## Analysis of Hands May 10 ${ }^{\text {th }} 2021$

## Bd 1:



North will open 1NT and it is passed around to West. I suspect most players bid some number of diamonds but a double could work though it is impossible for East to find a D lead. You will make 10 tricks in D but if you get to 3NT that contract should make provided you play a low diamond out of both $\mathrm{E} / \mathrm{W}$ hands initially so as to leave easy access to your 6 diamond tricks.

## Bd 2:


$1 \mathrm{H}(\mathrm{S})$ - Pass by West it is not suitable for takeout dbl with only 12 hcp and only 3 spades, $2 H(N)-\operatorname{Pass}(E)-\operatorname{Pass}(S)$ - Now Dbl by West with two 4 card minors and three spades as you now know that N/S have limited values. The alternative bid is to bid 2NT instead of double to show the minors but in case partner has 4 or 5 spades it is better to double at this stage. Remember it is totally different now to when you first passed because now you know $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{S}$ cannot get past 2 H , so partner has values.

## Bd 3:



Should go 1S(S) - P(W) - P(N) - 1NT (E) (10/14 and not guaranteeing a $S$ stop and a hand not suitable for a takeout double of 1S. - P (N) - P (W) - P (N). As long as you run the H8 playing South for Honour,9,x you will make at least 7 tricks. South makes it more difficult by covering the 8 with the Q. North should duck with the HK until the third round.

## Bd 4:


$1 \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{W})-\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{N})-1 \mathrm{D}(\mathrm{E})-1 \mathrm{~S}(\mathrm{~S})-\mathrm{W}$ (If you play support doubles you can Dbl to show that you hold three diamonds, but if you do not then you must pass to show an opening weak hand and 5 clubs. You did not open 1NT, you did not rebid 1NT so you cannot have either of those balanced hands. North should bid 3S or 4S knowing they have a 10 card fit. You expect partner to have a good hand for bidding 1S vul. Now back to East. She knows West is weak with 5C so now just bids 5C. North might lead HJ or SJ. West draws two rounds of trumps and ruffs out the $4^{\text {th }}$ heart. If a S has not been led he exits on the SK. If it was led he exits on the losing club. Now North plays DJ. If this is ducked he can get out for one off. It is a very unlucky contract.

## Bd 5:



No reason to be in 4H. If you bid it I would love your lotto numbers!!! The H finesse was right and the C finesse was right.

Bd 7:


1D (N) - 4S(E) - S(Partner has opened and you have defensive cards) (Dbl is not unreasonable) - P - P - P. Start with DKQ and partner gives you the count showing 5
Diamonds. You now switch to a club and defeat it by two tricks. It says on sheet the optimum contract is 5C. This is Alice in Wonderland stuff! How are you going to find a $4 / 4$ club fit after the 1 D opening and 4 S is overcalled?

## Bd 8:


$\mathrm{W}(1 \mathrm{NT})$ - P - Pass (E) (On most 11 counts you should pass 1NT opening by partner) This is a poor 11 count. If you had a H fit there is potential for a H contract but that is one out of four suits.

## Bd 9:



South's raise in S to North's 1S opening is 2S. They make 8 or 9 tricks. Mind you E/W can make 4 D or 4 H because of the position of the DQ but whatever about finding a D contract I think a H contract is almost impossible to unearth. Possibly West can double 2S and if partner now responds clubs you bid diamonds guaranteeing long D and four H .

## Bd 11:



If N opens 1D most South players bid 3D giving two extra points for singleton H and North obviously bid 3NT with the balanced 15 count. It does disastrously because the CK is wrong and because the Diamonds break $4 / 1$. North cannot see the singleton H in the South hand when he bids 3 NT . I would not lose any sleep over going off in 3NT.

## Bd 12:


$1 \mathrm{H}(\mathrm{N})-1 \mathrm{~S}(\mathrm{~S})-1 \mathrm{NT}(\mathrm{N})$ (No other bid on this hand showing 15/17) I see numerous players played in 4 H going off by a few tricks. Why? They must be rebidding 3 H with this 17 count showing 6 hearts? I can see no other reason. Look you have 753 of diamonds but you do not go and show something else when you have no alternative bid to 1NT. If you were playing strong NT it is a 1 NT opening. South has an automatic raise to 3 NT . Only reason 4H is written as making is because if you play HA and a low H to drop the doubleton K you can avoid 3 heart losers. That just does not happen in real life.

## Bd 13:



Is a 4 S opening by N . It makes if you guess the C position correctly. E however may overcall 5 H and this goes one or two off. Some players play a 4 C opening to show a solid 4 H opening and a better hand than just opening 4H. Also a 4D opening shows a solid 4 S opening and a better suit quality and better hand than opening 4S. It is worth a 4D opening if you are playing that system (Namyats convention.)(That name comes from Stayman written backwards)

## Bd 15:



1NT (S) - 2D (N) (H transfer) - P(E) - 2H(S) (Many players use a 3H bid here as showing maximum hand and 4 cards in the transfer suit) - $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{P}$ - (E). (If 2H comes back to him he should really balance with 2 S . Despite holding 4 spades South might bid 3H but also might defend. This could be correct either way. Hearts play badly with a singleton S lead and East is easily got back in to give another ruff. You only make 7 tricks.

## Bd 16:



If N opens 1NT E will bid 2H. South could double for takeout with 4 spades but it is fraught with danger in case partner bids 3D. You would get lucky as N will bid 2S. East might now bid 3D showing the second suit. I think this would guarantee 5 Diamonds here because it would be dangerous to be sailing back into the auction again with only 4 Diamonds, knowing that South has values too. You can make 10 tricks in Diamonds if you finesse the HQ early. Then you can ruff Hearts once as South can ruff in with his D10. You later finesse against the DQ.

Bd 19:

$1 \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{S})-1 \mathrm{H}(\mathrm{N})-1 \mathrm{NT}(\mathrm{S})(15 / 17)-\mathrm{N}$ (8hcp.) I recommend you should generally pass with 8 hcp. If N does raise by inviting with 2NT South will pass. Important Note. When West is leading a $S$ against $1 N T$ he should lead the $2^{\text {nd }}$ highest which is the $\mathbf{6}$ from 7652. Always lead the $2^{\text {nd }}$ highest from all bad suits with no honour. This illustrates to partner that you do not have an honour. When East gets in on HK he will then not make the error of playing the SQ and so giving a trick to S10. He must switch to CQ.

## Bd 21:


$1 C(N)-1 D(S)-1 H(E)-2 C(N)-2 S(S)$. Now if $3 H$ is natural at this point $N$ can bid it but alternatively bid 3C and South will raise to 5C. If you ruff one H, you can later discard another one when you finesse the D for the second time. You can make 6 C if a club is not led initially, because now you can ruff two hearts in the South hand.

Bd 22:


I must admit I wouldn't open 3C with East as I also hold 5 spades. However if you did you may get to 5 C which is a lot easier to play than 4 S because of the awful spade distribution and because after the HQ lead you have to ruff straight away. You have trump control in clubs but you lose it at trick one in spades. To play 4S at trick two you lead a D towards the KQJ. You also cash CA and CK early. Cash the set up Diamonds early too. You then make your trump tricks separately. Playing one round of Spades is an error on the actual hand.

## Bd 23:


$1 S(S)-1 N T(E$ and not double) $-P(N)-P(E)-2 S(S)-P-P-P$. There is no reason for $E / W$ to be in 3C or any other contract.

Bd 24:


If East opens 1 C then South will overcall 1S. If 3S is invitational North should bid it and South will raise to 4 S holding 5 controls (Two Aces and a King plus in addition a singleton club). The alternative bid to 3S is 2C asking South how good the overcall was. South should bid 2D showing a second suit and an opening bid. 2 S at this point from South would show a minimum hand which he has not got.

