

Bridge  
Great  
Britain



The British



Spring



Simultaneous  
Pairs

Wednesday 14th April 2010



## Dear Bridge Player

Thank you for participating in this BGB Simultaneous Pairs event. We've got a new commentator this time, Mike Swanson - he tells me he enjoyed doing it, but only you will know if he got it right!

As usual, this Simultaneous Pairs is being scored live on Internet - hopefully your club will be able to upload the results directly to the server either later this evening or tomorrow and then those of you with Internet access will be able to log on and see your local club result as well as the overall results, which are scored dynamically as soon as the results are uploaded. You can watch them change as new results come in, and see your own position overall and how you are doing. Just log onto <http://www.ecatsbridge.com> and click on the "Sims" button on the side then follow the links.

I am often asked where the hands come from - I know that many of you think we "select" them with a view to making them "interesting and challenging" but let me reassure you - I deal a set of 48 Boards using a standard computer program and the only changes that may be made are to the order of the hands, which are then reduced to the 32 we need. This is to try and give a balance to the four players, so that you all get some hands to play, but we never, never, ever change a card within a Board I assure you ! Nor do we "select" Boards on the basis of whether they are difficult, have so called interesting singletons or things like that - the only thing we try and do is to give each player at the table a fair crack of the whip with the number of points held and their opportunity to bid. Can't promise to get it right, but we do try hard.

Once again, thank you for taking part in this event. I hope you enjoyed yourself, win or lose and that you will join us again soon for another Simultaneous Pairs.

With best wishes

*Anna*

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**Board 1. Love All. Dealer North.**

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

If North opens 1♠, South should decide between pass and INT, but I will wager many will bid 2♣ without contemplating the possible consequences. Whichever he chooses, West will probably bid 2♥ (or possibly double over a pass) and then South will be unable to resist 3♣. Any Norths who then try 3NT could meet with unlikely success as a Heart lead gives a 9<sup>th</sup> trick. If North opens INT (I would, given the poor Spade suit), N/S should end in 3♣.

**Board 2. N/S Vul. Dealer East.**

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

After two passes West has a difficult decision over what to open: should it be an Acol 2♥ or perhaps a slightly off-centre 2NT? If he chooses 2♥ (or a Benjamin 2♣ followed by a 2♥ rebid) East will give a negative response, but then East is just about worth 4♥ over West's 3♦ rebid. A 2NT opening will result in 3NT from East, unless 5-card major Stayman (or Puppet Stayman) is available when the superior 4♥ contract should be reached.

**Board 3. E/W Vul. Dealer South.**

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

If North opens with a weak 2♠ (yes I know you shouldn't with a 4-card Heart suit but rules are made to be broken), East will be tempted to double, forcing a 3♦ bid from West. Then I doubt East will be able to resist bidding 3NT, a contract that should not make but will do so if the defence plays a second round of Spades. If East-West have a free auction, West has to decide what to do when his partner reverses into 2♥; this is the only time that a 2NT rebid shows a minimum, again resulting in 3NT as the final contract.

**Board 4. Game All. Dealer West.**

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

A routine 3NT for North-South after North's probable INT opening, though the number of tricks is harder to predict. The likely Club lead gives declarer two Club tricks and the lie of the Heart suit almost forces him into taking four Heart tricks; however if declarer instead decides to plug away at the Diamond suit he could find the only way of going off in his cold contract.

**Board 5. N/S Vul. Dealer North.**

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

The East hand is perfect for a Lucas 2 opening of 2♥ (showing a weak hand with Hearts and a minor), but at most tables East will pass reluctantly and South will open 1♠. Most Norths will respond INT but in my view 2♠ is better; even if you play 4-card majors South is much more likely to hold five rather than four Spades. Given the vulnerability, East may well enter the auction but will do well to find the Diamond fit, so 3♠ by South is the most likely final contract.

**Board 6. E/W Vul. Dealer East.**

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

This is the sort of hand that I dread having to write about. I just can't see anything other than North-South playing in a Spade game making 11 tricks. I know when the results come in people will prove me wrong, but surely no East-Wests will be daft enough to sacrifice in 5♣ or 5♦ conceding an 1100 penalty, nor surely will any North-Souths bid the slam just because they have a big fit and all the Aces!

**Board 7. Game All. Dealer South.**

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

Most Wests will probably open with an Acol 2♣ even though it hasn't got the old-fashioned requirement of 5 quick tricks. Anyone who names their Aces in response will be well-placed to reach 7♣, though even then it is nigh on impossible to be sure if the Spade suit can be brought home for no losers. Surely every East will want to drive on to slam regardless, but I guess that most will just play in 6♣, if only because Blackwood won't reveal which of the red Aces partner actually holds.

**Board 8. Love All. Dealer West.**

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

Whether West opens with a cautious 1♦, an aggressive 2♦ (be it Acol or multi) or even 2NT (my choice given the poor Diamond suit), North is going to bid Spades. This should not deter East from bidding 4♥ on his 8-card suit, which may prompt West to drive towards slam, even when partner turns up aceless. Any North who feels tempted to double 6♥ will have to apologise to partner afterwards.

**Board 9. E/W Vul. Dealer North.**

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

4♥ should be reached by all but how many tricks will it make? Anything other than a trump lead from East gives declarer every chance to make twelve tricks: ♠A lead should make twelve tricks certain, whilst a Diamond gives the chance to run the lead round to the ♦Q; the ♣8, covered by the ♣9, makes the ruffing finesse easy to spot. On a trump lead declarer has to lead the ♣10 and run it, if not covered, in order to secure the twelfth trick.

**Board 10. Game All. Dealer East.**

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

Over East's 1♦ opening South has to decide whether to overcall 1♠ on his poor suit; if he does he will reap his rewards as North will show support, cutting E-W out of the auction, resulting in 2♣ or 3♣ making nine tricks. If South passes then West has to pass or respond 1♥ (a close decision): if he bids 1♥, the final spot is likely to be 2♦, or even 2♥ if East shows his secondary support ; if West passes, North's likely double might result in a failing 4♣ contract.

**Board 11. Love All. Dealer South.**

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

After 1♦-1♠ surely East will bid 2♥. An aggressive raise to 3♠ or even 4♠ by South should follow and West will pass hoping that his partner will do the same; no such luck as East will now bid his Club suit. Even with a good Club fit it hard for West to bid the slam, especially when he is holding a doubleton Spade, as it hard to imagine that partner will be 6-6 in his two suits. Any North-South pair that drives on to 5♠ should concede 1100 on best defence.

**Board 12. N/S Vul. Dealer West.**

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

After North's 1♥ and East's 2♦ overcall, South should probably bid 2♥ (even if they are playing 4-card majors). Whether West bids 3♦ or not, North will probably try 4♥ on his 5-loser hand. It takes a trump lead to defeat 4♥, but I doubt that many will find it as a Diamond lead just looks the right thing to do on the East hand. Any South's who don't have the nerve to bid 2♥ could well end up defending a Diamond part-score for a near bottom.

**Board 13. Game All. Dealer North.**

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

After two passes, just what will South opt to bid? Some will have a Lucas 2♠ available, showing Spades and a minor; others might start with 1♠; or perhaps a weak 2♠ or a multi 2♦ might be chosen. No matter what South bids, if West decides to ignore his Diamond shortage and bid No Trumps then 3NT should be reached; however if he chooses to show his Clubs instead, East-West could easily end up languishing in a part-score.

**Board 14. Love All. Dealer East.**

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

4♥\* is going to be a popular contract (surely South has to double!) and declarer can't avoid a loser in each suit. If East opens 2♥ South will probably double, although some may try 2NT instead, and West will raise his partner to 4♥ over a double but maybe only 3♥ over 2NT. If West doesn't open, South will bid 1♣, giving West the choice of double or 1♠; double works best as East will bid his Hearts, but if West bids 1♠, North might end up in 3♣.

**Board 15. N/S Vul. Dealer South.**

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

After South's 1♠ and West's 2♣ (or 3♣) it is a question of how many Spades North chooses to bid. 4♠ is the winning bid as South will certainly not accept any invitation with his hand. I have a sneaky feeling that there will be a few Wests who bid 3♣ before remembering that they are playing Ghestem (where 3♣ shows a 2-suited hand, not necessarily with Clubs as one of the suits). My heart goes out to any TD who has to deal with the problem.

**Board 16. E/W Vul. Dealer West.**

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

After West's 1NT, North will either overcall a natural 2♥ or 2♣ to show Hearts and another; but what should East do next? Over 2♣ it is easy enough as 2♦ is available, but over 2♥ the choice is difficult: if you are willing to bid again then 3♦ is correct but if not 3♣ may be better. Of course this all begs the question "Is a new suit at the 3-level forcing after 1NT and an overcall?" The answer should be no but it is an area that many pairs just don't discuss.

**Board 17. Love All. Dealer North.**

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

Just what should North open? Whilst it just about fulfils the requirements for an Acol 2♠ or a Benjamin 2♣, my choice would be to open 1♠ and then bid like a maniac thereafter. After 1♠-2♣-2♥-P-3♦-P, South will either bid 3♥ or 3NT. Either bid should see North bidding 4♦ and South choosing between 4♥, 5♦ and pass. Yes I know the sequence is game-forcing but I still reckon more pairs will languish in 4♦ than reach 6♦.

**Board 18. N/S Vul. Dealer East.**

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

After East's INT is passed round to North, 2♥ will be the most popular bid. Now it is a question of whether West decides to compete with 2♠, as I certainly would. Given North's Spade holding, that should end the auction and declarer should scrape home. If North bids an Asptro 2♦, showing Spades and another (the Hearts must be longer), South should bid 2♥ (at least 2 Hearts, at most 3 Spades) which will be held to eight tricks on a Diamond lead.

**Board 19. E/W Vul. Dealer South.**

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

Two balanced hands and 26 HCPs should make 3NT inevitable for North-South. On the face of it there only appear to be eight tricks; however a minor suit lead from East makes nine tricks easy. Declarer can even succeed on a major suit lead as East can eventually be end-played in the minors; however I am sure that there will be many who go one down in their contract.

**Board 20. Game All. Dealer West.**

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

After West's 1♠ opening and East's likely 2♣ response (though a few Easts might choose INT instead) South has to choose between 2♥ and double; if the red suits were reversed double would certainly be my choice but, given the 5-card Heart suit, 2♥ seems better. Whichever South chooses, North is certainly worth at least 3♥ which should lead to a final contract of 4♥ which will make eleven tricks unless the defence starts with three rounds of Clubs, promoting the ♥Q as their third trick.

**Board 21. N/S Vul. Dealer North.**

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

Given the favourable vulnerability East may well open 1♣, which will certainly see East-West get to 4♠. If East passes then he will be faced with the auction 1♥-1♠-2♥ on the next round, and now he will probably need to bid the game himself as West will probably refuse a game try from a passed partner. Anyone who holds Spades to ten tricks will have done very well: it requires a Club lead followed by South underleading his ♥AK to get a Club ruff.

**Board 22. E/W Vul. Dealer East.**

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

Given his maximum weak NT, South should accept partner's invitation to 3NT. If West intervenes with an overcall to show a 3-suited hand it might prove more difficult. Ten tricks might be available double-dummy but in reality West will always make his ♥K and declarer will struggle to make nine tricks. If he starts by playing a Diamond towards the Queen he is well-placed to finesse West later, but an initial Diamond towards the King should result in failure.

**Board 23. Game All. Dealer South.**

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

After the partnership auction 1♣-1♥-3♣ East is probably worth a slam try in Clubs, but this is a pairs contest so I expect the majority of Easts to bid 3NT rather than risk the possibility of languishing in 5♣, and this should end the auction. Best lead for the defence is a Heart but East's 1♥ bid might force South to lead a Diamond, and now twelve tricks are easy. 6♣ will always make as declarer can throw his losing Heart on the thirteenth Spade.

**Board 24. Love All. Dealer West.**

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

Surely West will open 4♥ (or possibly 4♣ if playing South African Texas). The question is what should South do when it is passed round to him? Double to show a good hand seems the best choice, and it should prompt 5♦ from North, which he may even be allowed to play undoubled. If instead South opts to bid 4♠ he might well play there, doubled or not, going at least four down. Anyone in Hearts should make ten tricks, or eleven without a Spade ruff.



**Board 25. E/W Vul. Dealer North.**

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

East-West should have an uninterrupted auction that starts 1♠-2♥-3♥, but I would surmise that some Wests will respond 3♥ because they are strong, and some Easts will rebid 2♣ just because they have a 6-card suit. Over 3♥ West might try 3NT, or a cue bid of 4♦ before partner signs off in 4♥. Twelve tricks are easy for East on any lead, but a Club lead from North will hold declarer to eleven tricks, provided that South cashes his ♣K after he takes the ♠A.

**Board 26. Game All. Dealer East.**

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

It might be a little short of playing strength for a vulnerable pre-empt but I expect most Souths to open 3♥. North should just raise to 4♥ (the ♥Q being an invaluable card) but for many there will be much thought before hopefully emerging with the right bid. If South instead passes on the first round, it will more difficult to reach 4♥ after a start of 1♠-2♥-3♦ (or 3♠), but most should get there if only because South has little choice but to keep bidding his Hearts.

**Board 27. Love All. Dealer South.**

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

It isn't difficult to reach 3NT on the East-West cards: the problem is making it! A Spade lead from North gifts nine tricks to declarer; a Diamond lead however will result in declarer winning the ♦K and playing Clubs, and now surely South will switch to Spades and send declarer one down, or will he? It is all down to whether South can tell whether the initial lead was from an interior sequence or not, so if you couldn't tell maybe you should read up on "strong 10 leads".

**Board 28. N/S Vul. Dealer West.**

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

After 1♠-2♣-2♦ South has a decision to make. Should he ignore the Diamond fit and just leap to 3NT or should he investigate further in case of missing 6♦? Probably the best course of action is to bid 2♥ (fourth suit forcing) which will just prompt 2♠ from North and now South can bid 3NT without having to worry. I can't see how declarer can make anything other than ten tricks save for an aberration by either side.

**Board 29. Game All. Dealer North.**

♠ K 4 2 ♥ 7 5 4 2 ♦ Q 9 4 ♣ A 8 6  ♠ A Q 9 8 6 3 ♥ 6 3 ♦ 3 2 ♣ 9 5 2  ♠ 10 5 ♥ A K J 10 8 ♦ A K 7 6 ♣ Q 3	♠ J 7 ♥ Q 9 ♦ J 10 8 5 ♣ K J 10 7 4
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After South has opened 1♥, West will surely overcall in Spades. A weak 2♠ overcall will prompt North to bid a reluctant 3♥ which will certainly lead to game being reached; however over 1♠ North will probably settle for a conservative raise to 2♥, over which South will try 3♦ as a either a natural bid or a long suit trial bid - whichever it is, North easily has enough to go to game. 4♥ will make eleven tricks unless East forgets to take his ♣K.

**Board 30. Love All. Dealer East.**

♠ K 10 9 2 ♥ A 3 2 ♦ A ♣ J 10 9 7 5  ♠ 7 6 ♥ K J 4 ♦ Q 10 9 6 ♣ Q 6 3 2  ♠ A Q J 4 3 ♥ 9 6 ♦ K 7 3 2 ♣ K 8	♠ 8 5 ♥ Q 10 8 7 5 ♦ J 8 5 4 ♣ A 4
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Over South's 1♠, North is worthy of a splinter bid of 4♦ or even Swiss. The trouble with Swiss is that there are so many versions: a favourite is fruit machine where 4♣ shows two Aces and either a third Ace or a singleton or the trump King; 4♦ asks and the response shows the extra feature (4NT for three Aces) but the trouble with this hand is that it has the ♠K and a singleton. Fortunately South should not be interested in slam and 4♠ will make eleven tricks.

**Board 31. N/S Vul. Dealer South.**

♠ Q 10 8 3 ♥ 8 ♦ 8 7 5 2 ♣ K 10 8 6  ♠ J 6 2 ♥ K Q J 7 6 2 ♦ ♣ A 4 3 2  ♠ K 9 5 ♥ A 9 4 ♦ K J 10 9 3 ♣ J 9	♠ A 7 4 ♥ 10 5 3 ♦ A Q 6 4 ♣ Q 7 5
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After South's INT, West will overcall 2♥ and East will certainly want to make a game try which might very well get accepted. 4♥ should fail unless North leads a Club giving declarer the first two Club tricks and the chance to ruff a Club with dummy's ♥10. Even if it is available, some Souths will not have the nerve to open INT and will open 1♦; it doesn't cost this time but some worry too much about failure, forgetting that INT is a wonderful pre-emptive bid.

**Board 32. E/W Vul. Dealer West.**

♠ A K 5 3 ♥ 7 3 ♦ A K 10 6 ♣ J 10 9  ♠ Q 10 8 6 5 2 ♥ J 8 2 ♣ K Q 4 2  ♠ J 8 4 ♥ A J 9 ♦ Q 9 5 3 ♣ 7 6 5	♠ Q 10 9 7 6 2 ♥ K 4 ♦ 7 4 ♣ A 8 3
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West's hand is not the best weak 2♥ that I have seen, but I would bid it. North has a routine take-out double which gives South an awful decision to make (assuming that East passes): I would be sorely tempted to bid 2♠ on a 3-card suit, which would not be a success! If West passes as dealer, a 1♠ opening from North could result in South playing INT unless West bids 2♥ on the second round; a 1♦ opening should see North-South play in a Diamond part-score

## The Websites ...

There are a lot of official and unofficial websites connected with bridge.

Here are some of the official ones that you may find interesting and useful

<b><a href="http://www.ecatsbridge.com">www.ecatsbridge.com</a></b>	Simultaneous Pairs Results
<b><a href="http://www.bridgegreatbritain.org">www.bridgegreatbritain.org</a></b>	Bridge Great Britain
<b><a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a></b>	English Bridge Union
<b><a href="http://www.scottishbridge.co.uk">www.scottishbridge.co.uk</a></b>	Scottish Bridge Union
<b><a href="http://www.wbu.org.uk/">www.wbu.org.uk/</a></b>	Welsh Bridge Union
<b><a href="http://www.cbai.ie/">www.cbai.ie/</a></b>	Contract Bridge Association of Ireland
<b><a href="http://www.nibu.co.uk/">www.nibu.co.uk/</a></b>	Northern Ireland Bridge Union
<b><a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a></b>	World Bridge Federation
<b><a href="http://www.eurobridge.org">www.eurobridge.org</a></b>	European Bridge League
<b><a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a></b>	American Contract Bridge League
<b><a href="http://www.wbfteaching.org">www.wbfteaching.org</a></b>	WBF Teaching

If you are looking for the official site for a particular country, please go to **[www.ecatsbridge.com](http://www.ecatsbridge.com)**, where there is a list of all official member countries of the World Bridge Federation with their websites listed and contact details. Look in the Quick Links section on the left of the main page and you will see the list of NBO (National Bridge Federation) addresses.

ECatsBridge also runs an **email list**, sending information to players and administrators in the UK about the Simultaneous Pairs and other major events in the UK as well as in Europe and around the World. Emails are sent about every 4 - 6 weeks and anyone is welcome to join the list, either by going to **[www.ecatsbridge.com](http://www.ecatsbridge.com)** and following the link on the front page, or by emailing **[anna@ecats.co.uk](mailto:anna@ecats.co.uk)** and asking to be added to the UK list.



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