

Analysis of Hands 24th May 2021

Bd1:

Dlr: North ♠QJ74
 Vul: None ♥Q3 Optimum
♦AKQ652 NS 3N; +400
♣8

♠AK102 ♥K98 ♦1084 ♣543	W e s t	North 1 South	E a s t	♠853 ♥1075 ♦J93 ♣AJ106
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<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">14</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">10</td><td style="padding: 2px;">6</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">10</td></tr> </table>	14	10	6	10	♠96 ♥AJ642 ♦7 ♣KQ972	♣♦♥♠N	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</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	3	2	3	S	2	4	3	2	3	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-
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Do not beat yourself up if you did not bid 3NT on N/S cards. If the Diamonds did not break and the HK was over the Q you could be struggling to make 1NT not mind 3NT. Remember the CA is also right for you. 1D(N) – 1H(S) – 1S(N) – (2C) (S)** .If you bid 2C it is not natural but is a game forcing bid. Probably the best bid by South is a pushy 2NT with the good club suit but I would not fault 1NT either on this misfit of a hand. If you bid 2NT North will raise to 3NT not knowing you have only one diamond.

Bd 2:

Dlr: East ♠KQ42
 Vul: N/S ♥K8632 Optimum
♦K10 EW 5Cx; +300
♣A8

♠AJ5 ♥107 ♦J654 ♣10732	W e s t	North 2 South	E a s t	♠3 ♥AQJ95 ♦83 ♣K9654
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<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">15</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">6</td><td style="padding: 2px;">10</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">9</td></tr> </table>	15	6	10	9	♠109876 ♥4 ♦AQ972 ♣QJ	♣♦♥♠N	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	N	-	3	-	4	2	S	-	3	-	4	-	E	3	-	-	-	-	W	3	-	1	-	-
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1H(N) (If E had not opened 1H) – 1S(S) – 2S(N) – 3D(S) (Showing a D suit and looking for help in D from N and also asking is he maximum or minimum and N with the great DK and 15hcp will jump to 4S. Playing in 4S it is so important to lead a S early towards the KQ and get back into South hand to lead another S by playing KD and D to A and leading another S towards the Q. You can later ruff a D to set them up. You lose 1C, 1H, 1S.

Bd 3:

Dlr: South ♠AK10873
 Vul: E/W ♥64 Optimum
 ♦Q73 NS 6Sx; -1100
 ♣108

♠94	W North East 3 South East	♠2
♥A1082		♥KQ53
♦AK86		♦J54
♣KQ9		♣A6432

9	♠QJ65	♣♦♥♠N
16	♥J97	N - - - 1 -
10	♦1092	S - - - 1 -
5	♣J75	E 5 5 6 - 1
		W 5 5 6 - 1

1D(W) – 2S(N) (weak) – Dbl (E) (Note this double says we are going to the 3 level and it should show a minimum of 9hcp and should not be made on 6 or 7 hcp unless it is very distributional). If South bids 3S non vul West should go to 4H as he also has the valuable CKQ and has 16hcp. If N/S sacrifice in 4S non vul it should be either doubled, or E should go to 5H knowing partner is not minimum and also holds the 5 card club suit and the singleton S. 5S if bid should be doubled and goes for -800. Obviously 6H makes discarding two diamonds on the long clubs.

Bd 4:

Dlr: West ♠K3
 Vul: All ♥AJ5 Optimum
 ♦AJ42 EW 1H+1; -110
 ♣QJ104

♠AJ	W North East 4 South East	♠10652
♥KQ8643		♥10
♦3		♦K9765
♣A987		♣K63

16	♠Q9874	♣♦♥♠N
14	♥972	N - - - - -
6	♦Q108	S - - - - -
4	♣52	E 2 - 2 - -
		W 2 - 2 - -

1H(W) – 1NT(N) – P(E) – 2H(transfer by S to spades) – P(W) (If you want to air your lungs you could double) 2S(N). Note if West doubled 2H N should pass saying he has only two spades and he should bid 2S as commanded if he holds 3 or 4 spades. 2S does badly because S has no entries to their hand.

Bd 5:

Dlr: North ♠Q5 Optimum
 Vul: N/S ♥J83 EW 7N; -1520
 ♦K864
 ♣10843

♠107	<table border="1"> <tr><td>North</td></tr> <tr><td>West</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>East</td></tr> <tr><td>South</td></tr> </table>	North	West	5	East	South	♠A984
North							
West							
5							
East							
South							
♥AQ1097	♥K2						
♦Q52	♦AJ						
♣QJ5	♣AK962						

<table border="1"> <tr><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td></tr> </table>	6	11	19	4	♠KJ632	<table border="0"> <tr><td>♣♦♥♠N</td></tr> <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>2</td><td>7</td><td>3</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>7</td><td>2</td><td>7</td><td>3</td><td>7</td></tr> </table>	♣♦♥♠N	N	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	E	7	2	7	3	7	W	7	2	7	3	7
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S	-	-	-	-																									
E	7	2	7	3	7																								
W	7	2	7	3	7																								
♥654																													
♦10973																													
♣7																													

Is a poor 6NT. Remember you need 33 hcp for bidding 6NT. If you get a S lead here the contract just depends on the hearts being 3/3. It has no chance if they aren't with someone holds 4 hearts to the J. The D finesse is also right.

Bd 7:

Dlr: South ♠KQ7 Optimum
 Vul: All ♥J1052 EW 4D; -130
 ♦K7
 ♣Q1086

♠986	<table border="1"> <tr><td>North</td></tr> <tr><td>West</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>East</td></tr> <tr><td>South</td></tr> </table>	North	West	7	East	South	♠3
North							
West							
7							
East							
South							
♥K876	♥Q9						
♦J1083	♦AQ642						
♣92	♣AJ753						

<table border="1"> <tr><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td></tr> </table>	11	4	13	12	♠AJ10542	<table border="0"> <tr><td>♣♦♥♠N</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	♣♦♥♠N	N	-	-	1	3	1	S	-	-	1	3	1	E	1	4	-	-	-	W	1	4	-	-	-
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♣♦♥♠N																															
N	-	-	1	3	1																										
S	-	-	1	3	1																										
E	1	4	-	-	-																										
W	1	4	-	-	-																										
♥A43																															
♦95																															
♣K4																															

Is a normal enough 4S (N/S) that goes off. If East bids 2D at some stage then North should be wary that his DK is badly placed whereas if it was West who overcalled 2D then the DK would be well placed. These are vital pieces of knowledge to take on board when bidding tight games and it is a tight 4S contract.

Bd 8:

♠984
 Dlr: West ♥8 Optimum
 Vul: None ♦AQ862 NS 3Sx; -100
 ♣AJ42

♠AK52	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>8</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td>South</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E		8		S		South	♠10
W		North	E								
		8									
S			South								
♥J97	♥AQ10432										
♦K7	♦J93										
♣10876		♣K53									

<table border="1"> <tr><td>11</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td></td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>8</td><td></td></tr> </table>	11			11		10		8		♠QJ763 ♥K65 ♦1054 ♣Q9	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	1	2	-	2	-	S	1	2	-	2	-	E	-	-	3	-	1	W	-	-	3	-	1
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11		10																																							
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	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																																				
N	1	2	-	2	-																																				
S	1	2	-	2	-																																				
E	-	-	3	-	1																																				
W	-	-	3	-	1																																				

If N/S bid to 2S over 2H then E/W might well go on to 3H. This should make losing 1C, 1H and two diamonds. If Ds are not led then lead one towards K and ruff one if J not set up. Discard a C and not a D on the SAK and then lead a club towards the K. It is so important to do this

Bd 11:

♠KQJ8
 Dlr: South ♥J6 Optimum
 Vul: None ♦QJ4 EW 6H; -980
 ♣9764

♠A1097632	<table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>North</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>11</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td></td><td>South</td></tr> </table>	W	North	E		11		S		South	♠-
W		North	E								
		11									
S			South								
♥Q97	♥A85432										
♦3	♦AK876										
♣A2		♣J10									

<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>10</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td></td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>8</td><td></td></tr> </table>		10		10		12		8		♠54 ♥K10 ♦10952 ♣KQ853	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>N</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>1</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	1	3	6	3	2	W	1	3	6	3	2
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N	-	-	-	-	-																																				
S	-	-	-	-	-																																				
E	1	3	6	3	2																																				
W	1	3	6	3	2																																				

This is an unbidable 6H. It makes but only because the Diamonds are 4/3 and the Hearts are 2/2. Suppose you get a S lead or a C lead. Take your two black aces. Play a D to the A and now ruff a D. Note you do not cash the DK. Now ruff a club back to your hand and ruff another D. You now have the lone HQ left in dummy. Play it and put your HA on it and play a second heart. This extracts all hearts. Later when you play DK you draw the outstanding diamond and your fifth diamond is a winner. You only lose one heart trick. Where you could make an error in this hand is by cashing the DK too early,(that is the second top diamond) and later when you ruff the 4th diamond you could be over ruffed. The technique of playing AKxxx opposite a singleton x in a side suit turns up so often in declarer play. Play the K or A first and then ruff an x in dummy. Do not make the error of cashing the second top honour early. Wait until you have ruffed two of the x cards in dummy.

Bd 13:

♠AKQ94
 Dlr: North ♥108 Optimum
 Vul: All ♦Q8764 NS 7S; +2210
 ♣2

♠107	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;"> West North East </div> <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 10px 0;">13</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;"> South </div>	♠3
♥AKQ9432		♥J765
♦J9		♦1032
♣105		♣J9743

11	♠J8652	<table border="1" style="font-size: x-small; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>7</td><td>-</td><td>7</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>7</td><td>-</td><td>7</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	N	3	7	-	7	-	S	3	7	-	7	-	E	-	-	2	-	-	W	-	-	2	-	-
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S	3		7	-	7	-																				
E	-		-	2	-	-																				
W	-	-	2	-	-																					
10	♥-																									
2	♦AK5																									
17	♣AKQ86																									

1S(N) – 4H(S) (this should show a void if playing splinters and you can use 3H to show a singleton H. If however, you play it as a singleton or void it is more awkward). The other route is to play a bid of 2NT to agree spades showing a S fit and a game going hand. West will probably bid 3H or 4H and you can bid 5H which is Exclusion Blackwood. The easiest way is to bid 5H, showing an unnecessary jump above the game level after the 1S opening. This says I am void in hearts and is Exclusion Keycard asking for Aces and the trump K being the 5th Ace. Partner does not show the HA because you have a void. 5S would say I have 0 Aces, 5NT = 1, 6C = 2 and no Q and 6H = 2 plus the Q. If partner has the HA he does not count it as an Ace. Alternatively you could use the same Exclusion after using the 2NT bid as I said above. I saw people using that “Dreadful Gerber” after partner opened 1S. **Look, as I have already said before, that convention is useless except after a 1NT or 2NT opening bid. Players use it because it keeps the bidding 1 level lower. The only reason players need to do that is because they are looking for slams on hands where they should be stopping in game.**

Bd 15:

♠K10975
 Dlr: South ♥A106 Optimum
 Vul: N/S ♦542 EW 1N+1; -120
 ♣85

♠62	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;"> West North East </div> <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 10px 0;">15</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;"> South </div>	♠QJ43
♥QJ74		♥8
♦J9876		♦AK
♣AJ		♣KQ10762

7	♠A8	<table border="1" style="font-size: x-small; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	N	-	-	1	-	-	S	-	-	1	-	-	E	3	1	-	1	2	W	3	1	-	1	2
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S	-		-	1	-	-																				
E	3		1	-	1	2																				
W	3	1	-	1	2																					
9	♥K9532																									
15	♦Q103																									
9	♣943																									

1C(E) – 1D(W) – 1S(E) (showing 5/4) – 1NT(W). West should nearly always go back to 2C if he does not have the hearts well covered. The holding CAJ indicte the key to 5 club tricks

in NT between the two hands. Almost certainly you will outscore those in a club contract as you make 9 tricks in NT.

Bd 17:

Dir: North ♠105 Optimum
 Vul: None ♥A102 NS 4D; +130
 ♦KQ10743
 ♣74

♠A9	North	♠J8642
♥987643	W	♥KQ5
♦86	e	♦J2
♣AKJ	s	♣932
	17	
	t	
	South	

9	♠KQ73	♣♦♥♠N
12	♥J	N 2 4 - - 1
7	♦A95	S 2 4 - - 1
12	♣Q10865	E - - 2 1 -
		W - - 2 1 -

1C(S) – 1H(W) – 2D(N) (on a hand that has already passed) – 2H(E) – 3D(S) (South knows partner must have 5 or 6 diamonds so can afford to raise on three diamonds. If (E/W) bid to 3H, N might go to 4D holding 6 cards. If diamonds are not led then he will succeed in ruffing two hearts in dummy (South) and make 4D. No way should N/S bid 5D. North passed originally and South has a minimum hand

Bd 20:

Dir: West ♠QJ82 Optimum
 Vul: All ♥2 NS 5Sx; -500
 ♦KJ876
 ♣A42

♠K76	North	♠--
♥AQJ105	W	♥K9863
♦A5	e	♦1094
♣975	s	♣KQJ108
	20	
	t	
	South	

11	♠A109543	♣♦♥♠N
14	♥74	N - 2 - 3 -
9	♦Q32	S - 2 - 3 -
6	♣63	E 4 - 5 - 1
		W 4 - 5 - 1

Saw someone opening a weak NT with a good 5 card Major. **You should not open 12/14 NT holding a 5 card major with an honour.** It is wrong. Players open 1NT on this distribution because they think they have no rebid. Of course you have a rebid. If partner bids a S you raise to 2S. If partner responds 2C you raise to 3C. Sometimes, but rarely, you do have to rebid the suit when holding only 5. (If partner had responded 2D). Here, as a result they let the opposition in to bid Spades when they would be making 5H.

Bd 21:

♠AQ532
 Dlr: North ♥AJ6 Optimum
 Vul: N/S ♦94 NS 4S+1; +650
 ♣1075

♠74	<table border="1"> <tr><td colspan="2">North</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>21</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">South</td></tr> </table>	North		W	21	E	South		♠J96
North									
W		21	E						
South									
♥Q108542	♥K93								
♦Q107	♦KJ53								
♣J2		♣Q83							

<table border="1"> <tr><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td></tr> </table>	11	5	10	14	♠K108	♣♦♥♠N	
	11						
	5	10					
	14						
♥7	N	<table border="1"><tr><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>3</td></tr></table>	5	2	-	5	3
5	2	-	5	3			
♦A862	S	<table border="1"><tr><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>3</td></tr></table>	5	2	-	5	3
5	2	-	5	3			
♣AK964	E	<table border="1"><tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-			
	W	<table border="1"><tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-			

Playing in 4S the best way to play it is to play a small club out of both the N and S hands, losing a club trick before you do anything. Now if E/W remove your DA or force you to ruff a heart in dummy you draw the trumps and have two clubs opposite AKxx. This means you make the remaining 4 club tricks, having conceded your one club loser earlier.

Bd 23:

♠J109852
 Dlr: South ♥A9 Optimum
 Vul: All ♦A1082 EW 2H+1; -140
 ♣2

♠AQ4	<table border="1"> <tr><td colspan="2">North</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>23</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">South</td></tr> </table>	North		W	23	E	South		♠7
North									
W		23	E						
South									
♥8763	♥KQ10								
♦KJ4	♦Q763								
♣K85		♣AJ964							

<table border="1"> <tr><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td></tr> </table>	9	13	12	6	♠K63	♣♦♥♠N	
	9						
	13	12					
	6						
♥J542	N	<table border="1"><tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr></table>	-	-	-	1	-
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♦95	S	<table border="1"><tr><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr></table>	-	-	-	1	-
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♣Q1073	E	<table border="1"><tr><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr></table>	3	3	3	-	1
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In 3NT (W) if you get SJ lead and if K comes in let it off. Hit the second one and lead a H towards the KQ. If A doesn't appear now play a D to the KJ and North will take his A and knock out your last S stop. He gets in on HA. You go two off and it just cannot be avoided.