

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July

1.	♠ A 9 4 2	DLR	N				
	♥ K 6 4	VULN	-				
	♦ K Q 5						
	♣ J T 4						
♠ 7 5		♠ K J 8 3	N	E	S	W	
♥ A T 9 8		♥ Q 3 2	1NT	P	P*	P	
♦ J 8 3		♦ 6					
♣ A K 7 2		♣ Q 9 8 6 5					
	♠ Q T 6						
	♥ J 7 5						
	♦ A T 9 7 4 2						
	♣ 3						

Might as well stay in 1NT; as can be seen, on a club lead you can make 7 tricks. If you make 8 (+120), this will be better than +110 for 3D made. Have you the Bidding Machinery to play in 3D ?

2.	♠ Q 9 8 6 4 3	DLR	E				
	♥ K 8 6	VULN	N/S				
	♦ K						
	♣ A K J						
♠ K 7		♠ T 2	N	E	S	W	
♥ A T 7		♥ Q 9 4		P	1NT*	P	
♦ J 7 5 2		♦ T 9 8 6 3	2H	P	2S	P	
♣ Q T 9 5		♣ 6 3 2	3C*	P	4S	P	
	♠ A J 5		P	P			
	♥ J 5 3 2						
	♦ A Q 4						
	♣ 8 7 4						

South 1NT; don't mind if you pass – very poor 12 points. 3C from North, in theory a second suit, but on this hand, a slam try. The 3C bid is forcing to game ! South, with a minimum hand jumps to 4S (where 3S would be forcing), to show a hand with no slam interest. North, with only 1 of the 5 Aces goes no further. Give South : S) AJ5 H) A52 D) A10742 C) 108 and South would bid 3D over 3C - a Slam try with the Ace of diamonds.

3.	♠ J 5 ♥ K 7 6 5 ♦ Q 7 5 4 ♣ A 8 5	DLR S VULN E/W				
♠ T 8 6 2 ♥ A T 8 4 ♦ K 2 ♣ 6 4 2	♠ A Q 7 ♥ Q 9 3 ♦ J T 6 3 ♣ Q T 3	N E S W			1NT	P
	♠ K 9 4 3 ♥ J 2 ♦ A 9 8 ♣ K J 9 7	P P				
For once, standard 4 <sup>th</sup> . highest heart is best						

4.	♠ Q T 9 ♥ A 9 7 3 ♦ 9 8 4 ♣ A T 9	DLR W VULN ALL				
♠ A 7 4 3 2 ♥ K J T 8 4 ♦ Q ♣ 8 5	♠ K J 5 ♥ Q 6 ♦ K T 7 2 ♣ K J 4 2	N E S W			1S	
	♠ 8 6 ♥ 5 2 ♦ A J 6 5 3 ♣ Q 7 6 3	P 2C P 2H 3NT P P P				
3NT is better than 4S, even tho' 4S is a 5-3 fit. If you are in 4S, you must take spade finesse, as you should in 3NT, and also find the Ace of clubs						

5.	♠ 8 7 4 3 ♥ K J 8 7 6 ♦ 6 5 2 ♣ 8	DLR N VULN N/S				
♠ A 9 ♥ T 4 3 2 ♦ 9 8 ♣ A Q J T 6	♠ Q ♥ A Q 9 ♦ A K Q J 7 4 3 ♣ K 5	N E S W				
	♠ K J T 6 5 2 ♥ 5 ♦ T ♣ 9 7 4 3 2	P 2D P 3C P 3D P ***				

The important rule here, is to avoid bidding bad suits in slam going sequences. However you bid these hands, do not bid hearts, unless Partner does, in which case, you can offer support. However you bid, you must understand the significance of the strength of the West hand, opposite 8+ playing tricks in the East hand. i.e. do not stop short of a slam, and ideally bid a Grand slam. Note 3C is a positive bid in response to a strong bid of 2D

6.	♠ A J 7 6	DLR	E				
	♥ Q 7		VULN	E/W			
	♦ K 9						
	♣ 9 8 7 5 2						
♠ 9		♠ K 5 4	N	E	S	W	
♥ K 5 2	♥ J 9 8 4			P	P	1D	
♦ A Q J 4 3 2	♦ 8 7 6 5		P	1H	P	2H (or 2D)	
♣ Q 6 4	♣ A K		P	3D	P	P	
	♠ Q T 8 3 2		P				
	♥ A T 6 3						
	♦ T						
	♣ J T 3						

If you can stop in 2D, well done. 2H/2NT etc are both hopeless.  
With 6-4, 2D is possibly a better bid than 2H. Difficult judgement !

7.	♠ Q T 8 3	DLR	S				
	♥ A J 9		VULN	ALL			
	♦ K 3 2						
	♣ A K T						
♠ A J 9		♠ 6 5	N	E	S	W	
♥ K 8 4	♥ T 6 5 3 2				P	1NT	
♦ A Q 9 7 5	♦ J 8 4		*	2H	*****		
♣ 7 5	♣ 6 4 2			.....	2NT		
	♠ K 7 4 2						
	♥ Q 7						
	♦ T 6						
	♣ Q J 9 8 3						

There is no doubt, that South ought to bid something after a weakness 2H from East, but what ? 2NT shows about 8-9 points; 2S shows a 5 card spade suit, and 3H (cue bid of opposition's suit), shows a slightly stronger hand than the one you have got. Maybe 2NT is about right !

8.	♠ A J 9 6 5 3	DLR	W				
	♥ A Q		VULN	NONE			
	♦ J 7						
	♣ 8 5 4						
♠ Q		♠ 7 4 2	N	E	S	W	
♥ 8 7 6 2	♥ K J T 5					P	
♦ 8 3 2	♦ K T 6 5	1S	P		2C	P	
♣ A 9 7 6 3	♣ J	2S	P		4S	P	
	♠ K T 8	P	P				
	♥ 9 3						
	♦ A Q 9 4						
	♣ K Q T 2						

Although East can lead a club, and get a club ruff at trick 2, Declarer can still make 10 Tricks, with the aid of a finesse of one of the red suits.

9.	♠ T 5	DLR	N		
	♥ A Q J 7 3 2	VULN	E/W		
	♦ T 4				
	♣ T 7 6				
♠ Q 8 4	♠ K 9 7 6 2	N	E	S	W
♥ 8 5	♥ K 4	2H	P	4H*	P
♦ A K Q J 6 2	♦ 9 7 5 3	P	P	P	
♣ 9 2	♣ Q 3				
	♠ A J 3				
	♥ T 9 6				
	♦ 8				
	♣ A K J 8 5 4				

No point in messing around with Ogust here, just simply bid what you think you might make, which is 4 hearts. Either the club suit will be suitable for 5/6 tricks, or not, who can say ! We do not have the 'Conventional Machinery', as South, to show a 7 loser hand, with a singleton diamond, 3 card trump support, the Ace of spades, and a good 6 card club suit. Also, we stop West showing his good diamond suit, which might have helped the defense.

10.	♠ A T 6 2	DLR	E		
	♥ 5 4	VULN	ALL		
	♦ K 8 6 3				
	♣ 7 5 3				
♠ K 9	♠ 8	N	E	S	W
♥ A J 9 6	♥ Q 8 7 3		1H	2S	4H
♦ Q 5 2	♦ A T 7 4	***P	P	P	
♣ A J 8 2	♣ K Q T 9				
	♠ Q J 7 5 4 3				
	♥ K T 2				
	♦ J 9				
	♣ 6 4				

If you pass as East, I don't mind. 4-4-4-1- 11 counts can be fraught. This hand has only 6 losers, so just swayed ! South just about has a vulnerable 2S Jump overcall. West has ample (including a likely valuable King of spades), for game. North should NOT sacrifice in 4S, when vulnerable, although trumps are good, the hand has 9 losers opposite a weak Jump overcall, and in fact goes for -800 in 4S\* Note how East – West must double 4S, if it is bid !

11.	♠AKT753	DLR	S				
	♥Q43	VULN	NONE				
	♦K8						
	♣K8						
♠8		♠J9642	N	E	S	W	
♥J8		♥A976			P	P	
♦AJ975		♦QT4	1S	P	1NT	P	
♣97654		♣A	2S*	P	P	P	
	♠Q						
	♥KT52						
	♦632						
	♣QJT32						

I must confess, I bid 3S with the North hand, Partner bid 3NT, and we went 2 off, whilst 2S always makes ! On reflection, I think a conservative 2S is better.

12.	♠ J 5 4 2	DLR	W				
	♥ 6 3		VULN	N/S			
	♦ K Q 8 7 2						
	♣ Q 6						
♠ K 3		♠ 9 8 7 6	N	E	S	W	
♥ K J 7 5		♥ Q T				1C	
♦ - -		♦ A J 9 6 4	P	1D	1H	2C	
♣ K J 9 8 4 3 2		♣ 7 5	P	P	P*		
	♠ A Q T						
	♥ A 9 8 4 2						
	♦ T 5 3						
	♣ A T						

Again, constraint by South, who is in terrible trouble if he bids over 2C. 2C should make 9 or so tricks.