

Board # 1

		NORTH								
Dealer:	♠ AK8					Vulnerable:	None			
North	♥ J94									
	♦ KT64									
	♣ T76									
		WEST				EAST				
♠	T76	♠ J54				♠ JT96				
♥	T8	♥ AQ62				♥ AQ2				
♦	853	♦ A92				♦ A763				
♣	A8542	♣ K93				♣ T6				
		SOUTH				Available				
HCP:	♠ Q932	Tricks:								
11	♥ K753	N	S	E	W					
4 14	♦ QJ7	NT	7	7	5	5				
11	♣ QJ	♠	9	9	4	4				
		♥	8	8	5	5				
		♦	8	8	4	4				
		♣	7	7	6	6				
N-S have 22 combined points.										
Suitable Level: Partscore										

Board # 2

		NORTH								
Dealer:	♠ Q53					Vulnerable:	N-S			
East	♥ JT63									
	♦ 95									
	♣ Q742									
		WEST				EAST				
♠	JT96	♠ K842				♠ K842				
♥	AQ2	♥ 754				♥ 754				
♦	A763	♦ QJ8				♦ QJ8				
♣	T6	♣ J83				♣ J83				
		SOUTH				Available				
HCP:	♠ A7	Tricks:								
5	♥ K98	N	S	E	W					
11 7	♦ KT42	NT	6	6	7	7				
17	♣ AK95	♠	5	5	8	8				
		♥	7	8	5	5				
		♦	6	6	7	7				
		♣	8	8	5	5				
N-S have 22 combined points.										
Suitable Level: Partscore										

Board # 3

		NORTH								
Dealer:	♠ Q85					Vulnerable:	E-W			
South	♥ T975									
	♦ T72									
	♣ 532									
		WEST				EAST				
♠	KT63	♠ AJ74				♠ AJ74				
♥	K	♥ AJ642				♥ AJ642				
♦	Q9864	♦ A5				♦ A5				
♣	QT8	♣ 76				♣ 76				
		SOUTH				Available				
HCP:	♠ 92	Tricks:								
2	♥ Q83	N	S	E	W					
10 14	♦ KJ3	NT	3	3	9	9				
14	♣ AKJ94	♠	2	2	11	10				
		♥	3	3	10	9				
		♦	3	3	10	10				
		♣	5	5	8	8				
E-W have 24 combined points.										
Suitable Level: Possible Game										

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2Nn	2♥	+1	150	
	2♥s	6♠	=	110	
	2♦n	3♣	+1	110	

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	1Ns	6♠	+2	150	
	1Ns	3♦	+1	120	
	1Ns	J♠	-1		100

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	1Ns	6♦	-2		100
	2Nw	3♣	=		120
	2Nw	5♣	=		120

North passes and East opens 1♣. South could make a takeout double but South's 11 points are really minimal, 3 of the 11 are the doubleton ♣QJ, and only one control (ace or king) among them. This time it works because North has a near opener, but most of the time it would get the pair into trouble. South should pass, so should West, and it should be North coming in with 1♦. Nothing else makes sense; if East had opened 1♦ a 1NT bid in the passout seat would barely work. No reason for South to bid on over 1♦, North not doubling means there is no major suit fit.

East passes, South opens 1NT and three passes quickly follow. The killing lead is the J♠, setting up three tricks for the defenders in spades when the entire family comes out for trick one (J♠ Q♠ K♠ A♠)! South has four club tricks and can eventually establish a red suit winner, so getting the spades ready to cash while holding South to only one trick in the suit is the key to defeating 1NT. Whoever led fourth best from ♠JT96 must have had a spade in with the clubs....

South's 1♣ opener presents E-W with a good test: can they find their spade fit and get to game? West and North pass and East has to choose between a takeout double and a 1♥ overcall. A takeout double has the best chance to eventually find the spade fit although West will probably bid diamonds first. An overcall seems to have gotten a 2NT call out of West and the easy 4♠ game was missed. Some cheeky South opened 1NT a point light and should have paid a bigger price than just down two!

Board # 4

		NORTH							
Dealer:	♠ 87	Vulnerable:							
West	♥ 92	Both							
	♦ AQ732								
	♣ A942								
WEST		EAST							
♠	A643	♠	T92						
♥	KQT7	♥	J654						
♦	94	♦	KJ5						
♣	KT6	♣	QJ8						
		SOUTH							
HCP:	♠ KQJ5	Available							
10	♥ A83	Tricks:							
12 8	♦ T86	N	S	E	W				
10	♣ 753	NT	5	5	8 8				
		♠	5	5	7 7				
		♥	5	5	8 8				
		♦	7	7	5 5				
		♣	6	6	7 7				
Highcard points are split 20-20									
Suitable Level: Partscore									

Board # 5

		NORTH							
Dealer:	♠ AJ9	Vulnerable:							
North	♥ AT4	N-S							
	♦ KQT6								
	♣ 972								
WEST		EAST							
♠	QT632	♠	854						
♥	83	♥	KJ6						
♦	543	♦	A						
♣	A64	♣	KQT853						
		SOUTH							
HCP:	♠ K7	Available							
14	♥ Q9752	Tricks:							
6 13	♦ J9872	N	S	E	W				
7	♣ J	NT	5	5	7 7				
		♠	5	5	8 8				
		♥	9	9	2 2				
		♦	9	9	2 2				
		♣	4	4	9 9				
N-S have 21 combined points.									
Suitable Level: Partscore									

Board # 6

		NORTH							
Dealer:	♠ 84	Vulnerable:							
East	♥ KJ9	E-W							
	♦ KQ954								
	♣ J84								
WEST		EAST							
♠	Q932	♠	KJT76						
♥	T854	♥	Q2						
♦	87	♦	AT2						
♣	KQ7	♣	952						
		SOUTH							
HCP:	♠ A5	Available							
10	♥ A763	Tricks:							
7 10	♦ J63	N	S	E	W				
13	♣ AT63	NT	8	8	4 4				
		♠	5	5	8 8				
		♥	8	8	4 4				
		♦	9	9	4 4				
		♣	9	9	4 4				
N-S have 23 combined points.									
Suitable Level: Partscore									

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♥w	9♥	-1	100	
	2♦n	2♣	=	90	
	PASSOUT	0	=	0	0

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♣e	K♠	=		90
	3♣e	9♦	=		110
	4♥s	A♣	-2		200

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♦n	Q♥	+1	110	
	2Nn	2♠	-1		50
	2♠e	3♦	=		110

If West passes, everyone else might, but it is a decent 12-count and surely worth a 1♣ opener. North overcalls 1♦ and East should bid 1NT to show 8-10 and a stopper. A scientific pair might play that 2♦ by West asks East to bid a four card major, but on this hand 1NT is a fine contract that makes eight tricks just as hearts should (but did not at one table). Notrump pays a 10-point bonus that is crucial to good scores in matchpoint play: 2♥ made is 110, 1NT making two is 120.

North opens 1♦ and East overcalls 2♣. South competes to 2♦ and West raises to 3♣. North passes and South is probably worth a shot at 3♦, even at the unfavourable vulnerability. Only with a 4=4=3=2 hand would North have only three diamonds, and with that hand North might have competed with a takeout double of 2♣. 3♦ may go down but is unlikely to be doubled or go down two for -200, which in a partscore hand is almost always a bad score, since no partscore made the other way beats 200.

South opens 1♣, West passes, North responds 1♦ and East overcalls 1♠. Is 1NT still the best rebid now that pass is an option (since partner will get another chance)? I think so; South's spade stopper helps. If South had instead ♠J5 and ♦A63, it might be best to pass. In any case, West will raise to 2♣ and North will only be able to try 2NT if South has rebid 1NT. In 2NT, South wins the A♠ and knocks out the A♦, giving the opponents four spades tricks and the A♦ (good thing spades break 5-4 and not 6-3...), leaving South with the A♠, four diamonds, the A♣, and the A-K♥.

Board # 7

		NORTH							
Dealer:	♠ A82	Vulnerable:							
South	♥ AJ973	Both							
	♦ J94								
	♣ 32								
		WEST				EAST			
♠	T953	♠ KJ4				♠ KJ4			
♥	Q62	♥ T				♥ T			
♦	65	♦ AKQ82				♦ AKQ82			
♣	AKJ4	♣ 9865				♣ 9865			
		SOUTH				Available			
HCP:	♠ Q76	Tricks:							
10	♥ K854	N S E W							
10 13	♦ T73	NT 4 4 7 7							
7	♣ QT7	♠ 3 3 9 9							
		♥ 7 7 6 6							
		♦ 3 3 10 10							
		♣ 2 2 11 11							

E-W have 23 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Board # 8

		NORTH							
Dealer:	♠ Q9	Vulnerable:							
West	♥ QT975	None							
	♦ 3								
	♣ AK532								
		WEST				EAST			
♠	AJ83	♠ 652				♠ 652			
♥	62	♥ J83				♥ J83			
♦	AK84	♦ QJ72				♦ QJ72			
♣	Q86	♣ T97				♣ T97			
		SOUTH				Available			
HCP:	♠ KT74	Tricks:							
11	♥ AK4	N S E W							
14 4	♦ T965	NT 8 8 5 5							
11	♣ J4	♠ 7 7 6 6							
		♥ 11 11 2 2							
		♦ 7 7 6 6							
		♣ 9 9 3 3							

N-S have 22 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Board # 9

		NORTH							
Dealer:	♠ J92	Vulnerable:							
North	♥ 8	E-W							
	♦ T9764								
	♣ QJ76								
		WEST				EAST			
♠	QT63	♠ A8				♠ A8			
♥	J4	♥ A97652				♥ A97652			
♦	AK5	♦ QJ3				♦ QJ3			
♣	KT42	♣ A9				♣ A9			
		SOUTH				Available			
HCP:	♠ K754	Tricks:							
4	♥ KQT3	N S E W							
13 15	♦ 82	NT 4 4 9 9							
8	♣ 853	♠ 4 4 9 9							
		♥ 3 3 10 10							
		♦ 4 3 9 9							
		♣ 4 4 9 9							

E-W have 28 combined points.
Suitable Level: Game

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Nw	7♥	-3	300	
	2♦e	6♠	+2		130
	1♠w	3♣	+2		140

South and West pass and if North passes, E-W will bid to a minor suit partscore and make a small plus. North is in third seat and can take some liberties and open a light 1♥. Most of the time this will not make much difference but this time South has a fit and will compete, with the possibility that E-W may get too high. One pair got to 3NT and discovered how tenuous a stopper ♥Q62 actually is! There are actually nine tricks for E-W in 3NT with the Q♣ onside, if North-South don't get their heart tricks first.

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♥n	Q♦	+1	450	
	2♥n	Q♦	+3	200	
	1Nw	3♣	-1	50	

West opens 1♦ and North overcalls 2NT, the Unusual Notrump, showing 5-5 in the two lowest unbid suits, in this case clubs and hearts. East passes and South should bid 4♥. It might make, and if it doesn't it will likely be a good sacrifice against whatever E-W can make. In this case it is a cakewalk to make eleven tricks. Good convention, this Unusual 2NT. It's not like you have much normal use for that bid!

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♥e	5♣	-2	200	
	4♥e	8♦	-1	100	
	4♥e	4♠	-1	100	

East-West have the auction to themselves this time, starting with East's 1♥ opener: 1♥ - 1♠, 2♥ - 3♣. A second new suit is forcing, and East's best call is 3♥. As six-card suits go, East's is rather weak, but the side aces make this a suit-oriented hand rather than one to play in notrump. West raises to 4♥ and the trump break is a problem. East's only hope is that South has the K♠: win the A♥, play the A-K♣ and ruff a club in hand, then play three rounds of diamonds. South ruffs and can cash two trumps but then has to lead a spade, allowing the Q♠ to take a trick!

Board # 10

		NORTH			Vulnerable:
Dealer:	♠ K942		Dealer:	♠ T32	Both
East	♥ A754		South	♥ J98643	
	♦ 2			♦ Q6	
	♣ T642			♣ 75	
		WEST			EAST
♠	AJ7	♠	863	♥	KQ2
♥	J93	♥	KQ2	♦	Q76
♦	9543	♦	Q76	♣	KQ73
♣	A95	♣	KQ73		
		SOUTH			Available
HCP:	♠ QT5			Tricks:	
7	♥ T86	N	S	E	W
10 12	♦ AKJT8	NT	6	6	5 5
11	♣ J8	♠	8	8	5 5
		♥	7	7	5 5
		♦	8	8	4 4
		♣	6	6	6 6
E-W have 22 combined points.					
Suitable Level: Partscore					

Board # 11

		NORTH			Vulnerable:
Dealer:	♠ T32		Dealer:	♠ T32	None
South	♥ J98643		South	♥ J98643	
	♦ Q6			♦ Q6	
	♣ 75			♣ 75	
		WEST			EAST
♠	QJ76	♠	AK98	♥	AKQ7
♥	T2	♥	AKQ7	♦	T85
♦	AJ97	♦	T85	♣	86
♣	J94	♣	86		
		SOUTH			Available
HCP:	♠ 54			Tricks:	
3	♥ 5	N	S	E	W
9 16	♦ K432	NT	5	5	7 7
12	♣ AKQT32	♠	3	3	10 10
		♥	5	5	7 7
		♦	4	4	9 9
		♣	7	7	5 5
E-W have 25 combined points.					
Suitable Level: Likely Game					

Board # 12

		NORTH			Vulnerable:
Dealer:	♠ K2		Dealer:	♠ K2	N-S
West	♥ Q3		West	♥ Q3	
	♦ K98			♦ K98	
	♣ KJ9543			♣ KJ9543	
		WEST			EAST
♠	T9	♠	AQ874	♥	642
♥	AKJT8	♥	642	♦	764
♦	AQJ2	♦	764	♣	Q2
♣	76	♣	Q2		
		SOUTH			Available
HCP:	♠ J653			Tricks:	
12	♥ 975	N	S	E	W
15 8	♦ T53	NT	5	5	7 7
5	♣ AT8	♠	4	4	9 9
		♥	3	3	10 10
		♦	3	3	9 9
		♣	7	7	6 6
E-W have 23 combined points.					
Suitable Level: Partscore					

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	1Nw	2♦	-2	200	
	PASSOUT	0	=	0	0
	PASSOUT	0	=	0	0

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3♠w	7♣	-2	100	
	2♥n	8♣	-2		100
	2♥n	A♠	-2		100

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♥w	K♠	+1		140
	3♥w	5♣	=		140
	4♥w	8♦	=		420

I don't see a hand worth opening here. An adventurous South might try a 2♦ opener, perhaps luring East-West into competing and going down. But at most tables this should be a boring passout.

South opens 1♣, West and North pass, and East makes a takeout double, and eventually West plays 4♠. North leads a club a South plays off three winners, the third ruffed in dummy. How can West avoid two diamond losers? The way to proceed is to finesse twice, hoping that South has one of the two missing diamond honours. Pull trumps ending in dummy and then play the T♦, following low in hand. This loses to the queen and North returns a heart, won in dummy (and cash the others), then finesse again. If North has the K♦ and the Q♦, you fail, but so does everyone else. (South must have one of the high diamonds for the opening bid.)

West opens 1♥ and North overcalls 2♣. East should not be mesmerized by the spades and instead recognize that there is a known eight-card fit in hearts and simply raise to 2♥. South passes and West is delighted to hear this news and invites with 3♥. East decides eight is enough and raises to game. Good bidding, but making 4♥ is a bit difficult. When the club lead is won by South with the ace, this is a key clue. If South also has the Q♥, what does that leave for North's vulnerable 2♣ overcall: 12 points with no aces? Better to assume North has the Q♥ and try to drop it.

Board # 13

		NORTH			Vulnerable:
Dealer:	♠ 9		Dealer:	♠ 9	Both
North	♥ K9542		North	♥ K9542	
	♦ Q9854			♦ Q9854	
	♣ K5			♣ K5	
		WEST			EAST
♠ AKJ86		♠ -		♠ -	
♥ T		♥ AQJ87		♥ AQJ87	
♦ A62		♦ JT73		♦ JT73	
♣ AJT2		♣ Q964		♣ Q964	
		SOUTH			Available
HCP:	♠ QT75432		HCP:	♠ A964	
8	♥ 63		9	♥ K	
17 10	♦ K	NT 3 3 10 10	8 5	♦ A87	
5	♣ 873	♠ 3 3 9 9	18	♣ AQJ63	
		♥ 3 3 9 10			
		♦ 3 3 10 10			
		♣ 2 2 11 11			
E-W have 27 combined points.			N-S have 27 combined points.		
Suitable Level: Game			Suitable Level: Game		

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♠s	T♥	-4		400
	5♣e	K♦	+1		620
	3♠s*	T♥	-3		800

North passes and East opens 1♥. A spade preempt by South might lead to a record score here, West passes 3♠ hoping for East to come in with a takeout double. East does so, West passes for penalties, and the final bill could be as much as 1400! Without the South suicidal pre-empt, East-West will get to 3NT and make ten tricks routinely.

Board # 14

		NORTH			Vulnerable:
Dealer:	♠ QT83		Dealer:	♠ QT83	None
East	♥ JT7		East	♥ JT7	
	♦ KQJ93			♦ KQJ93	
	♣ 7			♣ 7	
		WEST			EAST
♠ K752		♠ J		♠ J	
♥ Q5432		♥ A986		♥ A986	
♦ 65		♦ T42		♦ T42	
♣ KT		♣ 98542		♣ 98542	
		SOUTH			Available
HCP:	♠ A964		HCP:	♠ A964	
9	♥ K		9	♥ K	
8 5	♦ A87	NT 9 9 4 4	8 5	♦ A87	
18	♣ AQJ63	♠ 10 10 3 3	18	♣ AQJ63	
		♥ 6 6 7 7			
		♦ 11 11 2 2			
		♣ 8 9 4 4			
N-S have 27 combined points.			N-S have 27 combined points.		
Suitable Level: Game			Suitable Level: Game		

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♠s	3♥	+1	450	
	4♠n	5♣	+1	450	
	4♠n	A♥	=	420	

East passes and South opens 1♣. West passes and North responds 1♠. The modern style is to bypass diamond suits to bid four-card majors, UNLESS the responder's hand is of opening strength or better. South raises to 4♠ and North's plan is to ruff two hearts in dummy, then pull trumps and cash the diamonds. East leads a diamond and North wins in hand and leads a heart; East grabs the ace and continues diamonds. Winning in dummy, North plays the A♣ and a second club, ruffing the king. This calls for a change of plans and South now plays a trump to the ace, felling East's singleton jack. A second trump from dummy is won by West's king, and the Q♥ return is ruffed in dummy. West gets a second trump trick but North has the rest.

Board # 15

		NORTH			Vulnerable:
Dealer:	♠ AT4		Dealer:	♠ AT4	N-S
South	♥ K75		South	♥ K75	
	♦ 653			♦ 653	
	♣ AKT5			♣ AKT5	
		WEST			EAST
♠ QJ632		♠ K98		♠ K98	
♥ AQT9		♥ J6		♥ J6	
♦ QT9		♦ AJ72		♦ AJ72	
♣ 4		♣ 8732		♣ 8732	
		SOUTH			Available
HCP:	♠ 75		HCP:	♠ 75	
14	♥ 8432		14	♥ 8432	
11 9	♦ K84	NT 6 6 6 6	11 9	♦ K84	
6	♣ QJ96	♠ 4 4 9 9	6	♣ QJ96	
		♥ 6 6 6 6			
		♦ 5 5 8 8			
		♣ 8 8 5 5			
Highcard points are split 20-20			Highcard points are split 20-20		
Suitable Level: Partscore			Suitable Level: Partscore		

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3♣n	K♠	=	110	
	1Nn	2♦	=	90	
	2♥w	A♣	=		110

South passes and West should too (although it is close to an opener); North opens 1♣. East passes and South responds 1♥ (a four card major is a four card major!). West overcalls 1♠ and North happily rebids 1NT. East tries 2♠ and this ends the auction in a good spot for East-West, as North-South can get only one trick in each suit.