Henley Bridge Club

Random Exercises 5

14 July 2020

Example 1

Red Suit Transfer

Vulnerability: North / South
Dealer: West

West's hand:

♠   Q   10   8

♥   A   Q   9   5   3

♦   K   9   7

♣   J   3

East's hand:

♠   K   J   6   4   3

♥   10

♦   A   J   5

♣   Q   7   4   2

Bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West has 12 HCPs; balanced. She opens 1 NT.

East has 5 ♠ s and Red Suit Transfer applies, regardless of the strength of her hand. She bids 2 ♥.

West automatically bids 2 ♠.

East has 5 ♠ s and 11 HCPs and sends an invitation for Game by bidding 2 NT.

West has 12 points so knows they do not have enough strength for Game, but they do have a fit in ♠ s and so she bids 3 ♠ as a preference over 2 NT.

Example 2

Doubling

Vulnerability: North / South
Dealer: South, who opened 2 ♦
Opponents only pass after this first bid

West's hand:

♠ A Q 9 5 2

♥ Q 8 6

♦ K 10

♣ Q 9 4

Bidding:			
South	**West**	**North**	**East**
2 ♦	X	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West has 13 HCPs, a SQOT of 7 in ♠ s, which is not enough for a 2 level suit overcall. She is short in ♦ s and has tolerance (3+ cards) in the other suits, so doubles.

There is no intervening bid and West will expect East to bid, whatever her strength. East bids 2 ♠ to show her longest suit.

West knows there is a fit of 9+ cards in ♠ s but has no idea about East's strength. The opening Opponent is weak and the other Opponent did not bid, so partner could be strong enough for Game. West bids 3 ♠ to find out.

East knows from West's bid that they have a fit in ♠ s. She has 8 points and 10 losers. She passes.

East's hand:

♠ 8 6 4 3

♥ K 5 2

♦ J 4 3

♣ A 6 5

Example 3

Vulnerability: North / South
Dealer: South

West's hand:

♠	A	9	8	7	
♥	J	5			
♦	8	5			
♣	10	9	8	5	2

East's hand:

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

Bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	PASS	3 NT	PASS
PASS	PASS		

What is West's Opening Lead? 10 ♣

What card do you expect East to play? A ♣

Which card should East now lead Q ♠

West can see whether K ♠ is in Dummy's hand. If it is not, she holds back on playing A ♠ so that East wins the trick and plays her J ♠ (and 10 ♠) until Declarer has to play K ♠ and West wins with her A ♠. East / West win 1 ♣ trick and 4 ♠ tricks and the contract is down.

Example 4

Vulnerability: North / South
Dealer: West

West's hand:

♠ Q J 4

♥ A J 10 5 3

♦ K Q 8

♣ A 8

East's hand:

♠ K 7 3

♥ 8 4

♦ A J 9 4 2

♣ J 10 5

Bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West has 17 HCPs; balanced. She opens 1 ♥, with the intention of re-bidding 2 NT.

East has 9 HCPs. She cannot support H s, but can respond with 2 ♦.
(Rule of 14: 9 HCPs + 5 Cards in suit = 14)

West knows that East must have at least 9 HCPs (strictly 8 but unlikely) to be able to respond at the 2 level. They must have at least 26 points and so she bids 3 NT.

Note that we are usually taught that we should respond 2 NT with 17/18 HCPs and only respond 3 NT with 19 HCPs.

However, a 2 NT re-bid would also cover the situation where West has 15 / 16 HCPs, and East should pass with only 9 points. Why risk missing a Game opportunity when you know you have enough strength?

Example 5

Suit overcall

Vulnerability: North / South
Dealer: South, who opened 1 ♠
Opponents only pass after this first bid

West's hand:

♠ Q 9 4

♥ A Q J 8 4

♦ A J 2

♣ Q 6

East's hand:

♠ 8 7 6 3

♥ K 9 5

♦ 9 6

♣ A K 3 2

Bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West has 16 HCPs and SQOT of 8 in ♥ s.
She overcalls 2 ♥.

Note a suit overcall takes priority over a 1 NT overcall.

East has **3 ♥** s and 10 HCPs without a stop in Opponents' bid suit. She shows fit and strength with an UCB of 2 ♠.

West knows she and Partner have a fit in ♥ s and at least 25 HCPs. She bids 4 ♥.

If East had used LTC, assuming West had 8 losers for an overcall, she would have passed.
8 + 8 = 16; 18 – 16 = 2.

Example 6

Vulnerability: North / South
Dealer: North

West's hand:

♠ A
♥ K Q 8 6 5
♦ 7 3
♣ 10 8 7 5 3

East's hand:

♠ 10 4 2
♥ 9 2
♦ J 10 8 5
♣ A J 9 6

Bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	PASS	3 ♠	PASS
4 ♠	PASS	PASS	PASS

What is West's Opening Lead? _____ K ♥

Assume East / West use " Reverse attitude"

What card do you expect East to play? _____ 2 ♥
encouraging West to lead another ♥.

West should soon regain the lead with A ♠ and cashes her Q ♥ before leading another ♥ for East to ruff. A ♣ wins the fourth trick for East / West and the contract is down.

Example 7

Vulnerability: North / South
Dealer: West

West's hand:

- ♠ A J 10
- ♥ J 10 5 2
- ♦ K Q
- ♣ Q 10 9 6

East's hand:

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

Bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

West has 13 HCPs; balanced. She opens 1 NT.

East has exactly 4 ♥ s and 11 HCPs. She wants to find out if they have a fit in ♥ s. She bids 2 ♣ – Stayman.

West automatically bids 2 ♥ to show that she has 4 ♥ s.

They have found a fit and should play in a ♥ contract. East issues an invitation to play in Game if West is strong enough by bidding 3 ♥.

West has to decide whether her 13 HCPs hand is strong enough to play in a Game contract. Her hand is not a flat 4 3 3 3 shape and she has 3 tens. She bids 4 ♥.
NB – I think this is the right bid given what each partner knows, but it will go down!

Example 8

Losing Trick Count

Vulnerability: North / South
Dealer: West

West's hand:

♠ K 10 8 4 3
♥ A J
♦ Q J 9 4 2
♣ 6

East's hand:

♠ A J 7
♥ K
♦ A 8 7 5 3
♣ Q 10 5 2

Bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West has 11 HCPs; unbalanced. She has 10 cards in her longest two suits,
Her 11 HCPs plus 10 cards adds to 21. She can open 1 ♠ using the "Rule of 20".

East cannot be sure that West has 5 ♠ s, so cannot assume a fit. She responds with 2 ♦.

West sees a fit in ♦ s. She has 6 losers with ♦ as trumps and assumes East has 9.
6 + 9 = 15; 18 – 15 = 3. She bids 3 ♦. Note that Q J 9 counts as 2 losers; not 3.

East now knows that West has at least 5 ♠ s (otherwise West would have bid 2 NT).
She has 8 losers and assumes West has 7 because West opened with a ♠ bid.
8 + 7 = 15; 18 – 15 = 3. She bids 3 ♠.

West knows that East assumed she had 7 losers when bidding 3 ♠. She only has 6.
She can raise the bid to 4 ♠.