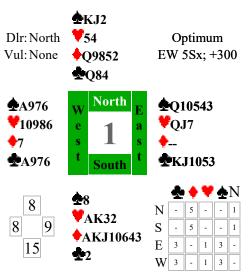
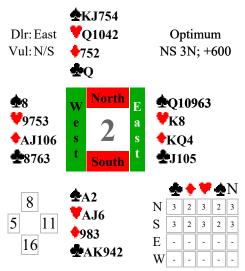
# Analysis of Hands May 17<sup>th</sup> 2021





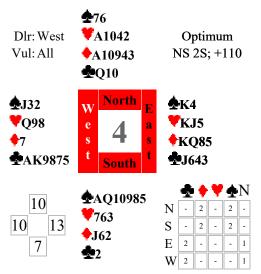
Most played it in 5D which is the correct contract. It's wrong to be in 3NT which can go off on a club lead from East and note the club suit of KJ10xx is better than the Spade suit of Q10xxx. It is rarely wrong to lead your best suit against NT. I happened to drop in on one table where I saw a West hand make a takeout double of 1D holding SA986 H10986 D7 CA976. Look, it is the correct distribution but it is way too weak in hcp. Your partner is quite entitled to bid 1NT(not here obviously) in response to that takeout double and if that is doubled are you in a comfortable position? You certainly are not.

# Bd 2:



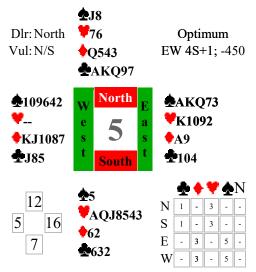
1C(S) - 1S(N) - 1NT(S)(15/17) (Many rebid 2C here which is completely incorrect.) It is a strong NT opening. North with his 8 count just bids 2H holding a singleton club. Remember I have advised you on numerous occasions not to invite game with an 8 count. Partner will know 2H is not forcing and will bid 3H if he holds a max 17 and 4 hearts. Here South goes back to 2S. I note 3NT can make but that is only because J10x of clubs drop. It is against the odds.

## **Bd 4:**



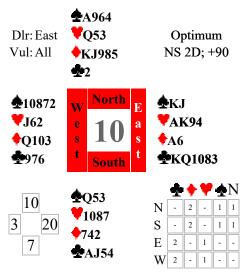
No way should you be in 3NT with 10 count opposite a weak NT opening. If South overcalls 2S West should bid 2NT (Lebensohl) which commands partner (the 1NT (E) opener) to bid 3C. West will pass this. Note, if West had 11+ then directly over the 2S he will bid 3C 100% forcing. It is different and weaker when going through the Lebensohl 2NT bid. Similarly, if West had a non forcing Diamond or Heart suit he would bid 3D or 3H over the commanded 3C bid. If he had a stronger hand he would bid 3C or 3H directly over 2S which is 100% forcing. Going through 2NT makes it 100% non forcing but commands 3C from opener.

#### Bd 5:



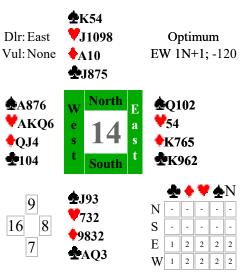
1S(E) - 3H(S) (pushy pre-empt) – 4S(W) (this is not a strong bid but is distributional. You should always make this contract by first drawing trumps and then finessing the DJ into South by playing DA followed by K and then run the J into South if not covered discarding a H.

#### Bd 10:



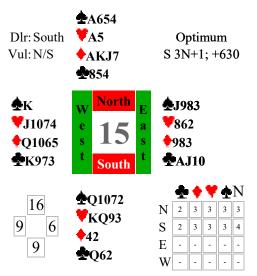
Should be played in 2NT and not in 3NT by E. Some got to 3NT opposite the 2NT opening. (Two doubletons do not stop you opening 2NT when you have honours in both of them.)This means the 3 hcp raised to 3NT. This is absolutely wrong. 20 opposite 3. Even if East has 22 it is still wrong to raise to 3NT. It is so much easier to play 12 opposite 13 in NT but having 22 opposite 3 is almost impossible as all the points are in one hand and you simply do not have communication between the two hands.





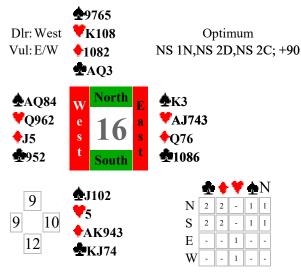
1C(W) - 1D(E) - 1NT(W)(15/17) - East (8 hcp). I recommend you pass with 8 and here it is again. If you did bid 2NT, West should pass holding an empty 16 count. You will make 2NT if you play SA followed by a spade to the Q and not finesse the 10. (It is a guess). If you finesse the 10 you will go 1 off.

## Bd 15:



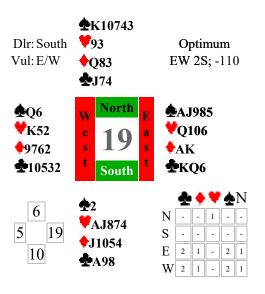
Wow, almost everyone played in NT except two or three tables did manage to play in Spades. Why I wonder? 1D(N) - 1H(S) - 1NT(N) (15/17 and may hold 4 spades) - 2S(S) (this shows exactly 4 hearts and 4 spades (Not 5 hearts and 4 spades. If you had 5 hearts and 4 spades you should checkback using a 2C bid in response to the 1NT rebid) The artificial checkback 2C bid is 100% forcing . Partner bids 2H with 3 hearts minimum, 3H with 3 hearts maximum, 2S minimum with 4S or 3S if maximum and 4 spades. 2NT minimum with only three spades and two hearts and 3NT, if maximum, with the same distribution. Note these are all responses to the 2C checkback. I note 3NT makes and 4S goes down but it is the ability to get to the 4/4 S fit I am concerned about. I am not looking at the result sheet

#### Bd 16:



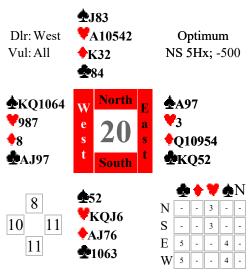
There are some very good learning points here. Three passes around to S who opens 1D. North responds 1S. East is **definitely not good enough to bid 2H now. South can have anything.** There is something to be said for South passing the 1S response by North because he holds 3 spades and is minimum. If he rebids 2C then North goes back to 2D. Now East is worth a 2H overcall because he now knows South has 9 cards in D and C and is not strong having heard the 2C rebid. If a S is led or switched against 2H it will make because you get an immediate C discard. The SJ is the most likely switch after the DAK lead.

# Bd 19:



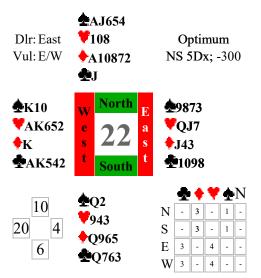
I am surprised this is not being played in 1S by East. This is either due to West responding 1NT with a 5 count, which he should not do, or due to South bidding by making either a takeout double or bidding 2H neither of which he should do!!





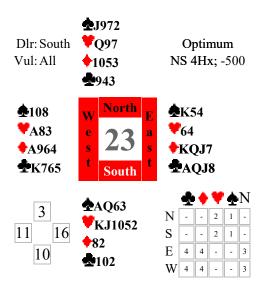
I would definitely open 1D on East cards as I have a 2C rebid after a 1H response or I can pass a 1S response. Partner now knows I am minimum with 3 or 4 spades so will not get too excited. If somebody in N/S balanced in 2H West has an automatic 2S bid himself knowing what East holds. Note you make 10 tricks in S once you ruff a H in East hand.

# Bd 22:



This is a good example of being able to show two specific suits in the North hand after West opens 1H. If playing Ghestem North can bid 3C showing 5 spades and 5 diamonds. South should just bid 3D because the South hand has not one control, although does hold DQ and the useful SQ. Now West probably will bid 4C and East will convert to 4H. Playing it double dummy it can actually make but it is walking a tightrope. You cash one club before playing a H to the Q followed by HJ. Then finesse the C9 and ruff the 4<sup>th</sup> round of clubs with the third heart. You just lose one D and two spades.





1C(E) - 1H(S) - 2NT(W) (showing 11 and a H stop) - 3NT(E). Quite a large number failed to bid this simple game.