



1	53
North	T542
None	A9852
	43
QT94	A876
J	KQ63
K3	T7
KQJ986	AT2
	KJ2
	A987
	QJ64
	75

1NT from East will see West try Stayman and 4♠ is the final contract to be reached at most tables. This will not succeed unless the defence 'gift' a trick as South on lead has the opportunity to lead the ♦Q. Even if this isn't done at trick one, South will still have two further entries to their hand.

2	AQ85
East	AK54
NS	J7542
94	K32
QJT	9873
QT8	K63
AKQT5	732
	JT76
	62
	A9
	J9864

Two passes to West will see some open 1♣ but the popular choice is likely to be 1NT, even those playing 15-17. This will pose something of a problem to those playing Astro or Asptro, the latter posing which major do you anchor to and is 5 to the J good enough to 'bail out' in 3♦? Where the opening is 1♣, North has an obvious double. This will see the ♠ fit established. Those optimistic pairs reaching 4♠ will be well rewarded with the 3-3 break in ♦s. I feel however that a part score in ♠s will score well.

3	QJ74
South	AJ87
EW	94
	AJ8
AK9852	63
K652	9
5	AKQJ8
KT	Q7432
	T
	QT43
	T7632
	965

1♠ by West will see North without a suitable bid (1NT overcall? Not recommended but there are bound to be some!). NS are now booked for a minus score, not large in 2♥ but could be a lot more expensive. Where North passes EW are almost certainly booked for a minus themselves. When West jumps to 3♠ after 2♦ by East, East will raise to 4♠. North ensures defeat by taking his two aces but declarer may struggle home on a ♦ opening lead. Should EW reach 3NT then that should have little play but defences have been known to go astray. North may end up doubling 4♠, but only if he kept quiet.

4	J82
West	8652
All	Q4
	T763
AT74	Q965
AT	J743
AKJ765	92
9	AJ8
	K3
	KQ9
	T83
	KQ542

1♦ from West will get 1♥ from East. South may well bid 2♣, West 2♠ and East raises to 4♠. The likely ♣ lead is won by Dummy. Some declarers may take a rosy view that South holds the ♦Q and in trying to save a trump trick take the finesse. With the safety play in ♠s of the 'double finesse' impracticable, as there is only one entry in dummy, declarer will be left with the usual 50:50 view in trumps when the ♠A is played followed by the ♠4. North will contribute the ♠2 and the ♠8, so do you duck or play the ♠Q? How's your luck?

5	A987
North	K964
NS	AJ3
	K4
65	QJ2
QJT5	A82
Q985	K7642
A82	T5
	KT43
	73
	T
	QJ9763

Where NS are playing a 15-17 NT North will open 1NT and, if this is passed out, lose 8 tricks. If South has a mechanism through Stayman to reach 3♣, the ♠ fit will be missed as North will respond 2♥. At least 3♣ will make. Where a 12-14 no-trump is employed, North will open 1♥ and South will respond 1♠. With the majors 4:4 it is my experience that to raise to 3♠ is ambitious, 2♠ being enough. However whatever North bids South will pass and should make 9 tricks for a good score.

*Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary*



6	Q8
East	KT87532
EW	K
	AKT
J954	T7
64	AQ
QT984	7632
92	Q8763
	AK632
	J9
	AJ5
	J54

South will open usually with 1♠ but there will be some 1NT bidders. After 1NT, 3♥ following a transfer sequence of 2♦-2♥ or a direct 3♥ over 1NT should be looking for a slam. South will show little interest so 4♥ either way.

Following the 1♠ opener North has a choice, either bidding a mark time 2♥ or jumping to 3♥. South will repeat their ♠s and 4♥ now with either method will see the job done. Any North players who have a method of responder's second bid in the ♥ suit of 3♥ being forcing, will feel more comfortable about getting the value of their hand accurately described.

7	873
South	963
All	AJ74
	Q53
KJ52	AQ
AQ52	T7
963	KQT8
T6	AK842
	T964
	KJ84
	52
	J97

Three passes to East who opens 1♣. 1♥ from West will see the most likely rebid by East of a number of NT. 2NT is the bid most will choose but even those that bid 3NT will play there.

5NT is the maximum, losing just the ♦A and a ♣.

The denomination probably never mentioned, ♦s, can make twelve tricks. It only requires the ♥ finesse, the ♣s to break and the ♦J favourably placed. Apologise to opponents if you bid 6♦ and made it, please!

8	AK87542
West	Q
None	QJ4
	Q3
J	QT3
8762	953
K963	A2
AKJ6	98542
	96
	AKJT4
	T875
	T7

Do you open the West hand? Some will, many will not. If you do it has to be 1♦ as you do have a rebid if partner bids 1♠. If you open 1♣ what do you bid if partner now bids 1♠? Best to declare you have an urgent telephone call and have to leave the table!

The final contract will vary between 2♠ (careful bidders), 3♠ (aggressive) and 4♠ (optimistic). Well if you were defending did you find the early ♦ ruff and then the fourth round of ♦s for the trump promotion to take 6 tricks?

9	KQ8
North	AKJ7
EW	9
	K9853
7432	AT96
Q2	4
K76	AQT832
T762	J4
	J5
	T98653
	J54
	AQ

1♣ from North will see East take some action, usually 1♦. South bids 1♥. West may raise to 2♦ (well he has paid his entry money and would like to bid). Now a cue bid of 3♦ or 4♦ by North sees the final contract of 4♥. A direct raise of 3♥ from North should also see South raise to 4♥. If EW get frisky both 4♠ and 5♦ are too expensive.

10	JT95
East	AKJ2
All	65
	Q84
AK2	7
T983	Q76
J7	AK92
AT65	KJ973
	Q8643
	54
	QT843
	2

1♣ from East will see South either pass (sensible) or employ his or her favourite two suited gadget. The latter could help West in the final contract of 3NT to find the ♣Q. If the ♣s are played for the drop there are only 8 tricks now, 4 ♣s, 2 ♦s and 2 ♠s. The 'save' in 4♠ better than 3NT making, but 500 will be a good score for EW.



# Warwickshire Charity Simultaneous Pairs – In aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance – 8 May 2014



11	KJT52
South	T
None	KQT54
	Q9
973	Q8
AK53	Q9842
3	A862
65432	J7
	A64
	J76
	J97
	AKT8

4♠ by NS will be a popular contract. There is a certain way to beat this. A ♦ to the ♦A and a ruff, ♥ under lead to the ♥Q and a further ruff. Anyone find this? Thought not. It really is too dangerous in that South is likely to hold a ♥ honour.

If South plays low on the original ♦ lead then West should know that declarer holds the ♦J. Now after the ♦A and a return of the ♦8 this Mckenny signal may lead partner to the right action.

If a top ♥ is originally led followed by the ♦ for a ruff then declarer has every chance of dropping the ♠Q.

12	QT3
West	QJT75
NS	A93
	96
94	A765
K8642	A93
KQ72	J854
73	42
	KJ82
	T6
	AKQJT85

Three passes to South. The hand does conform to requirements for a 'strong' bid (Extended Rule of 25 – 14 high card points plus the length of the two longest suits). This could well result in North playing the hand in 3NT and probably bringing it home. Not if East leads a ♦ but jack to four is termed 'the loony lead' in some circles.

5♣ of course has no problems but is less exciting to play.

13	J52
North	KT9
All	Q98
	K762
KQ83	A9
A53	QJ72
A752	JT64
T4	J85
	T764
	864
	K3
	AQ93

Systems will have a large part in the outcome of this hand. With 12-14 NT openers this will become the final contract and lose 4 ♣ tricks, 1 ♥ and 1 ♦ to score +90. With strong no-trump an opening of 1♣ will see the ♦ natural response a number of times. Should the final contract be 2♦ or 3♦ the match point score will be +110.

14	A8
East	KQ32
None	KJT73
	T9
JT32	KQ975
984	JT5
A2	Q85
QJ32	65
	64
	A76
	964
	AK874

When East passes is South good enough to open? Where he does NS inevitably will get too high. There is a possibility that should South pass they may find a making contract.

When South passes West will also pass and North will open 1♦ or 1NT. The first of these will almost certainly see East overcall 1♠. 2♣ now from South will bring 2♠ or 3♠ from West. Where 2♠ is chosen by West, South should now bid 3♦ but opposite a passed partner this should be high enough for North. Should either East or West advance further South should apply the treatment with a red card. Where 3♠ is the preferred ♠ raise this should buy the contract but will be three down.

15	Q92
South	982
NS	AQ73
	J64
75	63
KJ6	AQT5
K96	J852
KQ753	T82
	AKJT84
	743
	T4
	A9

1♠ from South, if West passes, will see North bid either 1NT, 2♦ or 2♠. This South hand is not a hand to jump to 3♠ after either of the first two and certainly there is no reason to raise the 2♠ response. Where West doubles for take out NS are likely to settle for a part score.

3NT is makeable as the ♥s are not five in length with the opponents and the ♦ finesse is working for you. Anyone reaching this 'cold' contract will scoop all the match points but should feel embarrassed.

*Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary*



16	943
West	QJ762
EW	T9
	763
87	KQJ6
A983	K54
J862	Q
J82	AKQT9
	AT52
	T
	AK7543
	54

Thank heavens for the ♦8. Regardless of East's opening bid in third seat, either 1♣ or 2NT, EW should reach 3NT. If West plays the contract then North leads the ♦10 to ♦Q and ♦K. Should South continue with the ♦A the ♦9 drops and you have ten tricks. A low ♦ back will most likely see declarer play the ♦8 but the suit is now blocked as North does not hold another ♦, but only 9 tricks for declarer now. When East is declarer a low ♦ opening lead leads to 10 tricks. A top one followed by a small ♦ gives the same position as above.

17	A752
North	KT
None	J43
	Q543
83	T94
2	A8543
AKQT965	872
K97	A2
	KQJ6
	QJ976
	JT86

Two passes to South. Do you open third in hand? Many will. Where 2♥ is opened, Lucas style, EW may rest in 3♦. When 1♥ is chosen as the opener how about the Polish Cue bid of 3♥? This says 'Partner I have 7 running tricks and a probable trick outside, do you have a ♥ stop? If so BID 3NT!

West obliges, your side runs 9 or 10 tricks, thank heaven ♠s are 4-4. 5♦ will also make but isn't it more fun in 3NT than the ordinary 5♦?

18	AKJ9
East	8742
NS	K742
	4
QT7	82
J	KQ53
QT853	J9
AKQ2	JT875
	6543
	AT96
	A6
	963

Two passes to West who opens 1♦. North, holding both majors, could double. You are however not well placed if partner responds 2♣. Best is to bid 1♠. East should double to bring his ♥ suit into the auction but with ♠s, the 'Boss Suit', NS should win this part score battle.

19	
South	J6
EW	87654
	AT9432
86532	AKJ4
983	KT42
QJ3	9
86	KQJ7
	QT97
	AQ75
	AKT2
	5

Much will depend on the opening bid by South. 1♥ will receive little interest from many holding the North hand, this being passed round to East. East is too good for 1NT as in the protective position the range is usually 11-14, with some 11-16. Either way you are too strong, double being the alternative, then intending to rebid NT. For South, opposite a passed partner, action now looks doubtful and the ♦ suit is lost forever. Should North bid 1NT, and at the vulnerability he should, then the ♦ fit is safely found.

Now a 1♦ opener from South brings North to life. The bidding 'battle' this time is lost by the ♠ holders as should NS bid to 5♦ they will make on a cross ruff. They may also have the luxury of doubling EW in ♠s should they compete beyond the two level.

20	T976
West	A
All	9742
	K732
KQ5	J2
KJT	76532
AK6	T853
AQT8	64
	A843
	Q984
	QJ
	J95

A 2NT opening from West and a disappointment awaits with East's holding. Courses of action by East are to pass or a transfer to ♥s. When pass is chosen the singleton ♥A with North, but more particularly the doubleton ♦QJ with South, certainly help. Anyone (mis)bidding to game will score well so those 'breaking the transfer' will have fallen on their feet if they lose just 1 ♠ and 2 ♥s.



21	3
North	AJ
NS	Q75432
	AJ86
K965	QJ72
T92	K863
AJ6	K9
Q97	T32
	AT84
	Q754
	T8
	K54

1♦ from North and 1♥ from South will see North rebid 2♣. It is generally best to return to partner's suit with 2 rather than pass holding 3 of partner's rebid. Game is not on here but partner may have a slightly stronger hand but not good enough for 3♣. At least you give partner another opportunity.

22	QT6
East	AKQT862
EW	A8
	4
97	J8
975	3
J653	QT94
JT93	AQ8752
	AK5432
	J4
	K72
	K6

1♠ from South and what from North? Many will bid 2♥ intending to take control later. However the 'Forgotten Man' of Bridge, the Forcing Jump Shift seems to fit the bill here. Bid 3♥. South will bid 3♠ and now a cue bid of either minor suit, agrees ♠s. One rule. Never force on a two suiter. The second bid of responder confirms at least 3 card support for opener's suit. 4NT now finds 2 key cards and the ♠Q and 6♠ is easily reached. 6NT of course scores better! South may well find this to protect their kings.

23	K2
South	T
All	AK7652
	KQ42
A6	T75
Q8543	92
Q8	JT943
JT73	965
	QJ9843
	AKJ76
	A8

South opens 1♠, North responds 2♦. If a new suit at the two level is forcing South has to rebid 2♥. North has a lot to spare for his bid and should bid 3♣. 3♥ is followed by 3NT from North. South now knows from the bidding by North that he holds a better hand than bidding 3NT opposite his possible minimum rebid. That is better than a minimum 13 or 14pts.

Having shown 5♥s already 5♠ is now best. Holding the ♠K and another North should raise to 6♠.

Where South can jump to 3♥ on his second round NS should have an easier route to the six level and indeed may get to the top spot of 6NT.

24	T64
West	65
None	97632
	A42
J53	AKQ92
AJ943	KT87
K	AJ4
T987	6
	87
	Q2
	QT85
	KQJ53

A Lucas 2♥ opener will be a good start for EW to be looking at a slam. An enquiry of 2NT will find West with 4♠s to go with his 5♥s. With good ♥s 6♥ will be a reasonable shot.

Where West passes East will open 1♠ and receive a response of 2♥. 4♣ (Splinter) puts West in the position of knowing there is a 30pt pack and there are little or no ♣ honours on our side. A cue of 4♦ followed by a jump to 5♥ (how good are your ♥s?) now will also see the job done. Where the ♥Q and an ace are identified as missing pairs may rest in the safe 5♥.

25	6
North	T75
EW	AQ865
	K754
T842	K97
A942	K83
KJT	9432
T6	A83
	AQJ53
	QJ6
	7
	QJ92

Two passes to South who opens 1♠. North has 9 points, good enough to bid at the two level. But is this best? South's only rebid is 2♠ which you will have to pass. Not good with your singleton! Bid 1NT. You receive 2♣ from partner. You can either pass (timid) or raise to 3♣ with your known maximum. Raising has two virtues. Partner may have a slightly better than a minimum hand but not good enough to bid 2NT and it also makes it more difficult for East to 'balance' in the red suits.





# Warwickshire Charity Simultaneous Pairs – In aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance – 8 May 2014



26	AQ97
East	AQ32
All	A7
	J87
652	J4
6	JT97
QT943	K652
AK93	QT5
	KT83
	K854
	J8
	642

Two passes to West. The Third in Hand Club Members will open 1♦ and may well buy the board in 3♦. North will double, East should bid 3♦ and a timid South may well pass. However if South bids, best is to double, the final contract is likely to be 4♥. 2 down and -200 to NS.

Where there are three passes to North he will open 1♥, South will raise to 2♥. A long suit trial by North will give South the impression of a double fit and he may optimistically bid 4♥ for the same poor score. A short suit trial of 3♦ should see the final contract as 3♥.

27	852
South	T63
None	AJ964
	AT
AJT	Q74
QJ85	742
7	KT2
J7652	Q984
	K963
	AK9
	Q853
	K3

Those playing a strong NT are likely to see North raise South's 1NT to 3NT. 1♠ or 1♦ openers will bid NT at their second bid showing 15-16. Again 3NT will be reached. One down will be recorded on most score cards.

28	T76
West	Q84
NS	QJ3
	QJT7
AQJ843	5
9	KJ7632
A4	K865
AK92	54
	K92
	AT5
	T972
	863

West opens 1♠. It is dangerous to bid at the two level so East has to bid 1NT. 3♣ from West should get 3♥ to denote a hand not good enough to bid two ♥s originally. 4♠ now should settle the issue. On a trump lead, ducked by South, it will need a good guess in the ♥ suit to make.

29	842
North	9852
All	J95
	K95
A653	QJ97
KQ76	4
AQ64	K832
T	AQJ3
	KT
	AJT3
	T7
	87642

A classic 1♦ opener from East, 1♥ by West and then 1♠ rebid by East. West is too good to bid 4♠, having extra points but also holding a singleton ♣. West therefore bids 2♣, Fourth Suit Forcing. East shows his range and ♣ stoppers with 2NT. West bids 4♠ to end the auction, the slam being investigated but declined. But you say 6♠ can be made. Yes, but will you play the ♠s for no loser? If so well done. The position of the ♥A and the ♣K also helps!

30	JT95
East	JT52
None	KJ87
	T
K2	843
KQ973	A84
AT652	Q93
K	8764
	AQ76
	6
	4
	AQJ9532

A 1♣ opener from South, an overcall of 1♥ or a two suiter in the red suits. Either way NS will probably find a way to their 4-4 ♠ fit, usually played by South. The 'script' says 10 tricks are there! Anyone make it? To do so you ruff the second ♥, play the ♠Q, ruff the ♥ continuation with the ♠A and lead your remaining ♠ to dummy to draw trumps. Now a ♣ to the ♣A drops the ♣K and you have your 7 ♣ tricks for the contract. So you didn't make 4♠? Well remember the old bridge adage as the answer to the question 'What do you call a 7 card suit? –TRUMPS !'.

*Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary*