

Fearghal O'Boyle (Assuming 4-card Majors, Weak No-Trump, Transfers and Weak Two Openings)

<p style="text-align: center;">♠ 103 ♥ J853 ♦ 754 ♣ 10643</p> <p>♠ 842 ♠ KQ975 ♥ Q ♥ A97 ♦ AKQ1082 ♦ J6 ♣ 752 ♣ AQJ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">♠ AJ6 ♥ K10642 ♦ 93 ♣ K98</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;">1</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11 17</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</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>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	HCP		1	11 17	11	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	1	-	-	S	-	-	1	-	-	E	2	5	-	4	3	W	2	4	-	4	3	<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Nil All</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</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>With both the ♠A and the ♣K in the South hand, 6♠ is doomed. 4♠ will be the popular contract and many declarers will just lose 2 trump tricks making 11 tricks for a good result.</p> <p>The only way the defenders can stop 11 tricks is for them to cut declarer off from dummy's Diamond suit – either by leading Diamonds twice or by leading the ♥K making declarer use his Heart ruff entry to dummy prematurely.</p> <p>The auction raises an important question for partnership discussion – what does East's 2NT rebid show? Modern treatment, if playing weak No-Trump is to play the 2NT rebid in this situation as 15+ and forcing. This allows more room to explore all the possible game and slam options.</p> <p>The East players who end up in 3NT will probably score +430. Only the 'spectacular' ♥K lead from South holds declarer to 9 tricks in 3NT.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass		
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<p style="text-align: center;">♠ AJ4 ♥ AKQ5 ♦ 543 ♣ KJ5</p> <p>♠ K86 ♠ 532 ♥ J109 ♥ 643 ♦ A8 ♦ KJ2 ♣ 109843 ♣ Q762</p> <p style="text-align: center;">♠ Q1097 ♥ 872 ♦ Q10976 ♣ A</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;">18</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8 6</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</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>5</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>4</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		18	8 6	8	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	5	4	4	3	S	2	5	4	4	3	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>3NT will be the popular contract although most tables won't take as long as this to get there! If you play North's 2NT rebid as 18-19 and forcing then N/S will have the luxury of investigating any possible 5-3 Heart or Spade fits. So the above auction, while long, is a very nice auction as N/S are fully aware that they do not have any 5-3 major suit fits.</p> <p>If you land in 4♥ or 4♠, the play will be a lot easier than in 3NT and you will more than likely end up with 11 tricks if E/W don't get their diamond ruff.</p> <p>Those of us in 3NT will make 3S, 4H and 2C for 9 tricks. Some will make 10 tricks if West covers the ♠Q and some of us will go down if we go after diamond tricks.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass			
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♠AQ83
 ♥J105
 ♦K84
 ♣Q92
 ♠J74 ♠K965
 ♥AQ8 ♥K764
 ♦QJ73 ♦A965
 ♣K83 ♣4
 ♠102
 ♥932
 ♦102
 ♣AJ10765

HCP	
12	10
13	5

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	1	5	4	3	3
W	1	5	4	3	3

Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable

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

E/W can make a lot of tricks here because the Hearts break 3-3, the ♦10 is doubleton and both black aces are inside.

Some Easts will pass the 1NT opening, some will try Stayman and Pass whatever response they get. Others will try Stayman and get to 3NT or 5♦.

As 10 counts go, that East hand is top notch. It feels right to try Stayman and if you find a major suit fit to either bid game or at least invite game.

At the table when you hear the 2♦ reply you might wish you had just passed the 1NT opening but as it happens both Diamond and No-Trump partscores lead to +150.

♠J1094
 ♥J972
 ♦A654
 ♣3
 ♠A5 ♠7
 ♥KQ5 ♥A108643
 ♦KQ10 ♦J93
 ♣AJ872 ♣K109
 ♠KQ8632
 ♥-
 ♦872
 ♣Q654

HCP	
6	8
19	7

Makeable contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	-	3	-
S	-	-	-	3	-
E	5	2	6	-	6
W	4	2	6	-	6

Board 4 : Dealer West : All Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♥	1♠
Dbl (3H)	3♠	4♥	4♠
Dbl	All Pass		

One of the more interesting boards of the night. E/W can make 12 tricks in Hearts or No-Trump - as long as they correctly guess the location of the ♣Q. Of course the ♣Q will be easy to find if South bids Spades, then shows out of Hearts and then follows to 3 rounds of Diamonds!

Slam won't be bid too often - especially if N/S get busy. So any N/S pair finding a good sacrifice in 7♠x-4 for -1100 will not get the good result they were hoping for. The 3-3 Diamond break gives N/S their all-important 9th trick in a Spade contract.

West's 'Double' of 1♠ is a support-double showing 3-card Heart support. There won't be many E/W pairs who are allowed to play peacefully in 4♥. Most N/S will compete to 4♠ and then the real decisions begin.

West will probably double to show his extra values and then East has to decide whether to pass or bid on. And then N/S have to decide whether to bid again if E/W go to 5♥. Bridge is a Great Game!

<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 942 ♥ K4 ♦ J1087 ♣ 10984</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 1063 ♠ AKQJ8 ♥ 5 ♥ 9832 ♦ AQ6542 ♦ 9 ♣ Q63 ♣ J52</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 75 ♥ AQJ1076 ♦ K3 ♣ AK7</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;">4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">11</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">17</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>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		4		8	11	17		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	1	-	2	-	-	S	1	-	2	-	-	E	-	2	-	3	-	W	-	2	-	3	-	<p>Board 5 : 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>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Dbl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Dbl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥ All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>There are a lot of decisions for the players here. Most East's will open 1♠ and then South has to decide whether to bid his Hearts or double. If he doesn't bid his Hearts now he might hear his opponent bid them on the next round and then he might not be able to get his partner to believe he really has a Heart suit!</p> <p>E/W will make 9 or 10 tricks in Spades. It takes a trump lead to hold E/W to 9 tricks but most Souths will probably lead a top Club. There doesn't seem to be any way for N/S to make more than 8 tricks in a Heart contract. 3♥-1 by South undoubled will be a good score for N/S but 4♥-2, whether doubled or not, will be poor.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	1♠	Dbl	2♦	Pass	2♥	Dbl	2♠	Pass	Pass	3♥ All Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ K95 ♥ AQ ♦ AQJ742 ♣ J5</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q8632 ♠ A4 ♥ K6 ♥ 10743 ♦ 10 ♦ 8653 ♣ K10873 ♣ Q42</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J107 ♥ J9852 ♦ K9 ♣ A96</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;">17</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">9</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>6</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>4</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		17		8	6	9		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	6	5	2	4	S	-	6	5	2	4	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<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>Pass</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</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>The popular contract will be 3NT by N/S but some pairs will talk themselves out of No-Trump and into 4♥ or even 5♦. As ever the pairs in 5♦+1 will get a very poor matchpoint score.</p> <p>On a club lead, declarer will win the third round, take the heart finesse and cash out for 3NT+1 and +430. On a non-club lead, declarer might end up with 11 tricks because he has time to set up another heart trick for himself.</p> <p>Will anyone really bid and make 6♦?</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ A10942 ♥ 96 ♦ 5 ♣ AJ852</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ - ♠ J87 ♥ KJ1083 ♥ AQ742 ♦ AKQ ♦ 1098 ♣ 107643 ♣ Q9</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KQ653 ♥ 5 ♦ J76432 ♣ K</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;">9</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">9</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">9</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>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		9		13	9	9		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	2	-	5	-	S	-	2	-	5	-	E	-	-	5	-	-	W	-	-	5	-	-	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 8 : Dealer West : Nil all</p> <table style="margin: 0 auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">South</th> <th style="padding: 2px;"></th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">1♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">1♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">3♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">4♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Another competitive hand where both sides can make an easy 11 tricks in their respective major suits.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">After West opens 1♥, North will overcall 1♠ or if N/S play Michaels or Ghesthem he will overcall 2♥ to show his 2 suiter. N/S will get to 4♠ very easily at all tables and then the real decisions will have to be made. Should E/W bid on to 5♥? If E/W bid 5♥ should N/S bid 5♠? If N/S bid 5♠ should E/W pass, double or bid 6♥? And if E/W bid 6♥ should N/S pass, double or bid 6♠?</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">If N/S get to play in 4♠ or 5♠ they will get a lot of matchpoints and if E/W get to play in 4♥, 5♥ or 6♥, they will get a lot of matchpoints. Fortune will favour the brave on this one.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♥	1♠	3♥	4♠	All Pass
HCP																																																							
9																																																							
13	9																																																						
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ AKJ3 ♥ J65 ♦ J62 ♣ J63</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 965 ♠ 1074 ♥ AQ ♥ 97432 ♦ Q987 ♦ 43 ♣ K872 ♣ A105</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q82 ♥ K108 ♦ AK105 ♣ Q94</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><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">4</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</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>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>2</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		11	4	14		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	1	1	1	1	2	S	1	2	1	2	2	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 9 : 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;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> </tr> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>How many of us will pass 1NT with that North hand? Not too many - but in hindsight all the warning signs are there....4333 shape and no fillers (8's, 9's and 10's).</p> <p>Understandably most South's will be in 3NT and some will even make it. If West leads a red suit then South can set up a club trick and hope to get a ninth trick from the 'tooth-fairy'. The ♣9 is a 'huge' card in the South hand.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	1NT
HCP																																																					
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J10753 ♥ K72 ♦ 64 ♣ 654</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q2 ♠ A984 ♥ 3 ♥ AJ96 ♦ AKJ107532 ♦ 8 ♣ A9 ♣ K732</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ K6 ♥ Q10854 ♦ Q9 ♣ QJ108</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;">4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</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="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>7</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>7</td></tr> </table>	HCP		4		14	12	10		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	3	7	2	3	7	W	2	7	1	2	7	<p>Board 10 : 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;">1♣</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5♦ (0 or 3)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">6♦</td> <td style="text-align: center;">All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>West is the 'boss' on this hand but he might have to rely on 'bow and arrow' bidding. The simplest way to get to slam seems to be to just check for Aces and then give it a lash! If West does ask for Aces - via Key Card or Gerber or Blackwood - he will learn that his partner has 2 aces - and hopefully a bit more too!</p> <p>1♣ is the normal opening with the East hand although some might try a weak No-Trump while others might even Pass with their vulnerable minimum.</p> <p>7♦ is a tough bid to find - it takes a lot of vision and hope. Those who bid 7♦ might reason that if the Diamonds break they can count 11 top tricks and since East opened the bidding he must have more than just 2 Aces so there must be a 12th and 13th trick somewhere.</p> <p>The run of the trump suit puts unbearable pressure on South in 3 suits. Bidding any type of Slam will be a very good result.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♣	Pass		Pass	5♦ (0 or 3)	Pass	6♦	All Pass		
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♠ KQ107
 ♥ 109
 ♦ Q652
 ♣ AJ7
 ♠ 853 ♠ 94
 ♥ A5 ♥ KJ764
 ♦ K83 ♦ 107
 ♣ KQ964 ♣ 10853
 ♠ AJ62
 ♥ Q832
 ♦ AJ94
 ♣ 2

HCP	
12	
12	4
12	

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

Board 11 : Dealer South : Nil all

West	North	East	South
			1♥
2♣	Dbl (Neg)	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

If N/S find their Spade fit they should be able to get to 4♠. Not everyone will make 10 tricks so those pairs who stay in a Spade partscore will score ok.

Some E/W might get busy in the auction making it difficult for N/S to find their Spade fit. North's 'Double' of 2♣ is a 'Negative' or 'Sputnik' Double showing a 4-card Spade suit. Of course if E/W get too busy they might get too high themselves - and may even end up in the wrong suit (Hearts).

North's ♥109 become very important in the play allowing him to set up South's ♥8 as his tenth trick - losing 2 Hearts and a Diamond.

Those in 3NT will also have to appreciate the value of North's ♥109.

♠ K7632
 ♥ 83
 ♦ QJ64
 ♣ 74
 ♠ 1084 ♠ -
 ♥ 92 ♥ AJ764
 ♦ A97 ♦ K8532
 ♣ AJ1095 ♣ KQ6
 ♠ AQJ95
 ♥ KQ105
 ♦ 10
 ♣ 832

HCP	
6	
9	13
12	

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

Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable

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

N/S can only make 9 tricks in Spades and they must be careful not to get higher in case they get doubled.

If E/W can land in four of a minor they will score very well and they can count themselves very unlucky that 5♣ and 5♦ go down because of the bad Diamond break.

This is the kind of hand where any 'plus' score will be a good board.

<p> ♠AQ53 ♥AQ10 ♦1096 ♣K65 ♠K1082 ♠J96 ♥J5 ♥K743 ♦K854 ♦73 ♣Q103 ♣J842 ♠74 ♥9862 ♦AQJ2 ♣A97 </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;">15</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</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>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>4</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		15		9	5	11		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	4	3	2	4	S	2	4	3	2	4	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 13 : Dealer North : 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 style="text-align: center;">1♠</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;">2NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>Surely every table will be in 3NT - two balanced hands and 26 HCP. Any South's playing 'Jacoby 2NT Responses' will be forced to respond 2♦ rather than a 'natural' 2NT. 3NT+1 will be the norm. Any E/W pair getting 4 tricks will score a near top.</p> <p>The favourable heart layout means that declarer will score 3 Heart tricks no matter how he plays them. 3 Hearts, 3 Diamonds, 2 Clubs and 2 Spades means 10 tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass			
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9	5																																																												
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<p> ♠A3 ♥K982 ♦K10876 ♣J9 ♠QJ4 ♠1072 ♥J103 ♥AQ6 ♦95 ♦AQJ32 ♣Q6432 ♣A7 ♠K9865 ♥754 ♦4 ♣K1085 </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><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</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>-</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>1</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		11		6	17	6		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	2	1	1	1	2	W	2	1	1	1	2	<p>Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</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;">1♦</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>E/W have only 23 HCP so they should be able to avoid game. This doesn't seem to be a good hand for any N/S who decide to enter the auction.</p> <p>Against 2NT a Spade lead will set up 4 spade tricks for the defence to be cashed when South gets in with the ♣K. If Declarer could find a few more entries to dummy he could make a few more tricks. The Strong No-Trumpers who open 1NT with the East hand won't be under as much pressure.</p> <p>North does best to follow the old adage of covering the last Heart honour lead from dummy as it denies declarer a precious entry to the West hand.</p> <p>Making 2NT will be a good score for E/W because there will be quite a few declarers who will struggle to even make 7 tricks!</p>	West	North	East	South			1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT	All Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 93 ♥ 98653 ♦ 873 ♣ Q86</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KJ64 ♠ AQ87 ♥ K42 ♥ AJ ♦ AJ ♦ 42 ♣ A1093 ♣ KJ542</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 1052 ♥ Q107 ♦ KQ10965 ♣ 7</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;">2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</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>-</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>6</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>7</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>6</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>7</td><td>6</td></tr> </table>	HCP		2		16	15	7		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	6	1	2	7	6	W	6	1	2	7	6	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="1" style="margin: 0 auto; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>2♦ (weak)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4NT (RKCB)</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5♦ (0 or 3)</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>6♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">This hand is all about guessing who has the ♣Q. If you are in NT you will make 12 tricks if you guess right and 7 tricks if you guess wrong! If you are in Spades you will make 13 tricks if you guess right and 11 if you guess wrong.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">So if you're not going to be in Slam it makes sense to be in Spades where you are guaranteed +450 even if you are a bad guesser.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">But maybe it's not a complete guess? If South shows long Diamonds in the auction there might be a slight clue that he is short in Clubs thus making North a more likely player to hold the ♣Q. Certainly if declarer plays his major suits first he will get 100% proof that South is short in Clubs.</p>	West	North	East	South				2♦ (weak)	2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT (RKCB)	Pass	5♦ (0 or 3)	Pass	6♠	All Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 62 ♥ 752 ♦ J84 ♣ Q8754</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A84 ♠ KJ ♥ J109643 ♥ AQ ♦ 1075 ♦ K932 ♣ A ♣ K10963</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q109753 ♥ K8 ♦ AQ6 ♣ J2</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;">3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</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>-</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>3</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	HCP		3		9	16	12		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	2	3	4	1	3	W	2	3	4	1	3	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="1" style="margin: 0 auto; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dbl</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">This hand could cause problems for both sides. South has to decide whether or not to show his Spade suit and E/W have to decide whether to double South in his Spade contract or bid 3NT or 4♥ themselves. 4♥ will be a popular contract but it is not an easy make.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">The ♦10 is an important card for declarer because it stops N/S from cashing 3 Diamond tricks. So if declarer can resist the temptation to play a Diamond to the King - sooner or later South will have to concede a Diamond trick to declarer.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Those in 3NT will make 9 tricks - even on a Spade lead - unless they get a little 'entry' help from their friends.</p>	West	North	East	South	2♥	Pass	2NT	3♠	Dbl	Pass	4♥	All Pass
HCP																																																									
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ KJ653 ♥ 76 ♦ J1065 ♣ K5</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A9874 ♠ 10 ♥ K952 ♥ AJ10843 ♦ K ♦ Q97 ♣ 973 ♣ Q102</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q2 ♥ Q ♦ A8432 ♣ AJ864</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>9</td> <td>S</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>E</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>13</td> <td>W</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	8		N	2	3	-	2	-	10	9	S	2	3	-	2	-			E	-	-	3	-	1		13	W	-	-	3	-	1	<p>Board 17 : Dealer North : 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></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">If East opens a Weak 2 in Hearts, South will be stuck for a bid. North might expect a 4-card Spade suit if South 'doubles' and 2NT would show 16-18 balanced.</p> <p>West should raise Hearts and maybe 3 Hearts is enough given that North is already a 'passed hand'. It will not be easy for N/S to get back into this auction but if they do then 3♠x-1 or 4♦x-1 will be good results for them.</p> <p>There will be a few E/W pairs allowed to make 10 tricks in Hearts because timing will be everything for the N/S defence....they need to score either 3 Club tricks or 2 Club tricks and a Club ruff - and not every N/S pair will achieve this aim.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥	All Pass		
HCP		Makeable contracts																																																									
		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																																																					
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q4 ♥ AQ10952 ♦ J42 ♣ 87</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J105 ♠ 873 ♥ KJ ♥ 74 ♦ 1063 ♦ AK98 ♣ A9653 ♣ KQ42</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AK962 ♥ 863 ♦ Q75 ♣ J10</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>12</td> <td>S</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>E</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>10</td> <td>W</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	9		N	-	-	3	3	-	9	12	S	-	-	3	3	-			E	1	-	-	-	-		10	W	1	1	-	-	-	<p>Board 18 : Dealer East : 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></td> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Most N/S pairs will win this auction and play in a major suit partscore. They will make either 9 or 11 tricks depending on whether E/W cash their 4 minor suit winners immediately or not.</p> <p>There may even be some N/S pairs who get to 4♥ or 4♠. If West is on lead this won't be a good time to lead a trump and if East is on lead - he will lead the Ace and King of Diamonds and now he needs to trust that his partner cannot ruff the third Diamond - and instead switch to a Club.</p>	West	North	East	South			1NT	Pass	Pass	2♥	All Pass	
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 83 ♥ 32 ♦ AKJ8643 ♣ A7</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KQ106 ♠ J74 ♥ AK84 ♥ Q96 ♦ Q95 ♦ 72 ♣ 103 ♣ KQJ85</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A952 ♥ J1075 ♦ 10 ♣ 9642</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>9</td> <td>S</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>E</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>5</td> <td>W</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	12		N	-	3	-	-	3	14	9	S	-	3	-	-	3			E	2	-	2	2	-		5	W	2	-	2	2	-	<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>1NT</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>N/S can make 9 tricks in 3♦ and they can make the same 9 tricks in 3NT (7 diamond tricks and two black aces).</p> <p>It's hard to imagine E/W winning the auction but if they do it will probably be in clubs. There they will be held to 8 tricks if N/S play 3 rounds of diamonds or if North manages to get a spade ruff.</p> <p>East is not good enough to bid 3♣ over North's 2♦ overcall. If East really wants to bid he would need to be playing a convention such as 'Lebensohl' where he bids 2NT requiring West to bid 3♣ which East then passes.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT	2♦	All Pass	Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J2 ♥ 9876 ♦ 94 ♣ AQ53</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 984 ♠ K ♥ QJ1043 ♥ AK52 ♦ K83 ♦ AQJ52 ♣ 98 ♣ K74</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AQ107653 ♥ - ♦ 1076 ♣ 1062</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>20</td> <td>S</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>E</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>6</td> <td>W</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>5</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	8		N	2	-	-	3	-	6	20	S	2	-	-	3	-			E	-	4	5	-	-		6	W	-	3	5	-	-	<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>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>E/W can make 11 tricks in 4♥ losing a trick to each of the black aces. East has a tricky opening bid....2♣ is probably the correct bid but on this particular hand all roads lead to 4♥ even if you only open 1♦!</p> <p>Hopefully there won't be any E/W's in 6♥ missing 2 aces!</p> <p>Of course there will be many courageous N/S pairs in 4♠x. This contract can be made double dummy unless West leads finds the unlikely trump lead to beat it!</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass		
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ A86 ♥ A53 ♦ Q54 ♣ J1083</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J972 ♠ K104 ♥ 4 ♥ J10987 ♦ KJ10732 ♦ - ♣ AK ♣ 76542</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q53 ♥ KQ62 ♦ A986 ♣ Q9</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <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>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</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		11		12	4	13		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	-	2	-	2	S	1	-	1	-	2	E	-	1	-	-	-	W	-	1	-	-	-	<p>Board 21 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0" 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>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♦</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>All roads lead to 2NT or 3NT by N/S. Some South's might open a weak No-Trump and get a 2NT invite from North. It doesn't matter on this hand but it often pays not to open a weak No-Trump third-in-hand vulnerable.</p> <p>South has a judgement call to make with his 13 count – is it a good 13 or a bad 13? It's a close call - the bad feature is the doubleton ♣Q and the good feature is the ♦986.</p> <p>Unfortunately the pairs who decide to stop in 2NT will probably get a bad matchpoint score as most declarers will make 9 tricks. It looks like it takes precisely the ♠9 lead to beat 3NT by South and precisely the ♠4 lead to beat 3NT by North!</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass			
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 97 ♥ KJ ♦ A9865 ♣ K973</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ QJ10542 ♠ K ♥ Q85 ♥ A1097 ♦ J4 ♦ KQ103 ♣ A10 ♣ Q842</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A863 ♥ 6432 ♦ 72 ♣ J65</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	HCP		11		10	14	5		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	1	2	3	3	2	W	1	2	3	4	3	<p>Board 22 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0" 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>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>It's hard to stay out of game on this hand but those that do will probably score very well. This will be a testing hand for defenders.</p> <p>4♠ by West is probably the easier game to make because North can't attack Clubs or Hearts successfully from his side of the table.</p> <p>3NT by East will go down if South finds a small Club lead. 4♠ by East will go down if South leads a Heart or a Club.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 63 ♥ QJ62 ♦ 104 ♣ AKQJ2</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ QJ942 ♠ AK105 ♥ AK5 ♥ 9743 ♦ K2 ♦ Q83 ♣ 954 ♣ 103</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 87 ♥ 108 ♦ AJ9765 ♣ 876</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th><th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td></td><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>9</td><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	13		N	2	2	-	-	-	13	9	S	2	2	-	-	-			E	-	-	1	3	1			W	-	-	1	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></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Dbl</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Another hand where E/W might be tempted to bid 4♠. Strictly speaking they should be able to avoid game as neither player has much to spare - but understandably 4♠ will be a popular contract. Presumably most people play 'Jordan/Truscott' where East's 2NT over North's Double shows a normal raise to 3♠?</p> <p>Only a defensive error lets the contact make e.g. if South wastes his ♦A on thin air then declarer's Heart loser disappears on the ♦Q.</p>	West	North	East	South				Pass	1♠	Dbl	2NT	Pass	3♠	All Pass		
HCP		Makeable contracts																																																													
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q62 ♥ Q84 ♦ K65 ♣ AK42</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A75 ♠ 4 ♥ AK97 ♥ J1032 ♦ Q10 ♦ AJ9872 ♣ J753 ♣ 108</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KJ10983 ♥ 65 ♦ 43 ♣ Q96</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th><th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td></td><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>6</td><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	14		N	-	-	-	2	-	14	6	S	-	-	-	2	-			E	1	4	4	-	3			W	1	4	4	-	3	<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>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠ (Trans)</td> <td>Dbl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♣</td> <td>Dbl</td> <td>3♦</td> <td>3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>E/W can make ten tricks in either red suit but if they play Weak No-Trumps they might never find their Heart fit. Even the Strong No-Trumpers might have difficulty finding the Heart fit if South overcalls 1♠.</p> <p>Even if they do find their Heart fit, the chances are that N/S will outbid them in Spades anyway. At the end of the night any E/W pair getting more than +100 will have done very well.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT	Pass	2♠ (Trans)	Dbl	3♣	Dbl	3♦	3♠	All Pass			
HCP		Makeable contracts																																																													
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q9 ♥ AQJ832 ♦ K4 ♣ KJ9</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J104 ♠ K873 ♥ 1095 ♥ K74 ♦ Q973 ♦ 106 ♣ A83 ♣ Q762</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A652 ♥ 6 ♦ AJ852 ♣ 1054</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>9</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <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>3</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>2</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		16	8	7	9	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	3	3	3	2	S	2	3	3	2	2	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 25 : Dealer North : 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>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">There seems to be no way to avoid 3NT by N/S on this hand. Some N/S's may even try 4♥. Perfect defence will beat both contracts but in practice they will both more than likely make.</p> <p>To beat 3NT, West needs to attack the Spade suit at trick one or trick 2. To beat 4♥, East needs to lead a Club. Which means 3NT will nearly always make and 4♥ will make at least half of the time.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass			
HCP																																																											
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ - ♥ AJ6542 ♦ AQ65 ♣ AJ2</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A73 ♠ K8654 ♥ Q87 ♥ K3 ♦ K3 ♦ 87 ♣ 109865 ♣ KQ73</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ QJ1092 ♥ 109 ♦ J10942 ♣ 4</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>4</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <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>6</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	HCP		16	11	9	4	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	6	4	1	-	S	-	6	4	1	-	E	2	-	-	-	-	W	2	-	-	-	1	<p>Board 26 : Dealer East : 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></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♣</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</td> <td>Dbl</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">This could be a nightmare hand for anyone who decides to play in a Spade contract! East has to decide whether or not to open the bidding? The modern trend is to open with good looking 11 counts and this 11 count is pretty good looking – 3 Kings and a working Queen of Clubs.</p> <p>But the East's who pass will probably be all the happier at the end of the night. If you pass as opener you then have to decide if you are worth an overcall when North opens 1♥? Again the passers will be happier. The suit quality really isn't good enough for a vulnerable 1♠ overcall.</p> <p>In the unlikely event that E/W remain silent throughout, N/S should get to game in one of their red suits. Those playing in a Diamond contract will just lose one Heart trick and those playing in Hearts will lose 2 Hearts and a Diamond.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♠	Pass	2♣	2♥	3♣	Pass	3♠	Dbl	All Pass	
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<p>♠ K32 ♥ K6 ♦ 106532 ♣ QJ2</p> <p>♠ 10765 ♠ Q ♥ A1085 ♥ Q43 ♦ AK8 ♦ Q974 ♣ 43 ♣ 109865</p> <p>♠ AJ984 ♥ J972 ♦ J ♣ AK7</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></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</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>1</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>2</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		9		11	6	14		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	1	1	3	2	S	-	1	1	3	2	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 27 : Dealer South : 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></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</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>4♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dbf</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>4♠ is a reasonable contract although a few N/S pairs might decide not to bid it. If it is bid then some West's might also reasonably decide to double it.</p> <p>However it takes an unlikely trump lead to beat 4♠ and in practice a top Diamond lead will prove too irresistible to most Wests thereby allowing declarer organise 10 tricks for himself.</p> <p>If declarer can avoid the trump lead he will be able to ruff 2 Hearts in dummy to go with 4 trump tricks, the King of Hearts and 3 Club tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South				1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	Dbf	All Pass		
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<p>♠ Q7 ♥ QJ10742 ♦ QJ7 ♣ 92</p> <p>♠ J94 ♠ A102 ♥ K ♥ A5 ♦ K10832 ♦ A954 ♣ AJ85 ♣ Q763</p> <p>♠ K8653 ♥ 9863 ♦ 6 ♣ K104</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;">8</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</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>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	HCP		8		12	14	6		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	1	-	-	S	-	-	1	-	-	E	4	5	-	2	3	W	4	5	-	2	3	<p>Board 28 : Dealer West : 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>1♦</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>3♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>East's 2♥ will have various meanings. In the old days it was asking for a Heart stopper but nowadays it tends to show good support for opener's suit. But no matter what it means it must be showing a good hand.</p> <p>3NT has 9 tricks: 1 Spade trick, 2 Heart tricks, 4 Diamonds and 2 Club tricks. Any declarer making overtricks probably bamboozled South out of his club trick?</p> <p>5♦ appears to have 3 losers but one of these will disappear when you endplay North with the third round of Diamonds.</p> <p>The adverse vulnerability should prevent any adventurous N/S's from taking the costly sacrifice in 4♥x-3.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♦	1♥	2♥	3♥	Pass	Pass	3NT	All Pass
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<p>♠ A96 ♥ J5 ♦ KQ853 ♣ A54</p> <p>♠ J10754 ♠ K8 ♥ AQ98 ♥ 432 ♦ J102 ♦ A74 ♣ J ♣ KQ1096</p> <p>♠ Q32 ♥ K1076 ♦ 96 ♣ 8732</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>12</td> <td>S</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>5</td> <td>E</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>W</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	14		N	-	-	-	-	9	12	S	-	-	-	-		5	E	2	1	2	2			W	2	1	2	2	<p>Board 29 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>North will probably only make 5 tricks in 1NT and lose 200 for a very poor score.</p> <p>Some Wests might bid 2♠ or use some 2-suiter convention and land in 2♥ or 2♠ - both of which make for +110 to E/W.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1NT	All Pass	
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<p>♠ Q753 ♥ K875 ♦ - ♣ KJ952</p> <p>♠ KJ82 ♠ 1096 ♥ A92 ♥ J3 ♦ AJ965 ♦ Q10743 ♣ 3 ♣ 1074</p> <p>♠ A4 ♥ Q1064 ♦ K82 ♣ AQ86</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>5</td> <td>-</td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>3</td> <td>S</td> <td>5</td> <td>-</td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>15</td> <td>E</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>W</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	9		N	5	-	5	1	13	3	S	5	-	5	1		15	E	-	2	-	-			W	-	3	-	-	<p>Board 30 : Dealer East : Love All</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dbl</td> <td>Rdbl</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>4♥ by N/S is a nice contract to get to but E/W might muddy the waters and make it difficult for N/S to find the Heart fit. Declarer has 11 tricks. Declarer has 12 tricks if West is the first player to lead Diamonds.</p> <p>Declarer will only lose one trump trick - no matter how he tackles the suit.</p> <p>It is a good idea for West to make a 'Take-out-Double' when he has 2 suits to show rather than overcall 1♦. Although 5♦x-2 by West would be a nice result for them.</p> <p>The Strong No-Trumpers will have an easier auction 1NT - 2♣ - 2♥ - 4♥.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			Pass	1♣	Dbl	Rdbl	1♦	Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass	
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J986 ♥ Q983 ♦ AQ ♣ A42</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 5 ♠ AKQ74 ♥ A7 ♥ K64 ♦ J87532 ♦ 1064 ♣ KQ108 ♣ 95</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 1032 ♥ J1052 ♦ K9 ♣ J763</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th><th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td></td><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>12</td><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>5</td><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	13		N	-	-	-	-	10	12	S	-	-	-	-		5	E	2	4	1	3	2			W	2	4	1	3	2	<p>Board 31 : Dealer South : 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>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♦</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>E/W can make 10 tricks in a Diamond contract and 9 tricks in a Spade contract.</p> <p>Any North opening a weak No-Trump 3rd in hand vulnerable will probably go two down for -200. Hence my earlier advice about not opening a Weak No-Trump third-in-hand vulnerable.</p> <p>Of course E/W might decide to bid rather than pass or double thereby letting North off the hook.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♥	1♠	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦	2♥				All Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ A9654 ♥ 9 ♦ 109832 ♣ Q6</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 87 ♠ 32 ♥ KJ ♥ A7532 ♦ A6 ♦ QJ54 ♣ AJ109872 ♣ K5</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KQJ10 ♥ Q10864 ♦ K7 ♣ 43</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th><th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td></td><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>10</td><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>11</td><td>E</td><td>5</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>W</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	6		N	-	-	-	2	-	13	10	S	-	-	-	2	-		11	E	5	1	3	-	2			W	5	-	3	-	2	<p>Board 32 : Dealer West : EW Vul</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>1♠</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Dbf</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♣</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>If N/S find their Spade fit they might bid all the way to 4♠ and go 2 light which will be a good result for them if they can escape undoubled. E/W can make 11 tricks in a club contract but they will do very well to bid past 4♣.</p> <p>3NT goes down as long as North wins precisely the fourth round of spades. Maybe some North's will be talked out of their Spade lead by a confident 3NT bid by West?</p> <p>4♥ is another reasonable game contract but the dreadful 5-1 break means it cannot be made.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♣	1♠	2♥	3♠	Pass	Pass	Dbf	Pass	4♣	All Pass		
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