

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

### Bd 1:

Dlr: North      ♣KJ2  
 Vul: None      ♥54      Optimum  
                  ♦Q9852      EW 5Sx; +300  
                  ♣Q84

♠A976 ♥10986 ♦7 ♣A976	West <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           North  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">1</div>            South         </div> East	♠Q10543 ♥QJ7 ♦- ♣KJ1053
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E	3	-	1	3	-																																				
W	3	-	1	3	-																																				

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:

Dlr: East      ♣KJ754  
 Vul: N/S      ♥Q1042      Optimum  
                  ♦752      NS 3N; +600  
                  ♣Q

♠8 ♥9753 ♦AJ106 ♣8763	West <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           North  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">2</div>            South         </div> East	♠Q10963 ♥K8 ♦KQ4 ♣J105
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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:**

Dlr: West     ♣76     Optimum  
 Vul: All     ♥A1042     NS 2S; +110  
                ♦A10943  
                ♣Q10

♣J32	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>South</td><td>t</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E		4		S	South	t	♣K4
W		North	E								
		4									
S		South	t								
♥Q98	♥KJ5										
♦7	♦KQ85										
♣AK9875		♣J643									

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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:**

Dlr: North     ♠J8     Optimum  
 Vul: N/S     ♥76     EW 4S+1; -450  
                ♦Q543  
                ♣AKQ97

♣109642	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>South</td><td>t</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E		5		S	South	t	♣AKQ73
W		North	E								
		5									
S		South	t								
♥--	♥K1092										
♦KJ1087	♦A9										
♣J85		♣104									

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S	1	-	3	-	-																														
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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:**

Dlr: East ♠A964  
 Vul: All ♥Q53 Optimum  
 ♦KJ985 NS 2D; +90  
 ♣2

♠10872	North West <span style="font-size: 2em;">10</span> East South	♠KJ
♥J62		♥AK94
♦Q103		♦A6
♣976		♣KQ1083

10	♠Q53	♣♦♥♠N N - 2 - 1 1 S - 2 - 1 1 E 2 - 1 - - W 2 - 1 - -
3	♥1087	
20	♦742	
7	♣AJ54	

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.

**Bd 14:**

Dlr: East ♠K54  
 Vul: None ♥J1098 Optimum  
 ♦A10 EW 1N+1; -120  
 ♣J875

♠A876	North West <span style="font-size: 2em;">14</span> East South	♠Q102
♥AKQ6		♥54
♦QJ4		♦K765
♣104		♣K962

9	♠J93	♣♦♥♠N N - - - - S - - - - E 1 2 2 2 2 W 1 2 2 2 2
16	♥732	
8	♦9832	
7	♣AQ3	

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:**

Dir: South      ♠A654  
 Vul: N/S      ♥A5      Optimum  
                  ♦AKJ7      S 3N+1; +630  
                  ♣854

♠K	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px;"> <span>W</span> <span style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">North</span> <span>E</span> </div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">15</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px;"> <span>s</span> <span style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">South</span> <span>t</span> </div>	♠J983
♥J1074		♥862
♦Q1065		♦983
♣K973		♣AJ10

16	♠Q1072	<table border="1" style="font-size: 8px; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td></td> <td>♣</td> <td>♦</td> <td>♥</td> <td>♠</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">9</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">9</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N		2	3	3	3	3	9	2	3	3	3	4	9	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
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	♥KQ93																															
	♦42																															
	♣Q62																															

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:**

Dir: West      ♠9765  
 Vul: E/W      ♥K108      Optimum  
                  ♦1082      NS 1N,NS 2D,NS 2C; +90  
                  ♣AQ3

♠AQ84	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px;"> <span>W</span> <span style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">North</span> <span>E</span> </div> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">16</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px;"> <span>s</span> <span style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">South</span> <span>t</span> </div>	♠K3
♥Q962		♥AJ743
♦J5		♦Q76
♣952		♣1086

9	♠J102	<table border="1" style="font-size: 8px; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td></td> <td>♣</td> <td>♦</td> <td>♥</td> <td>♠</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">9</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">12</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N		2	2	-	1	1	9	2	2	-	1	1	12	-	-	1	-	-		-	-	1	-	-
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9	2		2	-	1	1																										
12	-		-	1	-	-																										
	-	-	1	-	-																											
	♥5																															
	♦AK943																															
	♣KJ74																															

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 overall 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:**

Dir: South ♠K10743  
 Vul: E/W ♥93 Optimum  
 ♦Q83 EW 2S; -110  
 ♣J74

♠Q6	North West <span style="font-size: 2em;">19</span> East South	♠AJ985
♥K52		♥Q106
♦9762		♦AK
♣10532		♣KQ6

6 5   19 10	♠2	♣♦♥♠N N - - 1 - - S - - - - - E 2 1 - 2 1 W 2 1 - 2 1
	♥AJ874	
	♦J1054	
	♣A98	

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!!

**Bd 20:**

Dir: West ♠J83  
 Vul: All ♥A10542 Optimum  
 ♦K32 NS 5Hx; -500  
 ♣84

♠KQ1064	North West <span style="font-size: 2em;">20</span> East South	♠A97
♥987		♥3
♦8		♦Q10954
♣AJ97		♣KQ52

8 10   11 11	♠52	♣♦♥♠N N - - 3 - - S - - 3 - - E 5 - - 4 - W 5 - - 4 -
	♥KQJ6	
	♦AJ76	
	♣1063	

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:**

♣AJ654  
 Dlr: East ♥108 Optimum  
 Vul: E/W ♦A10872 NS 5Dx; -300  
 ♣J

♣K10	W	North	E	♣9873
♥AK652	e	22	a	♥QJ7
♦K	s		s	♦J43
♣AK542	t	South	t	♣1098

10	♣Q2	♣♦♥♠N
20	♥943	N - 3 - 1 -
4	♦Q965	S - 3 - 1 -
6	♣Q763	E 3 - 4 - -
		W 3 - 4 - -

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.

**Bd 23:**

♣J972  
 Dlr: South ♥Q97 Optimum  
 Vul: All ♦1053 NS 4Hx; -500  
 ♣943

♣108	W	North	E	♣K54
♥A83	e	23	a	♥64
♦A964	s		s	♦KQJ7
♣K765	t	South	t	♣AQJ8

3	♣AQ63	♣♦♥♠N
11	♥KJ1052	N - - 2 1 -
16	♦82	S - - 2 1 -
10	♣102	E 4 4 - - 3
		W 4 4 - - 3

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