



Commentary for the CBAI Simultaneous Pairs Wednesday 8th February 2023

Dear Bridge Player,

Thank you very much for playing in the CBAI Simultaneous Pairs 2023, and for your continued support for the CBAI.

Thankfully, the signs are that things are stabilising after a very difficult couple of years, but the Association still faces many challenges, including financial ones, following the disruption caused by the covid hiatus. So the funds raised from the Sims this year will be particularly welcome. If you know of clubs that do not participate in the Sims events, please encourage them to sign up – the feedback is that members really enjoy them and look forward to playing in them every year.

I hope that you found the hands (which are randomly dealt by computer with no human intervention whatsoever) as interesting and challenging as ever, and that you enjoyed the chance to pit your bridge wits against your fellow players across the country (and for those still playing online, perhaps a few overseas players as well). Many thanks to our expert commentators: Monday – Fearghal O’Boyle, Tuesday – Lucy & John Phelan, Wednesday – Enda Glynn, Thursday – Brian Senior, and Friday – Carol-Ann Cummins & John Noonan, for their guidance through the maze. I hope that you have picked up some useful tips from their advice. Don’t forget to check your standing in the national results at www.ecatsbridge.com/sims.

Pat O’Mahony – President, Contract Bridge Association of Ireland

Board 1. None. Dealer North

	♠ 3		
	♥ 4 2		
	♦ 9 3		
	♣ K Q 10 9 8 7 5 3		
♠ 9 5 2		♠ K 10 8 4	
♥ A J 10 9 5 3		♥ K 8 6	
♦ Q J 7		♦ A 10 8 5	
♣ J		♣ 6 4	
	♠ A Q J 7 6		
	♥ Q 7		
	♦ K 6 4 2		
	♣ A 2		

West	North	East	South
	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Dbf
All Pass			

It is normal for North to bid 3♣ for his opening salvo - having an 8th club makes up for points shortage. If he opens 4♣ he has bypassed a possible 3NT contract. South has a great hand but the heart weakness will steer him away from bidding 3NT. West with a six-card heart suit will balance with 3♥. East with good values will raise to 4♥. South will come alive with a penalty double. It is hard to find fault with that bidding sequence. A well-established theory is that when partner balances you should always

play him for lower range points. With a better hand he might have doubled. The singleton spade is led. The defence will score two spades, a ruff, the club Ace and a slow diamond for plus 300. South players who pass on the first round of bidding will be rewarded for their discipline.

Tip: When partner balances be wary of taking off – he will more often than not be in the lower range for his bid.

Board 2. N/S. Dealer East

	♠ A K J 9 6 2		
	♥ A 10 8 2		
	♦ 6		
	♣ K 9		
♠ 8 4		♠ 10 3	
♥ K 9 7 6 5 4		♥ Q J 3	
♦ 4 2		♦ 10 9 8 5 3	
♣ J 8 2		♣ A Q 6	
	♠ Q 7 5		
	♥ —		
	♦ A K Q J 7		
	♣ 10 7 5 4 3		

West	North	East	South
	2♠	Pass	1♦
2♥*	4NT	3♥	4♥
Pass	6♣	Pass	5♣*
Pass		All Pass	

At favourable vulnerability West's 2♥ bid is a weak jump overcall. It is best to play North's bid of 2♠ as forcing for one round. With spade support, a good diamond suit and a heart void South is worth a heart cue bid. 4NT is key card from North and knowing there is an ace missing, North settles for the small slam. Playing in the slam contract North counts his tricks. He will need one heart ruff in dummy to come to twelve tricks. He can ruff the opening heart lead in dummy and then draw trumps. With the five two break in diamonds, he will have to settle for twelve tricks. It is best to surmise "When I see twelve tricks, I take them". Attempting to ruff two hearts in dummy will not be a success and a cold contract will fail.

Tip: When you can count twelve tricks take them – you are in a good contract don't floor it!

Board 3. E/W. Dealer South

	♠ 5 4		
	♥ Q 10 8 4		
	♦ K Q 10 4		
	♣ 8 5 4		
♠ K 9 8 2		♠ J 10 7	
♥ A 6 3		♥ J 9 5	
♦ 5 3		♦ J 9 8 7 6	
♣ K Q 10 3		♣ 7 2	
	♠ A Q 6 3		
	♥ K 7 2		
	♦ A 2		
	♣ A J 9 6		
West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

North may bid 1♦ or 1♥ in first round of bidding. With weaker hands it is best to bid the major first. The normal contract of 3NT will be reached. West has a choice of opening leads. If he chooses the club King it will likely be ducked by declarer. West must now switch. Partner does not have club Jack – if he had he would have played it at trick one. West will likely switch to a spade. The unfavourable lie of the heart suit will not help declarer. The defence can continue spades and will score five or six tricks. With good club spots declarer can even hit the first club but the defence should always prevail.

Tip: With a weak hand bid a major over a minor on first round of bidding.

Board 4. All. Dealer West

		♠ —	
		♥ A K J 4	
		♦ 7 5 3	
		♣ A Q 9 8 5 3	
♠ J 9 6 5 2			♠ K 10 8 3
♥ 8 5			♥ Q 10 7 3
♦ 8 2			♦ J 9
♣ K 10 7 2			♣ J 6 4
		♠ A Q 7 4	
		♥ 9 6 2	
		♦ A K Q 10 6 4	
		♣ —	
West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	7♦
All Pass			

The 1♠ bid by South is 4th suit forcing. North with good controls and a spade void, jumps in diamonds indicating that he is more than minimum for his bid. 4♦ from South is Key Card in diamonds. 4NT response shows two key cards. An optimist by nature South jumps to the grand slam. On the probable trump lead declarer can win and cash spade ace and ruff a spade. The club ace is cashed and a club ruffed. Another spade ruff can follow and then a club ruff. The last trump can be drawn and dummy can be entered with a heart to the Ace. Another club ruff and the clubs are now established for a spade and heart discard with the heart King as the entry. The jump by North on his third round of bidding was the key to the auction. It is also worth noting South's 1♠ bid (4th suit forcing) which elicits more information from partner. If South had bid an agricultural 3NT bid at that stage of the auction the grand slam in diamonds will probably remain a pipe dream.

Tip: With a strong hand it is best to proceed slowly. The Latin phrase "festina lente" ("make haste slowly") is appropriate in this instance.

Board 5. N/S. Dealer North

<p>♠ Q 9 4 3 2 ♥ K 10 7 ♦ Q 8 6 ♣ J 6</p> <p>♠ J 6 5 ♥ J 8 2 ♦ — ♣ K 10 9 7 4 3 2</p> <p>♠ A 10 ♥ 3 ♦ J 10 9 7 5 4 3 2 ♣ 8 5</p>	<p>♠ K 8 7 ♥ A Q 9 6 5 4 ♦ A K ♣ A Q</p>
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West	North	East	South
	Pass	2♣	3♦*
4♣	Pass	4♦*	Pass
5♣*	Pass	6♣	All Pass

South with an eight-card suit will intervene at many tables. West will likely introduce his seven-card suit. East has a suitable hand to advance – the club honours are ideal support. A diamond cue bid is in order. West has nothing extra and bids a simple 5 Clubs. Pre-empts make life difficult and East with no first-round spade control bids the small slam in Clubs. It is a difficult contract to bring home. After the likely diamond lead two spades can be discarded. Two top trumps can be drawn and a low spade can be played from dummy. North will win and as the cards lie has no winning return. After a likely diamond or spade return, declarer will realise that South is short in hearts. He can lead the heart Jack and play North for King 10 X. The heart will be covered and now a spade from dummy. The fall of the Ace indicates that a further heart finesse is unnecessary as there is a heart discard on the spade King. If East is declarer in 6♥ he will need the double heart finesse to make the contract.

Tip: When partner shows a long suit with a strong hand and good secondary support for partner play in that denomination.

Board 6. E/W. Dealer East

<p>♠ 10 3 ♥ A J 10 2 ♦ Q 4 ♣ A Q J 10 8</p> <p>♠ A Q J 6 5 2 ♥ Q 9 3 ♦ 10 6 ♣ 7 6</p> <p>♠ K 9 8 7 4 ♥ 8 7 6 5 ♦ K J 7 3 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ K 4 ♦ A 9 8 5 2 ♣ K 9 5 4 3 2</p>
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West	North	East	South
		1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

With eleven cards in the minor suits East in most instances will open 1♣. With a poor suit and not enough high card points a Pass from South is recommended. An immediate 2♠ by West should show a weak hand with six spades. In this hand West will start with 1♠. East will rebid 2♣ and the bid of 2♠ now by West should show 9 to 11 points and a six-card suit (at least). With the suits breaking poorly the contract of 2♠ will not be a success. Light openings with distributional hands work out well when there is a fit. But if there is no fit such bids will frequently lead to trouble as is the case in this hand. In a 2s contract West will do well to scramble six tricks. There are three trump losers in addition to two hearts and two minor suit losers. Under no circumstances should East bid 2♦ on the second round of bidding. That bid will indicate reversing values. There are other East schools who might open 1♦ and rebid 2♣. That certainly is Lotto time. In the first Bidding Notes I got from Gay Keaveney it was stressed “to open your longest suit first”. Sound advice, I suggest.

Tip: Use an immediate jump to 2♠ in response to partner’s opening bid of 1♣/1♦/1♥ to show a weak hand – 5 to eight points and at least a six-card suit.

Board 7. All. Dealer South

	♠ 8 6		
	♥ A 8 2		
	♦ 10 8 7 5		
	♣ A 7 4 2		
♠ K 4 3 2		♠ Q J 10 9	
♥ J		♥ 6 4 3	
♦ A K 9		♦ J 6 4 2	
♣ Q 10 9 8 3		♣ K 6	
	♠ A 7 5		
	♥ K Q 10 9 7 5		
	♦ Q 3		
	♣ J 5		
West	North	East	South
			1♥
Dbl	3♥*	3♠	All Pass

The bid of 3♥ by North on the first round of bidding typically shows the values for a 2♥ bid if there was no double. East with a good four card suit will usually bid 3♠ and that normally will end the auction. It would be an error for South to bid again as he has minimum values. Neither has West anything extra for his double. There are ten tricks in spades due to the favourable lie of the cards. South players who bid on in this type of hand are looking for trouble. It may result in E/W reaching an unlikely game or gaining plus 200 for doubling 4♥.

Tip: With minimum values in competitive auctions do not bid one for the road. Retire early.

Board 8. None. Dealer West

	♠ J 10 7 6 4		
	♥ J 9 5		
	♦ A 6 5 4		
	♣ 9		
♠ A 8 5 2		♠ K Q	
♥ 10 2		♥ A 8 3	
♦ 9		♦ K 10 7	
♣ A Q J 7 6 3		♣ K 10 8 4 2	
	♠ 9 3		
	♥ K Q 7 6 4		
	♦ Q J 8 3 2		
	♣ 5		
West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	2♣*	2♥
2♠	3♥	3NT	All Pass

The response of 2♣ is inverted showing at least five clubs and ten plus points. It usually denies

a four-card major. West has a choice of 2♠ or 3♣ in his next bid. South with ten red cards is worth a 2♥ bid. 2♠ from West shows a stopper and denies a stopper in the red suits. If 2♠ is chosen East with stoppers in the red suits will bid 3NT as he has the values for game. A small slam in Clubs is destined to fail with two red suit losers. There are ten tricks in a NT contract which will score better than the minor suit game.

Tip: Use the Inverted Minor suit bid. It will show 10 Plus points and good support for partner's minor. If interested in notrump game stoppers in the other suits can be shown from either side of the table.

Board 9. E/W. Dealer North

	♠ 10 7		
	♥ J 10 9 2		
	♦ A 9 2		
	♣ A 10 6 3		
♠ K 9 6 4 2		♠ J	
♥ A Q 6 5		♥ 8 7	
♦ J 6		♦ K 8 7 5 3	
♣ K 8		♣ J 9 7 5 2	
	♠ A Q 8 5 3		
	♥ K 4 3		
	♦ Q 10 4		
	♣ Q 4		
West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

I imagine there will be East players wishing to enter the fray with ten cards in the minors. If that happens it will be difficult for West to get off the bus early. East defending against 1NT will likely lead a low diamond. Unless the suit is bid by opponents it is best policy to lead the 4th highest of your longest and strongest suit. Declarer will probably play on hearts but even if the diamonds are established East has no entry. When playing on spades declarer does best to lead spade 7 first which will ensure two spade tricks on this lay out. Seven or eight tricks when North is declarer will be the likely result.

Tip: Think of your partner before entering the fray with a poor hand.

Board 10. All. Dealer East

	♠ J 6 5 2 ♥ K Q 7 ♦ K J 10 8 5 ♣ 3		
♠ 10 3 ♥ A J 10 8 5 4 3 ♦ Q ♣ Q 7 5	♠ 9 8 4 ♥ 9 6 2 ♦ 9 6 ♣ A J 10 9 8	♠ A K Q 7 ♥ — ♦ A 7 4 3 2 ♣ K 6 4 2	
West	North	East	South
2♥*	Dbl	Pass	1♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	4♥*
All Pass			6♦

This is a difficult bidding hand. A small slam is available in diamonds but not in spades. West will jump to 2♥ or 3♥ on the first round of bidding North has a difficult first choice. With good points a double puts the spades in the picture. 4♦ must show a good hand as diamonds could be supported earlier with a weaker hand. Once North bids diamonds South's hand improves. He cue bids the heart control and his final bid of 6♦ puts the contract in the right denomination. Playing in spades declarer will be forced straight away. As often is the case there is more control in the 5/5 fit. A club to the King will ensure a 12th trick for declarer.

Tip: With a void in a side suit play in the 5/5 trump suit. You will have more control when forced.

Board 11. None. Dealer South

	♠ 5 2 ♥ 9 5 4 3 ♦ Q ♣ A J 10 9 8 2		
♠ J 10 8 4 ♥ J 8 2 ♦ A 8 6 3 ♣ 7 4	♠ A 9 7 3 ♥ K ♦ K 10 9 5 2 ♣ K 5 3	♠ K Q 6 ♥ A Q 10 7 6 ♦ J 7 4 ♣ Q 6	

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♥	Dbl	1♥
2♠	3♥	3♠	Pass
Pass			All

North might be tempted to bid 3♥ on the first round of bidding. That bid will work well here as East may not double. E/W will probably declare a 3♠ contract. In the play West will need to find the actual diamond lay out. East has a singleton so frequently there will be another singleton in one of the N/S hands. Declarer should play the diamond King first and trust North's Queen to be a true card. If North plays the Queen first (holding Queen Jack) congratulate him on his good play. Terence Reese' "Principle of Restricted Choice" is worth noting and worth following. Reese in his writings is not known for idle chatter.

Tip: Look up in Wikipedia Reese's "Principle of Restricted Choice."

Board 12. N/S. Dealer West

	♠ A 9 5 ♥ A J 9 6 5 2 ♦ Q 6 2 ♣ A		
♠ K 6 4 ♥ Q 8 ♦ A K 9 3 ♣ K 10 7 6	♠ Q J 8 3 2 ♥ K 7 3 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ 5 4	♠ 10 7 ♥ 10 4 ♦ J 8 7 ♣ Q J 9 8 3 2	
West	North	East	South
1♣	1♥	1♠*	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Holding four clubs and four diamonds and fifteen plus points the West of Ireland choice of bidding clubs first is recommended. The 1♠ bid over 1♥ will show at least five. Holding only fifteen points there is no requirement for West to be jumping around. It would be unwise for North to bid again as his partner has remained silent. South will lead the ♥10. Declarer can make nine tricks if he guesses correctly the club position. That may not be easy. The clue will be for East to discover North's distribution and delay the play of the club suit. Another winning line is to play a diamond to the 9. A

club can now be discarded on the long diamond. If the diamonds do not break 3/3 there is still the option of the club guess.

Tip: Try and work out from the likely lay out of opponent's suits and high card points.

Board 13. All. Dealer North

	♠ K J ♥ Q J 9 8 7 ♦ Q 10 9 6 3 ♣ 3		
♠ A 9 2 ♥ A ♦ A K J 8 5 ♣ A 8 7 2	♠ 10 8 6 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ 4 2 ♣ K Q J 9 6	♠ Q 7 5 4 3 ♥ K 10 6 5 ♦ 7 ♣ 10 5 4	♠ 10 8 6 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ 4 2 ♣ K Q J 9 6
West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	Pass	3♥
Dbl	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥*	Pass	5♣	All Pass

Playing Tartan 2 Bids some North players will open 2♥. If using those type of bids, it is best to have the points in the two suits. North if he doesn't open can overcall 1♥ and with good distribution South will raise to 3♥. A double from West is strong take out. East will introduce his club suit. West shows the strength of his hand with a cue bid of 4♥. East with three small spades simply bids 5 Clubs which ends the auction. In the play East can ruff two hearts in dummy. With diamonds breaking badly that is the only possible route to eleven tricks.

Tip: With 20 plus points and two suits open at the one level. If your partner cannot bid there is unlikely to be a game on.

Board 14. None. Dealer East

	♠ Q 5 3 ♥ K Q 8 3 ♦ 10 6 4 ♣ J 7 3		
♠ A 8 ♥ J 9 6 5 4 ♦ K J 9 5 2 ♣ 10	♠ K J 10 9 6 ♥ A 10 2 ♦ 8 ♣ Q 9 5 2	♠ 7 4 2 ♥ 7 ♦ A Q 7 3 ♣ A K 8 6 4	♠ K J 10 9 6 ♥ A 10 2 ♦ 8 ♣ Q 9 5 2
West	North	East	South
Dbl	3♣	1♠	2♣
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass
		3♥	All Pass

West's double is for take out and will usually have a fall-back position of two cards in partner's suit as in this instance. East with points in three suits is worth an opening bid. West's second double is for more take-out. East had the option of passing but decided to bid 3♥ which turned out to be a wise decision. North has pushed the opponents to the three level and a penalty double at this stage would be unwise. The defence have four tricks and after cashing one top club South is faced with many losing options in the play.

Tip: With right distribution compete for the part score.

Board 15. N/S. Dealer South

	♠ A 4 ♥ A ♦ K 9 7 6 5 4 2 ♣ A Q 8		
♠ 9 6 3 ♥ J 5 2 ♦ 8 3 ♣ K 9 7 6 2	♠ K J 8 7 5 2 ♥ K 10 9 3 ♦ J ♣ 10 5	♠ Q 10 ♥ Q 8 7 6 4 ♦ A Q 10 ♣ J 4 3	♠ K J 8 7 5 2 ♥ K 10 9 3 ♦ J ♣ 10 5
West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	2♠*	Pass
Pass	4♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	6♦	All Pass	5♦

Opening on poor eleven counts is not winning bridge. On the first round of bidding a pass is recommended for South. East's jump to 2♠ shows a six-card suit and 6 to 10 points. South's 3♥ bid is forcing showing a five-card suit. North repeats his seven-card suit. takes off from there and an optimistic slam is reached. East has a difficult hand to lead from and may settle on a trump. Most roads lead to twelve tricks. Declarer may finesse a club, cash a club and play Ace and another spade endplaying East. This is an optimistic slam and East's bid of 2♠ guides declarer to the best course of action. When South bids 2♥ he will usually guarantee secondary diamond support and North with first round control of three suits is worth advancing to a slam.

Tip: Aces are ideal when thinking of making a forward move in a suit contract.

Board 16. E/W. Dealer West

	♠ Q 10 3		
	♥ K Q J 10 5		
	♦ J 3 2		
	♣ 4 2		
♠ A K J 9 6		♠ 4	
♥ A 4		♥ 9 8 7 6 2	
♦ 10		♦ A K Q 9 4	
♣ A J 10 9 3		♣ K 7	
	♠ 8 7 5 2		
	♥ 3		
	♦ 8 7 6 5		
	♣ Q 8 6 5		
West	North	East	South
1♠	2♥*	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The 2♥ bid by North at favourable vulnerability works a treat in this hand. It is a good suit and it disrupts E/W bidding. After that intervention it is not easy for E/W to reach the optimum 6NT slam. E/W have only 29 points and no primary fit. The diamonds come home for five tricks. Playing in 6NT West must win the heart lead, finesse a club and concede a club – scoring four clubs, five diamonds, one heart and two spades. N/S can only make four tricks in hearts but E/W are likely to push on to the vulnerable game. There are five diamond tricks which may not always be the case. Any E/W pair who make twelve tricks will score well. E/W pairs who bid and make 6NT will score top marks.

Tip: When overcalling the quality of the suit is most important.

Board 17. None. Dealer North

	♠ K 10 5 3 2		
	♥ 10 8 4		
	♦ J 10 9 5		
	♣ K		
♠ A Q 9 7		♠ —	
♥ 5		♥ A Q J 9 7 6	
♦ K Q 7 3		♦ A 8 2	
♣ A 10 5 3		♣ J 9 8 4	
	♠ J 8 6 4		
	♥ K 3 2		
	♦ 6 4		
	♣ Q 7 6 2		
West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Another borderline slam and many pairs will rest in 3NT or 4♥. The 2♦ bid is 4th suit forcing and East's next bid of 2♥ shows a minimum opening with six hearts. 6 Clubs is an outside possibility. To have a chance in this contract declarer must drop the club King (singleton) which is against the odds. With the quality of the suit a contract of 4♥ looks attractive. A 4th suit forcing bid at the two level means the partnership cannot stop below the level of game and shows a strong hand. On the other hand, a fourth suit forcing bid at the one level is forcing just for one round.

Tip: Holding a strong hand use the 4th suit forcing bid to elicit more information on partner's hand.

Board 18. N/S. Dealer East

	♠ A 6		
	♥ A 9 7 6 3		
	♦ A 10 6		
	♣ A 10 7		
♠ 10 7 5		♠ K Q 9 4	
♥ K J 5 2		♥ 8	
♦ K 5 2		♦ Q 9 8 7 4	
♣ Q 8 5		♣ 9 4 2	
	♠ J 8 3 2		
	♥ Q 10 4		
	♦ J 3		
	♣ K J 6 3		

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

It is best to use the 2♥ response to a 1♥ opening as showing 8 to 10 points. With five to seven points and heart support (and only 3 or less spades) bid 1NT and on the next round of bidding show the heart support and a weaker hand (5 to 7 points). The above hand is ideal for the 2♥ bid showing 8 to 10 points. Over the 2♥ bid with four Aces North has a straight forward bid of 4♥. To make the contract North must double finesse the heart – losing one heart, one spade and one diamond. The double heart finesse is the recommended play on these type of hands – unless indicates otherwise. 3NT is also a possible contract which will likely be reached by partnerships playing the strong notrump.

Tip: Use 2♥/2♠ response to a 1♥/1♠ opening to show eight to ten points and three or four card support.:

Board 19. E/W. Dealer South

	♠ 10 9 4		
	♥ J 5 4 2		
	♦ A 8 5		
	♣ 9 7 6		
♠ K Q 8 7 5 3 2		♠ A 6	
♥ 10 6		♥ A Q 9 7 3	
♦ 10 4		♦ J 7 6	
♣ J 2		♣ K Q 8	
	♠ J		
	♥ K 8		
	♦ K Q 9 3 2		
	♣ A 10 5 4 3		

West	North	East	South
			1♦
3♠*	Pass	Pass*	4♣
Pass	4♦	Dbf	All Pass

Many players with the West hand are inclined to bid just 2♠ on these types of hands. The advantage of 3♠ is that it removes bidding space for opponents. East has an excellent hand but has a number of losers in the side suits. It takes a heart lead to defeat 4♠. South with a second five card suit comes again and North gives preference to diamonds. East breaks his silence and doubles the final contract. There are four losers in a diamond contract. Many E/W partnerships will get too high. The East

players who choose to pass on the first round of bidding and double subsequently will score well.

Tip: Pre-empt to the full value on the first round of bidding.

Board 20. All. Dealer West

	♠ A J 6 3		
	♥ A 5 4 3		
	♦ 8 7 3		
	♣ K J		
♠ Q 10 8 5		♠ K 7	
♥ —		♥ Q J 10 8	
♦ K J 10 9 6 5		♦ 4 2	
♣ A 9 3		♣ Q 10 5 4 2	
	♠ 9 4 2		
	♥ K 9 7 6 2		
	♦ A Q		
	♣ 8 7 6		

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	All Pass		

With a nice six four distribution West is well worth an opening bid of 1♦. All the points are in the suits. It would be an error to open a weak 2♦ as a potential spade fit could be lost. The final contract of 2♦ is eminently reasonable and the cards lie favourably for declarer. North on lead is effectively endplayed and the defence will score a club, a diamond and a spade. Some North players may double to put both majors in the picture. There are eight tricks for N/S in hearts but E/W have a minor suit making contract at the three level. If N/S get too ambitious they will run into a costly penalty double. Minus 200 rarely scores well in match points.

Tip: With six four distributions, bid out your shape – it is normally wise to mention your second suit.

Board 21. N/S. Dealer North

	♠ K J		
	♥ J 9		
	♦ K 4		
	♣ A K 10 8 7 5 4		
♠ A 8 7 3 2		♠ 10 9 5 4	
♥ A 8 6 2		♥ Q 5 4	
♦ A 9		♦ J 10 6 5 3	
♣ J 3		♣ Q	
	♠ Q 6		
	♥ K 10 7 3		
	♦ Q 8 7 2		
	♣ 9 6 2		
West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	3♣	3♠	4♣
All Pass			

South with a weak hand chooses to bid his major rather than his minor on the first round of bidding. East's bid of 3♠ is simply competitive, holding four trumps and a side suit singleton. In the 4♣ contract declarer has to guess correctly the heart position. It seems correct to play the over caller for the heart Ace rather than the Queen. If that is negotiated successfully declarer will make his contract. With gaps in the other suits North should not advance to 5♣. If N/S overstep the mark West with three Aces has an easy double.

Tip: Examine the small cards in side suits before deciding the best way forward.

Board 22. E/W. Dealer East

	♠ 10 7 6 5 4		
	♥ Q		
	♦ A J 10 4 2		
	♣ 6 5		
♠ 9 8 2		♠ K Q J	
♥ J 5		♥ A 9 8 6 4 3	
♦ K Q 9 3		♦ 7	
♣ J 7 4 2		♣ A Q 9	
	♠ A 3		
	♥ K 10 7 2		
	♦ 8 6 5		
	♣ K 10 8 3		
West	North	East	South
		1♥	Pass
INT	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

North in the balancing position is weak but has two five card suits and at favourable

vulnerability bids 2♠. East in addition to his six hearts has good spades and is sorely tempted to double 2♠ for penalties. Discretion is the better part of valour and a disciplined pass is the winning option. The favourable lie of the cards for North results in 2♠ being unbeatable. East has in all probability has four quick tricks. He needs two more from his partner which are not there. Putting the trumps together means there are only five winners for E/W. South should remember that North is bidding his partner's hand with the 2♠ bid.

Tip: A balancing bid is frequently in order when in 4th seat provided distribution is right.

Board 23. All. Dealer South

	♠ Q 10 5 4 3		
	♥ 7 6 5 4		
	♦ 4		
	♣ J 7 2		
♠ K J 9 8		♠ A 7 6	
♥ 10		♥ 9 2	
♦ K Q 10 9		♦ A J 7 6 2	
♣ A K 10 9		♣ Q 6 4	
	♠ 2		
	♥ A K Q J 8 3		
	♦ 8 5 3		
	♣ 8 5 3		
West	North	East	South
			1♥
Dbl	3♥	5♦	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♦	All Pass

West has the classic hand for a take out double, holding four cards in the other three suits. North's bid of 3♥ is similar to a 2♥ bid without the double. East has an opening bid and bids what he thinks he can make. West has extra's and cue bids 5♥ along the way. East feels he has done enough and settles for 6♦. There is little difficulty in the play. East can test the clubs first and if there is an adverse break, he will have to fall back on the spade finesse. The favourable club divide sees the slam home with the spade loser being discarded on the long club. If a slam is bid against you in match pointed pairs you will usually score under average.

Tip: After partner makes a take-out double, bid what you think you can make. Going forwardly slowly is not an option.

Board 24. None. Dealer West

	♠ Q 10 9 8 5		
	♥ Q 9 5		
	♦ 10 8 7 3		
	♣ 7		
♠ A J 6		♠ K 2	
♥ 10 2		♥ 8 6 4 3	
♦ K J 5 2		♦ A 9 6 4	
♣ A J 8 4		♣ K Q 10	
	♠ 7 4 3		
	♥ A K J 7		
	♦ Q		
	♣ 9 6 5 3 2		
West	North	East	South
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Unless North finds the unlikely lead of a heart West, as declarer, will score ten or eleven tricks. The likely lead of a spade will lead to three tricks for the declarer in that suit. After cashing three spades and four clubs, declarer may well surmise that North is favourite to have longer diamonds. He may find he winning play in the diamond suit on this occasion by cashing the King first. That will lead to eleven tricks for declarer and an excellent score. The more likely result will be ten tricks for E/W.

Tip: Cash your side suit winners first. This will frequently provide the clues to find the winning play in another suit.

Board 25. E/W. Dealer North

	♠ K 10 7		
	♥ Q J		
	♦ K 9 5 4 3		
	♣ K 5 4		
♠ Q 5 3 2		♠ 6 4	
♥ A 5 3 2		♥ K 9 8 6 4	
♦ A 2		♦ 8 7	
♣ A 9 2		♣ Q 8 6 3	
	♠ A J 9 8		
	♥ 10 7		
	♦ Q J 10 6		
	♣ J 10 7		
West	North	East	South
2♣*	INT	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♥	DbI*
	3♦	All Pass	

In the 4th seat West uses the Landy convention to try and win the auction. The bid of 2♣ shows both majors and East has an easy bid of

2♥. The double by South at this stage is competitive, showing a shortage in hearts and values in the other three suits. It is never a penalty double in this type of auction. If South had good hearts he should pass and hope partner can make a competitive double in the pass out position. E/W can make nine tricks in hearts and N/S will be down one in 3♦. East with five hearts may compete to the three level which is his best option on the hand.

Tip: Landy is a useful and an uncomplicated convention. The bid of 2♣ over opponents INT simply shows both majors

Board 26. All. Dealer East

	♠ K 9 5 4		
	♥ Q J 5 4		
	♦ Q 8		
	♣ Q 9 7		
♠ J 7 3		♠ Q 10 2	
♥ A 10 7 6 3		♥ K 9	
♦ 2		♦ A K J 7 5 4 3	
♣ A K 10 8		♣ J	
	♠ A 8 6		
	♥ 8 2		
	♦ 10 9 6		
	♣ 6 5 4 3 2		
West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	1♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass	3♦	Pass

A straight forward auction results in West declaring 3NT. The only issue is East's rebid. Which is better 2♦ or 3♦? With a good suit I suggest 3♦ is more descriptive. North will likely lead a spade and North must win the second spade, if the defence are to score a second trick. With an ominous running diamond suit in dummy, it would be unwise not to take the trick. Sometimes with no outside entry one must duck to keep communication with partner but not here.

Tip: With a long running minor in dummy, as defenders let there be no ducking – take your quick tricks.

Board 27. None. Dealer South

	♠ Q 10 8 7 6 ♥ J 10 ♦ Q 6 3 ♣ A 10 2		
	♠ K 9 ♥ A K 5 2 ♦ 10 9 ♣ 8 6 5 4 3	♠ 3 2 ♥ Q 8 7 6 ♦ J 8 5 4 2 ♣ K Q	
	♠ A J 5 4 ♥ 9 4 3 ♦ A K 7 ♣ J 9 7		
West	North	East	South
			INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	3♠
4♥	DBL	All Pass	

South might consider jumping in spades with four card support after partner has transferred. That will be the winning option in this hand as East is unlikely to double for take-out in the balancing position. There are nine tricks in either denomination. With some outside values North's winning bid is to double 4♥ and refrain from bidding 4♠. If South is declarer in 3♠ once West shows up with the two top heart honours and the spade King, he should guess the club situation correctly. and play to date will place both club honours with East.

Tip: When partner transfers to a major with four card support it is usually wise to jump in the major immediately and not leave the gate open.

Board 28. N/S. Dealer West

	♠ 10 ♥ Q 8 6 4 ♦ A K 5 2 ♣ A K 4 3		
	♠ J ♥ 7 3 2 ♦ 10 9 6 4 ♣ J 9 7 6 5	♠ K Q 9 7 6 4 ♥ A 9 ♦ Q 3 ♣ Q 8 2	
	♠ A 8 5 3 2 ♥ K J 10 5 ♦ J 8 7 ♣ 10		
West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	1♠	Dbl
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Holding sixteen high card points North should bid 3♥ over his partner's take out double. If partner does not have four hearts (unlikely) he will have good diamond support. South will accept the game invitation and bid 4♥. With the diamond queen coming down in two rounds it might appear that declarer can score twelve tricks. However, there is too much work to be done. Declarer cannot draw trumps and ruff two clubs and a diamond in dummy. Any over optimistic N/S pairs who stretch to bidding a slam are destined to fail by one trick.

Tip: If unsure settle for game rather than bidding a dodgy slam.

005231 CBAI 2023 WEDNESDAY

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<p>1 ♠ 3 ♥ 42 ♦ 93 ♣ KQT98753</p> <p>♠ 952 ♠ KT84 ♥ AJT953 ♥ K86 ♦ QJ7 ♦ AT85 ♣ J ♣ 64</p> <p>5 ♠ AQJ76 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ Q7 N 4 - - - - 9 10 ♠ K642 S 4 - - - - ♣ A2 E - 2 2 - - 16 W - 1 2 - -</p>	<p>2 ♠ AKJ962 Dir: E ♥ AT82 Vul: N-S ♦ 6 ♣ K9</p> <p>♠ 84 ♠ T3 ♥ K97654 ♥ QJ3 ♦ 42 ♦ T9853 ♣ J82 ♣ AQ6</p> <p>15 ♠ Q75 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ N 4 4 - 6 5 4 9 ♦ AKQJ7 S 4 3 - 5 4 ♣ T7543 E - - - - - 12 W - - - - -</p>	<p>3 ♠ 54 Dir: S ♥ QT84 Vul: E-W ♦ KQT4 ♣ 854</p> <p>♠ K982 ♠ JT7 ♥ A63 ♥ J95 ♦ 53 ♦ J9876 ♣ KQT3 ♣ 72</p> <p>7 ♠ AQ63 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ K72 N 2 1 2 - 2 12 3 ♦ A2 S 2 1 2 1 2 ♣ AJ96 E - - - - - 18 W - - - - -</p>	<p>4 ♠ AKJ4 Dir: W ♥ 753 Vul: Both ♣ AQ9853</p> <p>♠ J9652 ♠ KT83 ♥ 85 ♥ QT73 ♦ 82 ♦ J9 ♣ KT72 ♣ J64</p> <p>14 ♠ AQ74 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ 962 N 4 7 5 3 5 4 7 ♦ AKQT64 S 4 7 5 3 5 ♣ E - - - - - 15 W - - - - -</p>
<p>5 ♠ Q9432 Dir: N ♥ KT7 Vul: N-S ♦ Q86 ♣ J6</p> <p>♠ J65 ♠ K87 ♥ J82 ♥ AQ9654 ♦ ♦ AK ♣ KT97432 ♣ AQ</p> <p>8 ♠ AT ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ 3 N - 2 - - - 5 22 ♦ JT975432 S 1 - - - - ♣ 85 E 6 - 6 3 5 5 W 6 - 6 3 5</p>	<p>6 ♠ T3 Dir: E ♥ AJT2 Vul: E-W ♦ Q4 ♣ AQJT8</p> <p>♠ AQJ652 ♠ ♠ K4 ♥ Q93 ♥ ♥ A9852 ♦ T6 ♦ ♦ K95432 ♣ 76 ♣ ♣</p> <p>14 ♠ K9874 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ 8765 N 1 2 3 1 2 9 10 ♦ KJ73 S 1 2 3 1 2 ♣ E - - - - - 7 W - - - - -</p>	<p>7 ♠ 86 Dir: S ♥ A82 Vul: Both ♦ T875 ♣ A742</p> <p>♠ K432 ♠ QJT9 ♥ J ♥ 643 ♦ AK9 ♦ J642 ♣ QT983 ♣ K6</p> <p>8 ♠ A75 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ KQT975 N - - 3 - 2 13 7 ♦ Q3 S - - 3 - 2 ♣ J5 E 3 2 4 - - 12 W 3 2 4 - -</p>	<p>8 ♠ JT764 Dir: W ♥ J95 Vul: None ♦ A654 ♣ 9</p> <p>♠ A852 ♠ KQ ♥ T2 ♥ A83 ♦ 9 ♦ KT7 ♣ AQJ763 ♣ KT842</p> <p>6 ♠ 93 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ KQ764 N - 2 1 - - 11 15 ♦ QJ832 S - 2 1 - - ♣ 5 E 5 - - 2 4 8 W 5 - - 2 4</p>
<p>9 ♠ T7 Dir: N ♥ JT92 Vul: E-W ♦ A92 ♣ AT63</p> <p>♠ K9642 ♠ J ♥ AQ65 ♥ 87 ♦ J6 ♦ K8753 ♣ K8 ♣ J9752</p> <p>9 ♠ AQ853 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ K43 N - - 1 1 2 13 5 ♦ QT4 S - - 1 1 2 ♣ Q4 E 2 1 - - - 13 W 2 1 - - -</p>	<p>10 ♠ J652 Dir: E ♥ KQ7 Vul: Both ♦ KJT85 ♣ 3</p> <p>♠ T3 ♠ 984 ♥ AJT8543 ♥ 962 ♦ Q ♦ 96 ♣ Q75 ♣ AJT98</p> <p>10 ♠ AKQ7 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ N 1 6 - 5 4 9 5 ♦ A7432 S 1 6 - 5 4 ♣ K642 E - - 1 - - 16 W - - 1 - -</p>	<p>11 ♠ 52 Dir: S ♥ 9543 Vul: None ♦ Q ♣ AJT982</p> <p>♠ JT84 ♠ A973 ♥ J82 ♥ K ♦ A863 ♦ KT952 ♣ 74 ♣ K53</p> <p>7 ♠ KQ6 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ AQT76 N 3 - 3 - - 6 13 ♦ J74 S 3 - 3 - - ♣ Q6 E - 3 - 3 1 14 W - 3 - 3 1</p>	<p>12 ♠ A95 Dir: W ♥ AJ9652 Vul: N-S ♦ Q62 ♣ A</p> <p>♠ K64 ♠ QJ832 ♥ Q8 ♥ K73 ♦ AK93 ♦ T54 ♣ KT76 ♣ 54</p> <p>15 ♠ T7 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ T4 N 1 - 1 - - 15 6 ♦ J87 S 1 - 1 - - ♣ QJ9832 E - 1 - 3 - 4 W - 2 - 3 2</p>
<p>13 ♠ KJ Dir: N ♥ QJ987 Vul: Both ♦ QT963 ♣ 3</p> <p>♠ A92 ♠ T86 ♥ A ♥ 432 ♦ AKJ85 ♦ 42 ♣ A872 ♣ KQJ96</p> <p>9 ♠ Q7543 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ KT65 N - - 3 - - 20 6 ♦ 7 S - - 3 - - ♣ T54 E 5 3 - 1 3 5 W 5 3 - 1 3</p>	<p>14 ♠ Q53 Dir: E ♥ KQ83 Vul: None ♦ T64 ♣ J73</p> <p>♠ A8 ♠ KJT96 ♥ J9654 ♥ AT2 ♦ KJ952 ♦ 8 ♣ T ♣ Q952</p> <p>8 ♠ 742 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ 7 N - - - - - 9 10 ♦ AQ73 S - - - - - ♣ AK864 E 1 2 3 2 2 13 W 1 2 3 2 1</p>	<p>15 ♠ A4 Dir: S ♥ A Vul: N-S ♦ K976542 ♣ AQ8</p> <p>♠ 963 ♠ KJ8752 ♥ J52 ♥ KT93 ♦ 83 ♦ J ♣ K9762 ♣ T5</p> <p>17 ♠ QT ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ Q8764 N 2 6 2 - 5 4 8 ♦ AQT S 2 6 2 - 5 ♣ J43 E - - 1 - - 11 W - - 1 - -</p>	<p>16 ♠ QT3 Dir: W ♥ KQJT5 Vul: E-W ♦ J32 ♣ 42</p> <p>♠ AKJ96 ♠ 4 ♥ A4 ♥ 98762 ♦ T ♦ AKQ94 ♣ AJT93 ♣ K7</p> <p>9 ♠ 8752 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ 3 N - - - - - 17 12 ♦ 8765 S - - - - - ♣ Q865 E 6 7 3 6 6 2 W 6 7 4 6 6</p>
<p>17 ♠ KT532 Dir: N ♥ T84 Vul: None ♦ JT95 ♣ K</p> <p>♠ AQ97 ♠ ♠ AQJ976 ♥ 5 ♥ ♥ A82 ♦ KQ73 ♦ ♦ J984 ♣ AT53 ♣ ♣</p> <p>7 ♠ J864 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ K32 N - - - - - 15 12 ♦ 64 S - - - - - ♣ Q762 E 6 5 4 1 4 6 W 6 5 4 2 4</p>	<p>18 ♠ A6 Dir: E ♥ A9763 Vul: N-S ♦ AT6 ♣ AT7</p> <p>♠ T75 ♠ KQ94 ♥ KJ52 ♥ 8 ♦ K52 ♦ Q9874 ♣ Q85 ♣ 942</p> <p>16 ♠ J832 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ QT4 N 4 1 4 2 3 9 7 ♦ J3 S 3 1 4 2 3 ♣ KJ63 E - - - - - 8 W - - - - -</p>	<p>19 ♠ T94 Dir: S ♥ J542 Vul: E-W ♦ A85 ♣ 976</p> <p>♠ KQ87532 ♠ A6 ♥ T6 ♥ AQ973 ♦ T4 ♦ J76 ♣ J2 ♣ KQ8</p> <p>5 ♠ J ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ K8 N 3 3 - - - 6 16 ♦ KQ932 S 3 3 - - - ♣ AT543 E - - 2 3 1 13 W - - 2 3 1</p>	<p>20 ♠ AJ63 Dir: W ♥ A543 Vul: Both ♦ 873 ♣ KJ</p> <p>♠ QT85 ♠ K7 ♥ ♥ QJT8 ♦ KJT965 ♦ 42 ♣ A93 ♣ QT542</p> <p>13 ♠ 942 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ K9762 N - - 2 - - 10 8 ♦ AQ S - - 2 - - ♣ 876 E 3 2 - 1 1 9 W 3 4 - 1 1</p>
<p>21 ♠ KJ Dir: N ♥ J9 Vul: N-S ♦ K4 ♣ AKT8754</p> <p>♠ A8732 ♠ T954 ♥ A862 ♥ Q54 ♦ A9 ♦ JT653 ♣ J3 ♣ Q</p> <p>15 ♠ Q6 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ KT73 N 4 1 - - 2 13 5 ♦ Q872 S 4 1 - - 2 ♣ 962 E - - 1 2 - 7 W - - 1 2 -</p>	<p>22 ♠ T7654 Dir: E ♥ Q Vul: E-W ♦ AJT42 ♣ 65</p> <p>♠ 982 ♠ KQJ ♥ J5 ♥ A98643 ♦ KQ93 ♦ 7 ♣ J742 ♣ AQ9</p> <p>7 ♠ A3 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ KT72 N - 2 - 2 1 7 16 ♦ 865 S - 2 - 2 1 ♣ KT83 E 1 - 1 - - 10 W 1 - 1 - -</p>	<p>23 ♠ QT543 Dir: S ♥ 7654 Vul: Both ♦ 4 ♣ J72</p> <p>♠ KJ98 ♠ A76 ♥ T ♥ 92 ♦ KQT9 ♦ AJ762 ♣ AKT9 ♣ Q64</p> <p>3 ♠ 2 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ AKQJ83 N - - 2 - - 16 11 ♦ 853 S - - 2 - - ♣ 853 E 5 6 - 3 1 10 W 5 6 - 3 1</p>	<p>24 ♠ QT985 Dir: W ♥ Q95 Vul: None ♦ T873 ♣ 7</p> <p>♠ AJ6 ♠ K2 ♥ T2 ♥ 8643 ♦ KJ52 ♦ A964 ♣ AJ84 ♣ KQT</p> <p>4 ♠ 743 ♣ ♠♥♦♠NT ♥ AKJ7 N - - - 1 - 14 12 ♦ Q S - - - 1 - ♣ 96532 E 3 4 1 - 3 10 W 3 4 2 - 3</p>

005231 CBAI 2023 WEDNESDAY

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<p>25 ♠ KT7 ♥ QJ ♦ K9543 ♣ K54</p> <p>Dir: N Vul: E-W</p> <p>♠ Q532 ♠ 64 ♥ A532 ♥ K9864 ♦ A2 ♥ 87 ♣ A92 ♣ Q863</p> <p>12 ♠ AJ98 ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT ♥ T7 N - 2 - 1 - 14 5 ♦ QJT6 S - 2 - 1 - 9 ♣ JT7 E 3 - 3 - 1 W 3 - 3 - 1</p>	<p>26 ♠ K954 ♥ QJ54 ♦ Q8 ♣ Q97</p> <p>Dir: E Vul: Both</p> <p>♠ J73 ♠ QT2 ♥ AT763 ♥ K9 ♦ 2 ♥ AKJ7543 ♣ AKT8 ♣ J</p> <p>10 ♠ A86 ♥ 82 12 14 ♦ T96 4 ♣ 65432</p> <p>♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N - - - - - S - - - - - E 3 5 4 3 5 W 3 5 4 3 5</p>	<p>27 ♠ QT876 ♥ JT ♦ Q63 ♣ AT2</p> <p>Dir: S Vul: None</p> <p>♠ K9 ♠ 32 ♥ AK52 ♥ Q876 ♦ T9 ♦ J8542 ♣ 86543 ♣ KQ</p> <p>9 ♠ AJ54 ♥ 943 10 8 ♦ AK7 13 ♣ J97</p> <p>♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N - - - 3 1 S - - - 3 1 E 1 1 3 - - W 1 1 3 - -</p>	<p>28 ♠ T ♥ Q864 ♦ AK52 ♣ AK43</p> <p>Dir: W Vul: N-S</p> <p>♠ J ♠ KQ9764 ♥ 732 ♥ A9 ♦ T964 ♦ Q3 ♣ J9765 ♣ Q82</p> <p>16 ♠ A8532 ♥ KJT5 2 13 ♦ J87 9 ♣ T</p> <p>♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N 2 4 5 2 3 S 2 4 5 2 3 E - - - - - W - - - - -</p>
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RECAP

	N	S	E	W
AvgHCP	9.93	9.96	9.82	10.29
Bal-anced	12	12	12	8
Voids/Singles*	1/13	4/9	2/9	2/11
Suit with7+	3	1	1	3
* Number of voids/ Number of singletons in all hands.				