

Sunday 11th August 2024

Real Bridge Link <https://oceania.realbridge.online/du.html?p=240811223007&q=OnlinePlay11AugPlayer>

There is some new learning on Board 2B. Stayman Convention on Board 6B and Board 8B.

There were a lot of very tricky hands to bid correctly.

BOARD 4

What do you open this hand?

PASS

Firstly there is only 11 points.

Secondly, this is the worst hand shape 4-3-3-3.

Queens are not worth much unless they have some support.

The Ace is well worth 4 points. QJT8 is well worth 3 points.

Q92 and Q42 are not worth 4 points unless partner can support them.

♠ A87
♥ Q92
♦ Q42
♣ QJ108

BOARD 5

What do you open this hand?

If you have been reading this articles you will have opened 1NT.

For those that opened 1♦ you are about to show a 6+ card Diamond suit.

♠ A98
♥ K107
♦ KQ542
♣ Q10

W	N	E	S
	1♦	P	1♥
P	2♦		

You did not open 1NT.

So you must have an unbalanced hand with 12 to 14 points. You don't have another suit with Hearts, Spades or Clubs so you must have 6+ Diamonds.

BUT, this bidding is very different

This bidding will show 5+ Diamonds.

W	N	E	S
P	1♦	P	1♠
P	2♦		

Now North can have an unbalanced hand with 5 Diamonds and 4 Hearts (or 6+ Diamonds). Remember North cannot bid 2♥ as that would go past the BARRIER showing a strong hand.

BOARD 1 – For new players this was a hard hand to bid.

D 1	N North ♠ Q8654 ♥ J ♦ A109532 ♣ 5	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>4♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S		P	P	1♥	P	1♠	P	1NT	P	2♦	P	3♠	P	4♠	P	P
W	N	E	S																			
	P	P	1♥																			
P	1♠	P	1NT																			
P	2♦	P	3♠																			
P	4♠	P	P																			
W West ♠ 109 ♥ 108765 ♦ QJ ♣ AKQ6		E East ♠ 732 ♥ K94 ♦ 84 ♣ J9843																				
	S South ♠ AKJ ♥ AQ32 ♦ K76 ♣ 1072	4♠ N NS: 0 EW: 0																				

Many very good players will tell you not to open a pre-emptive bid (eg 2♦, 2♥, 2♠, 3♣, 3♦ etc) with a second suit four card major. Personally I might well bid a pre-emptive bid with a four card major, but never a 5 card major.

The reason is that if partner has a fit, you may may game with a lot less than 25 points. This is the sort of hand you can Pass on, and bid when it is your next turn to bid.

South has a balanced had with 15 to 17 points. The plan is to open a suit, and when partner responds, bid No Trumps at the lowest level.

North does not have enough strength to bid 2♦, so bids 1♠.

South carries on with the plan and bids 1NT

North now bids 2♦ which show 5+ Spades and 4+ Diamonds and 6 to 9 points. With 10 points North should bid 3♦ which in modern bidding is game forcing.

South now has enough information to invite game in Spades. Even if North has a minimum of 6 points, 3♠ should be safe with a combined 23 points.

North now knows they have an 8 card fit in both Spades and Diamonds. When you have a “Double fit” it is often possible to make game on less than 25 points. Having a singleton Club with a Double fit is the icing on the cake. The singleton in Hearts is often not so useful as that is partners suit.

BOARD 2 – New Learning See BOARD 2B

✕ DBS 6/2

♠ 9632
♥ 7
♦ A986
♣ AK65

N Liz Doubtfire
 Murray McClennan **E**

Bd 2, Dlr E
 3♥-1 W

W Roger Innes

♠ QJ5
♥ AK1085
♦ K10
♣ 973

♠ A87
♥ Q92
♦ Q42
♣ QJ108

♠ K104
♥ J643
♦ J753
♣ 42

0
0

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S Barbara Taylor

W	N	E	S
		P	P
1♥	P	2♣	P
2♥	P	3♥	P
P	P		

When East has already passed, and did not support Hearts straight away. Thus they will have 3 Hearts and 11 (or even worse 10) points. With 23 or 24 points and an eight card fit the odds are against making game.

BOARD 2B – New learning.

North has the perfect shape for a double.

It would be best if

- 1) The Spades were a bit better.
- 2) Partner had not already passed.
- 3) They were not Vulnerable.

W	N	E	S
		P	P
1♥	X	?	

What should East bid?

Answer: Redouble. I have 10+ points. Maybe we should Double them in anything they bid. It also says “I do not have 4 card support for you partner”. All Double are now PENALTIES, not take-out.

		N North		W	N	E	S
		♠ 9632				P	P
		♥ 7		1♥	X	XX	2♦
		♦ A986		P	P	2♥	P
		♣ AK65		P	P		
W West				E East			
♠ QJ5				♠ A87			
♥ AK1085				♥ Q92			
♦ K10				♦ Q42			
♣ 973				♣ QJ108			
		S South					
		♠ K104					
		♥ J643					
		♦ J753					
		♣ 42					
				2♥ W		NS: 0 EW: 0	

If North South want to play in Clubs East should double as they have 3 certain tricks, a couple of Queens which may be of use, and partner opened the bidding.

Lets look at the scores.

Doubled and Vulnerable 1 off scores 200. Much better than playing in a part score in Hearts. 140

Doubled and Vulnerable 2 off scores 500. Much better than playing in a Non Vulnerable game in Hearts. 420

Why does East bid 2♥ with only 3 card support?

The ONLY time West will open 1♥, with New Zealand ACOL, with 4 Hearts is when they have 15+ points.

Now East has shown 10 or 11 points with 3 Hearts. Much easier now for West to pass and score 110.

BOARD 3 - If West does not open.

Board 3, Dir S
3♦ +1 E

W Pauline Thomson

N Emma Allwood

E Natalie Keenan

S Lauren Sleeman

North (N): ♠ J2, ♥ J1095, ♦ A9, ♣ A10753

East (E): ♠ Q1084, ♥ A, ♦ QJ632, ♣ QJ2

South (S): ♠ K93, ♥ KQ872, ♦ K1075, ♣ 9

West (W): ♠ A765, ♥ 643, ♦ 84, ♣ K864

W	N	E	S
			P
P	P	1♦	P
1♥	P	1♠	P
3♦	P	P	P

West CAN (It is not compulsory) to use the RULE of 20 to open.
 Add the length of your two longest suit to you points. If it comes to 20 you can open.
 5 Hearts + 4 Diamonds + 11 points = 20. If you have points in the two suits that is best.
 8 points in the two suits is good.

If you find a fit this can work out well. If it does not work out well, please don't blame me.

BOARD 4

x Bd 4, Dlr W 1♥+1 N	♠ AJ43 ♥ KQ42 ♦ Q105 ♣ AQ	N Grant McPherson Clare Hamer E
W Rex Graveley ♠ K52 ♥ A93 ♦ K72 ♣ J1053		♠ 1087 ♥ 105 ♦ A8643 ♣ K82
 < > ↻	♠ Q96 ♥ J876 ♦ J9 ♣ 9764	W N E S P 1♥ P P P
Lynette Tillman S		

North opens their lowest of 4 card suits... and that ends the bidding.

BOARD 6

x Bd 6, Dlr E 3NT= S	♠ Q6 ♥ A1094 ♦ AJ943 ♣ K9	N Karen Verhoef Jill Stevens E
W Janine MacLeod ♠ A105 ♥ 765 ♦ K105 ♣ Q432		♠ J9432 ♥ K32 ♦ 872 ♣ J6
 < > ↻	♠ K87 ♥ QJ8 ♦ Q6 ♣ A10875	W N E S P P 1NT P 3NT P P P
Wayne Froggatt S		

With 14 points (combined 26 to 28 points) and no 5 Card Major Karen bid 3NT.

BOARD 6B For those that play Stayman you can add some more bidding conversation.

✕ ♠♣♠ ♠ Q6 N Ginny Hope
Bd 6, Dlr E ♥ A1094
3NT+2 S ♦ AJ943
W Helena Judd ♣ K9 YING SUN (Kathy) E
♠ A105 ♠ J9432
♥ 765 ♥ K32
♦ K105 ♦ 872
♣ Q432 ♣ J6
♠ K87
♥ QJ8
♦ Q6
♣ A10875
Leanne Field S

W	N	E	S
		P	1NT
P	2♣	P	2♦
P	3NT	P	P
P			

2♣ Asks “Do you have a 4 card Major Partner”.

2♦ Says “No I don’t”.

2♥ would say “I have 4 Hearts, maybe 4 Spades”.

2♠ would say “I have 4 Spades, I don’t have 4 Hearts”.

When Ginny learn’t that partner did not have 4 Hearts she went to 3NT.

BOARD 8

×
DBS
6

♠ 108

♥ J75

♦ 942

♣ Q8653

N Brigid Borowczyk

Bd 8, Dlr W

3NT+1 E

E Rae Travis

W Linley Caudwell

S Stephen Andrew O'Connell

♠ J754

♥ A10963

♦ J53

♣ J

♠ AK3

♥ Q4

♦ KQ1076

♣ AK4

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♠ Q962

♥ K82

♦ A8

♣ 10972

W	N	E	S
P	P	2NT	P
3♥	P	3NT	P
P	P		

Over a 2NT opening the only weak bid is PASS.

3♥ says "I have exactly 5 Hearts". Partner "You choose between 3NT and 4♥"

BOARD 8B Stayman

Board 8, Dir W
3NT+2 E

W Shiraz Patel

N Helen Banks

E Wendy Sole

S Terry Ellis

W	N	E	S
P	P	2NT	P
3♣	P	3♦	P
3♥	P	3NT	P
P	P		

As before, over a 2NT opening the only weak bid is PASS.

3♣ Asks "Do you have a 4 card Major Partner".

3♦ Says "No I don't".

3♥ now says "I have 5 Hearts and 4 Spades".

3NT says "I have only two Hearts".

Duncan the Bad

P.S. On Sunday someone came up to me during a tournament and told me I had made an error. That was not a complete surprise to me.

On Board 11, last week, I said that they did well to take 3 tricks which was obviously incorrect. I meant to say that they did well to take 4 tricks (to defeat the contract). $4♠ - 1 = 4$ tricks.

If you do spot any errors please let me know. duncan.the.bad.nz@gmail.com