

Cowbridge Rotary



Charity Bridge Event

**7x7 Board Swiss
Pairs Competition**



11:00am Sunday, 8th March, 2015
Cowbridge Comprehensive School
Aberthin Road, Cowbridge, CF71 7EN

Welcome

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Cowbridge, I am delighted to welcome you to our second Charity Bridge Event held at the Cowbridge Comprehensive School. In the Rotary Club we are always looking for new ideas that

people will enjoy and at the same time raise funds for charity. We are pleased that the Bridge Tournament does this and we all hope that it provides a splendid day of bridge for all the players who take part. We are grateful to the Welsh Bridge Union and the East Wales Bridge Association for their support to make the event successful. We are also very grateful to our sponsors without whom we would not be able to hold such a prestigious event and I thank them very much for their wonderful support. We are raising funds for the charitable work of Cowbridge Rotary and specifically for this year's President's charities which are the Alzheimer's Society and Velindre Cancer Care.

I thank you all for your support and wish you much success and a great day of bridge.

With best wishes,
Michael Macphail

President
Cowbridge Rotary Club

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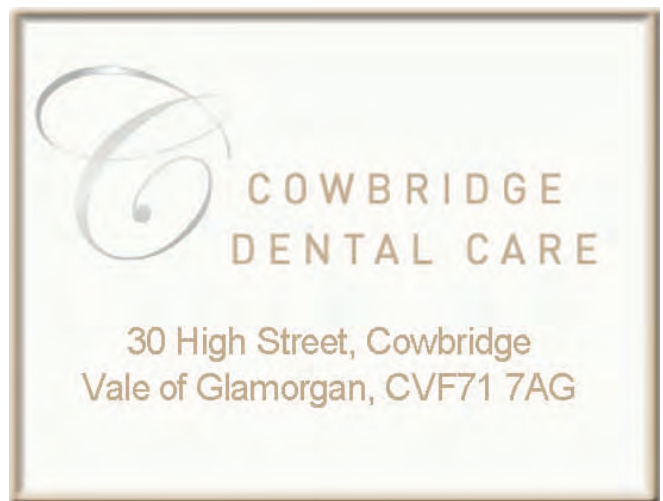
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A big thank you to all Rotarians and others who have contributed either prizes or their time to make this event a success.





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INTRODUCTION

Julian Pottage is one of the world's leading bridge book authors having written a total of 27 books so far. Julian's book "Defend or Declare" is a great read with 72 bridge deals to test your skills. His latest book is "Why you still lose at bridge".

Julian lives, works and plays bridge locally and has been kind enough to work with the Cowbridge Rotary to produce the following commentary on the bridge hands that you have just played.

Simon Gottschalk, Tournament Organiser

The deals chosen for the 2015 Cowbridge Rotary and East Wales Bridge Association charity bridge tournament come from recent world bridge teams championships.

For each of the 7 7-board matches in the event, players have fixed teammates for the duration of the match.

Teammates are as follows:

Match 1

North-South play with Fantoni-Nunes of Monaco

East-West play with Versace-Lauria of Italy

Match 2

North-South play with Zimmerman-Multon of Monaco

East-West play with Bocchi-Madala of Italy

Match 3

North-South play with Versace-Lauria of Italy

East-West play with Fantoni-Nunes of Monaco

Match 4

North-South play with Meyers-Campanile of USA

East-West play with Senior-Dhondy of England

Match 5, 6 & 7

North-South play with Helgemo-Helness of Monaco

East-West play with Bocchi-Madala of Italy



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<div><div><div>♠ K Q 7 5 4</div><div>♥ 9 8</div><div>♦ Q J 10 9 6</div><div>♣ A</div></div><div><div>♠ 10 3</div><div>♥ 7 2</div><div>♦ A 7 5 4 3</div><div>♣ K 9 6 4</div></div><div><div>♠ A 9 6 2</div><div>♥ Q J 10 4 3</div><div>♦ K 2</div><div>♣ Q 2</div></div><div><div>♠ J 8</div><div>♥ A K 6 5</div><div>♦ 8</div><div>♣ J 10 8 7 5 3</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 2♠ North 10 tricks Versace-Lauria EW -170 Fantoni-Nunes NS + 170</div>	<div>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♠</td><td>2♥ 1</td><td>Double 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♦ 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 East has just enough for a non-vulnerable 2-level overcall. 2 South has a tricky choice. Double risks 3♦ from North while pass is wet at love all. 3 Expecting South to hold the minors (and to have supported spades with three), North introduces the diamonds even though this means raising the level.</div> <div>The auction shown is from the other table in the original event. On the Fantunes system, which incorporates intermediate two bids, North opened 2♠ at our table and played there.</div> <div>The double-dummy lead of a low club holds a spade contract to eight tricks. Most will make nine tricks, possibly even ten if the defenders play ace and another trump in an attempt to stop diamond ruffs.</div>	West	North	East	South		1♠	2♥ 1	Double 2	Pass	3♦ 3	Pass	3♠	End			
West	North	East	South														
	1♠	2♥ 1	Double 2														
Pass	3♦ 3	Pass	3♠														
End																	
<div><div><div>♠ A K</div><div>♥ 9 8 5 4</div><div>♦ K Q J 7</div><div>♣ J 10 8</div></div><div><div>♠ 8 4</div><div>♥ A K 3</div><div>♦ 10 9 4 2</div><div>♣ Q 5 3 2</div></div><div><div>♠ 7 5 3 2</div><div>♥ Q J 7</div><div>♦ A 8 5 3</div><div>♣ A 9</div></div><div><div>♠ Q J 10 9 6</div><div>♥ 10 6 2</div><div>♦ 6</div><div>♣ K 7 6 4</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 2♠ North 8 tricks Versace-Lauria EW -110 Fantoni-Nunes NS +110</div>	<div>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥ 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 12-14 2 Transfer to spades.</div> <div>Acoul players should be able to duplicate the table auction. The weak NT is part of the Fantunes system.</div> <div>If the defenders get on to clubs early, they can defeat 2♠ via three heart tricks, two clubs and a diamond.</div> <div>If North plays in 1NT, the only lead to beat it is the unlikely ♣A. The club continuation kills the entry to the spade suit.</div>	West	North	East	South			Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT 1	Pass	2♥ 2	Pass	2♠	End	
West	North	East	South														
		Pass	Pass														
Pass	1NT 1	Pass	2♥ 2														
Pass	2♠	End															
<div><div><div>♠ A 7 4 3 2</div><div>♥ J 8 4 2</div><div>♦ J 3</div><div>♣ 5 4</div></div><div><div>♠ 10 6</div><div>♥ K 7</div><div>♦ K 7 6 4</div><div>♣ 10 9 6 3 2</div></div><div><div>♠ J</div><div>♥ Q 10 9 6 3</div><div>♦ A 8 5</div><div>♣ K J 8 7</div></div><div><div>♠ K Q 9 8 5</div><div>♥ A 5</div><div>♦ Q 10 9 2</div><div>♣ A Q</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 4♠ South 10 tricks Versace-Lauria EW -420 Fantoni-Nunes NS +420</div>	<div>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♠ 1</td><td>Double 2</td><td>Redouble 3</td></tr><tr><td>3♣</td><td>4♠ 4</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 A pre-emptive raise describes the hand better, though many will not have that option. 2 With a singleton spade, East needs to compete what may be a partscore deal. 3 South has a choice of sensible actions. 3♦ and 4♠ are possible too. 4 With fair playing strength in reserve and knowing South is strong, North bids game.</div> <div>With the ♣K onside, making 4♠ is easy. Not that it is possible on the bidding but the spade game would also make if West had everything because then declarer could safely set up a diamond winner on which to discard one of dummy's clubs.</div> <div>The vulnerability is wrong for East-West to sacrifice in 5♣ doubled. That would go down 800 if the defenders score their diamond trick and would still cost more than the value of game even if not.</div>	West	North	East	South				1♠	Pass	2♠ 1	Double 2	Redouble 3	3♣	4♠ 4	End	
West	North	East	South														
			1♠														
Pass	2♠ 1	Double 2	Redouble 3														
3♣	4♠ 4	End															



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<p>♠ Q 6 ♥ A J 6 ♦ K 8 6 ♣ K Q 10 6 5</p> <p>♠ 7 4 ♠ K 10 9 8 ♥ Q 10 5 4 ♥ K 9 8 7 ♦ Q J 3 2 ♦ A 9 7 ♣ J 7 3 ♣ 4 2</p> <p>♠ A J 5 3 2 ♥ 3 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ A 9 8</p> <p>Table Result 3NT North 7 tricks Versace-Lauria EW +200 Fantoni-Nunes NS -200</p>	<p>Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣ 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♦ 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT 4</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 15-17 2 Checkback, asking for more information. 3 Showing a minimum without three spades or four hearts. 4 Vulnerable at IMPs, South might punt 3NT. The poor spade spots are the downer.</p> <p>Fantoni went down in 3NT after he decided to duck the opening heart lead to the queen and then failed to read the end position.</p> <p>Bocchi also played in 3NT on a heart lead. He won and led the ♠Q, ducking when Multon as East covered. With West unable to get in, the play was easy from there.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT 1	Pass	2♣ 2	Pass	2♦ 3	Pass	2NT 4	End			
West	North	East	South																		
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠																		
Pass	1NT 1	Pass	2♣ 2																		
Pass	2♦ 3	Pass	2NT 4																		
End																					
<p>♠ J 8 7 4 ♥ K 8 6 ♦ K 2 ♣ A K 7 4</p> <p>♠ A K 10 3 ♠ 6 2 ♥ Q 10 9 ♥ 7 ♦ Q 9 8 3 ♦ J 7 6 5 4 ♣ 8 6 ♣ Q J 9 5 2</p> <p>♠ Q 9 5 ♥ A J 5 4 3 2 ♦ A 10 ♣ 10 3</p> <p>Table Result 4♥ North 10 tricks Versace-Lauria EW -620 Fantoni-Nunes NS +620</p>	<p>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦ 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥ 3</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 12-14 2 Transfer to hearts 3 It is a close decision whether South prefers to rebid 2NT. With a sixth heart, it is usual to show the length and let partner decide.</p> <p>The transfer has the fortunate effect of meaning that the hand with the top spades is not on lead. After the ♣Q lead from East, declarer just loses two spades and a trump.</p> <p>Those unlucky enough to declare the South seat will need to contend with a top spade lead. One way to give yourself a chance is to drop the ♠Q, leaving West to consider the possibility East has played the ♠6 from 9-6-5-2.</p>	West	North	East	South		1NT 1	Pass	2♦ 2	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥ 3	Pass	4♥	End					
West	North	East	South																		
	1NT 1	Pass	2♦ 2																		
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥ 3																		
Pass	4♥	End																			
<p>♠ Q J 4 ♥ K 10 6 4 ♦ Q 5 4 3 2 ♣ 5</p> <p>♠ K 7 2 ♠ A 8 5 ♥ A Q 5 ♥ 3 2 ♦ 8 ♦ A K 7 6 ♣ A K 9 6 4 2 ♣ Q J 8 3</p> <p>♠ 10 9 6 3 ♥ J 9 8 7 ♦ J 10 9 ♣ 10 7</p> <p>Table Result 6♣ East 12 tricks Versace-Lauria EW +1370 Fantoni-Nunes NS -1370</p>	<p>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♣ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♣ 3</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>6♣ 4</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 12-14 2 Natural and forcing – does anyone still play this? 3 East has a huge hand in support of clubs, with fast values outside and a maximum. 4 With all suits controlled, West cannot sensibly cue bid. East would bid 6♣ anyway.</p> <p>So long as West does not lazily raise 1NT to 3NT, it should not prove too difficult to reach the club slam. For 6♣ to be cold, all that West needs East to hold is ♠A-x, the ♥K and ♣Q-x-x-x – only 9 points – so the hand is certainly worth a slam try.</p> <p>For a grand slam to be laydown East would need perfect cards: the ♠A, the ♥K, the ♦A, good clubs and a ruffing value. West might briefly try looking for that but should know to give up.</p>	West	North	East	South			1NT 1	Pass	3♣ 2	Pass	4♣ 3	Pass	6♣ 4	End						
West	North	East	South																		
		1NT 1	Pass																		
3♣ 2	Pass	4♣ 3	Pass																		
6♣ 4	End																				



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<p>♠ 4 3 2 ♥ J 7 6 ♦ A Q 9 ♣ Q 9 7 6</p> <p>♠ Q ♠ K J 7 ♥ K Q 10 2 ♥ A 8 4 3 ♦ 10 8 7 5 ♦ J 6 2 ♣ A K 8 2 ♣ 10 4 3</p> <p>♠ A 10 9 8 6 5 ♥ 9 5 ♦ K 4 3 ♣ J 5</p> <p>Table Result 3♥ East 9 tricks Versace-Lauria EW +140 Fantoni-Nunes NS -140</p>	<p>Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2♠ 1</td></tr><tr><td>Double</td><td>Pass 2</td><td>2NT 3</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♣ 4</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td><td>End 2</td></tr></table> <p>1 Weak two in spades. 2 North, while possessing three-card spade support, has an awful lot of losers. 3 With the terrible 4333 shape and the spade honours unlikely to be pulling full weight, East uses Lebensohl to show a weaker hand than a direct 3♥. 4 Forced (unless West has significant extras for the initial double).</p> <p>In a heart contract declarer has only eight tricks: two spades, four hearts, two clubs and (eventually) a ruff.</p> <p>In a North-South spade contract the defenders should come to two tricks in each suit apart from diamonds.</p>	West	North	East	South				2♠ 1	Double	Pass 2	2NT 3	Pass	3♣ 4	Pass	3♥	End 2								
West	North	East	South																						
			2♠ 1																						
Double	Pass 2	2NT 3	Pass																						
3♣ 4	Pass	3♥	End 2																						
<p>♠ J 5 4 ♥ A 9 7 5 ♦ A 8 4 3 2 ♣ A</p> <p>♠ K Q 2 ♠ A 9 8 6 ♥ Q J 4 ♥ K 6 ♦ Q 6 ♦ J 9 5 ♣ Q 9 6 4 3 ♣ K 7 5 2</p> <p>♠ 10 7 3 ♥ 10 8 3 2 ♦ K 10 7 ♣ J 10 8</p> <p>Table Result 3♣ West 8 tricks Zimmerman-Multon EW -50 Bocchi-Madala NS +50</p>	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass 2</td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♦ 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td><td>End</td></tr></table> <p>1 12-14. Some will downgrade (and so pass) due to the doubleton queen, poor controls and absence of a ten. 2 Playing Landy or Multi Landy, North has no suitable bid. Astro users can bid 2♣. 3 No four-card major.</p> <p>After the normal diamond lead, 2NT is not going to make. Declarer will need to take the winning view in clubs, tackling the suit from hand, to escape for down one.</p> <p>East-West do better playing in clubs but need a winning view in the suit to make 3♣. 110 is also available playing in 2♠: North can get one club ruff but not two.</p> <p>North-South have six unavoidable losers if they play in 2♥, as Monaco discovered. The same losers are there in 3♦, as the English women proved when defending that.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT 1	Pass 2	2♣	Pass	2♦ 3	Pass	2NT	End												
West	North	East	South																						
1NT 1	Pass 2	2♣	Pass																						
2♦ 3	Pass	2NT	End																						
<p>♠ 5 ♥ 10 ♦ A K Q 9 ♣ A Q J 10 9 6 3</p> <p>♠ K Q ♠ J 10 6 4 3 2 ♥ K 7 6 3 2 ♥ J 5 4 ♦ 10 5 2 ♦ J 6 ♣ 7 5 4 ♣ K 8</p> <p>♠ A 9 8 7 ♥ A Q 9 8 ♦ 8 7 4 3 ♣ 2</p> <p>Table Result 6♦ South 12 tricks Zimmerman-Multon EW -920 Bocchi-Madala NS +920</p>	<p>Board 9 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♣</td><td>Pass 1</td><td>1♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♦ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♦ 3</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4NT 4</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♥ 5</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5NT 6</td><td>Pass</td><td>6♦ 7</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 Vulnerable against not, East needs more than this for a weak jump overcall. 2 With ten playing tricks, North is far too good for a non-forcing 3♣. 3 A raise of opener's second suit is forcing. 4 North has few alternatives but to check on key cards. 5 Showing two key cards (here the red aces) but denying the ♦Q. 6 North confirms that all key cards are present and hopes South can show the ♣K. 7 South has no kings to cue bid.</p> <p>Playing in diamonds, you can ruff out the ♣K to make all 13 tricks. If you play in clubs, you have to lose a trump trick.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♣	Pass 1	1♥	Pass	2♦ 2	Pass	3♦ 3	Pass	4NT 4	Pass	5♥ 5	Pass	5NT 6	Pass	6♦ 7	End			
West	North	East	South																						
	1♣	Pass 1	1♥																						
Pass	2♦ 2	Pass	3♦ 3																						
Pass	4NT 4	Pass	5♥ 5																						
Pass	5NT 6	Pass	6♦ 7																						
End																									



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<div><div><div>♠ A K 4</div><div>♥ A K 7 6 4</div><div>♦ 9 7 4</div><div>♣ 8 7</div></div><div><div>♠ J 8 5 2</div><div>♥ 8 5</div><div>♦ K J 8 6</div><div>♣ A Q 3</div></div><div><div>♠ Q 10 9 7 3</div><div>♥</div><div>♦ A Q 5 3</div><div>♣ K J 5 2</div></div><div><div>♠ 6</div><div>♥ Q J 10 9 3 2</div><div>♦ 10 2</div><div>♣ 10 9 6 4</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 4♠ East 11 tricks Zimmerman-Multon EW +650 Bocchi-Madala NS -650</div>	<div>Board 10 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass 1</td></tr><tr><td>3♠</td><td>Pass 2</td><td>4♠</td><td>End</td></tr></table> <div>1 A weak jump overcall would be at the three level – too high for sure when vulnerable. 2 With four possible defensive tricks against 4♠, North cannot risk conceding a penalty.</div> <div>The Italians did not get in the bidding and duly lost 650. The defenders made two top trumps but nothing else.</div> <div>In the other room, West's way to show a limit raise in spades was to bid 3♥. This let the Monaco North-South into the bidding. Nunes escaped for one down in 5♥ doubled when West not unreasonably led a spade. This allowed declarer to discard a diamond loser on the second round of spades.</div>	West	North	East	South			1♠	Pass 1	3♠	Pass 2	4♠	End												
West	North	East	South																						
		1♠	Pass 1																						
3♠	Pass 2	4♠	End																						
<div><div><div>♠ K 10 9 7 2</div><div>♥ Q 10</div><div>♦ Q 9 8 3</div><div>♣ A K</div></div><div><div>♠ J 6 5 4</div><div>♥ J 8</div><div>♦ K 10 7 4</div><div>♣ 8 6 4</div></div><div><div>♠ 8</div><div>♥ K 9 7 5 4 3 2</div><div>♦ 6</div><div>♣ J 7 5 2</div></div><div><div>♠ A Q 3</div><div>♥ A 6</div><div>♦ A J 5 2</div><div>♣ Q 10 9 3</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 4♠ South 12 tricks Zimmerman-Multon EW -480 Bocchi-Madala NS +480</div>	<div>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>3♥ 1</td><td>Double 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♦ 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♥ 4</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5♠ 5</td><td>Pass</td><td>6♠ 5</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 Weak jump overcall – no problem this time non-vulnerable with great shape. 2 3NT would be an overbid and be too unilateral. 3 North has a tricky bid if double does not promise support. 4♥ is the alternative. 4 With a fit for both of North's suits and first-round heart control, South is optimistic. 5 North needs to show extra values some way or another. 6 East's pre-empt has done its job, leaving the opponents to guess.</div> <div>If East lead a diamond, declarer will need to read it as a singleton, taking the ace at once. Picking up the trumps is simple via the marked finesse after East shows out.</div>	West	North	East	South				1♣	Pass	1♠	3♥ 1	Double 2	Pass	4♦ 3	Pass	4♥ 4	Pass	5♠ 5	Pass	6♠ 5	End			
West	North	East	South																						
			1♣																						
Pass	1♠	3♥ 1	Double 2																						
Pass	4♦ 3	Pass	4♥ 4																						
Pass	5♠ 5	Pass	6♠ 5																						
End																									
<div><div><div>♠ 10 5</div><div>♥ A 10 3</div><div>♦ 8 6 5</div><div>♣ A 10 9 8 6</div></div><div><div>♠ A K Q 9 7 3 2</div><div>♥ 5 2</div><div>♦ K 2</div><div>♣ K 3</div></div><div><div>♠ 4</div><div>♥ K Q J 7 4</div><div>♦ J 10 9 7</div><div>♣ Q J 7</div></div><div><div>♠ J 8 6</div><div>♥ 9 8 6</div><div>♦ A Q 4 3</div><div>♣ 5 4 2</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 4♠ West 10 tricks Zimmerman-Multon EW +420 Bocchi-Madala NS -420</div>	<div>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♠ 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4♠ 2</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 After the two-level response, a jump to 3♠ is forcing. Bidding 4♠ risks missing a slam if East is stronger. 2 With the solid suit, West might gamble and a pass 3NT.</div> <div>With South unable to gain the lead and the diamond honours onside anyway, 4♠ cannot fail. An overtrick is possible if the defenders cash out incorrectly. They are certainly under pressure if North, fearing that West holds a singleton heart, takes the ace on the first round. 3NT yields ten tricks if South does not lead a diamond.</div> <div>At matchpoints this would be a more interesting deal than it is at IMPs!</div>	West	North	East	South	1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠ 1	Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠ 2	End										
West	North	East	South																						
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass																						
3♠ 1	Pass	3NT	Pass																						
4♠ 2	End																								



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<p>♠ 5 2 ♥ K 7 ♦ J 9 7 3 ♣ A Q J 9 8</p> <p>♠ A 8 6 ♠ Q 10 3 ♥ 10 5 3 2 ♥ Q 9 8 ♦ K Q 10 8 ♦ A 6 2 ♣ 10 4 ♣ K 7 5 3</p> <p>♠ K J 9 7 4 ♥ A J 6 4 ♦ 5 4 ♣ 6 2</p> <p>Table Result 2♣ North 11 tricks Zimmerman-Multon EW -150 Bocchi-Madala NS +150</p>	<p>Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><td><i>West</i></td><td><i>North</i></td><td><i>East</i></td><td><i>South</i></td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr></table> <p>Pass</p> <p>This auction, if we can call it that, is the same as occurred in the other room when Fantoni held the North cards. He could have opened a natural 2♣, showing clubs and an unbalanced hand with 10-13 points, or a 12-14 1NT. It would be more attractive to open if North's five-card suit was a major or if North-South were non-vulnerable.</p> <p>Bocchi opened 1♣ and finished in 2♣. With more help from the defenders than you might expect, he emerged with 11 tricks.</p> <p>In the women's match, Molson opened 1♠ in third seat on the South cards while Sally Brock opened 1♣ on the North cards. The top players do not like to pass!</p> <p>At least eight tricks are available whatever the defenders do if you play in clubs, spades or no-trumps.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass								
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass														
<p>♠ A Q 2 ♥ K 10 8 3 ♦ A J 9 3 ♣ J 3</p> <p>♠ 8 6 3 ♠ K ♥ ♥ A Q J 7 4 ♦ K 10 4 ♦ 6 5 2 ♣ Q 10 9 7 6 5 4 ♣ A K 8 2</p> <p>♠ J 10 9 7 5 4 ♥ 9 6 5 2 ♦ Q 8 7 ♣</p> <p>Table Result 5♣ * West 11 tricks Zimmerman-Multon EW +550 Bocchi-Madala NS -550</p>	<p>Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table><tr><td><i>West</i></td><td><i>North</i></td><td><i>East</i></td><td><i>South</i></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♥</td><td>2♠ 1</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♥ 2</td><td>Double 3</td><td>3♠</td></tr><tr><td>5♣ 4</td><td>End 5</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 A weak jump overcall – this hand is certainly weak! 2 North cue bids to show a value raise. 2NT (if played as an enquiry) or some number of spades are alternative actions. 3 Double should show a general good hand rather than ask for a heart lead. 4 Despite the misfit in hearts, three small spades facing a shortage sounds promising. 5 Having already shown values, North has no reason to double.</p> <p>With the diamond position protected, you can use two top trumps and two spade ruffs as entries to ruff out the hearts to make 5♣. You can discard one diamond on the ♥A and another on the fifth heart. Taking the ruffing finesse is unattractive on the bidding.</p> <p>4♠ should fail unless declarer takes the inspired view to drop the singleton king offside.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1♥	2♠ 1	Pass	3♥ 2	Double 3	3♠	5♣ 4	End 5		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
		1♥	2♠ 1														
Pass	3♥ 2	Double 3	3♠														
5♣ 4	End 5																
<p>♠ K Q J ♥ Q 9 7 4 3 ♦ ♣ Q J 7 6 4</p> <p>♠ 9 7 4 3 ♠ 10 6 2 ♥ A 6 ♥ K J 10 5 2 ♦ K J 7 3 ♦ Q 6 2 ♣ A 5 3 ♣ 8 2</p> <p>♠ A 8 5 ♥ 8 ♦ A 10 9 8 5 4 ♣ K 10 9</p> <p>Table Result 3NT North 8 tricks Versace-Lauria EW -100 Fantoni-Nunes NS +100</p>	<p>Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><td><i>West</i></td><td><i>North</i></td><td><i>East</i></td><td><i>South</i></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2NT 1</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 The temptation to bid on in an attempt to improve the contract is strong.</p> <p>The auction shown comes from the table where Sally Brock and Nicola Smith played.</p> <p>North-South do best to play in clubs. It takes a trump lead, ducked by West, to hold a club contract to eight tricks.</p> <p>Seven tricks are the limit for North-South playing in any denomination other than clubs. At least that is the theory. In practice, since it takes the lead of a red suit to beat 2NT, North is likely to make it. Sally Brock made 2NT despite getting a heart lead when West decided to switch to a spade at trick two.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT 1	End	
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
			1♦														
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦														
Pass	2NT 1	End															



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<p>♠ 10 ♥ K 9 2 ♦ 10 8 7 5 4 2 ♣ A 5 4</p> <p>♠ K J 9 4 ♠ 8 7 2 ♥ Q J 8 5 4 3 ♥ A 10 7 ♦ 9 3 ♦ Q J ♣ 2 ♣ K J 8 6 3</p> <p>♠ A Q 6 5 3 ♥ 6 ♦ A K 6 ♣ Q 10 9 7</p> <p>Table Result 3♥ West 7 tricks Versace-Lauria EW -200 Fantoni-Nunes NS +200</p>	<p>Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass 2</td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td></tr><tr><td>2♥ 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Double 4</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♦</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 With these spades on the side, a weak 2♥ would be a breach of discipline. 2 At another vulnerability, East would probably open. 3 Eventually West runs out of pass cards! 4 Having denied four hearts, this cannot really be a penalty double.</p> <p>The friendly trump split means that 3♦ plays well. Bocchi made 10 tricks while Nicola Smith, who has in game, made 11.</p> <p>If West plays in hearts, the defenders can take two spade ruffs to hold declarer to seven tricks. Indeed this happened when Versace and Heather Dhondy declared heart partials.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass 1	Pass	Pass 2	1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣	2♥ 3	Pass	Pass	Double 4	Pass	3♦	End					
West	North	East	South																						
Pass 1	Pass	Pass 2	1♠																						
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣																						
2♥ 3	Pass	Pass	Double 4																						
Pass	3♦	End																							
<p>♠ A K ♥ J ♦ J 2 ♣ K J 10 9 7 6 4 2</p> <p>♠ 7 5 3 ♠ Q 10 8 6 4 2 ♥ K Q 9 7 ♥ 8 4 2 ♦ Q 8 6 3 ♦ 9 7 4 ♣ 8 3 ♣ Q</p> <p>♠ J 9 ♥ A 10 6 5 3 ♦ A K 10 5 ♣ A 5</p> <p>Table Result 7♣ North 13 tricks Versace-Lauria EW -1440 Fantoni-Nunes NS +1440</p>	<p>Board 17 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♠1</td><td>Pass</td><td>4NT 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5♥ 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>5NT 4</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>7♣ 5</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 Cue bid – not 4♥ since you should not cue bid a shortage in partner's suit. 2 Roman Keycard Blackwood. 3 With eight clubs, two more than promised, North shows the ♣Q and two key cards. 4 South confirms that all key cards are present. 5 With a singleton, a king and extra playing strength North simply bids 7♣.</p> <p>At matchpoints it might be important to play in 7NT. You can still earn 3 IMPs for doing that today.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠1	Pass	4NT 2	Pass	5♥ 3	Pass	5NT 4	Pass	7♣ 5	End	
West	North	East	South																						
	1♣	Pass	1♥																						
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣																						
Pass	4♠1	Pass	4NT 2																						
Pass	5♥ 3	Pass	5NT 4																						
Pass	7♣ 5	End																							
<p>♠ 9 8 6 4 ♥ K Q 10 5 ♦ 9 4 ♣ A Q 3</p> <p>♠ Q J 5 2 ♠ A K 10 7 ♥ A 2 ♥ 9 8 ♦ A 10 5 ♦ K Q J 2 ♣ 9 7 4 2 ♣ K 10 6</p> <p>♠ 3 ♥ J 7 6 4 3 ♦ 8 7 6 3 ♣ J 8 5</p> <p>Table Result 4♠ East 10 tricks Ver- sace-Lauria EW +420 Fantoni-Nunes NS -420</p>	<p>Board 18 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♦ 1</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4♠</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 Some will prefer 1♠. I do not feel strongly. You are not worried about a 5-3 heart fit.</p> <p>Reaching the spade game should be routine. Those who somehow miss the fit will be in luck with 9 top tricks in 3NT.</p> <p>Playing in 4♠, once you discover the 4-1 trump break, you need to abandon trumps to set up a club trick. Although you would normally try to combine chances by starting low to the ten, the danger of losing a ruff probably makes it better to play up to the king. With clubs 3-3 and the ace-queen onside, any sensible way of playing the suit generates a trick.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♦ 1	Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	End										
West	North	East	South																						
		1♦ 1	Pass																						
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass																						
4♠	End																								



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<p>♠ 3 ♥ K 4 3 ♦ 7 3 ♣ K Q J 8 6 4 3</p> <p>♠ A Q J 8 6 2 ♠ K 10 9 4 ♥ 10 9 5 2 ♥ A 7 ♦ K 8 ♦ A Q 6 4 ♣ 5 ♣ A 10 9</p> <p>♠ 7 5 ♥ Q J 8 6 ♦ J 10 9 5 2 ♣ 7 2</p> <p>Table Result 6♠ West 12 tricks Versace-Lauria EW +1430 Fantoni-Nunes NS -1430</p>	<p>Board 19 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1 ♠</td><td>4 ♣</td><td>4NT 1</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>5 ♦ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>5 ♥ 3</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>6 ♦ 4</td><td>Pass</td><td>6 ♠</td><td>End</td></tr></table> <p>1 Roman Keycard Blackwood, spades agreed by inference. 2 One key card. 3 Do you hold the ♠Q? 4 Yes and I have the ♦K too.</p> <p>The auction shown is more or less the one from the other table (Madala as South in fact raised to 5♣, over which Helgemo passed on the West hand to show one key card).</p> <p>Opposite a second seat vulnerable opening, East can justifiably take an optimistic view. A further factor is that ♣A-x-x is an ideal holding facing a probable singleton club.</p>	West	North	East	South				Pass	1 ♠	4 ♣	4NT 1	Pass	5 ♦ 2	Pass	5 ♥ 3	Pass	6 ♦ 4	Pass	6 ♠	End
West	North	East	South																		
			Pass																		
1 ♠	4 ♣	4NT 1	Pass																		
5 ♦ 2	Pass	5 ♥ 3	Pass																		
6 ♦ 4	Pass	6 ♠	End																		
<p>♠ J 4 2 ♥ K 10 9 2 ♦ 8 7 ♣ K 10 6 2</p> <p>♠ A 10 9 3 ♠ Q 5 ♥ 6 5 ♥ A Q 7 4 3 ♦ 10 9 3 2 ♦ A J 6 ♣ A 8 4 ♣ Q 9 7</p> <p>♠ K 8 7 6 ♥ J 8 ♦ K Q 5 4 ♣ J 5 3</p> <p>Table Result 3NT East 7 tricks Versace-Lauria EW -200 Fantoni-Nunes NS +200</p>	<p>Board 20 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>1 ♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1 ♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2NT 2</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 15-17. 2 With no interest in a major-suit fit, West decides to raise rather use Checkback.</p> <p>South has a tricky opening lead. A club works best as the cards lie. A heart, which gives nothing away, holds declarer to eight tricks too.</p> <p>If South lead a low diamond, as Nunes did, declarer can get home in 3NT by setting up the hearts and endplaying South to open up the frozen spade suit. Lauria did not find that slightly double-dummy line. The Monaco East-West also bid to 3NT. Madala led a high diamond (after a different auction), which was just the help Helgemo needed.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1NT 1	Pass	2NT 2	End						
West	North	East	South																		
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Pass																		
1 ♠	Pass	1NT 1	Pass																		
2NT 2	End																				
<p>♠ K 6 ♥ 10 ♦ A Q 9 6 2 ♣ K Q 8 6 4</p> <p>♠ A 10 7 3 ♠ Q 4 ♥ K 9 7 3 2 ♥ A Q 8 6 4 ♦ 10 ♦ J 4 3 ♣ 10 5 2 ♣ A 7 3</p> <p>♠ J 9 8 5 2 ♥ J 5 ♦ K 8 7 5 ♣ J 9</p> <p>Table Result 4♥ East 10 tricks Versace-Lauria EW +420 Fantoni-Nunes NS -420</p>	<p>Board 21 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1 ♦</td><td>1 ♥</td><td>1 ♠</td></tr><tr><td>4 ♥ 1</td><td>5 ♣ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>5 ♦</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 With five-card trump support and some shape, West applies maximum pressure. 2 Holding a four-loser hand and an undisclosed second suit, North bids on.</p> <p>In theory, North-South do better to defend. In practice, since it takes an initial club lead to defeat 4♥, they are right to compete further. How did Lauria succeed in 4♥ after Nunes cashed the ♦K and switched to the ♣J? He won the second club, drew trumps, stripping in the diamonds in the process, and exited with a club. This forced Fantoni to open up the spades or give a ruff and discard. On the ♠6 exit, Lauria still had to guess whether to play Fantoni for the ♠K or the ♠J. He guessed correctly, putting up the ♠Q.</p> <p>5 ♦, as reached at the other table, went a quiet one down with three aces to lose.</p>	West	North	East	South		1 ♦	1 ♥	1 ♠	4 ♥ 1	5 ♣ 2	Pass	5 ♦	End							
West	North	East	South																		
	1 ♦	1 ♥	1 ♠																		
4 ♥ 1	5 ♣ 2	Pass	5 ♦																		
End																					



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<p>♠ A 8 3 ♥ 10 3 ♦ J 3 ♣ A J 10 9 5 3</p> <p>♠ K 10 7 5 ♠ Q 9 4 2 ♥ A J ♥ K Q 9 8 ♦ K Q 8 6 2 ♦ 10 ♣ 6 2 ♣ K Q 8 4</p> <p>♠ J 6 ♥ 7 6 5 4 2 ♦ A 9 7 5 4 ♣ 7</p> <p>Table Result 4♠ West 9 tricks Meyers-Campanile EW -100 Senior-Dhondy NS +100</p>	<p>Board 22 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♠ 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♠ 2</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4♠</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 Some play that West has to jump to use fourth suit forcing. 2 East should be able to raise to describe the 4-4-1-4 shape.</p> <p>The defenders have three aces and a ruff to take against the spade game. Even if they miss their ruff, declarer still needs to guess the trump layout. All three declarers duly went down one.</p> <p>The other table saw 3♦ doubled going down 500 when Nunes liked the vulnerability so much that he made an unusual 2NT overcall with the South hand despite the bad suits.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠ 1	Pass	2♠ 2	Pass	4♠	End		
West	North	East	South																		
		1♣	Pass																		
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass																		
1♠ 1	Pass	2♠ 2	Pass																		
4♠	End																				
<p>♠ 9 6 5 2 ♥ 10 4 ♦ 10 7 5 4 ♣ K 3 2</p> <p>♠ 10 4 ♠ A K Q J 7 ♥ K 6 3 2 ♥ Q 9 7 ♦ A Q 9 ♦ K ♣ J 9 6 5 ♣ A 10 8 7</p> <p>♠ 8 3 ♥ A J 8 5 ♦ J 8 6 3 2 ♣ Q 4</p> <p>Table Result 3NT West 12 tricks Meyers-Campanile EW +690 Senior-Dhondy NS -690</p>	<p>Board 23 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT 1</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3NT</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 East has no ideal rebid. The singleton king is not right either for a 3♦ splinter or for a no-trump rebid. A jump to 4♣ would preclude 3NT and make it tough to reach 4♠.</p> <p>With a minimum for a two-level response and a poor club suit, West will show complete disinterest if East does make any move towards a club slam.</p> <p>The play is easy enough – just a matter of overtricks. Two declarers made 12 tricks while two made 11. This board would be more exciting with a different scoring method!</p>	West	North	East	South				Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT 1	Pass	3NT	End		
West	North	East	South																		
			Pass																		
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass																		
2♣	Pass	2NT 1	Pass																		
3NT	End																				
<p>♠ J 9 3 ♥ 9 6 ♦ Q 8 6 4 3 ♣ 9 7 2</p> <p>♠ K ♠ 7 5 2 ♥ K J 10 8 7 4 2 ♥ A Q 5 ♦ 9 ♦ A J 10 7 5 ♣ A K 8 4 ♣ Q J</p> <p>♠ A Q 10 8 6 4 ♥ 3 ♦ K 2 ♣ 10 6 5 3</p> <p>Table Result 4♥ West 12 tricks Meyers-Campanile EW +480 Senior-Dhondy NS -480</p>	<p>Board 24 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>2♠</td></tr><tr><td>4♥ 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♥ 2</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>6♥ 3</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 If you are playing the good/bad 2NT, 3♥ would show the same as it would have done without the overcall. In the absence of that convention, it is sensible to bid 4♥. 2 East has a good hand but nothing to cue bid. Unless you want to invent a club control, as in fact Helness did on a slightly different auction, this seems the only sensible action. 3 With a seventh heart and controls in both black suits, West seems to have whatever it is that East might be looking for.</p> <p>Nicola Smith and Sally Brock reached the heart slam on the auction shown.</p> <p>The play should be fast. After a spade to the ace, declarer can claim the rest at trick two.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♥	Pass	2♦	2♠	4♥ 1	Pass	5♥ 2	Pass	6♥ 3	End						
West	North	East	South																		
1♥	Pass	2♦	2♠																		
4♥ 1	Pass	5♥ 2	Pass																		
6♥ 3	End																				



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<div><div><div>♠ K 10 5 3</div><div>♥ Q J 5 2</div><div>♦ Q 9</div><div>♣ A Q 9</div></div><div><div>♠ J 8 2</div><div>♥ 10 4</div><div>♦ J 10 8 6 4 3</div><div>♣ 6 5</div></div><div><div>♠ A 7 6</div><div>♥ K 8 3</div><div>♦ K 5 2</div><div>♣ 10 7 4 2</div></div><div><div>♠ Q 9 4</div><div>♥ A 9 7 6</div><div>♦ A 7</div><div>♣ K J 8 3</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 4♥ South 11 tricks Meyers-Campanile EW -450 Senior-Dhondy NS +450</div>	<div>Board 25 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣ 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 12-14 2 Stayman, asking for four-card majors.</div> <div>Reaching the heart game should prove straightforward. The slam is terrible.</div> <div>If you judge everything right, pinning the doubleton ♥10 and finessing West for the ♠J, you can make twelve tricks (three spades, four hearts, three clubs and a diamond). Eventually you discard a diamond from one hand on a long black card in the other.</div> <div>With the hand holding the ♦K on lead, 3NT luckily makes.</div>	West	North	East	South		1NT 1	Pass	2♣ 2	Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥	End											
West	North	East	South																						
	1NT 1	Pass	2♣ 2																						
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥																						
End																									
<div><div><div>♠ K 6</div><div>♥ A K Q J 6 4</div><div>♦ A K 8 7</div><div>♣ 9</div></div><div><div>♠ Q 5 2</div><div>♥ 9 7 3</div><div>♦ Q J 4 2</div><div>♣ A J 2</div></div><div><div>♠ A 10 9 7</div><div>♥ 8 2</div><div>♦ 6 5</div><div>♣ K Q 8 6 3</div></div><div><div>♠ J 8 4 3</div><div>♥ 10 5</div><div>♦ 10 9 3</div><div>♣ 10 7 5 4</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 4♥ North 8 tricks Meyers-Campanile EW +200 Senior-Dhondy NS -200</div>	<div>Board 26 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♥ 1</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 Those playing Benjamin open 2♣. If you lack that option, either you upgrade to an Acrol or risk playing in 1♥. Bocchi's view was that 1♥ is the correct opening bid because, if you survive and get a second chance, you will be better placed to describe your hand than if you open an artificial 2♣. Who am I to argue with a Bermuda bowl winner?</div> <div>Fantoni also opened 1♥, an easy decision in the Fantunes system when 1♥ is forcing for a round. Both women drove to game when they had the North hand and went down.</div> <div>After a club lead and continuation, declarer does best to use dummy's solitary entry (the ♥10) to play on diamonds. This is far from obvious. Playing a spade to the king seems more natural, which explains why Nevena Senior went down two.</div>	West	North	East	South			Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥ 1	End													
West	North	East	South																						
		Pass	Pass																						
Pass	1♥ 1	End																							
<div><div><div>♠ A Q 10</div><div>♥ A J 10 7 3</div><div>♦ K 10 8 3</div><div>♣ 4</div></div><div><div>♠ K 6 5</div><div>♥ 9 2</div><div>♦ Q 9 5 4</div><div>♣ K 8 5 2</div></div><div><div>♠ J 7 3</div><div>♥ Q 8 5 4</div><div>♦ 7 6</div><div>♣ A J 7 3</div></div><div><div>♠ 9 8 4 2</div><div>♥ K 6</div><div>♦ A J 2</div><div>♣ Q 10 9 6</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 2♠ South 10 tricks Meyers-Campanile EW -170 Senior-Dhondy NS +170</div>	<div>Board 27 : Dealer South : Love all</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥ 1</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♠ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT 3</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 South might stretch to rebid 2NT. The honour location suggests a suit contract. 2 Since North could have passed 1♠, this clearly shows a decent hand. 3 The time has come for South to catch up. This club intermediates provide protection.</div> <div>With only 24 high card points but all four tens, you ought to be able to reach game. Both women's pairs stopped short when North decided to raise 1♠ to 2♠ rather than adopt the more descriptive sequence shown. The open team pairs both reached 3NT.</div>	West	North	East	South				Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥ 1	Pass	2♠ 2	Pass	3NT 3	End			
West	North	East	South																						
			Pass																						
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠																						
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥ 1																						
Pass	2♠ 2	Pass	3NT 3																						
End																									



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<p>♠ 10 9 7 2 ♥ 9 ♦ A K Q 9 ♣ A Q 5 3</p> <p>♠ K 8 ♠ J 6 5 4 ♥ A K 10 8 4 3 ♥ 7 6 5 2 ♦ 6 4 ♦ 8 3 ♣ K 8 6 ♣ 9 7 2</p> <p>♠ A Q 3 ♥ Q J ♦ J 10 7 5 2 ♣ J 10 4</p> <p>Table Result 5♦ South 11 tricks Meyers-Campanile EW -600</p> <p>Senior-Dhondy NS +600</p>	<p>Board 28 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1♥</td><td>Double</td><td>2♥ 1</td><td>3♦ 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5♦</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 If you think this raise is brave, let me tell you that all four original East players bid 3♥!</p> <p>2 Whether or not 2NT would be Lebensohl, South is worth 3♦.</p> <p>Nothing should keep North-South out of the diamond game. South would be worth stretching to 4♦ if need be. I am not quite sure why South would prefer a responsive double, though one player in each match did.</p> <p>With the ♣K in the opening bidder's hand, as you would expect, 5♦ is straightforward to make. If the club finesse lost, you would in theory have the chance of the spade finesse. Of course, given the bidding, East cannot hold both black kings.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♥	Double	2♥ 1	3♦ 2	Pass	5♦	End					
West	North	East	South														
1♥	Double	2♥ 1	3♦ 2														
Pass	5♦	End															
<p>♠ A K 9 7 4 ♥ 9 4 2 ♦ 9 8 4 ♣ Q 4</p> <p>♠ 5 3 2 ♠ J 10 ♥ Q 10 6 ♥ A J 8 ♦ K Q 6 ♦ 10 7 2 ♣ J 5 3 2 ♣ A 10 9 8 7</p> <p>♠ Q 8 6 ♥ K 7 5 3 ♦ A J 5 3 ♣ K 6</p> <p>Table Result 1NT South 7 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -90 Bocchi-Madala NS +90</p>	<p>Board 29 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>1NT 1</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 12-14</p> <p>2 Transfer to spades.</p> <p>Acol players may be able to reproduce the Fantunes auction shown from the other table.</p> <p>Declarer can easily come to eight tricks in a spade contract. Indeed, with both red suits 3-3, the defenders need to be on their toes to stop a ninth trick. For example, East may need to switch to a diamond when in with the ♣A for West then to switch to a heart.</p> <p>If you are brave enough to play for the ♥A onside, you can also make eight tricks in 1NT.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	1NT 1	Pass	2♥ 2	Pass	2♠	End			
West	North	East	South														
	Pass	Pass	1NT 1														
Pass	2♥ 2	Pass	2♠														
End																	
<p>♠ Q 10 ♥ K 10 8 5 ♦ 5 4 2 ♣ K 10 5 4</p> <p>♠ 9 8 7 6 2 ♠ A K J 5 ♥ Q J 6 ♥ A 4 ♦ 10 8 ♦ A J 9 3 ♣ A J 3 ♣ Q 7 6</p> <p>♠ 4 3 ♥ 9 7 3 2 ♦ K Q 7 6 ♣ 9 8 2</p> <p>Table Result 4♠ West 11 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW +450 Bocchi-Madala NS -450</p>	<p>Board 30 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♦ 1</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠ 2</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4♠</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 I do not mind 1♠, though that increases the chance that the weak hand plays 3NT.</p> <p>2 The losing trick count says 3♠. Point count says 4♠. I leave you to decide!</p> <p>With the heart finesse working and no chance of getting the trumps wrong, the spade game yields an easy 11 tricks. The defenders take a trick in each minor. If East declares (hurrah say those who opened 1♠), South might lead a top diamond to concede a twelfth trick.</p> <p>10 tricks are the limit if you eschew the 5-4 spade fit to play in 3NT.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♦ 1	Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠ 2	Pass	4♠	End		
West	North	East	South														
		1♦ 1	Pass														
1♠	Pass	3♠ 2	Pass														
4♠	End																



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<p>♠ Q 10 9 8 6 ♥ ♦ 9 8 2 ♣ K Q J 5 3</p> <p>♠ A 7 3 2 ♠ K 5 ♥ J 10 7 ♥ K Q 5 3 2 ♦ K Q 6 3 ♦ A J 7 ♣ 7 2 ♣ A 8 4</p> <p>♠ J 4 ♥ A 9 8 6 4 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ 10 9 6</p> <p>Table Result 4♥ East 10 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW +420 Bocchi-Madala NS -420</p>	<p>Board 31 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♣ 1</td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♣ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>End 3</td></tr></table> <p>1 If you are going to open, you might as well bid the suit you would like led. 2♠ is probably better than 1♠ if you want to bid spades. 2 The cue bid shows a value raise. 3 South, despite holding five hearts, has no real reason to double.</p> <p>The 5-0 trump split means that 10 tricks are the limit playing in hearts. You lose two trump tricks as well as a club.</p> <p>Not that you would want to play there but 10 tricks are also available in 3NT. You can hold up the ♣A twice to shut out the long clubs.</p>	West	North	East	South				Pass	Pass	1♣ 1	1♥	Pass	2♣ 2	Pass	4♥	End 3								
West	North	East	South																						
			Pass																						
Pass	1♣ 1	1♥	Pass																						
2♣ 2	Pass	4♥	End 3																						
<p>♠ J 10 6 5 ♥ J 2 ♦ Q 5 4 2 ♣ Q 8 3</p> <p>♠ K Q 4 3 2 ♠ 9 8 ♥ A 10 7 6 4 ♥ K Q 9 8 5 ♦ ♣ 10 9 5 ♣ 7 6</p> <p>♠ A 7 ♥ 3 ♦ A K 9 7 6 ♣ A K J 4 2</p> <p>Table Result 5♦ North 11 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -400 Bocchi-Madala NS +400</p>	<p>Board 32 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>1NT</td><td>2NT 1</td></tr><tr><td>Pass 2</td><td>3♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠ 3</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3NT 4</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5♦ 5</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 The unusual 2NT, showing at least 5-5 in the lowest unbid suits (the minors). 2 West has a minimum opener and is vulnerable against not. 3 South has extra values rather than extra shape and so cue bids West's suit. 4 North admits to holding a spade stopper in case South wishes to play in 3NT. 5 North reads 4♣ as a slam try but has little interest in a slam.</p> <p>The auction shown is the actual one from the table. The 4-0 trump break means that you cannot make 12 tricks on a non-heart lead. Indeed you need to make the correct play in trumps of cashing the queen first just to make 11.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♠	Pass	1NT	2NT 1	Pass 2	3♦	Pass	3♠ 3	Pass	3NT 4	Pass	4♣	Pass	5♦ 5	End					
West	North	East	South																						
1♠	Pass	1NT	2NT 1																						
Pass 2	3♦	Pass	3♠ 3																						
Pass	3NT 4	Pass	4♣																						
Pass	5♦ 5	End																							
<p>♠ K Q ♥ A K J 7 ♦ J 4 2 ♣ Q 8 6 5</p> <p>♠ A 10 9 8 6 3 ♠ J 7 5 2 ♥ Q 8 ♥ 10 9 6 5 3 2 ♦ Q 7 ♦ 9 6 ♣ J 4 2 ♣ 10</p> <p>♠ 4 ♥ 4 ♦ A K 10 8 5 3 ♣ A K 9 7 3</p> <p>Table Result 6♣ North 12 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -920 Bocchi-Madala NS +920</p>	<p>Board 33 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2NT 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♣ 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3NT 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5♣ 4</td><td>Pass</td><td>6♣ 5</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 15-19, forcing. 2 Range enquiry – the five-card club suit is just a coincidence. 3 Lower end of the range without five hearts or four spades. 4 North admits to having club support but has too much in the majors to cue bid. 5 South gives up any thoughts of a grand slam once North does not cue bid.</p> <p>West does best to cash the ♠A at trick one. Then, as North holds three diamonds, making a slam depends upon a winning view in the suit. On an uncontested auction, it seems natural to play for the drop, all the more so if you take a second round of hearts and believe the ♥Q to be a true card. Both Fantoni and Bocchi duly dropped the ♦Q.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT 1	Pass	3♣ 2	Pass	3NT 3	Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣ 4	Pass	6♣ 5	End			
West	North	East	South																						
	1♥	Pass	2♦																						
Pass	2NT 1	Pass	3♣ 2																						
Pass	3NT 3	Pass	4♣																						
Pass	5♣ 4	Pass	6♣ 5																						
End																									



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<p>♠ J 7 6 5 2 ♥ J 9 8 4 ♦ 3 ♣ Q J 2</p> <p>♠ 9 8 3 ♠ 10 ♥ K 5 ♥ A 7 3 2 ♦ J 6 5 ♦ Q 10 9 8 4 2 ♣ A 6 5 4 3 ♣ 9 8</p> <p>♠ A K Q 4 ♥ Q 10 6 ♦ A K 7 ♣ K 10 7</p> <p>Table Result 4♠ South 10 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -620 Bocchi-Madala NS +620</p>	<p>Board 34 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Pass 1</td><td>2NT 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♣ 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♦ 4</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 The heart holding puts East off a weak 2♦. Many will lack that option anyway. 2 20-22. 3 Five-card Stayman. 4 Showing either a four-card major or at least three spades.</p> <p>Whether you play ordinary Stayman or some form of five-card Stayman, you should be able to reach the spade game. It is tough for West to lead from K-x round to the 2NT opener – neither Helgemo nor Versace nor either of the women found it. If North declares, underleading the ♥A is not obvious either. Without the defensive ruff, 4♠ makes. 3NT is unbeatable.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass 1	2NT 2	Pass	3♣ 3	Pass	3♦ 4	Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	End	
West	North	East	South																		
		Pass 1	2NT 2																		
Pass	3♣ 3	Pass	3♦ 4																		
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠																		
Pass	4♠	End																			
<p>♠ A Q ♥ Q 6 5 2 ♦ 10 9 6 4 ♣ A 10 8</p> <p>♠ 10 7 6 5 3 ♠ K J 4 2 ♥ 9 8 4 ♥ 10 3 ♦ A ♦ 5 3 2 ♣ 7 6 5 4 ♣ K Q 3 2</p> <p>♠ 9 8 ♥ A K J 7 ♦ K Q J 8 7 ♣ J 9</p> <p>Table Result 4♥ South 11 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -450 Bocchi-Madala NS +450</p>	<p>Board 35 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Everyone should reach the heart game.</p> <p>If North declares, there are unlikely to be any problems in the play. If South declares and West decides to lead the singleton ♦A and switch to a spade, you need to take care. If you take a losing spade finesse and suffer a ruff, you face an inevitable club loser and defeat. At IMP scoring, it is clear to go up with the ♠A at trick two to ensure ten tricks.</p> <p>At any other vulnerability, East-West might have a profitable sacrifice in 4♠ doubled. As it is, with four top cards and potentially a club ruff to lose, they could go down 500 in spite of the favourable location of the missing black honours.</p>	West	North	East	South				1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	End					
West	North	East	South																		
			1♦																		
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♥																		
Pass	4♥	End																			
<p>♠ A K 8 ♥ A 10 7 ♦ Q J 7 3 2 ♣ J 6</p> <p>♠ 10 3 2 ♠ Q 9 5 4 ♥ 4 3 ♥ Q 5 ♦ A 9 4 ♦ K 10 6 ♣ A K Q 7 4 ♣ 10 8 5 2</p> <p>♠ J 7 6 ♥ K J 9 8 6 2 ♦ 8 5 ♣ 9 3</p> <p>Table Result 4♥ South 9 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW +100 Bocchi-Madala NS -100</p>	<p>Board 36 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1NT 1</td><td>Double</td><td>Pass 2</td><td>2♥ 3</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 12-14. Do not worry about the honour concentration! 2 With 7 points, two tens and values in all the suit, East has no need to run. 3 Partner is unlikely to lead a heart against 1NT doubled and may hold a doubleton.</p> <p>If South leaves 1NT doubled in, West probably retreats to 2♣. South would certainly introduce the hearts on the second round if that happened.</p> <p>Even 2♥ could fail if West switches to spades early and declarer misguesses the trumps. West needs to conceal the ♣Q or point count will mark the ♥Q in the East hand.</p> <p>1NT doubled makes with an overtrick on a diamond lead but goes down two on a spade lead and heart switch.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT 1	Double	Pass 2	2♥ 3	End											
West	North	East	South																		
1NT 1	Double	Pass 2	2♥ 3																		
End																					



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<p>♠ A 9 4 2 ♥ J 6 3 ♦ 5 3 ♣ K Q 10 3</p> <p>♠ Q 10 7 5 ♠ K J 8 3 ♥ 10 9 ♥ K Q ♦ J 10 2 ♦ A K 7 6 ♣ J 7 6 5 ♣ 9 4 2</p> <p>♠ 6 ♥ A 8 7 5 4 2 ♦ Q 9 8 4 ♣ A 8</p> <p>Table Result 3♥ North 10 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -170 Bocchi-Madala NS +170</p>	<p>Board 37 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♠ 1</td><td>2♥</td></tr><tr><td>2♠ 2</td><td>3♥</td><td>End 3</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 East has no tenaces to protect or concern about a 5-3 heart fit, so opens the major. 2 Although West has only 4 points, it is usually right to stretch to raise partner. 3 East is too flat and West too weak to take further action.</p> <p>With trumps splitting 2-2 and the relevant missing minor-suit honours onside, making an over-trick 3♥ is easy. Monaco took an optimistic view in the other room, bidding up to 4♥, which made. The English women also bid to 4♥ – top players bid a vulnerable game at the slightest excuse.</p> <p>3♠ would be down two.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♠ 1	2♥	2♠ 2	3♥	End 3					
West	North	East	South														
		1♠ 1	2♥														
2♠ 2	3♥	End 3															
<p>♠ 9 3 2 ♥ K Q 5 ♦ K Q 4 3 2 ♣ J 8</p> <p>♠ 10 8 ♠ A Q 6 5 ♥ J 10 9 7 4 3 ♥ 2 ♦ J 7 ♦ 10 9 8 6 ♣ A 10 5 ♣ Q 7 3 2</p> <p>♠ K J 7 4 ♥ A 8 6 ♦ A 5 ♣ K 9 6 4</p> <p>Table Result 3NT South 9 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -400 Bocchi-Madala NS +400</p>	<p>Board 38 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>1♣ 1</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>1NT 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>End</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 South has two tenaces and three-card heart support, making 1♣ an attractive option. 2 15-17</p> <p>With only 26 HCP, all suits stopped and no fit anywhere, it is hard to imagine finishing anywhere apart from 3NT. The vulnerability should ensure West's silence.</p> <p>Although the diamonds do not split quite evenly, both spade honours are onside. Few will find the way to make ten tricks, which is to start clubs from hand, finessing the eight from dummy. Only one of the original four declarers made an overtrick.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	1♣ 1	Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT 2	Pass	3NT	End	
West	North	East	South														
		Pass	1♣ 1														
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT 2														
Pass	3NT	End															
<p>♠ J 5 ♥ J 10 7 5 3 ♦ 10 9 5 ♣ A K 2</p> <p>♠ 10 4 ♠ Q 7 6 2 ♥ Q 9 4 ♥ A K 8 2 ♦ A J 8 ♦ Q 3 2 ♣ Q 8 5 4 3 ♣ 10 6</p> <p>♠ A K 9 8 3 ♥ 6 ♦ K 7 6 4 ♣ J 9 7</p> <p>Table Result 2♠ South 7 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW +100 Bocchi-Madala NS -100</p>	<p>Board 39 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♠ 1</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 With a good suit and decent defensive strength, opening seems clear. 2 Some will prefer 1NT despite the five-card suit and second ten.</p> <p>Since low-level contracts are notoriously difficult to defend, it will be non surprise if some manage to make 2♠. If East covers the ♠J with the ♠Q or switches to a diamond, declarer might get home. At the table, one declarer out of four succeeded.</p> <p>North-South can make 2♦ while East-West can make 1NT or 1♥. If East declares, 1♣ is on too – I doubt anyone will manage that!</p>	West	North	East	South				1♠ 1	Pass	2♥ 2	Pass	2♠	End			
West	North	East	South														
			1♠ 1														
Pass	2♥ 2	Pass	2♠														
End																	



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<div><div><div>♠ 6</div><div>♥ Q 9 3</div><div>♦ Q 2</div><div>♣ K J 10 8 6 5 4</div></div><div><div>♠ J 8 5 3</div><div>♥ A 8 6</div><div>♦ K 9 7 3</div><div>♣ A Q</div></div><div><div>♠ A 10 7 4 2</div><div>♥ 10 5 4</div><div>♦ J 10 6 4</div><div>♣ 9</div></div><div><div>♠ K Q 9</div><div>♥ K J 7 2</div><div>♦ A 8 5</div><div>♣ 7 3 2</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 3♦ West 7 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -100 Bocchi-Madala NS +100</div>	<div>Board 40 : Dealer West : Love all</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass 2</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♠ 3</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>1 12-14 2 Against a weak NT, 3♣ should show a better hand. 2♣ would surely be conventional. 3 With the known nine-card spade fit, West takes the push to the three level.</div> <div>If North leads a major, 3♠ fails by two. The same goes for 3♦.</div> <div>North would make 3♣ easily. Indeed it takes a diamond lead to stop the overtrick.</div> <div>Even with the highly favourable layout, South does not make 3NT if the defenders play on diamonds early.</div>	West	North	East	South	1NT 1	Pass 2	2♥	Pass	2♠	3♣	Pass	Pass	3♠ 3	End		
West	North	East	South														
1NT 1	Pass 2	2♥	Pass														
2♠	3♣	Pass	Pass														
3♠ 3	End																
<div><div><div>♠ K Q 5 3</div><div>♥ J 5 2</div><div>♦ 10 7 5</div><div>♣ 9 7 6</div></div><div><div>♠ 4 2</div><div>♥ A 10 4</div><div>♦ K J 4 3 2</div><div>♣ A K 8</div></div><div><div>♠ 10 9 8</div><div>♥ Q 9 3</div><div>♦ A Q 8</div><div>♣ Q 10 4 3</div></div><div><div>♠ A J 7 6</div><div>♥ K 8 7 6</div><div>♦ 9 6</div><div>♣ J 5 2</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 3NT West 9 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW +600 Bocchi-Madala NS -600</div>	<div>Board 41 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣ 1</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2NT 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>End</td></tr></table> <div>1 2NT is a fair alternative. It cannot be Baron by passed hand. 2 15-19, wide ranging.</div> <div>Those playing a strong no-trump will have a straightforward route to the same contract: 1NT-3NT.</div> <div>The defenders can take the first four tricks with their spades. Declarer has the rest.</div> <div>The curious contract of 5♣ is also makeable. If the defenders cash two spades, West can ruff a spade. If they lead trumps instead, East discards two spades on the diamonds.</div>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣ 1	Pass	2NT 2	Pass	3NT	End
West	North	East	South														
	Pass	Pass	Pass														
1♦	Pass	2♣ 1	Pass														
2NT 2	Pass	3NT	End														
<div><div><div>♠ A 10 3</div><div>♥ Q J 8 5</div><div>♦ 5 2</div><div>♣ 9 8 3 2</div></div><div><div>♠ 8 7 5 2</div><div>♥ 7 2</div><div>♦ J 10 7 6</div><div>♣ A K 5</div></div><div><div>♠ K Q 9</div><div>♥ A K 10 9 3</div><div>♦ 9 4 3</div><div>♣ Q 4</div></div><div><div>♠ J 6 4</div><div>♥ 6 4</div><div>♦ A K Q 8</div><div>♣ J 10 7 6</div></div></div> <div>Table Result 3NT East 6 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -300 Bocchi-Madala NS +300</div>	<div>Board 42 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♥ 1</td><td>Pass 2</td></tr><tr><td>1♠ 2</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♠ 3</td><td>End</td></tr></table> <div>1 With such strong hearts, only Robson devotees will prefer 1NT! 2 As the spades are so poor, West might respond 1NT. 3 The concentrated strength in the majors suggests raising. Perhaps Robson has a point!</div> <div>With the aid of some good guesswork, East-West can make 2♦, 2♥, 2♠ or 1NT.</div> <div>Monaco, who were behind in their match, overbid to 3NT; Italy sensibly stopped in 1NT. In the other match, England stopped in 1NT while USA2 ended in 2NT.</div> <div>If you are playing in some number of NT, given the lack of entries to the West hand, it is normal to play hearts from the top – not the winning play today.</div>	West	North	East	South			1♥ 1	Pass 2	1♠ 2	Pass	2♠ 3	End				
West	North	East	South														
		1♥ 1	Pass 2														
1♠ 2	Pass	2♠ 3	End														



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<p>♠ Q 8 2 ♥ A J 10 3 ♦ K 10 9 5 3 ♣ 2</p> <p>♠ A 3 ♠ K J 10 6 4 ♥ 8 7 5 ♥ K 9 6 2 ♦ A Q J 6 4 ♦ 8 ♣ K 6 5 ♣ A Q 8</p> <p>♠ 9 7 5 ♥ Q 4 ♦ 7 2 ♣ J 10 9 7 4 3</p> <p>Table Result 3NT West 12 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW +490 Bocchi-Madala NS -490</p>	<p>Board 43 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass 2</td><td>2♥ 3</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3NT 4</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 12-14; regarding an upgrade, West does have a five-card suit but no tens or nines. 2 Astro users will have a way into the auction. 3 Transfer to spades. 4 If it does not show three-card support in your methods, West might try 3♠.</p> <p>This is a dull board at IMP scoring. Three of the four declarers made 12 tricks, the fourth only 11. In theory, a heart lead away from the ace holds West to 10 tricks.</p> <p>As well as in no-trumps, game is also makeable with either major suit as trumps.</p>	West	North	East	South				Pass	1NT 1	Pass 2	2♥ 3	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT 4	End		
West	North	East	South																		
			Pass																		
1NT 1	Pass 2	2♥ 3	Pass																		
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass																		
3NT 4	End																				
<p>♠ 9 8 ♥ A 5 4 ♦ J 10 9 4 ♣ Q J 5 2</p> <p>♠ K 4 3 ♠ A J 7 5 2 ♥ Q J 10 8 ♥ K 9 7 ♦ A 3 ♦ 8 6 ♣ K 7 4 3 ♣ A 9 8</p> <p>♠ Q 10 6 ♥ 6 3 2 ♦ K Q 7 5 2 ♣ 10 6</p> <p>Table Result 4♠ East 10 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW +420 Bocchi-Madala NS -420</p>	<p>Board 44 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1NT 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥ 2</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT 3</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4♠ 4</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 12-14 2 Transfer to spades. 3 With better spade spots East would prefer a bullish 3NT. Some will go for it anyway. 4 West has a decent 13 count, three spades and what looks like a ruffing value.</p> <p>The spade game is cold with a spade, a heart and a diamond to lose. The defenders lack the time to set up a club winner as well as a diamond winner. Declarer will be able to discard one of East's clubs on the fourth heart.</p> <p>Any lead defeats 3NT. A diamond is most likely and easily does it.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT 1	Pass	2♥ 2	Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT 3	Pass	4♠ 4	End						
West	North	East	South																		
1NT 1	Pass	2♥ 2	Pass																		
2♠	Pass	2NT 3	Pass																		
4♠ 4	End																				
<p>♠ A 9 4 3 ♥ K 8 7 3 ♦ 9 3 2 ♣ 6 5</p> <p>♠ 2 ♠ Q 8 6 ♥ J 10 5 4 2 ♥ ♦ 7 ♦ A K Q J 10 8 5 4 ♣ K Q 8 7 3 2 ♣ 9 4</p> <p>♠ K J 10 7 5 ♥ A Q 9 6 ♦ 6 ♣ A J 10</p> <p>Table Result 5♦* East 9 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -500 Bocchi-Madala NS +500</p>	<p>Board 45 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>5♦ 1</td><td>Double 2</td></tr><tr><td>End 3</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 The extreme shape suggests pre-emption. 2 Double should suggest a sound opening hand and a shortage in the suit opened. 3 North is too flat to think that a five-level contract is making.</p> <p>The defenders have two ways of defeating 5♦ doubled by two. One way is for South to guess (or work out if North gets a chance to discard) that East has a doubleton club. The other, if South wins the first round of clubs, is to cash out correctly. This could prove impossible if South led a spade initially, taking out North's only entry.</p> <p>4♠ is on even if declarer misguesses the trumps, ruffing the second diamond high. You will need a strip squeeze to recover.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	5♦ 1	Double 2	End 3											
West	North	East	South																		
	Pass	5♦ 1	Double 2																		
End 3																					



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<p>♠ K 9 3 ♥ 10 8 4 ♦ 9 7 6 ♣ 9 5 4 3</p> <p>♠ 6 4 2 ♠ J 10 ♥ K Q J 2 ♥ 9 7 6 5 3 ♦ K Q 8 2 ♦ 10 ♣ 8 7 ♣ A K Q J 6</p> <p>♠ A Q 8 7 5 ♥ A ♦ A J 5 4 3 ♣ 10 2</p> <p>Table Result 4♥ East 9 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -50 Bocchi-Madala NS +50</p>	<p>Board 46 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♥ 1</td><td>2♥ 2</td></tr><tr><td>2♠ 3</td><td>Dble 4</td><td>3♣ 5</td><td>3♦ 6</td></tr><tr><td>4♥</td><td>End</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 Despite the disparity in strength, it is usual to open the higher-ranking suit. 2 Michaels: spades and a minor. 3 The cue bid of South's known suit shows a value raise. 4♥ is the alternative. 4 Double logically shows strength in spades (with much length North would bid 3♠). 5 Whether this is a game try, for the lead, or to help West judge over 4♠, it fits the bill. 6 South shows the second suit while showing a decent overcalling hand.</p> <p>As you would expect, top class defenders managed to cash their four top winners. Even if the bidding does not allow North to suggest spade strength, South should be able to work out that East's spade losers will be going on the diamonds.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♥ 1	2♥ 2	2♠ 3	Dble 4	3♣ 5	3♦ 6	4♥	End						
West	North	East	South																		
		1♥ 1	2♥ 2																		
2♠ 3	Dble 4	3♣ 5	3♦ 6																		
4♥	End																				
<p>♠ Q 5 4 ♥ 6 3 ♦ Q 10 6 4 2 ♣ A 10 9</p> <p>♠ J 3 2 ♠ 10 9 8 ♥ K 9 8 7 ♥ A Q J 2 ♦ 9 8 ♦ 5 ♣ 7 6 4 2 ♣ K Q J 8 3</p> <p>♠ A K 7 6 ♥ 10 5 4 ♦ A K J 7 3 ♣ 5</p> <p>Table Result 4♦ South 11 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -150 Bocchi-Madala NS +150</p>	<p>Board 47 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>Double</td><td>2♠ 1</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♣ 2</td><td>Double</td><td>3♦</td></tr><tr><td>3♥ 3</td><td>4♦</td><td>End 4</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 It is debatable whether South has enough to make any sort of game try. 2 North has a good raise and bids the suit with the values. 3 Non-vulnerable and having already passed twice West feels able to compete. 4 South cannot reasonably diagnose the perfect fit.</p> <p>With diamonds as trumps, declarer just loses two heart tricks – and not even that if the defenders fail to cash them because one of North's hearts can go on the long spade.</p> <p>A heart contract plays terribly because South can score two club ruffs. 2♣ is makeable.</p>	West	North	East	South				1♦	Pass	2♦	Double	2♠ 1	Pass	3♣ 2	Double	3♦	3♥ 3	4♦	End 4	
West	North	East	South																		
			1♦																		
Pass	2♦	Double	2♠ 1																		
Pass	3♣ 2	Double	3♦																		
3♥ 3	4♦	End 4																			
<p>♠ J ♥ A 8 5 ♦ A J 10 7 4 2 ♣ Q 8 2</p> <p>♠ 8 ♠ A 10 7 6 4 3 2 ♥ J 10 9 4 3 2 ♥ K Q ♦ Q 8 ♦ 6 5 3 ♣ J 9 7 3 ♣ 10</p> <p>♠ K Q 9 5 ♥ 7 6 ♦ K 9 ♣ A K 6 5 4</p> <p>Table Result 3NT North 10 tricks Helgemo-Helness EW -430 Bocchi-Madala NS +430</p>	<p>Board 48 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♦</td><td>2♠ 1</td><td>3♣ 2</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td></tr><tr><td>End</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>1 Vulnerable against not and facing a passed partner East shows some caution. 2 South might blast 3NT but that could result in a missed slam. Passing is risky..</p> <p>The heart blockage helps declarer in 3NT even though the 4-1 club split does not.</p> <p>East's obvious heart lead beats 6♦. With clubs 4-1, any lead defeats 6♣.</p> <p>2♠ doubled could go for 800. A few East-West pairs will concede a large penalty. Indeed the English women collected 800 at their table while the American women overbid to the club slam. Monaco played in 3NT making 10 tricks to flatten the result shown.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♦	2♠ 1	3♣ 2	Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT	End							
West	North	East	South																		
Pass	1♦	2♠ 1	3♣ 2																		
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT																		
End																					



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<p>♠ Q 9 5 ♥ 2 ♦ 9 8 5 4 2 ♣ Q J 4 3</p> <p>♠ A K J 10 8 ♠ 7 2 ♥ K 7 4 ♥ A 10 9 5 3 ♦ K J 3 ♦ Q 6 ♣ A 9 ♣ K 8 5 2</p> <p>♠ 6 4 3 ♥ Q J 8 6 ♦ A 10 7 ♣ 10 7 6</p>	<p>Board 49 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1 ♠ 1</td><td>Pass</td><td>2 ♥ 2</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2NT 3</td><td>Pass</td><td>3NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4 ♣ 4</td><td>Pass</td><td>4 ♥</td><td>End</td></tr></table> <p>1 As 20-22 is wide enough for a 2NT opening anyway, I do not recommend upgrading. 2 The heart spots just about justify showing the suit rather than responding 1NT. 3 An immediate 4♥ would not suggest all these high cards. 3 With a massive hand in context, West decides to cue bid on the way to 4♥.</p> <p>This is a dull board (at IMP scoring) with which to finish. Game is cold in any of three denominations.</p> <p>Double-dummy you can make an overtrick in 4♥ via trump endplay. 10 tricks should be the limit in spades or no-trumps.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♠ 1	Pass	2 ♥ 2	Pass	2NT 3	Pass	3NT	Pass	4 ♣ 4	Pass	4 ♥	End
West	North	East	South																		
	Pass	Pass	Pass																		
1 ♠ 1	Pass	2 ♥ 2	Pass																		
2NT 3	Pass	3NT	Pass																		
4 ♣ 4	Pass	4 ♥	End																		
<p>Table Result</p> <p>4♥ West 10 tricks</p> <p>Helgemo-Helness EW +420</p> <p>Bocchi-Madala NS -420</p>																					

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