

Summertown Bridge Club bulletin 7 June 2021

Dlr: North Vul: None	♠ 10 ♥ A J 10 9 8 3 ♦ 8 6 ♣ Q 9 7 4	Optimum NS 7Cx: -800																																		
♠ K Q J 7 6 4 ♥ 4 ♦ A K J 9 5 ♣ 8	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 15px;">W</td><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">NORTH</td><td style="width: 15px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">T</td><td style="text-align: center;">SOUTH</td><td style="text-align: center;">T</td></tr> </table>	W	NORTH	E	S	1	S	T	SOUTH	T	♠ A 9 5 ♥ Q 7 6 2 ♦ 7 3 2 ♣ A J 3																									
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So how did Kryz & Sandra/Trevor & Moira bid the excellent slam?

After 2♥-P-P-, how do you play 3♥? You can play this as Michaels or as asking for a ♥ stop.

Playing 2♥-3♥^A- and 2♥-P-P-3♥^A- as asking for 3NT means you must play Leaping Michaels.

Here 2♥-P-P-4♦^A promises 5+♠s and 5+♦s with 4/5 losers. Despite a double fit and two aces, East cannot bid 4NT, so will probably just bid 4♠. East has another possible bid though, a useful one, though not without risk here.

East bids 5♠. 5♠ means 'bid 6♠ partner if you have second round control of the opponent's suit'. You can also use the bid in an unopposed auction to ask about the unbid suit.

Some opponents are really annoying and might raise the level of the preempt.

After 2♥-P-3♥-, what now for West? Playing Leaping Michaels, 4♦^A is still Leaping Michaels.

Dlr: East
 Vul: All

♠ 2

♥ K 9 7 5 3

♦ Q J 10 4

♣ 7 6 3

Optimum
 NS 6Hx:
 -1100

♠ - -

♥ J 6 4

♦ A K 9 8 6 2

♣ Q 10 8 2

	NORTH	
WEST	10	EAST
	SOUTH	

♠ A Q 6 4 3

♥ 2

♦ 5

♣ A K J 9 5 4

	6	
10		14
	10	

♠ K J 10 9 8 7 5

♥ A Q 10 8

♦ 7 3

♣ - -

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

This is a hand that has to be played for money. I suggest £1 a point.

The wimpy Easts take home £620, the brave ones £1370.

The macho Souths have an opportunity to turn -£620 into an eye-watering -£1400 or -£1700.

But Summertown Bridge Club plays Matchpoint Pairs, so only face was lost.

Trevor and Moira did well, reaching 6♣. Much depends on South's bid. What do you fancy –

1♠, 2♠, 3♠, 4♠? After a sensible 1♠, West can splinter and slam is straightforward.

After 2♠, 3♠, 4♠, West will bid 5♣ and East raises to 6♣.

If East passes, the bidding returns to South. What to bid over 5♣? It really depends how poor you want to get. Sacrifices at game all/all red are often unprofitable, but if East bids 6♣, the maths change. South can bid an easy (?) 6♥ for a loss of only £1100.

The real stars were the Sheehans.

I am learning that the best players know when to keep quiet. They allowed East/West to play in 2♣.

I could *never* be so disciplined. Unless I was playing for money...

James Bentley