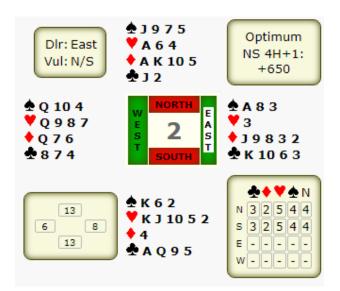
Summertown Bridge Bulletin 22 February 2021

by James Bentley

There are many bridge sayings. All of which are wrong some of the time, as the following hands show!



"Take out trumps"

But not if you need ENTRIES:

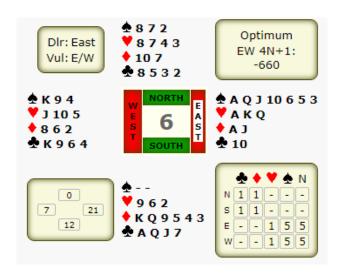
3 pairs of the 7 playing in 4♥ got this right

You want to ruff in the short hand twice

Take your two ♦ tricks (♠ discard), then play on ♣s

You will need A♥ to overruff West on the 4th round

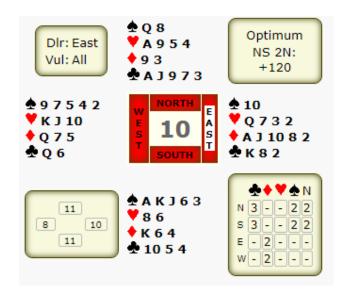
Lead a spade from dummy before broaching trumps

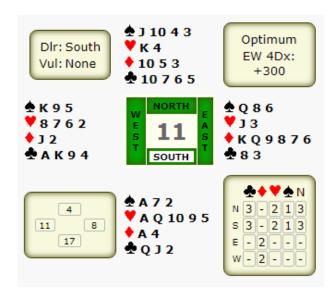


"Lead an Ace against a suit slam"

But not here

The best chance of a 2nd (& 3rd) trick is to lead K♦
5 of the 8 pairs got this right





"Open on the Rule of 20"

South has to open $1 \triangleq$ with this hand in 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} and 4^{th} seat

(2 pairs passed)

But having opened light, South must put the brakes on

North will respond 2♣, South rebids 2♠ and North passes

(2 pairs went past 2♠)

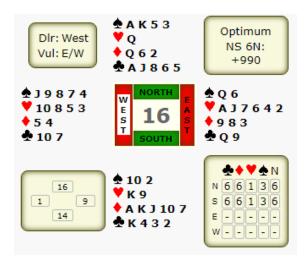
It seems that one East opened (unsound) as did one North (also unsound)

"Use the Suit Quality Overcall Test (SQOT)"

Not when in 4th seat and not vulnerable

After North passes, West must have HCPs. So after 1♥-P-P-, East must come in with 3♦

4 pairs were allowed to play in 1♥ and one in 2♥



"If one of your possible bids is 3NT, bid 3NT"

Not when there's a minor suit slam on.

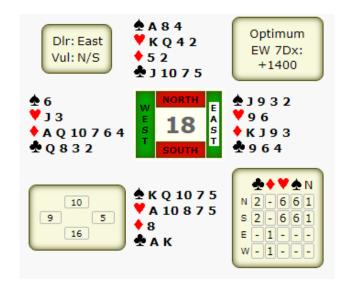
This must be an impossible slam to bid, as nobody did.

4 pairs played in 3NT

South has to find a way to force to bidding upwards; perhaps with a cue bid of ♥s?

One auction might be:

East should not be overcalling 2♥, but if he does the auction might be:



"6 off doubled is bad bridge" (I made this one up)

7 ♦ * is a brilliant sacrifice against 6 ♥ making, but unfortunately only two pairs bid the ♥ slam