

Swiss Teams – Qualifiers

Ranking After 10 Matches

Position		VPs
1	Irens, Ulf Tundal, Espen Erichsen, Norman Selway, Glenn Groetheim	161
2	Andy Bowles, John Howard, Martin Garvey, Tony Hill	150
3	Alexander Allfrey, Andrew Robson, Tony Forrester, David Bakhshi	146
4	Jeremy Willans, Ian Draper, Gerald Tredinnick, Stuart Tredinnick	144
5	Victor Silverstone, Lynton Stock, Waseem Naqvi, Jerry Stamatov	142
6	Rune Hauge, Per Austberg, Jan Svendsen, Tor Helness	141
7	Jeremy Dhondy, Keith Bennett, Ian Pagan, Chris Jagger	140
8	Bill Taylor, Jim Deacon, Robert Miller, Daniel Baines	138

(Qualified Final 'A')

9=	Anthony Golding, Francis Morton, Alan Kay, Andrew Macnair	137
9=	Bob Drijver, Merijn Groenenboom, Tim Verbeek, Danny Molenaar	137
11	Cath Jagger, Sarah Teshome, Richard Winter, Ollie Burgess	135
12	Catherine Curtis, Paul Fegarty, Brian Powell, Mike Scoltock	134
13	Padraig O'Briain, Michael O'Briain, Tom Hanlon, Hugh McGann	133
14=	G Bartley, A Alberti, B Engel, M Schueller, M Pauly, N Bausback	132
14=	Alex Hydes, Gunnar Hallberg, Olivia Woo, Alan Woo	132
16	Michael Byrne, Mike Bell, Duncan Happer, Simon Cope	131

(Qualified Final 'B')

Today's Schedule

11.00 am	Discuss the New Laws with an Expert – David Stevenson
11.00 am	Four Stars Final , Session 1 (3 matches)
12.30 pm	Swiss Teams , Session 4 (4 matches)
3.20 pm	Four Stars Final , Session 2 (4 matches)

Swiss Teams

Leading Non-qualifiers

Scores After 10 Rounds

Position		VPs
17	Alan Wilson, Stuart McPhee, Jim Gobert, Chris Chambers	127
18=	Frances Hinden, Jeff Allerton, Graham Osborne, Peter Lee	126
18=	Michelle Brunner, John Holland, Bill Hirst, John Hassett	126
18=	Neil Rosen, Anne Rosen, Catherine Draper, Andrew Woodcock	126
21=	Cameron Small, Jon Cooke, Sally Brock, Margaret James	125
21=	Paul Hackett, Tony Waterlow, Ian Panto, Peter Czerniewski	125
21=	Ryan Stephenson, Liz Clery, Andrew McIntosh, David Ewart	125
21=	Manny Marks, Martin Hoffman, Mike Gold, Michael Ranis	125
25=	Graham Ormond, Jackie Fairclough, Anne Catchpole, Susanna Gross	124
25=	Simon Gillis, Erik Saelensminde, Boye Brogeland, Espen Lindqvist	124
25=	Vida Bingham, Nigel Osmer, Barry Wennell, Beth Wennell	124
28=	Kath Nelson, Alan Nelson, Andrew Petrie, Jeff Smith	123
28=	Roy Garthwaite, Heather Hobson, Ted Latham, Janet Latham	123
28=	Alan Mayo, Peter Franklin, Mike Vail, Paul Casselle	123
28=	Dave Dickson, David Walker, Roger Morton, David Ould	123
28=	Richard Currie, John Amor, Penny Macleod, Tim Green	123
28=	M Michielsen, M Wortel, K Tammens, W de Boer, A Snellers, F Borm	123
34=	Liz McGowan, Mike Ash, Tony Wilkinson, Alexander Wilkinson	122
34=	Fiona Brown, Susan Stockdale, Dave Cropper, Steve Raine	122
36=	Peter Jones, Tom Slater, David Kenward, Simon Creasey	120
36=	Chris Burley, Ed Scerri, Dick Davey, Richard Palmer	120
38	Jason Hackett, Lara Ruso, Ben Pritchard, Richard & Sandra Probst	119
39=	Phil Green, Roger Karn, Richard Samter, Norman Botton	118
39=	Mark Teltscher, Bernard Teltscher, Tom Townsend, David Gold	118
39=	Jim Grant, Stefan Lindfors, Rob Lawy, Duncan Cairns	118
42=	Nick Woodcock, Sue Woodcock, Bill Wattleworth, Liz Wattleworth	117
42=	Julian Mitchell, Peter Clinch, Sarah Mitchell, Rick Green	117
42=	Brian Senior, Sandra Penfold, Gary Hyett, Geoff Wolfarth	117
45=	Mike Pownall, Patrick Jourdain, Peter Goodman, Terry Walsh	116
45=	Gay Keaveney, Fiona Hutchison, Guy Hart, Martin Jones	116
47=	Heather Dhondy, Rob Cliffe, Filip Kurbalija, Tim Rees	115
47=	Ken Barnett, Chantal Girardin, Malcolm Morris, Elsa Nelson	115
47=	Paul Huggins, Dominic Pinto, Michael Heaney, Martin Brady	115
50	Paul Gipson, Alex Gipson, Nick Boss, Richard Johnson	114
51=	Joe Clacey, Emily Middleton, Niall Cardin, James Martin	113
51=	Richard Bowdery, Jerry Harouni, Gary Jones, Dafydd Jones	113
51=	Ian Green, Peter Oake, Gad Chadha, Stephen Lee	113
51=	Berry Hedley, Graham Hedley, Chris Heames, Trevor Thrower	113
55	Alan Gillespie, Nanette Gillespie, Amanda Bolton, Mike Dancy	112
56=	Christine Kempton, Karen Pryor, Malcolm Pryor, David Muller	111
56=	Andrew Thompson, Tony Clark, Eddie Lucioni, Diane Rogers	111
58=	Peter Bowles, Alison Pollok, Ruth Edmondson, Brigid McElroy	110
58=	David Owen, Tony Togneri, John Dakin, Roy France	110
58=	Trevor Hamlyn, Helen Beattie, Sally Birnage, Danny Gesua	110

Friday Night Speedball

1=	Chris Cooper & Alan Shillitoe	61.66%
	Mike Amos & Stephen Brown	61.66
3	James Paul & Fraser Morgan	60.46

The Swiss Pairs

Last weekend's Swiss Pairs Championship for the Harold Poster Cup was won by Simon Cope and John Atthey. They offered these three deals from the last session to illustrate how the cup was won.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 9 4 2 ♥ K 8 7 4 3 2 ♦ Q J 2 ♣ 5	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ A J 5 ♥ Q J 10 6 ♦ K 5 3 ♣ 8 7 6	♠ 10 3 ♥ A 9 5 ♦ 10 9 7 4 ♣ K 10 5 2
N	E						
W	S						
	♠ K Q 8 7 6 ♥ — ♦ A 8 6 ♣ A Q J 9 4						

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Atthey</i>	—	<i>Cope</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

The champions bid nicely to the top spot on this deal which caused problems for much of the field. The 1NT response was forcing and 2♥ showed either a minimum hand with six spades or weak or invitational with clubs. John bid 2♠ in case it was the first option and now 3♣ was invitational with clubs (2NT would have been weak with clubs). John supported clubs, Simon cuebid, and John settled for game; +400.



John Atthey



Simon Cope

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 5 4 ♥ K 8 5 ♦ 10 6 2 ♣ J 8 5 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ 9 8 6 ♥ A J 10 7 2 ♦ Q 9 ♣ K 7 3	♠ Q J 2 ♥ Q 4 3 ♦ K J 8 5 ♣ A 9 2
N	E						
W	S						
	♠ A K 10 3 ♥ 9 6 ♦ A 7 4 3 ♣ Q 10 6						

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Atthey</i>	—	<i>Cope</i>
Pass	1♠	2♥	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

One Club was either natural or balanced and 1♠ denied a major. When East overcalled, Simon's pass was either a penalty double of hearts or, as here, an 11-13 no trump. John bid 2NT and, with a maximum, Simon went on to game.

The lead was the eight of spades. John won the ace and led a diamond to the ace then finessed the ♦8, following restricted choice and catering to a possible four-one split. That lost and back came another spade. John cashed his spade and diamond winners and West bared the king of hearts to keep the clubs. John played a heart to the king and West led a low club. Rising with the ace allowed John to exit with a club to East's now bare king of clubs and East had to lead to the ♥Q at the end for declarer's ninth trick; a nice +600.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 7 6 2 ♥ K 9 3 ♦ 8 7 ♣ Q 8 6 5 2	♠ Q 8 5 ♥ J 10 8 7 ♦ 9 5 ♣ K J 10 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>E</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>S</td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W	E			S		♠ A 9 4 ♥ A 4 2 ♦ K Q J 10 3 2 ♣ 4
	N											
W	E											
	S											
♠ K J 10 3 ♥ Q 6 5 ♦ A 6 4 ♣ A 9 7												

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Atthey</i> Pass	1♦	<i>Cope</i> Dble
Pass	1♥	2♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2♥
3♦	All Pass		

There seemed to be little to this deal, yet simply for pushing the opposition up a level and getting the resulting 3♦ down one Simon and John chalked up an 80% board. North's double of 2♦ to show some values but no long suit would be a fairly routine expert manoeuvre but, as the matchpoint score on this deal illustrates, it is by no means automatic for non-experts.

Ben Green also came up with a couple of interesting stories, the first from the third session of the Swiss Pairs.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ K Q 9 2 ♥ K J 8 5 ♦ J 7 6 4 ♣ 7	♠ A J 8 7 ♥ A Q 2 ♦ A Q 10 9 2 ♣ Q	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>E</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>S</td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W	E			S		♠ 10 4 3 ♥ 9 6 ♦ K 8 5 ♣ A 8 6 5 4
	N											
W	E											
	S											
♠ 6 5 ♥ 10 7 4 3 ♦ 3 ♣ K J 10 9 3 2												

West	North	East	South
<i>Green</i> —	—	<i>Happer</i> —	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	All Pass	

South must have been thrilled to be forced to choose between his partner's suits – understandably, he didn't want to do anything that would suggest any more strength than he actually had.

Duncan Happer led the three of spades to the queen and ace and declarer played ace then ruffed

a diamond with dummy's remaining trump. He took the heart finesse then misguessed the diamonds, leading the queen in the hope that this might pin the jack. Duncan won the ♦Q and played his remaining heart to declarer's ace. Now declarer decided to try a club, but Duncan won the ace and led the ♠10, which Ben ran to declarer's jack. When declarer next led the ten of diamonds, Duncan pitched and Ben could win, draw trumps, and cash two heart winners for one down; a nice defence.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ Q 10 5 4 ♥ 2 ♦ 8 4 ♣ K J 7 6 5 2	♠ A 3 ♥ Q 9 7 4 ♦ 10 9 7 6 2 ♣ 10 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>E</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>S</td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W	E			S		♠ 9 8 7 2 ♥ 8 3 ♦ Q J 5 3 ♣ 9 8 3
	N											
W	E											
	S											
♠ K J 6 ♥ A K J 10 6 5 ♦ A K ♣ A Q												

West	North	East	South
	<i>Green</i>		<i>Happer</i>
Pass	Pass	2NT	Dble
3♣	Dble	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

East's imaginative 2NT psyche created a very unusual situation for Ben and Duncan. Naturally, Duncan began with a double and Ben could double 3♣ for take-out. Duncan cuebid and was delighted to find the heart fit. He continued with RKCB and, on finding Ben with one key card, asked for the ♥Q. 5NT said yes, but no side king, and 6♣ asked for second-round control in that suit.

As most people who had an uncontested auction found, getting to seven was too difficult, and the grand only makes because of North's five-card diamond suit, plus his having the right doubleton. Overcoming the psyche and having a scientific auction was a good effort.

Proof-reading

Those of you who are used to reading my bulletins in Brighton will have noticed markedly fewer errors this year. This is due to the efforts of our expert proof-reader, Gareth Bartley. I have tried to slip Bratley, Garteh, etc. past him in the results, all to no avail. Thank you, Gareth, and I hope you are back next year.

The Adams & Remers Mixed Pivot Teams

Wednesday evening's Mixed Pivot Teams was sponsored by local solicitors, Adams & Remers, and attracted an excellent entry of 64 teams.

There was a special prize for a 'Champagne Moment', with the winning entry decided by Geoffrey Wolfarth, of Adams & Remers, and his advisers. This was the winning story, as told by Lyn Dempster:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ 6 2 ♥ 8 7 5 ♦ K J 10 8 2 ♣ Q 8 5	♠ A K 8 5 3 ♥ K J 6 ♦ A 6 4 ♣ 6 4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 10 ♥ A 10 9 ♦ Q 9 7 5 3 ♣ K J 10 9	♠ Q J 9 7 4 ♥ Q 4 3 2 ♦ — ♣ A 7 3 2	
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As North, finding myself in 3NT, my hopes were not raised when dummy went down. Soon I detected a flaw in the contract – just five top tricks! However, a club lead from East to West's queen and a heart return set the pulse racing! If I could set up a quick diamond trick, I could then knock out the ace of clubs and might be in with a chance.

I won the heart in dummy and, deciding that diamonds needed to be three-two, thought that now would be a good time for a smooth duck. Just imagine the hilarity at the table when dummy's three of diamonds was followed by the two from West and my four won the trick as East showed out!

Of course, I now switched back to clubs and had my nine tricks. Three No Trump tick as a careless West hung his head in shame.

P.S. Champagne is my favourite tippie – will the bottle be chilled?

Well, we can't promise chilled, I'm afraid, but you never know, you might get lucky.

There were several other high-quality entries but, as they say, the judge's decision is final.

This next pair were involved in a story at my table, whilst I was partnering Geoff Wolfarth. I opened a not particularly attractive 15-count with INT (15-17) and played a hopeless 3NT, down four vulnerable.

But when we came to score up we discovered that our opponents had already played the board so the result could not stand. Yes, Geoffrey had put a board from the next set of three on the table by mistake.

As you can imagine, we were very happy to scrap a freely bid –400.

It transpired that when one of our opponents first played the deal the same contract had gone five off, so they had done less well second time around.

Anyway, these opponents, Chris Cooper and Dave Cropper, came up with another story on this next deal.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ A J ♥ K 10 9 5 2 ♦ A ♣ J 9 6 5 4	♠ K 10 9 7 6 ♥ J 8 ♦ K 10 9 6 4 3 ♣ — <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> ♥ Q 7 6 4 ♦ 7 5 2 ♣ Q 10 8 3	♠ 8 5 4 3 ♥ A 3 ♦ Q J 8 ♣ A K 7 2	
---	--	--	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Cropper</i>		<i>Cooper</i>	
1♥	2♥	Dble	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

North's 2♥ showed spades and a minor and South accordingly showed some spade tolerance. When 2♠ came around, Chris Cooper cuebid 3♠ to ask for a stopper and Dave Cropper duly obliged.

When South doubled, West broke tempo, pausing before passing, and Cooper thought even longer before passing the board out in 3NT doubled.

During East's long huddle, South said to him:

"You surely can't pull it now (after West's slow pass)."

Cooper's response was:

"I'm not thinking of pulling..."

And, as the contract made with an overtrick, East was clearly quite justified in giving serious consideration to a redouble, don't you think?

The Rueful Rabbit struck on this next exhibit.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 9 6 ♥ 7 ♦ 10 7 6 2 ♣ KJ 9 8 7	♠ 7 4 ♥ K 5 2 ♦ A Q 8 3 ♣ Q 10 3 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ A 3 2 ♥ Q J 10 9 8 6 ♦ J 5 ♣ A 6	♠ K J 10 8 5 ♥ A 4 3 ♦ K 9 4 ♣ 5 4	
--	--	---	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Onimus</i>	<i>Ronim</i>	<i>Bowler</i>	<i>Thomas</i>
—	—	1♠	2♥
2♠	4♥	All Pass	

Anne Onimus intended to lead the six of spades. If she does so, declarer can win and run the jack of diamonds, and will eventually make the contract, having established a pitch for the club loser.

But Anne inadvertently put the seven of hearts on the table. Partner, Tom Bowler, could win the ace of hearts and switch to a club, and the defence got its club trick before the king of diamonds had been dislodged; one down.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ 6 2 ♥ 8 7 5 ♦ KJ 10 8 2 ♣ Q 8 5	♠ A K 8 5 3 ♥ K J 6 ♦ A 6 4 ♣ 6 4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 10 ♥ A 10 9 ♦ Q 9 7 5 3 ♣ KJ 10 9	♠ Q J 9 7 4 ♥ Q 4 3 2 ♦ — ♣ A 7 3 2	
--	--	--	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Stevens</i>	<i>Geoff W.</i>	<i>Angus</i>	<i>Ros W.</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	2♠	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

We have, of course, already seen this deal. When the Wolfarths played it, Geoffrey opened a 15-17 no trump and Ros competed to 3♦ via Lebensohl after East's 2♠ overcall.

The opening lead was the six of spades to the ace. Ros tried a club to the jack, losing to the queen, and

now West switched to the eight of hearts for the queen and ace. The king of clubs lost to the ace and East returned the jack of spades. Ros discarded a heart and West accidentally pulled out the two of diamonds, which had to be corrected to the two of spades.

Ros won the king of spades and led a low spade, ruffing with the three as West was forced to under-ruff with the exposed two. The seven of diamonds was covered by the eight and ace, and West came to three diamond winners in the endgame for down one.

North had been celebrating during the play, bragging that this would be in the bulletin and that were he not the one donating the champagne he would be winning it. Unfortunately, the under-ruff costs nothing at all. Without it, the timing in the endgame is different, and West gets endplayed to cost herself a trick for the same one off.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ J 6 ♥ 7 4 3 ♦ J 6 4 ♣ QJ 8 7 6	♠ A K Q 10 9 4 ♥ A Q 10 9 8 6 ♦ 9 ♣ — <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 3 ♥ K 5 2 ♦ A 7 5 2 ♣ 9 5 4 3 2	♠ 8 7 5 2 ♥ J ♦ K Q 10 8 3 ♣ A K 10	
---	--	--	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Rainforth</i>		<i>Taylor</i>	
—	—	1♦	Pass
1NT	3♠	All Pass	

Tom Rainforth and Bill Taylor were delighted to concede just -260 for 3♠ plus four, and mentally chalked the board up as a large swing. They were correct, but the swing was against their team!

In the other room the auction was as follows:

West	North	East	South
—	—	1♦	Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Five Clubs was, of course, intended as Exclusion Key Card, but not recognised as such. Five Clubs was five down for +500 to East/West and that meant 13 IMPs to the opposition.

I'm not sure if that qualifies exactly as a champagne moment for Tom and Bill. Perhaps we should also have offered a second prize of a bottle of bitter?

Trivia Quiz 9

One-hit Wonders

The Guinness Book of British Hit Singles defines a One-hit Wonder as an artist who has a number-one single but no other chart entry. So, who had these one-off number-one singles?

1. 99 Red Balloons
2. Brimful of Asha
3. Fire
4. Japanese Boy
5. Mouldy Old Dough
6. Something in the Air
7. Video Killed the Radio Star
8. The Macarena
9. In The Year 2525
10. Wand'rin' Star

The Swiss Teams

This first example from the first session of the Swiss Teams is a good illustration of why almost everyone plays Roman Key Card Blackwood these days, allowing questions about the king and queen of the agreed trump suit.

However, the pairs who reached the very poor small slam will not be too worried about their lack of methods.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ Q 10 7 ♥ J 7 6 ♦ 7 6 3 ♣ A 10 5 3</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td> </td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>S</td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ 8 6 ♥ 9 8 3 ♦ J 10 9 5 4 ♣ 9 8 4</p>	<p>♠ J 4 ♥ A K Q 4 2 ♦ K 2 ♣ Q J 7 2</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Robson</i>	<i>Caswell</i>	<i>Allfrey</i>	<i>Dykes</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

4NT was Roman Blackwood, with the response showing two odd aces (different rank and colour). Either the ♠Q or ♥J in the North hand would have made the slam gilt-edged, but establishing the presence of either of these precise cards was not possible.

However, the possession of two long suits seems to give good chances.

Robson led the ♠7, attempting to put declarer to the test at trick one. How many players would run this lead? However, once declarer rises with the ace he loses the possibility to bring in the spade suit via the double finesse. Fortunately, the even heart split means that there are twelve tricks anyway, but this does not detract from a fine opening lead by Robson.

In the other room, David Bakhshi and Tony Forrester stopped in 3NT, making 12 tricks but for an 11 IMP loss.

Bill Gardner offers this next story, also from the first session.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ 3 2 ♥ 9 5 ♦ J 10 9 6 ♣ K 10 9 8 5</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td> </td><td>N</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td> </td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>S</td><td> </td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ 10 9 ♥ K Q 8 7 ♦ Q 8 5 3 2 ♣ 6 3</p>	<p>♠ J 8 7 6 4 ♥ A 10 3 2 ♦ K 7 4 ♣ 4</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Gardner</i>	Pass	<i>Powney</i>
Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	Rdbl	All Pass	3♣

As Bill says, the East/West names have been withheld to protect the guilty. I'm sure Bill only gave me this story because he knows how much I detest opening 2NT bids containing a singleton. Anyway, Bill was pretty happy with his result. When West made the mistake of doubling the Stayman 3♣ response for the lead. Bill redoubled confidently and played there, making ten tricks for the unusual score of +840.

It does seem harsh that West should gain 4 IMPs for his double, as his teammates bid the cold 6♠ for +980 at the other table.

Players often forget, when making lead-directing doubles, that they are also effectively making a penalty double of the contract, and to double on an inadequate trump holding can, as here, be a dangerous business.

Olivia Woo was the hero, or should that be heroine, of this next deal, from the last match of the Saturday afternoon session.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ A 10 9 5 4 3 ♥ Q 4 2 ♦ K 9 ♣ K J	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ K J 8 ♥ A K J 10 8 7 ♦ 10 6 ♣ 3 2	♠ — ♥ 9 6 ♦ A Q 8 7 5 2 ♣ Q 10 7 6 4
N	E						
W	S						

West	North	East	South
	<i>Alan W.</i>		<i>Olivia W.</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	2NT
3♥	5♣	5♥	All Pass

After an auction that would no doubt have been duplicated at several tables around the room, Olivia found the opening lead to ensure that Alan could not go wrong – the ten of clubs. Alan beat the ♣J with his ace and gave Olivia the requested spade ruff. What a nice thing a clear-cut suit preference signal is!

That was one down and a handy gain for Olivia's team as Gunnar Hallberg, her teammate who reported her lead, was defending 6♣ doubled for +500 at the other table.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 10 6 5 4 ♥ K 7 ♦ A 6 3 ♣ 10 9 5 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ A Q J ♥ Q J 10 9 ♦ Q 7 4 ♣ A K 8	♠ 8 3 2 ♥ A 8 5 ♦ J 8 5 2 ♣ Q 6 4
N	E						
W	S						

West	North	East	South
	<i>Penfold</i>		<i>Senior</i>
—	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The first task on this deal from Saturday afternoon was to avoid the four-four heart fit, which Sandra Penfold and I had no difficulty in achieving. However, Sandra still had to make 3NT if we were to benefit from reaching the correct game.

East kicked off with a passive spade lead to the jack and Sandra played a heart from hand, West winning the king and continuing the spade attack. Sandra

won the king and cleared the hearts. This time, East exited with a heart.

Sandra cashed the fourth heart, after which she had seen a club and a diamond discard from West and a spade from East. She cashed the third spade now and that got a diamond from East. It was time to guess the diamonds now but, by delaying the decision as long as possible, Sandra had got some feel for what was going on. She led low to the nine and, though West held both the ♦A and the long spade, that was all for the defence; nine tricks for +600 and 12 IMPs in.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A 10 7 ♥ Q 7 ♦ 7 6 4 2 ♣ 10 9 6 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	E	W	S	♠ Q 9 8 5 ♥ J 3 ♦ A 10 8 3 ♣ Q 5 3	♠ K 3 2 ♥ A 8 6 5 4 2 ♦ Q ♣ K 8 2
N	E						
W	S						

West	North	East	South
	<i>Penfold</i>		<i>Senior</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

The queen of hearts was not the best start for the defence on this one. East won the ace and continued the suit to declarer's king. Declarer played the third heart, ruffed and over-ruffed, then two rounds of diamonds, ending in dummy. A club to the jack, the ace of clubs and a third club left East endplayed. He actually chose a spade so declarer made a spade trick at the end, but a ruff and discard would have been no better; +110.

Trivia Quiz 9 Solutions

1. Nena (1984)
2. Cornershop (1998)
3. Crazy World of Arthur Brown (1968)
4. Aneka (1981)
5. Lieutenant Pigeon (1972)
6. Thunderclap Newman (1969)
7. The Buggles (1979)
8. Los Del Rio (1996)
9. Zager & Evans (1969)
10. Lee Marvin (1970)