

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!

Dlr: East
Vul: N/S

♠ J 9 7 5
♥ A 6 4
♦ A K 10 5
♣ J 2

Optimum
NS 4H+1:
+650

♠ Q 10 4
♥ Q 9 8 7
♦ Q 7 6
♣ 8 7 4

NORTH
WEST 2 EAST
SOUTH

♠ A 8 3
♥ 3
♦ J 9 8 3 2
♣ K 10 6 3

♠ K 6 2
♥ K J 10 5 2
♦ 4
♣ A Q 9 5

13 6 8 13

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	3	2	5	4	4
S	3	2	5	4	4
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

“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

Dlr: East
Vul: E/W

♠ 8 7 2
♥ 8 7 4 3
♦ 10 7
♣ 8 5 3 2

Optimum
EW 4N+1:
-660

♠ K 9 4
♥ J 10 5
♦ 8 6 2
♣ K 9 6 4

NORTH
WEST 6 EAST
SOUTH

♠ A Q J 10 6 5 3
♥ A K Q
♦ A J
♣ 10

♠ - -
♥ 9 6 2
♦ K Q 9 5 4 3
♣ A Q J 7

0 7 12 21

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	1	1	-	-	-
S	1	1	-	-	-
E	-	-	1	5	5
W	-	-	1	5	5

“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

Dlr: East
Vul: All

♠ Q 8
♥ A 9 5 4
♦ 9 3
♣ A J 9 7 3

Optimum
NS 2N:
+120

♠ 9 7 5 4 2
♥ K J 10
♦ Q 7 5
♣ Q 6

WEST NORTH EAST
10
SOUTH

♠ 10
♥ Q 7 3 2
♦ A J 10 8 2
♣ K 8 2

♠ A K J 6 3
♥ 8 6
♦ K 6 4
♣ 10 5 4

11 8 10 11

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	3	-	-	2	2
S	3	-	-	2	2
E	-	2	-	-	-
W	-	2	-	-	-

Dlr: South
Vul: None

♠ J 10 4 3
♥ K 4
♦ 10 5 3
♣ 10 7 6 5

Optimum
EW 4Dx:
+300

♠ K 9 5
♥ 8 7 6 2
♦ J 2
♣ A K 9 4

WEST NORTH EAST
11
SOUTH

♠ Q 8 6
♥ J 3
♦ K Q 9 8 7 6
♣ 8 3

♠ A 7 2
♥ A Q 10 9 5
♦ A 4
♣ Q J 2

4 11 8 17

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	3	-	2	1	3
S	3	-	2	1	3
E	-	2	-	-	-
W	-	2	-	-	-

“Open on the Rule of 20”

South has to open 1♠ with this hand in 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th 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♥

Dlr: West
Vul: E/W

Optimum
NS 6N:
+990

♠ A K 5 3
♥ Q
♦ Q 6 2
♣ A J 8 6 5

♠ J 9 8 7 4
♥ 10 8 5 3
♦ 5 4
♣ 10 7

NORTH
WEST 16 EAST
SOUTH

♠ Q 6
♥ A J 7 6 4 2
♦ 9 8 3
♣ Q 9

16
1 9
14

♠ 10 2
♥ K 9
♦ A K J 10 7
♣ K 4 3 2

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	6	6	1	3	6
S	6	6	1	3	6
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Dlr: East
Vul: N/S

Optimum
EW 7Dx:
+1400

♠ A 8 4
♥ K Q 4 2
♦ 5 2
♣ J 10 7 5

♠ 6
♥ J 3
♦ A Q 10 7 6 4
♣ Q 8 3 2

NORTH
WEST 18 EAST
SOUTH

♠ J 9 3 2
♥ 9 6
♦ K J 9 3
♣ 9 6 4

10
9 5
16

♠ K Q 10 7 5
♥ A 10 8 7 5
♦ 8
♣ A K

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	2	-	6	6	1
S	2	-	6	6	1
E	-	1	-	-	-
W	-	1	-	-	-

"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 the bidding upwards;
perhaps with a cue bid of ♥s?

One auction might be:

P-1♣-1♥-2♦-P-2♠-P-3♥*-P-4♦-P-4NT-P-5♠-P-6♦

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

P-1♣-2♥-3♦-P-3♠-P-4♥-P-4♦-P-4NT-P-5♠-P-6♦

"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