CQ instead of the SQJ. ( A point less than he might have and yet you make a trick more!)

**Bd 17:**

Dir: North     ♠Q86     Optimum  
 Vul: None     ♥862     NS 1N,NS 2C; +90  
                ♦AK8  
                ♣J653

♠9742	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td rowspan="2">e</td><td rowspan="2">17</td><td rowspan="2">a</td></tr> <tr><td rowspan="2">s</td><td rowspan="2">t</td></tr> <tr><td>South</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	e	17	a	s	t	South			♠AJ53
W		North	E										
e		17	a										
				s	t								
South													
♥K9754	♥J												
♦92	♦QJ1074												
♣Q4		♣A107											

	♠K10	♣♦♥♠N
	♥AQ103	N 2 - 1 - 1
	♦653	S 2 - 1 - 1
	♣K982	E - 1 - 1 -
		W - 1 - 1 -

1D(E) – 1H (W) – 1S (E) (Showing 5D/4S) – 2S (W). **I hope no South bid. He does not have a suitable hand to make a takeout double holding only two spades!!!**

**Bd 20:**

Dir: West     ♠K94  
 Vul: All     ♥10     Optimum  
                ♦AKJ6     NS 2H, NS 2C+1; +110  
                ♣AQ862

♠Q862	W North 20 S South E East	♠AJ75
♥Q532		♥K74
♦Q10		♦9752
♣K93		♣J10

<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td></tr> </table>	17	9	9	5	♠103 ♥AJ986 ♦843 ♣754	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td colspan="5" style="text-align: center;">♣♦♥♠N</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	♣♦♥♠N					N	3	2	2	-	1	S	3	2	2	-	1	E	-	-	-	1	-	W	-	-	-	1	-
17																																			
9	9																																		
5																																			
♣♦♥♠N																																			
N	3	2	2	-	1																														
S	3	2	2	-	1																														
E	-	-	-	1	-																														
W	-	-	-	1	-																														

1C (N) – 1H(S) – 1NT(N).(15/17) (Alternatively you can bid 2D reversing values but holding a singleton H devalues your hand. ) I saw one table jump to 3NT on this poor 17 count, holding a singleton H. I'm lost. I have no idea on what basis it was bid. I even chastise a rebid of 2NT on flat 17's as I did earlier tonight,(Hand 13). It is a struggle to make 1NT. The purists might prefer a 2D bid and not rebid 1NT holding a singleton in your partner's suit. You will then end up in 3C making.

**Bd 21:**

Dir: North     ♠A1064  
 Vul: N/S     ♥3     Optimum  
                ♦1097     EW 5H; -450  
                ♣AKQ53

♠K9832	W North 21 S South E East	♠QJ5
♥A9752		♥KQ86
♦AK2		♦853
♣--		♣1087

<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td></tr> </table>	13	14	8	5	♠7 ♥J104 ♦QJ64 ♣J9642	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td colspan="5" style="text-align: center;">♣♦♥♠N</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	♣♦♥♠N					N	4	1	-	-	-	S	4	1	-	-	-	E	-	-	5	4	1	W	-	-	5	4	1
13																																			
14	8																																		
5																																			
♣♦♥♠N																																			
N	4	1	-	-	-																														
S	4	1	-	-	-																														
E	-	-	5	4	1																														
W	-	-	5	4	1																														

1C(N) – 2C(S)(or 3C if playing inverted minor) – Dbl(W) – 3H (E) or 4H if North bids 4C – 4H(W) . Only a S lead will hold it to 11 tricks. Alternatively West can bid 2S over 2C and East should raise to 3S. West can now bid 4H which would then be the final contract.

**Bd 22:**

r: East      ♠A876  
 Vul: E/W    ♥AK9      Optimum  
               ♦K6      NS 4S,N 4H; +420  
               ♣A864

♠K43	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>e</td><td>22</td><td>s</td></tr> <tr><td>s</td><td></td><td>t</td></tr> <tr><td>t</td><td>South</td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	e	22	s	s		t	t	South		♠J10
W		North	E											
e		22	s											
s			t											
t	South													
♥10753	♥82													
♦10943	♦AQJ872													
♣J5	♣Q93													

  

<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>18</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td></td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>8</td><td></td></tr> </table>		18		4		10		8		♠Q952 ♥QJ64 ♦5 ♣K1072	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	4	-	4	4	3	S	4	-	3	4	1	E	-	2	-	-	-	W	-	2	-	-	-
	18																																								
4		10																																							
	8																																								
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																																				
N	4	-	4	4	3																																				
S	4	-	3	4	1																																				
E	-	2	-	-	-																																				
W	-	2	-	-	-																																				

Saw someone open 2D weak on East cards and it went -P - P- 2NT (N) which was passed out. (It shouldn't be). East led SJ. Why would you lead a short suit. Why not lead DQ to give a trick to K. It is good trading to give 1 trick and get 5 back later. In reality East had to discard all the diamonds bar the A on the set up Spades and Clubs and winning hearts. West would want to discard the D10 and 9 on the winning AJ later so as not to block the suit. South should bid 3C Stayman to the 2NT bid by N and they discover the 4/4 S fit and make 10 tricks losing a Diamond, a Spade and a Club.

**Bd 23:**

Dr: South      ♠Q87  
 Vul: All      ♥96      Optimum  
               ♦KJ7632    NS 3D; +110  
               ♣AQ

♠J95	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>e</td><td>23</td><td>s</td></tr> <tr><td>s</td><td></td><td>t</td></tr> <tr><td>t</td><td>South</td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	e	23	s	s		t	t	South		♠K642
W		North	E											
e		23	s											
s			t											
t	South													
♥AJ873	♥KQ105													
♦A105	♦84													
♣84	♣J105													

  

<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>12</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td></td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>9</td><td></td></tr> </table>		12		10		9		9		♠A103 ♥42 ♦Q9 ♣K97632	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	2	3	-	-	1	S	2	3	-	-	1	E	-	-	2	-	-	W	-	-	2	-	-
	12																																								
10		9																																							
	9																																								
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																																				
N	2	3	-	-	1																																				
S	2	3	-	-	1																																				
E	-	-	2	-	-																																				
W	-	-	2	-	-																																				

1D (N) - P - 1NT(S) - P(W) - 2D(N) - P - P - 2H(W) (West knows South does not have a Major and in addition North has a limited opening bid. Therefore East has values. North might venture 3D knowing South does not have a Major but it is a borderline decision. South might bid 3D as he is max and knows partner has 6.