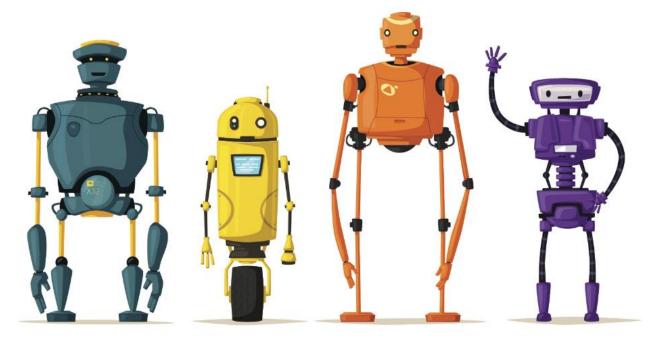
BBO Robots Playing a Suit Contract as Declarer (By Marc Chawner)

MEET YOUR NEW BRIDGE PARTNERS



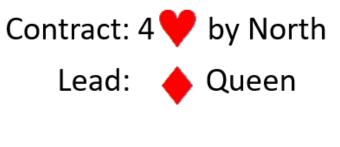
Introduction

- I have loaded up the 24 boards from the September Boot-Camp into the BBO platform and let the Robots bid and play the hands.
- Overall, the Robots bid very well to their final contract.
- Will their declarer play match their bidding skills?
- I replayed the hands using the BBO Basic Robot and then the BBO Advanced Robot.



"I detect you scanning my cards!"





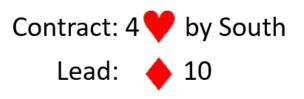
Basic BBO Robot: Led a trump at trick 2, instead of trying to set the Diamonds up.



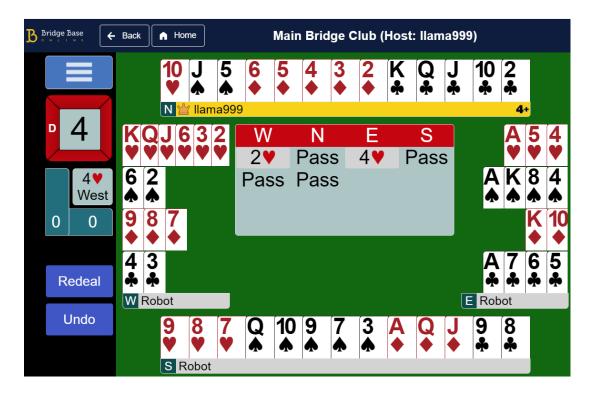


Basic BBO Robot: Drew trumps and played the Diamond suit from the top.



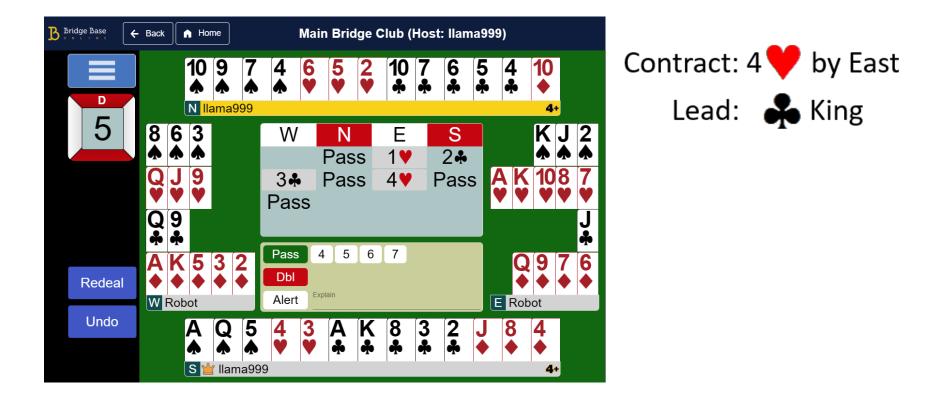


Basic BBO Robot: Covered the Diamond lead in dummy; Robot defender continued with the Diamond suit.





Basic BBO Robot: Drew trumps and a Diamond to dummy's King.



Basic BBO Robot: No attempt to unblock the Diamond suit; i.e. Ruffed Club at trick 2.



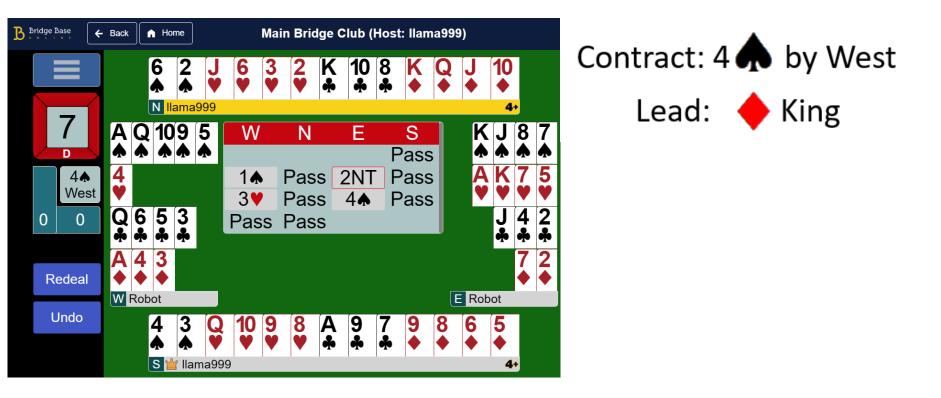


Basic BBO Robot: Drew trumps, eliminated the Diamond suit; Spade to Jack and then won Club switch with the Ace and played the Queen of Clubs, so the contract was made in an unsound way.

Interestingly, when South led a small Club, at trick 1, declarer correctly played the Ace of Clubs and was subsequently card perfect.

Advanced Robot: Card Perfect, even on a Club lead.

Advanced Robot: 2 'Brownie Points'.

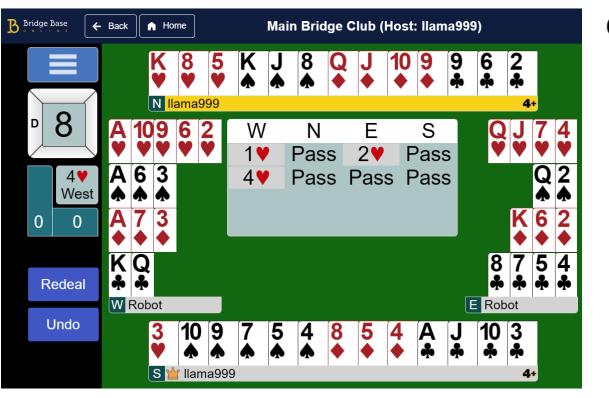


Basic BBO Robot: Card perfect in that it drew just one 1 round of trumps, before ruffing a Heart.

Advanced robot: Same as above.

Basic BBO Robot: 2 'Brownie Points'.

Advanced Robot: 2 'Brownie Points'.



Contract: 4 🎔 by West Lead: 🔶 Queen

Basic BBO Robot: Won with King of Diamonds and took trump finesse at trick 2.

Advanced Robot: A little better in that it won the opening lead with the Ace of Diamonds. Immediately played a Spade to dummy's Queen.

When North went up with the King of Spades and continued the Diamond suit, the Robot unblocked the Queen of Spades, which is card perfect up to now, but could not resist taking the Heart finesse, so down 1.





Basic BBO Robot: No duck of the King of Hearts lead. Even worse in that it just banged down the Ace and King of Spades.





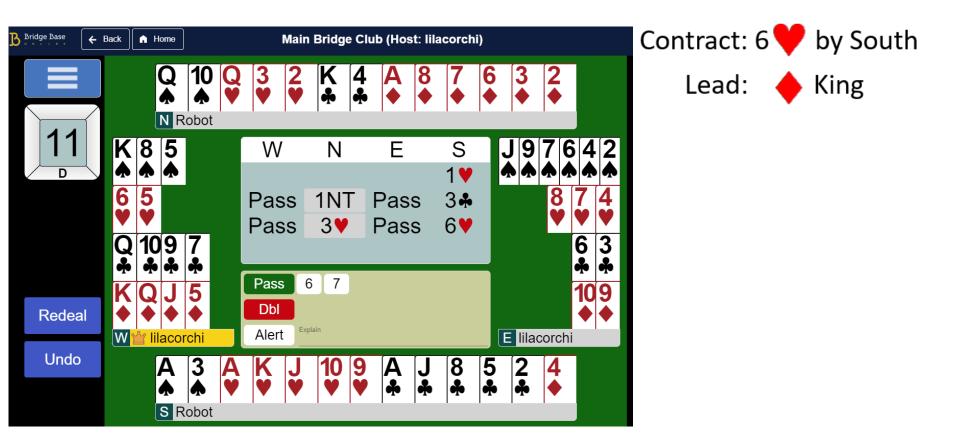
Basic BBO Robot: Card perfect in that the opening 3 Spade leads were ducked.

Interestingly, I replayed the hand *without* East opening a weak 2 in Spades and still the Robot played the hand card perfect.

Obviously, the Robot has the ability to play the hand correctly without listening to the bidding.

Advanced Robot: Same as above.

Basic & Advanced Robots: 2 'Brownie Points' each.



Basic BBO Robot: Draws 2 round of trumps and takes an unsuccessful Club finesse.

Advanced Robot: Draws 2 rounds of trumps and plays 3 rounds of clubs, ruffing the third round with dummy's Queen of Hearts.

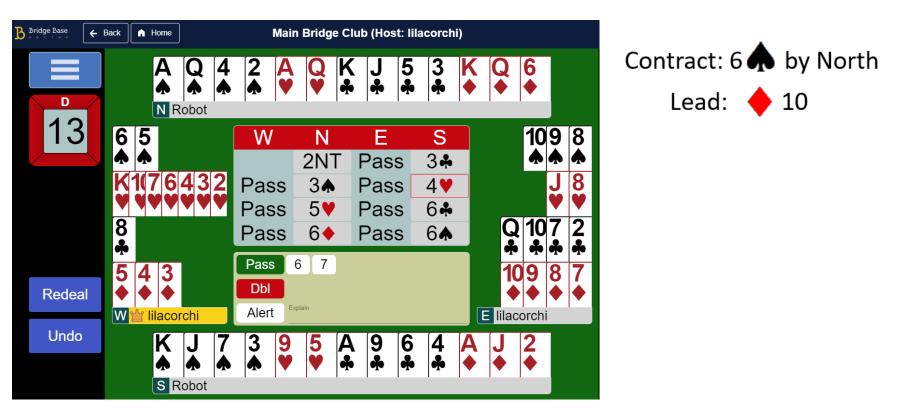




Basic BBO Robot: Card perfect by ruffing the second round of Clubs with the King of Spades.

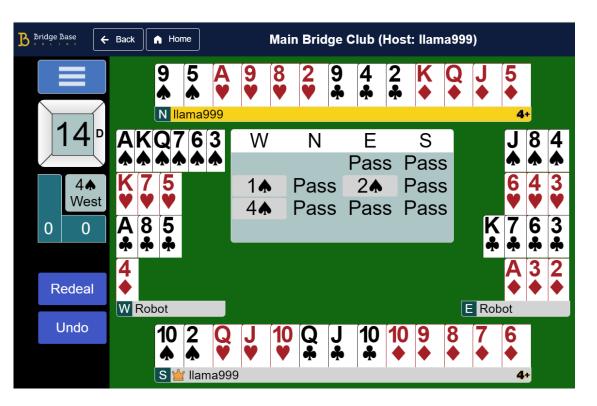
Advanced Robot: Same as above.

Basic & Advanced Robots 2 'Brownie Points' each.



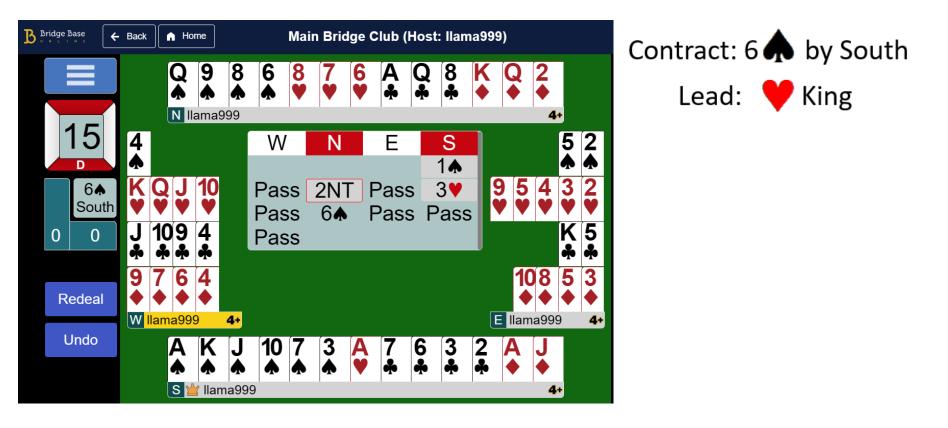
Basic BBO Robot: No Heart finesse. Club King followed by Club Ace. Refuses Heart finesse, which is a good 'Safety Play' to go only 1 down.

Advanced Robot: No Heart finesse. Club to Ace, Club to King and again refusing the Heart finesse, which again ensures that the Robot only goes 1 down.





Basic BBO Robot: No duck at trick 1. Ducks second round of Clubs.



Basic BBO Robot: Correctly, draws trumps and eliminates the red suits, however, when the Robot leads a Club towards dummy's Clubs, the Robot ducks the 9 of Clubs and finesses the 2nd round of Clubs.

Interestingly, when I replayed the hand and made West play the 4 of Clubs, this time the Robot played the 8 of Clubs, so at least it knows something about endplays.



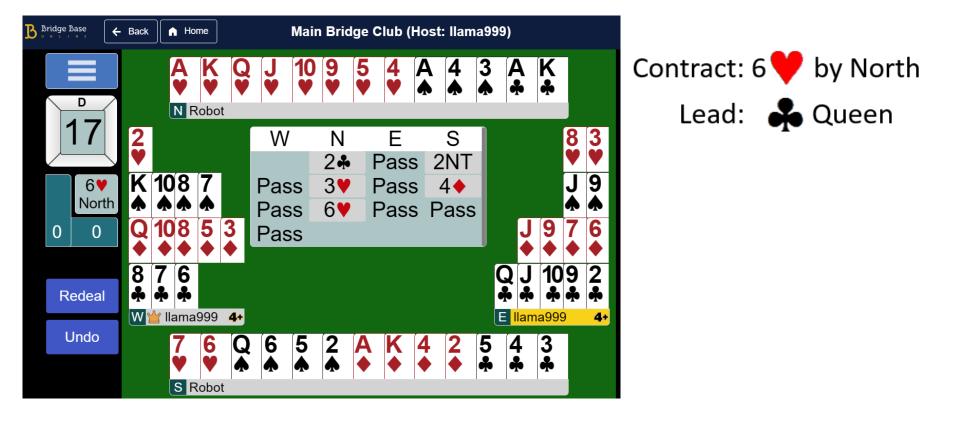


Basic BBO Robot: Prematurely drew 2 rounds of trumps and was therefore only able to subsequently ruff one round of Hearts. The Robot correctly play a Diamond to the 9, but North was able to safely exit with their last Heart.

The key is to only initially draw 1 round of trumps, so that we can ruff 2 rounds of Hearts.

Advanced Robot: Same as above.

Basic & Advanced Robots: 0.5 'Brownie Points', as the Robots would have made their contracts if North had only held 3 Hearts.



Basic BBO Robot: Having won with the Ace of Clubs at trick 1, incredibly cashed the King of Clubs at trick 2 (To Prolong the Suspense?).

The Robot now correctly played the 4 of Hearts to dummy's 6 of Hearts to create an entry to the winning Diamonds.

Advanced Robot: Same as above.

Basic & Advanced Robots 2 'Brownie Points' each.





Basic BBO Robot: Robot 'Clueless' on this one. Drew trumps and took the Diamond finesse.





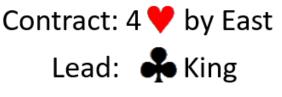
Basic BBO Robot: I amended the South hand to its correct Spade holding, so at least now the Club blockage must be addressed by playing 2 rounds of Clubs and discarding dummy's 3rd club on declarer's last Heart.

The Basic Robot was card perfect.

Advanced Robot: Same as above.

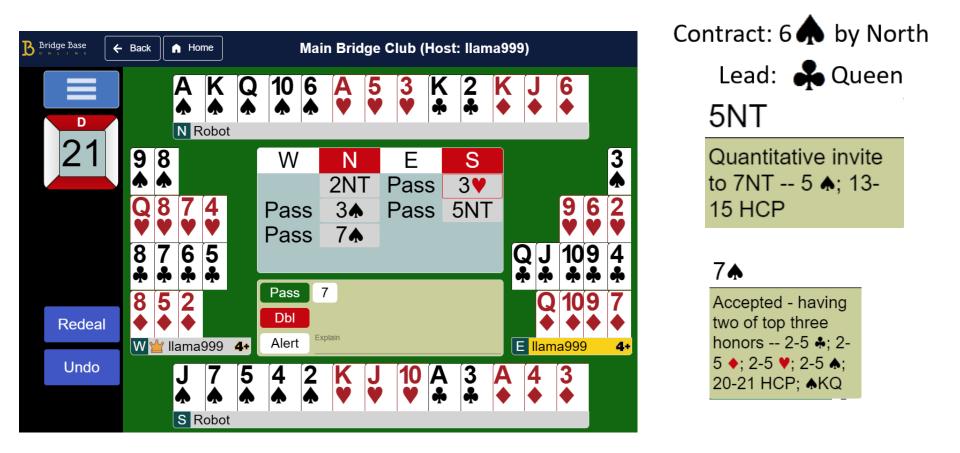
Basic and Advanced Robots: 2 'Brownie Points' each.





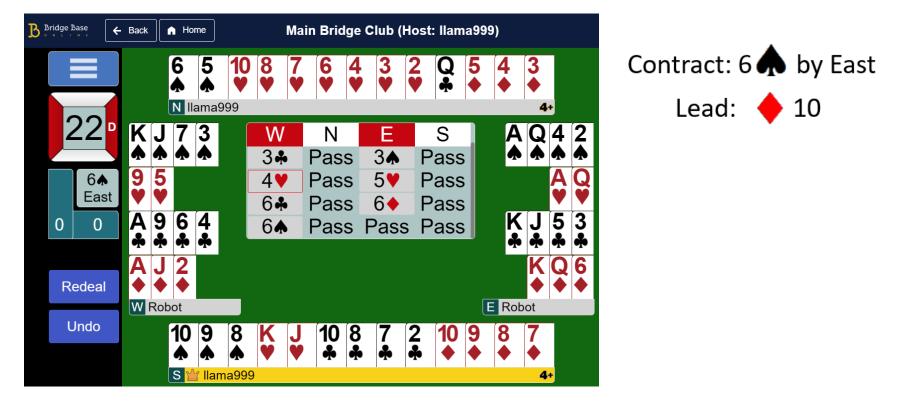
Basic BBO Robot: One round of trumps, 1 round of Diamonds and another round of trumps. (3 Down).

Advanced Robot: One round of trumps, 1 round of Diamonds. 1 round of Spades and my 'Hopes' were raised for a split second, however, Advanced Robot decides now to play another round of trumps and go 3 down.



Basic BBO Robot: North & South were certainly not on the same wavelength, when the final contract was 7 Spades.

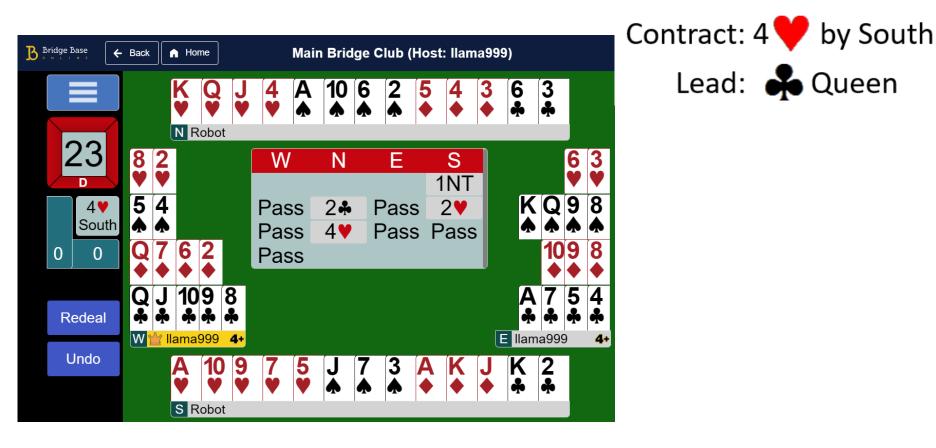
When I adjusted the contract to the correct contract of 6 Spades, the Robot's play was just as bad as its bidding as it played a losing Heart finesse to dummy's Jack followed by a losing Diamond finesse.



Basic BBO Robot: No Heart finesse. Then an amazing turn of events. Having drawn trumps and eliminated the Diamond suit, the Robot played a Club towards its King, having observed the 'Singleton' Queen of Clubs, you would have thought that playing the Jack, followed by the marked Club finesse is the easy play, with the Heart finesse for the overtrick. However, the Robot decided to 'Show Off', by playing a Club to the Ace and laying down the Ace and Queen of Hearts, endplaying whoever won the trick.

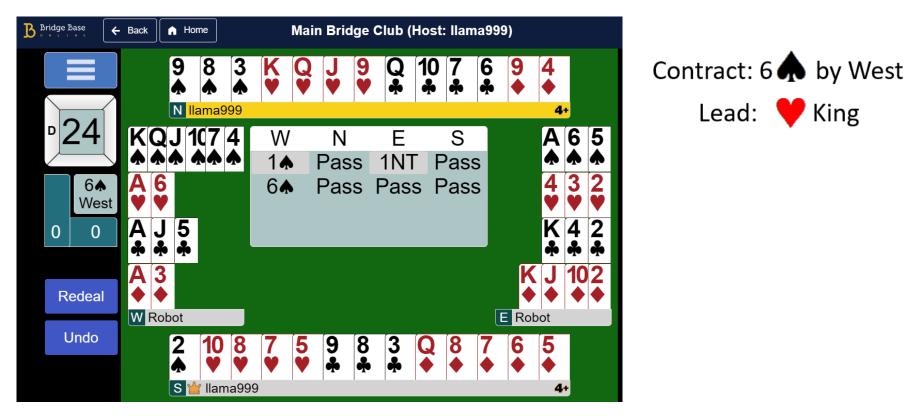
Advanced Robot did the same.

Zero 'Brownie Points' for 'Show-Offs'.



Basic BBO Robot: Decided to take 2 Spade finesses.

Advanced Robot: Took 1 Spade finesse then the Diamond finesse.



Basic BBO Robot: After the Heart lead, the Robot drew trumps and took a losing Diamond finesse to dummy's Jack of Diamonds.

Advanced Robot: Same as above.

The Robots have obviously never heard of a 'Loser on Loser' play.

The only losers on this board were the 2 Robots.

<u>Results</u>

A very disappointing performance from the Robots.

BBO Basic Robot: 10.5 'Brownie Points'.

Advanced Robot: 12.5 'Brownie Points'.

Remember that the Robots were under the spotlight on all 24 boards.

Conclusion

My advice is *not* to trade in your partner for a Robot.

Just make sure that they attend the next Boot-Camp.



"No, it's not my ex-husband. Worse — my ex-bridge partner."



"TRUST ME, JOHN! JUST BECAUSE YOUR BRIDGE PARTNER DUMPS YOU...DOESN'T MEAN I WILL!"