

Board # 1

NORTH
 Dealer: ♠ KJT98
 North ♡ J75
 ♦ 8
 ♣ QJT2

Vulnerable: None

WEST
 ♠ A
 ♡ Q2
 ♦ JT9543
 ♣ 9754

EAST
 ♠ 6543
 ♡ AT963
 ♦ Q
 ♣ AK8

SOUTH
 HCP: ♠ Q72
 8 ♡ K84
 7 13 ♦ AK762
 12 ♣ 63

Available Tricks:

N	S	E	W
NT	6	6	6
♠	8	8	5
♡	5	5	8
♦	4	4	9
♣	5	5	8

HCP: 11
 14 8
 7

E-W have 22 combined points.
 Suitable Level: Partscore

Highcard points are split 20-20
 Suitable Level: Partscore

Board # 2

NORTH
 Dealer: ♠ AT4
 East ♡ Q93
 ♦ J984
 ♣ A54

Vulnerable: N-S

WEST
 ♠ KQ82
 ♡ 4
 ♦ AQ76
 ♣ QJ97

EAST
 ♠ 963
 ♡ AKJ752
 ♦ T53
 ♣ T

SOUTH
 HCP: ♠ J75
 11 ♡ T86
 14 8 ♦ K2
 7 ♣ K8632

Available Tricks:

N	S	E	W
NT	4	4	9
♠	4	4	9
♡	3	3	10
♦	4	4	8
♣	5	5	8

HCP: 10
 13 8
 9

E-W have 21 combined points.
 Suitable Level: Partscore

Board # 3

NORTH
 Dealer: ♠ AKT98
 South ♡ T32
 ♦ 94
 ♣ K42

Vulnerable: E-W

WEST
 ♠ J6
 ♡ AK4
 ♦ A72
 ♣ JT953

EAST
 ♠ Q73
 ♡ J95
 ♦ JT86
 ♣ A87

SOUTH
 HCP: ♠ 542
 10 ♡ Q876
 13 8 ♦ KQ53
 9 ♣ Q6

Available Tricks:

N	S	E	W
NT	5	5	8
♠	7	7	6
♡	6	6	7
♦	5	5	8
♣	4	4	8

HCP: 11
 14 8
 7

E-W have 21 combined points.
 Suitable Level: Partscore

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3♠n	A♣	=	140	
	2♠n	Q♦	=	110	
	3♡e	A♦	-2	100	
	3♠n	A♣	-1		50
	4♠n	A♣	-2		100
	3♡e	A♦	=		140

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	1Ne	3♣	+1		120
	2♡e	3♣	+1		140
	2♡e	6♡	+1		140
	2Nw	4♦	+1		150
	2♡e	5♠	+3		200
	4♡e	7♠	=		420

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2Ne	2♠	-2	200	
	2♠n	3♠	=	110	
	2♠n	A♣	=	110	
	3♠n	A♣	-1		50
	3♠n	8♦	-1		50
	1Ne	4♠	=		90

North passes and East opens 1♡. South overcalls 2♦ and West passes. North tries 2♠ and after East passes, South raises to 3♠, which becomes the final contract. Losers appear to be one spade, two hearts and two clubs, but the A-K♦ allows a heart to be pitched once trumps are drawn. The killing lead is one nobody would ever make, a low heart away from the ace. Declarer wins the king, but West wins the first spade, cashes the Q♡, leads a club to East's A-K, and the A♡ is the setting trick!

East opens 2♡ as dealer, South passes and West frowns. There's little chance of finding a fit outside hearts, so West's best move is to pass and hope that East can struggle home, or the opponents come into the auction. North might consider it, but 2♡ turns out to be not so bad on the 6-1 fit, with as many as ten tricks possible.

South passes and West opens 1♣. North overcalls 1♠ and East has just enough for a 1NT call (6-10 without competition, but with competition 8 is the minimum). South raises to 2♠ and West might consider 2NT, but if it fails it might fail by several tricks, and vulnerable that is a problem, so pass is safest. It's not easy to beat 2♠, but if declarer starts hearts first, the defenders can get three tricks by doing the right thing.

Board # 7

		NORTH			Vulnerable:		
Dealer:	♠ -		Dealer:	♥ 976	Both		
South	♦ KQ975432		West	♣ T4			
			WEST	EAST			
♠	KT9876	♠	J542	♥	AJ		
♥	KQT3	♥	8	♦	AJ9832		
♦	-	♦	8				
♣	K65	♣	AJ9832				
			SOUTH	Available			
HCP:	♠ AQ3	Tricks:					
5	♥ 8542	N	S	E	W		
11	♦ AJT6	NT	3	3	4	4	
13	♣ Q7	♠	1	1	12	12	
			♥	3	3	9	10
			♦	8	8	4	4
			♣	1	1	11	12
E-W have 22 combined points.							
Suitable Level: Partscore							

Board # 8

		NORTH			Vulnerable:		
Dealer:	♠ J765		Dealer:	♥ AK865	None		
West	♦ T		North	♣ KQ3			
			WEST	EAST			
♠	KQ3	♠	T	♥	QJ2		
♥	943	♥	QJ2	♦	K872		
♦	Q54	♦	K872	♣	AJ976		
♣	T852	♣	AJ976				
			SOUTH	Available			
HCP:	♠ A9842	Tricks:					
13	♥ T7	N	S	E	W		
7	♦ AJ963	NT	7	7	6	6	
9	♣ 4	♠	10	10	3	3	
			♥	8	8	4	4
			♦	8	8	5	5
			♣	6	6	5	5
N-S have 22 combined points.							
Suitable Level: Partscore							

Board # 9

		NORTH			Vulnerable:		
Dealer:	♠ T		Dealer:	♥ AJT974	E-W		
North	♦ KT4		West	♣ T63			
			WEST	EAST			
♠	AQJ9752	♠	83	♥	K32		
♥	65	♥	K32	♦	J632		
♦	97	♦	J632	♣	QJ52		
♣	A8	♣	QJ52				
			SOUTH	Available			
HCP:	♠ K64	Tricks:					
8	♥ Q8	N	S	E	W		
11	♦ AQ85	NT	5	6	5	5	
14	♣ K974	♠	3	4	9	9	
			♥	9	9	4	4
			♦	8	9	4	4
			♣	8	8	5	5
N-S have 22 combined points.							
Suitable Level: Partscore							

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3♦s	5♣	=	110	
	5♦s	K♥	-3		300
	6♦s	K♥	-4		400
	4♠w	K♦	+2		680
	5♦s*	K♥	-3		800
	6♠w	K♦	=		1430

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♠n	7♦	=	420	
	4♠n	2♦	=	420	
	4♠s	9♥	=	420	
	2♠s	2♣	+2	170	
	3♥n	2♠	+1	170	
	3♠n	A♣	=	140	

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♠w	A♥	-2	200	
	3♠w	A♥	-1	100	
	4♥n	8♠	-1		50
	3♠w	A♥	=		140
	3♠w	4♦	+1		170
	2♠w	4♦	+2		170

This was actually Board 23 from last week (same dealer and vulnerability as #7) but I wanted to include it. I was North and partner opened my 8-card suit at the one level!! The West player bid 1♠ and I decided that 5♦ was probably best. Surprisingly, this was passed out and partner went three down. But, E-W can make as many as twelve tricks in spades!! Incredible

West passes and North opens 1♥. East passes and South responds 1♠. The lazy rebid would be 2♠ from North, but North's hand is worth more than that, and 3♠ is a better call. North accepts the invite and ten tricks are easy: two spades and a club to lose before South makes the rest by ruffing back and forth.

North opens 2♥ and after East passes, South raises to 3♥. West should likely give 3♠ a try; it might buy the contract, East might even raise, or South might go on to 4♥ and turn a plus into a minus. North and East pass, and South takes the plunge to 4♥, which goes down one, but beats letting West make 3♠, even if doubled! 4♥ might even make if the defenders slip up.

Board # 10

NORTH
 Dealer: ♠ Q9 Vulnerable: Both
 East ♥ 863
 ♦ QJ753
 ♣ K42

WEST
 ♠ AT652
 ♥ 754
 ♦ AT
 ♣ AQ8

EAST
 ♠ J8
 ♥ QT2
 ♦ 8642
 ♣ T976

SOUTH
 HCP: ♠ K743
 8 ♥ AKJ9
 14 3 ♦ K9
 15 ♣ J53

Available Tricks:
 N S E W
 NT 8 8 4 4
 ♠ 7 7 6 6
 ♥ 8 9 4 4
 ♦ 8 8 4 4
 ♣ 7 7 6 6

N-S have 23 combined points.
 Suitable Level: Partscore

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Ns	5♠	=	600	
	2♥n	8♦	+3	200	
	2♠w	Q♦	-2	200	
	2Ns	5♠	+2	180	
	1Ns	2♠	+2	150	
	2Ns	5♠	=	120	

East passes and South opens 1NT. West has enough for a 2♠ call and this keeps North out, lacking the strength for 3♦ and the spade stopper for 2NT. 2♠ is not an easy contract and West loses three hearts, the offside K♣ and a diamond. A trump finesse to North's queen is a sixth defensive trick and the K♠ may also score for down two. Unlucky for West, but N-S can make nine tricks in notrump, so it won't be a total bottom.

Board # 11

NORTH
 Dealer: ♠ AQJ54 Vulnerable: None
 South ♥ Q9
 ♦ Q63
 ♣ 985

WEST
 ♠ 9
 ♥ J8543
 ♦ K7
 ♣ AQT74

EAST
 ♠ K732
 ♥ AK7
 ♦ JT54
 ♣ KJ

SOUTH
 HCP: ♠ T86
 11 ♥ T62
 10 15 ♦ A982
 4 ♣ 632

Available Tricks:
 N S E W
 NT 2 2 11 11
 ♠ 6 6 7 7
 ♥ 2 2 11 11
 ♦ 4 4 9 9
 ♣ 2 2 11 11

E-W have 25 combined points.
 Suitable Level: Likely Game

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♠n	A♥	-1		50
	3♥w	A♠	+1		170
	3♥e	6♣	+2		200
	4♥e	2♥	=		420
	4♥w	3♦	+1		450
	4♥w	A♠	+1		450

South passes as dealer and it's a test for E-W: can they get to game? At my table West passed and I was allowed to open, and play in, my cheeky 2♠ bid, down only one for a top score! East should bid 2NT over the 2♠ call, and the pair will get to 4♥ easily: 2NT over an opponent's weak two is like a 1NT opener (15-17) with a stopper in the bid suit, and Stayman and transfers are on. So (2♠) 2NT, 3♦ (transfer) - 3♥, 4♥. If West opens 1♥ and North bids 2♠, E-W should still get to game in hearts.

Board # 12

NORTH
 Dealer: ♠ A3 Vulnerable: N-S
 West ♥ AKJT83
 ♦ AJ5
 ♣ K9

WEST
 ♠ K2
 ♥ 7
 ♦ KQT8632
 ♣ 842

EAST
 ♠ QT8765
 ♥ 94
 ♦ 974
 ♣ 65

SOUTH
 HCP: ♠ J94
 20 ♥ Q652
 8 2 ♦ -
 10 ♣ AQT73

Available Tricks:
 N S E W
 NT 13 13 0 0
 ♠ 8 8 5 5
 ♥ 13 13 0 0
 ♦ 6 6 7 7
 ♣ 13 13 0 0

N-S have 30 combined points.
 Suitable Level: Game

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	6♥n	3♦	+1	1460	
	6♥n	7♦	+1	1460	
	4♥n	7♦	+3	710	
	4♥n	4♦	+3	710	
	4♥n	9♦	+3	710	
	5♣s	7♥	+2	640	

Tough slam to bid after West starts with 3♦. At my table I chose a double and partner bid 4♣. I bid 4♦ (cuebid, forcing), and partner bid 5♣. I now bid 6♥ and it's hard to know as South whether North has the cards needed to go on: the A♠, the K♣. I think doubling, cuebidding, and then jumping to a suit for the first time at the six-level should show a real rock-crusher of a hand, but I can understand South's doubt. At least we got to slam!

