



Commentary for the CBAI Simultaneous Pairs Tuesday 8th February 2022

Dear Bridge Player,

Thank you for playing in the CBAI Simultaneous Pairs 2022, and for your continued support to the Association. With live bridge curtailed, and some members not playing any bridge at all, events such as this one represent an even more important source of funds for us than normal.

Unfortunately, I suspect that all our participants will still be online for these games rather than playing live. However, things are now looking much more positive, and hopefully it will not be TOO much longer before we are all able to meet at the table again as we used to do.

I hope that you enjoyed the chance to test yourself against your fellow players across the country (and indeed maybe overseas as well – one of the benefits of online bridge). As always, the hands, which are randomly dealt by computer with NO manual intervention, provided plenty of challenges. Many thanks to our expert commentator Enda Murphy for his guidance through the maze. I hope that you have picked up some useful tips from his advice. In response to requests, our editors have also included a table with the makeable contracts on each deal (the old “hand records” from live bridge) at the end of this document.

And don't forget to check your standing in the national results by [clicking here](#) once your club has uploaded its results.

Pat O'Mahony – President, Contract Bridge Association of Ireland

Board 1. Dealer North. Vulnerability None

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>♠ Q 9 3 ♥ K J 4 ♦ 9 3 2 ♣ K J 10 3</p> <p>♠ A K 10 4 2 ♥ A 10 9 ♦ 5 4 ♣ 8 5 4</p> <p>♠ 7 6 ♥ 7 6 3 2 ♦ J 8 7 ♣ Q 9 7 6</p> | <p>♠ J 8 5 ♥ Q 8 5 ♦ A K Q 10 6 ♣ A 2</p> |
|---|---|

| North | East | South | West |
|----------|------|-------|------|
| Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ |
| Pass | 1NT | Pass | 2♦ |
| Pass | 2♠ | Pass | 4♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

Greetings and felicitations to all. So nice to be back in harness after all that Covid nastiness. Or as the dumbest POTUS in history termed it, “Kung Flu”. FACT!!! Don't delay, impeach today!!!!!!!!

We play weak NT and 5-card Majors. Opening 2♣ is strong and other suit 2-openings are

weak. Our signals are smiles and snarls. Marquis of Queensbury rules.

An enduring Bridge debate is whether to play in 3NT or 4 of a Major when you know you've got a 5-3 Major fit, and both hands are balanced. In my experience, the nod goes to 4 of the Major. That's because the holder of 5 cards in the Major must therefore have a doubleton or singleton somewhere, which may be the weak point if 3NT is chosen. But it is often a toss-up.

The hand also features a very useful little gadget, which I strongly suggest you take into your system. It allows responder to distinguish between game-forcing and invitational hands after opener rebids 1NT. After 1x-1x-1NT rebid from opener, 2♦ from responder is an artificial game force. On this hand, East shows the 3-card Spade support and that results in 4♠. 2♣ over the 1NT rebid is a transfer to 2♦, and now 2 of a Major is invitational with 5 cards. There is also the option to sign off in 2♦ – for example if partner opens 1♦ and you have x, Qxxx, KJxx, xxxx – you can respond 1♥ and over a 1NT rebid you bid 2♣ and pass the forced 2♦ response.

In 4♠ there are 11 easy tricks, only a club lead threatens that. In that case you can duck the first club or win it and finesse a spade. The mistake would be to win the club and cash AK of spades.

Board 2. Dealer East. Vulnerability N/S

| | |
|--|---|
| ♠ Q 9 8 7 ♥ J 3 ♦ J 8 ♣ 9 8 7 5 4 | ♠ 6 ♥ 10 6 5 ♦ K Q 9 5 4 3 2 ♣ A K |
| ♠ 10 5 4 3 2 ♥ Q 9 4 ♦ — ♣ Q J 10 6 3 | ♠ A K J ♥ A K 8 7 2 ♦ A 10 7 6 ♣ 2 |

| North | East | South | West |
|-------|----------|-----------|----------------|
| Pass | 1♦ 2♦ | Dbf 2♥ | 1♠ All Pass |

The learning point here is that South is too strong merely to overcall 1♥. Instead they should double, and bid suits later. If for example, partner bids 1♠ in response to the double, South can bid 2♠ to show a big hand in support of spades (remember North promises zero points for the 1♠ response to the double). If North bids 2♣ in response to South's takeout double (again promising zero points), 2♥ from South shows exactly what he's got – a hand too strong to overcall 1♥ initially.

On this hand, South is going to have to bid 2♥ himself, and will make 9 tricks by entering dummy with the spade queen and leading the jack of diamonds. South's pips are good enough to deliver 2 tricks in the suit.

Board 3. Dealer South. Vulnerability E/W

| | |
|---|--|
| ♠ A 8 6 4 2 ♥ Q J 10 6 ♦ A K 9 ♣ K | ♠ 9 5 ♥ A 8 7 4 ♦ 7 4 3 2 ♣ Q J 7 |
| ♠ J 7 ♥ K 2 ♦ J 10 8 ♣ A 9 8 6 5 3 | ♠ K Q 10 3 ♥ 9 5 3 ♦ Q 6 5 ♣ 10 4 2 |

| North | East | South | West |
|----------|--------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1♠ 3♥ | Pass Pass | Pass 2♠ 3♠ | Pass Pass All Pass |

The range for South's 2♠ response is 5-9 and might only have 3 spades. North would like to be in game if South is upper range, so 3♥ is a Game Try. South is betwixt and between. 7 points, very good trumps, but the hearts are poor and the 4-3-3-3 shape has no ruffing value. I think you bid 4♠ on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, otherwise 3♠. In these days of political correctness, I should perhaps add that 4♠ is also recommended if its Yom Kippur or Ramadan or Diwali.

East will lead the club Queen to West's Ace. It now looks clear to switch to the King of hearts, and that gets E/W a heart ruff, so 9 tricks. However I think 10 will be the result much of the time.

I've been remiss in leaving it until Board 3 to inform you that our selected wine for the evening is Casillero del Diablo, from the Concha Y Toro people in Chile. If you know your wine history, you'll know that centuries ago, the great vines of Europe fell victim to blight, and the replacement grafts came from Chile. This particular Chardonnay smacks the palate a treat, and retails at €8 a bottle in Tesco's. Cheers!

Board 4. Dealer West. Vulnerability All

| | |
|---|---|
| ♠ K J 8 ♥ J 5 4 ♦ K J 9 7 3 2 ♣ A | ♠ A Q 5 3 2 ♥ 3 ♦ 6 5 4 ♣ Q J 8 4 |
| ♠ 10 9 7 4 ♥ Q 9 6 2 ♦ 10 8 ♣ 10 7 3 | ♠ 6 ♥ A K 10 8 7 ♦ A Q ♣ K 9 6 5 2 |

| North | East | South | West |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1♦ 2♦ 3♥ | Pass 2♠ Pass | 1♥ 3♣ 4♥ | Pass Pass Pass All Pass |

A key skill in improving your game is hand evaluation. You should constantly re-evaluate your holdings upwards or downwards. as the

auction progresses. On this deal, East isn't strong enough originally for a vulnerable 1♠ overcall, but when North limits his hand by rebidding 2♦, East should venture 2♠. Neither North nor South seem to have spades, so it's reasonable to put partner with a few. Contesting the partscore is important.

South is always going to game, so bids 3♣ (NB a new suit at the 3-level is always forcing). North will reduce his hand's value based on East's spade bid, since the KJ look to be worth less now. He shows the heart support and 4♥ is the contract.

11 tricks are normal. After the 10 of spades to Jack and Queen, a club return is likely. Now you either ruff two clubs in Dummy to establish your 5th club, or you play a heart to the 10. The doubleton Ten of diamonds with West means you can overtake the Queen and run the suit if need be.

Some Norths might raise 1♥ to 2♥ rather than rebid 2♦. I don't disagree violently but having six diamonds swings it for me.

Board 5. Dealer North. Vulnerability N/S

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ A J 9 | | |
| | ♥ 7 | | |
| | ♦ A 9 8 7 | | |
| | ♣ K Q 8 5 4 | | |
| ♠ K 6 4 | | ♠ 7 2 | |
| ♥ K 10 8 | | ♥ A 9 4 3 | |
| ♦ K J 3 | | ♦ Q 5 4 2 | |
| ♣ 10 7 3 2 | | ♣ A 9 6 | |
| | ♠ Q 10 8 5 3 | | |
| | ♥ Q J 6 5 2 | | |
| | ♦ 10 6 | | |
| | ♣ J | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| 1♣ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| 2♠ | All Pass | | |

This hand highlights the topic of REVERSING in bidding. South must respond initially in spades, planning to bid hearts later. If s/he were to respond 1♥ and later bid spades, that is a reverse and shows a game-going hand at least. Similarly, North after opening 1♣, cannot rebid 2♦ – that too is a reverse and shows at least 16 points. Therefore, neatly following the last observation on Hand 4, North raises to 2♠ despite only having 3 of them. 2♠ is a natural limit raise and South will be quick to pass.

There are many ways the play might go, but 9 tricks would seem to be the favourite.

Board 6. Dealer East. Vulnerability E/W

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| | ♠ Q J 10 5 3 | | |
| | ♥ K | | |
| | ♦ 10 | | |
| | ♣ A K J 10 6 5 | | |
| ♠ 7 4 | | ♠ A 9 6 | |
| ♥ J 8 7 6 5 3 | | ♥ 9 4 | |
| ♦ 8 5 | | ♦ K Q 9 4 3 2 | |
| ♣ 9 8 7 | | ♣ 4 3 | |
| | ♠ K 8 2 | | |
| | ♥ A Q 10 2 | | |
| | ♦ A J 7 6 | | |
| | ♣ Q 2 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | Pass | 1♣ | Pass |
| 1♠ | Pass | 1NT | Pass |
| 2♦ | Pass | 2♠ | Pass |
| 4NT | Pass | 5♦ | Pass |
| 6♠ | All Pass | | |

An early chance to apply our agreement from Board 1, so 2♦ is again an artificial game force. South shows the spade support and North is off to the races.

(4NT is Keycard Blackwood, which has five Aces – the King of trumps is the 5th. 5♦ shows zero or 3 of the 5, obviously 3 in this auction). 6♠ is on ice.

NEWSFLASH

The world of Irish Bridge was thrown into chaos last week, as it emerged that high-profile Irish international player BJ O'Brien was disqualified for cheating in the National Hokey-Cokey Championships. Apparently he was putting it in when he should have been shaking it all about.

Board 7. Dealer South. Vulnerability All

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| | ♠ A | | |
| | ♥ 10 5 | | |
| | ♦ K 7 6 4 | | |
| | ♣ A K 9 8 6 4 | | |
| ♠ K Q 8 7 6 4 2 | | ♠ 9 | |
| ♥ J | | ♥ A K 9 8 7 6 4 2 | |
| ♦ A Q 2 | | ♦ 9 8 | |
| ♣ J 3 | | ♣ 10 2 | |
| | ♠ J 10 5 3 | | |
| | ♥ Q 3 | | |
| | ♦ J 10 5 3 | | |
| | ♣ Q 7 5 | | |

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| North | East | South | West |
| | | Pass | 1♠ |
| 2♣ | 4♥ | All Pass | |

Forsooth is it written down in the Book of Leviticus, and relevant addenda, that if the Great Shuffler dealest thou AK to 8 in a suit, verily shalt thou call that suit “trumps”. Thusly shalt thou as East make it thy business, once thy partner shall open 1♠, to bid 4♥ at thy earliest opportunity.

And lo, 4♥ is very likely to make. Assuming North has bid clubs, South will lead one. To beat 4♥, North has to cash the Ace of spades and lead a low club to South’s Queen in order to get a spade ruff. The problem is that if you treat the Ten as an honour, then South’s lead of the club 5 could be from Queen or Ten. And it could be from 3 or 4 clubs. So it is far from easy for North to get it right.

A diamond lead beats 4♥ straight away, but that isn’t going to happen once North bids clubs.

Here endeth the lesson. May your God go with you.

Board 8. Dealer West. Vulnerability None

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ J 10 6 5 3 2 | | |
| | ♥ J 8 5 | | |
| | ♦ J 8 | | |
| | ♣ J 8 | | |
| ♠ K Q 9 8 4 | | ♠ A 7 | |
| ♥ — | | ♥ 10 4 3 | |
| ♦ Q 9 7 6 4 | | ♦ A K 10 2 | |
| ♣ 10 5 4 | | ♣ 9 6 3 2 | |
| | ♠ — | | |
| | ♥ A K Q 9 7 6 2 | | |
| | ♦ 5 3 | | |
| | ♣ A K Q 7 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| Pass | INT | 4♥ | Pass |
| | | | All Pass |

Not unlike the previous hand, and especially if East opens (s/he should), South should abandon science and bid 4♥. Yes, you may have slam if partner has a perfecto, but you’re unable to explore that. So you follow the dictum of the great Rixi Markus and “bid what you think you can make”.

A diamond lead holds 4♥ to 11 tricks. Any other lead allows clubs to be cashed discarding diamonds, and that is 13 tricks!!

Since there wasn’t much to this hand, let’s amuse ourselves by recalling events on this date (February 8th) in history. The great racehorse Shergar was stolen in 1983. Mary Queen of Scots was beheaded in 1587. Actress Mary Steenburgen was born in 1953. MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM. MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM. OOOOOHHHHH.

In 1900 the Brits fled from Ladysmith. And in 1952, QE2 ascended to the throne. May God bless her and all who sail in her.

Board 9. Dealer North. Vulnerability E/W

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------------|--|
| | ♠ K Q 8 6 4 | | |
| | ♥ A 10 8 | | |
| | ♦ 8 5 3 2 | | |
| | ♣ J | | |
| ♠ J 10 9 7 5 3 2 | | ♠ A | |
| ♥ 3 | | ♥ J 9 6 2 | |
| ♦ 6 | | ♦ Q 10 7 4 | |
| ♣ K Q 9 7 | | ♣ A 6 5 3 | |
| | ♠ — | | |
| | ♥ K Q 7 5 4 | | |
| | ♦ A K J 9 | | |
| | ♣ 10 8 4 2 | | |

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| North | East | South | West |
| Pass | Pass | 1♥ | 2♠ |
| Pass | Pass | Dbf | All Pass |

This is a great Pairs hand. I’d pass as Dealer, but some may open. The big point is that when West jumps in spades (weak), South must re-open with a double for takeout. North will convert for penalties. Note that North cannot himself double for penalties – that would be a negative double, showing 9+ points and a heart suit.

4♥ is a decent contract and has chances but is an unlikely make, not least because of the 4-1 break. So taking down 2♠ doubled will probably be a big winner.

I’m not known as a shrinking violet when it comes to bidding, and if West was non-vul it’s 3♠ without even thinking about it. But vul against not, 2♠ is plenty. I must be getting old.

Board 10. Dealer East. Vulnerability All

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ A 6 | | |
| | ♥ K 9 7 6 3 | | |
| | ♦ 9 3 | | |
| | ♣ A K 6 2 | | |
| ♠ K 10 | | ♠ J 9 8 7 2 | |
| ♥ J 5 | | ♥ A 4 | |
| ♦ K Q J 10 5 4 | | ♦ 7 6 2 | |
| ♣ 10 9 4 | | ♣ 8 7 3 | |
| | ♠ Q 5 4 3 | | |
| | ♥ Q 10 8 2 | | |
| | ♦ A 8 | | |
| | ♣ Q J 5 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | Pass | Pass | 3♦ |
| 3♥ | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass |

There are a couple of instructive points here. First, as South you need an agreement with your partner as to whether you are going to open balanced 11-counts. With my partners, I pass them.

The second point is that West should open 3♦ every day of the week. Partner is a passed hand and you have no Aces. You don't have a 3-card major, which I think is important. If I've a 3-card major, partner might have 5 of them and that suit could be best for us. Pre-empting on a good 6-card minor suit in the right circumstances is a very good idea indeed.

So 3♦ from West it is. The whole idea of pre-empting is to take bidding space away from opponents!

You can see that North has a real problem over 3♦. His partner has passed. His hearts are watery. What to do? Because I'm a bidder and I think bridge is a bidders' game, I'd venture 3♥ as North, fraught as it is. I just think passing is supine. South has an easy raise to the cold game. But many Norths would let 3♦ off. Minus 200 when N/S have 620 their way – not too shabby at all. Even doubled for 500, 3♦ comes out ahead.

But if West fails to open 3♦, N/S sail into game.

Board 11. Dealer South. Vulnerability None

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ A | | |
| | ♥ K 8 3 | | |
| | ♦ Q 6 4 2 | | |
| | ♣ A Q 10 6 4 | | |
| ♠ Q J 6 4 3 | | ♠ K 8 5 | |
| ♥ Q 7 6 5 4 2 | | ♥ 9 | |
| ♦ A | | ♦ 9 8 5 3 | |
| ♣ J | | ♣ K 9 7 3 2 | |
| | ♠ 10 9 7 2 | | |
| | ♥ A J 10 | | |
| | ♦ K J 10 7 | | |
| | ♣ 8 5 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| 1♣ | Pass | 1♦ | Dbl |
| 3♦ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

Despite the great 5-6 shape, West should not open. However, if the spades were a minor suit, then West opens 2♥ on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, 3♥ otherwise. The reason West can't open in hearts here is that they've got 5 spades, and you want to keep both suits as options for setting trumps.

West has a chance to double at his second turn, showing the unbid suits, i.e. the majors. 3NT is down straight away on a spade lead. Even on a heart lead, West still beats it by switching to a spade, because the club finesse fails. Some Souths may have responded 1♠ rather than 1♦, and that may put the defence off the suit, in which case 3NT will make.

When I learned the game down home in Wexford, I was sternly admonished to "Bid'em up" – hence my response of 1♦. But these days there's a school of thought called MAFIA (Majors Always First In Answering). I might switch allegiance – maybe they'll make me an offer I can't refuse.

I was talking to an Australian pal the other day, comparing notes about Covid. I told him that an Irish Government Minister had wondered aloud on social media about the 18 Covids prior to Covid19.

My friend was incredulous. I then told him the chap in question (Simon Harris) was actually our Minister for Health.

My Aussie pal was in stitches. "But that guy looks like his Mom only put him in long trousers last week!! Next thing you'll tell me is

that you've got a Finance/Prime Minister who doesn't even have a bank account!!"

No comment.

Board 12. Dealer West. Vulnerability N/S

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| | ♠ Q 10 8 | | |
| | ♥ 7 4 | | |
| | ♦ A 10 8 6 4 3 | | |
| | ♣ A Q | | |
| ♠ K 9 5 3 | | ♠ 4 | |
| ♥ 9 8 5 | | ♥ A Q J 6 2 | |
| ♦ Q 7 5 | | ♦ 2 | |
| ♣ 7 4 2 | | ♣ K J 10 9 6 5 | |
| | ♠ A J 7 6 2 | | |
| | ♥ K 10 3 | | |
| | ♦ K J 9 | | |
| | ♣ 8 3 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | | | Pass |
| 1♦ | 2NT | 3♠ | Pass |
| 4♠ | All Pass | | |

If you're East here, you need a way to show your 2-suiter in one go. I play Ghestem, and in that method 2NT shows the lower 2 of the 3 suits excluding opener's suit, so here its clubs and hearts. 2♦ would show clubs and spades, 3♣ spades and hearts. 2NT shows at least 5-5 in the suits you have.

South wants to bid game, so 3♠ is showing pretty much what he has. A new suit at the 3-level is always forcing. North will raise to game. A club lead means the defence has 3 tricks, and declarer needs to get diamonds right (not difficult given East's known shape).

Board 13. Dealer North. Vulnerability All

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ J 8 4 | | |
| | ♥ 8 5 4 | | |
| | ♦ A 10 9 7 | | |
| | ♣ 10 7 6 | | |
| ♠ K Q 7 5 | | ♠ A 10 9 6 | |
| ♥ K J | | ♥ Q 2 | |
| ♦ J 5 3 | | ♦ K 8 6 | |
| ♣ A Q 9 5 | | ♣ 8 4 3 2 | |
| | ♠ 3 2 | | |
| | ♥ A 10 9 7 6 3 | | |
| | ♦ Q 4 2 | | |
| | ♣ K J | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| Pass | Pass | 2♥ | Dbl |
| Pass | 2♠ | Pass | 3♠ |
| Pass | 4♠ | All Pass | |

A very useful tip if you want to play winning Bridge is to look for ways to put pressure on your opponents and give them a chance to make mistakes. Once North has passed, South should open 1♥ or 2♥. Over 2♥, West must choose 2NT or double, either way they'll end up in some number of spades. I'm a doubler since I have the other major. West bids only 3♠ because remember that 2♠ promises no points at all!! Think of it this way :- West has a 16-count and credits South with 8 let's say for opening 2♥. That leaves 16 points between North and East, so 8 points each. So West has a reasonable expectation of 24 combined points, and even though 2♠ didn't promise anything, West should invite with 3♠.

4♠ is, as Eamon Dunphy might say, a good contract but not a great one. The duplication in hearts is wasteful. I'd expect most pairs to be going down in game. Heigh-ho. Sic transit gloria mundi.

Goodness me, here we are with 13 boards gone already and not a child in the house washed! What is the world coming to?

Board 14. Dealer East. Vulnerability None

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ K J 10 2 | | |
| | ♥ A J 10 | | |
| | ♦ J 7 3 | | |
| | ♣ 5 3 2 | | |
| ♠ 7 | | ♠ A Q 6 5 4 | |
| ♥ Q 7 5 | | ♥ 6 4 2 | |
| ♦ A K Q 9 6 5 2 | | ♦ 10 8 | |
| ♣ 7 4 | | ♣ K Q J | |
| | ♠ 9 8 3 | | |
| | ♥ K 9 8 3 | | |
| | ♦ 4 | | |
| | ♣ A 10 9 8 6 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | 1♠ | Pass | 2♦ |
| Pass | 2♠ | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass | | | |

Now as we are approaching the halfway stage, you may be wondering about that nice Chardonnay I mentioned on board 3. Well, it's slithering down just fine and dandy, thanksh for ashking.

What about East's opening bid? What do you do if you've a 5-card major, balanced and in your NT opening range (as here)? Simple rule – if the major suit is good enough to rebid, you open it, otherwise you open 1NT. If East had

Qxxxx of spades and Ax diamonds, we'd be opening INT.

After East opens and rebids spades, West just punts the likeliest game. I reckon most roads lead to 3 nosers. And it's likely to make if played by West. Only way to beat it is for North to lead HJ or 10, South overtakes and continues hearts, and gets back in with Ace of clubs to cash his 4th heart. North is more likely to lead a club, though.

If East plays 3NT, South can beat it by leading a heart. "Lead the unbid major" is a tenet of Bridge folklore, and it works very well here.

Onwardsh and upwardsh.

Board 15. Dealer South. Vulnerability N/S

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| | ♠ K 9 8 | | |
| | ♥ A J 10 2 | | |
| | ♦ A 6 3 | | |
| | ♣ A 5 2 | | |
| ♠ A Q 10 7 4 | | ♠ 5 2 | |
| ♥ 9 7 | | ♥ K Q 5 3 | |
| ♦ 4 | | ♦ J 8 5 2 | |
| ♣ K 10 9 8 3 | | ♣ J 7 4 | |
| | ♠ J 6 3 | | |
| | ♥ 8 6 4 | | |
| | ♦ K Q 10 9 7 | | |
| | ♣ Q 6 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | | Pass | 2♠ |
| 2NT | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

Now don't get your knickers in a twist at my recommendation that West should open 2♠ here!!

Before you have me denounced from the pulpit, allow me to tell you why opening 2♠ is a very good idea indeed.

First, it is increasingly normal to open a weak 2♠ on a good 5-card suit that you'd want partner to lead. Second, you're not vulnerable. Third, you have a surprise kicker in that juicy club suit. And fourth, you have a small doubleton heart, so you're not running the risk of missing a heart fit. So nous sommes toujours opening 2♠ on these hands going forward, n'est ce pas mes braves?

North will overcall 2NT, 15-17, and South's chunky diamonds should persuade him to raise to game.

If East is on lead to 3NT, he'll now lead a spade as instructed. West inserts the ten and that's one down. Alors, es-tu starting to see the value of opening 2♠? Je should vraitment hope so.

(Note that diamonds should be played by cashing the King, then small to the Ace, allowing declarer to pick up Jxxx with East).

What if South plays 3NT? West can still beat it, but only by leading the spade Queen at trick 1! Leading the Ace or a small spade doesn't work.

Making 3NT will score well, je pense. Apres moi le deluge!! L'Etat, c'est moi!!!

Board 16. Dealer West. Vulnerability E/W

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|------|
| | ♠ Q 5 | | |
| | ♥ 9 7 5 | | |
| | ♦ Q 7 5 2 | | |
| | ♣ A Q 4 3 | | |
| ♠ K 7 3 2 | | ♠ J 4 | |
| ♥ K Q 10 6 4 | | ♥ J 2 | |
| ♦ 6 4 3 | | ♦ A K 10 9 8 | |
| ♣ 6 | | ♣ K J 9 8 | |
| | ♠ A 10 9 8 6 | | |
| | ♥ A 8 3 | | |
| | ♦ J | | |
| | ♣ 10 7 5 2 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | | | Pass |
| Pass | INT | Pass | 2♣ |
| Pass | 2♦ | Pass | 2♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

On board 12 I observed that a INT opening with 6-3-2-2 and a good minor suit is becoming *de rigueur*. Same goes for 5-4-2-2 hands with good minors. So go on – knock yourselves out. Lord above, I'm giving yiz pearls here. You're also going to need the lingo. Next time you open INT with 5-4-2-2 you say "Partner, I was semi-balanced" With 6-3-2-2 it goes "Partner, I was quasi-balanced. Armed with the lingo, Robert is now your mother's brother.

On the given auction, West is showing 5-4 in hearts and spades, and limited values. 2♥ should make easily, with an overtrick if N/S fail to find their diamond ruff.

Board 17. Dealer North. Vulnerability None

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ 10 8 7 5 | | |
| | ♥ K 10 7 5 2 | | |
| | ♦ 7 4 | | |
| | ♣ A 2 | | |
| ♠ Q J 4 | | ♠ A 9 3 2 | |
| ♥ J 6 3 | | ♥ A 9 8 4 | |
| ♦ K J 8 5 2 | | ♦ A | |
| ♣ J 9 | | ♣ 8 7 6 5 | |
| | ♠ K 6 | | |
| | ♥ Q | | |
| | ♦ Q 10 9 6 3 | | |
| | ♣ K Q 10 4 3 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| Pass | 1♣ | 1♦ | INT |
| All Pass | | | |

Just to show you that there's method in my madness, please refer to Hand 15 where I advocated a 2♠ opening on a 5-card suit. Here as North, I wouldn't open 2♥ in a sunth of Mondays. The suit is crap, and you've got 4 of the other major. Sadly for me, whilst there is indeed method in my madness, there's also madness in my method much of the time.

East opens 1♣, in keeping with the dictum that when you're 4-4-4-1, you open 1 of the suit below your singleton. This will prevent South from bidding 2NT to show the minors, so he'll overcall 1♦ and West will buy the contract in INT.

On a diamond lead, INT should be down two. At trick 2 a spade is led off the dummy, South winning the king. A low club now (NB not the King!) delivers 5 club tricks. Then South plays a heart to remove dummy's entry while spades are still blocked.

How does South know to play a low club rather than the King? West's INT range is 6-9 points. The opening lead (7 of diamonds) places him with KJ of diamonds. The decision to lead a spade away from dummy's Ace at trick 2 strongly suggests West has a spade honour. Therefore he cannot have AJ of clubs. Lemon entry, my dear Watson.

I think plenty of Souths will play the King of clubs, thereby blocking the suit. INT may even make now.

How will South feel if he erred by playing the club King? As the quote from The Quiet Man

goes – "He'll regret it to his dying day, if ever he lives that long".

Board 18. Dealer East. Vulnerability N/S

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|
| | ♠ A K 8 5 4 | | |
| | ♥ 7 | | |
| | ♦ A 9 7 | | |
| | ♣ J 10 8 4 | | |
| ♠ J 6 | | ♠ 3 | |
| ♥ Q J 9 5 4 | | ♥ 8 6 3 | |
| ♦ 6 3 | | ♦ K Q 10 8 5 2 | |
| ♣ Q 6 5 3 | | ♣ A K 9 | |
| | ♠ Q 10 9 7 2 | | |
| | ♥ A K 10 2 | | |
| | ♦ J 4 | | |
| | ♣ 7 2 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| 4♠ | 1♦ | 1♠ | Pass |
| All Pass | | | |

Another good example of the folly of merely counting points when you've got shape and a fit. N/S have 22 combined points but are cold for 10 tricks because of the known 10-card fit and North's heart singleton.

I'm suggesting North should, based on this logic, simply raise to game. There is theory behind this. The Law of Total Tricks, dating from the 1950s, says that more often than not, the number of trumps equals the number of tricks. Here, N/S have 10 spades and E/W have 8 hearts, so there are 18 combined trumps. Lo and behold, N/S have 10 tricks in spades and E/W 8 in hearts.

As it happens, E/W can profitably sacrifice in 5♦ or 5♥, which cost only 500, but I don't see that as very likely.

Anyway, my Aussie pal from board 11 called me again, this time over Zoom with a half-dozen of his pals. "Tell us more about your Paddy Politicians!". So I told them we'd had a guy last year, who was a Minister for about 20 seconds. It turned out that he'd been driving on a Provisional Licence for about 20 years. He just never got round to taking the oul' test. I went on to refer to the issues surrounding the voting buttons in the Dail chamber, explaining how our poor put-upon TDs had had the devil's own job pressing their own buttons and other peoples' buttons, such that actually pressing the right buttons was quite beyond them, so it was.

At this point my Aussie pals offered me a lucrative contract to regale them with stories of this ilk on a regular basis. I gladly accepted. I think next time I'll go with the Taoiseach who gave an interview to the national broadcaster while clinically drunk. I'll follow up with the cretinous clown from Kerry who falls asleep in the Dail and at All-Irelands when he's not disputing Global Warming. As a kicker, I'm holding in reserve the one and only John Delaney. God I'm going to coin it. This time next year I'll be a millionaire, so I will.

Board 19. Dealer South. Vulnerability E/W

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ J 6 4 3 | | |
| | ♥ J 10 5 3 | | |
| | ♦ A 5 | | |
| | ♣ A Q 3 | | |
| ♠ K 7 | | ♠ A Q 9 5 | |
| ♥ A K 9 | | ♥ Q 6 | |
| ♦ K Q 9 6 2 | | ♦ J 7 4 | |
| ♣ K 10 8 | | ♣ 7 5 4 2 | |
| | ♠ 10 8 2 | | |
| | ♥ 8 7 4 2 | | |
| | ♦ 10 8 3 | | |
| | ♣ J 9 6 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | | Pass | 1♦ |
| Dbl | 1♠ | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

I think this hand is the average of the night, at 3NT+1.

On the personal front, there have been two significant developments since last I beguiled you with a Sim Pairs commentary. One is that I've semi-retired from lecturing. This allows me ample time to pester my children to meet me, so that I can solemnly advise them to do all the things I didn't and don't. Second, there being no fool like an old fool, and God loving a trier, I've become engaged to be marinated. I don't deserve her and she most certainly doesn't deserve me, but there it is. It does seem to me that a marriage can be likened to a game of Bridge. At the start, you need two hearts and one diamond. But by the end, you're wishing you had a club and a spade.

Board 20. Dealer West. Vulnerability All

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ J 6 2 | | |
| | ♥ A 10 6 2 | | |
| | ♦ K Q J 4 | | |
| | ♣ 7 6 | | |
| ♠ 9 | | ♠ A 3 | |
| ♥ 9 8 | | ♥ Q 7 5 3 | |
| ♦ 10 5 2 | | ♦ A 7 6 | |
| ♣ K Q J 10 9 5 3 | | ♣ A 8 4 2 | |
| | ♠ K Q 10 8 7 5 4 | | |
| | ♥ K J 4 | | |
| | ♦ 9 8 3 | | |
| | ♣ — | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| Pass | 3NT | 4♠ | 3♣ |
| | | | All Pass |

If the last hand was the average of the night, this one's the white-knuckle ride!

I am hoping that you will see 3NT from East as clearcut....only a serious pessimist could expect 5 losers!!

Now the spotlight is on South. He must reckon that 3NT is making, with club tricks, diamonds and outside Aces. But there's also a very good chance that N/S have max 5 losers in spades, which makes 4♠-2 a good sacrifice. Look at it this way – give West 8 points for his 3♣ opening, and East 16 for his 3NT bid. That leaves 7 for North, and they're not going to be in clubs. So the prospects of making 8 tricks in spades are very decent.

And just look at what happens – there are indeed 9 tricks for E/W in 3NT BUT 11 tricks for N/S in spades!!

Kudos to N/S pairs who ventured to 4♠! You may even have been doubled!!

So again we see one of our main themes for the night illustrated – shape and fit matter much more than points. As our American friends are wont to observe – points schmooints!!

Board 21. Dealer North. Vulnerability N/S

| | | | |
|--|---|---|-------------|
| | ♠ Q J 8 5 ♥ Q 9 8 ♦ 8 5 3 2 ♣ A K | | |
| ♠ K 10 3 2 ♥ J 2 ♦ A J 7 6 ♣ J 10 3 | | ♠ 4 ♥ A 6 5 4 3 ♦ 10 9 4 ♣ Q 9 6 5 | |
| | ♠ A 9 7 6 ♥ K 10 7 ♦ K Q ♣ 8 7 4 2 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| 1NT | Pass | 2♣ | Pass |
| 2♠ | Pass | 3♠ | All Pass |

Another hand illustrating that when you've both got a flat shape and just an 8-card fit, you need to be careful about bidding game. On board 18 there were 22 combined points (effectively 20, since the minor suits jacks were redundant), but you had a 10-card fit and 10 easy tricks. Here you have 24 combined points but flat shapes and an 8-card fit. All 24 points are needed just to deliver 9 tricks in spades. I mentioned hand evaluation earlier. AK doubleton clubs in North and KQ doubleton diamonds in South are not very promising holdings.

Once Stayman establishes the spade fit, an invitational 3♠ from South looks about right. With 13 or 14, North can choose 3NT or 4S, but with 12 as here, discretion is surely the better part of valour.

In spades you've got two Aces and the King of spades to lose. If you cross-ruff clubs and diamonds West will have a second trump trick. And you still have to guess right for the Jack of hearts!

Board 22. Dealer East. Vulnerability E/W

| | | | |
|--|---|---|-------------|
| | ♠ A 8 4 3 2 ♥ 9 8 ♦ 9 8 6 ♣ J 9 5 | | |
| ♠ K 9 ♥ A 7 6 5 ♦ 7 5 4 ♣ K 7 4 2 | | ♠ Q 10 6 ♥ J 10 ♦ A K Q 2 ♣ A Q 10 6 | |
| | ♠ J 7 5 ♥ K Q 4 3 2 ♦ J 10 3 ♣ 8 3 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| Pass | 1♣ | 1♥ | 1NT |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

The great American player, Bob Hamman, coined his famous Hamman's Rule – "If you have a choice of reasonable bids, and one of them is 3NT, that's your bid".

On this hand, if East is trying to decide between 2NT and 3NT, the Rule can be applied. He's got two chunky minor suits and three 10s.

North leads a heart and West wins the second round. Note that the 7 and 6 of hearts are now winners. 8 minor suit tricks makes 11.

If East is declarer and South leads a low heart, that's 11 tricks, and a right guess for the Jack of spades makes 12.

Board 23. Dealer South. Vulnerability All

| | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------|
| | ♠ A 6 5 3 ♥ Q J 10 7 4 ♦ Q ♣ J 6 3 | | |
| ♠ 9 ♥ 6 5 2 ♦ A 6 5 3 2 ♣ 10 8 7 5 | | ♠ K Q 7 4 2 ♥ K 8 ♦ 9 8 4 ♣ K Q 9 | |
| | ♠ J 10 8 ♥ A 9 3 ♦ K J 10 7 ♣ A 4 2 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | | 1NT | Pass |
| 2♣ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass |
| 3♥ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

North's 3♥ shows 5 hearts and 4 spades. It is invitational, i.e. South can pass it (North has other ways to bid if he wants to force to game).

If North didn't have 4 spades he'd have transferred to hearts rather than bid Stayman.

South must choose between 3NT and 4♥. It's very close. I'm going with Hamman's Rule from the previous board, so 3NT for me. South has a flat 3-3-4-3 shape, so I'd rather contract for 9 than 10. If South was 2-3-4-4 or 2-3-5-3, I'd opt for 4♥.

A diamond lead from West gives ten easy tricks, as South can win, take 3 hearts ending in hand and knock out the Ace of diamonds.

What happens in 4♥? Played by South, West leads his spade. The trumps lie kindly, so South can knock out the Ace of diamonds and make 10 tricks – not as good as 3NT+1. If North plays 4♥, the lead of the spade King gives 11 tricks for a very good score.

Board 24. Dealer West. Vulnerability None

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>♠ 5 3 ♥ K 10 9 8 5 3 ♦ 10 8 5 2 ♣ 3</p> <p>♠ Q 10 9 ♥ A Q 6 ♦ 7 6 3 ♣ J 9 4 2</p> | <p>♠ J 8 7 6 4 ♥ 7 4 ♦ J 9 4 ♣ A 7 6</p> <p>♠ A K 2 ♥ J 2 ♦ A K Q ♣ K Q 10 8 5</p> |
|--|--|

| North | East | South | West |
|-------|------|-------|----------|
| Pass | Pass | 2NT | Pass |
| 4♦ | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass |

2NT is 20-22. North knows the contract needs to be 4♥ by South, so will transfer. Many people play 4♣ and 4♦ here as transfers to 4♥ and 4♠ respectively, and that's fine. I'm getting old and forgetful, so I keep diamonds as transferring to hearts and hearts as transferring to spades over all NT openers (including 2♣-2x-2NT sequences).

North really has to drive to game. He's got a nice 6-bagger in hearts and a ruffing value in clubs.

11 tricks every day of the week.

Bit of a snoozer of a hand. Two things in my life were guaranteed cures for insomnia – the movie *Apocalypse Now* and the Arsenal

Offside Trap in the Tony Adams days. I'll tell you my current Personal Sleep Depriver shortly, darlings.

Board 25. Dealer North. Vulnerability E/W

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>♠ 10 5 ♥ 10 7 6 ♦ K 9 8 3 2 ♣ 8 5 2</p> <p>♠ A Q 9 3 2 ♥ Q 5 ♦ 7 6 5 ♣ A Q 3</p> | <p>♠ K 8 6 4 ♥ K 9 4 ♦ A Q 10 ♣ 9 7 6</p> <p>♠ J 7 ♥ A J 8 3 2 ♦ J 4 ♣ K J 10 4</p> |
|---|---|

| North | East | South | West |
|----------|------|-------|------|
| Pass | 1NT | Pass | 2♥ |
| Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 4♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

What do you do when partner transfers into a suit that you have 4- card support for? The first option is to jump to 3 of the major, as here where East bids 3♠. It shows 4 spades and a minimum hand. If you've 4 spades and a maximum, you bid your weakest outside suit, so here if East's Kings were Aces, he'd bid 3♣. This situation crops up reasonably regularly, so I'd encourage you to add transfer breaks to your system.

As regards the play, I think ten tricks will result more often than eleven. However, there are routes to the overtrick. If South kicks off with the Jack of diamonds, that gives the overtrick immediately. On any other suit lead, South can be squeezed or endplayed when trumps are run, because he is trying to guard both hearts and clubs. East's 9 of clubs becomes a big card.

Goodness me, a hand with a transfer break and a squeeze / endplay, all rolled into one! Value for money or what. I'm going to have to ask Sir for a pay rise.

Board 26. Dealer East. Vulnerability All

| | | | |
|---|--|---|------|
| | ♠ Q J 7 6 ♥ 8 6 5 2 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ J 6 | | |
| ♠ A 8 5 ♥ A Q 10 ♦ J 8 5 3 ♣ K 5 2 | | ♠ K 10 3 ♥ J 9 7 ♦ 10 6 ♣ A 10 9 8 4 | |
| | ♠ 9 4 2 ♥ K 4 3 ♦ K Q 9 7 ♣ Q 7 3 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | Pass | Pass | INT |
| All Pass | | | |

Another ho-hum sort of hand. The lie of the diamonds means N/S can only ever take 3 tricks there, plus a club. So there should be plenty of 150s on view.

All of which allows me time and space to come clean to you about the thing that keeps me awake at night, as promised two boards ago.

It's the director Oliver Stone's unhealthy fascination with the JFK assassination. He's just brought out a sequel to his moronic 1991 movie "JFK". You may have seen that travesty. Oliver got the victim right and the venue right, and that's about all. In 2014, Vincent Bugliosi, who prosecuted Charles Manson, brought out his magnum opus "Reclaiming History". It is the definitive work on the JFK case and it blows every nutty conspiracy theory out of the water. Oswald did it, Oliver, and he acted alone. Period.

NURSE!!!! Mr Murphy in the Isolation Unit is becoming agitated and requires immediate sedation!! Bring a large needle – or Daniel O'Donnell's Greatest Hits – or the Dáil speeches of Willie O'Dea - at once!!!

Board 27. Dealer South. Vulnerability None

| | | | |
|---|--|--|------|
| | ♠ A 10 5 ♥ Q 10 8 6 4 ♦ 4 ♣ Q J 3 2 | | |
| ♠ 4 ♥ 7 3 ♦ A J 7 5 3 2 ♣ K 10 8 5 | | ♠ J 9 6 3 ♥ K J 2 ♦ K Q 9 8 6 ♣ 7 | |
| | ♠ K Q 8 7 2 ♥ A 9 5 ♦ 10 ♣ A 9 6 4 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | | 1♠ | 3♦ |
| 3♠ | 5♦ | Pass | Pass |
| Dbl All Pass | | | |

I love watching PM's Questions live from Westminster. You know the bit where the PM says "I refer the Honourable gentleman to the answer I gave some moments ago"? Well, I refer my honourable readers to the comments I gave on board 10. West has a standout weak 3♦ jump overcall. Decent suit, clubs as backup and crucially, zilch in the majors.

North bids 3♠ and East must choose between 4♦ and 5♦. It's such a close call that I consulted a good pal of mine who wishes to remain anonymous, so we'll just refer to him as Hom Tanlon.

He agreed with 5♦. It could make, but also opponents could misjudge and bid 5♠, which East will double.

N/S are a trick short in 4♥ or 4♠ and E/W are one down in 5♦.

Any pair getting to 4♥/4♠ are unlucky contracts, and you'd want to be in them, just looking at the N/S hands. Revisiting our "points schmoits" theme for tonight, N/S have just 22 combined points, yet 4♠ only fails because trumps break 4-1 (a 3-2 break is a 68% chance). Still, 4♠-1, even doubled, is a better result than letting E/W play a diamond partscore.

Board 28. Dealer West. Vulnerability N/S

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ A K 4 | | |
| | ♥ A 10 2 | | |
| | ♦ Q 8 | | |
| | ♣ A K 6 3 2 | | |
| ♠ J 9 3 | | ♠ 8 2 | |
| ♥ 9 7 3 | | ♥ K Q J 8 5 | |
| ♦ J 6 4 3 | | ♦ 10 7 5 2 | |
| ♣ Q 10 4 | | ♣ 8 5 | |
| | ♠ Q 10 7 6 5 | | |
| | ♥ 6 4 | | |
| | ♦ A K 9 | | |
| | ♣ J 9 7 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | | | Pass |
| 2NT | Pass | 3♥ | Pass |
| 3♠ | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 5♣ | Pass | 6♠ | All Pass |

Have to admit I'd be bidding the N/S cards to slam. On the bidding shown, South transfers to spades, checks for (5) Aces and bids 6♠ to allow North to convert to 6NT if he only has 2 spades.

Alternative is a quantitative 4NT from South. North's good clubs may induce him to go to 6NT.

A heart lead appears to put paid to slam. And so it does, to all intents and purposes. But look deeper at the clubs. Lead the Jack. West must cover. Then lead the 9, which traps West's ten and East's eight. Do that and you make 13 tricks. If you did it against me, I'd be chesting my cards against you in future, ducky.

So I reckon slammers will get a heart lead and cask AK of clubs. Dang!!

Board 29. Dealer North. Vulnerability All

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | ♠ Q 7 5 | | |
| | ♥ 4 3 | | |
| | ♦ A 9 7 5 4 2 | | |
| | ♣ Q 5 | | |
| ♠ A J 9 4 | | ♠ 8 6 3 2 | |
| ♥ 10 | | ♥ A K Q J 9 7 2 | |
| ♦ J 6 | | ♦ K | |
| ♣ A K J 7 3 2 | | ♣ 4 | |
| | ♠ K 10 | | |
| | ♥ 8 6 5 | | |
| | ♦ Q 10 8 3 | | |
| | ♣ 10 9 8 6 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | |

East has a clear 4♥ opener. West should reason that if East had 7 solid hearts and the diamond Ace, he'd open 2♣. To my mind, that tips the scales in favour of being content with game, but it is a close call.

11 tricks on a diamond lead and a spade switch, or on a spade lead. On any other defence, declarer can establish the clubs via one ruff. Now you draw trumps and the Ace of spades is your entry to the clubs, for 13 tricks.

Board 30. Dealer East. Vulnerability None

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| | ♠ J 9 6 4 3 | | |
| | ♥ Q 3 | | |
| | ♦ 9 6 | | |
| | ♣ Q J 9 7 | | |
| ♠ A K Q | | ♠ 8 7 5 | |
| ♥ A 10 8 6 4 | | ♥ J 9 7 5 | |
| ♦ J 10 4 3 | | ♦ A K 8 5 2 | |
| ♣ 3 | | ♣ 10 | |
| | ♠ 10 2 | | |
| | ♥ K 2 | | |
| | ♦ Q 7 | | |
| | ♣ A K 8 6 5 4 2 | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| | Pass | 1♣ | Dbl |
| 1♠ | 2♠ | Pass | 4♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

Yet another exemplar of two of our key themes tonight – firstly that fit and shape are far more important than points.

East's 2♠ bid says that he's very enthusiastic about the red suits, since opponents have bid the blacks and partner has made a takeout double.

Our second theme has been the need to re-evaluate your hand as the auction develops. Once East bids 2♠, West knows that they have a fit in both red suits, and that East is unlikely to hold wasted values in clubs. That makes 4♥ a standout.

Another age-old Bridge adage is "8 ever, 9 never". It relates to the diamond suit here, and recommends cashing AK rather than finessing. In other words, finesse with 8 cards in the suit, play to drop the Queen with 9.

For the Nth time, peeps – points schmoints. E/W have 22 combined points, the red Jacks are redundant, but 11 tricks are rolling.

Board 31. Dealer South. Vulnerability N/S

| | | | |
|---|-------------|---|-------------|
| ♠ K Q 9 8 7 6 5 ♥ 4 ♦ A 10 2 ♣ A 2 | | | |
| ♠ 4 ♥ K Q 10 9 8 3 ♦ Q 5 ♣ Q J 9 8 | | ♠ J 3 2 ♥ 7 6 5 ♦ 9 8 6 ♣ K 10 4 3 | |
| ♠ A 10 ♥ A J 2 ♦ K J 7 4 3 ♣ 7 6 5 | | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| 4♥ | Pass | INT | 2♥ |
| 6♠ | All Pass | 4♠ | Pass |

I refer the right honourable reader to the comments I gave in respect of board 24, specifically regarding high-level transfers.

Once South opens, North's hand is massive. 4♥ over the 2♥ overcall gets you there (just bidding 4♠ doesn't). 4♥ has to be stronger than 4♠, showing a good spade suit and slam interest.

A heart lead against 6♠ means you make 13 tricks if you get diamonds right, otherwise just 12. A club lead would oblige you to get diamonds right, but you would, wouldn't you?

Board 32. Dealer West. Vulnerability E/W

| | | | |
|--|-------------|--|-------------|
| ♠ A 7 2 ♥ A K 5 4 2 ♦ 10 ♣ 10 7 5 4 | | | |
| ♠ K 9 6 ♥ J 8 ♦ Q 6 4 ♣ A Q 9 6 2 | | ♠ Q 4 3 ♥ Q 7 3 ♦ K J 9 7 5 2 ♣ K | |
| ♠ J 10 8 5 ♥ 10 9 6 ♦ A 8 3 ♣ J 8 3 | | | |
| North | East | South | West |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | INT |
| All Pass | | | 3♦ |

I play 4-suit transfers over a INT opener, so 2NT shows diamonds (2♠ would show clubs). West rebids 3♦, completing the transfer and showing support for diamonds. I think East should drop anchor now. His club King is of doubtful value and his major holdings hardly proclaim 9 tricks in NT.

9 tricks in diamonds will score very well.

And there I must leave you. It's been emotional. Sin a bhfuil. Is dona linn an bhriseadh seo. Up the Republic. Death to the infidel. Elvis has left the building.

Murphy Out.

2022 CBAI Pairs Tuesday 8 February

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| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>1 ♠ Q93 ♥ KJ4 ♦ 932 ♣ KJT3</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: None</p> <p>♠ AKT42 ♥ AT9 ♦ 54 ♣ 854</p> <p>♠ J85 ♥ Q85 ♦ AKQT6 ♣ A2</p> <p>10 ♠ 76 11 ♥ 7632 16 ♦ J87 3 ♣ Q976</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - - - - - S - - - - - E 2 5 3 5 3 W 2 5 3 5 3</p> | <p>2 ♠ Q987 ♥ J3 ♦ J8 ♣ 98754</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ T5432 ♥ Q94 ♦ ♣ QJT63</p> <p>♠ 6 ♥ T65 ♦ KQ95432 ♣ AK</p> <p>4 ♠ AKJ 5 ♥ AK872 12 ♦ AT76 19 ♣ 2</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - 1 3 2 1 S - 1 3 2 1 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p> | <p>3 ♠ A8642 ♥ QJT6 ♦ AK9 ♣ K</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ J7 ♥ K2 ♦ JT8 ♣ A98653</p> <p>♠ 95 ♥ A874 ♦ 7432 ♣ QJ7</p> <p>17 ♠ KQT3 17 ♥ 953 9 ♦ Q65 7 ♣ T42</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - 1 2 3 - S - 1 2 3 - E 2 - - - - W 2 - - - -</p> | <p>4 ♠ KJ8 ♥ J54 ♦ KJ9732 ♣ A</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ T974 ♥ Q962 ♦ T8 ♣ T73</p> <p>♠ AQ532 ♥ 3 ♦ 654 ♣ QJ84</p> <p>13 ♠ 6 9 ♥ AKT87 2 ♦ AQ 16 ♣ K9652</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 3 5 5 1 4 S 3 5 5 - 4 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p> |
| <p>5 ♠ AJ9 ♥ 7 ♦ A987 ♣ KQ854</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ K64 ♥ KT8 ♦ KJ3 ♣ T732</p> <p>♠ 72 ♥ A943 ♦ Q542 ♣ A96</p> <p>14 ♠ QT853 10 ♥ QJ652 10 ♦ T6 6 ♣ J</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 1 1 1 3 1 S 1 1 1 3 1 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p> | <p>6 ♠ QJT53 ♥ K ♦ T ♣ AKJT65</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ 74 ♥ J87653 ♦ 85 ♣ 987</p> <p>♠ A96 ♥ 94 ♦ KQ9432 ♣ 43</p> <p>14 ♠ K82 10 ♥ AQT2 9 ♦ AJ76 16 ♣ Q2</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 6 2 3 6 5 S 6 2 3 6 5 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p> | <p>7 ♠ A ♥ T5 ♦ K764 ♣ AK9864</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ KQ87642 ♥ J ♦ AQ2 ♣ J3</p> <p>♠ 9 ♥ AK987642 ♦ 98 ♣ T2</p> <p>14 ♠ JT53 10 ♥ Q3 7 ♦ JT53 6 ♣ Q75</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 4 3 - - - S 4 3 - - - E - - 3 2 - W - - 3 2 -</p> | <p>8 ♠ JT6532 ♥ J85 ♦ J8 ♣ J8</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: None</p> <p>♠ KQ984 ♥ ♦ Q9764 ♣ T54</p> <p>♠ A7 ♥ T43 ♦ AKT2 ♣ 9632</p> <p>4 ♠ AKQ9762 7 ♥ 53 11 ♦ AKQ7 18 ♣ AKQ7</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - - 5 - - S - - 5 - - E - 2 - - - W - 2 - - -</p> |
| <p>9 ♠ KQ864 ♥ AT8 ♦ 8532 ♣ J</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ JT97532 ♥ 3 ♦ 6 ♣ KQ97</p> <p>♠ A ♥ J962 ♦ QT74 ♣ A653</p> <p>10 ♠ KQ754 6 ♥ AKJ9 11 ♦ T842 13 ♣</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 1 4 4 - 1 S 1 4 4 - 1 E - - - 1 - W - - - 1 -</p> | <p>10 ♠ A6 ♥ K9763 ♦ 93 ♣ AK62</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ KT ♥ J5 ♦ KQJT54 ♣ T94</p> <p>♠ J9872 ♥ A4 ♦ 762 ♣ 873</p> <p>14 ♠ Q543 10 ♥ QT82 5 ♦ A8 11 ♣ QJ5</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 4 - 4 2 1 S 4 - 4 2 1 E - 1 - - - W - 1 - - -</p> | <p>11 ♠ A ♥ K83 ♦ Q642 ♣ AQT64</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: None</p> <p>♠ QJ643 ♥ Q76542 ♦ A ♣ J</p> <p>♠ K85 ♥ 9 ♦ 9853 ♣ K9732</p> <p>15 ♠ T972 10 ♥ AJT 6 ♦ KJT7 9 ♣ 85</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 3 4 - - 2 S 3 4 - - 2 E - - 1 1 - W - - 1 1 -</p> | <p>12 ♠ QT8 ♥ 74 ♦ AT8643 ♣ AQ</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ K953 ♥ 985 ♦ Q75 ♣ 742</p> <p>♠ 4 ♥ AQJ62 ♦ 2 ♣ KJT965</p> <p>12 ♠ AJ762 5 ♥ KT3 11 ♦ KJ9 12 ♣ 83</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - 5 - 5 4 S - 4 - 4 2 E 2 - 1 - - W 2 - 1 - -</p> |
| <p>13 ♠ J84 ♥ 854 ♦ AT97 ♣ T76</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ KQ75 ♥ KJ ♦ J53 ♣ AQ95</p> <p>♠ AT96 ♥ Q2 ♦ K86 ♣ 8432</p> <p>5 ♠ 32 16 ♥ AT9763 9 ♦ Q42 10 ♣ KJ</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - - 1 - - S - - 1 - - E 3 1 - 3 1 W 3 1 - 3 1</p> | <p>14 ♠ KJT2 ♥ AJT ♦ J73 ♣ 532</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: None</p> <p>♠ 7 ♥ Q75 ♦ AKQ9652 ♣ 74</p> <p>♠ AQ654 ♥ 642 ♦ T8 ♣ KQJ</p> <p>10 ♠ 983 11 ♥ K983 12 ♦ 4 7 ♣ AT986</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 1 - 1 - - S 1 - 1 - - E - 2 - 1 2 W - 2 - 1 2</p> | <p>15 ♠ K98 ♥ AJT2 ♦ A63 ♣ A52</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ AQT74 ♥ 97 ♦ 4 ♣ KT983</p> <p>♠ 52 ♥ KQ53 ♦ J852 ♣ J74</p> <p>16 ♠ J63 9 ♥ 864 7 ♦ KQT97 8 ♣ Q6</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - 2 2 - 2 S - 2 2 - 2 E 3 - - 1 - W 3 - - 1 -</p> | <p>16 ♠ Q5 ♥ 975 ♦ Q752 ♣ AQ43</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ K732 ♥ KQT64 ♦ 643 ♣ 6</p> <p>♠ J4 ♥ J2 ♦ AKT98 ♣ KJ98</p> <p>10 ♠ AT986 8 ♥ A83 13 ♦ J 9 ♣ T752</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - - - - - S - - - - - E 3 - 2 1 1 W - 3 2 1 1</p> |
| <p>17 ♠ T875 ♥ KT752 ♦ 74 ♣ A2</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: None</p> <p>♠ QJ4 ♥ J63 ♦ KJ852 ♣ J9</p> <p>♠ A932 ♥ A984 ♦ A ♣ 8765</p> <p>7 ♠ K6 9 ♥ Q 12 ♦ QT963 12 ♣ KQT43</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 1 1 - - 1 S 1 1 - - 1 E - - 1 1 - W - - 1 1 -</p> | <p>18 ♠ AK854 ♥ 7 ♦ A97 ♣ JT84</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ J6 ♥ QJ954 ♦ 63 ♣ Q653</p> <p>♠ 3 ♥ 863 ♦ KQT852 ♣ AK9</p> <p>12 ♠ QT972 6 ♥ AKT2 12 ♦ J4 10 ♣ 72</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - - - 4 2 S - - - 4 2 E - 2 2 - - W - 2 2 - -</p> | <p>19 ♠ J643 ♥ JT53 ♦ A5 ♣ AQ3</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ K7 ♥ AK9 ♦ KQ962 ♣ KT8</p> <p>♠ AQ95 ♥ Q6 ♦ J74 ♣ 7542</p> <p>12 ♠ T82 18 ♥ 8742 9 ♦ T83 1 ♣ J96</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - - - - - S - - - - - E 4 4 2 3 4 W 4 4 2 3 4</p> | <p>20 ♠ J62 ♥ AT62 ♦ KQJ4 ♣ 76</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ 9 ♥ 98 ♦ T52 ♣ KQJT953</p> <p>♠ A3 ♥ Q753 ♦ A76 ♣ A842</p> <p>11 ♠ KQT8754 6 ♥ KJ4 14 ♦ 983 9 ♣</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - 3 2 5 - S - 3 2 5 - E 3 - - - 3 W 3 - - - 3</p> |
| <p>21 ♠ QJ85 ♥ Q98 ♦ 8532 ♣ AK</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ KT32 ♥ J2 ♦ AJ76 ♣ JT3</p> <p>♠ 4 ♥ A6543 ♦ T94 ♣ Q965</p> <p>12 ♠ A976 10 ♥ KT7 6 ♦ KQ 12 ♣ 8742</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 1 1 1 3 2 S 1 1 1 3 2 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p> | <p>22 ♠ A8432 ♥ 98 ♦ 986 ♣ J95</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ K9 ♥ A765 ♦ 754 ♣ K742</p> <p>♠ QT6 ♥ JT ♦ AKQ2 ♣ AQT6</p> <p>5 ♠ J75 10 ♥ KQ432 18 ♦ JT3 7 ♣ 83</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N - - - - - S - - - - - E 5 5 4 3 5 W 5 5 4 3 5</p> | <p>23 ♠ A653 ♥ QJT74 ♦ Q ♣ J63</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ 9 ♥ 652 ♦ A6532 ♣ T875</p> <p>♠ KQ742 ♥ K8 ♦ 984 ♣ KQ9</p> <p>10 ♠ JT8 4 ♥ A93 13 ♦ KJT7 13 ♣ A42</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 2 2 4 2 4 S 1 2 4 1 4 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p> | <p>24 ♠ 53 ♥ KT9853 ♦ T852 ♣ 3</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: None</p> <p>♠ QT9 ♥ AQ6 ♦ 763 ♣ J942</p> <p>♠ J8764 ♥ 74 ♦ J94 ♣ A76</p> <p>3 ♠ AK2 9 ♥ J2 6 ♦ AKQ 22 ♣ KQT85</p> <p>♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ NT N 3 5 5 2 2 S 3 5 5 2 2 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p> |

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| <p>25 ♠ T5 ♥ T76 ♦ K9832 ♣ 852</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ AQ932 ♠ K864 ♥ Q5 ♥ K94 ♦ 765 ♦ AQT ♣ AQ3 ♣ 976</p> <p>3 ♠ J7 14 12 ♥ AJ832 11 ♦ J4 ♣ KJT4</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>5</td></tr> </table> | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | - | - | - | S | - | - | - | - | E | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | W | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | <p>26 ♠ QJ76 ♥ 8652 ♦ A42 ♣ J6</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ A85 ♠ KT3 ♥ AQT ♥ J97 ♦ J853 ♦ T6 ♣ K52 ♣ AT984</p> <p>8 ♠ 942 14 8 ♥ K43 10 ♦ KQ97 ♣ Q73</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> </table> | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | - | - | - | S | - | - | - | - | E | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | W | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | <p>27 ♠ AT5 ♥ QT864 ♦ 4 ♣ QJ32</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: None</p> <p>♠ 4 ♠ J963 ♥ 73 ♥ KJ2 ♦ AJ7532 ♦ KQ986 ♣ KT85 ♣ 7</p> <p>9 ♠ KQ872 8 10 ♥ A95 13 ♦ T ♣ A964</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table> | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | 3 | - | 3 | - | S | 3 | - | 4 | - | E | - | 4 | - | 1 | W | - | 4 | - | - | <p>28 ♠ AK4 ♥ AT2 ♦ Q8 ♣ AK632</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ J93 ♠ 82 ♥ 973 ♥ KQJ85 ♦ J643 ♦ T752 ♣ QT4 ♣ 85</p> <p>20 ♠ QT765 4 6 ♥ 64 10 ♦ AK9 ♣ J97</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>7</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>7</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table> | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | 7 | 3 | 3 | 7 | S | 7 | 3 | 3 | 7 | E | - | - | - | - | W | - | - | - | - |
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| <p>29 ♠ Q75 ♥ 43 ♦ A97542 ♣ Q5</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ AJ94 ♠ 8632 ♥ T ♥ AKQJ972 ♦ J6 ♦ K ♣ AKJ732 ♣ 4</p> <p>8 ♠ KT 14 13 ♥ 865 5 ♦ QT83 ♣ T986</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>5</td></tr> </table> | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | 1 | - | - | S | - | 1 | - | - | E | 4 | - | 5 | 5 | W | 4 | - | 6 | 5 | <p>30 ♠ J9643 ♥ Q3 ♦ 96 ♣ QJ97</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: None</p> <p>♠ AKQ ♠ 875 ♥ AT864 ♥ J975 ♦ JT43 ♦ AK852 ♣ 3 ♣ T</p> <p>6 ♠ T2 14 8 ♥ K2 12 ♦ Q7 ♣ AK86542</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>-</td></tr> </table> | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | 2 | - | - | 1 | S | 2 | - | - | 1 | E | - | 5 | 5 | - | W | - | 5 | 5 | - | <p>31 ♠ KQ98765 ♥ 4 ♦ AT2 ♣ A2</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ 4 ♠ J32 ♥ KQT983 ♥ 765 ♦ Q5 ♦ 986 ♣ QJ98 ♣ KT43</p> <p>13 ♠ AT 10 4 ♥ AJ2 13 ♦ KJ743 ♣ 765</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>7</td><td>-</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>7</td><td>-</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table> | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | 1 | 7 | - | 7 | S | 1 | 7 | - | 7 | E | - | 2 | - | - | W | - | 2 | - | - | <p>32 ♠ A72 ♥ AK542 ♦ T ♣ T754</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ K96 ♠ Q43 ♥ J8 ♥ Q73 ♦ Q64 ♦ KJ9752 ♣ AQ962 ♣ K</p> <p>11 ♠ JT85 12 11 ♥ T96 6 ♦ A83 ♣ J83</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> </table> | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | - | 1 | 1 | S | - | - | 1 | 1 | E | 1 | 3 | - | 1 | W | 1 | 3 | - | 1 |
| ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | 1 | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | 1 | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 4 | - | 5 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 4 | - | 6 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 2 | - | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 2 | - | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | 5 | 5 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | 5 | 5 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 1 | 7 | - | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 1 | 7 | - | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | 2 | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | 2 | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | - | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 1 | 3 | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 1 | 3 | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

RECAP

| | N | S | E | W |
|----------------|-------|-------|------|------|
| AvgHCP | 10.38 | 10.50 | 9.91 | 9.21 |
| Bal-anced | 12 | 18 | 16 | 14 |
| Voids/Singles* | 0/14 | 3/7 | 0/15 | 2/14 |
| Suit with7+ | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 |

* Number of voids/ Number of singletons in all hands.