Sunday $14^{\text {th }}$ July 2024
See how you bid here https://oceania.realbridge.online/du.html?p=240714222601\&q=SupportedPlay14JulyP
Here is the bidding from some of the hands on Sunday.

## BOARD 1

On some hands I expect everyone to be in the same contract. This is the type of hand where I would expect quite a few different results.

Let's look at some of the bidding that I would expect. Here is some bidding that follows all the rules in the NZ Beginners lessons.


From the lessons, when West opens 1 they could have anywhere between 12 and 19 points so it is important that East makes a bid. They do not have enough points to bid so they need to make make the RESPONDERS bid of LAST RESORT - 1NT.

## NOTE

1) Openers bid of 1 NT is the first bid to consider when you have 12 to 14 points.
2) Responders bid of 1NT is the LAST bid to consider when you have 6 to 9 points.

The bid of 1NT should show Clubs. Why?
East could not support Diamonds, or bid Hearts or Spades... so they must have Clubs.
$2 \star$ making $2 \star$ - scores 90 .


You would not open 1NT with the West hand, but when East bids 1NT showing Clubs, 1NT may be a reasonable place to play. This worked out well when Alison made 3NT scoring 150.

## BOARD 1C

The RULE of $\mathbf{2 0}$-This is a rule you might use to open with less that $\mathbf{1 2}$ points.


The lessons say you need 12 points to open, but Linda opened with 11 points. Why?
Enter the RULE of 20.
Add the length of your two longest suits to the points you have and if the total comes to 20 it is OK to open.
This will usually work well but NOT always.
5 Spades +4 Hearts +11 points $=20 \ldots$ just enough to open. It is best that the points are in the long suits which they are on this hand.

So sometimes you might open with less than 12 points.
Sometimes you might open 1 of a suit with 20 or even 21 points. Why? Please ask you teacher.

| $\times$ ¢ $x^{81}$ | -10432 | $\mathrm{N}^{\text {Nicola scholes }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bd 3, Dir S | - J |  |
| $3 \mathrm{NT}+2 \mathrm{~N}$ | -KQJ6 |  |
| W. ${ }^{\text {omuraph }}$ | - A953 |  |
| - 85 |  | - KQ97 |
| -10742 |  | -93 |
| - A53 |  | -10842 |
| *Q872 |  | -K64 |
| $\square 0$ | - AJ6 | ${ }^{10}$ |
| $\square 0$ | -AKQ865 |  |
| 7 | -97 |  |
| keren Schaal | *J10 |  |

South open their longest suit, $1 \vee$.
North should bid $1+$ which shows $4+$ Spades and 6 to $20+$ points.
South should NOT bid $2 \downarrow$ as this shows a minimum hand with 12 to 14 or maybe 15 points.
They should bid $3 \vee$ to show a $6+$ card suit and (15) 16,17 points.
What should North do? They know they have at least 26 points between the two hands so they should bid game. 3NT looks right now as there may only be a 7 card Heart fit.

However $4 \vee$ is a very reasonable option as well.


BOARD 4 The RULE of 20 again


West has 5 good Hearts +4 Spades +11 points $=20 \ldots$ just enough to open. The ten of Hearts is also a useful card.

East has a suit to bid at the 1 level so should NOT bid 1 NT.
West has a minimum hand ( 12 to 14 points) so just bids $2 \boldsymbol{A}$.


North is FAR too strong to open 1NT so opens their longest suit.
When South bids 1NT showing 6 to 9 points, North according to the lessons, should raise to 3NT with 18 to 19 points. For those that work out the combined points you may end up in game with only 24 points, but that does not mean that it will not make 3 NT . It just means it will be harder to make 3 NT . If you bid only 2 NT showing 16 to 17 points your partner will certainly not bid 3 NT with 7 points or maybe not, even with 8 points.

Are you wondering why the 2 NT rebid does not show 15 to 17 points? It is because the 1 NT response shows a maximum of 9 points. If you have 15 points and the most your partner has, is 9 points there is not enough to make game. Even worse, if you your partner has 6 points and you have 15, they may be struggling to make 1 NT , let alone 2 NT .

However NOT all 18 points are the same. The North hand is a very poor 18 points. Why? The extremely balanced $4,3,3,3$ shape is not so good, and the fact that there are no Tens, Nines and Eights makes it worse.

So I would expect to also see this auction:

| W | N | $\mathbf{E}$ | $\mathbf{S}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | $P$ | $P$ |
| $P$ | 1v | $P$ | $1 N T$ |
| $P$ | 2NT | $P$ | $3 N T$ |
| $P$ | $P$ | $P$ |  |

South should make 5 Diamonds, 3 Clubs and the Ace of Spades to make at least 3NT, and maybe 1 or 2 overtricks.

BOARD 7 - Did you as South remember to open 1NT?


Should North bid with only 5 points? Yes. South is very unlike to make 1NT. The bid of 2d shows ZERO to 10 points and $5+$ Spades. Should North bid 2 Diamonds or 2 Spades? If 2 make it scores 110; if $2 \downarrow$ makes it scores 90 . Why not try for the better score!

As it happens, with the 1 NT opener having 4 Diamonds and only 2 Spades, Diamonds would play a lot better.
East's Double is Take out. Short in Spades and at least 3 cards in all the other suits. Please bid something partner.

West bids their longest suit.

Duncan the Bad

