

## Analysis of Hands April 19<sup>th</sup> 2021

### Bd 1:

Dlr: North     ♠AK964     Optimum  
 Vul: None     ♥AQ93     N 3N+2; +460  
                  ♦1032  
                  ♣4

♠J732 ♥10742 ♦874 ♣QJ	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px;"> <span>West</span> <span>North</span> <span>East</span> </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; margin: 10px 0;">1</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px;"> <span>South</span> </div> </div>	♠Q8 ♥K865 ♦AK96 ♣752																																		
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1S(N) – Dbl (E) (just about) – 2C(S) – 2H (N) – S(?). If partner has 2 clubs it looks like 3NT has a good chance as you have the Diamonds covered. I think the S hand is worth a 3NT bid the second time and you are hoping partner has two clubs. As you see it is a very lucky make. You are cashing out the CAK just to take your two tricks and lo and behold the QJ drop doubleton. It's against the odds.

### Bd 2:

Dlr: East     ♠A1094     Optimum  
 Vul: N/S     ♥863     EW 4H+1; -450  
                  ♦K  
                  ♣AJ765

♠KQ63 ♥Q107 ♦Q92 ♣843	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px;"> <span>West</span> <span>North</span> <span>East</span> </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; margin: 10px 0;">2</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px;"> <span>South</span> </div> </div>	♠J82 ♥AK92 ♦AJ83 ♣K10																																		
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W	1	4	5	4	3																															

With a flat 16 opposite a flat 9 there is no reason for anybody not to be in 3NT. It should be played by East irrespective of which NT you play. If you get a D lead from South and play low the K comes in and then you play a D to the 9 playing South for the D10. If perchance you got a club lead you would have to go to dummy on HQ and lead a low D. When the K appears you know N has a singleton K so it is easy to finesse the D9. You make 4 hearts, 4 diamonds and the CK. If you do not get a Club lead you also have time to set up 2 Spade tricks.

**Bd 3:**

Dlr: South      ♠K85  
 Vul: E/W      ♥10      Optimum  
                  ♦Q1084      NS 3C+1; +130  
                  ♣A10975

♠J94	North	♠A73
♥J9	West	♥KQ872
♦KJ962	3	♦A753
♣Q86	South	♣3

<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td></td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td></tr> </table>	9	8		13	10	♠Q1062 ♥A6543 ♦-- ♣KJ42	<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>♣</td> <td>♦</td> <td>♥</td> <td>♠</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	4	-	1	2	-	S	4	-	1	2	-	E	-	2	-	-	-	W	-	2	-	-	-
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W	-	2	-	-	-																																

I suspect many Souths did not open 1H. It is certainly worth an opening, holding 5/4/4 with a void. 1H(S) – P(W) – 1NT (N) – P (E) – 2C(S) – P W) – 3C(N) – P –P – P. You should make 9 or 10 tricks depending on what is led and cross ruff out the hand. Some E/W’s got to Diamonds .Not too sure how they got into the auction but vulnerable they make 8 tricks. Any higher and North will get out the double card. It makes a maximum of 8 tricks.

**Bd 4:**

Dlr: West      ♠K  
 Vul: All      ♥876      Optimum  
                  ♦KJ1095      EW 4S+1; -650  
                  ♣KQJ8

♠AQJ10852	North	♠63
♥A104	West	♥KJ9
♦--	4	♦8762
♣A97	South	♣10643

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S	-	2	-	-	-																																
E	1	-	1	5	2																																
W	1	-	1	5	2																																

It is too strong to open 4S. I think I would open 2C and rebid 4S. The danger of opening 1S is that it might get passed out. On the CK lead I would not go to dummy on HK because if I do I am committing myself to a H loss if the HQ is with North. Leave that decision until later. In fact I would play SA and get lucky. In effect I can avoid the HQ guess by leading the C9 later and then one towards the 10 and eventually set up the C10 to discard a H and avoiding the H guess. The HK is the entry to enjoy the C10 and that is another reason not to play a H to the K to finesse a spade.

**Bd 6;**

Dlr: East      ♠8  
 Vul: E/W     ♥K106      Optimum  
                  ♦QJ10752      EW 5S; -650  
                  ♣1073

♠A10975	<table border="1"> <tr><td>North</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>South</td></tr> </table>	North	6	South	♠QJ643
North					
6					
South					
♥Q	♥985				
♦K43	♦A86				
♣AQ84	♣J5				

6	♠K2	♣♦♥♠N
15	♥AJ7432	N - - 2 - -
8	♦9	S - - 2 - -
11	♣K962	E 1 1 - 5 1
		W 1 1 - 5 1

Nearly everyone got to 4S because East overvalued their hand and bid 3S in response to the 1S opening. Did anyone look and see what would happen if the North and South hands were swapped in position? Both the CK and SK are right as the hand was dealt. If both were in the North hand, on a D lead the contract would be in jeopardy. If East just raised to 2S which nobody did I suspect, then West should make an invite after the 2S raise as it can be up to 10hcp. East now obviously will go to 4S.

**Bd 7:**

Dlr: South     ♠-  
 Vul: All      ♥Q863      Optimum  
                  ♦A953      EW 3N+2; -660  
                  ♣QJ1074

♠K1076	<table border="1"> <tr><td>North</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>South</td></tr> </table>	North	7	South	♠AQJ5
North					
7					
South					
♥AK9	♥J542				
♦J74	♦KQ82				
♣K62	♣A				

9	♠98432	♣♦♥♠N
14	♥107	N - - - -
17	♦106	S - - - -
0	♣9853	E 1 4 4 4 5
		W 1 4 4 4 5

For 6NT you need 33hcp. With the 17 count opposite a weak NT opening by West there is no way you should be in 6NT. I think it was two weeks ago I wrote that you need 33 hcp for 6NT. Not 29/31 which is what you have here. For 6S(6 of a suit) you can make with 30/31 allowing for ruffing but here the 5/0 break stops that. In addition you would need to be finessing the D8 in the East hand after two rounds have been played and also find the trumps 3/2.

**Bd 8:**

♠7643  
 Dlr: West ♥AJ9 Optimum  
 Vul: None ♦AK5 EW 1N,EW 1D+1,EW 1C+1; -90  
 ♣QJ10

♠AJ8	North	♠Q95
♥10543	West	♥KQ
♦1073	8	♦QJ94
♣872	South	♣A543

	♠K102	♣♦♥♠N
15	♥8762	N - - - -
5	♦862	S - - - -
14	♣K96	E 2 2 1 - 1
6		W 2 2 1 - 1

1C(N) – P(E) (He does not have a suitable 14 count to make a takeout double. 1H (S) – 1NT(N) and that should be the end of the auction. 1NT by N/S will go one or two off

**Bd 9:**

♠73  
 Dlr: North ♥KQJ75 Optimum  
 Vul: E/W ♦AK43 NS 5Hx; -500  
 ♣32

♠KJ98	North	♠AQ62
♥108	West	♥63
♦5	9	♦Q9862
♣AKJ985	South	♣64

	♠1054	♣♦♥♠N
13	♥A942	N - - 2 - -
12	♦J107	S - - 2 - -
8	♣Q107	E 4 1 - 4 -
7		W 4 1 - 4 -

1H (N) – P – 2H(S) – West? Now West can bid 3C. Alternatively he can double showing Spades but the singleton D makes this flawed. Partner will know you must have 4S for your double of 2H. If responder hasn't 4 spades and chooses 3D you now have to bid 4C showing long clubs and 4 spades. You are a bit weak for that option (should be approx 15 plus) but at the same time you have a very good suit. In fact you make 10 tricks in spades. N/S make 8 tricks in hearts. They should not bid any higher.

**Bd 12:**

Dlr: West      ♠K6      Optimum  
 Vul: N/S      ♥K10952      NS 1H+2; +140  
                  ♦A86  
                  ♣AK4

♠J843	W	North	E	♠Q107
♥AJ	e	12	s	♥Q8743
♦KJ5	t		t	♦1073
♣J1053		South		♣97

17	♠A952	♣♦♥♠N
11	♥6	N 3 3 3 2 2
4	♦Q942	S 3 3 3 2 2
8	♣Q862	E - - - -
		W - - - -

If playing a weak NT it goes 1H(N) – 1S(S) – 1NT (N) (15/17). With the South hand of 8hcp and a singleton H I would pass because it is a misfit. So even if you have 25hcp remember that misfitting hands are always more difficult to play and make the required tricks. It is easily defeated by even leading a H from the East 5 card suit into the 5 card suit of North.

**Bd 13:**

Dlr: North      ♠2      Optimum  
 Vul: All      ♥863      S 5D; +600  
                  ♦AJ92  
                  ♣AKJ85

♠KQ10843	W	North	E	♠A96
♥-	e	13	s	♥QJ10542
♦K8	t		t	♦543
♣107432		South		♣6

13	♠J75	♣♦♥♠N
8	♥AK97	N 3 4 2 - 1
7	♦Q1076	S 4 5 3 - 1
12	♣Q9	E - - - 1 -
		W - - - 1 -

Is an amazing hand . N opens 1C E might overcall 2H weak.( If he does not bid South should respond 1D.) With the South hand you would be thinking of passing and waiting for North to reopen with a double. Alternatively you could double for takeout implying you have 4 spades. West will now bid 2S with his 11 black cards. North will now bid 3D and South will try 3S asking North to bid 3NT with a Spade stop. He has to bid 4C and now South will bid 5D. That contract is very unlucky on the HQ lead because your HK is ruffed. East can be put back in with a S and now lead the HJ causing the HA to be ruffed so the contract fails by 1 trick. 4S will fail doubled by 2 or 3 tricks depending on whether Spades were led by the defending N/S pair. 5D by South does make as only one of your H honours can be ruffed.

**Bd 15:**

♠108643  
 Dir: South ♥10653 Optimum  
 Vul: N/S ♦72 EW 2Nx,EW 3Dx; +100  
 ♣K2

♠972	W	North	E	♠KQJ
♥J	15	15	15	♥Q872
♦A8643				♦KJ9
♣9843				♣AJ6
	S	South	t	

	♠A5	♣♦♥♠N
3	♥AK94	N - - 2 1 -
5	♦Q105	S - - 2 1 -
17	♣Q1075	E 1 2 - - 1
15		W 1 2 - - 1

East if playing a weak NT will open 1C. South should overcall 1NT 15/17. West will pass and North should bid 2C Stayman and not transfer into Spades. If South now bids 2D then North will bid 2S showing 5 spades and 4 hearts and a weak hand. This absolutely must always be passed. This comes up so often and so many people fail to use it. North did not transfer because he also held 4 cards in the second Major suit. It might fail by 1 trick but should make. A 2S contract fails by 1 trick.

**Bd 16:**

♠652  
 Dir: West ♥KQJ102 Optimum  
 Vul: E/W ♦-- N 1S+1; +110  
 ♣AQJ82

♠J74	W	North	E	♠AK9
♥A843	16	16	16	♥95
♦A853				♦Q107
♣75				♣K10964
	S	South	t	

	♠Q1083	♣♦♥♠N
13	♥76	N 1 - 1 2 1
9	♦KJ9642	S 1 - 1 1 1
12	♣3	E - - - - -
6		W - - - - -

This hand is very instructive. 1H(N) – Pass(E) East is not good enough to overcall 2C vulnerable with a 12 count and a poor suit like that. If East does bid 2C South will double for takeout showing D and S and North will Pass. This goes at least 2 off. If East Passes, South will respond 1S. North will rebid 2C and South should convert to 2H. That should finish the auction.

**Bd 17:**

Dir: North  
 Vul: None

♠5  
 ♥AK86  
 ♦Q63  
 ♣AK1085

Optimum  
 NS 4H; +420

♠AJ72 ♥J742 ♦A7 ♣J93	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td colspan="2" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">North</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">17</td><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">S</td><td></td><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">t</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">South</td></tr> </table>	North		W	17	E	S		t	South		♠K1098 ♥5 ♦J942 ♣Q762																											
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W	-	-	-	1	-																																		

1C(N) – 1H(S) (in preference to 1D because with a weak hand responding here on 7 hcp it is a hand that you will usually only get one bid from). Now North has 16hcp and a singleton spade making it worth 18. Its near enough to bid 4H holding a good club suit. If N just bids 3H South with 7hcp and a singleton club will raise to 4H though it looks like partner has long clubs too but you cannot be sure about this. If you play one round of trumps and then a D to the Q and a D back to your 10 or 9 then 4H will come very close to making losing a D a H and a Spade.

**Bd 20:**

♠K3  
 ♥K32  
 ♦986532  
 ♣92

Optimum  
 EW 3N+2; -660

♠9542 ♥AQ9 ♦KQ10 ♣Q54	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td colspan="2" style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; text-align: center;">North</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">20</td><td style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; text-align: center;">S</td><td></td><td style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; text-align: center;">t</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; text-align: center;">South</td></tr> </table>	North		W	20	E	S		t	South		♠AJ ♥107 ♦AJ4 ♣AKJ876																									
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♣♦♥♠N																																					
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S	-	-	-	-																																	
E	5	3	1	2	5																																
W	5	3	1	2	5																																

1NT (W) – (E)? It is a borderline hand to try for 6C. If 3C is a slam try in clubs by East then West will accept holding CQ and 3 controls. However if South leads a Spade which he should, then it fails because the HK is wrong. However if a S is not led then East can finesse the H10 as the 9 is in dummy. East is playing South for one of the two heart honours. This takes the HK and you can now discard your losing S on HAQ. If a S was led then it is the HQ you should finesse and not the 10.

**Bd 21:**

Dlr: North     ♠864     Optimum  
 Vul: N/S     ♥A103     EW 1H+2; -140  
                  ♦A8  
                  ♣95432

♠AQ92	W	North	E	♠K3
♥42	West	21	East	♥KQ987
♦K75432				♦J6
♣K				♣Q1087

8	♠J1075	♣♦♥♠N
12	♥J65	N - - - -
11	♦Q109	S - - - -
9	♣AJ6	E 1 3 3 2 2
		W 1 3 3 2 2

1D(W) – 1H(E) – 1S(W) (showing 5,4) – 2NT (E) (11) – P – P – P. Why be any higher?

**Bd 22:**

Dlr: East     ♠A3     Optimum  
 Vul: E/W     ♥J6     EW 5H; -650  
                  ♦J10853  
                  ♣K1032

♠Q86	W	North	E	♠J
♥AK10	West	22	East	♥Q75432
♦AK974				♦62
♣AQ				♣J854

9	♠K1097542	♣♦♥♠N
22	♥98	N - - - 1 -
4	♦Q	S - - - 1 -
5	♣976	E 2 2 5 - 4
		W 2 2 5 - 4

East is not good enough to open 2H vulnerable. South might open 2S weak, some might be brazen and open 3S and West will bid 3NT over both bids. If you still play transfers here then East will bid 4D to get West to bid 4H and then pass. If he isn't playing transfers he just bids 4H.

**Bd 23:**

♠Q106

Dlr: South ♥AJ982                      Optimum

Vul: All     ♦J976                      EW 6Sx; +1400

♣8

♠8754	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;"> <span>North</span> <span>East</span> </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">23</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;"> <span>West</span> <span>South</span> </div> </div>	♠AKJ932	
♥65		♥10	
♦K543		♦108	
♣J76		♣Q953	

  

	♣--		
8	♥KQ743	3	4
4	♦AQ2	6	-
10	♣AK1042	-	2
18		-	1
		-	-
		-	1

South opens 1H .North has a raise to 4H which usually shows a 4 or 5 card raise in the suit opened and an A and a distributional hand not flat. On this hand North can bid 4C (a splinter showing a singleton or void in clubs, and also a raise to 4H.) Now South will ask for aces and see they are missing one .It is probably the SA but South has to get clubs ruffed and make sure he hasn't D losers. He will probably settle for 6H. You cannot get The D losers away with the K being wrong. A singleton D in the N hand would be much more useful