

Analysis of Hands Jan 4th 2021

Hand 1:

Dlr: North Optimum
 Vul: None NS 2S, NS 2D+1; +110

	♣4			
Dlr: North	♥97	Optimum		
Vul: None	♦AK9752	NS 2S, NS 2D+1; +110		
	♣8764			

	♠AJ62						
	♥A1054	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">North</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">1</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">South</td></tr> </table>	North	1	South		
North							
1							
South							
	♦--						
	♣KQ953						

	♠KQ10987	♣♦♥♠N		
	♥KQJ6	N	-	3
	♦Q6	S	-	3
	♣A	E	1	-
		W	1	-

Probably S opens 1S and West should bid 2C because he has no diamonds and is not suitable for a takeout double with no diamonds. North might drag up a bid of 2D which is a 1 round force and South will now bid 2H. North will bid 3D and South probably 4S. A forcing defence will beat this if you lead CK as defence will get two Spades, HA and a club trick with the 9.

Hand 2:

Dlr: East Optimum
 Vul: N/S EW 4Dx; +500

	♠KJ52			
Dlr: East	♥1043	Optimum		
Vul: N/S	♦AJ4	EW 4Dx; +500		
	♣KQ6			

	♠1084						
	♥J52	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">North</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">2</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">South</td></tr> </table>	North	2	South		
North							
2							
South							
	♦1093						
	♣AJ53						

	♠AQ973	♣♦♥♠N		
	♥A98	N	1	-
	♦Q6	S	1	-
	♣1097	E	-	1
		W	-	1

No reason not to be in 4S. If a heart is led, it will go down because two hearts can be cashed once DK wins the trick. If a heart is not led then, by leading the DQ and losing to the K, the DAJ will give you one heart discard before HA knocked out and so you then make 10 tricks. The opening lead of D10 allows 4S to make.

Hand 3:

Dlr: South ♠84 Optimum
 Vul: E/W ♥J832 E 3N+1; -630
 ♦Q854
 ♣J76

♠1092	<table border="1"> <tr><td>North</td></tr> <tr><td>West</td><td>3</td><td>East</td></tr> <tr><td>South</td></tr> </table>	North	West	3	East	South	♠AKJ3
North							
West		3	East				
South							
♥A97	♥Q106						
♦107	♦AJ9632						
♣A10832	♣-	♣-					

<table border="1"> <tr><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td></tr> </table>	4	8	15	13	♠Q765 ♥K54 ♦K ♣KQ954	<table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	3	4	4	1	4	3	4	3
4																															
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1	4	3	4	4																											
1	4	3	4	3																											

I see one North responded 1D on on a flat four points. Why oh why? North should pass South's opening bid of 1C. Worse was to follow. East doubled. That double is for takeout showing Hearts and Spades. How did West know to pass it? Why did South not bid 1S showing at least 5 clubs and 4 spades. These are all bread and butter bids. North should then go back to 2C but truthfully should be passing 1C. Stop responding on these flat four counts.

Hand 4.

Dlr: West ♠K1074 Optimum
 Vul: All ♥KJ EW 4S+1; -650
 ♦95
 ♣Q8742

♠-	<table border="1"> <tr><td>North</td></tr> <tr><td>West</td><td>4</td><td>East</td></tr> <tr><td>South</td></tr> </table>	North	West	4	East	South	♠AQJ98532
North							
West		4	East				
South							
♥842	♥A						
♦A642	♦K87						
♣AKJ1063	♣9	♣9					

<table border="1"> <tr><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td></tr> </table>	9	12	14	5	♠6 ♥Q1097653 ♦QJ103 ♣5	<table border="1"> <tr><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	4	3	-	5	-	4	3	-	5	-
9																															
12	14																														
5																															
♣	♦	♥	♠	N																											
-	-	2	-	-																											
-	-	2	-	-																											
4	3	-	5	-																											
4	3	-	5	-																											

I am surprised that more are not in 6S. It is a very unlucky contract because of the poor spade distribution and on the cards you hold it is a very good slam to be bidding. It only goes down because the Spades are 4/1 with four to the K10xx in the North hand.

Hand 5 :

Dlr: North ♠Q65
 Vul: N/S ♥K743 Optimum
 ♦QJ2 EW 4S,EW 4H; -420
 ♣A108

♠A10982	W	North	E	♠73
♥Q8	e	5	a	♥AJ1095
♦A4	s		s	♦K63
♣KJ64	t		t	♣Q72
		South		

	12	♠KJ4	♣♦♥♠N
14		♥62	N - - - -
	10	♦109875	S - - - -
	4	♣953	E 4 2 4 4 3
			W 4 2 4 4

I would suggest 1S (W) – 1NT (E) (up to 10 and it is better than 2H.) A 2C rebid by W opposite the 1NT response or a 2S rebid if E has bid 2H and then it will rest in 2S. To the 2C rebid East is best to bid 2H with a good 5 card suit which West should pass with only 14. You will make 10 tricks as you can ruff a diamond in West hand. Spades plays equally well because they break 3/3.

Hand 6:

Dlr: East ♠KQ10874
 Vul: E/W ♥107 Optimum
 ♦9 NS 6N; +990
 ♣J1082

♠J92	W	North	E	♠653
♥QJ4	e	6	a	♥52
♦875	s		s	♦QJ106432
♣9743	t		t	♣A
		South		

	6	♠A	♣♦♥♠N
4		♥AK9863	N 6 - 5 6 6
	7	♦AK	S 6 - 5 6 6
	23	♣KQ65	E - - - -
			W - - - -

Is a bad 6NT or 6S as it needs the spades to be 3/3 or find Jx of S.. No reason to be in it. 6C is a much better contract but I suspect nobody ever bid the club suit anywhere. It is the best contract because you can ruff a round of Spades early in case they break 4/2 when playing in 6C.

Hand 9:

Dlr: North ♠AK8
 Vul: E/W ♥AK95 Optimum
 ♦AJ97 NS 3N; +400
 ♣107

♠9652	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>e</td><td>9</td><td>a</td></tr> <tr><td>s</td><td></td><td>s</td></tr> <tr><td>t</td><td>South</td><td>t</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	e	9	a	s		s	t	South	t	♠Q4
W		North	E											
e		9	a											
s			s											
t	South	t												
♥Q	♥J10876													
♦Q1032	♦864													
♣AQ85	♣K94													

<table border="1"> <tr><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td></tr> </table>	19	10	6	5	♠J1073 ♥432 ♦K5 ♣J632	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	N	2	3	2	3	3	S	2	3	2	3	3	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-
19																														
10	6																													
5																														
N	2	3	2	3	3																									
S	2	3	2	3	3																									
E	-	-	-	-	-																									
W	-	-	-	-	-																									

1D (N) - 1S (South, on 5 count) - 2NT (N) (18/19) – Pass. 3NT is a very lucky in that SQ drops doubleton and the D finesse is right. 3NT is not a contract to be in.

Hand 10:





Dlr: East ♠A94
 Vul: All ♥K652 Optimum
 ♦86 EW 2H+1; -140
 ♣AJ74









♠K1086	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>e</td><td>10</td><td>a</td></tr> <tr><td>s</td><td></td><td>s</td></tr> <tr><td>t</td><td>South</td><td>t</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	e	10	a	s		s	t	South	t	♠Q32
W		North	E											
e		10	a											
s			s											
t	South	t												
♥AJ1083	♥74													
♦KQ3	♦AJ10952													
♣2	♣96													





<table border="1"> <tr><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td></tr> </table>	12	13	7	8	♠J75 ♥Q9 ♦74 ♣KQ10853	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	N	2	-	-	-	-	S	2	-	-	-	-	E	-	4	3	2	-	W	-	4	3	2	-
12																														
13	7																													
8																														
N	2	-	-	-	-																									
S	2	-	-	-	-																									
E	-	4	3	2	-																									
W	-	4	3	2	-																									

If you are playing a weak 2 in diamonds you open 2D on the East hand. Otherwise pass and West opens 1H. If East has opened a weak 2D then West can try 2H if it's a 1 round force or otherwise bid 3D which is 100% non forcing as you know there is not game on it in Diamonds. 2NT should be the forcing bid or any new suit at 3 level.. If West got to open 1H, NO WAY SHOULD NORTH DOUBLE. Double is for takeout. He has a doubleton diamond, only 3 spades and 4 hearts. Totally the wrong shape hand as it is not short in hearts. I know it happened on at least 1 table. N/S should not be bidding. E/W will make 10 tricks in diamonds.

Hand 11.





Dir: South K10965
 Vul: None 103 Optimum
653 EW 7N; -1520
872









 AQ	W North East 11 South	 J87
 AK9		 6
 AQJ98		 K1074
 AK4		 QJ963





3	 432	<table border="0"> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>7</td></tr> </table>	N	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	E	7	7	1	3	7	W	7	7	1	3	7
N	-		-	-	-																			
S	-		-	-	-																			
E	7		7	1	3	7																		
W	7	7	1	3	7																			
27	 QJ87542																							
7	 2																							
3	 105																							

I would not open 2H or 3H on the South hand. Ok it worked in this instance but only because the opponents failed to bid their hands, and your partner had nothing but did have two hearts. Your partner can have a good opening bid and, as a result, will overbid as he is expecting more from you. Just have what you are supposed to have when making these bids. (i.e. 6/10) Indiscipline causes so many bad results at the table. If West opens 2C and East bids 2D then you could use the Kokish bid of 2H showing an Acol Two in hearts or 25/26 (yes I know it's 27.) Partner now bids the mandatory 2S and you rebid 2NT showing 25/26 or if you agree with your partner 3NT showing 27/28. Now 3C over the 2NT or 4C over the 3NT asks for suits upwards and you now have the ability to bid 7D. It's easier if the rebid was 2NT. There you go 3C asking and you hear 3D. You then support D showing 4 diamonds and West can ask for Aces in diamonds and you show the K. West also knows the responding hand has other values as 4D is the strongest bid East can make. If rock minimum he would have bid 3NT or 5D after your 2NT bid, showing 25/26. 7NT also obviously makes.

Bd 12:

Dir: West K7
 Vul: N/S K1043 Optimum
KQ9 NS 3H; +140
10982

 864	W North East 12 South	 AQ1052
 J96		 5
 853		 A642
 7543		 AQ6

11	 J93	<table border="0"> <tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	N	1	1	3	-	1	S	1	-	3	-	1	E	-	-	-	1	-	W	-	-	-	1	-
N	1		1	3	-	1																				
S	1		-	3	-	1																				
E	-		-	-	1	-																				
W	-	-	-	1	-																					
1	 AQ872																									
16	 J107																									
12	 KJ																									

You should not be in 4H. 3H is the contact. East will open 1S and most Souths bid 2H. I wouldn't. It's a shocking hand to wade in on vulnerable opposite a passed partner. If you pass your partner North will bid 1NT protective (10 – 14 but here has to be 10/11) or maybe protect with a double. As South you know your partner N has at most 11hcp. Therefore there is no reason to be in 4H. If, as South, you overcalled 2H then North should only bid 3H with his 11 hcp (knows your style for overcalling at the two level) but the SK is badly placed with the lead coming through it. 9 tricks are all that are on it.

Bd 19:

Dlr: South Q73 Optimum
 Vul: E/W EW 6N; -1440

 	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; color: red;">West</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 2em; margin: 0 10px;">19</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; font-weight: bold; color: red;">East</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; color: green;">North</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; font-weight: bold; color: green;">South</div> </div>	 	
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						N
N	-	-	-	-	-	
S	-	-	-	-	-	
E	4	-	5	4	6	
W	4	-	5	4	6	

E/W should make 4H even though you lose to the HQ. More likely it will be played by West and a singleton S led. You will definitely make 10 or 11 tricks now. I see one North overcalled 2C. I think every week I have been telling you not to overcall at the 2 level without a good opening bid. Look at hand 12 where I wouldn't overcall 2H on the South hand. In this hand it is a 10 count non vul. On hand 12 the South hand had 12 points and 5 hearts.

Hand 20:

Dlr: West A962 Optimum
 Vul: All EW 3N; -600

 	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; color: red;">West</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 2em; margin: 0 10px;">20</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; font-weight: bold; color: red;">East</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; color: red;">North</div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; font-weight: bold; color: red;">South</div> </div>	 	
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						N
N	-	-	-	1	-	
S	-	-	-	1	-	
E	3	2	3	-	3	
W	3	2	3	-	3	

Bidding should go 1H(W) – 1NT (E) – 2D (W) – 2H (E). Now South should come in 2S as he knows his partner must have values since the bidding seems to be stopping in 2H. You will make 7 or 8 tricks in Spades depending on whether it is mis-defended or not. West might bid 2NT over 2S as he hasn't really a holding to make a penalty double. West can make 3NT but after hitting the second spade and knocking out the HA you must play the CK on the switch of a low club by North. The reason is South has a load of winning Spades so if he has the Ace you are in dire straits but if it's the CQ he has you are okay.

Hand 21:

Dr: North ♠KQJ9
 Vul: N/S ♠1064 ♣10972





Optimum
 EW 1S+2; -140



♠8762	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>e</td><td>21</td><td>a</td></tr> <tr><td>s</td><td></td><td>s</td></tr> <tr><td>t</td><td>South</td><td>t</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E	e	21	a	s		s	t	South	t	♠A1054
W		North	E											
e		21	a											
s			s											
t	South	t												
♥J10	♥82													
♦AK7	♦QJ53													
♣AJ54	♣KQ8													









	♠3	♣♦♥♠N
6	♥AKQ7543	N - - 1 - -
13	♦982	S - - 1 - -
12	♣63	E 3 3 - 3 -
9		W 3 3 - 3 -

Lebensohl Convention Note: East could open 1NT. South will bid 2H and West can bid 3H showing 4 spades and no heart stop and a game going hand. If he had the same hand with a heart stop he can bid 2NT Lebensohl, demanding partner to bid 3C. He now bids 3H showing 4 Spades and a heart stop. First option is known as “fast arrival, no stop” and the second option is known as “slow shows.” You are bidding their major to show 4 cards in the other major and a game going hand. In the instance cited above the fast route was chosen to show 4 spades and deny a heart stop. This avoids you getting to silly 3NT contracts and unearths 4/4 major fits. Now I know 4S goes off here but it's to get the bidding correct is what is important.. There is more to Lebensohl and I can do out the full convention if there is a demand for it.

Hand 24.

Dir: West 109 Optimum
 Vul: None K74 EW 4Hx; +100
KJ109863 J

 Q7	W e s t 24 S o u t E a s t	 J8642
 AJ985		 632
 A5		 4
 A1063		 KQ92

8	 AK53	    N
15	 Q10	N - 4 - - -
6	 Q72	S - 4 - - -
11	 8754	E 3 - 3 2 -
		W 3 - 3 2 -

E/W should not be in 4H but should stop in 3H. N/S can make 4D. Mind you 4H doubled down 1 is a good save against 4D making. West will open 1H. North could pre-empt 3D. Now it's difficult for East. If he bids 3H remember he is being bullied by North so never expect East to have 11 hcp in this position. Pre-empts are designed to make life difficult.