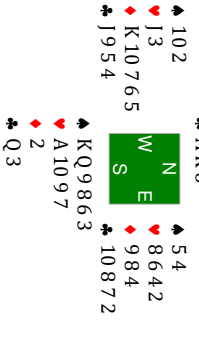


4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul



NS 7N; NS 7 ♠; NS 7 ♥; NS 5 ♦; NS 5 ♣; Par +1520

West	North	East	South
2 ♦ 1	Pass	2 ♥ 2	
2 N 3	Pass	3 ♣ 4	
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠ 5
Pass	4 ♣ 6	Pass	4 ♥ 6
Pass	5 ♣ 7	Pass	5 ♦ 7
Pass	5 N 8	Pass	7 ♠

All pass

- Any game force; or 23-24 balanced.
- Relay.
- 23-24, balanced.
- Stayman.
- 5+spades (and 4hearts, for earlier use of Stayman). 100% forcing.
- Advance (ace-showing) cue bid, agreeing spades.
- King- (or singleton-) showing cue bid.
- Grand slam force, asking for the quality of partner's trumps.
- Two of the top three honours.

This is a well-controlled auction. Once South bids 4 ♥, North will look for at least a small slam (had South only game interest he would have bid 4 ♠ over 4 ♣). When South shows a diamond control North would prefer it to be the king (rather than a singleton) but he is willing to try the grand slam if partner's trumps are good. He uses 5N as a Grand Slam Force and partner focuses on how many top (A, K, Q) honours he holds : 6 ♣ shows none, 6 ♠ one and 7 ♠ confirms at least two. That's enough information for North.

There is nothing to the play. The fourth heart can be discarded on the queen of clubs. As it is, ♥ J falls in two rounds (so there are also four heart tricks). The trumps are 2-2 as well so the fourth heart could also have been ruffed in dummy.

7N is also making but any suit grand slam scores well.

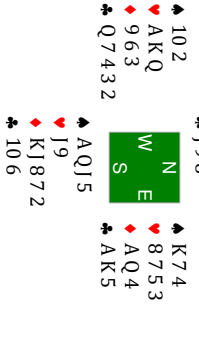
nb: the use of 4N as Roman Key Card Blackwood (RKCB) has largely superseded the use of a 5N Grand Slam Force (GSF) but, as above, this bid still has it's uses. Yes, 5N is the GSF provided there hasn't been an earlier use of RKCB 4N.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 2

East Deals

N-S Vul



EW 4N; E 4 ♥; W 3 ♥; EW 4 ♣; E 2 ♦; E 1 ♠; W 1 ♦; Par -430

West	North	East	South
2 ♣	Pass	2 N 2	Pass
3 N	All pass		

1. Light and a little off-shape but gets the spades into the picture.
If partner bids 2 ♣, can convert to 2 ♦.

2. 15-18, wide-ranging.

Whether South makes a positive call, or not, East West are likely to arrive in 3N. This contract has nine top tricks (five clubs, three hearts and a diamond) and that would seem to be the limit. Here South's intervention may have given declarer the clue to the tenth tricks. Let's say there's a neutral lead of a club or a heart (best). Declarer can cash his heart then club winners, ending in dummy. Now he plays ♠ 10 and runs it. South wins cheaply but is end-played. He must give a trick to either ♠ K or ♦ Q. A neat line for ten tricks.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay
Board 3
South Deals
E-W Vul

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

EW 7 ♣; EW 3N; EW 5 ♦; Par -1700; NS 7 ♥x-7; NS 7 ♠x-7
West North East South
2 N¹ Pass 5 ♣ All pass
1. Unusual 2N showing the minors (at least 5/5).

[Follow up on last week's workshop]

It would seem somewhat contrived to suggest a sequence where East West reach the excellent 7 ♣ but anyone bidding to the small slam will have done well. The slam zone is excellent and works because of the great trump holdings, the distribution and the possession of all the aces. Here West's major suit singletons are covered by East's aces. Perfect. East's singleton diamond is covered by West's ace and the diamond suit can be ruffed out to arrive at thirteen tricks - six clubs, three side suit aces, three diamond ruffs and an established diamond winner.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay
Board 4
West Deals
Both Vul

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

NS 6 ♦; NS 6 ♣; S 5N; NS 5 ♠; N 4N; S 2 ♥; N 1 ♥; Par +1370
West North East South
2 ♥¹ Pass Pass Dbl
Pass 2 ♠ Pass 3 N
All pass
1. 5-9, 6hearts ("weak2).

Were South to have called 2N (instead of the double) that would show 15-18 high card points (hcps). The actual double followed by 2N would be 19-21 so with his 22hcp hand South reasonably jumps to the no trump game.

This works well as the heart holding is protected from immediate attack. If West does lead a heart there will be twelve tricks. Declarer can knock out ♦ A and arrive at three spades (yes, a useful doubleton ♠ K with West), two hearts, three diamonds and four clubs. Any lead, other than a heart, should hold declarer to eleven tricks.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 5

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 9 6

♥ K Q 8 4 3

♦ 9 6 4

♣ 9 7 3

♠ K

♥ 10 6

♦ AK Q 7 2

♣ AK Q 10 6

♠ J 8 7 4

♥ A 5 2

♦ 10 8 5 3

♣ J 2

W

E

S

N

EW 6 ♦; EW 5 ♠; Par -920

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♦	2 ♠ 1	
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♠ 2	Pass
6 ♦	All pass		

1. A weak jump overall. Good suit and some shape given the vulnerability.

2. Splinter-showing bid and slam try.

We have another slam that will be difficult to bid. The key bid is East's splinter bid of 4 ♠. After this bid West knows that his four trumps, useful ♣ J and ♥ A (and no wastage in spades) are gold dust. There wouldn't be much point in cue bidding 5 ♥ since that bid commits the partnership to slam anyway.

South cashes ♠ A but that's the only trick for the defence. Declarer can draw trumps and play winning clubs. Two of dummy's hearts go away and East can ruff the heart loser - twelve tricks by way of five diamonds, five clubs, the ace of hearts and a heart ruff.

[That East holds a powerful hand with both minors makes it awkward to start with a 2 ♣ bid. He will have to bid 3 ♦ over the 2 ♦ relay and will already be at the 3level without having shown a second suit, let alone, the 5/5 shape. Opening 1 ♦ is more flexible and West will know of partner's very good hand when East bids 3 ♣ when partner has been silent]

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 6

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ Q J 10 9 2

♥ K Q 2

♦ Q 8 3

♣ K 10

♠ 7

♥ A 8 7 6 4

♦ A 9 6 5 4 2

♣ 4

♠ K 5 4 3

♥ —

♦ K 1 7

♣ Q 8 7 6 3 2

W

E

S

N

NS 2 ♠; NS 2 ♥; EW 3 ♦; EW 1 N; S 1 ♣; Par -100; NS 3 ♥ x -1; NS 3 ♠ x -1

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
1 ♠ 1	1 ♠	Dbl	2 ♠ 2
Pass	2 ♠	3 ♦	Pass
Pass	3 ♠	All pass	

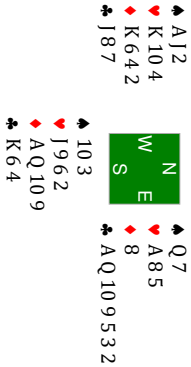
1. Light but shapely.

2. Good raise of spades. 3+spades and 10+ hcps.

It's a moot point as to whether North will press on to 3 ♠ - flattish hand and no known nine card fit. East does well to lead ♥ A. Now he can give partner a ruff, get the lead back with a diamond and provide a second ruff for West. West will also make ♠ K so the contract will fail by one trick.

That may work out well as East West might scramble nine tricks in diamonds. East hopes to ruff a couple of hearts, build the king of spades and lose just one trump. He'll lose a trick in each suit if he plays well.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay
Board 7
South Deals
Both Vul

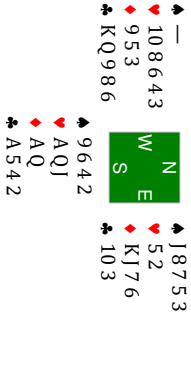


EW 3N; EW 4♣; NS 1♠; W 1♥; NS 1♦; Par -600
West North East South
1 N¹ Pass 3 N All pass
1. 12-14.

North is likely to lead a 4th best spade (not ♠9, since we lead from interior sequences that start with 10s and higher) and that will give declarer at least ten tricks - two spades, two hearts and six clubs (South could duck the lead of ♣J but there's always a heart entry to dummy's long suit).

An unlikely 4th best diamond works better as it builds three diamonds for the defence before the king of clubs has been knocked out. That would be plus 600 to East West and a very good matchpoint score to North South.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay
Board 8
West Deals
None Vul



NS 5♠; NS 4N; NS 2♥; NS 3♦; NS 3♣; Par +450
West North East South
Pass 1 N¹ Pass 2 ♣²
Pass 2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠
All pass
1. 12-14.
2. Stayman.

What are the odds on a 5-0 break? 4%. In other words for 1 in 25 deals the spades will divide, between East and West (either way), as above. 4♠ is still the correct contract.

West may lead a top-of-a-sequence ♣K which declarer will win to play a spade. The bad news arrives quickly so a diamond is played from dummy and ♦Q successfully finessed. Declarer will now plan to ruff two diamonds in the dummy. In practice he's likely to lose three trumps since he'll try to cash the third heart winner and may suffer an overruff if he ruffs a club with ♠10.

That said, ten tricks may be a good score. Often, confronted with a bad break, players lose focus and don't do the simple things of which they are capable.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 9

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A K J 2

♥ 5 4

♦ A 8 2

♣ A 7 6 2

W

E

S

♠ Q 10 9 6 5

♥ A J 10 7 6

♦ 7 5

♣ 3

♠ 4 3

♥ Q 9 3 2

♦ 10 9 6 4 3

♣ 5 4

EW 5 ♠; EW 4 ♥; EW 3 N; NS 2 ♣; Par -650

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

1. A Michaels cue bid, showing at least 5/5 in the majors.

2. Makes a cue bid to show a strong hand (slam is possible if partner is strong).

3. By bidding the cheaper known suit at a minimum level East shows no extra values.

[Follow up on last week's workshop]

West has a big hand in support of partner's known spade suit so he starts with a cue bid. He does this to see whether partner shows any indication of being strong. Bidding the lower known suit at a minimum level is the weakest response the Michaels cue bidder can make. With that information West settles for game.

South leads a top-of-a-doubleton ♣ 5 (partner's suit) and declarer wins to play an immediate heart, finessing ♥ 10. With trumps breaking 2-2 he'll be able to ruff the hearts good (a 3-3 heart break would have made it easier). There will be eleven tricks with declarer losing a diamond and the heart lost at trick two.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 10

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ K Q J 5

♥ —

♦ K 2

♣ K J 9 7 6 4 3

W

E

S

♠ 8 7 6 4 2

♥ K 10 5

♦ 6 5

♣ A Q 10

♠ 9 3

♥ J 8 7 4 2

♦ Q 10 7 4 3

♣ 5

W 5 N; E 4 N; EW 4 ♥; EW 3 ♠; EW 2 ♦; NS 1 ♣; Par -660

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
1 ♥	2 ♣	Dbl 1	Pass
3 ♦ 2	Pass	4 ♥ 4	All pass

1. A little stymied so the call, which usually implies longer diamonds, is improvised.

2. Too good for 2 ♦. This jump allows partner to jump to 4 ♥.

East has a difficult bid on the second round. 2 ♠ wouldn't be wrong but tends to suggest a much better 5-carder (the bid always promises at least that number). In the auction East treats the hand as if it held only a four card spade suit. By the end the hand has unravelled itself and East West arrive in the excellent 4 ♥.

Again we find an awful trump break but declarer can surmount this difficulty with some clear thinking. He can plan to ruff two diamonds in dummy and not worry about picking up the trumps. Win the likely ♠ K lead and duck a diamond. The defence will cash a spade and West ruffs the third round. He cashes ♦ A, ruffs a diamond and ruffs another spade to hand. The fourth diamond is ruffed in dummy. ♥ K is cashed to reveal the bad break. It doesn't matter as declarer can play what is now a master spade. He'll overruff whatever South plays and take a winning club finesse. He'll try to cash ♣ A but South will ruff. But what has happened? Declarer is home with five trumps in hand, ♦ A, two diamond ruffs, a top spade and a top club.

Ten tricks and very well played (plus 620). Another case (see board 8) of postponing the drawing of trumps.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 11

♠ 6 5
A Q 6 3
♥ A Q 5 2
♦ Q 8 7 6
♣ Q 8 7 6

South Deals
None Vul

♠	A K 10 9 7	♠	Q 8 2								
♥	J 10 8 5	♥	9 7 2								
♦	J 10	♦	K 6 3								
♣	A J	♣	K 10 9 2								
<table><tr><td>♠</td><td>N</td><td>♠</td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td>♥</td><td>W</td><td>♥</td><td>S</td></tr></table>				♠	N	♠	E	♥	W	♥	S
♠	N	♠	E								
♥	W	♥	S								

♠	J 4 3	♠	K 4
♥	K 4	♥	A 9 8 7 4
♦	A 9 8 7 4	♦	5 4 3
♣	5 4 3	♣	

EW 3N; EW 3♠; EW 2♥; NS 1♦; EW 1♣; Par -400			
West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Db1 ¹	2 ♠	3 ♦
All pass			
1. Cheeky.			

East may have been lighter for his raise but his flat shape doesn't make his hand any better. North's wailer thin call may have bought the pot for North South. 3 ♦ is likely to be defeated by two tricks with the defence taking two spades, three clubs and just one trump (note the favourable ♦ J10 holding for declarer, readily apparent if ♦ A is cashed first). That will give East West a paltry plus 100 which could have been increased to a massive plus 300 if the contract had been doubled. But who could possibly double? No one really.

The real world problem for East West is that plus 100 is no compensation for making plus 140 - nine tricks in spades. That depends on guessing the diamonds correctly but even a misguess gives them plus 110. A good example of jostling bidding creating matchpoint problems. Here West would be reluctant to venture 3 ♠ when partner could be very, very weak.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 12

♠ A Q J 9 6
♥ 5
♦ A K Q 8 4
♣ 6 5

West Deals
N-S Vul

♠	K 2	♠	10 8 5 4								
♥	A Q J 7 4 3	♥	K 8 2								
♦	3 2	♦	7 6								
♣	K 10 8	♣	J 7 3 2								
<table><tr><td>♠</td><td>N</td><td>♠</td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td>♥</td><td>W</td><td>♥</td><td>S</td></tr></table>				♠	N	♠	E	♥	W	♥	S
♠	N	♠	E								
♥	W	♥	S								

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

NS 4♣; NS 5♦; NS 1N; S 2♠; EW 1♥; N 1♣; Par +620			
West	North	East	South
1 ♥	2 ♥ ¹	Pass	2 N ²
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	5 ♦
All pass			
1. A Michaels cue bid showing 5+spades and 5+cards in a minor.			

[Follow up on last week's workshop]

When we play Michaels cue bids in a wide-ranging way we may give up some accuracy in exchange for getting into the auction. Here North has to decide whether to be pessimistic (a 3 ♦ call) or to put on the rose-tinted glasses and jump to 4 ♦ to show extras. Here we take the latter path and South appreciates his four trumps and useful club cards to raise to game (slightly optimistic too).

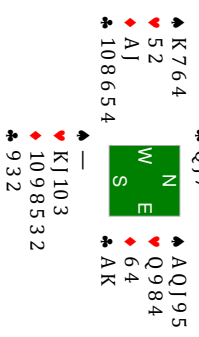
This bullish approach works very well as declarer can establish the spades via a couple of successful finesses and ruff to land eleven tricks. Four spades, a spade ruff, five diamonds and a club.

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 13

North Deals

Both Vul



EW 4♠; EW 2N; NS 3♦; EW 2♣; EW 1♥; Par -500; NS 5♦ x-2			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 N1	2 ♣2	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass
1. 12-14.			
2. Landy showing both majors (but see text).			

Landy works well here with West able to jump support spades with his values and four trumps. East has more than enough in reserve so bids game.

South may lead a top-of-a-sequence ♦ 10 which declarer wins. He has eight top tricks and he can make his contract if he plans to ruff two hearts in hand - five spades, two heart ruffs, ♦ A and ♣ AK. He'll have to be slightly careful to ruff the fourth heart with ♠ K. Provided he's cashed a top spade in the East hand (yes, another bad break) he'll then know to finesse ♠ 9 to pick up North's trumps.

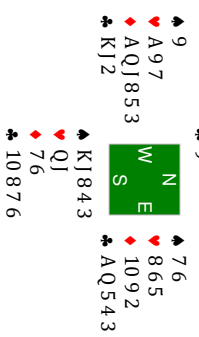
With spades breaking badly declarer could not have played on clubs to advantage even though they break 3-3. (can set the clubs up but have no entry to enjoy the third and fourth winners).

4thMay2016 SupervisedPlay

Board 14

East Deals

None Vul



NS 4♠; NS 3♥; EW 3♦; EW 1N; EW 2♣; Par +300; EW 5♦ x-2				
West	North	East	South	
		Pass	Pass	
1♦	2♦ 1	Pass	4♠	
All pass				
1. Michaels cue bid showing both majors (at least 5/5 shape)				

[Follow up on last week's workshop]

Here we see South taking advantage of the vulnerability to blast game, knowing of the ten card spade fit. The hands fit so well that West would be injudicious to double this (a bid that tends to show extras rather than being purely for penalties). South will chalk up a gratifying ten tricks as he'll only lose the aces of the three side suits. Yes, almost a 20/20 pack with all North South's cards pulling their weight. ... now had North South been vulnerable they may not have been so bold but would have made the same number of tricks.