

CBAI Fun Teams 2015

Analysis of the hands from the Second Session

The theme throughout my year as CBAI President was 'Improve your Game' where I tried to encourage players to sit down and discuss a few new ideas with their partners. This is my last official event and I offer this constructive commentary in the hope that it might help our Intermediate and Novice players appreciate how good they played today and maybe get us all thinking a little more about this wonderful game. As ever I am only too delighted to talk to anyone about bridge now or in the future. A big thank you to all who helped and supported me during my big year. I am assuming a Weak No-Trump, 4-card Major and an otherwise simple system. But all systems are good. Fearghal.

<p style="margin: 0;">♠ AKQJ9 ♥ AJ985 ♦ J4 ♣ 5</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 8742 ♠ 5 ♥ K ♥ 72 ♦ KQ96 ♦ A1072 ♣ Q1084 ♣ AKJ732</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 1063 ♥ Q10643 ♦ 853 ♣ 96</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">HCP</th> <th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th colspan="2">NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">10 12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> </table>	HCP	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		16	-	-	4	4	-		10 12	-	-	4	4	-		2	5	5	-	-	-			5	5	-	-	-		<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♣</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>4♣</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5♣</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>What a lively board to start with! Both sides can make Game. N/S can make 4♥ or 4♠ and E/W can make 5♣ or 5♦.</p> <p>So whoever bids the highest and wins the auction will win the board. The optimum result on the board is 5♠x-1 (or 5♥x-1) for 100 to E/W but this is unlikely to be achieved and it more likely that one side or the other will bid and make game.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♠	2♣	Pass	3♣	3♥	4♣	4♥	5♣	All Pass		
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J3 ♥ A109752 ♦ 107 ♣ K96</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 842 ♠ K95 ♥ K83 ♥ Q64 ♦ Q54 ♦ AKJ862 ♣ AQ104 ♣ J</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AQ1076 ♥ J ♦ 93 ♣ 87532</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">HCP</th> <th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th colspan="2">NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">11 14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> </table>	HCP	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		8	2	-	-	1	-		11 14	2	-	-	1	-		7	-	2	-	-	1			-	1	-	-	1		<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>E/W have 25 HCP so no one can fault them for being in 3NT if N/S remain silent. To beat 3NT, North will have to find a Spade lead or a Spade switch when he gets back in.</p> <p>Of course if South overcalls 1♠, then E/W will have no chance of making 3NT when North dutifully leads an immediate Jack of Spades. However not all South's will overcall and to be fair it's not at all clear that South is really worth a vulnerable 1♠ overcall?</p>	West	North	East	South			1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
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<p>♠ 87 ♥ J9764 ♦ K4 ♣ AKJ8</p> <p>♠ J52 ♠ Q10 ♥ 1082 ♥ AQ3 ♦ AJ93 ♦ Q10852 ♣ 632 ♣ Q109</p> <p>♠ AK9643 ♥ K5 ♦ 76 ♣ 754</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		12		6	12	10		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	3	-	3	3	1	S	3	-	3	3	1	E	-	1	-	-	-	W	-	1	-	-	-	<p>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>South has a perfect 'weak-two' opening but we are not allowed to play them in this 'simple-system' event. Therefore some South's might open 1♠ and there's not much wrong with that.</p> <p>South has a nice hand and if he doesn't open 1♠ he will respond 1♠ and then jump to 3♠ on the second round to show his 10-11 point hand with a good 6-card Spade suit. South has an easy 9 tricks in his Spade contract as long as he leads towards his two red kings!</p> <p>If South opens 1♠ - it will be nearly impossible for N/S to stay out of Game and that will not be good news for them.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	3♠	All Pass			
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<p>♠ Q854 ♥ 764 ♦ Q8 ♣ K985</p> <p>♠ AJ103 ♠ K6 ♥ 3 ♥ 10985 ♦ AJ76542 ♦ K1093 ♣ J ♣ AQ4</p> <p>♠ 972 ♥ AKQJ2 ♦ - ♣ 107632</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		7		11	12	10		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	-	1	-	-	S	2	-	-	-	-	E	-	6	-	2	2	W	-	6	-	2	2	<p>Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>5♦</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>E/W can make 12 easy tricks in a Diamond contract but the trick will be to get to play in Diamonds at any level. Should West open 1♦ or 3♦? With 2 Aces, West is definitely too strong for a 3♦ pre-empt. So 1♦ is correct. Some East's will respond 1♥ and this will throw our South friends a bit. Some of these South players will try a natural 2♥ bid....but will their Master partners take it as natural?</p> <p>If South wasn't on lead, 3NT would be a great contract for East. Most West's will get to 4♦ one way or another and that might be as high as most of them get.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♦	Pass	1♥	2♥	3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass
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<p>♠ A95 ♥ 1094 ♦ 10982 ♣ AK7</p> <p>♠ K2 ♠ Q876 ♥ AKJ87 ♥ 63 ♦ KQJ4 ♦ A3 ♣ J3 ♣ Q9654</p> <p>♠ J1043 ♥ Q52 ♦ 765 ♣ 1082</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">18 8</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">3</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>4</td></tr> </table>	HCP		11	18 8	3	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	4	4	4	2	4	W	4	4	4	2	4	<p>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>All roads lead to 3NT so that will be the normal contract but some will find their way to 4♥. Both contracts make 10 tricks thanks to the successful Heart finesse.</p> <p>West's rebid of 3♦ is game-forcing showing 18+ points.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass
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♠ A53
 ♥ AJ1086
 ♦ 82
 ♣ 953

♠ K74 ♠ 106
 ♥ K9742 ♥ 53
 ♦ J43 ♦ AQ105
 ♣ A6 ♣ KQJ84

♠ QJ982
 ♥ Q
 ♦ K976
 ♣ 1072

HCP	
9	
11	12
8	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	-	2	-
S	-	-	-	2	-
E	2	1	-	-	-
W	2	1	-	-	1

Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass!	Pass

There will probably be three Passes round to East and then East will have to decide whether or not to open the bidding.

With 12 HCP most Easts will open 1♣ and rebid 2♣ over West's 1♥ response. But then West might try 2NT and it might all get too high for E/W? Hopefully no East will rebid 2♦ - a 'reverse' showing a very good hand because now it really will get too high!

There is also the chance that by East opening the bidding N/S might find their Spade fit and bid and make 2♠.

Any East who has heard of the 'Rule of 14' for deciding whether or not to open the bidding fourth-in-hand will Pass. The 'Rule of 14' – add the number of Spades in your hand to the number of HCP – if it comes to 14 or more you open and if it doesn't you Pass.

♠ QJ63
 ♥ K9
 ♦ 863
 ♣ A972

♠ 95 ♠ A8742
 ♥ 8762 ♥ AQJ103
 ♦ KJ1072 ♦ Q4
 ♣ K8 ♣ 6

♠ K10
 ♥ 54
 ♦ A95
 ♣ QJ10543

HCP	
10	
7	13
10	

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	3	-	-	-	1
S	3	-	-	-	1
E	-	3	4	2	-
W	-	3	4	2	-

Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all

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

E/W can make 10 tricks in a Heart Contract but of course very few will actually bid 4♥. Those counting 'losers' should be able to bid it because West has 8 losers and East has 6. Declarer has a lot of work to do to make 10 tricks – finesse the Heart, draw trumps, knock out the Ace of Diamonds and then get to dummy to enjoy the Diamonds.

N/S have a nice Club fit and they can sacrifice in 5♣x-2 to lose only 300 instead of 420 but understandably very few N/S will be tempted to take the sacrifice. Of course declarer in 5♣x will have to be inspired to hold up the Ace of Diamonds for one round to avoid going 3 off.

<p>♠ 3 ♥ QJ5 ♦ KJ9865 ♣ 976</p> <p>♠ J109862 ♠ 754 ♥ - ♥ AK8643 ♦ 742 ♦ 10 ♣ AK85 ♣ Q103</p> <p>♠ AKQ ♥ 10972 ♦ AQ3 ♣ J42</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>16</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		7	9	8	16	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	1	-	-	1	S	-	1	-	-	1	E	2	-	1	1	-	W	1	-	1	1	-	<p>Board 9 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Another interesting hand. This hand is really all about the opening lead. If South plays in 1NT he will probably make 9 tricks on the likely Spade lead.</p> <p>Most West's will not be able to resist the temptation of bidding their 6-card Spade suit and if they can get away with 2♠-1 undoubled they might not get a bad score.</p> <p>I hope no N/S pair had a misunderstanding about what 1NT - 2♦ response meant?</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass	Pass	2♠	All Pass		
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<p>♠ A5 ♥ 10754 ♦ 985 ♣ 10976</p> <p>♠ 98 ♠ QJ76 ♥ AKQ9832 ♥ - ♦ 73 ♦ AQJ10 ♣ J3 ♣ KQ852</p> <p>♠ K10432 ♥ J6 ♦ K642 ♣ A4</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		4	15	10	11	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	2	1	2	1	2	W	2	1	2	1	2	<p>Board 10 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>4♥ is a reasonable place for E/W to land but it has to go at least one down even with bad defence. Some West's might bid 4♥ a round earlier.</p> <p>3NT by East is another reasonable contract and a cunning West might actually sneak this one home as it takes pretty accurate defence by South to beat it.</p> <p>Is South worth a 1♠ overcall – Yes it meets the suit quality test (2 honours and 5 cards).</p> <p>Any E/W to get a plus score will surely win the board.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♣	1♠	2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass		
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<p>♠ A96 ♥ AJ32 ♦ 8764 ♣ J6</p> <p>♠ 7432 ♠ K108 ♥ 10876 ♥ 9 ♦ 93 ♦ AKJ10 ♣ Q53 ♣ A10872</p> <p>♠ QJ5 ♥ KQ54 ♦ Q52 ♣ K94</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">2 15</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		10	2 15	13	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	1	2	1	1	S	-	1	2	1	1	E	3	-	-	-	-	W	2	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Dbl</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>Dbl</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Dbl</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>The Strong No-Trumpers might have the advantage here because they will discover their 4-4 Heart fit. On the other hand the Weak No-Trumpers might be able to get a big penalty off E/W by pushing E/W into trouble and then doubling them.</p> <p>N/S can make 2♥ and East can make 3♣ but I wouldn't like to be declarer in either of them – especially 'doubled'!</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	Pass	Dbl	1NT	2♥	Dbl	3♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass	
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<p>♠ QJ1043 ♥ A7652 ♦ 4 ♣ 42</p> <p>♠ A8 ♠ K92 ♥ 1043 ♥ KQJ8 ♦ QJ875 ♦ K632 ♣ KJ10 ♣ Q8</p> <p>♠ 765 ♥ 9 ♦ A109 ♣ A97653</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11 14</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	HCP		7	11 14	8	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	-	-	-	-	S	2	-	-	-	-	E	-	3	2	-	3	W	-	3	2	-	3	<p>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>With 25 HCP and two balanced hands we can expect 3NT to be bid at practically every table. Declarer will make 10 tricks on a small Club lead and 9 tricks on any other lead.</p> <p>If South overcalls 2♣ (not recommended) – this might muddy the waters a bit for E/W but still they should land in 3NT and hope for the best.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
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<p>♠ J976 ♥ A93 ♦ Q72 ♣ KJ3</p> <p>♠ A108 ♠ Q43 ♥ 1075 ♥ 842 ♦ - ♦ AKJ854 ♣ Q1098654 ♣ 7</p> <p>♠ K52 ♥ KQJ6 ♦ 10963 ♣ A2</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		11		6	10	13		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	1	2	1	3	S	1	1	3	1	3	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>Another board where both sides have a lot of decisions to make. One thing is for sure – any Novice who makes 3NT on this board is going to a first rate Bridge player!</p> <p>With the working Club finesse declarer has 7 tricks (4 Hearts and 3 Clubs). He can try for two extra tricks in Diamonds or Spades and to be fair Diamonds look like a better prospect but sadly playing on Diamonds will lead to defeat as the cards lie.</p> <p>The only line that works today is to play a Spade to the 9 in dummy on the first or second round of the suit....but who will do that?</p> <p>Any N/S who stay out of Game might end up being the happier....today.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass			
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<p>♠ Q1052 ♥ A10654 ♦ A97 ♣ 4</p> <p>♠ J7643 ♠ - ♥ 2 ♥ KQJ97 ♦ K65 ♦ Q10843 ♣ K1076 ♣ AQ8</p> <p>♠ AK98 ♥ 83 ♦ J2 ♣ J9532</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	HCP		10		7	14	9		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	2	-	S	-	-	-	2	-	E	2	4	-	-	1	W	2	4	-	-	1	<p>Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>E/W need to show discipline if they are to avoid trouble on this board. The first 3 bids by E/W should be common at all tables.</p> <p>West does best to pass 2♦. Nothing else fits the bill. 2♠ should show better and longer Spades, 2NT shows 11-12 and 3♣ shows 13+. So by a process of elimination West has no option but to pass. All will be well if E/W can manage to eventually land in a Diamond partscore contract. This will play for 10 tricks if declarer is able to drop the doubleton Jack of Diamonds in the South hand and for 9 tricks otherwise.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦	All Pass
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♠ 8
 ♥ J975
 ♦ A6
 ♣ K109873
 ♠ KQ10952 ♠ A764
 ♥ - ♥ 64
 ♦ K1097 ♦ J8542
 ♣ 642 ♣ A5
 ♠ J3
 ♥ AKQ10832
 ♦ Q3
 ♣ QJ

HCP	
8	9
8	15

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	2	-	4	-	-
S	3	-	4	-	-
E	-	4	-	5	-
W	-	4	-	5	-

Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1♥
1♠	4♥	4♠	5♥
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass

Another hand where those who are not afraid to bid will be well rewarded. In practice most N/S will make 5♥ because not all East players will overtake their partner's ♠K lead with Ace in order to switch to a Diamond.

Does South open 1♥, 2♥, 3♥ or 4♥. 1♥ is best with so many points but once North supports, South will most likely take the push to 5♥.

Not all E/W's will get to 4♠. E/W will make 5♠ if declarer plays a Diamond to the 10. But in real life 5♠ will probably go down as it makes sense to play a Diamond to the King playing South rather than North for the ♦A. But even 5♠-1 should be a great board for E/W.

♠ K9
 ♥ AJ53
 ♦ AJ954
 ♣ 106
 ♠ Q1086 ♠ J543
 ♥ Q10 ♥ 86
 ♦ K87 ♦ Q103
 ♣ A982 ♣ QJ75
 ♠ A72
 ♥ K9742
 ♦ 62
 ♣ K43

HCP	
13	6
11	10

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	3	4	-	2
S	-	3	4	-	2
E	1	-	-	1	-
W	1	-	-	1	-

Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Not all N/S's will bid Game here. Some will languish in 2♥ and others in 3♥.

If North rebids 3♥ rather than 2♥ then South has an easy 4♥ bid. Similarly if North simply rebids 2♥ and South can find a raise to 3♥, then North will raise to 4♥.

If Game is missed, North should be ready to take the blame as he has a really beautiful hand. Nearly all his points are in Aces and Kings and he should deduct a loser from his hand to reflect this.

Of course South then has to make 10 tricks but as long as he doesn't draw more than two rounds of trumps he will be ok.

♠ 1098
 ♥ Q106
 ♦ KQ873
 ♣ 65

♠ K3 ♠ QJ54
 ♥ J952 ♥ 74
 ♦ A9 ♦ 1054
 ♣ AQ1097 ♣ KJ42

♠ A762
 ♥ AK83
 ♦ J62
 ♣ 83

HCP	
7	7
14	12

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	2	1	-	-
S	-	2	1	-	-
E	3	-	-	-	-
W	3	-	-	-	-

Board 17 : Dealer North : Love all

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1NT

All Pass

This hand will be all about making as many tricks as you can. Most tables will see North or South playing in 1NT and if declarer can make 5 or more tricks it will be an ok result for them.

E/W can make 9 tricks in a Club contract but it won't be easy for West to enter the auction.

N/S can make 8 tricks in a Diamond contract but it won't be easy for North to bid Diamonds – especially if they are playing transfers over 1NT!

♠ A1052
 ♥ K986
 ♦ A2
 ♣ A92

♠ J43 ♠ KQ76
 ♥ 74 ♥ J532
 ♦ K10653 ♦ QJ7
 ♣ 765 ♣ KQ

♠ 98
 ♥ AQ10
 ♦ 984
 ♣ J10843

HCP	
15	14
4	7

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	4	-	3	1	2
S	4	-	3	1	2
E	-	1	-	-	-
W	-	1	-	-	-

Board 18 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1NT	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
2♦	Dbl	All Pass	

N/S will be happier if E/W play the hand because if N/S have to bid the hand themselves they might get too high and if they have to play the hand they will have too much card reading to do in order to get the maximum number of tricks.

If E/W have 'Helvic' available, West can start with a Redouble asking East to bid 2♣ which West then converts to 2♦. But even if not playing any kind of 'escape' West can survive on this hand by bidding a natural 2♦.

2♦ has 7 easy tricks for off one but a good result for E/W whether doubled or not.

<p>♠ K4 ♥ K1062 ♦ K10432 ♣ K3</p> <p>♠ J98732 ♠ AQ6 ♥ 95 ♥ Q8 ♦ QJ6 ♦ 8 ♣ 86 ♣ QJ109542</p> <p>♠ 105 ♥ AJ743 ♦ A975 ♣ A7</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">11</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		12	11	4	13	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	4	4	-	3	S	-	4	4	-	1	E	1	-	-	1	-	W	1	-	-	1	-	<p>Board 19 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td>3♦</td> </tr> </table> <p>On another day, West would have the ♠A and the Diamonds would be 2-2 and 6♥ would be an easy make but today bidding slam on 23 points will not be a success.</p> <p>North is too strong for an immediate 4♥ raise so he gives a delayed game raise going via 2♦ first.</p> <p>South will make 10 tricks losing 2 Spades and a Diamond.</p> <p>If E/W are tempted to bid they will need to stay low for fear they get doubled and lose 500 or more points.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	2♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♦
HCP																																																							
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<p>♠ J97 ♥ 643 ♦ KQ32 ♣ K93</p> <p>♠ Q1086 ♠ A ♥ K ♥ QJ982 ♦ AJ85 ♦ 964 ♣ AQ82 ♣ J1074</p> <p>♠ K5432 ♥ A1075 ♦ 107 ♣ 65</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		9	8	16	7	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	3	2	2	-	2	W	4	3	2	1	2	<p>Board 20 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>This could be a messy little hand for E/W where they could lose a bundle of imps or gain a bundle.</p> <p>The pairs that stay out of Game might be happier when they go to compare scores because those who bid Game will go down more often than not.</p> <p>3NT is not an unreasonable contract and it will have a fighting chance if North leads a top Diamond rather than the more correct small Diamond.</p> <p>Those E/W's who play in a Club partscore will find the play of the hand a lot less stressful.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass	3♣	All Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q653 ♥ AJ ♦ K3 ♣ KJ1076</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AKJ10 ♠ 92 ♥ K7 ♥ Q98432 ♦ J875 ♦ Q102 ♣ Q82 ♣ 53</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 874 ♥ 1065 ♦ A964 ♣ A94</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		14		14	4	8		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	3	1	-	2	3	S	3	1	-	2	3	E	-	-	1	-	-	W	-	-	1	-	-	<p>Board 21 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">N/S can make 9 tricks in Clubs or No-Trump if they are lucky enough to guess the location of the ♣Q. Understandably most N/S will settle in a partscore in Spades, Clubs or No-Trump.</p> <p>E/W might make their way into the auction at some point and if they can get to play in 2♥ -1 they will be very happy indeed.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT	All Pass			
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J82 ♥ AK ♦ AQ ♣ AKQ543</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q5 ♠ 109764 ♥ QJ1042 ♥ 6 ♦ J103 ♦ K76542 ♣ J86 ♣ 9</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AK3 ♥ 98753 ♦ 98 ♣ 1072</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		23		7	3	7		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	6	-	4	4	6	S	6	-	4	2	6	E	-	1	-	-	-	W	-	1	-	-	-	<p>Board 22 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">With the ♠Q dropping doubleton, N/S can make 12 tricks in a Club or No-Trump Slam. Slam is quite reasonable since it also makes when the Diamond finesse is working and may even have squeeze chances when the Diamond finesse is not working.</p> <p>However slam is not easy to bid. Certainly a 2♥ response by South should get you to a slam but I'm not sure responding 2♥ on such a poor suit is winning strategy? After all responding 2♥ might even land you in 6♥. I suspect some North's will just blast 6♣ if only to keep themselves from falling asleep.</p> <p>Once you cash the ♠AK there is nothing to the play.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
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<p>♠ 1053 ♥ AJ7 ♦ AQ2 ♣ AKQ9</p> <p>♠ J97 ♠ AKQ642 ♥ 853 ♥ K2 ♦ K105 ♦ J763 ♣ J874 ♣ 10</p> <p>♠ 8 ♥ Q10964 ♦ 984 ♣ 6532</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">20</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">5 13</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">2</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	HCP		20	5 13	2	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	4	-	4	-	-	S	4	-	4	-	-	E	-	-	-	3	1	W	-	-	-	3	1	<p>Board 23 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Another hand for the brave bidders. N/S can make 10 tricks in a Club or Heart contract, losing a Spade, a Heart and a Diamond. However very few will bid 4♥. Indeed getting to Hearts at all will be a good score as some North's might be left languishing in 2NT - and that won't be a pretty sight!</p> <p>Some East's will be tempted to bid their lovely Spades and if their play matches their bidding they will be rewarded with 9 tricks and a good score, losing 2 Diamonds, a Club and a Heart.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥	All Pass	
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<p>♠ K6542 ♥ K2 ♦ A1076 ♣ K7</p> <p>♠ Q73 ♠ J8 ♥ Q1093 ♥ A8765 ♦ Q95 ♦ 83 ♣ A96 ♣ Q543</p> <p>♠ A109 ♥ J4 ♦ KJ42 ♣ J1082</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10 7</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		13	10 7	10	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	4	-	4	2	S	2	4	-	4	2	E	-	-	1	-	-	W	-	-	1	-	-	<p>Board 24 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>N/S will find their Spade fit and some will push themselves all the way to 4♠. I reckon the pairs that stay out of game will gain a few imps.</p> <p>Anyone making 10 tricks here in any contract, partscore or game, should seriously consider playing on the Irish Open Team. You have to somehow turn your 5 potential losing tricks into only 3 losing tricks.</p> <p>It helps that East is more or less endplayed on the opening lead. But that doesn't make the play any easier. Thereafter declarer has to avoid playing on Hearts and instead leave the defenders to open the suit. Of course the hard part is that declarer also has to guess who has the ♥A and who has the ♦Q.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass	
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<p>♠ J108632 ♥ AK ♦ 764 ♣ A10</p> <p>♠ AQ95 ♠ 4 ♥ J87 ♥ Q109542 ♦ K105 ♦ QJ3 ♣ K92 ♣ QJ3</p> <p>♠ K7 ♥ 63 ♦ A982 ♣ 87654</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		12		13	8	7		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	1	-	2	-	S	-	1	-	2	-	E	-	-	3	-	-	W	-	-	3	-	-	<p>Board 25 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>E/W can make 9 tricks in 3♥ with their eyes closed but the vulnerability might dissuade them from entering the auction. Some East's will have no trouble overcalling 2♥ and some West's will have no bother 'doubling' at some point to show his opening bid. For this reason, any E/W pair who get to 3♥ will have a great result on the board.</p> <p>North in 2♠ will have a harder time as he will have to finesse against West's ♠9 on the first or second round to avoid losing 3 Spade tricks and going one down in his contract.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠	All Pass	
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<p>♠ 105 ♥ A10963 ♦ AJ2 ♣ AK8</p> <p>♠ A984 ♠ K7 ♥ KJ8 ♥ 742 ♦ 10643 ♦ KQ97 ♣ 94 ♣ Q732</p> <p>♠ QJ632 ♥ Q5 ♦ 85 ♣ J1065</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	HCP		16		8	10	6		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	-	1	2	1	S	1	-	1	1	-	E	-	2	-	-	-	W	-	2	-	-	1	<p>Board 26 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1♥</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>This is going to be a horrible little hand and yet a typical 'Teams' hand. The declarers who give this hand their full attention, work for every trick, adopt a 'never give up' attitude and make their partscore will probably pick up 5 imps for their team.</p> <p>Should South pass the 1NT rebid? There's no right answer. The wise advice is not to waste time over this decision every time you have it. Decide now whether you will pass or bid in these situations and then do the exact same thing every time you are faced with the decision in the future.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠	All Pass	
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ A3 ♥ J654 ♦ 10984 ♣ J42</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KJ962 ♠ Q ♥ 9 ♥ A7 ♦ AK6 ♦ QJ753 ♣ A1095 ♣ KQ876</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 108754 ♥ KQ10832 ♦ 2 ♣ 3</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">15 14</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">5</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>5</td></tr> </table>	HCP		6	15 14	5	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	2	-	-	S	-	-	2	-	-	E	6	6	-	3	5	W	6	6	-	3	5	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 27 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr><th style="text-align: left;">West</th><th style="text-align: left;">North</th><th style="text-align: left;">East</th><th style="text-align: left;">South</th></tr> <tr><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>4NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>5♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>6♣</td><td>All Pass</td></tr> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">Minor suit Slams are always difficult to bid and most tables will land in 3NT making 11 tricks on a Heart lead.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">In 6♣ or 6♦ declarer only loses one trick to the ♠A.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass	6♣	All Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 5 ♥ 10982 ♦ AQ9763 ♣ 86</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J1098763 ♠ A2 ♥ AQ4 ♥ K76 ♦ 10 ♦ 854 ♣ A3 ♣ KQ975</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KQ4 ♥ J53 ♦ KJ2 ♣ J1042</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11 12</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	HCP		6	11 12	11	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	1	-	-	-	S	-	1	-	-	-	E	3	-	1	4	1	W	3	-	1	4	1	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 28 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr><th style="text-align: left;">West</th><th style="text-align: left;">North</th><th style="text-align: left;">East</th><th style="text-align: left;">South</th></tr> <tr><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>4♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">4♠ will be a very common contract losing 2 Spades and one Diamond.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">West is too strong for a 3♠ pre-emptive opening. Some North's might be tempted to over call 2♦ but it might get messy if South takes North for more values and decides to enter the auction as well.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass		
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