

British Autumn Sim Pairs



Monday
5th October 2015

Welcome to the British Autumn Simultaneous Pairs. Thank you for playing. I hope you enjoy the event and also the commentary provided by a leading expert. The commentator for this set of hands is John Williams.

We now have a revised prize structure with cash prizes both for leading players and also for clubs who run heats. There will be a draw for major prizes at the AGM in November. You can find all the full details and results at www.ebu.co.uk/sims/

You can earn Blue points in these Sim Pairs and they are awarded to the top third of the field. Provisional master points are shown but the event is not finalised until all results are in and score corrections have been made. This usually takes about three weeks. It really helps us if you can keep your scorecard for that period. Clubs should keep the travellers if still used. All players need to check that the correct score and **DECLARER** have been entered when using Bridgemates.

Jeremy Dhondy, Chairman EBU

| <div><div><div>♠ KJ10</div><div>♥ KQ10</div><div>♦ K863</div><div>♣ A107</div></div><div><div>♠ A83</div><div>♥ J75</div><div>♦ AJ75</div><div>♣ QJ4</div></div><div><div>♠ Q65</div><div>♥ A843</div><div>♦ 1042</div><div>♣ 653</div></div><div><div>♠ 9742</div><div>♥ 962</div><div>♦ Q9</div><div>♣ K982</div></div><div><table><tr><th colspan="3">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>16</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table></div></div> | HCP | | | 16 | | | 13 | 6 | | 5 | | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | S | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | E | - | - | - | - | - | W | - | - | - | - | - | <div>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</div> <div><table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1NT</td><td>Dbl</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table></div> <div><p>This is all down to system. Those who open a strong NT will surely play there and score 90 or more, depending on how the play goes. The defence will no doubt persevere in hearts and declarer in clubs, having nothing much better to do.</p><p>The weak no-trumpers have a chance to contrive a better score by defending after opening one of a suit (presumably diamonds), providing they're prepared to double West's protective 1NT, which typically shows 11-14 HCPs. A re-opening double shows a strong no-trump hand, obviously, and North is minimum for such an action: still, he would be a mite supine to pass. There is a minimum of 13 HCPs shared between East and South and partner may well hold five of them. Even with less, he may have a suit to run to. The downside is the absence of a telling opening lead. It's very close but the difference between +50 and +100 will probably be crucial.</p></div> | West | North | East | South | | 1♦ | Pass | Pass | 1NT | Dbl | All Pass | | | | | |
|---|-------|----------|-------|----|----|--|----|----|--|----|--|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|-------|------|-------|--|----|------|------|------|-----|----------|----|----------|--|--|--|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1♦ | Pass | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1NT | Dbl | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <div><div><div>♠ 107</div><div>♥ A2</div><div>♦ Q109532</div><div>♣ 873</div></div><div><div>♠ 852</div><div>♥ 1097643</div><div>♦ J6</div><div>♣ J9</div></div><div><div>♠ AKQJ9643</div><div>♥ J8</div><div>♦ 4</div><div>♣ Q6</div></div><div><div>♠ -</div><div>♥ KQ5</div><div>♦ AK87</div><div>♣ AK10542</div></div><div><table><tr><th colspan="3">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>6</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>13</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr></table></div></div> | HCP | | | 6 | | | 2 | 13 | | 19 | | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | 7 | 7 | 1 | - | - | S | 7 | 7 | 1 | - | - | E | - | - | - | 2 | - | W | - | - | - | 2 | - | <div>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</div> <div><table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>4♠</td><td>4NT</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>6♦</td></tr><tr><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div> <div><p>Absolutely anything is possible here. East has a perfect Texas 4♦ opener if that's available to him (promising eight trump tricks and no defensive values, or equivalent) but failing that – and lacking suitability for a strong 2♠ or 2♣ - will surely prefer 4♠ to 1♠. South then has to decide between double and 4NT, the latter being safer for take-out purposes in that it doesn't suggest a heart suit and doesn't absolutely promise great length in both minors. North has an easy 5♦ bid available but can't really risk trying for more, after which South needs a touch of bravado to raise to slam – only a small one, of course, as trumps may not be solid on a bad day and ♥A could be missing too. As for West, he will be wise to keep quiet and hope that the opponents lack either the know-how or the exuberance to reach a suitable height. And whilst 6♠ is an excellent save against the small slam, he'll need to be prepared to go the whole hog to the seven level, if necessary (otherwise, disaster!)</p></div> | West | North | East | South | | | 4♠ | 4NT | Pass | 5♦ | Pass | 6♦ | All Pass | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 7 | 7 | 1 | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 7 | 7 | 1 | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | - | - | 2 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | - | - | 2 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 4♠ | 4NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 5♦ | Pass | 6♦ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| <p>♠ QJ108765 ♥ KQ5 ♦ - ♣ 874</p> <p>♠ - ♥ 87 ♦ AQ87543 ♣ J1092</p> <p>♠ K932 ♥ A1062 ♦ J ♣ KQ63</p> <p>♠ A4 ♥ J943 ♦ K10962 ♣ A5</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>8</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 8 | | 7 | 13 | 12 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | - | - | - | 4 | - | | S | - | - | - | 4 | - | | E | 2 | 2 | - | - | 1 | | W | 2 | 2 | - | - | 1 | | <p>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Dbl</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♣</td><td>4♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>This is an auction no one could quarrel with. A perfectly reasonable alternative would be 1NT by South, 3♦ by West and 4♠ by North, though opening 1NT with the South hand would be frowned on in some circles, despite eight of the 12 HCPs being outside the red suits which hold nine of the cards.</p> <p>Either way, all North has to do is make ten tricks but I'll be surprised if everyone succeeds. Double dummy the game is there on any lead but declarer has to avoid losing two club tricks and on a trump lead, for instance, there will be anxious moments. Declarer may be put to the test of finding ♥10 well-placed, thus losing a trump, a heart and a club.</p> <p>A save in 5♣* will not prove effective against best defence!</p> | West | North | East | South | | | | 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | Dbl | Pass | 2♣ | 4♠ | All Pass | |
|---|----------|----------|-------|---|----|----|----|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|------|-------|------|-------|-----|------|----|----|------|----------|-----|------|----------|----|----------|--|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | - | 4 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | - | - | 4 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 2 | 2 | - | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 2 | 2 | - | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1♦ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 1♠ | Dbl | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♣ | 4♠ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ 87652 ♥ AQ108 ♦ 5 ♣ 854</p> <p>♠ K1043 ♥ 7432 ♦ A7 ♣ AQ3</p> <p>♠ Q ♥ KJ965 ♦ Q109632 ♣ 2</p> <p>♠ AJ9 ♥ - ♦ KJ84 ♣ KJ10976</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 6 | | 13 | 8 | 13 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | | S | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | | E | - | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | | W | - | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | | <p>Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>3♣</td></tr><tr><td>3♥</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>The use of transfer bids helps to make the hand interesting: after a simple weakness take-out of 2♥ South might be tempted to double despite the lack of a fourth spade but after a 2♦ transfer he is likely to compete with 3♣ (and why not? – we didn't come to litter the table with green cards at every opportunity, did we?). West now has a clear 3♥ bid, promising decent values and at least three hearts.</p> <p>East has a difficult decision. Game in hearts will make opposite many hands partner might hold, despite the lack of points, but this is a pairs tournament and plus scores are there to be protected: prudence dictates a pass. This turns out to be a wise decision. The 4-0 trump break is embarrassing to say the least and even nine tricks will prove tricky after a diamond lead.</p> <p>At the same time, N/S must be careful not to overstretch: the distribution and layout are unfavourable for them and West is sure to double anything undisciplined!</p> | West | North | East | South | 1NT | Pass | 2♦ | 3♣ | 3♥ | All Pass | | | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1NT | Pass | 2♦ | 3♣ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3♥ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ Q2 ♥ 6 ♦ KQ952 ♣ KQ942</p> <p>♠ 109854 ♥ J982 ♦ 63 ♣ 106</p> <p>♠ AK76 ♥ K107543 ♦ 4 ♣ 85</p> <p>♠ J3 ♥ AQ ♦ AJ1087 ♣ AJ73</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>12</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 12 | | 1 | 10 | 17 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | 5 | 5 | - | - | 2 | | S | 5 | 5 | - | - | 2 | | E | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | | W | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | | <p>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♦</td><td>1♥</td><td>2♣</td></tr><tr><td>2♥</td><td>3♣</td><td>3♥</td><td>5♦</td></tr><tr><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Can I say with any confidence that N/S will sail into a minor-suit game? I wish I could – but no. Can I say with any confidence that if South's second bid (assuming he opts first for a fact-finding mission via a bid in clubs) is 3NT rather than 5♦, West will lead a top spade rather than a heart? I wish I could – but no again. Bidding 5 of a minor at pairs is an almost non-existent option these days, the assumption being that once you give up on no-trumps you might as well be in a slam. This is a rare exception to that rule. If the bidding goes as shown South would do very well to settle for 5♣ rather than 5♦ because that would be likely to produce an overtrick after a heart lead. Indeed 6♣ would produce a top score unless East found a Lightner double and this persuaded West to lead a spade – heady stuff indeed! One thing is sure: there will be many red faces following this deal, not all by N/S!</p> | West | North | East | South | | 1♦ | 1♥ | 2♣ | 2♥ | 3♣ | 3♥ | 5♦ | All Pass | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 5 | 5 | - | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 5 | 5 | - | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1♦ | 1♥ | 2♣ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♥ | 3♣ | 3♥ | 5♦ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| <p>♠ 109764 ♥ - ♦ 1073 ♣ QJ1096</p> <p>♠ A3 ♠ KQJ5 ♥ 10643 ♥ AK ♦ J8 ♦ AQ52 ♣ AK542 ♣ 873</p> <p>♠ 82 ♥ QJ98752 ♦ K964 ♣ -</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>6</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 3 | 19 | 12 | 6 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | - | - | - | - | - | | S | - | - | - | - | - | | E | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | | W | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | | <p>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♠</td><td>3♥</td></tr><tr><td>Dbl</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>If East has a strong opening bid showing a balanced 19-20 points he is in some trouble because his partner will be interested in slam in clubs or (more likely) no-trumps and only a quantitative sequence will perhaps keep him out. The foul club break spells potential disaster. In the sequence shown, where 3♥ is a reasonable pre-emptive effort by South, E/W may well be saved thanks to being stuck for clear-cut bids: West can only double to show points without a spade fit and what can East do then, other than bid 3NT and hope he hasn't missed anything?</p> <p>The play in no-trumps is not without interest. Assuming declarer starts on diamonds by leading towards the Jack, South does best not to rush in with his King. Now many declarers won't see beyond 10 tricks. Eleven are available via a squeeze on South in the red suits but this won't always be found. +660 is sure to be a great score.</p> | West | North | East | South | | | 1♠ | 3♥ | Dbl | Pass | 3NT | All Pass | | | | |
|--|-------|----------|----------|----|----|----|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|------|-------|------|-------|------|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|------|----------|------|-----|----------|--|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1♠ | 3♥ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dbl | Pass | 3NT | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ AJ ♥ 98753 ♦ QJ54 ♣ Q9</p> <p>♠ Q543 ♠ 10762 ♥ K6 ♥ 42 ♦ A6 ♦ 10982 ♣ AK1054 ♣ 732</p> <p>♠ K98 ♥ AQJ10 ♦ K73 ♣ J86</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>14</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 10 | 0 | 16 | 14 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | - | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | | S | - | 2 | 3 | - | 2 | | E | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | | W | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | | <p>Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1NT</td></tr><tr><td>Dbl</td><td>Redbl</td><td>2♦</td><td>Dbl</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Dbl</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>This should be the perfect moment for the weak NT to come good. E/W are vulnerable whilst N/S have no game on but every prospect of taking a worthwhile penalty. There are many conventional ways for N/S to go about things (I have shown the simplest) but only one outcome. E/W should have the usual exit route – 2♦ promising the lower of two four-card suits – and West might as well try 2♠ on the way to a possible 3♣, thus landing in the best available spot. The defence has to be careful: an opening heart lead will set the pulses racing all around the table and might even lead to a totally disastrous result. After a diamond lead, however, N/S have merely to keep exit cards to ensure that declarer has to lead away from ♥K. Even then, 200 will feel like an inadequate reward. Still, stronger no-trumpers will have to settle for 140 in hearts – or even a minus score if they're more ambitious.</p> | West | North | East | South | | | | 1NT | Dbl | Redbl | 2♦ | Dbl | 2♠ | Dbl | All Pass | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | 2 | 3 | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dbl | Redbl | 2♦ | Dbl | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♠ | Dbl | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ 6 ♥ AKJ106 ♦ 3 ♣ AJ8432</p> <p>♠ 2 ♠ KQJ853 ♥ 32 ♥ 985 ♦ J108642 ♦ AQ9 ♣ 9765 ♣ K</p> <p>♠ A10974 ♥ Q74 ♦ K75 ♣ Q10</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>11</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 13 | 15 | 1 | 11 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | 5 | - | 5 | 2 | 4 | | S | 5 | - | 5 | 2 | 4 | | E | - | 1 | - | - | - | | W | - | 1 | - | - | - | | <p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>Dbl</td><td>XX</td></tr><tr><td>2♦</td><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Two business redoubles on consecutive hands? Hen's teeth territory! It's normal to treat North's hand as 5-5 in two suits, lacking the strength for a reverse, and many Easts (but not all) will judge their hand just too good for a simple 1♠ overcall (in which case double followed by a bid in spades fills the bill). North's 3♣ rebid is in theory a bit good (I suppose 4♣ is a conceivable alternative) but the important thing is to announce the distributional nature of the hand. Then East has only to resist the temptation to try 3♠ next in order to secure a relatively safe -450 (mind you, a take-out double might just persuade North not to bother with the club finesse and thus drop ♣K, so a multitude of different scores remain possible.</p> <p>An excellent hand which will test both sides in bidding and play.</p> | West | North | East | South | Pass | 1♥ | Dbl | XX | 2♦ | 3♣ | Pass | 3♥ | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 5 | - | 5 | 2 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 5 | - | 5 | 2 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | 1 | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | 1 | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 1♥ | Dbl | XX | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♦ | 3♣ | Pass | 3♥ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| <p>♠ AK1087 ♥ K10762 ♦ A ♣ Q6</p> <p>♠ Q9 ♠ 432 ♥ QJ93 ♥ A85 ♦ 8653 ♦ QJ742 ♣ A32 ♣ 75</p> <p>♠ J65 ♥ 4 ♦ K109 ♣ KJ10984</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>16</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 16 | | 9 | 7 | 8 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | 5 | - | 2 | 5 | 4 | | S | 5 | - | 2 | 5 | 3 | | E | - | 1 | - | - | - | | W | - | 1 | - | - | - | | <p>Board 9 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td></tr></table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>There are three points worth making about the auction: first, a simple raise to 2♠ seems preferable to a 1NT response on the South hand; second, if North resists the temptation to just bash game and goes for a more thoughtful approach via a trial bid, which suit should he try in? (I would favour clubs over hearts but either could be right); third, South shouldn't worry about his three-card support – partner hasn't made a try in no-trumps, which he would most likely do with a balanced hand including only four spades.</p> <p>There are many possible outcomes in the play of the hand, suggesting that those who secure an overtrick will come out on top.</p> | West | North | East | South | | 1♠ | Pass | 2♠ | Pass | 3♣ | Pass | 4♠ | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|------|-------|---|----|----|----|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|------|-------|------|-------|--|----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|----|------|----|------|----|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 5 | - | 2 | 5 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 5 | - | 2 | 5 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | 1 | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | 1 | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1♠ | Pass | 2♠ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 3♣ | Pass | 4♠ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ AQ4 ♥ K8753 ♦ J3 ♣ KJ2</p> <p>♠ 653 ♠ K108 ♥ AJ10 ♥ Q96 ♦ K9876 ♦ AQ52 ♣ A10 ♣ 976</p> <p>♠ J972 ♥ 42 ♦ 104 ♣ Q8543</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>14</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 14 | | 12 | 11 | 3 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | 2 | - | - | - | - | | S | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | | E | - | 3 | - | - | 2 | | W | - | 3 | 1 | - | 2 | | <p>Board 10 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2NT</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>There will be some Wests who seek to avoid incurring a possible vulnerable penalty in this precarious position by opening 1♦, intending to pass any response from partner except 2♣ (where 2♦ will be the preferred rebid). This shows admirable tactical awareness in one sense – and may well lead to a rock-solid diamond part-score and +110. However, why depart from the system you came to play? If doubled in 1NT (which wouldn't happen here anyway) you can always consider running to 2♦. If 1NT is indeed the chosen opening, North must avoid overcalling hearts on such a weak suit (and only five cards): he has a predominantly defensive hand and should settle for leading hearts against no-trumps. 2♠ here is a range enquiry if that's how you play, leading to a 2NT sign-off. (Otherwise you bid 1NT-2NT-Pass). Whatever route is chosen to a final E/W contract, it looks as though the choice lies between 2NT and 3♦ – the winner being 2NT, as 120 (or 150!) beats 110 every time. However, the big winner will be anyone lucky enough to defend 2♥*....</p> | West | North | East | South | | | Pass | Pass | 1NT | Pass | 2♠ | Pass | 2NT | All Pass | | | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 2 | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | 3 | - | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | 3 | 1 | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Pass | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1NT | Pass | 2♠ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2NT | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ 6432 ♥ AK872 ♦ AJ ♣ 75</p> <p>♠ 975 ♠ 10 ♥ 954 ♥ QJ63 ♦ 7642 ♦ K105 ♣ K104 ♣ Q9863</p> <p>♠ AKQJ8 ♥ 10 ♦ Q983 ♣ AJ2</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>12</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 12 | | 3 | 8 | 17 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | 1 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 3 | | S | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | | E | - | - | - | - | - | | W | - | - | - | - | - | | <p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♠</td></tr></table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>Staying out of slam is a delicate matter. After North does whatever his methods dictate to show a raise to game in spades –and a fit-showing 2NT followed by 4♥ is a good descriptive effort here, don't you think? - South is clearly worth a slam try and Blackwood won't help: after a 5♣ cue-bid North can cue-bid diamonds and South's 5♠ looks for an extra control in the minors, which North doesn't have – hence the final pass. There is also the consideration for North that trumps may not be solid.</p> <p>Having said all that with the benefit of seeing both hands (always a help!) slam depends basically on a winning diamond finesse so those who bid it and go down – and there will be a goodly number – needn't feel too inadequate, just unlucky.</p> | West | North | East | South | | | | 1♠ | Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3♦ | Pass | 4♥ | Pass | 5♣ | Pass | 5♦ | Pass | 5♠ |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 1 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1♠ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3♦ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 4♥ | Pass | 5♣ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 5♦ | Pass | 5♠ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| <p>♠ K854 ♥ Q84 ♦ AK83 ♣ 108</p> <p>♠ 976 ♠ - ♥ 653 ♥ AJ1072 ♦ 62 ♦ J74 ♣ AK765 ♣ J9432</p> <p>♠ AQJ1032 ♥ K9 ♦ Q1095 ♣ Q</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>12</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 12 | | 7 | 7 | 14 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | - | 4 | - | 5 | 1 | | S | - | 3 | - | 5 | 1 | | E | 4 | - | 3 | - | - | | W | 4 | - | 3 | - | - | | <p>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td></tr></table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>Do we all bounce a level with four trumps when partner transfers? Some do, some wait for a maximum no-trump; in either case, most of us break transfer into a doubleton if maximum with four trumps, so here North, if he has a doubleton, has declared a minimum with four trumps. That should be enough to deter South from exploring further. Even if he does – and those who cue-bid first or second round controls at random below game might decide to try 4♥ in the hope of a miracle fit – North shouldn't accept. And there's always Blackwood for the super-adventurous, to diagnose the two missing aces.</p> <p>All in all, this should be one of the flattest boards of the evening. No board is ever completely flat, however....</p> | West | North | East | South | Pass | 1NT | Pass | 2♥ | Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 4♠ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|------|----------|---|----|----|----|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|------|-------|------|-------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|------|----|------|----|------|-----|------|----|------|-----|----------|--|--|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | 4 | - | 5 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | 3 | - | 5 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 4 | - | 3 | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 4 | - | 3 | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 1NT | Pass | 2♥ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 4♠ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ 1054 ♥ 765 ♦ K95 ♣ J643</p> <p>♠ AQJ8763 ♠ K2 ♥ AK ♥ J983 ♦ 103 ♦ AJ84 ♣ 102 ♣ AK7</p> <p>♠ 9 ♥ Q1042 ♦ Q762 ♣ Q985</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 4 | | 14 | 16 | 6 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | - | - | - | - | - | | S | - | - | - | - | - | | E | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 6 | | W | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 6 | | <p>Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>6NT</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>This should be a straightforward auction to the top spot. West's heart holding encourages him to game-force initially and East's rebid in no-trumps should promise the same 15-17 (or perhaps 15-16) as 1NT after 1♠ would have done. West can safely temporise in hearts and the 3♠ effort from partner surely indicates the King. Then the response to Roman Key-card (5♣ or 5♦ according to agreement) confirms three of the five aces. West can now count seven spade tricks, two hearts and the two minor suit aces, adding up to eleven. He needs partner to hold ♥Q or a minor suit King to bring the total to twelve – surely odds-on after his points-showing 2NT rebid.</p> <p>As East would have raised spades immediately with three there is no advantage to playing in spades and 6NT is a clearly-indicated alternative. Well bid!</p> | West | North | East | South | | Pass | 1♥ | Pass | 2♠ | Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3♥ | Pass | 3♠ | Pass | 4NT | Pass | 5♣ | Pass | 6NT | All Pass | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pass | 1♥ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♠ | Pass | 2NT | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3♥ | Pass | 3♠ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4NT | Pass | 5♣ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6NT | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ 43 ♥ K64 ♦ A10864 ♣ KJ9</p> <p>♠ Q ♠ A987652 ♥ AJ9852 ♥ 10 ♦ - ♦ 73 ♣ Q108742 ♣ A53</p> <p>♠ KJ10 ♥ Q73 ♦ KQJ952 ♣ 6</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>11</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table> | HCP | | 11 | | 9 | 8 | 12 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | - | 3 | - | - | 4 | | S | - | 3 | - | - | 4 | | E | 5 | - | 1 | 1 | - | | W | 5 | - | 1 | 1 | - | | <p>Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>3♠</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>This is not an auction likely to be repeated at every table, partly because there is an old-fashioned reluctance to open a pre-empt with an ace outside the trump suit. It's nonsense really: the ace makes up for the rather empty trump suit. If 3♠ is sniffed at then the only other logical option is to pass – and see what happens then: South will open 1♦, West will probably stick in 2NT to show a heart/club two-suiter (usually played as either weak or strong) and N/S may wander into 3NT and find it making. After such a start East doesn't have an automatic 4♣ bid (a pity, because even eleven tricks are there in clubs, thanks to the kindly heart break. However, a 3♠ opening may well buy the contract because South has a lot of potential losers outside his diamonds and North is equally stuck. Short of a magic lead of ♠K, East will have a small minus and possibly a decent match-point score. There are so many imponderables that anything could happen, with plus or minus scores available for either side. E/W must hope to avoid the one that adds up to -400 or even 430!</p> | West | North | East | South | | | 3♠ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | 3 | - | - | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | 3 | - | - | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 5 | - | 1 | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 5 | - | 1 | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 3♠ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| <p>♠ Q85 ♥ A942 ♦ AJ987 ♣ 2</p> <p>♠ 102 ♠ 9764 ♥ J7 ♥ KQ8 ♦ 10542 ♦ KQ ♣ KQ876 ♣ A953</p> <p>♠ AKJ3 ♥ 10653 ♦ 63 ♣ J104</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>11</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>9</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 11 | | 6 | 14 | | 9 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | 1 | 3 | 1 | - | S | - | 1 | 3 | 1 | - | E | 3 | - | - | - | - | W | 3 | - | - | - | - | <p>Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Dbl</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♣</td><td>3♥</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>North's third-in-hand opening should be automatic, as are the next few bids but after South's 1♥ is raised to 2♥ East simply can't afford to lie doggo any longer. The fact that 10 of his points are in the opponents' suits shouldn't deter him: after all, he has the expected four cards in each black suit and partner may have some shape.</p> <p>It's equally important for N/S to contest the part score further and either of them has a good case for taking the push to 3♥. If E/W persevere in clubs then they simply have to double and hope for the best (not forthcoming, unfortunately – only +100). As the cards lie +140 in hearts is relatively easy. Not a dramatic hand but still, a good competitive test for either side.</p> | West | North | East | South | | | | Pass | Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 1♥ | Pass | 2♥ | Dbl | Pass | 3♣ | 3♥ | All Pass | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|---|----|----|--|----|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|------|-------|------|-------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|----------|-----|------|----|----|----------|--|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | 1 | 3 | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | 1 | 3 | 1 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 3 | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 3 | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 1♥ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 2♥ | Dbl | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3♣ | 3♥ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ A863 ♥ 632 ♦ J65 ♣ 532</p> <p>♠ K754 ♠ QJ109 ♥ AJ5 ♥ KQ987 ♦ Q7 ♦ 98 ♣ K964 ♣ Q7</p> <p>♠ 2 ♥ 104 ♦ AK10432 ♣ AJ108</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>5</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>12</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 5 | | 13 | 10 | | 12 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | 1 | 4 | - | - | 2 | S | 1 | 4 | - | - | 2 | E | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | W | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | <p>Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td><td>2♦</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>East doesn't have enough to transfer with 2♥ and then bid spades naturally, so Stayman followed by 2♥ over the presumed 2♦ response is the disciplined answer. When South shows his diamonds West has to decide whether it's safe to show his spades: it's not 100% clear but neither is it clear that pass is the right thing. East now has enough to invite game (if partner has no wasted values in diamonds it could be there) but that's as far as E/W can go.</p> <p>With trumps 2-2 and the club honours split, N/S can actually make ten tricks in diamonds fairly trivially and this where West's 2♠ bid is so important: it makes life very difficult for the opponents and I venture to suggest that those who do buy the contract for N/S have either had it easy or have had to earn their result the hard way.</p> | West | North | East | South | 1NT | Pass | 2♣ | 2♦ | 2♠ | Pass | 3♠ | All Pass | | | | | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 1 | 4 | - | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 1 | 4 | - | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1NT | Pass | 2♣ | 2♦ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♠ | Pass | 3♠ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ K10 ♥ QJ10 ♦ KQJ1062 ♣ 107</p> <p>♠ AQ6 ♠ J97543 ♥ K42 ♥ A986 ♦ A9 ♦ 84 ♣ QJ862 ♣ 9</p> <p>♠ 82 ♥ 753 ♦ 753 ♣ AK543</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>12</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>7</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 12 | | 16 | 5 | | 7 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | 2 | - | - | - | S | - | 2 | - | - | - | E | 1 | - | 3 | 3 | - | W | 1 | - | 3 | 3 | - | <p>Board 17 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>1NT</td></tr><tr><td>Dbl</td><td>2♦</td><td>2♠</td><td>3♦</td></tr><tr><td>3♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Another closely fought auction needing sound judgment all round. The key bids are West's initial value-showing double (though a mite risky, pass is more so) and South's diamond raise at his second turn. North then has to resist the temptation to bid one for the road: 4♦ will surely get doubled and after a club lead will cost -300. 3♠ presents no problem, of course, a diamond lead preventing any possibility of an overtrick.</p> <p>As always in pairs events, accuracy and common sense in the bidding is essential. +140 should guarantee a good match-point score. However, if the opponents do overstretch, it's equally vital to take full advantage: meekly passing out 4♦ will guarantee a poor return.</p> | West | North | East | South | | 1♦ | Pass | 1NT | Dbl | 2♦ | 2♠ | 3♦ | 3♠ | All Pass | | | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | 2 | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | 2 | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 1 | - | 3 | 3 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 1 | - | 3 | 3 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1♦ | Pass | 1NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dbl | 2♦ | 2♠ | 3♦ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3♠ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| <p>♠ 954 ♥ 10842 ♦ 954 ♣ AQ6</p> <p>♠ AJ62 ♠ KQ1073 ♥ AJ ♥ 975 ♦ J8 ♦ Q2 ♣ K5432 ♣ J108</p> <p>♠ 8 ♥ KQ63 ♦ AK10763 ♣ 97</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>12</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 6 | 8 | 14 | 12 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | 5 | 5 | - | 1 | S | - | 5 | 5 | - | 1 | E | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | W | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | <p>Board 18 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>1♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>West has an unsuitable hand on which to enter the auction opposite a passed partner and with his left-hand opponent unlimited: 2♣ should promise a better and/or longer suit, whilst double could back-fire if partner jumps in hearts. So pass is the sensible option. If South then merely supports his partner to 2♥ then the time is ripe for a take-out double.</p> <p>However, South makes up in shape what he lacks in high card points and 2♥ would be a major understatement. Some bloodthirsty warriors might even shoot game (and here gain a massive bonus by way of reward) but 3♥ is highly invitational and will possibly be the majority choice. West will do well to shelve any plans to step into the auction now. With ♥J dropping and the club finesse right, no less than eleven tricks accrue. Well done to any warriors who add +300 game bonus to their score!</p> | West | North | East | South | | | Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 1♥ | Pass | 3♥ | All Pass | | | |
|---|----------|----------|-------|----|----|----|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|-------|------|-------|----|----|------|----|------|----------|------|-----|----------|----|----------|--|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | 5 | 5 | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | 5 | 5 | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Pass | 1♦ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 1♥ | Pass | 3♥ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ A10862 ♥ J7652 ♦ J92 ♣ -</p> <p>♠ 974 ♠ KJ5 ♥ Q1043 ♥ 9 ♦ A74 ♦ Q85 ♣ J97 ♣ KQ8542</p> <p>♠ Q3 ♥ AK8 ♦ K1063 ♣ A1063</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>16</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 6 | 11 | 7 | 16 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | 2 | 4 | 4 | - | S | - | 3 | 4 | 4 | 1 | E | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | W | 1 | - | - | - | - | <p>Board 19 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>1NT</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>There are some interesting aspects to the auction: (1) South could open either minor but most prefer 1♣ as it doesn't "lose" the diamond suit, plus opening 1♦ and re-bidding 2♣ should promise five diamonds; (2) is 2♥ forcing? – with such shape and greater values, common sense dictates that 3♥ would show invitational values, with fourth-suit-forcing followed by 3♥ being a game force.</p> <p>The cards lie extremely well for declarer in either a heart or a spade contract (apart from hearts, though even then there's only one loser) so careful play should yield ten tricks. Those who have bid and made game can consider themselves a bit lucky.</p> | West | North | East | South | | | | 1♣ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 1NT | Pass | 2♥ | All Pass | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | 2 | 4 | 4 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | 3 | 4 | 4 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 1 | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1♣ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 1NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 2♥ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ KQ853 ♥ KJ543 ♦ J ♣ 32</p> <p>♠ A4 ♠ 1062 ♥ 7 ♥ Q98 ♦ A8543 ♦ K1062 ♣ KJ1064 ♣ A95</p> <p>♠ J97 ♥ A1062 ♦ Q97 ♣ Q87</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>9</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 10 | 9 | 12 | 9 | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | S | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | E | 4 | 4 | - | - | 2 | W | 4 | 4 | - | - | 2 | <p>Board 20 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1♦</td><td>2♦</td><td>3♦</td><td>3♥</td></tr><tr><td>4♦</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>This is a very close affair demanding precise judgment. If North decides to intervene he can use whatever gadget shows a weak major two-suiter (his effective nine-count with only 5-5 shape is really the minimum when vulnerable). Although East's 3♦ raise is likely to be shaded, West's 4♦ is a reasonable shot based on shape. He has to be prepared to deal with any possible 4♥ from the opposition, of course, and equally they have to be aware that bidding on is liable to attract a penalty double.</p> <p>There are ten easy tricks for E/W in diamonds, despite having to cope with a trump loser, as the club finesse through South is a good bet on the bidding. N/S have only nine tricks in hearts and there's a horrible possibility of losing a trump trick as well by mis-guessing: West has bid on shape so it certainly looks best to play him for a singleton. Still, not everyone will and the consequences in 4♥^x will be very damaging.</p> | West | North | East | South | 1♦ | 2♦ | 3♦ | 3♥ | 4♦ | All Pass | | | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 4 | 4 | - | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 4 | 4 | - | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1♦ | 2♦ | 3♦ | 3♥ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4♦ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| <div><div><div>♠ AKQ42</div><div>♥ K</div><div>♦ Q1052</div><div>♣ K74</div></div><div><div>♠ J103</div><div>♥ QJ10743</div><div>♦ 3</div><div>♣ 985</div></div><div><div>♠ 9</div><div>♥ 652</div><div>♦ J9764</div><div>♣ AJ106</div></div><div><div>♠ 8765</div><div>♥ A98</div><div>♦ AK8</div><div>♣ Q32</div></div><div><table><tr><th colspan="3">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>17</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr></table></div></div> | HCP | | | 17 | | | 4 | 6 | | 13 | | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | 3 | 4 | - | 6 | 6 | | S | 3 | 4 | - | 6 | 6 | | E | - | - | - | - | - | | W | - | - | - | - | - | | <div>Board 21 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>6♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <div>It should be trivial to reach the excellent small slam in spades and the auction suggested above is just one of many, depending on methods (2NT is a value raise in spades and 3♦ is a long-suit game try initially so when South shows game values North knows that there must be good chances). The play is of no great interest, as declarer simply needs to concede a club and discard the other club loser on ♥A. Do you see how the Hideous Hogs can make 6NT? Declarer wins the safe heart or spade lead and plays a club which East necessarily ducks to the Queen. Then he cashes ♦AK and all the major suit winners – throwing a club on ♥A and a heart from dummy on the last spade- and on that card East has to either un-guard diamonds or bare ♣A, in which case he’s thrown in with it to lead into ♦Q10. Hog can actually afford a wide smile as soon as West shows out on the second diamond.</div> | West | North | East | South | | 1♠ | Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3♦ | Pass | 4♠ | Pass | 4NT | Pass | 5♥ | Pass | 6♠ | All Pass | |
|---|-------|----------|----------|----|----|--|----|----|--|----|--|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|------|-------|------|-------|--|----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|----|----------|--|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 3 | 4 | - | 6 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 3 | 4 | - | 6 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1♠ | Pass | 2NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 3♦ | Pass | 4♠ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 4NT | Pass | 5♥ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | 6♠ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <div><div><div>♠ AJ9</div><div>♥ 986543</div><div>♦ A6</div><div>♣ 102</div></div><div><div>♠ Q102</div><div>♥ KQJ</div><div>♦ K943</div><div>♣ 964</div></div><div><div>♠ K754</div><div>♥ A</div><div>♦ J85</div><div>♣ AKQ73</div></div><div><div>♠ 863</div><div>♥ 1072</div><div>♦ Q1072</div><div>♣ J85</div></div><div><table><tr><th colspan="3">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>9</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>17</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr></table></div></div> | HCP | | | 9 | | | 11 | 17 | | 3 | | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | - | - | - | - | - | | S | - | - | - | - | - | | E | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 | | W | 4 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 | | <div>Board 22 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <div>After a few tricky and eventful boards, here’s a quiet one!</div> <div>West seems sure to end up in 3NT which has nine top tricks and he can easily garner a tenth by playing a diamond towards his hand, intending to put in the ♦9 if South plays low.</div> <div>Case rests! Ten tricks should secure a slight average plus and anything more or less – however unlikely – will score either very well or very badly, depending on which side you’re on.</div> | West | North | East | South | | | 1♣ | Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3NT | All Pass | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 4 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1♣ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2NT | Pass | 3NT | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <div><div><div>♠ A1062</div><div>♥ 109</div><div>♦ J98</div><div>♣ 9762</div></div><div><div>♠ 874</div><div>♥ K854</div><div>♦ AKQ</div><div>♣ KQ8</div></div><div><div>♠ J3</div><div>♥ AQ763</div><div>♦ 1062</div><div>♣ AJ4</div></div><div><div>♠ KQ95</div><div>♥ J2</div><div>♦ 7543</div><div>♣ 1053</div></div><div><table><tr><th colspan="3">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>5</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>12</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="7">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr></table></div></div> | HCP | | | 5 | | | 17 | 12 | | 6 | | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | N | - | - | - | - | - | | S | - | - | - | - | - | | E | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | | W | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | | <div>Board 23 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <div>This ought to be another quiet one, since even in the unlikely event of either East or West making a slam try, the lack of spade controls will quickly become apparent.</div> <div>What’s more, declarer in 4♥ or 5♥ can table his hand at trick 1 – providing he remembers the immortal words “drawing trumps” - as two spade losers are unavoidable. Come to think of it, any errant declarer in 6♥ might as well do just the same thing (though the temptation to soldier on in the fond hope of a friendly revoke is hard to resist).</div> <div>Finally, any who can’t resist playing games in no-trumps will be heroes or zeros depending on the opening lead!</div> | West | North | East | South | | | | Pass | 1♥ | Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3♣ | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1♥ | Pass | 2NT | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3♣ | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

♠ A7

♥ QJ109

♦ J7543

♣ 93

♠ Q10864

♥ 62

♦ 9

♣ J6542

♠ K532

♥ A854

♦ 10

♣ AK107

♠ J9

♥ K73

♦ AKQ862

♣ Q8

| HCP | |
|-----|----|
| 8 | 14 |
| 3 | 15 |

| Makeable contracts | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
| N | - | 3 | 2 | - | 1 |
| S | - | 3 | 2 | - | 1 |
| E | 4 | - | - | 4 | - |
| W | 4 | - | - | 4 | - |

Board 24 : Dealer West : Love all

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|----------|
| Pass | Pass | 1♣ | 1♦ |
| 1♠ | 3♦ | 4♠ | 5♦ |
| Pass | Pass | Dbl | All Pass |

Something a bit more fruity after a lull! Not everyone will agree with all the bids suggested but the end result will be relatively common, I feel. West needs to say something at his second turn and 1♠ is the enterprising option, bolstered by the known club fit. East should insist on game now – just look at those controls! Finally, when South judges to push on with 5♦ opposite partner’s pre-empt, West might feel constrained to bid 5♠ in view of his unsuitability for defence but this would be a mistake: if partner’s 4♠ bid is also based primarily on shape he can make the bid for himself. Here, however, he certainly knows what to do! It all comes down to partnership trust. Those who do well to reach 4♠ will be disappointed to net only +300 from 5♦^x. It’s difficult to predict how well this will score.

♠ 94

♥ QJ987

♦ AJ1074

♣ 8

♠ Q1083

♥ 63

♦ K96

♣ AJ62

♠ J762

♥ K105

♦ 5

♣ KQ973

♠ AK5

♥ A42

♦ Q832

♣ 1054

| HCP | |
|-----|----|
| 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 13 |

| Makeable contracts | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
| N | - | 5 | 5 | - | 2 |
| S | - | 5 | 5 | - | 2 |
| E | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |
| W | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |

Board 25 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| 1NT | 2♦ | Pass | 2♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

This auction seems destined to occur on a regular basis, provided E/W don’t make the mistake of edging into it and spurring the opposition on: an 8-count opposite a weak no-trump doesn’t suggest vigorous action despite the two good suits.

Those who have a system bid to show a weak red two-suiter will reap a rich harvest here: South looks at the double fit and the excellent controls and suddenly his club holding becomes less worrisome. Even an invitational sequence will probably end in game being bid.

Many Souths will end up red-faced after writing 200 in the plus column. Never mind, they can point to the fact that the diamond finesse is right and leave it at that. Next board please!

♠ 963

♥ A852

♦ 1084

♣ 1075

♠ J5

♥ -

♦ AKJ632

♣ KJ962

♠ AKQ1042

♥ 1076

♦ Q97

♣ 3

♠ 87

♥ KQJ943

♦ 5

♣ AQ84

| HCP | |
|-----|----|
| 4 | 11 |
| 13 | 12 |

| Makeable contracts | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
| N | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| S | - | - | 2 | - | - |
| E | 2 | 6 | - | 6 | - |
| W | 2 | 6 | - | 6 | - |

Board 26 : Dealer East : All vulnerable

| West | North | East | South |
|------|----------|------|-------|
| | | 1♠ | 2♥ |
| 3♦ | 3♥ | 3♠ | 4♥ |
| 4♠ | All Pass | | |

OK, 6♠ is a doddle but it won’t be bid regularly. Those who do get there are assured of a big score. Those who play in game and make sure of their thirteenth trick after a non-club lead will probably still enjoy a decent score. It’s important that East finds a free bid of 3♠ but this should be normal considering the fine suit and minor-suit holdings, with partner surely short in hearts.

As for N/S, they’re partly in the hands of the opposition but can certainly help themselves: North’s heart raise looks dubious but it’s right to bid with a presumed 10-card fit and it encourages South to continue the barrage. Note that if South fails to bid 4♥, West may take it upon himself to make the same bid and that’s the best chance his side has of reaching the slam.

♠ 52
♥ K64
♦ J109854
♣ 108

♠ J ♠ AQ1097643
♥ AJ8732 ♥ Q
♦ 63 ♦ K7
♣ KQ97 ♣ 32

♠ K8
♥ 1095
♦ AQ2
♣ AJ654

| HCP |
|------------|
| 4 |
| 11 11 |
| 14 |

| Makeable contracts | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|--|
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | |
| N | - | 1 | - | - | 3 | |
| S | - | 1 | - | - | 3 | |
| E | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | |
| W | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | |

Board 27 : Dealer South : Love all

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|----------|
| | | | 1NT |
| 2♥ | Pass | 4♠ | All Pass |

The auction above is likely to be repeated time and again. What red-blooded bridge player would fail to overcall 2♥ with the West hand? Whilst some Norths who have Lebensohl in their armoury might (just) be persuaded to essay 2NT, followed by 3♦ over partner's forced 3♣, that seems an irrelevance because no bridge player will fail to bash 4♠ with those East cards, particularly once partner has found a bid?

+50 will be a pretty average score for N/S because declarer in 4♠ lacks sufficient entries to establish and then enjoy long hearts, despite the friendly 3-3 break. So it takes a trump lead (surely not!) or ♦A or ♣A to let the game through. That will happen here or there. Those E/Ws who bring in +140 can count themselves fortunate. Those with +420 even more so.

♠ AJ762
♥ -
♦ 752
♣ Q9876

♠ 10953 ♠ 4
♥ 987632 ♥ AJ4
♦ - ♦ AK9863
♣ K53 ♣ J102

♠ KQ8
♥ KQ105
♦ QJ104
♣ A4

| HCP |
|-----------|
| 7 |
| 3 13 |
| 17 |

| Makeable contracts | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|--|
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | |
| N | 2 | 1 | - | 3 | 3 | |
| S | 2 | 1 | - | 3 | 3 | |
| E | - | - | 1 | - | - | |
| W | - | - | 1 | - | - | |

Board 28 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| Pass | Pass | 1♦ | 1NT |
| Pass | 2♥ | Pass | 2♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

This is another illustration of the benefits of staying low at pairs scoring. On a (very) good day South will hold nothing to speak of in hearts and something like AQJ10 in diamonds, to go with his KQ and another spade and Ace and another club, diamonds won't break 6-0 and ♣K will still be onside. Then 4♠ will roll home with ease. However, this is so unlikely as to be not worth serious consideration.

If North is able to bid 3♣ after partner's forced 2♠ as merely a try for game he might be tempted but you can see what will happen: South will view his maximum 1NT and ♣A as enough to bid game and 4♠ will not be a fun contract. After a heart lead even 3♠ is pretty horrid: it'll be tempting to throw a diamond from dummy rather than ruff but even then, some very heavy breathing will ensue. +140 will be a great score.

♠ A86
♥ K75
♦ A85
♣ AJ104

♠ K54 ♠ 10972
♥ QJ96 ♥ 84
♦ Q73 ♦ KJ96
♣ 973 ♣ Q65

♠ QJ3
♥ A1032
♦ 1042
♣ K82

| HCP |
|----------|
| 16 |
| 8 6 |
| 10 |

| Makeable contracts | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|--|
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | |
| N | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | |
| S | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | |
| E | - | - | - | - | - | |
| W | - | - | - | - | - | |

Board 29 : Dealer North : All vulnerable

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| | 1♣ | Pass | 1♥ |
| Pass | 1NT | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass | | | |

No prizes for guessing the popular contract on this one.

The end result is a different matter. First there is the question of opening lead: there is always a temptation to prefer a major to a minor, particularly where the minor risks giving a trick away, so some will favour ♠10 (or 9♠ if playing strong 10s), which gives declarer some respite. He now has eight tricks but a guess between playing for hearts 3-3 and finding the Lady in clubs in order to clock up a ninth. Most will temporise by ducking a heart. When a spade comes back declarer is no further forward: cashing ♥K and ♥A brings no comfort, and exiting a heart achieves nothing – so, run ♣J (hooray!) or play to the ♣K and finesse ♣J on the way back (sob!). It's a lovely game or a horrid one, depending on your luck!

| <p>♠ 9873 ♥ 10952 ♦ 5 ♣ J976</p> <p>♠ QJ10 ♠ K54 ♥ 76 ♥ AKQ43 ♦ AKQ ♦ J9762 ♣ A10542 ♣ -</p> <p>♠ A62 ♥ J8 ♦ 10843 ♣ KQ83</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 1 | | 16 | 13 | 10 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | - | - | - | - | S | - | - | - | - | - | E | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | W | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | <p>Board 30 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3NT</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>2♦ is almost universally played as forcing nowadays, after partner is able to respond at the two level, and West will surely waste no time in bidding 3NT. The less messing about the better: if a fourth-suit 2♠ elicits 3♦ rather than 2NT the club shortage in East's hand becomes easier to diagnose, meaning that there is a greater chance of North finding the killing club lead. Not that such a lead beats the contract but it certainly holds declare to nine tricks and a relatively poor score.</p> <p>Without a club lead declarer has ample time to set up two spade tricks and claim a satisfying +460. The difference between +460 and +400 is sure to be substantial in terms of match points. +460 will be a much-shared top and +400 a fairly lonely bottom.</p> | West | North | East | South | | | 1♥ | Pass | 2♣ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass | | | | | | |
|---|----------|------|----------|---|----|----|----|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|-------|------|-------|------|------|-----|----------|----|------|----|------|-----|----------|----|------|-----|------|-----|----------|
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1♥ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♣ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3NT | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ A742 ♥ Q82 ♦ 876 ♣ Q106</p> <p>♠ - ♠ KQJ106 ♥ J105 ♥ K643 ♦ KQJ10942 ♦ A5 ♣ KJ8 ♣ 94</p> <p>♠ 9853 ♥ A97 ♦ 3 ♣ A7532</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>8</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>3</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 8 | | 11 | 13 | 8 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | - | - | - | - | - | S | 1 | - | - | - | - | E | - | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | W | - | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | <p>Board 31 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>Perhaps this is a little fanciful. Many if not most Wests will bid 3♦ rather than 2NT on the third round, placing any NT contract in the wrong hand, because after a low club lead from South, 3NT by East has no chance against careful defence. West must realise this and rely on his club holding, praying that partner has ♦A. The same contract by West requires pin-point play. After a club to the ace and a club return West must play the king, blocking the suit (North can't unblock without promoting declarer's jack). The seven rounds of diamonds are then played, discarding three spades and two hearts from dummy, followed by ♥J, run to the ace if not covered: either way, a heart or a spade will furnish the ninth trick. Many congratulations to anyone bidding and making this. He'll certainly deserve his top score!</p> | West | North | East | South | | | | Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass | 2♥ | Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 1 | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♦ | Pass | 2♥ | Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2NT | Pass | 3NT | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>♠ Q874 ♥ Q103 ♦ KJ5 ♣ K93</p> <p>♠ 652 ♠ J109 ♥ J97 ♥ A865 ♦ A62 ♦ Q1093 ♣ 8742 ♣ AJ</p> <p>♠ AK3 ♥ K42 ♦ 874 ♣ Q1065</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr><tr><td>11</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table> | HCP | | 11 | | 5 | 12 | 12 | | Makeable contracts | | | | | | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | N | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | S | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | E | - | - | - | - | - | W | - | - | - | - | - | <p>Board 32 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>1NT</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>N/S seem to have little chance of playing a contract of their own unless the opponents are playing a strong NT (when they'll probably play in NTs themselves) but defending won't be a problem, especially against the likely 1NT opener. And E/W are vulnerable. The minimum expectation after defending 1NT by E/W is the magic 200 but there will be better NS scores than that on the traveller for sure.</p> <p>Supposing – just supposing – North finds a general-purpose double after the auction stated! Stranger things have happened and it's not a stupid action for an aggressive player to take. It only loses when partner is weak and balanced: strong and balanced, as here, he'll leave it in with joy in his heart; weak and unbalanced he'll bid something and hopefully survive. What a way for E/W to finish if this is their last board and circumstances conspire against them!</p> | West | North | East | South | Pass | Pass | 1NT | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Makeable contracts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | North | East | South | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pass | Pass | 1NT | All Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |