

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July

This is a brief report of how the bidding might go. Players styles for opening at the two, three and four level and the strength of overcall can vary quite considerably.

### BOARD 1

D 1	<b>N North</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>
	♠ J62 ♥ Q107652 ♦ A82 ♣ 7	3NT	2♥	X P	P P
<b>W West</b>		<b>E East</b>			
♠ Q103 ♥ AK ♦ 105 ♣ AJ10962		♠ AK5 ♥ J9 ♦ KQ64 ♣ KQ53			
	<b>S South</b>				
	♠ 9874 ♥ 843 ♦ J973 ♣ 84				
		3NT W			NS: 0 EW: 0

North has 6 to 10 points – 6 Hearts with two honours (Yes, the Ten is an honour) so opens 2♥. It is not that great a suit so I would expect quite a few players to PASS. If in doubt whether to open or not look at the Vulnerability. Not Vulnerable means that you can be a bit bolder. When Vulnerable be a bit more timid.

Double is take-out. Short in Hearts, and at least 3 cards in all the other suits. West will be forced to bid with ZERO points, so West MUST show they have a decent hand. They have 14 points so they know there is enough points for Game. They have two high Hearts to stop North taking lots of Heart tricks, so No Trumps look a good choice.

East has a very good hand so I would expect the more advanced players to go on to bid Slam.

BOARD 2

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; text-align: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">2</span>  <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">D</span> </div>	<b>N</b> North ♠ 852 ♥ KJ963 ♦ Q1086 ♣ K	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="background-color: #e0e0e0;">W</th> <th style="background-color: #e0e0e0;">N</th> <th style="background-color: #e0e0e0;">E</th> <th style="background-color: #e0e0e0;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S			1♣	P	2♣	P	P	P
	W	N	E	S										
		1♣	P											
2♣	P	P	P											
<b>W</b> West ♠ 74 ♥ Q7 ♦ KJ73 ♣ Q10643		<b>E</b> East ♠ AQ10 ♥ A5 ♦ 954 ♣ AJ872												
	<b>S</b> South ♠ KJ963 ♥ 10842 ♦ A2 ♣ 95	2♣ E      NS: 0 EW: 0												

East is a bit too strong to open 1NT so opens 1♣.

Some Souths will overcall 1♠. The suit is not that great, but it does take up bidding space. The Vulnerability should but you off. When Vulnerable be more timid.

West bids 2♣ showing 4+ Clubs and 6 to 9 points.

East knows they have between 21 and 24 points together. Not enough for game so passes.

BOARD 3

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; background-color: #e0f0ff;">3</div>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; background-color: #e0f0ff;">D</div> </div>	<b>N</b> North ♠ KQ74 ♥ QJ1076 ♦ Q9 ♣ K6	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">W</th> <th style="background-color: #0000ff; color: white;">N</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">E</th> <th style="background-color: #0000ff; color: white;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	1♣	1♥	1NT	P	2NT	P	P	P
	W	N	E	S										
1♣	1♥	1NT	P											
2NT	P	P	P											
<b>W</b> West ♠ AJ10 ♥ K9 ♦ A82 ♣ AJ1093	<b>E</b> East ♠ 8 ♥ A43 ♦ 1076543 ♣ Q72	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>2NT E</td> <td>NS: 0 EW: 0</td> </tr> </table>	2NT E	NS: 0 EW: 0										
2NT E	NS: 0 EW: 0													
	<b>S</b> South ♠ 96532 ♥ 852 ♦ KJ ♣ 854													

West has a balanced hand with 17 points so opens their longest suit.

North overcalls 1♥.

East's bid of 1NT has a slightly different meaning now that North has overcalled. It should show 6 to 9 points and a high card in Hearts to stop North taking the first 5+ Heart tricks.

West knows they have between 23 and 26 points so invites partner to bid 3NT with 8 or 9 points.

East declines.

BOARD 4

	<b>N</b> North	<b>W</b> <b>N</b> <b>E</b> <b>S</b>
	♠ K932 ♥ 653 ♦ A2 ♣ A865	P P P P
<b>W</b> West		<b>E</b> East
♠ J106 ♥ J2 ♦ K96 ♣ KQJ93		♠ A74 ♥ K974 ♦ J10753 ♣ 2
	<b>S</b> South	Passed out
	♠ Q85 ♥ AQ108 ♦ Q84 ♣ 1074	

I see some players did decide to bid on this hand with mixed results. If I was going to open the West hand I would open 1NT.

## BOARD 5

When you have an 8 card major fit you nearly always want to play in the major EXCEPT when the hands are completely balanced.

<b>D</b>		<b>N North</b>		<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>
5		♠ AQ2		1♥		P	2♥
		♥ K932		P	2NT	P	3NT
		♦ J73		P	P	P	
		♣ AK10					
<b>W West</b>						<b>E East</b>	
♠ K653						♠ J104	
♥ Q						♥ J1054	
♦ 1094						♦ AQ65	
♣ J9764						♣ 85	
		<b>S South</b>					
		♠ 987					
		♥ A876					
		♦ K82					
		♣ Q32					
				3NT N		NS: 0 EW: 0	

With very balanced hands it can be hard to make game even if you have 26 points between you. It is possible on this hand but far from easy.

**BOARD 6** Did you bid a follows?

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">6</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">D</span> </div>	<b>N</b> North	<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>
	♠ A853 ♥ 106 ♦ KQ985 ♣ Q8	2♥	P	1NT	P
<b>W</b> West		<b>E</b> East			
♠ J ♥ AKQ952 ♦ 6 ♣ 96432		♠ K104 ♥ 843 ♦ AJ1043 ♣ AJ			
	<b>S</b> South				
	♠ Q9762 ♥ J7 ♦ 72 ♣ K1075				
		2♥ W		NS: 0 EW: 0	

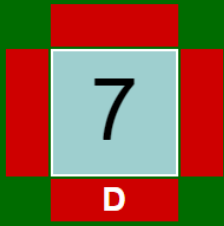
Full marks if you remembered to open 1NT.

2♥ show ZERO to 10 points and 5 + Hearts. Do NOT bid any more partner.

The West hand is a bit better than your normal 10 points with 2 Singletons so the more aggressive bidders will bid game.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">6</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">D</span> </div>	<b>N</b> North	<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>
	♠ A853 ♥ 106 ♦ KQ985 ♣ Q8	4♥	P	1NT	P
<b>W</b> West		<b>E</b> East			
♠ J ♥ AKQ952 ♦ 6 ♣ 96432		♠ K104 ♥ 843 ♦ AJ1043 ♣ AJ			
	<b>S</b> South				
	♠ Q9762 ♥ J7 ♦ 72 ♣ K1075				
		4♥ W		NS: 0 EW: 0	

BOARD 7

	<b>N</b> North	<b>W</b> <b>N</b> <b>E</b> <b>S</b>
	♠ KJ97632 ♥ 743 ♦ 4 ♣ J10	P    2♠    X    P 3♦    3♠    P    P P
<b>W</b> West	<b>S</b> South	<b>E</b> East
♠ A ♥ 96 ♦ J76532 ♣ 6543		♠ 105 ♥ KQ102 ♦ AK9 ♣ AQ82
		3♠ N                  NS: 0 EW: 0

Did you remember to open 1NT with the South hand?

2♠ shows ZERO to 10 points with 5+ Spades

Double was taken out. Short in Spades and at least 3 cards in all the other suits.

West had to bid their longest suit even if they had ZERO points. North with a 7 cards suit decides to bid one more.

BOARD 8

	<b>N</b> North ♠ J62 ♥ J3 ♦ K8 ♣ QJ10962	W    N    E    S P    P    1♠   P P    P
	<b>W</b> West ♠ 103 ♥ 97542 ♦ J65 ♣ K75	<b>E</b> East ♠ Q8754 ♥ AQ6 ♦ AQ43 ♣ 8
	<b>S</b> South ♠ AK9 ♥ K108 ♦ 10972 ♣ A43	1♠ E                  NS: 0 EW: 0

If you are wondering why South did not bid 1NT, an overall of 1NT shows a good 15 or 16 to 18 points



BOARD 9

D		N North		W	N	E	S
9		♠ Q2			1♣	1♥	1♠
		♥ 92		P	2♦	P	2♠
		♦ AK75		P	3♠	P	P
		♣ AK654		P			
W	West			E	East		
♠ 9876				♠ A			
♥ K10				♥ AQJ853			
♦ 42				♦ J1096			
♣ QJ872				♣ 109			
		S South					
		♠ KJ10543					
		♥ 764					
		♦ Q83					
		♣ 3					
				3♠ S		NS: 0 EW: 0	

If you follow the Bridge lessons accurately you will overcall 2♥ with the East hand to show 6 Hearts and 11 to 15 points. Many play that though as showing a weak had with 6 Hearts and 6 to 10 points.

The 2♦ bid goes past the barrier and shows 16+ points.

East may well bid 2♥ but will know from the bidding that partners does not have much.

2♠ Shows a six card suit. North tries for game but South with a minimum 6 points declines.

BOARD 10

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">10</div> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-left: 5px;">D</div> </div>	<b>N</b> North ♠ Q98 ♥ 52 ♦ K972 ♣ K954	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr style="background-color: red; color: white;"> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S			1NT	P	P	P		
	W	N	E	S										
		1NT	P											
P	P													
<b>W</b> West ♠ 532 ♥ 7643 ♦ A4 ♣ A1032	<b>E</b> East ♠ AK64 ♥ QJ98 ♦ 853 ♣ Q6	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>1NT E</td> <td>NS: 0 EW: 0</td> </tr> </table>	1NT E	NS: 0 EW: 0										
1NT E	NS: 0 EW: 0													
	<b>S</b> South ♠ J107 ♥ AK10 ♦ QJ106 ♣ J87													

East opens 1NT and nobody else has anything to say.

BOARD 11 - The bidding on this hand could vary a lot

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="background-color: white; color: black; padding: 2px;">11</div> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-left: 5px;">D</div> </div>	<b>N</b> North ♠ 109743 ♥ J1087 ♦ 5 ♣ 762	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S				
	W	N	E	S						
<b>W</b> West ♠ 6 ♥ AKQ54 ♦ A83 ♣ KJ109	<b>E</b> East ♠ J8 ♥ 92 ♦ KQJ762 ♣ 843									
	<b>S</b> South ♠ AKQ52 ♥ 63 ♦ 1094 ♣ AQ5									

## BOARD 12

Despite the Vulnerability it is reasonable for North to overcall 1♠ with such a solid suit. In theory it could be doubled and give East West 800 but with such a good suit that will almost never happen. If they don't overcall East West will make 3NT on a Diamond lead.

Note that a rebid of 2♣ by West shows a weak opening hand. West needs to bid 3♣ to show their extra strength.

If North does overcall, 1♠ the bidding could vary quite a bit.

D 12	<b>N</b> North	<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>
	♠ KQJ106 ♥ J1065 ♦ 10 ♣ Q102	1♣ P 3♣ P P P	1♥ P 3NT P		
<b>W</b> West		<b>E</b> East			
♠ 97 ♥ K3 ♦ AQ7 ♣ AKJ976		♠ A852 ♥ Q9742 ♦ K94 ♣ 8			
	<b>S</b> South				
	♠ 43 ♥ A8 ♦ J86532 ♣ 543				
				3NT E	NS: 0 EW: 0

Duncan the Bad