

**Board 1**

North Deals  
None Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

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

NS 5♠; NS 3♥; NS 2N; EW 1♦; NS 1♣; Par +450

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

South's second round jump to bid is a slight underbid (a sophisticated route might go through fourth suit forcing before agreeing the spades). That said, North has a very minimum hand and will not go further than game.

Lead: ♥ 10 (top of a sequence) or ♥ 9 (second from rubbish).

Declarer ducks the opening lead and, with West winning ♥ K, has three heart winners. Although difficult to believe, if West never returns a diamond, it's possible to make eleven tricks (when playing the trumps in normal fashion - i.e. cashing the two top winners). One way to do this is to take a double ruffing finesse through East (yes, another form of finesse for your repertoire). We can throw dummy's diamond on the third heart winner and table ♦ K. East covers and when we get back to hand we play ♦ J intending to run it if that's not covered. We can take five spades, two hearts (assuming the third heart winner is ruffed), one diamond, two diamond ruffs and a top club. An unlikely +450 (it happened at the table).

**Board 2**

East Deals  
N-S Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

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

EW 4N; EW 4♠; EW 4♣; EW 2♥; EW 2♦; Par -430

West	North	East	South
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		1 ♠	Pass
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2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
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4 ♠	All pass		
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**[Follow up hand to last week's workshop]**

Here East bids out his shape such that West knows that the first suit has five, or more, cards in it. With the eight card fit coming to light West jumps to game with the right sort of hand (about 13-15, not too powerful, in the sense of being aceless - compare with board 1).

Lead: ♦ K.

East takes the first trick (though he might duck - that would work if diamonds were 5-2, with the hand holding the doubleton also holding the ace of clubs). Trumps can be drawn in three rounds and ♣ J is led and overtaken in dummy. That overtake is crucial as it stops the defence ducking ♣ J (a difficult play, to be sure). Were that to happen we could get to dummy with ♥ K to set up the club suit but we wouldn't be able to enjoy them (no further entries).

**Board 3**  
South Deals  
E-W Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

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

NS 3N; NS 3♥; NS 4♣; NS 2♠; NS 3♦; Par +400

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

**[Follow up hand to last week's workshop]**

We are in familiar territory with South showing his 5/4majors shape. North has no support for the majors (no eight card fit is apparent) and with game-going values (a thirteen count) and a double stop in diamonds, the blast to game is appropriate.

East will probably lead a diamond. We win and count our top tricks - two winners in each of spades, hearts and diamonds, a total of six tricks. Our source of extra tricks is the club suit and we play ♣ Q at trick two. This squashing of dummy's ♣ J (see hand 2 too) is important because we are not blessed with too many entries to hand. If we play a club to ♣ J, the defence can duck this. Now we cannot both set up and enjoy the clubs.

After playing ♣ Q we'll always be able to knock out both two top clubs and make nine tricks. We'll lose two clubs and two diamonds.

**Board 4**  
West Deals  
Both Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

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

NS 5♠; NS 5♣; NS 2♥; NS 1N; Par +650

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠ <sup>1</sup>
All pass			

1. South is a losing trick aficionado. "A seven loser hand, with partner supporting me, means I'll reach game".

An auction in which North South have both taken aggressive positions and will come up smelling of roses. In reality the hand is more likely to play in a partscore, possibly 2/3 ♠ (for North South) or 2/3 ♦ (for East West). One of the complications for South is that North may raise the spades with three card support (and a ruffing value). In that case reaching a 4-3 major suit game is not so attractive. ... but when you're in this form partner will always have the desired amount of support.

The play can get tricky but if declarer takes an early club finesse (and repeats it if necessary) he can draw two top trumps. When ♠ Q appears a third trump is drawn and eleven tricks can be claimed.

**Board 5**

North Deals  
N-S Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

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

EW 6♣; EW 5N; EW 5♠; EW 3♥; EW 2♦; Par -920

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1 N <sup>1</sup>	Pass
2 ♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 N	All pass		
1. 12-14.			
2. Stayman.			

Lead: ♥ 6 (4th best - helps declarer); ♦ 2 (4th best doesn't help declarer).

Whichever red suit South leads, declarer can come to eleven tricks. The spades are well-placed so a small spade to ♠ Q will generate three winners. To those can be added two hearts, two diamonds are four clubs.

North has a chance to do something clever. When declarer cashes ♣ K he can drop ♣ 9. By doing this he gives the impression that he is short in the suit (perhaps ♣ 9 is a singleton? declarer may think). If this gets declarer on to the wrong track he'll now return to ♣ A, hoping to finesse against South's presumed knave. Alas, East has been conned and one of the club winners disappears.

**Board 6**

East Deals  
E-W Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

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

EW 3N; EW 3♠; EW 3♥; S 1♦; EW 1♣; Par -500: S 4♦ x-3

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♦ <sup>1</sup>

3 N All pass

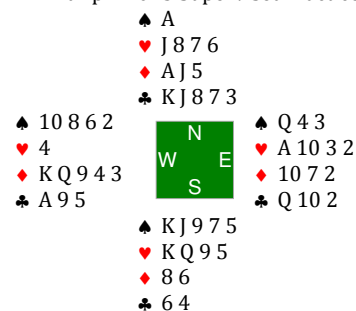
1. Conforms to the Rule of 20 (high card points plus lengths of two longest suits are equal to, or greater than, this number).

Lead: ♦ 10 (top of sequence and partner's suit). Declarer may be expecting this lead so a surprise attack with ♥ 3 (4th best) is an alternative.

Bidding 3N is the practical shot. It gives up on trying to reach slam but that is less likely as partner has already passed. 3N happens to be the only making game (strictly) - there are three spade, four heart and two diamond winners. 4♥ can make (and did last week) unless North leads a club. Whilst the defence only takes two clubs, the effect of playing a third club reduces West's trumps so that ♥ 8 becomes promoted. That gives North South a fourth winner (along with the ace of trumps) to scupper West's game call.

**Board 7**  
South Deals  
Both Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice



NS 4♥; NS 2N; NS 2♠; NS 1♣; Par +620			
West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	All pass	

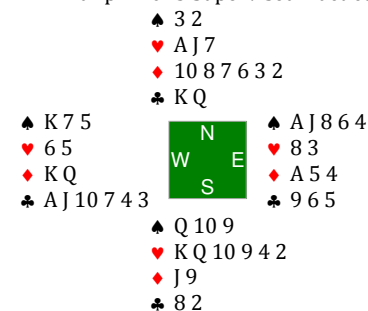
1. Not 2 ♥. That would be a reverse, a bid above the barrier of 2 ♣, showing a good 16+ high card points.

Reaching 4 ♥ here is not impossible but the 4-1heart break is likely to put paid to a successful outcome. When playing match-pointed pairs it's right not to stretch to bid thin games. A score of +140 should be OK and +170 ought to be very good (so if +170 is very good then the gain from bidding and making game is small).

Declarer might make ten tricks if he sets up the spades (the queen falling in three rounds is a bonus) or by playing on clubs. If taking the latter course it will be necessary to guess to play ♣ K when West plays a smooth, low club on the first round of the suit.

**Board 8**  
West Deals  
None Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice



EW 3♠; EW 4♣; NS 2♥; NS 1N; NS 1♦; Par -140			
West	North	East	South
1 ♣	1 ♦	1 ♠	2 ♥
2 ♠ <sup>1</sup>	3 ♥	Pass	Pass
4 ♣ <sup>2</sup>	All pass		

1. 3 ♣ is also feasible but a sense of "support with support" makes 2 ♠ quite attractive.
2. Not giving up.

This auction works well for East West as they will make ten tricks. West has a club and two hearts to lose. Declarer could finesse ♠ J to try to avoid a spade loser but does better by discarding ♠ 7 on ♦ A. Why settle for a 50% when a 100% option is available?

4 ♠ shouldn't make. In this spot East has no option but to take the losing spade finesse.

**Board 9**  
North Deals  
E-W Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

♠ K 7 5 4  
 ♥ J 9  
 ♦ 7 2  
 ♣ J 10 9 8 7

♠ Q J 3 2  
 ♥ K 4  
 ♦ 8 6 4  
 ♣ K Q 4 2

♠ 8  
 ♥ Q 8 7 3 2  
 ♦ A K Q J 5  
 ♣ A 3

♠ A 10 9 6  
 ♥ A 10 6 5  
 ♦ 10 9 3  
 ♣ 6 5

EW 3N; EW 3♥; EW 4♦; EW 1♣; Par -600			
West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2N	Pass	3N	All pass

**[Follow up hand to last week's workshop]**

When East bids 2♦ he shows at least 5 hearts and 4 diamonds. The bid is forcing so he has no need to jump to show that he has some extra values. When West shows an invitational hand (a good 10 to 12 points) with cover in clubs, East can rely on West's spade bid to bid the obvious game. 3♦ would be an underbid (though would show the fifth diamond) and 4♦ would unnecessarily miss what is likely to be the top spot.

North leads ♣ J and declarer knocks out ♥ A to come to nine tricks - one heart, five diamonds and three clubs.

**Board 10**  
East Deals  
Both Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

♠ —  
 ♥ Q J 10 4  
 ♦ A K Q J  
 ♣ Q 8 4 3 2

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

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

♠ A K J 10 7 5  
 ♥ K 6  
 ♦ 10 8 5 3 2  
 ♣ —

NS 6♦; NS 4♠; NS 2♥; NS 1N; EW 1♣; Par +1370			
West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	4♦ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	4N <sup>4</sup>
Pass	5♠ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	6♦

All pass

1. 4th suit forcing.
2. Shows the fifth diamond, so known to be at least 5/5 in spades and diamonds.
3. Sets the suit, slam try.
4. Roman Key Card Blackwood.
5. 2 "aces" and the queen of trumps.

This looks like a good auction but it cannot said to be entirely convincing. It's generally not advisable to use (some form of) Blackwood when holding a void. Here North would make the same response to 4N holding ♣ A instead of ♦ A. That would spell defeat as the defence can cash two red-suit aces. If, however, South cue bids ♠ A (instead of using 4N), North will retreat to 5♦. At least the approach taken attempts a little sophistication.

There are two ways to play this. One is to ruff three clubs in hand and ditch the other two clubs on ♠ AK or to set up the spades. In the latter case declarer draws trumps and can set up the spades. With ♠ Q falling in two rounds, one spade ruff is sufficient to set up the suit.

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♠ A  
 ♥ KJ5  
 ♦ KQ532  
 ♣ 10532





♠ KJ952  
 ♥ 6  
 ♦ AJ109  
 ♣ 984

♠ 8743  
 ♥ A109832  
 ♦ 86  
 ♣ A

♠ Q106  
 ♥ Q74  
 ♦ 74  
 ♣ KQJ76

N  
 W E  
 S

EW 4♠; EW 2♥; EW 1N; NS 2♣; Par -420

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			Pass
Pass	1 	1 	2 
Pass	3 	All pass	

*[Follow up hand to last week's workshop]*

In supporting South's suit, North is also bidding out his shape to show 5+diamonds and 4+clubs. If North had 4/4 in the minors (and assuming he doesn't hold a balanced hand that would have opened 1N, 12-14) he would have opened 1♣, the lower of two four card suits. South has passed initially so has no interest in trying for game. Partner is known to be minimum for the simple raise to 3♣.

The contract can be defeated provided West takes two ruffs. West leads ♥ 6, East wins and returns a heart. When East gets in with ♣ A he plays a third heart and that's five tricks for the defence when the two ruffs are added to the three winning aces.

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♠ KJ104  
 ♥ J9853  
 ♦ 104  
 ♣ 64

♠ Q2  
 ♥ AK42  
 ♦ 2  
 ♣ AKJ1072

♠ A97653  
 ♥ Q  
 ♦ AKQJ  
 ♣ Q8

♠ 8  
 ♥ 1076  
 ♦ 987653  
 ♣ 953

EW 7N; EW 7♣; EW 5♠; W 5♥; E 4♥; EW 5♦; Par -1520

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2 ♠ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
3 ♣ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	4 ♣ <sup>4</sup>	Pass
4 ♥ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	4 ♠ <sup>5</sup>	Pass
5 N <sup>6</sup>	Pass	5 ♠ <sup>7</sup>	Pass
5 N <sup>8</sup>	Pass	7 ♣ <sup>9</sup>	All pass

1. A reverse, going above the barrier of 2 ♣, showing 16+high card points and 5+clubs and 4+hearts.
2. Best played as forcing, showing five, if not six+, spades.
3. Shows the extra club, so known to be 6/4shape.
4. Knows of the eight card club fit (honour doubleton always a good holding).
5. Ace showing cue bid.
6. Roman Key Card Blackwood.
7. 2 aces and the queen of trumps.
8. Asking for side suit kings.
9. See text.

Well, that's an exciting auction and we could identify several of the bids and say they are key to reaching the grand slam. The subtle bid is 7 ♣. When West bids 5N he is known to hold all the key cards. If a key card were missing he would sign off in 6 ♣. Now East could give a side-suit king response by bidding 5 ♦. That might show one king or it may show ♦ K specifically depending on methods. But that would be lazy. East should appreciate the power of the diamond suit. This generates four winners but West can never find out about the ♦ Q and ♦ J. Sometimes reaching the heights is not just about finding aces and kings. It can mean fitting minor suit cards too.

**Board 13**  
North Deals  
Both Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

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

♠ J 10 9 8 5 4  
 ♥ J  
 ♦ 8 6 5  
 ♣ 7 6 4

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

♠ K Q  
 ♥ Q 8 6 5 3 2  
 ♦ K 4  
 ♣ Q 10 3

NS 5N; NS 5♥; NS 2♠; NS 3♣; EW 1♦; Par +660

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	1 ♦	1 ♥
Pass	1 N <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4 ♥

All pass

1. 15-16, doesn't deny 4spades (bidding 1 ♠ would show 5+clubs and 4+spades; or 4441 shape with a singleton heart).

When North bids 1N he is known to have a balanced hand with 2/3hearts (not four as hearts would have been raised immediately). South knows there is an eight card fit and might, fleetingly, think about slam. The aceless nature of the hand should be enough to dispel such thoughts.

That said, slam isn't bad. With the hearts behaving (declarer can easily cope with ♥ J singleton in one hand) the slam is more-or-less dependent on a successful club finesse. As that fails, the slam is doomed. Before taking the club finesse declarer might force a few discards from the defence. If one defender started with four or more spades, but threw sufficient number to be left with three spades, declarer could enjoy ♠ 7. Two clubs could be discarded on ♠ A7 and twelve tricks appear.

**Board 14**  
East Deals  
None Vul

22ndApril2015 SupervisedPractice

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

♠ 10 8 7 6  
 ♥ K 5 4  
 ♦ 6 3 2  
 ♣ K 8 3

♠ 9 5 2  
 ♥ A Q 8 6 2  
 ♦ 8  
 ♣ J 9 6 2

♠ Q 4  
 ♥ J 10 7  
 ♦ A Q J 10 5  
 ♣ A Q 7

NS 4♠; NS 5♦; NS 2N; S 2♣; N 1♣; Par +420

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 N <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3 N	All pass	

1. 15-16, balanced.

We finish with a simple auction with little in the play. If West doesn't lead a heart there are always ten tricks (eleven on a club lead). It's possible to argue for an aggressive heart lead - the opponents have not sought to find a heart contract and that marks partner with some heart length. That would be well reasoned and works very well here. The defence takes the first five tricks.

Now, switch the defensive hands round and West would have an easy 4th best ♥ 6 lead. One off again. The vagaries of bridge.