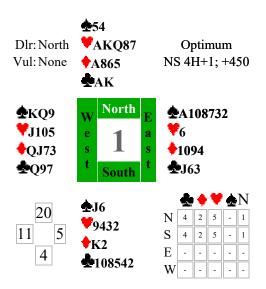
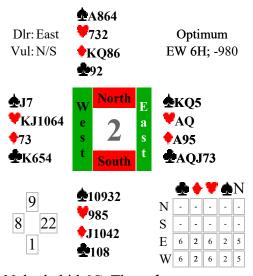
Analysis of Hands April 12th 2021

Bd 1:



With a small doubleton spade and 5/4/2/2 I would always open 1H and never ever 2NT. Just remember this. If partner cannot respond to 1H, then you are not missing anything so it is not correct to open 2NT. That remark is aimed at those who opened 2NT who were afraid of missing something. With the South hand I would just about stretch to 2H. With 3 hearts I wouldn't. It's a 4 count and the fact you hold 5 clubs instead of 4 is what would make me stretch to a 2H raise. 2NT will always go off on leading your 4th highest spade. I see someone made plus 2 in 2NT. I cannot understand why or how that would happen. I also see someone overcalled 1S or 2S weak and they didn't stop bidding until they reached 5S doubled minus three (can be 4 off) and a deserved zero. If you know partner has 5 spades and you have three to raise then the two level is the highest you should reach using the law of Total Tricks (8 trumps), therefore the level of 8 tricks is a contract of 2S. If you know he has 6 then the maximum level is the 3 level (9 trumps). That is apart from the fact that you shouldn't have bid at all.

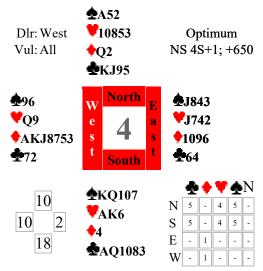
Bd 2:



Nobody bid 6C. The only way to get to it is if you upgrade the 22 count with a 5 card club suit to a 23/24 2NT opening. Then after transfer to 3H you bid 4C trying for a fit there too. If partner bids 4NT in response to 4C it is a sign off. He should in fact cue bid 4D saying he has

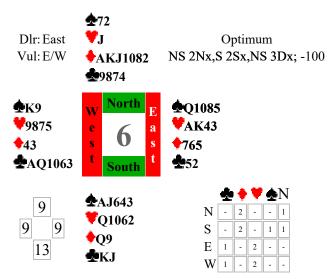
a club fit. Those last two comments are so important. 4NT is a sign off in this case and 4D is a cue bid. Remember for 6NT you need 33 but for 6 of a suit about 30/31 because a ruff in either hand produces an extra trick so less points are needed.

Bd 4:



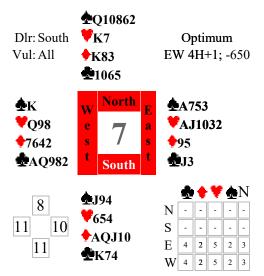
If West opens 3D it will come around to South who will double for takeout. North will bid 3H (nearly worth 4H) and South will probably raise to 4H even though he has only 3. He has the singleton D and with it you are ruffing the 2nd diamond in the hand with the short trumps. (West will lead DAK). In play I would draw two rounds of trumps and then start playing clubs and let East ruff in whenever he likes.

Bd 6:



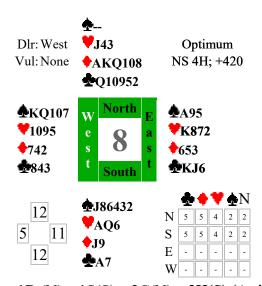
1S(S) - 1NT(N) - 2H(S) - 3D(N) to play and must be passed. That gets you to the best spot. It should go 1 off but it's quite easy for the defence to go wrong.

Bd7:



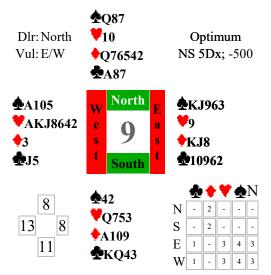
Regularly passed out but only one who could come near an opening is East who might open 1H on a 10 count in last position. (West might also have opened 1C) West will get as far as 3H with the 11 count and it is difficult to stop 10/11 tricks. I see one pair bid 4H. They should be asking themselves about their bidding methods doing this with 10 opposite 11 hcp and no shortage distribution. Singleton K is worth 3 and no more. They should note the Heart K was right and doubleton, and also the club K is right and the clubs are 3/3. All contribute to allowing you to make 10/11 tricks.

Bd 8:



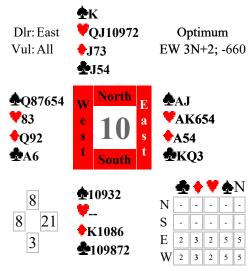
1D(N) - 1S(S) - 2C(N) - 2H(S) (Artificial and 4th suit forcing to game.) It definitely promises 5 spades. This bid asks N for more information so N will respond 3C showing 5. Almost certainly North doesn't have two spades as he could have gone back to 2S holding two. South will now bid 3NT. West will probably lead H10 and East will not insert HK unless the J is played off dummy. South needs to set up clubs and when East gets in he should switch to S5. A low spade switch guarantees a S honour so when West wins with S10 he should return his lowest S to partners A and they now take 4 spade tricks.

Bd 9:



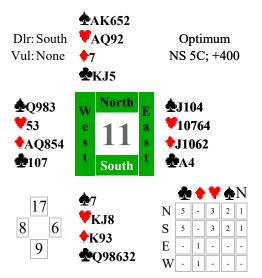
Should be played in 4H either by an opening bid of 4H or by opening 1H and after the 1S response, because of the S fit now too, a rebid of 4H. It goes one off because the hearts break 4/1. It would be wrong to support spades unless you knew partner guaranteed 5 spades for his 1S response. 4S does make. I see one N/S pair played in 4D – 2. How and why? Neither N or S have a hand with which to make a bid. I suspect N overcalled 2D. It is just so wrong. You do not have the values to make a 2 level overcall which should show an opening bid or its equivalent.

Bd 10:



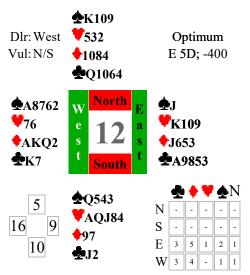
Unlike board 1 with 5 hearts, here I would open 2NT and West will transfer into 3S and then West will raise to 4S. It should not be played in 3NT. For the 2NT opening even though you have 5 hearts you are 5,3,3,2 with no small doubleton. It is totally balanced. Note NT would be an awful contract if DK sitting over the Q and if someone held three spades to the K. That distribution makes no difference to 4S.

Bd 11:

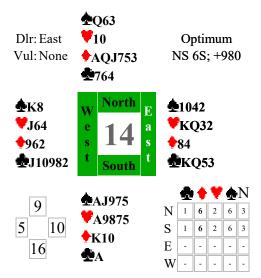


1S(N) - 1NT(S) - 2H(N) (Note don't jump with 17 in case partner has only 6 or 7 hcp) - 3C(S) (holding 6 and hoping partner has 2 clubs) - N(N) with 17 and 3 clubs and a singleton D should bid 5C. At worst he should invite with 4C asking South is he maximum, which he is) - 5C(S). This has no difficulty in making even though the DA is over the K.

Bd 12:

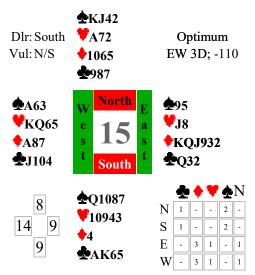


I would suggest 1S(W) - 1NT(E) - 2D(W) - 3D(E) (showing about 8 to 11) – and West with only 16 will probably Pass. Even if he further invites with 4D East will pass having only one Spade in his partner's first suit. If you cross ruff between S and C you should make 10 tricks.



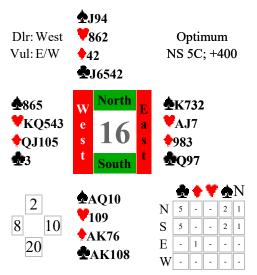
This is not a slam I would expect to bid. For those who bid it I wonder did they know North had a singleton heart? Did North show a singleton heart in the bidding or did they just get lucky. It also helps that the SK is in West hand and doubleton, as the SQ can now be an entry for the diamonds.

Bd 15:



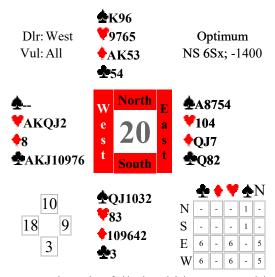
West will open 1NT and should play there or in 2D. I would transfer to Diamonds. A response of 2NT to 1NT shows 6 Diamonds or 5clubs/5 Diamonds. With good Diamonds the 1NT opener bids 3D. With poor Diamonds and better Clubs the 1NT opener bids 3C (Bad news first). Now if the responder held 5Clubs/5Diamonds and weak he would pass. Similarly a response of 2S to a 1NT opener shows 6 Clubs. With bad clubs the 1NT opener bids 2NT (bad news first) and with good clubs bids 3C. (SEE note after hand 23). Transfers to a minor are so useful. In the above hand you only make 1NT but can make 3D. Why were people in 3NT or 2NT. You have a 9 count opposite a 12/14 NT?????

Bd 16:

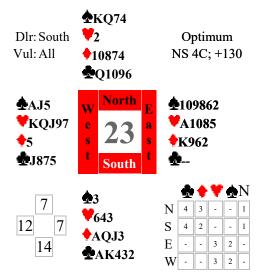


Here I would open 1C and not 2NT. If partner cannot respond there is nothing on it. West will overcall 1H and East will raise to 2H. Now with the South hand I will double for takeout and probably imply I have 4 spades. This double shows short hearts. North will bid 3C. I certainly would not bid 5C as I do not know the S finesse is right, I do not know my partner has 5 clubs and I do not know he has a doubleton Diamond. To make 5C you would need to finesse the C10. Why would you?

Bd 20:



I see quite a lot failed to bid 6C. I would open 1C as West. Don't worry with a void in Spades and 1 diamond the rest of the world are not going to be silent. East responds 1S and now West reverse bids into 2H (showing 4H and 5C). East should respond 3C showing 3 and values 8/9+West simply uses Keycard Blackwood and hears partner has 1Ace but remember it is probably the useless SA so just bid 6C as we have a losing D.



South will open 1C, E will overcall 1H and North will double for takeout. East will bid 3H and South will pass implying weak with no 4S and probably 5 clubs. It comes back to North who will double again or more likely bid 4C. There it should rest. If E/W go 4H it should be doubled. North should lead a H and when he gets in on a S switch a Diamond and South can play another heart. This will hold it to 9 tricks. You make 10 tricks in clubs.

Transfers to a minor after your partner opens 1NT

I outlined that above on hand 15.Now it does create the problem with a hand that you would like to make an invitational bid of 2NT asking partner to bid 3NT if he is maximum. You can deal with it as follows. You muse 2C the Stayman bid.

- (i) 1NT 2C response 2H from partner 3NT tells partner you have opening points plus 4S. If after using Stayman and next time jump to game you are always guaranteeing a Major
- (ii) 1NT 2C 2H (from 1NTopener) 2S shows an invitational hand to 2NT plus 4 spades. Partner can actually pass this if he has 4 spades and a minimum 1NT opening.
 - 1NT 2C 2H 2NT shows and invitational hand to 2NT but also denies holding 4 spades. Note the difference from the previous sequence.
- (iii) 1NT 2C 2D 2NT you have an invitational hand and might or migh not have a 4 card major
- (iv) 1NT 2C 2D 2H This bid must be passed and shows 5H and 4S and that is why you did not transfer 1NT 2C 2D 2S This bid must be passed and like the last one this time it

1NT - 2C - 2D - 2S This bid must be passed and like the last one this time it shows 5 spades and 4 hearts.

You need the above if you are using 2NT as a transfer to diamonds opposite a 1NT opening or also could be 5/5 in minors as i outlined in hand 15. Also don't forget a response of 2S to a 1NT opening shows 6 clubs.