Link https://oceania.realbridge.online/du.html?p=240818223104&q=SupportedPlay18Aug.

New Learning on Board 9? Double of 1NT.

BOARD 1 was one of those hands were the bidding could have taken a lot of different lines.

If the bidding came around to me in fourth position would I open this hand?

Answer: Yes I would.

It follows two rules. One I have mentioned previously.

A) The Rule of 20. Add the length of you two longest suit to the amount of points you have. If the total comes to 20 you can open. It is not compulsory.

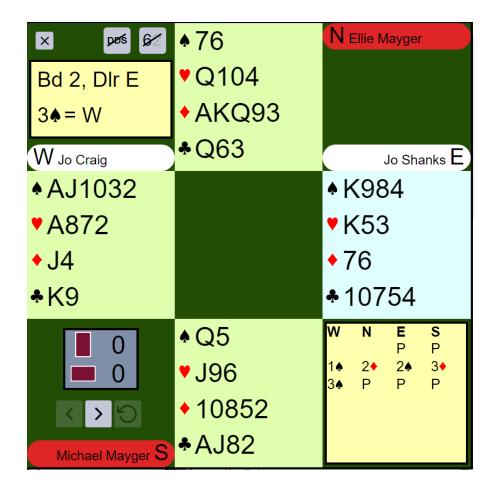
6 Spades + 4 Hearts + 10 points = 20.

B) The Rule of 15 (Pearson points). If deciding whether to bid in 4th seat or not, add the amount of points to you Spades. If it comes to 15, you should open.

6 Spades + 10 points = 16.



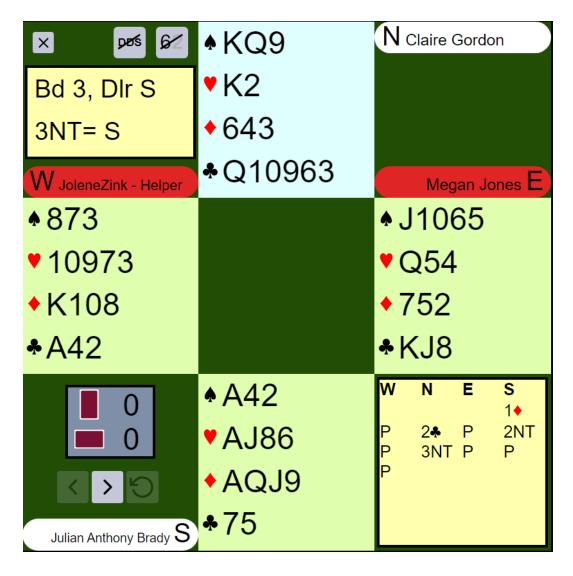
BOARD 2



The bidding is self explanatory here. Two thing to note. An overcall of 1NT by North shows (15)16 to 18 points. North should be cautious overcalling with a balanced hand when Vulnerable and when partner has already passed. The quality of the Diamonds here is the redeeming factor.

A 1NT opener by South would show a balanced 12 to 14 points. With a balanced hand with 15 to 17 points open a suit and then rebid NT at the lowest level. With a balanced hand with 18 to 19 points open a suit and then rebid NT one level higher than needed.

If however partner responds 1NT showing 6 to 9 points it is **NOT** right to bid 2NT with 15 points. Even if partner has a maximum of 9 you will have trouble making game with only 24 points.



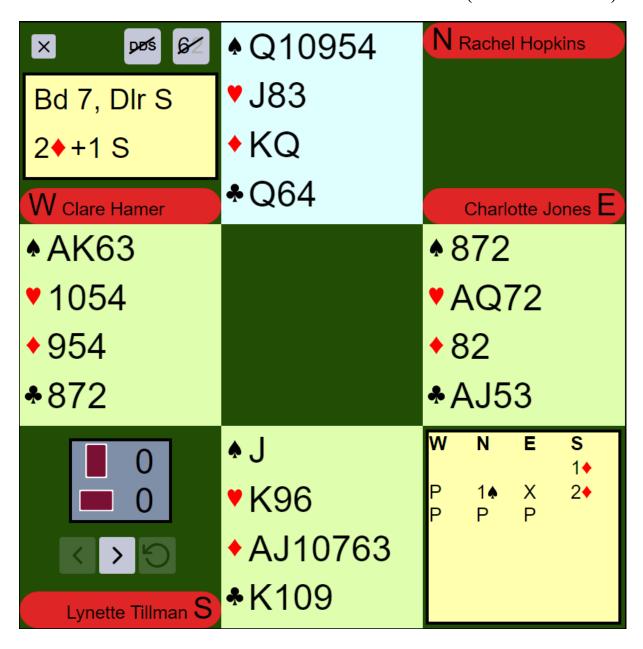
South, with two 4 card suits, open the lowest, and rebids No Trumps at the lowest level to show a balanced 15 to 17 points.

BOARD 4 - Did you remember to open 1NT with the West hand?



If you opened 1♣ you probably played in 1♣. There is an alternative to North's bid of 2♣. See board 9.

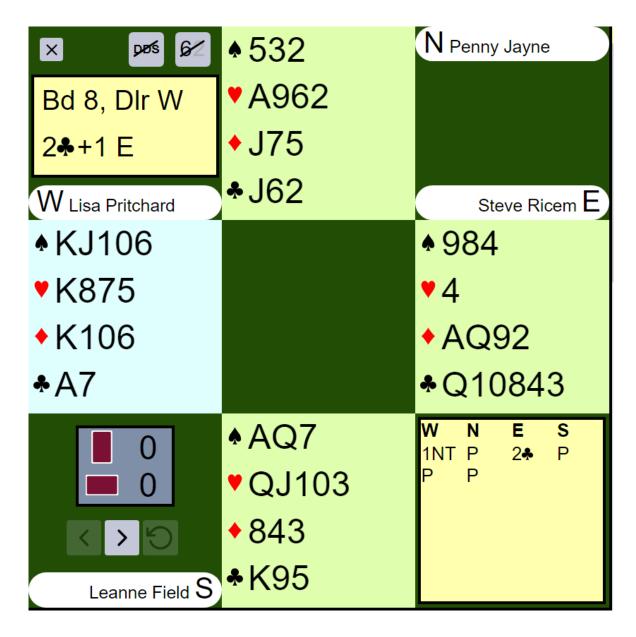
When East Doubles in this situation it shows at least 4 cards in the unbid suits (Hearts and Diamonds).



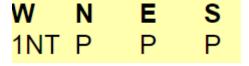
Fortunately West does not have to bid when South bids 2. What should West bid if South passes for some reason?

Answer: 2♠ That is one of partners suits and hopefully they will have 5 of them. Not this time though. Do not bid 2♠. That is the opponents suit.

If you don't play Stayman, you can bid 2♣ to show 5+ Clubs and ZERO to 10 points.



If you play Stayman you have no options with the East hand. You have to PASS.



BOARD 9 - New Learning

I have to make an apology to some of the members of the Kerikeri Club. I remembered there is no mention in the beginner lessons of doubling 1NT to show 15 or 16+ points. It is an important bit of bidding to learn though, so here it is now.

Firstly what do you open this hand?

Answer 1NT.

Well Done. Most people bid this correctly.

Q2Q864A1076A63

There are two bid advantages of opening 1NT with 12 to 14 points.

It describes one of the worst type of hands you can open with, within a small margin. Now when you open say 1♣ or 1♦ partner will know you have an unbalanced hand or at least 15 points.

The other advantage is that it makes it harder for the opposition to bid over the top of. They will have to overcall at the two level or higher, and they cannot use a take-out double because there is no suit to take it out off.

So what does Double of 1NT mean?

Your opposition has opened 1NT. What do you bid?

The correct answer is DOUBLE. This is **NOT** a take out double. There is no suit to take-out of. This is a penalty Double, showing 15/16+points. Trying to collect a good score when the opposition go down in a contract

If North South stay in 1NT they will go 2 off, not Vulnerable, scoring 300 for East West.

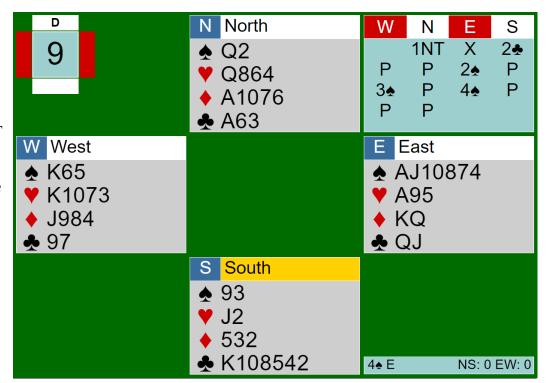
If North South were Vulnerable and went 2 off that would score East West 500.

AJ10874A95KQAQJ

This should be the complete auction.

It is important that South is able to bid to escape playing in 1NT Doubled.

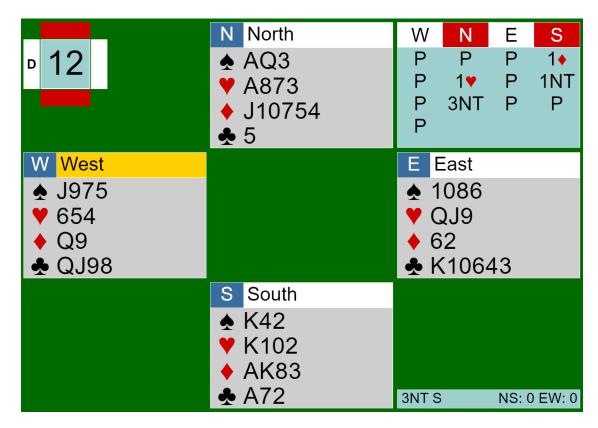
East West can take the first 8 tricks if North stays in 1NT doubled.



What do you bid with this hand?

You could use the RULE of 20 and open 1♦. When you use this rule it is best if the points are in your long suits. When 6 of the 11 points are not in you long suits I would recommend looking at passing.





When South opens 1, it is important that North still looks for a major fit. It is always easier to make game in a major rather than a minor, and it scores more. North could bid a safe 5, here, but playing match point pairs at the Club, most will play in the slightly more risky 3NT.

What if North opens 1♦?

What do you do with this hand?

You partner has opened 1♦ and you have 17 points. Maybe we can make Slam?

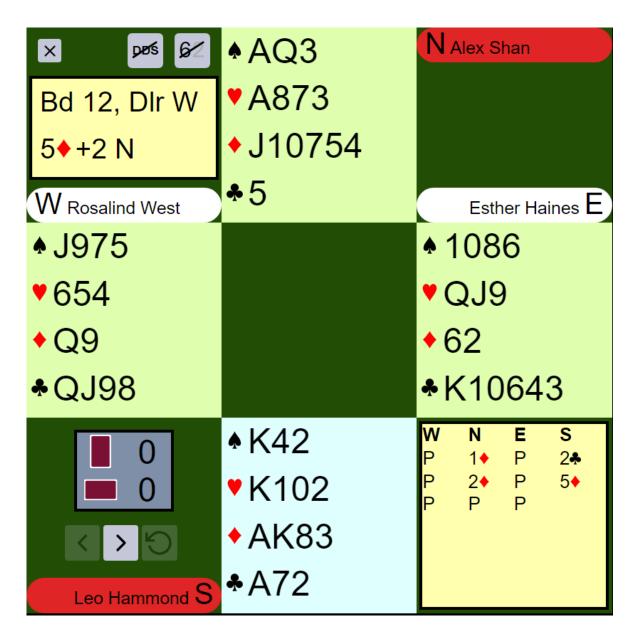
How can we find out?

A common error is to ask for Aces. This will tell you if you have all the Aces but it well not tell you if you are going to make a Slam. I have played in 1NT with 4 Aces and gone 2 off.



So what do you do?

Well done to Youth player Leo Hammond from Christchurch for finding the best bid. See next page.



Leo made up a bid of 2♣. There is almost no way this bid can go wrong. If partner supports you in Clubs you can easily go back to Diamonds.

Why bid $2\clubsuit$? To see what partner rebids.

When partner rebids 2♦ you know they have an unbalanced hand with 11 to 14 (15) points.

6♦ is just possible, but far from a certainty so South choose the safe 5♦.

Yes you can make 6♦ on this hand as it happens.

Duncan the Bad