



NSBC Newsletter



2020 JUNE Vol 3. Issue 6

Editors: Kevin Davies and Ian Maclaren

NSBC - BBO Tournament Schedules

BBO weekly Schedule of NSBC Tournaments				Max
Day	Event	Registration	Play Start	Table
Monday	Open	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	40
	Restricted	11:15 AM	1:15 PM	40
	Rookie	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	40
Tuesday	Supervised	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	40
	Open	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	40
	Rookie	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	40
	Rookie evening	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	40
Wednesday	Open	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	40
	Restricted	11:15 AM	1:15 PM	40
	Rookie	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	40
	Open evening	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	40
Thursday	Open	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	40
	Rookie	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	40
	Comp Night	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	40
Friday	Open	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	40
	Restricted	11:15 AM	1:15 PM	40
	Rookie	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	40
Saturday	Open	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	40
	Rookie	12:00 PM	2:00 PM	40
Sunday	Open 27b <red>	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	40

Note: The new Sunday session is played over a full 27 boards, and these will be scored as **RED Point sessions**.

3x Grand Slam Challenges

Grand Challenge Hand 1

North NV ♠ A K Q 9 2 ♥ 4 2 ♦ K Q J 9 5 4 ♣	Matchpoints All Non vulnerable South dealer No Interference
South D NV ♠ 10 8 5 ♥ A K J 10 ♦ A 7 ♣ 10 8 7 4	Can you bid these hands to the best contract?

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Grand Challenge Hand 2

North V ♠ A Q J 6 4 3 ♥ 6 ♦ K 10 9 5 3 ♣ K	Matchpoints NS vulnerable West dealer No Interference
South V ♠ K ♥ A Q 5 4 3 ♦ A Q J 8 ♣ A 4 2	Can you bid these hands to the best contract?

Grand Challenge Hand 3

North V ♠ K Q 10 6 2 ♥ 6 4 ♦ A 6 ♣ Q 5 4 3	Matchpoints All vulnerable East dealer No Interference
South V ♠ A 9 5 ♥ A K 9 ♦ K Q J 3 ♣ A K 2	Can you bid these hands to the best contract?

CLUB'S 2020 AGM Delayed.

The club has now been granted formal approval to delay our 2020 AGM. The NSW Dept of Fair Trading has advised that due to the current COVID-19 restrictions our 2020 AGM is to be held as soon as practical or when we hold our 2021 AGM. It is the existing committee's desire to hold it as soon as possible – hopefully before the end of the year. Additionally, our current committee members have agreed to remain in position until the AGM is held.

David Hagley. Club Secretary...



**Profile:
Nick Fahrre**

**Bridge Shop
Owner and
BBO Director**

My parents were both bridge players, with my father winning many national championships. However, I did not learn until I was 24 and took lessons at the Sydney Bridge Club. From the first week I was hooked. Bridge has all sorts of different appeals to many people but for me it is the problem-solving aspect that is most interesting.

I met my wife Linda at a Saturday afternoon game - we now have two non-bridge playing children Alice (26) and Edward (24). Since 1998, I have owned The Bridge Shop, which allowed me a lot of flexibility when the kids were young. In terms of bridge achievements, I was successful in the 1991 Interstate Youth Teams Championship. I have reached the finals of the National Open Teams on a few occasions but have never progressed beyond the quarterfinals.

I've also been involved with Bridge Base Online (BBO) since its inception. In 2001, Fred Gitelman (the founder of BBO) sent me an email asking me to try out his new website. In the early days it was sometimes hard to find four players in the lobby to form a table, compared with nowadays, when in excess of 50,000 players are logged in at peak times.

Since 2005 I've volunteered my time as a Yellow helper on BBO. It is in this capacity that I recently was invited by NSBC to join Mike to establish and supervise the BBO sessions which the NSBC members are now enjoying.

Bridge has been very good to me and I've made a lot of friends around Australia and around the world (thanks to BBO).

Nick Fahrre (Instrumental in helping NSBC setup and operate the **BBO** Sessions) owns and runs the bridge shop located in Penshurst street at Willoughby.

 <p>THE BRIDGE SHOP 15% OFF for NSBC members</p>	<p>The Bridge Shop has partnered with the North Shore Bridge Club and we are delighted to offer all club members a 15% discount.</p> <p>We welcome you to drop into our store at 182 Penshurst Street Willoughby or redeem your discount by using the code NS15 at checkout on our web site.</p>
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<https://www.facebook.com/bridgeshop>

Website: <https://www.bridgeshop.com.au/>

Address: 182 Penshurst street, Willoughby.

Historical Notes:

- The Bridge Shop was founded in 1974 by Sydney bridge identity **George Stephens**. He opened a little store in Northbridge, Sydney and began by importing books from the UK and the United States to meet the demands of the local bridge community.
- Stephens retired from the business in 1988, selling The Bridge Shop to **Richard Brightling**, a New Zealand expatriate who had just opened Trumps.
- Brightling ran The Bridge Shop (as well as Australian Bridge Magazine) from an upstairs office but it quickly outgrew these small premises.
- The shop was moved to Willoughby in 1992. In 1998, Brightling sold his bridge club to local teacher Derrick Browne and The Bridge Shop to **Nick Fahrre**, its current owner.
- Nowadays, The Bridge Shop is one of only nine to 10 specialist contract bridge stores in the world, and the only one in the Southern Hemisphere. The Bridge Shop has been an innovator and a pioneer in new technologies in the bridge products market.

You must **SELF ALERT** on BBO



This is a major difference between playing bridge on the **BBO** platform and playing at our club. As soon as you bid on BBO it is the bidder's **responsibility** to **self-alert** any conventional bid that your opponents may not understand or that may possibly mislead an opponent.

You always need to **alert and fully explain** all conventional bids as soon as you make your bid. For example, just stating that a bid is 'Bergen' is unacceptable, the length and strength of the bid should also be detailed. Everyone at the table, **except your partner**, will know you have made an Alert and only your opponents are able to read what you have written.

All users on computers should access BBO using their browsers via the latest Version 3 software link:

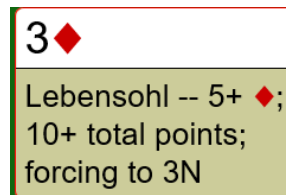
<https://www.bridgebase.com/v3/>

These members can Alert in the following manner.

It is probably best on all conventional bids to always **alert and explain** at the same time as you are making your bid.

- Press the white alert key
- Write a short text into the "Explain area" to describe the bid you are going to make to your opponents
- Then Press the keys for your bid (4H)

This will force the pop of the explanation box, again to you and **just the opponents only**. Your partner cannot see it.



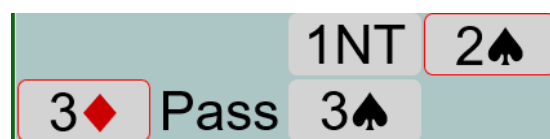
This means that not all members make Alerts in the same manner, if your opponents need to ask for more detail via CHAT, your partner becomes aware of your alert, this should not occur.

There are a number of other different older versions of the BBO program being used by our club members which is quite acceptable. These include

- Older Version 2 browser software. We recommend you change to using Version 3 software.
- Apple (iPad & iPhone) do have a **BBO application** that can be downloaded. A new version 5.6.0 will soon be released.
- Analogue (Phones & Pads) do have **BBO application** that can be downloaded.

These are slightly older versions and do not necessarily have all the extensive current BBO features.

Late alerts – If you forgot to alert a bid that is unusual you can recover a little by clicking your bid. It will be highlighted with a red border around the bid seen just by your opponents. They can then ask if they want to know, and this may stop a director adjusting a score.



You can always ask your Opponents about any of their bids, by clicking on their bid on your screen. An explanation box will pop up on the opponent screens, for them to key in a short description of the bid. Then you can see the bid explanation on your screen.

The fall back is Table **CHAT**, but everybody sees this at your table. Your partner becomes aware of your queries. He is not allowed to make any inference in his play and bidding from these questions and your implied hand.

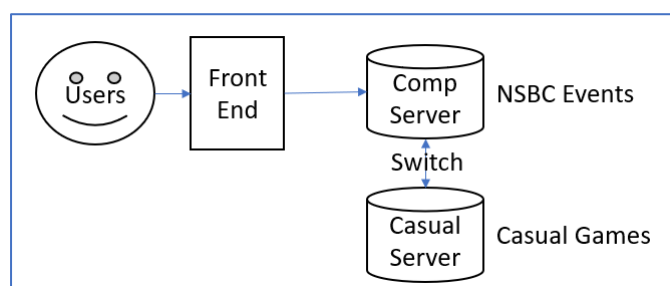
Error in May Bulletin:

An error was published in the May bulletin re the ABF charges. The ABF applies a discounted capitation fee for any additional new members during the year following the head count of home club members in Mar. This error showed an additional **\$11980** estimated fee, that should be about **\$1000**.

NSBC Membership (@ Apr 2020)	NSBC Home Club	Alternate another home	Total
CW Membership	1086	174	1260
EL Membership	393	45	438
Total Memberships			1698
ABF Bill @ \$16.10 per "Home Club" member	\$23,812	Issued April 2020	
ABF Bill @ \$8.05 per "new Home Club" member	\$11,980	Issued October 2020	
NSWBA Bill @ \$10 per "home club" member	\$14,790	Issued October 2020	

BBO Changes – Casual games now on separate BBO computer server

Many online bridge sites, including BBO, have recently had a huge increase in the number of players on their site. In order, to accommodate more players, in BBO all playing options available in the **Casual menu have been moved to a second BBO server**.



What does this mean?

1. Every time you click on Casual you will be smoothly moved to the other server. You will notice a **"connecting..."** pop-up on your screen every time you switch between Casual and the rest of the site.
2. When this happens, you will not have to login again. You will be able to continue to use the CASUAL site as you would normally do.

3. Consider the CASUAL button an entry point allowing you to switch between BBO sites. If something's strange, click CASUAL and see if that fixes the problem.
4. To return to the main competitive server, use the back button (maybe a couple of times), until you see the **"connecting..."** pop-up, as you are moved back to the competitive server.

IMPORTANT NOTES

When you are playing in the new Casual area server **you will NOT be automatically taken to your NSBC tournament, even if you are registered for an upcoming game.**

- So, if you are registered for our NSBC club BBO tournament and want to play a few hands while waiting, fill your time playing in SOLITAIRE instead (you will be taken automatically to your tournament when its ready).
- If you prefer to play a few hands in the Main Club until the tournament starts, remember to **switch back** to the Competitive area server with a few minutes before your tournament is scheduled to start.
- Both of you and your partner will now need to be in the same BBO site server **to see each other**. If you are in the Casual server and they are on the main BBO site, they will not receive your any tournament invitations.

State Veterans Online Pairs

Players who have turned 70 on or before December 31, 2020 are invited to play in the **NSW State Veterans Online Pairs Championship** to be held on Bridge Base Online on 24-26 July 2020.

All players must also be Registered Users on Bridge Base Online (BBO). Entries via the NSWBA website.

2020 Club Champion Progress

The qualifying events for the Club Champion have been updated to allow the 2020 process to progress. A few more changes will be made if the lock down continues.

1. **OUT** Mixed Teams
2. **OUT** GNOT Direct Qualifier
3. **IN** BBO Danish Swiss Pairs

Month	Ref.	NSBC 2020 Club Championship Events	Weight
Jan Feb	1a	Men's Pairs - Club Willoughby	1x
Jan Feb	1b	Women's Pairs - Club Willoughby	1x
Jan Feb	2	Blue Ribbon Pairs - East Lindfield	1x
Mar	3	Mixed Pairs - Club Willoughby	1x
Mar	4	Swiss Pairs Congress - East Lindfield	1x
Apr	5	Mixed Teams - Club Willoughby	1x
May	6	GNOT Direct -qualifer - Club Willoughby	2x
Apr-May	5	BBO - Danish Swiss Pairs	1x
Jun	7	Festival Thursday Swiss Pairs - Club Willoughby	1x

We have now completed 5 CC qualifying events by mid May the leaders table is:

	After 5 events	
	Player Name	Total CC Points
1=	David Weston	20
1=	Kevin Davies	20
1=	Leo Goorevich	20
4=	George Finikiotis	14
4=	Hymie Osie	14
6	Sunny Pang	12
7	Margaret Owen	11
8=	David Osie	10
8=	Lester Kalmin	10
8=	Lorna Ichilcik	10
8=	Lynn Kalmin	10
8=	Ros Howes	10
8=	Tony Howes	10

Link to [Full CC Results](#) to date

Leaders:



Thursday BBO Competition Night Events

14T	BBO Swiss Pairs - 30/4 (4 x 6B)	W-D-L	VPs
1	David Fryda & Michael Cartmell	4-0-0	56
2	Julianne Rocks & Liz Fanos	4-0-0	55
3	Hymie Osie & David Osie	4-0-0	52
14T	BBO Swiss Pairs -session 7/5	W-D-L	VPs
1	Eva Shand & Les Varadi	4-0-0	60
2	Thomas & Prue Siemsglueess	3-0-1	52
3	George Finikotis & Kevin Davies	3-0-1	49
15T	BBO Swiss Pairs -session 14/5	W-D-L	VPs
1	George Finikotis & Kevin Davies	3-0-1	55.7
2	Hymie Osie & David Osie	3-0-1	55.3
3	Frank Dreyer & Lee Dreyer	2-0-2	51.3
	BBO Danish Swiss Pairs - Overall Results	W-D-L	VPs
1	Hymie Osie & David Osie	10-0-2	153.0
2	George Finikiotis & Kevin Davies	8-0-4	150.9
3	Frank Dreyer & Lee Dreyer	8-1-3	148.2
4	Michael Cartmell & David Fryda	8-0-4	139.7
5	Jill & Karl Buchmann	8-0-4	139.1
6	Thomas & Prue Siemsglueess	7-0-5	133.2
7	Margaret Owen & Sunny Pang	6-1-5	131.9



Winners: David & Hymie



Frank & Lee



Kay Moyes

Our newer players are thriving online!

You can see from the club BBO results on an later page, that there's plenty of online bridge for the newer players in our club.

Playing: Thanks to the efforts of Mike and his team, we now have Rookie games 6 days and 1 evening a week; these games are very well supported by our members.

There is a Supervised game once a week and we have been putting our efforts into ways to best support our supervised players. Strategies we are trying include having a member of the teaching team at each table, using pre-set practice hands based on the topics that Anita and Jess taught the week before, and providing an analysis after the game of some of the hands.

Learning: In addition to playing, our newer players have access to lessons every day of the week. These lessons are delivered using a combination of BBO and Zoom so that our teachers have been on a rapid learning curve, redeveloping material to be suitable for delivery online.

On each of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we have 30-minute pre-game lessons with Sue or Allan, Kim and Liz. These are an extension and improvement of the shorter pre-game talks from before. There's time for feedback during the more relaxed pace and participants receive follow-up notes.

On Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays Anita and Jess are continuing with their pre-Covid schedules of full lessons.

- Build on The Basics (aimed at players with around 6 months experience) runs over Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- More advanced improvers and intermediate players are catered for by Anita on Thursday afternoons and Fridays.

Our newest players – those who completed the 6-week Introduction to Bridge Course immediately prior to the Club's closure - have not been forgotten. Their development is continuing through online lessons and play sessions with Liz who is hoping this will mean an additional 30 or so club members over the coming weeks.

Response: We have had heaps of positive feedback; just one example "We are finding the lessons so beneficial, thank you all so much. We can only imagine how much time and patience it takes for you all to put it together so well every week. We are so appreciative - a very big thank you to all involved in "making it happen" as they say!"

And a thank you from us to all our newer players who have joined in with such enthusiasm. **From the teaching team.**

ABF Management Committee

Meeting 11th May, 2020

Framework and guidelines for rebooting Club Bridge

The Federal Government has released a three-stage plan to ease current restrictions. States and Territories are beginning to lift some restrictions and will do so at different rates and sometime in the future players will be able to return to the bridge table at club, State and National events.

Dr Andrew Slutzkin, a member of Moonee Valley Bridge Club, has agreed to develop the minimum hygiene standards for all tournaments. This would include all sessions of bridge conducted by affiliated clubs (*this is where the NSBC fits in*), State and Territory organisations and of course the ABF itself.

BBO Monthly April Open Winners

Pos	Winner April Open	Pts
1	Alicia Mercer	102
2	Prue Siemsglue	91
3	Ian Maclaren	76
4	Margaret Foster	71


Monthly April Restricted Winners

Pos	Winner April Restricted	Pts
1=	Janice Olevson	21
1=	Michele Fendel	21
3=	Judy McGill	20
3=	Carolyn Carnachan	20


Monthly April Rookie Winners

Pos	Winner April Rookie	Pts
1=	Peter Skor	76
1=	Eva Skor	76
3	Sue Gordon	58
4	Yeung Cheung	55


NSBC Masterpoint Promotions

Due to lock down and limited masterpoint files processed by the ABF Masterpoint Centre at the end of April.

From East Lindfield:

No player promotions from East Lindfield were recorded in April.

And from Club Willoughby:

Member	HOME CLUB	Promoted to RANK at end of APR
Beeby, Philip	CW	*National
Loveday, Jane	CW	Regional
Belcher, Sandra	CW	**Local
Egan, Catherine	CW	Local
Cincinnati, Megan	CW	Local
Collins, Jenny	CW	Club
Gilchrist, Lynne	CW	Club
Bendelstein, Gail	CW	Club
Colmer, Peggy	CW	Club
Sanderson, Mary Jane	CW	Club
Frydman, Guta	CW	Graduate
Zicat, Sue	CW	Graduate

All NSBC BBO results will be awarded ABF Masterpoints from May

Following our successful loading of BBO results data back into our club Pianola Database, we now have the ability to award ABF masterpoints to these score datafiles.

All BBO results that have been loaded into Pianola from **1st May will be awarded ABF masterpoints by NSBC.**

They will be shown going forward in any new BBO result emails sent from pianola to competition participants.

BBO April/May Session Open Results

Date	NSBC BBO Event Name	T	Late April Open Winners	Score
20-Apr	M Open 1pm	36	Felix Shteyman & Brian Osborne	72%
21-Apr	T Open 1pm	32	Bruce Daglish & Frances Garrick	66%
22-Apr	W Open 1pm	31	Warren Dobes & Peter Jeffery	66%
	Open 7:30 pm	16	Hymie Osie & David Osie	69%
23-Apr	T Open 1pm	37	Bijan Assaee & Alexis Ngan	71%
24-Apr	F Open 1pm	32	Esther Lee & Ian Bailey	67%
25-Apr	S Open 1pm	40	Linda King & Nick Fahrer	65%
27-Apr	M Open 1pm	40	Judy Osie & Les Grewcock	70%
28-Apr	T Open 1pm	32	Marilyn Grass & Barbara Madeley	70%
29-Apr	W Open 1pm	34	Sandie Rooke & Suzanne Cole	67%
	Open 7:30 pm	14	John McIlrath & Michael Prescott	68%
30-Apr	T Open 1pm	39	Kevin Davies & Julianne Rocks	67%

Date	NSBC BBO Event Name	T	Early May Open Winners	Score
1-May	F Open 1pm	34	Tim Mountjoy & Patricia Lacey	67%
2-May	S Open 1pm	39	Tina Strickland & Ceiny Maybury	71%
4-May	M Open 1pm	40	Frances Lyons & Heather Low	72%
5-May	T Open 1pm	31	Malcolm Clift & Sunny Pang	73%
6-May	W Open 1pm	37	Tina Strickland & Ceiny Maybury	65%
	Open 7:00 pm	16	Hymie Osie & David Osie	71%
7-May	T Open 1pm	30	Bill Westwood & Tom Goodyer	71%
8-May	F Open 1pm	31	Elliott Kaplan & Tony Burke	68%
9-May	S Open 1pm	34	Frank Budai & Dominic Kwok	74%
11-May	M Open 1pm	39	Elliott Kaplan & Peter Bendelstein	64%
12-May	T Open 1pm	34	Tim Mountjoy & Patricia Lacey	68%
13-May	W Open 1pm	36	George Finikiotis & Liz Fanos	72%
	Open 7:00 pm	17	Nurani Krishnan & Ramesh Karnani	69%
14-May	T Open 1pm	33	Eva Shand & Les Varadi	68%
15-May	F Open 1pm	34	Peter Liphay & Peter Bendelstein	77%
16-May	S Open 1pm	37	Hymie Osie & Malcolm Clift	72%
17-May	Su Open 1pm	19	Eva Shand & Les Varadi	75%
18-May	M Open 1pm	39	Peter Fitzmaurice & Neil Williams	65%
19-May	T Open 1pm	33	Mary Carter & Michael Bishop	74%
20-May	W Open 1pm	35	Elli Urbach & Kevin Davies	66%
	Open 7:00 pm	18	Dennis Wan & Thomas Siemsgluess	71%
21-May	T Open 1pm	32	Malcolm Clift & Sunny Pang	69%
22-May	F Open 1pm	34	Jeanette Abrams & Freda Banner	67%
23-May	S Open 1pm	35	Sally Zylberberg & Lee Santow	70%

BBO April/May Session Restricted Results

Date	NSBC BBO Event Name	T	Late April Restricted Winners	Score
20-Apr	M Restricted 1:15	12	Paulina Martin & Margaret Titley	62%
22-Apr	W Restricted 1:15	16	Don Mullineux & Mary Harrington	66%
24-Apr	F Restricted 1:15	10	Michele Fendel & Janice Olevson	63%
27-Apr	M Restricted 1:15	13	Carolyn Carnachan & Judy McGill	73%
29-Apr	W Restricted 1:15	13	Patricia Bond & Noela Murphy	66%
Date	NSBC BBO Event Name	T	Early May Restricted Winners	Score
1-May	F Restricted 1:15	10	Mary Craven & Jo Ampherlaw	62%
4-May	M Restricted 1:15	11	Paulina Martin & Margaret Titley	61%
6-May	W Restricted 1:15	12	Don Mullineux & Mary Harrington	67%
8-May	F Restricted 1:15	9	Don Mullineux & Mary Harrington	65%
11-May	M Restricted 1:15	9	Michele Fendel & Janice Olevson	68%
13-May	W Restricted 1:15	12	Don Mullineux & Mary Harrington	62%
15-May	F Restricted 1:15	10	Don Mullineux & Mary Harrington	67%
18-May	M Restricted 1:15	9	Michele Fendel & Janice Olevson	65%
20-May	W Restricted 1:15	11	Jane Loveday & Karen Doecke	62%
22-May	F Restricted 1:15	9	Robyn Wilmot & Lode Van Grootel	67%

BBO April/May Session Supervised Results

Date	NSBC Event	T	Supervised Winners	Score
21-Apr	T Supervised 11am	5	Richard Ames & Susan Ames	64%
28-Apr	T Supervised 11am	3	Marion Nicklin & Merryl Greaves	59%
5-May	T Supervised 11am	4	Neil Edwards & Kathleen Rosley	76%
12-May	T Supervised 10am	6	Neil Edwards & Marina Shteyman	79%
19-May	T Supervised 10am	6	Neil Edwards & Marina Shteyman	79%
26-May	T Supervised 10am	6	Pam Clinch & Paula O'Hara	68%

BBO April/May Session Rookie Results

Date	NSBC Event	T	Late April Rookie Winners	Score
20-Apr	M Rookie 2pm	19	Marg Daridis & Dean Daridis	73%
21-Apr	T Rookie 2pm	14	Don Mullineux & Mary Harrington	73%
	Rookie 7:30 pm	5	Robyn Satill & Ian Satill	59%
22-Apr	W Rookie 2pm	19	John Brodie & Russell Summerhayes	70%
23-Apr	T Rookie 2pm	11	Tricia Higgins & Susan Holgate	66%
24-Apr	F Rookie 2pm	10	Eva Skor & Peter Skor	77%
25-Apr	S Rookie 2pm	8	Glenys Nice & Catherine Versi	70%
27-Apr	M Rookie 2pm	17	John Brodie & Russell Summerhayes	65%
28-Apr	T Rookie 2pm	14	Eva Skor & Peter Skor	64%
	Rookie 7:30 pm	4	Ian Satill & Robyn Satill	76%
29-Apr	W Rookie 2pm	22	Ashleigh Gallagher & Bob Gallagher	69%
30-Apr	T Rookie 2pm	15	Jane Tempy & Nicola Burge	70%

Some BBO Statistics

NSBC Members participating in NSBC BBO tournaments (up till 19th May):

425 in Open
123 in Restricted
216 in Rookie

Date	NSBC Event	T	Early May Rookie Winners	Score
1-May	F Rookie 2pm	7	Margaret Warnes & Julie Arnheim	57%
2-May	S Rookie 2pm	8	Stephanie Gay & Carol Wakelin	69%
4-May	M Rookie 2pm	20	Loretta Cappie-Wood & Noni Glew	74%
5-May	T Rookie 2pm	15	Brian Emanuel & Jo Ampherlaw	66%
	Rookie 7:00 pm	3	Carol Wakelin & Stephanie Gay	63%
6-May	W Rookie 2pm	18	John Brodie & Russell Summerhayes	73%
7-May	T Rookie 2pm	9	Graeme Hilder & Deborah Hilder	62%
8-May	F Rookie 2pm	8	Bill Sardana & Kerry Mckay	67%
9-May	S Rookie 2pm	5	Don Mullineux & Mary Harrington	59%
11-May	M Rookie 2pm	18	Michael Fishburn & Marg Fishburn	63%
12-May	T Rookie 2pm	13	Don Chisholm & Chris Lewis	64%
	Rookie 7:00 pm	5	Marina Shteyman & Felix Shteyman	84%
13-May	W Rookie 2pm	19	Karen Pudig & Kay Finlayson	69%
14-May	T Rookie 2pm	12	Robyne Fleming & Sue Gordon	65%
15-May	F Rookie 2pm	7	Sue Rutkowski & Jack Abrams	67%
16-May	S Rookie 2pm	6	Carol Wakelin & Stephanie Gay	64%
18-May	M Rookie 2pm 20T	NS EW	Kerry Barling & Karen Doecke Dara Fraser & Judy Muller	61% 64%
19-May	T Rookie 2pm	13	Kim Auld & Peter Auld	68%
	Rookie 7:00 pm	6	Maev Doyle & Stuart Schon	66%
20-May	W Rookie 2pm	18	Keri Rooney & Moya Barnett	71%
21-May	T Rookie 2pm	12	Don Mullineux & Mary Harrington	66%
22-May	F Rookie 2pm	10	Alice Simpson & Robbie Feyder	74%
23-May	S Rookie 2pm	5	Graeme Hilder & Deborah Hilder	70%

The newsletter closed on 23rd May for result updates. The leaders in the May current monthly competition are shown below:

BBO Monthly May Leaders – Open

Pos	Leaders May Open	Pts
1=	Eva Shand	99
1=	Les Varadi	99
3	Alicia Mercer	66
4	Tim Mountjoy	61

BBO Monthly May leaders – Restricted

Pos	Leaders May Restricted	Pts
1=	Don Mullineux	58
1=	Mary Harrington	58
3=	Janice Olevson	41
3=	Michele Fendel	41

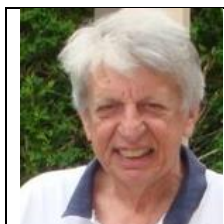
BBO Monthly May leaders – Rookie

Pos	Leaders May Rookie	Pts
1	Sue Gordon	57
2=	Julie Arnheim	48
3=	Margaret Warnes	48
4=	Don Mullineux	45
5=	Mary Harrington	45

BBO Swiss Teams – Session 1

Rank	BBO Swiss Teams 1/3 Session Results	W-D-L	VPs
1	Rocks	2-0-0	33.6
2	MIETZKE	2-0-0	30.4
3	KARNANI	2-0-0	27.3

ABF MASTER RANKINGS				
Rank	Minimum Requirements			
	Total	Green	Red & Gold	Gold
Graduate	2	2		
Club	5	5		
Local	15	15		
*Local	25	25		
**Local	35	35		
Regional	50	50		
*Regional	100	100		
State	50	25	25	
*State	100	50	50	
National	150	75	75	
*National	200	100	100	
**National	300	150	150	
Life	300	120	180	30
Bronze Life	400	160	240	40
Silver Life	500	200	300	50
Gold Life	750	300	450	75
Grand	1000	300	700	200
Silver Grand	2500	600	1900	600
Gold Grand	5000	1000	4000	1400
Emerald Grand	10000	1500	8500	3000
Diamond Grand	15000	2000	13000	5000



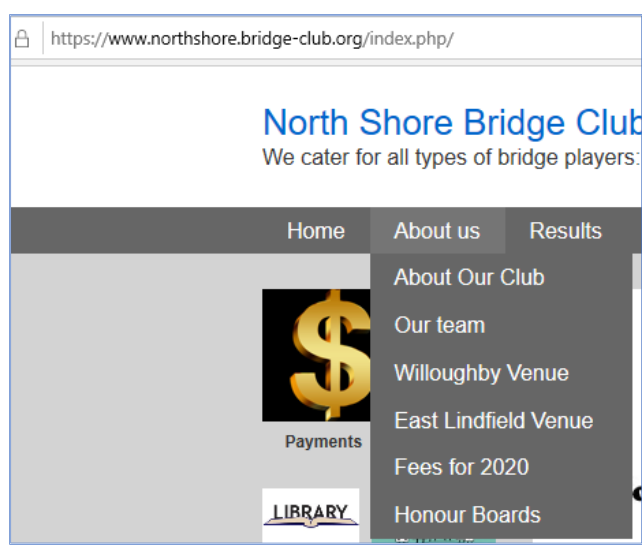
Visit the NSBC club Website

Leo Goorevich
NSBC Web Master

Have you visited our club website? **Come and explore!**

<http://www.northshore.bridge-club.org/>

See the picture from our website; here exposing the “**About Us**” sub-menu items.



- About our club:** A general description of our bridge club
- Our team:** A photo and role of all key bridge club personnel. i.e. committee, bridge directors, office staff.
- Willoughby Venue:** A description of our CW venue, location, and transport.
- East Lindfield Venue:** A description of our EL venue, location, and transport.
- Fees for 2020:** Table of bridge club fees for the year 2020.
- Honour boards:** Many honour boards showing historical event winners, club committees and members representing NSW and Australia.

Why not log on to our web site and have a look around.

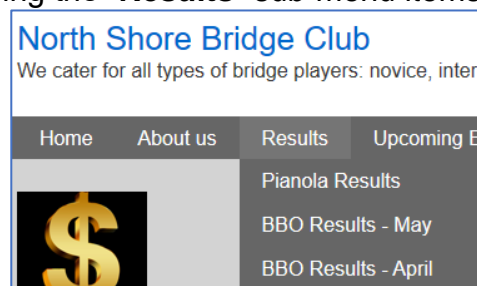
BBO Results will be in Pianola

After some very hard work from many behind the scenes from **11th May** you will receive a **BBO results** email from Pianola as you would from any normal sessions played at the club. Only the players that play in the session will get the results delivered in email with an imbedded session link to the Pianola results data.

If you don't play and still wish to see our club BBO results please use the link to NSBC website and use the “**Results**” menu to access Pianola to see all results.

<http://www.northshore.bridge-club.org/>

See the picture of from our website; here exposing the “**Results**” sub-menu items.



- BBO Results – May:** This links to a webpage menu of all May BBO results
- BBO Results – April:** This links to a webpage menu of all April BBO results
- Pianola Results** – This opens a weekly view of our **Pianola stored club bridge session results** for the current week. You can navigate to previous weeks.

North Shore Bridge Club Inc: w/c 4 May 2020							Previous week	Next week
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
#4040 Pairs North Shore		Pairs North Shore Bridge	Pairs North Shore Bridge	NSBC Rooklee Pairs Fri 18th	Pairs North Shore Bridge			
#4031 Pairs North Shore				Pairs North Shore Bridge	Pairs NSBC Rooklee Sat 1st			

From Pianola you can open & inspect any NSBC BBO result, as if it were played as in a normal club session.

- **Winners** (List of players and their percentage scores)
- **Travellers** (results on a specific board)
- **Scorecards** (results for a partnership)
- **Hand records** for inspection



Our Great game has been around for a while

By Ian MacLaren

My paternal Grandparents were very active until they passed away at age 90+. My Grandpa was great, always friendly and generous, everybody loved him. In WW1 he was General Haig's interpreter, being fluent in French, German and Scottish. Post war he was employed by various American States setting up their Education system.

In the 1960's somehow he was appointed as Senior cattle judge at the local Scottish Agricultural shows. Granny was different, a very severe lady, financially very tight, and her grandkids found her very scary. She was the first to introduce me to Bridge; I hated it along with her permanent harping on about my poor bidding and play.

However, back in 1929 Granny entered and won a Bridge tournament held throughout Northern Scotland; the final session was held in Elgin her home town. The prize giving became a bit of a mess when it was announced that the 1st prize of a new Rootes motorcar, later Humber, was no longer available as the Sponsor, the local dealer, had gone broke in the depression. As the story goes Dear Granny would not accept this and created a continuing scene for weeks. Eventually she decided to go and visit Lord Rootes in London and demand a car. The fact she could not drive did not seem to matter.

The trip by train took days but eventually she arrived late one afternoon at Lord Rootes mansion in Mayfair, where the butler opened the door and refused her entry. This caused another argument and after a while a Gentleman came to investigate the ruckus at his front door. She explained what had occurred and he

was very apologetic, but said he knew nothing about this, and asked her which hotel she was staying at and he would investigate and be in touch in a few days. She told him she had no money for fancy hotels and needed the car now. He pointed out this was not possible but agreed to put her up in one of his many guest rooms.

The next day after luncheon a guy arrived - a driver / instructor, with a new car for her. He then drove with her as far as the famous Scotch Corner House on the A1 in Northern England from where she drove herself back home - a trip that would have taken days.

After that she refused to enter another Bridge tournament but continued to play against locals and family well into her 90s. There must be a moral to this story. I'm just not sure what it is. It must be much more fun to learn with Anita and Co.





Passive Defense Strategy

By Pat O'Connor

We are West. Our hand is

♠ K64	♥ 964	♦ J76	♣ AKT3
-------	-------	-------	--------

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♥
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

South opens 1♥, we pass and North raises to 2♥. The excitement is too much, and everyone passes. We lead the ♣A and dummy comes down.

Lead ♣A		North
West		♠ Q852
♠ K64		♥ QJ5
♥ 964		♦ AT3
♦ J76		♣ 874
♣ AKT3		

No five card suits here but we know that South must have five hearts for his opening bid, so partner is likely to have two trumps. On our lead of the ♣A, declarer plays low from dummy, partner plays the ♣2, a discouraging card, and declarer the ♣5.

Is partner excited about clubs?

Definitely not. Declarer has the ♣Q so it is unsafe to continue them. We need partner to lead clubs through South.

It is clear that there will be no ruffing in dummy because of dummy's 'flat' distribution, namely 4333. Also, there are no long suits in dummy on which declarer could discard losers. In this situation we need to avoid leading a suit that may give declarer an extra trick.

Would you say that it is safe to lead spades? Diamonds?

No, neither suit is safe. For his opening bid, declarer is likely to have some values in spades and diamonds.

What about trumps?

Yes. Partner may possibly have the ♥Kx but with the ♥QJ in dummy, declarer could easily finesse against the king. So, the only safe switch is trumps.

Full Deal	North	East
	♠ Q852	
	♥ QJ5	♠ AT97
West	♦ AT3	♥ 73
♠ K64	♣ 874	♦ Q852
♥ 964		♣ J62
♦ J76		
♣ AKT3	South (D)	
	♠ J3	
	♥ AKT82	
	♦ K94	
	♣ Q95	

If we don't help declarer, he will lose two spades, a diamond and three clubs. If instead we lead a spade, declarer can establish the queen to discard his diamond loser. If we lead a diamond, declarer will win a third trick with the nine or ten. If we lead a club, the queen will take a trick.

Postmortem

Sometimes the defenders need to be active to set up tricks for themselves or to thwart declarer, such as when there is a threatening suit in dummy or a suit that declarer can ruff in dummy. However, it is very common to be in the situation where you are looking for a lead that will not give a trick away. In passive situations like this, it pays to let declarer break new suits himself.





Brad Coles

This article was extracted from the "Australian Bridge Novice Edition", an excellent journal, full of interesting articles for the newer player.

Overcalling with a strong hand

By Brad Coles (Editor, Australian Bridge) based in Canberra

You are sitting South, holding:

♠ K5	♥ AK532	♦ KJ76	♣ A4
------	---------	--------	------

when East opens the auction with 1♦. What should you do? What is the best way to describe your hand after your that 1♦ opening?

We gave this problem to a panel of 17 experts.

9 experts said double,
7 experts said overcall 1♥,
1 expert said overcall 1NT.

When a hand is too strong for an overcall, you should start with a "takeout double" and bid your suit later. But how strong is "too strong for an overcall"? Depending on where (and in which decade) you learned to play, every player will have different ideas about how strong an overcall can be. There is a point where a hand becomes too strong for a simple overcall, but the exact turning point is a matter of opinion, and the popular opinion changes over time.

With half of our panel choosing to overcall and half choosing to double, it seems that this hand is the exact borderline between a bid and a double.

Here are a couple of sample responses:

MATTHEW THOMSON: Overcall 1♥. Clear to me, I am allowed to have good hands to overcall. Best way to get partner to show a heart fit and a few values.

But the doubblers formed a slight majority:

SARTAJ HANS: Double and then bid hearts. The practical approach in competitive auctions

is take actions that head towards the most likely game.

Not all the doubblers were planning to bid hearts on the next round:

TIM COPE: Double and then bid 1NT. Just too good for a 1♥ overcall because of the well placed diamond values. This sequence shows a good 18-20, and I would evaluate my hand towards the top of that range. Double and then 2♥ may work better when partner has three hearts. Doubling and then bidding 1NT shows a hand too strong for a 1NT overcall.

The final word: In general, a takeout double should always have a proper takeout shape; that is, short in the opponent's suit and length in all the unbid suits.

Partner should be able to jump to game in any of your suits, and trust that you have decent support. There is just one exception: you are allowed to double if you are too strong for a natural overcall (and therefore strong enough to bid higher if partner makes an inconvenient jump to game in a suit you can't stand). This should be reserved for exceptional hands, like the good 18-count that we held here today. With fewer than 18 points, you should just bid your suit naturally, and then do something to show your extra strength on the next round if appropriate. If there is no next round, and you get left to play in 1♥, it could turn out to be the best spot.

Note from NSBC editor: Bridge is not an exact science! See how the opinions of the experts differ; understand the opinions and you decide which you think is best.

Edited by Kay Moyes.



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Anita



Jessica

In 2020, our development teachers are Anita Curtis and Jessica Brake.

Build on the Basics is for people who are returning to bridge after a long break or who have completed Beginners and have played for 3-6 months. The normal Build on the Basics lessons are now split into 2: the new material is introduced on Wednesdays at 10am for approximately 1 hour using zoom/BBO sessions and hands are played on Thursdays at 10am (approximately 1.5 hours) on Zoom/BBO

Dates / Presenter	Build on Basics - Lesson Topic Wed 10am AND Thurs 10am
Wed May 27 Lesson	I can't count that high! 2C Opening & 2D response
Thur May 28 Hands	
Wed June 3 Lesson	Week 14: Dumping losers
Thur June 4 Hands	
Wed June 10	Hand Analysis 2
Thur June 11	
Wed June 24 Lesson	Week 15: Overcalls part 1
Thur June 25 Hands	
Wed July 1 Lesson	Week 16: Overcalls part 2
Thur July 2 Hands	



Improver Program with Anita is for players who have completed the "Build on the Basics" course or who have been playing for approximately one

year. These lessons extend knowledge in bidding and play and prepare players to move to the Rookie level. They are held via Zoom/BBO sessions on Thursday afternoons at 2pm. Bid and play 8 hands with Anita:

Date	Anita Curtis Thursday afternoon @ 2:00pm
	Improver/Intermediate Program - Lesson Topic
Thu May 28	Special Intermediate lesson: The secrets of defensive carding part 1 - signalling partner using attitude
Thu June 4	DYS end of course hand 5
Thu June 11	BonB end of course hand analysis 5
Thu June 18	DYS end of course hand analysis 6
Thu June 25	Special Intermediate lesson: The secrets of defensive carding part 2 - signalling partner using suit preference
Thu July 2	DYS end of course hand analysis 7

Broaden Your Game/Intermediate with Anita is a set of lessons for intermediate players with typically 3 years of Bridge experience. It follows on from Develop Your Skills.

The lessons are held over Zoom video on **Friday mornings** at 10am.

Date	Anita Curtis Friday morning @ 10am
	Broaden your game/Intermediate - Lesson Topic
Fri May 29	Jacoby 2NT raise - how to show 4 card support with an opening hand & what happens after that. How to evaluate your hand for slam! BYG/Intermediate. Bidding only with pair work.
Fri June 5	Gentle Hand Analysis for anyone who wants to improve all their skills
Fri June 12	Game v slam: evaluate your hand opposite a shortage (splinters)
Fri June 19	Eddie Kantar Hand Analysis – challenging hands from an expert. Intermediate+
Fri June 26	Fourth Suit Forcing: an essential part of your bidding repertoire
Fri July 3	Gentle Hand Analysis for anyone who wants to improve all their skills



Leads Revisited

By Barbara Travis

We strongly recommend you settle down to this great read of the article by Barbara Travis. Ed.

4♥ / S		North			East
West		♠ AJ975			♠ KQ632
♠ T8		♥ 3			♥ 976
♥ QJ8		♦ AT7542			♦ KQ8
♦ J6		♣ 5			♣ 86
♣ QJT932					
West Lead		South (D)			
♦ J		♠ 4			
		♥ AKT542			
		♦ 93			
		♣ AK74			

The auction:

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass or 4♥	All Pass	
Bidding Notes			
1♥	Normal 14 hcp -shape		
1♠	Show ♠, 4+ (Weak treat as 55)		
2♣	normal 4+ ♣		
2♠	Problem 2♠=GF, Choice 2♥ & 2♠		
3♥	6/4 shape		
Pass	Better		
4♥	Pushy		

North had an interesting rebid problem over the 2♣ bid. One option would be to apply 'false preference' by rebidding 2♥ (showing 6-9 HCP and a doubleton heart), but she chose to rebid 2♠ – a constructive bid showing 6 spades, given that 1♥ – 2♠ would be a weak jump shift.

Given that 2♠ was constructive, South now bid 3♥, to counter-invite with 6 hearts. What to do now? With two Aces and the singleton club, North opted for the game.

- At Teams this is a wise decision because you want to score your games.
- At Pairs, it is probably better to pass 3♥, ensuring a plus score for the contract.

The lead:

West opted to lead her ♦J, her doubleton.

The play:

- Declarer won the ♦A in dummy,
- ♣5 to cash the ♣A in hand,
- ♣4 to the ♥3 (ruff) in dummy.
- Cashed the ♠A
- ♠5 was ♥2 ruffed back to hand,
- then she played three rounds of hearts ♥AK4, needing the hearts to break just 3-3 for the game to make 5 hearts, 2 clubs, 1 club ruff and dummy's 2 Aces.

The point of interest:

Not a single player in the Women's or Seniors' Teams events (38 tables) at the Sydney Spring Nationals led a trump against their 4♥ or 3♥ contracts.

One of the times you are meant to lead trumps is when the declaring side has bid three suits (although not so much the case after a fourth suit forcing auction). This is based on the notion that the declaring side will have shortages, so you want to reduce the risk of ruffs. On this hand, that risk is obvious given your club length. Assuming partner will be able to over-trump is not an adequate 'excuse' for alternative leads.

Typically, the trump lead, which must be safe with QJx and a doubleton on your left, was the winning lead.

Furthermore, leading a side doubleton when hold QJx in trumps is not usually going to gain you any extra tricks. If you get a ruff, you are trumping with your natural trump trick.

Let us look at another hand and auction:

4♥ /S	North		
West	♠ A654		East
♠ T987	♥ 98		♠ KQ3
♥ 5	♦ AJ764		♥ A432
♦ KQT9	♣ 87		♦ 853
♣ QT92	South (D)		♣ 543
West Lead	♠ J2		
♥5	♥ KQJT76		
	♦ 2		
	♣ AKJ6		

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
Bidding Notes			
1♥	Normal 14 hcp -shape		
1♠	Show ♠ first, 4+ (Weak hand)		
2♣	normal 4+ ♣		
2♥	False pref 2H & 6-9 hcp		
3♥	6/4 shape Invite with 6H		
4♥	Accept		

This hand comes from a Victor Champion Cup Teams several years ago (long enough that I have had to recreate the spot cards). I was sitting East, and my partner led the ♥5 which I won with the Ace, returning a second trump.

The contract no longer had any chance of making when the club finesse lost, and we scored 1 trump, 1 spade and 2 club tricks. At the table, I said, "Nice lead, partner," receiving the response, "They'd bid three suits – automatic." I remember my daughter, Lauren, coming over as we scored up. She commented that she had made 11 tricks on this hand and I replied that you would always make 11 tricks on a non-trump lead and 9 tricks on a trump lead.

I will keep saying it: **Listen to the auction!**

Alternatively: **A blind lead means you have had a deaf auction.**

A Declarer Play Question

North	
♠ A976	
♥ QT9	
♦ 765	
♣ Q65	

South	
♠ 2	
♥ AKJ43	
♦ JT2	
♣ AK43	

Contract: 4♥ / South
Lead: ♠Q by West
Trumps are 2/3

How do you plan this hand? You win the ♠A, then at trick 2, do you draw any trumps?

a) 0 round
b) 2 Rounds
c) 3 Rounds

How do you plan this hand? You win the ♠A, then at trick 2, do you draw any trumps?

- a) 0 round
- b) 2 Rounds
- c) 3 Rounds

Solution Planning:

Count your Tricks:

Winners: 1♠ + 5♥ + 3♣ or 4♣ if clubs break

Total: 9-10 OK

Count your Losers:

Losers: 3♦ and maybe 4th club

The Play:

In case clubs are not 3-3, you should play just **2 two rounds of trumps** and then try three rounds of clubs, hoping that if the clubs are breaking badly (4-2), then the defender with the four clubs also has the last trump. You can then ruff the last ♣ with the last trump in the shorthand (dummy) for 10 tricks. Note this line does not cost if the defender ruffs the 3rd Club, as you would have gone down anyway.

But there is an even better line than this; execute a **dummy reversal**. This plan is to ruff 3 spades in the south hand **high** (♥AKJ), then finish drawing trumps with North's 3 good trumps (♥QT9).

1. Win ♠A
 2. Ruff a spade ♥J,
 3. Back to dummy with ♣3 the ♣Q
 4. Ruff a spade with the ♥K.
 5. Back to dummy a ♥3 to the ♥9
 6. Ruff last spade with the ♥A,
 7. Back to dummy a ♥4 to the ♥T
 8. Draw last trump ♥Q
 9. Cash ♣K
 10. Cash ♣A
- Cash ♣4 - **Overtrick** if ♣ are 3-3

Suit Preference Signals

A **suit-preference signal** is used when either leading a suit or following suit. A high card suggests a shift to the higher side suit, while a low card suggests a shift to the lower side suit. Of the three types of defensive signals, suit-preference signals have the **lowest priority**:

1. Attitude
2. Count
3. **Suit-preference**

This means that a signal should be plausibly interpreted as attitude or count first. A signal should be treated as suit-preference only if attitude or count do not make sense.

Example: Following Suit

The following is an example of using a suit-preference signal while following suit. After your side bids and raises hearts, South ends up declaring 4♠.

Partner leads the ♥A (Ace from ace-king):

		North	
		♠ AT854	
		♥ T4	
		♦ KJT	
		♣ Q84	
		You	
		♠ 64	
		♥ 852	
		♦ AQ2	
		♣ J7652	
Lead ♥ K Vs 4♠ /S			
Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	You	South
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥	2 ♠
3 ♥	4 ♠	All Pass	

You play the ♥2 (discouraging) at trick one. Since, you do not have the queen or a doubleton. However, at trick two partner continues with the ♥K. Which card do you follow suit with?

This is a situation in which an attitude signal does not make sense because dummy can ruff a third round of hearts. Neither is it a count situation since you're already marked with at least three hearts on the auction. Thus, it becomes a **suit-preference situation**. With two remaining hearts, your higher card would

ask for a switch to the higher side suit (diamonds), whereas your lower card would ask for a switch to the lower side suit (clubs). Since you are interested in a diamond shift, you should play the ♥8, the higher of your two remaining hearts.

The full Deal		North			
		♠ AT852			
		♥ T4			
		♦ KJT			
		♣ Q84			
		South			
		♠ KQJ97			
		♥ Q7			
		♦ 8763			
		♣ A3			
				East	
				♠ 64	
				♥ 852	
				♦ AQ2	
				♣ J7652	

If you play the ♥5 instead, partner might decide you hold the ♣A, and shift to a club. This costs a trick for the defense, allowing declarer to only go down one instead two.

Example: Leading a Suit

Suit-preference signals are sometimes also employed when leading a suit. This is most commonly done when giving partner a ruff. In the following deal, your side is defending 2♠. Partner's lead is the ♥T.

		North	
		♠ K52	
		♥ Q43	
		♦ 9863	
		♣ KQ8	
		You	
		♠ QT	
		♥ AK975	
		♦ A72	
		♣ 764	
Lead ♥ T Vs 2♠ /S			
Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	You	South
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	All Pass	

You win the ♥K and cash the ♥A, partner following suit with the ♥6. It looks like he started life with a heart doubleton and can now get a ruff. Which heart do you return?

This is a suit-preference situation. From the bidding, partner knows you have three hearts at your disposal. The highest card, namely the ♥9, would ask partner to return the highest remaining side suit, i.e. diamonds. The lowest card, the ♥5, would ask for the lowest suit returned, i.e. clubs. And the middle card? Playing the ♥7 would mean that you do not have a preference, and that partner should make his best return based on his own judgment.

In the actual hand, you want a diamond return, so you lead the ♥9. Declarer follows suit, partner ruffs with the ♠4, and duly returns the ♦J. Now you can take your ace and lead a fourth round of hearts to create a trump promotion.

The full Deal		North			East
West		♠ K52			♠ QT
♠ J74		♥ Q43			♥ AK975
♥ T6		♦ 9863			♦ A72
♦ JT5		♣ KQ8			♣ 764
♣ JT953					
		South			
		♠ A9863			
		♥ J82			
		♦ KQ4			
		♣ A2			

Partner can ruff the fourth round of hearts with the ♠J, forcing declarer to overruff with the ♠K. This promotes your ♠QT holding into another defensive trick. Declarer makes his contract on the nose, without an overtrick. Left to his own devices, partner could have easily returned the ♣J at trick 4 instead. The suit-preference signal took the guesswork out of his decision.

Responding to a takeout **double**.

First a bit of theory on responding to a takeout **X** with both 4 card majors:

Rule one: If your partner doubles a minor and you have **two four-card majors**, bid 1♠ if you have a good enough hand to volunteer another bid.

Say you bid 1♠ and one of the opponent's raises to 2♦. Now you can bid 2♥. You bid only 1♠ the first time, so your partner will know you do not have a strong hand, just a competitive hand. Your 2♥ **bid is not forcing**, which means that your partner can choose (Pass or correct) to a major suit to play in.

Rule two: If your partner doubles a minor and you have **two four-card majors**, bid 1♥ if your hand is so bad that you do not want any more bidding.

You are south, Partner makes a takeout **double** of the opponents 1♦ opening bid. Look at these hands & decide on what you would bid, then review the suggested answer.

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	East	South
1♦	X	Pass	??

North	Bid 1♠.
♠ K763	Apply rule one , you have enough values that you would be happy to bid again
♥ Q986	
♦ 763	
♣ J7	
North	Bid 1♥.
♠ T763	Apply Rule two : minimum hand and you do not want partner to bid again.
♥ J976	
♦ 63	
♣ 873	

These are important hands that reflects this important theme: If your partner had opened one of a minor and you have two four-card majors with enough points to bid, you respond with 1♥, knowing that your partner will bid again. If he has no heart support and does have four spades, he bids 1♠, and you find your spade fit.

But, when your partner **doubles** a minor for takeout, and you have two four-card majors, a 1♥ bid by you is not forcing. For this reason, you should plan ahead.

Do you listen to the bidding?

You are West in each hand. Listen carefully to the bidding and decide on what the best **opening lead** you should make before looking at the answers in the next column? **And why?**

Q1

West	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
	West	North	East	South
♠ AJ976				
♥ 863				1♠
♦ QJ9	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥
♣ T9	All Pass			

Q2

West	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
	West	North	East	South
♠ JT9				
♥ 72		1♦	Pass	1♥
♦ A942	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
♣ A863	Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥

Q3

West	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
	West	North	East	South
♠ QT63				1NT
♥ K8				
♦ Q952	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
♣ 763	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Q4

West	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
	West	North	East	South
♠ K973				1♦
♥ J3				
♦ KT72	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
♣ T93	Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Q5

West	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
	West	North	East	South
♠ JT9				1NT
♥ JT73				
♦ 82	Pass	2♦	X	Pass
♣ T985	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Q1

♥6: You have 5 Spades over the top of South. You will find dummy with short spades and 3 or 4 hearts. South's priority will be to get rid of his spade losers by ruffing them in dummy. In order to stop his plan, **a trump lead is a standout**. Later when you get back in with your ♠A, you will persist in stopping dummy's ruffing power with a further heart lead.

Q2

♦A: Your opponents have shown at least an 8-card diamond fit. Therefore, your partner has a singleton or void in diamonds. Lead the ace of diamonds and continue with the ♦2 for a ruff and a suit preference signal asking for a club return. Then your partner will ruff the diamond and will likely find a club return to your ♣A and you can give a second diamond ruff.

Q3

♦2: After a stayman sequence, then 3NT you will find 4 spades in Dummy. A diamond lead seems a much more constructive lead for the defense.

Q4

♣T: You should avoid leading one of opener's suits. North's 2♣ bid is "fourth suit forcing" - an artificial bid, usually showing an extra spade and a game forcing hand. You should prefer the lead of the ♠T

Q5

♦8: The double of the 2♦ transfer bid to 2♥ by partner, should show at least 5 Diamond cards and a good hand. As a disciplined partnership, you should lead your partner's suit. You have nothing better to lead!

Competitive BBO Hand

	North (D)	
	♠ 765	
West	♥ 972	East
♠ AJ32	♦ T7643	♠ QT94
♥ AT63	♣ J6	♥ Q
♦ A		♦ KQJ985
♣ Q753	South	♣ 98
	♠ K8	
B13	♥ KJ854	Vul All
	♦ 2	Dir: N
	♣ AKT42	

Generally, the auction proceeds: P-P-1♥
The initial problems for West are to either

- 1♥ (promising 4♠ or a big hand) or
- 1NT (15-18 hcp and Heart stoppers)

Double leads to a quick bidding sequence to the best spot.

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North (D)	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♥
X	Pass	4♠	All Pass
Bidding Notes			
1♥	Normal opening		
X	takeout, shows 4♠		
4♠	good shape, ♠ Fit		

Planning in 4♠ by East on ♣K (count) lead

Winners: 4+♦, 3x♠, 1♥ + ♥/♣ ruffs

Losers: 2x♣, maybe ♠K

Play:

- S cashes ♠AK (N showing 2)
- S leads ♣, West covers the lead, N ruffs low, closed hand ♠9 over ruffs. ♠K onside?
- ♠Q – ♠8 – ♠2 – ♠5, No reason to cover
- ♠4 – ♠K – ♠A – ♠7, all trumps out
- ♥A (unblocking suit) -♦3, ♦5, ♦2
- ♣Q (cash), ♥7, ♦8, ♣x
- ♥A (cash), ♥2, ♥Q, ♥4
- ♥3, ♥9, ♠T(ruff), ♥5 entry to the Diamonds
- Cash ♦KQJ pitch 3x♥, ♦T does not fall
- ♠J Ruff last ♦

11 tricks +650

91% score

INT leads to a more complex bidding sequence with East using stayman (implying 4 spades), but south now getting his 55-shape known. West offering to double for penalty, but East choosing to play 3NT with his long hopefully running Diamond suit.

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North (D)	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♥
1NT	Pass	2♣	3♠
X	3♥	3NT	All Pass
Bidding Notes			
1♥	Normal opening		
1NT	Choose 1NT (values & stopper)		
2♣	Stayman		
3♠	Natural second suit		
X	Suggesting Penalty		
3♥	prefers ♥		
3NT	Practical with Long strong ♦		

Planning in 3NT by West (♥9 lead)

Winners: 1♥ + 4+♦D + 3♠. hopefully ♥ or ♣

Losers: ♠AK + ♥J + ♠K

Play

- ♥9, ♥Q, ♥K, ♥A no reason to duck
- ♥A (unblocking the suit) -♦3, ♦5, ♦2
- ♠2, ♠5, ♠Q, ♠K Forcing entry to dummy
- ♣2, ♣Q, ♣6, ♣8 South tries a sneaky ♣

But West guesses well and plays ♣Q

Now has 1♣+4♦ +1♥+3♠=9 tricks as ♦ do not run, for 9 tricks contract. **55% Score**

Actual results on the board for EW

Contr	NS Score	EW MP	Frequ
2♥S+1	140	0.00%	1x
2♥S=	110	3.85%	2x
3NW-1	100	0.97%	1x
4♦E-1	100	8.97%	1x
2♥S-1	-100	12.82%	1x
2NW=	-120	15.38%	1x
2♠E+1	-140	17.95%	1x
2NW+1	-150	20.51%	1x
3♠E+1	-170	23.08%	1x
3♥S-2	-200	30.77%	5x
3♥S-3	-300	38.46%	1x
3♥xS-2	-500	42.31%	2x
3NW=	-600	55.13%	8x
4♠E=	-620	74.36%	7x
4♠E+1	-650	91.03%	5x
5♥xS-4	-1100	100.00%	1x
Played 40 Tables			
Max EW MP = 39x2 = 78 = 100%			

How do you play this hand?

North	
♠ T952	
♥ AJ82	
♦ A86	
♣ 73	
South (D)	
♠ AKQJ87	
♥ K97	
♦ K2	
♣ AQ	

You have arrived in a good 6♠ Contract by the South hand.

What is your plan to make this contract?

Lead ♠4 / west

The bidding was:

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
Bidding Notes			
2♣	GF 22hcp, strong suit		
2♦	Waiting		
2♠	Good ♠ Suit		
3♠	Strong raise (4♠ weak)		
4♠	cue		
4♦	Cue		
4NT	Keycard (♠)		
5♥	2 (no ♠Q).. Must DA & HA		
6♠	To play		

Planning in 6♠/South on ♠4 lead

Losers: Non directly.

Winners: 6♠+2♥+2♦+1♣= 11 tricks

12th trick can come from one of three lines of play. Which line would you choose to play the hand?

In all 3 options, you would start play by:

- Drawing the outstanding trump
- Cash ♦AK and ♦ ruff (eliminating ♦ from both hands) in case a ruff and discard comes your way.

1. ♥Q finesse?
2. ♣Q finesse?
3. Strip and end play.

Option 1, Cash ♥K and take the ♥J finesse

This line has the direct 50% chance of success (♥Q is onside) +1% for singleton ♥Q dropping and maybe ♥ are 33 (+5%). But they probably switch clubs before you can test for the 4th ♥

Option 2, the ♣Q finesse. This line has the direct 50% chance of success if the ♣K is in the correct hand.

You could combine with say an early ♥AK cash to see if the ♥Q falls doubleton. This would increase your chances by about 5%.

Option 3 – Strip and endplay

Your plan is to eliminate both the ♦ and the ♣ holding. Then leave the opponents on lead with the ♣K to give you a ruff discard (on a ♦ or a ♣ lead) or to open the heart suit for you. Play:

1. You have won the opening lead, drawn the outstanding Trump
2. Cashed ♦AK and ♦ ruff, this eliminates diamonds from both NS hands.
3. You now play ♠A, followed by the ♠Q to affect the end play. This eliminates the clubs from both the NS hands, whilst at the same time putting the opponents on lead.
4. Whoever wins the ♣K is end played!
5. If they duck the ♠Q, (very unlikely), you have 12 tricks. Take ♥ finesse for 13.
6. They will either lead a ♣ or ♦, giving you a ruff by dummy (North), and a ♥ discard from closed hand (south). Now you have 12 tricks.
7. Or more likely will have to lead a ♥ and start the Heart suit for you. You should then be able to manage the hearts for required 3 tricks with your good holding.

The full deal:

6♠/S	North	East
	♠ T952	
	♥ AJ82	
	♦ A86	
	♣ 73	
	South (D)	
	♠ AKQJ87	
	♥ K97	
	♦ K2	
	♣ AQ	
West		East
♠ 43		♠ 6
♥ T43		♥ Q65
♦ 754		♦ QJT93
♣ KJT42		♣ 9865
Lead ♠4		Vul N/S Dir: S

An interesting hand, lots of options. Did you choose well?

How do you play this hand?

North	
♠ KJ98	
♥ QT5432	
♦ AK	
♣ 7	
South	
♠ AQT62	
♥ -	
♦ 8743	
♣ AQT6	

Contract: 6♠ / South
Lead: ♠5 (♠7 by east)

You have overbid this hand to 6♠! How do you plan to play this hand?

Planning:

There are the 3 competing lines of play that you could consider. **Which one would you choose?**

- Complete cross ruff
- Start with a finesse against the ♣K, then finish with a cross ruff
- Establish ♥, by ruffing 3 times in hand

A full cross ruff line:

Counting your winning tricks:

- 1♠ (lead)
- 4x♥ ruffs by South
- 3x ruffs by North
- 2♦ (AK) + 1♣ (A)

= only 11

Playing a full crossruff will lead to only eleven tricks:

An early successful club finesse could get you to twelve, but a finesse only succeeds **50%** of the time. If it loses and if west has another trump to lead, you go off! You will lose further cross ruff capability.

If hearts split 4-3 (62% chance), you can ruff three hearts in your hand, getting to dummy twice in diamonds, before drawing trumps and giving up a losing a heart to the defence. But retaining the last trump in dummy as an entry to the high hearts.

Full Deal	North	
	♠ KJ98	
West	♥ QT5432	East
♠ 543	♦ AK	♠ 7
♥ 876	♣ 7	♥ AKT9
♦ J95		♦ QT62
♠ KJ92	South	♠ 8543
	♠ AQT62	
6♠/S	♥ -	
Lead 5♠	♦ 8743	
	♣ AQT6	

The winning card play:

- Win ♠8 in dummy (discard ♠2 from hand)
- Ruff the 1st heart (♥2) with ♠T
- Back to dummy ♦3 to ♦A
- Ruff the 2nd heart (♥3) with ♠Q
- Back to dummy ♦4 to ♦K
- Ruff the 3rd heart (♥4) with ♠A
- Back to dummy (♠6 to ♠K) drawing a Trump
- Lead and duck ♥Q and pitching a Loser (♣ or ♦) and establishing 2 more high ♥ tricks in dummy

- Win any **club exit** with ♠A
- Back to dummy - Ruff ♣ with ♠9 by North
- Draw Last outstanding trump with ♠J
- Cash 2 high heart tricks for 12 tricks

or

- Win any **diamond exit** by ruffing ♠9 in North
- Draw Last outstanding trump with ♠J
- Cash 2 high heart tricks
- And the ♣A in hand for 12 tricks.

North Shore Bridge Club: Contacts		
Manager:	Mike Prescott	0435 528 872
Newsletter Editor:	Kevin Davies	0403 018 979
Newsletter Editor:	Ian Maclaren	0418 680 879
Web Master	Leo Goorevich	0410 490 123
CW Venue	Club Willoughby	02 9411 3527
EL Venue	East lindfield	02 9415 8344

Solution Challenge Hand 1

North NV ♠ A K Q 9 2 ♥ 4 2 ♦ K Q J 9 5 4 ♣	Matchpoints All Non vulnerable South dealer No Interference
South D NV ♠ 10 8 5 ♥ A K J 10 ♦ A 7 ♣ 10 8 7 4	Can you bid these hands to the best contract?

Bidding challenge Solution

February 15 CW Sat 1:00 pm Dup - Open

Played over 18 tables.

Full deal:

North NV ♠ A K Q 9 2 ♥ 4 2 ♦ K Q J 9 5 4 ♣	
West NV ♠ 6 4 3 ♥ Q 9 8 6 ♦ 2 ♣ A K 5 3 2	East NV ♠ J 7 ♥ 7 5 3 ♦ 10 8 6 3 ♣ Q J 9 6
South D NV ♠ 10 8 5 ♥ A K J 10 ♦ A 7 ♣ 10 8 7 4	HCPs 15 9 4 12

Computer Predictions

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
North	-	7	3	7	2
South	-	7	3	7	2
East	1	-	-	-	-
West	1	-	-	-	-

The hand is an easy grand slam to play in either 7♦ or 7♠. I will suggest two bidding sequences to reach the grand slam:

Both use two-way checkback to create a game forcing auction, then one uses exclusion Keycard. The other uses cue bidding to get to the 7♠ Contract.

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♥
Pass	7♠	All Pass	
Bidding Notes			
1♣	Normal 12 hcp -should open		
1♠	Most systems are Major oriented		
1NT	12-14 Balanced		
2♦	GF two way Checkback		
2♥	I have 4 Hearts		
2♠	GF - 1 Have 5♠		
3♠	I have 3♠ in support		
5♣	Exclusion (No ♣ honours) Keycard(♠)		
5♠	2 but no ♠ Q (♦ A+♥ A)		
5NT	Grand slam? Any Kings?		
6♥	♥ K		
7♠	Should be OK - As long as ♠ break		

Via Cues (same bidding to 3♠)

Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♥
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♥
Pass	7♠	All Pass	
4♣	Cue (First round - here a Void) slam Try		
4♦	Cue (♦ A)		
5♦	Cue (♦ K) - ♠ are solid (no keycard), ♥ Weak (no cue)		
5♥	Cue (♥ A)		
5NT	Grand slam? Any Kings?		
6♥	♥ K		
7♠	Should be OK - As long as ♠ break		

Results at CW are poor with only 3 small slams bid (+88%) at the 18 tables, the majority being in only 4♠ contracts (44%).

B27 CW Open 15/Feb				Freque	NS Matchpoints		
Contract/Tricks/Lead					Score	MP	%
6♠	N	13	Q♣	2x	1010	33	97%
6♦	N	13	5♦	1x	940	30	88%
3NT	S	13	6♥	2x	520	27	79%
4♠	N	13	Q♣	10x	510	15	44%
3NT	S	11	3♣	1x	460	4	12%
2♠	N	13	6♣	1x	260	2	6%
3♦	N	13	2♣	1x	190	0	0%
Played 18 Tables				Max MP = 17x2 = 34 = 100%			

There is nothing to the play, ruff ♣ lead, draw trumps and test diamonds, then claim.

Solution: Challenge Hand 2

North v ♠ A Q J 6 4 3 ♥ 6 ♦ K 10 9 5 3 ♣ K	Matchpoints NS vulnerable West dealer No Interference
South v ♠ K ♥ A Q 5 4 3 ♦ A Q J 8 ♣ A 4 2	Can you bid these hands to the best contract?

Challenge solution

February 17 CW Mon 10.00am Dup - Open

Full deal

North v ♠ A Q J 6 4 3 ♥ 6 ♦ K 10 9 5 3 ♣ K	
West D NV ♠ 10 7 2 ♥ J 8 7 2 ♦ 6 4 ♣ 10 9 7 6	East NV ♠ 9 8 5 ♥ K 10 9 ♦ 7 2 ♣ Q J 8 5 3
South v ♠ K ♥ A Q 5 4 3 ♦ A Q J 8 ♣ A 4 2	HCPs 13 1 6 20

Computer predictions

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
North	3	7	5	7	7
South	3	7	5	7	7

Open results

B27 CW Open 15/Feb					NS Matchpoints		
Contract/Tricks/Lead					Score	MP	%
6♣	N	13	Q♣	2x	1010	33	97%
6♦	N	13	5♦	1x	940	30	88%
3NT	S	13	6♥	2x	520	27	79%
4♣	N	13	Q♣	10x	510	15	44%
3NT	S	11	3♣	1x	460	4	12%
2♣	N	13	6♣	1x	260	2	6%
3♦	N	13	2♣	1x	190	0	0%
Played 18 Tables					Max MP = 17x2 = 34 = 100%		

Restricted Results

B27 CW Restr 17/Feb					NS Matchpoints		
Contract/Tricks/Lead					Score	MP	%
6NT	S	13	6♣	9x	1470	26	76%
6♣	N	13	5♣	1x	1460	16	47%
3NT	S	13	T♣	3x	720	12	35%
3NT	S	12	6♣	3x	690	6	18%
4♣	N	12	8♣	1x	680	2	6%
5♦	N	13	Q♣	1x	640	0	0%
Played 18 Tables					Max MP = 17x2 = 34 = 100%		

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	7♦
All Pass			
Bidding Notes			
1♠	Normal 5♠, Unbal		
2♥	Normal 5♥, Forcing		
3♦	4+♦ second suit		
4NT	Keycard (♦) - last bid suit		
5♥	2 No♦Q (♠A +♦K)		
5NT	Grand? Kings?		
6♣	♠K		
6♦	Wimpish		
6NT	Better at MP if no 7 bid		
7♦	best bid		
7NT	looking for a top		

Nobody tried **7♦!**

With partner showing an opening hand, a 2 suiter, plus my 20 hcp, singleton ♠K, the 7♦ is biddable and should make.

13 top tricks are available.

Solution: Challenge Hand 3

North v ♠ K Q 10 6 2 ♥ 6 4 ♦ A 6 ♣ Q 5 4 3	Matchpoints All vulnerable East dealer No Interference
South v ♠ A 9 5 ♥ A K 9 ♦ K Q J 3 ♣ A K 2	Can you bid these hands to the best contract?

Challenge hand Solution

February 21 CW Fri 10:00 am Dup - Open

Full Deal

North v ♠ K Q 10 6 2 ♥ 6 4 ♦ A 6 ♣ Q 5 4 3	West v East D V ♠ 8 7 3 ♥ J 10 5 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ J 10 7
South v ♠ A 9 5 ♥ A K 9 ♦ K Q J 3 ♣ A K 2	East D V ♠ J 4 ♥ Q 8 7 3 ♦ 9 8 7 2 ♣ 9 8 6

HCPs
11
2 3
24

Alternate:

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East (D)	South
		Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♥
Pass	?		
Bidding Notes			
2♣	Game force Hand		
2♦	Waiting bid		
2NT	Bal 22-24 hcp		
3♥	Transfer to spades		
4♣	Super Accept		
4NT	Keycard (♠)		
5♦	3 or 0 (must be 3)		
5NT	Kings?		
6♥	3 kings		
6♣	very Poor		
6NT	better, but poor		
7♣	Good		
7NT	Best at Matchpoints, I am flat		

Computer Predicted Results

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
North	7	7	4	7	7
South	7	7	4	7	7

Actual Results

B10 CW Open 21/Feb				Freque	NS Matchpoints		
Contract/Tricks/Lead					Score	MP	%
7NT	S	13	J♥	4x	2220	21	88%
7♣	N	13	3♥	1x	2210	16	67%
6NT	S	13	6♥	7x	1470	8	33%
6♣	N	13	9♦	1x	1460	0	0%
Played 13 Tables				Max MP = 12x2 = 24 = 100%			

Everybody made 13 tricks, but only 5 bid grand slams to score well.

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East (D)	South
		Pass	2♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	?
Bidding Notes			
2♣	Game force Hand		
2♣	Positive 5+♠, At least A&K		
3♣	GF in ♠		
4♦	Cue ♦A		
4NT	Keycard (♠)		
5♣	2+♠Q must be ♠KQ+♦A		
6♣	very Poor		
6NT	better, but poor		
7♣	Good		
7NT	Best at Matchpoints, I am flat		