

Bridge Basics – Play Some Hands

1		Dlr: N Vul: None	
♠ J6 ♥ AK7653 ♦ A62 ♣ A7		♠ Q107 ♥ Q82 ♦ Q94 ♣ Q532	
♠ 985 ♥ J4 ♦ K1075 ♣ KJ98		♠ AK432 ♥ 109 ♦ J83 ♣ 1064	
16			
8	8		
8			
		♣♦♥♠NT N 1 1 3 3 3 S 1 1 3 3 3 E - - - - - W - - - - -	

2H by North

Key Points:

Pull trump so that the opponents do not trump any of your side winners. Opponents get the Queen. But you make 5 heart tricks.

Also make A&K of spades, Ace of diamonds & Ace of clubs for 4 other tricks, 9 tricks total.

Bridge Basics – Play Some Hands

2		Dlr: E Vul: N-S	
♠ A985 ♥ J105 ♦ J109876 ♣		♠ KQ6 ♥ 86432 ♦ K2 ♣ K85	
♠ J72 ♥ KQ7 ♦ AQ5 ♣ AQ72		♠ 1043 ♥ A9 ♦ 43 ♣ J109643	
6			
18	11		
5			
		♣♦♥♠NT N - - - - - S - - - - - E 3 1 3 1 5 W 3 1 4 2 5	

3NT by East

Key Points:

You have AKQ of diamonds and AKQ of clubs for 6 tricks. You need 3 more.

Play high spades to drive out the Ace. This will give you 2 spade tricks.

Play K of hearts to drive out the A of hearts and make your Q of hearts good for one more trick.

You should do this before cashing the AKQ in clubs or diamonds in case one opponent has long clubs or long diamonds.

Bridge Basics – Play Some Hands

3	♠ A83	Dlr: S	
	♥ K96	Vul: E-W	
	♦ 42		
	♣ K9763		
♠ J742	♠ 1095		
♥ Q752	♥ 10843		
♦ 1098	♦ AJ63		
♣ J2	♣ Q5		
10	♠ KQ6		
4	♥ AJ		
7	♦ KQ75		
19	♣ A1084		

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	6	5	4	4	6
S	6	5	4	5	6
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

6C by South

Key Points:

Pull trump first. Play A & K. You are happy to see Q & J fall.

Looking at the South hand:

- 6S is covered by A in dummy.
- JH is covered by K in dummy.
- Play KD to drive out the Ace.
- QD is now good.
- Two small diamonds can be trumped in dummy.

All you lose is Ace of diamonds, making 12 tricks.

Bridge Basics – Play Some Hands

4	♠ Q9853	Dlr: W
	♥ Q4	Vul: Both
	♦ QJ10	
	♣ QJ6	
♠ AK4	♠ 107	
♥ J1072	♥ 83	
♦ A54	♦ K9873	
♣ A54	♣ K973	
10	♠ J62	
16 6	♥ AK965	
8	♦ 62	
	♣ 1082	

1NT by West

Key Points:

In NT, you often need “long suit” tricks in addition to “high card” tricks. Here you will need some “long suit” diamond tricks to make the contract. Long suit tricks should be set up before cashing your high cards in other suits.

As soon as you can, play AD, KD and another diamond to make diamonds #4 and #5 good. Then you can get to dummy with KC to cash the last 2 diamonds. Without the extra diamond tricks, you might get only 3 Aces & 3 Kings = only 6 tricks.

Bridge Basics – Play Some Hands

5		Dlr: N Vul: N-S																															
♠ AKJ62 ♥ KJ8 ♦ A52 ♣ A3		♠ 5 ♥ 10932 ♦ 874 ♣ KQJ94																															
♠ 1074 ♥ A76 ♦ K1096 ♣ 865		♠ Q983 ♥ Q54 ♦ QJ3 ♣ 1072																															
20 7 6 7		<table><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	2	2	4	2	S	-	2	2	4	2	E	1	-	-	-	-	W	1	-	-	-	-
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																												
N	-	2	2	4	2																												
S	-	2	2	4	2																												
E	1	-	-	-	-																												
W	1	-	-	-	-																												

4S by North

Key Points:

Play is basic / simple for this one. First play 3 rounds of spades to pull the opponent trumps. Then work on the side suits. You lose only AH, KD and one club, making 10 tricks.

Bridge Basics – Play Some Hands

6		Dlr: E Vul: E-W																															
♠ Q97 ♥ AK2 ♦ 54 ♣ 96432		♠ K10865 ♥ 96 ♦ Q1086 ♣ J5																															
♠ AJ432 ♥ J10543 ♦ 32 ♣ 8		♠ Q87 ♥ AKJ97 ♦ AKQ107 ♣ AKQ107																															
9 6 19 6		<table><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>4</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	1	1	-	S	-	-	1	1	-	E	4	5	-	-	4	W	4	5	-	-	4
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																												
N	-	-	1	1	-																												
S	-	-	1	1	-																												
E	4	5	-	-	4																												
W	4	5	-	-	4																												

5D by East

Key Points:

You have 5 sure tricks in diamonds and 5 sure tricks in clubs. Play 2 rounds of diamonds to pull the opponent trumps. Then give the opponents the A & K of hearts. You can now trump your last heart in dummy for the 11th trick. (Don't play "extra" rounds of trump since you will need a trump in dummy to trump your 3rd heart.)

You have no worry about the spade suit. If the opponents try to cash some high spades, trump them in the East hand.

Bridge Basics – Play Some Hands

<div style="font-size: 48pt; font-weight: bold;">7</div>	♠ KJ95	<i>Dlr: S</i>
	♥ A3	<i>Vul: Both</i>
	♦ AKQ9	
	♣ Q54	
♠ A1032	♠ Q874	
♥ J10854	♥ K97	
♦ 73	♦ J1062	
♣ J3	♣ A8	
♠ 6		
♥ Q62		
♦ 854		
♣ K109762		

	19				
6		10			
			5		

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	4	3	1	1	4
S	4	3	1	1	4
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

3C by South

Key Points:

Play 2 rounds of clubs to pull the opponent trump cards, so they do not trump any of dummy's high cards. You can score 5 club tricks.

You can take 4 more tricks with Ace of hearts & AKQ of diamonds. This gives you 9 tricks total, making the contract.

If you lead your 6S towards the K at some point while you still have other high cards in the North hand, you can score the KS too after West takes the Ace. This gives you a 10th trick.

Bridge Basics – Play Some Hands

8	♠ Q9542 ♥ 10874 ♦ 86 ♣ 53	<i>Dlr: W</i> <i>Vul: None</i>																														
♠ KJ86 ♥ K2 ♦ AKQ ♣ QJ84		♠ A10 ♥ AQ6 ♦ 1053 ♣ A10762																														
2 19 14 5	♠ 73 ♥ J953 ♦ J9742 ♣ K9	<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr></table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	6	4	4	4	6	W	6	4	4	4	6
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N	-	-	-	-	-																											
S	-	-	-	-	-																											
E	6	4	4	4	6																											
W	6	4	4	4	6																											

6NT by West

Key Points:

Knock out the K of clubs right away, while you still have stoppers in all the other suits.

You then have 4 club tricks to go along with 2 spades, 3 hearts and 3 diamonds. These are 12 tricks, just what is needed.