



Random Exercises 7

4 August 2020

Example 1

Losing Trick Count

Vulnerability: **All**
Dealer: **West**

West's hand:

♠ 9
♥ Q 10 7 4
♦ A K 10 5 2
♣ Q J 4

East's hand:

♠ A Q 2
♥ K J 9 5
♦ 8 6 3
♣ K 9 7

Bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass			

West has 12 HCPs; unbalanced. She opens with her highest ranking longest suit - 1 ♦.

East should respond with 6 points or more. She has 13 HCPs. She bids 1 ♥.

West sees a fit of at least 8 ♥ s.

She has 6 losers; assumes East has 9 to respond in a new suit; $6 + 9 = 15$; $18 - 15 = 3$
She bids 3 ♥.

East has 8 losers; She knows that West has assumed she has 9 losers.
She can raise the bidding to 4 ♥.

Example 2

Vulnerability: **North / South**
Dealer: **West**

2 ♣ Opening

West's hand:

♠ A K Q J 10 9 2
♥ K 10
♦ A K
♣ K 9

East's hand:

♠ 5
♥ A 9 8 5
♦ J 10 7 4 3 2
♣ Q 8

Bidding:

West	North	East	South
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West has 23 HCPs; unbalanced. She also has 9 certain winners. She can bid 2 ♣.

East has only 7 HCPs, but must respond. She bids 2 ♦.

West shows her long spade suit by bidding 2 ♠.

East must bid (2 ♣ is forcing) and shows her longest suit by bidding 3 ♦.

West knows they should be in at least a 4 ♠ Game contract, but she only has 3 losers and is wondering about a Slam. East could have an Ace in ♥ s or ♣ s. She bids 4 NT to ask about Aces.

East responds 5 ♦ (1 Ace).

There is no point in West asking for Kings because she has all of them. She has to decide whether to settle for a certain 5 ♠ contract or risk a Slam of 6 ♠.

I think she takes the risk and bids 6 ♠. She can only lose one ♣ trick and makes it.

Example 3

Suit overcall

Vulnerability: **East / West**
Dealer: **South, who opened 1 ♥**

Responder can raise this to 2 ♣, after which the Opponents pass

West's hand:

♠ K J 9 5 3
♥ 10 7
♦ Q 9 8 5
♣ J 6

East's hand:

♠ Q 10
♥ K 4
♦ A J 10 7 4
♣ 8 7 4 2

Bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣	2 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West has 7 HCPs and SQOT of 7 in ♠ s. I believe you need 8 points to overcall at the 1 level. She passes.

North bid 2 ♣.

East has 10 HCPs and SQOT of 8 in ♦ s. She can bid 2 ♦.

West knows East has at least 5 ♦ s, which would seem their best suit for a contract. She decides they would not make 11 tricks in a Game contract of 5 ♦ and cannot play in NT because of the Opponents' bids in ♥ s and ♣ s.

She decides to pass and only raise the level of ♦ s if the Opponents bid again.

Example 4

Vulnerability: **North / South**
Dealer: **West**

Red Suit Transfer

West's hand:

♠ A J 8
♥ K Q 9
♦ Q J 10 7 3
♣ J 7

East's hand:

♠ K 9 7 4 3 2
♥ A 10 8
♦ 9 5
♣ A 10

Bidding:

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

West has 14 HCPs; balanced. She bids 1 NT.

East has 6 ♠ s. Regardless of her strength and the quality of the ♠ s, she bids 2 ♥ (Red Suit Transfer).

West automatically bids 2 ♠.

East has 11 HCPs. They may have enough strength for Game if West is at the upper end of 12 to 14. Because West must have at least 2 ♠ s, they have an 8+ fit and should play in a ♠ contract. She invites West to Game by bidding 3 ♠.

West is at the upper end of 12 – 14 with 14 HCPs. She bids 4 ♠.

Example 5

Vulnerability: **East / West**
Dealer: **South, who opened 1 ♦**

Doubling

Responder can raise this to 1 ♥, after which the Opponents pass

West's hand:

♠ K J 9
♥ A Q 5
♦ 9 6
♣ Q J 8 5 3

East's hand:

♠ A 10 8 5 3
♥ J 9 4
♦ Q 5 2
♣ A 4

Bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	X	1 ♥	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West has 13 HCPs; SQOT of 7 in ♣ s – not enough for a 2 ♣ overcall. She is short in ♦ s and has tolerance (3+ cards in each of the other suits). She doubles.

North bids 1 ♥.

East has 11 HCPs. Her right-hand Opponent has bid and so she has a “free bid”. She bids her longest suit and shows strength of 9+ HCPs by jumping a level – bidding 2 ♠.

West knows they have a combined strength of 21+ HCP. From the bidding, Opponents have at least 17 points. She decides they are unlikely to make a Game contract in ♠ s and passes.

Example 6

Vulnerability: **All**
Dealer: **West**

1 NT Opening with 15 – 19 HCPs

West's hand:

♠ A Q 10 3
♥ A J 5 4
♦ Q 7 5
♣ K 6

East's hand:

♠ J 8 4
♥ K 6
♦ A J 10 5
♣ J 7 4 3

Bidding:

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

West has 16 HCPs; balanced. Her longest suits, both with 4 cards, are ♥ s and ♠ s. She bids 1 ♥ .

East has 10 HCPs. She must respond with 6+ HCPs. Using **Rule of 14**, she can bid 2 ♣ .
10 HCPs + 4 cards in ♣ s = 14. (Respond in lowest ranking suit first.)

West knows that East had 9+ HCPs to respond at the two level*.

They have a combined strength of 25+ HCPs, enough for Game. She bids 3 NT.

Note: If West responds 2 NT (which is what we were initially taught with 15 – 16 HCPs) East will know that West has between 15 and 18 HCPs. With only 9 HCPs, she might pass and a Game opportunity would be missed.

- It is possible that East has 8 HCPs with a 6 ♣ cards to satisfy Rule of 14, but very unlikely (and 6 ♣ cards would be very useful in NT anyway).

Example 7

Vulnerability: **North / South**
Dealer: **West**

Stayman

North's hand:

♠ A J 7
♥ A 6 3
♦ A 7 5 4
♣ J 10 2

South's hand:

♠ Q 10 9 8
♥ 10 5 4
♦ K J 9 6 3
♣ 8

Bidding:

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

West has 14 HCPs; balanced. He opens 1 NT.

I played North's hand on BCL last Thursday and my partner bid 2 ♣.

I responded 2 ♦.

She passed and I played in 2 ♦.

I made 11 tricks, a score of +150 and 88%. Most players in 1 NT went down with < 25%.

We learn initially to only use Stayman with 11+ points, but Stayman is just a question about the opener's major card holding and can be useful for other purposes than finding a Major Game.

Example 8

Losing Trick Count

Vulnerability: **All**
Dealer: **West**

West's hand:

♠ Q 10 8 7 4
♥ A J 7 5 2
♦ K 10
♣ A

East's hand:

♠ K J 5
♥ Q 6 4 3
♦ A 9 7 4
♣ J 6

Bidding:

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

West has 14 HCPs; unbalanced. She bids 1 ♠.
(Note with 4 cards in both ♥ s and ♠ s, you bid ♥ s first; with 5 in both, you bid ♠ s first.)

East has 11 HCPs. She does not know whether West has more than 4 ♠ s, so cannot assume a fit.
East cannot respond 2 ♥ to an opening bid of 1 ♠ without 5 ♥ s.
However, East can bid 2 ♦ (satisfies **Rule of 14**).

West bids her second major suit – ♥ s. She bids 2 ♥.

East now knows that they have 8+ cards in both ♠ s (and ♥ s), and combined strength of 27+ HCPs.
East has 9 losers if ♠ s are trumps; $9 + 7 = 16$; $18 - 16 = 2$. She bids 2 ♠.

West's third bid was to have been in ♥ s again to show she had 5 ♠ s and 5 ♥ s.
However, she has only 5 losers if ♠ s are trumps (2 below the 7 assumed) and is happy to bid 4 ♠.