

TEAMS V PAIRS

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What's the main difference in scoring between Teams and Pairs ?

In Pairs scoring all boards carry the same % score.
ie. A 20 board session all boards are worth a maximum of 5%

In Teams this is not the case.
Each board is scored on its own merit.
ie. In a 20 board match you could make an overtrick on 18 boards gaining 1 imp per board, but on the 19th and 20th board you missed the vulnerable slam and lose 24 imps on just these 2 hands.

This score equates to around 47.5%
The same scores in Pairs would give you $18 \times 100\% + 2 \times 0\% = 90\%$

So what are the main differences between play Pairs and Teams, and how should we adapt our Bidding and Play?

PLAY

In Teams, do not put your contract in danger for an overtrick.
While at pairs you need to make as many tricks as possible, in teams making your contract in paramount.

Bidding

Thin games. Push to game on lower point counts or good distribution, the plusses out weigh the negatives.

You hold this hand below

♠ 853
♥ AT
♦ 97
♣ KQJT63

Partner has opened 1NT. In pairs you should Pass
In teams you should raise to 3NT

So if a game has a 50% chance of making and you bid it, over the course of 10 hands

Pairs you will gain on 5 hands and lose on 5 hands.
Teams NV you will gain 30 Imps and lose 25 Imps
Teams V you will gain 50 Imps and lose 30 Imps