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Rookie Challenge Hand 1 (Bid and Play)

<table border="1"> <tr><th>North</th></tr> <tr><td>♠ A95432</td></tr> <tr><td>♥ 5</td></tr> <tr><td>♦ A42</td></tr> <tr><td>♣ 863</td></tr> </table>	North	♠ A95432	♥ 5	♦ A42	♣ 863	<table border="1"> <tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South (D)</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2NT</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♣</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>4NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♣</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>6♣</td><td colspan="2">All Pass</td></tr> </table>	West	North	East	South (D)				2NT	Pass	4♥	Pass	4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣	All Pass	
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South (D)																										
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Rookie Challenge Hand 2 (Play)

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South (D)																						
♠ K32																						
♥ 8																						
♦ A95																						
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Rookie Challenge Hand 3 (Bid and Play)

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South (D)																		
♠ AQ64																		
♥ A76																		
♦ J96																		
♣ A95																		

Build on the Basics – with Jessica Brake



These lessons are suitable for those who have been playing for around 3 months – 1 year or have come back to bridge after a long break.

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Join "live" on Zoom –
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Each week you will be sent:

- 1) Recording of the lesson
- 2) Lesson notes
- 3) Quiz (most weeks)

DATE	TOPIC
May 4-5	Weak Twos
May 11-12	Other pre-empt – let's get in the way!
May 18-19	Responder's NT Bids
May 25-26	Holding up in NT
June 1-2	2C Game Force

For information or to sign up email jessicabrakebridge@gmail.com

◆ PO - Setting up a Side Suit



Pat O'Connor

Setting up a side suit

It is from my book "A Second Book of Bridge Problems".

North	Standard Bidding			
	West	North	East	South (D)
♠ A95432				2NT
♥ 5	Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
♦ A42	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
♣ 863	Pass	6♠	All Pass	
South (D)	Bidding Notes			
♠ K86	2NT	20-21 Bal		
♥ AK	4♥	Transfer to S		
♦ K9653	4♠	Accept		
♣ AK2	4NT	Keycard (S)		
	5♣	3-0 Keycards		
	6♠	To Play		

South showed a balanced hand with 20-21 HCP. North's 4♥ bid was a transfer to spades; 4NT was Roman Key Card Blackwood for spades and South's 5♣ showed 0 or 3 keycards.

T1 West leads the ♣Q which you win with the ♣A.

How will you make the contract?

Analysis

It's easy if trumps are split 2-2, so

T2 You play the ♠A
 T3 Then cash the ♠K. East discards a heart on the second trump. Oops! Houston we have a problem.

How will you land this slam?

The Full Deal

	North		East
	♠ A95432		♠ 7
West	♥ 5		♥ JT9842
♠ QJT	♦ A42		♦ Q7
♥ Q763	♣ 863		♣ 9754
♦ JT8		South (D)	
♣ QJT		♠ K86	
		♥ AK	
		♦ K9653	
		♣ AK2	
6♠/S			Vul Nil
Lead ♣Q			Dir: S

If diamonds are split 3-2 there is a way to set up the suit.

T4 Play the ♥A
 T5 Then cash the ♥K, discarding a diamond (not a club). Now there are only two diamonds in dummy.
 T6 Play the ♦A
 T7 Then cash the ♦K
 T8 Then you ruff a diamond.
 T9 Return to hand with the ♣K
 T10 Then discard your losing club on the ♦9. It doesn't matter if West ruffs this with the high trump, you still discard the losing club.

If East started with three diamonds and West two, the play depends on whether West ruffs the third round of diamonds.

If West plays the winning trump, discard your losing club, otherwise ruff with one of your small trumps and the diamonds are established as before.

Twelve tricks made.

Key Point

Look for ways to discard a small card on a winner in order to set up a side suit by ruffing.

◆ AR -Establishing a long suit



Adapted from an **Andrew Robson** article from his ARBC website

Establishing a Long Suit

Losers are cards that will lose tricks. Dumping (not a technical term) simply means discarding them, throwing them away. Here we are talking about discarding losers on winners in the other hand, usually dummy.

A.	B.	C.
Dummy ♠ 7654 ♥ AQ2 ♣ 2	Dummy ♠ 7654 ♥ AQ2 ♣ 2	Dummy ♠ 7654 ♥ AQ2 ♣ 2
-Spades trumps-	-Spades trumps-	-Spades trumps-
Declarer ♠ KQJT9 ♥ K3 ♣ 3	Declarer ♠ KQJT98 ♥ 3 ♣ 3	Declarer ♠ KQJT98 ♥ K ♣ 3

The lead is in your hand, and you have no entry to dummy (eg in diamonds – not shown). Say you need to dump your losing ♣3 on dummy’s hearts before losing to ♠A.

In (A), you cash ♥K (high from the short hand) then lead over to ♥Q. When you follow with ♥A, you can dump ♣3 (and hope both opponents follow to three rounds of hearts – likely).

In (B), you’ll need to take a 50-50 risk. You lead ♥3 and finesse dummy’s ♥Q, hoping ♥K is in the second-plays hand. Note, if you can afford the club loser, you won’t need to risk the heart finesse, which will give you an unnecessary loser if the finesse loses.

In (C), overtake ♥K with ♥A, so you can lead ♥Q and dump ♣3. You have to sacrifice your third heart trick to get over to dummy.

Ruffing in Dummy

First of all, ruffing simply means trumping. We hear plenty of Trump these days so I like to use ruff.

Contrast these two layouts of two suits with spades as trumps:

A.	B.
Dummy ♠ T98 ♥ A32	Dummy ♠ T98 ♥ 2
Declarer ♠ AKQJ7 ♥ 4	Declarer ♠ AKQJ7 ♥ A43

In A, you can make just six tricks, five spades plus ♥A. It doesn’t help you to cash ♥A, voiding your hand, then ruff ♥2; you’re making that spade anyway.

However, in B, cashing ♥A and ruffing ♥3 gains you an extra trick because you’re ruffing in dummy with a trump that would otherwise have fallen helplessly under yours. You can cross to your hand and then ruff ♥4, scoring another extra trick: **eight tricks in all**.

Ruffing in the short trump hand (normally dummy) is a fabulous way to make extra tricks. But you need to do it early. You cannot draw trumps (not all of them) or you’ll draw dummy’s trumps. So next time you declare a trump contract, look to see if there’s a shorter suit in dummy. If so, void it early, so you can do some ruffing with trumps that wouldn’t otherwise win.

NSBC Gentle Hand Analysis
 May 2022 Program **ONLINE WEDNESDAYS at 2pm**
 with Anita Curtis

Gentle hand analysis consolidates everything learnt in improvers and introduces new ideas through hand analysis. Defence, declarer play & bidding are all targeted by examining 8 new hands each fortnight.


Date	Lesson Topic
Wed May 4	Gentle hand analysis 5
Wed May 11	NO LESSON
Wed May 18	Gentle hand analysis 6
Wed May 25	NO LESSON
Wed Jun 1	Gentle hand analysis 7

Visitors \$20; Members \$17

For more information or to register, email Anita: ac210927@bigpond.net.au

♦ EK -Take all your Chances

Solution to Rookie Challenge 1

 <p>Eddie Kantar</p>	This article was based on a Kantar ‘Take all your chances’ series article in the ACBL “Bridge Feed” website.
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North	Standard Bidding			
♠ AJ654	West	North	East	South (D)
♥ AQ				1♣
♦ 32	Pass	1♠	Pass	3♣
♣ J832	Pass	6♣	All Pass	
	Bidding Notes			
South (D)	1♣	2+♣, Opening hand		
♠ K32	1♠	4+S, 6+hcp		
♥ 8	3♣	6+♣, Strong hand		
♦ A95	6♣	To play		
♣ AKQT95				

The Bidding:

After you open 1♣ and jump to 3♣ after partner’s 1♠ response, partner leaps to 6♣. West leads the ♦Q. Clubs are 2-1. Plan the play.

Preliminary Analysis

Winners: 2♠+1♥+1♦+6♣=10 two short.

Top Losers: None, but deep ♦ & ♠

Strategies for 12 Tricks

- Cash ♠K then Finesse the ♠Q. the long spades providing 12 tricks.
- Heart finesse ♥K could provide 1 extra and a discard spade from hand. Enabling you to ruff out ♠Q for 12 tricks.

Solution

You have two suits with finesse possibilities to play around with, spades and hearts, but be reminded, if the opponents ever get in, they will cash a diamond trick!

If the heart finesse works, you can discard a spade on the ♥A, probably set up the spades for two diamond discards and chalk up an overtrick. If spades cannot be established for two discards, you will concede a diamond and ruff your remaining diamond. Easy enough if the heart finesse works, what if it does not? They cash a diamond and down you go and maybe the spade finesse was right all along!

If the spade finesse works, and the suit breaks 3-2, you have 13 tricks; and if the suit breaks 4-1, you can concede a diamond, ruff a diamond and make your slam without worrying about who has the ♥K. But if the spade finesse loses, they take a diamond and down you go. So which finesse should you take? Neither just yet, it was a trick question.

You can increase your chances dramatically by playing the ♠AK to see if the queen drops singleton or doubleton (about 33%). If it doesn’t, take the heart finesse (50%). This must be better than guessing which finesse to take.

Besides, testing spades keeps you alive for the heart finesse. Your chance of making this hand by first playing the ♠AK and then taking the heart finesse if the SQ fails to drop, if necessary, is a bit more than 65%

I.e., You will Win if	
♠Q drops	= 33%
+ ♥K onside (1-33%) x 50%	= 33.5%

Better than a taking a spade finesse after cashing the king first.

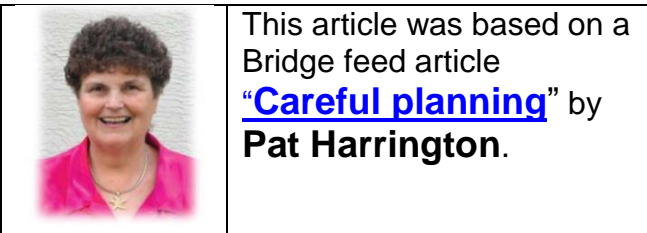
	North	
	♠ AJ654	
West	♥ AQ	East
♠ 87	♦ 32	♠ QT9
♥ K9632	♣ J832	♥ JT754
♦ QJ87		♦ KT64
♣ 64	South (D)	♣ 7
	♠ K32	
6♣/S	♥ 8	Vul Nil
Lead ♦Q	♦ A95	Dir: S
	♣ AKQT95	

Tip: When you can’t afford to give up the lead and you have two finesse suits, one missing a queen, the other a king, and if you pick the right one you will make your contract, don’t try either! Play the ace-king of the suit missing the queen, and if the queen doesn’t drop, try a finesse in the suit missing the king.

Incidentally, even if the contract was 7♣, you should play the same way.

Editor Note: Eddie Kantar recently passed away Read WBF Tribute Article

◆ PH – Careful Planning



To develop tricks in notrump, we use only high cards and length. We've also previously examined some techniques declarer might use — ducking, holding up, promotion and finesses. And we've become aware that we have to consider how fearful we are of the suit led on opening lead. Plan your play on the following deal

North	Standard Bidding			
♠ KJ2	West	North	East	South (D)
♥ 953				1NT
♦ AQT3	Pass	3NT	All pass	
♣ 763	Bidding Notes			
South (D)	1NT	15-17 Bal		
♠ AQ64	3NT	to Play.. You have 10 HCP		
♥ A76				
♦ J96				
♣ A95				

Count winners — four spades, one heart, one diamond and one club. You must finesse in diamonds. Can the heart suit hurt you if the diamond finesse loses? Should you hold up on winning the ♥A?

First, a defensive problem. You are East. South is in 3NT. Partner leads the ♥2.

North	East
♠ KJ2	♠ T75
♥ 953	♥ QT4
♦ AQT3	♦ K84
♣ 763	♣ KQJT

1. What heart will you play on the first trick?
2. If the card you play holds the trick, what will you return at trick two?

When partner leads a low card, your job is to play third hand high. You play the ♥Q. It wins! Did you return partner's lead at trick two? If so, **you failed to make your plan**.

It's easier for you since your objective isn't as lofty. All you need is five tricks to defeat 3NT. Can you see them? Your ♥Q is one. It looks like you will get the ♦K because of the diamond power in dummy — that's two.

A good analysis of partner's ♥2 opening lead will tell you that the best you can do is take three more tricks in hearts. When partner leads a fourth-best 2, he cannot have more than four cards in his suit. Returning a heart could beat only if declarer has no heart tricks.

You shouldn't hold out for this hope, because you see a sure way to get three additional tricks in clubs. Switch to the ♣K at trick two. When you get in with the ♦K, you will cash three clubs and set the contract. The complete deal:

West	North	East
♠ 987	♠ KJ2	♠ T75
♥ KJ82	♥ 953	♥ QT4
♦ 752	♦ AQT3	♦ K84
♣ 842	♣ 763	♣ KQJT
3NT/S Lead ♥2	South (D) ♠ AQ64 ♥ A76 ♦ J96 ♣ A95	Vul Nil Dir: S

If you continue hearts, declarer will end up losing two or three hearts and the ♦K.

Now let's go back to declarer's plan. Have you realized that I asked you to plan the same

deal as declarer and defender? As declarer, did you hold up on the ♥A at trick one?

How do you know not to hold up? Analyse the opening lead. The ♥2 lead tells you that West probably started with only four hearts and the suit is splitting 4–3. Hearts can't hurt you!

Declarer usually holds up in an attempt to sever communications between the defenders. And declarer has to sever communications only when there is a scary suit. We've already determined that hearts can't hurt you badly when West holds only four of them. The next step is to see if a switch to another suit could hurt. And the answer here is yes.

Your club suit is every bit as weak as your hearts.

Moral — don't hold up in one suit when a switch to another suit could hurt you worse.

♦ PA – Defending with an Honour



Defending with an Honour card

by Phillip Alder

Standard Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	4♣
All pass			
Bidding Notes			
1♠	5+♠, Opening		
2♣	3+♣, 6-9 hcp		
4♣	To Play		

Your Partner West leads the ♣A

North		East	
♠ K732		♠ 6	
♥ T6		♥ QJ742	
♦ KT62		♦ 8754	
♣ 863		♣ QJ2	

How should third hand (East) signal? Previously, we looked at third hand (the partner of the opening leader) playing the lower of touching honours when he might win the trick. For example:

West		North		East	
♠ 3		♠ 863		♠ QJ2	

Third hand plays the jack! But what happens when third hand cannot win the trick, because someone has already played a higher card than his best?

Then third hand does the opposite and plays the top of his touching cards. In the above example, third hand must play the ♣Q. This shows the queen and the jack. (In another deal, it might be a singleton queen, but I do not remember the last time I saw that.) Why is this so important? Look at the full deal:

NSBC Develop Your Skills 2022 Program with Anita Curtis Online Wednesdays at 9.30am & F2F Thursdays at 1.30pm (Willis)



Develop Your Skills (DYS) is for players who have completed the Build on the Basics course or who have been playing for at least one year. Bidding, declarer play & defence are targeted, with hand analysis to consolidate skills. Lessons will be held **on-line on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am AND face to face** (dependent on numbers) at our **Willis venue on Thursdays at 1.30pm**. There will be a 6 week break from the end of July until mid-September.

Date	Lesson Topic
Wed Apr 6 & Thu Apr 7	Interference over 1NT
Wed Apr 13 & Thu Apr 14	We're going to Slam – Blackwood
Wed Apr 20 & Thu Apr 21	They aren't going to steal this contract (over pre-empts)
Wed Apr 27 & Thu Apr 28	NO LESSON
Wed May 4 & Thu May 5	I CAN support you but not now! (Delayed raises – the "Canberra convention")
Wed May 11 & Thu May 12	Managing Entries – declarer play
Wed May 18 & Thu May 19	Let's get into the bidding – Weak Jump Overcalls
Wed May 25 & Thu May 26	NO LESSON
Wed Jun 1 & Thu Jun 2	Whose hand is it? One more for the road? (Competitive bidding)
Wed Jun 8 & Thu Jun 9	NO LESSON
Wed Jun 15 & Thu Jun 16	DYS Hand analysis 1 – practise what you have learnt
Wed Jun 22 & Thu Jun 23	Signalling is Legal (defence)
Wed Jun 29 & Thu Jun 30	Brilliant switches (defence)
Wed Jul 6 & Thu Jul 7	Double or nothing (Penalty Xs – bidding & defence)
Wed Jul 13 & Thu Jul 14	You CAN bid slams in NTs (Quantitative or Blackwood?)
Wed Jul 20 & Thu Jul 21	Forcing or not forcing? (when is a bid invitational/forcing?)

	North	
West	♠ K732	East
♠ T4	♥ T6	♠ 6
♥ A853	♦ KT62	♥ QJ742
♦ 93	♣ 863	♦ 8754
♣ AK954	South (D)	♣ QJ2
4♠/S	♠ AQJ985	Vul Nil
Lead ♠A	♥ K9	Dir: S
	♦ AQJ	
	♣ T7	

The only way to defeat 4♠ is for West to lead a low club at trick two, putting East on lead for the lethal shift to the ♥Q. The defenders take two clubs and two hearts. On any other defence, South has 10 winners: six spades and four diamonds.

Note that it cannot cost East to play the ♣Q at trick one. If alternatively, he plays the ♠2, West will think that is discouraging. He will never find the low-club continuation. (Yes, this assumes West hasn't led the unsupported ♠A. If East finds that West has done that, East should get a new partner before the next trick!)

Here is another example:

Standard Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1♠
2♦	2♠	Pass	4♠
All pass			
Bidding Notes			
1♠	5+♠, Openng		
2♦	5+♦, overcall <16 hcp		
2♠	3+♠, 6-9 hcp		
4♠	To Play		

T1 Partner West leads the ♦A.8,5,7.

North	
♠ 8754	East
♥ KQJ9	♠ 63
♦ 98	♥ T7632
♣ 732	♦ 5
	♣ KQJT9

Partner continues with the ♦K. What should East do?

When you discard, you cannot win the trick. So, the same rule applies: Signal with the top of touching honours. Here, East should discard the ♠K.

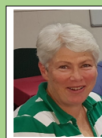
Note that all of the honours are equally powerful. Do not be shy – get that king onto the table. This will steer partner in the right direction when this proves to be the full deal:

	North	
West	♠ 8754	East
♠ 9	♥ KQJ9	♠ 63
♥ 854	♦ 98	♥ T7632
♦ AKJ432	♣ 732	♦ 5
♣ A86	South (D)	♣ KQJT9
4♠/S	♠ AKQJT2	Vul Nil
Lead ♦A	♥ A	Dir: S
	♦ QT76	
	♣ 54	

The danger is that West will play a third diamond, hoping East can overruff the dummy. To deflect West toward the winning play, East must discard that ♠K. Now it should not be beyond West to continue with the ace and another club, giving the defenders the first four tricks.

Notice finally that if West does start with three rounds of diamonds, declarer makes the contract. He ruffs the third diamond with dummy's ♠7, draws trumps and runs the hearts. He ends up with an overtrick.

NSBC Intermediate May 2022 Program
East Lindfield NSBC venue Fridays at 10am with Anita Curtis



Broaden Your Game (BYG): aspiring intermediate players who play in Rookies or Restricted.
Intermediate: aspiring open players or those with considerable experience in Restricted.

Date	Lesson Topic	Description
6 May	Myths & Truths in Defence	2 nd person plays low; 3 rd hand plays high in defence – right? Not necessarily! BYG/Intermediate
13 May	Intermediate card combinations – Eddie Kantar	The great U.S teacher Eddie Kantar gives insight into essential card combinations that will really improve your declarer play. BYG/Intermediate
20 May	"It's the small things"	Intermediate bidding : tips & easy conventions that will make a difference to bidding for intermediate players.
27 May	ONLINE 9.30am	BYG/Intermediate bidding : Power Doubles. What do you do when you are too strong to overcall? What are the follow up bids? (Bidding only session)

Visitors \$20; Members \$17

For more information or to register, email Anita: ac210927@bigpond.net.au

♦ JF – Hand Analysis

	Julian Foster (many times NSW representative) analysing (bidding & play) on an interesting hand from a club session.
	Sourced SBC Wisdom articles.

	North	
	♠ J8	
West (D)	♥ AQ6532	East
♠ AQT543	♦ J7	♠ 92
♥ 874	♣ QT6	♥ JT
♦ K5		♦ AT42
♣ 92	South	♣ K8543
	♠ K76	
10	♥ K9	♣♦♥♠NT
9 8	♦ Q9863	N 1 2 2 - 3
13	♣ AJ7	S 1 2 2 - 3
		E - - - 1 -
		W - - - 1 -

This Board is just one of those average hands that come up all the time. The results in the club were a typical mix ranging from NS **+110** (NS 3♦ making) to NS **-140** (EW making 2♠+1 or 3♠).

Here most Wests will open with a weak 2♠ (or possibly a multi 2♦ showing a weak two in either major).

We'll assume weak 2♠ for now. What should NS do? North has the first problem – should they overcall 3♥? I would not overcall for several reasons:

- I only have 10 points and they aren't even very good points – my two J's (including one in the opponent's suit) are definitely not worth full 2 points!
- My heart suit has terrible spot cards
- My hand is relatively balanced
- I am vulnerable

Bidding over pre-empts is hard because you often forced to guess. After any bid that quite tightly defines a hand (typical examples are pre-empts or a 1NT opening), the partner of that bidder (East here) is in the most powerful position at the table. Only they know whose

hand it is. East will happily pass 2♠ with anything from about 0 to 14 points being pretty confident they are not missing game. That is a very wide range! Both North and South might hope their partner has points but in fact discover East has them – and a double waiting!

This is why pre-empts are so effective. Not only do they force the opponents to guess, they basically, win the race to describe your hand to your partner – and place them in control of the auction. Just imagine as North what a disaster it might be if East had points and ♥KJ109 sitting over you. They will double 3♥ and you could easily go for **-1100**! There is a huge difference between overcalling at the 1 level and the 3 level, and when vulnerable or not vulnerable. North is in a very exposed position after a 2♠ opening.

Both the pairs who did overcall 3♥ landed up in 4♥ 1 off. This is also a common problem – if you overcall on hands with too little you can't stop there because partner will bid on when you don't want them to!

So after 2♠-Pass-Pass, should South act?

Yes. South is in what is known as the "protective" position. They need to recognise there are plenty of quite reasonable hands that their partner might hold which they simply couldn't bid with. So South needs to strive to keep the auction open in case partner has that. Here South has a balanced 13 points. There is no reason at all partner cannot have the same and we are cold for 3NT!

So as South I would bid 3♦. No, it's not particularly nice as I only have 5 diamonds but I am not strong enough to overcall 2NT (which should be strong here just like it is as a 1NT overcall), nor can I make a takeout double of 2♠ because I don't want partner to assume I have 4 hearts and go leaping to game there! So, 3♦ is the least bad option. It's still risky but not as bad as North overcalling because at least I now know East has passed 2♠ so they don't have enough to try for game themselves. Hence partner must have SOMETHING?

2♠-Pass-Pass-3♦-Pass

Back to North. Now what? Now there is a good case to now bid 3♥. This actually

describes your hand quite well. It wasn't good enough to bid 3♥ the first time, but since you are now offering the suit you must have quite a few (at least 5, usually 6) and you must have some values (otherwise you'd just pass 3♦).

2♠-	Pass-	Pass-	3♦
Pass-	3♥	Pass	?

South then needs to decide what to do over 3♥. Not easy. 3NT is plausible though – to protect your ♠K from being led through and the ♠K is now a very good card. But note if South had been weaker when they bid 3♦ they could now pass 3♥ – they know their partner **cannot have a strong hand** with hearts because they would have already overcalled 3♥ with that.

Just to finish with the bidding, suppose West had opened a 2♦ multi showing a weak two in either major). Notice how much easier it now is for North as they can overcall 2♥ (still risky but a level lower). Although the multi 2♦ has the advantage of sowing some confusion, natural weak twos are actually a more effective weapon against better players (see advanced section for why).

Play & Defense

3NT by south is a somewhat lucky making contract. The defence can take no more than the ♠AQ and the ♦AK. Meanwhile, with the aid of the club finesse declarer has 6♥ and 3♣ tricks.

3♥ by North seems like it would make the same 9 tricks but in fact it can be beaten (see advanced section for how).

If West was left in 2♠ it ought to be defeated (even though it wasn't at club). North has a hard lead. Even though it works here I would never lead away from an ♥AQ, nor do I want to touch trumps. I'd probably try the ♦J but that could prove horribly wrong!

T1	♦J lead, Declarer will most likely win <u>♦A</u>
T2	Start by attempting to ruff a ♥ with dummy short spades by leading hearts . South wins <u>♥K</u>
T3	South should switch to a small trump. If declarer wins either ♠A or ♠Q

T4	Then plays a 2nd ♥, North wins this
T5	North should play the ♠J. That removes the ♥ ruff
In time, the defence should score 1♠, 3♥ and 2♣ for 1 off set.	

Key points to note

- Simple pre-empts are a very effective weapon. They define your hand narrowly which puts your partner in control of the auction – only they know which side's hand it is.
- That means opponents have to be careful – they could easily get doubled and go for a large penalty
- But at the same time opponents cannot let themselves be talked out of a game contracts – the player in the pass out seat may need to bid a bit light to “protect” partner.

More advanced

I mentioned natural weak twos are more effective than a multi 2♦. Why? Three reasons:

1. They take up more space (as we saw in this hand – North could overcall 2♥ with 2♦ Multi but has to bid 3♥ over weak 2♠).
2. The defence only get one chance. Over a multi 2♦ you can PASS knowing that it will almost never be the final contract. So advanced players can wait and then bid on the next round once they know what declarer's suit actually is, and have some idea how strong is responder. A natural weak two could get passed out so you may have to commit to acting immediately which is riskier.
3. They immediately identify your suit. Often when a multi is opened, your partner cannot tell which suit you have. There are many situations where they might want to jump high if you have one suit but not if you have the other. So, they have to respond 2♥ or 2♠ which allows the opponents more room. It is much safer to bid after 2♦ Pass 2♥ to you than it is after 2♥ Pass 4♥!

So how can 3♥ by North be defeated? Via an advanced defensive play called a “trump promotion”. Suppose EW have managed to cash the ♠AQ and the ♦AK and the lead is with West. Now they play another spade. What can declarer do? East will score a ruff if declarer discards or ruffs low. So, declarer has to ruff high with the ♥Q. But that now means West’s lowly ♥8 will score a trick! Check and see. Declarer has to use their ♥AK to draw East’s ♥JT. But the ♥9 in the South hand has to be played under the ♥A to do that. Which leaves the ♥8 as the highest trump – in other words it has been “promoted”! Trump promotions can do remarkable things – I have seen the ♦5 be promoted to the setting trick in a 2♦ contract!

On this hand it is hard to achieve this in the real world.

T1 East will surely lead a ♠ to the ♠AQ. If West plays a 3rd spade at this point, a smart declarer won’t trump at all – they will instead just discard a losing diamond allowing East to score his trump – but effectively just swapping that for one of the defence’s natural diamond tricks.

To make the trump promotion effective, the defence need to have cashed the ♦AK first (so there are no more losers for declarer to swap) and this isn’t easy – it requires West to underlead ♦K5 and then East to return to the ♦K.

This is an example of where Deep Finesse might say a contact can be held to 8 tricks but the defence to achieve that basically requires you to see all the cards!

◆ Festival –RB Rookie & Restricted

2022 Rookie Pairs Championships

Prizes:

3 “2:00pm Rookie” RB Sessions in NSBC Festival Week: 20th, 21st, 22th June

This Rookie match pointed pairs event will be run over the 3 x day time RealBridge sessions during NSBC Festival Week in late June, to decide the Clubs 2021 Rookie Club Pairs Championship title.

You can play in 1 or 2 or all 3 sessions. All sessions are 21 Boards. Your best 2/3 possible percentage scores will be counted towards the Rookie championship and the cash prizes. Both Partnership players must be “Rookie status” (ie <100 MP or less than Bronze Regional Master Point Ranking. This event is open to all Rookie players (Members or Visitors).

Directors: Normal
 Convenor: **Gary Barwick**

Red Points (B5)

We welcome **all players** who are financial members of the ABF subject to MP status, to play in this event. Yellow complex Systems are not permitted

Previous 2021 Rookie Champions: **Lorna Davies - Sharon Thompson**

Normal RB daytime rates apply
\$11 Members (PP) & \$14 visitors

2022 Restricted Pairs Championships

Prizes:

2 “Monday 10am Restricted” RB Sessions in NSBC Festival Week: 20th, 27th June

This Restricted match pointed pairs event will be run over the 2 x day time RealBridge sessions during NSBC Festival Week in late June, to decide the Clubs 2021 Restricted Club Pairs Championship title.

You can play in 1 or both sessions. All sessions are 24 Boards. Your scores percentage will be counted towards the Restricted championship and the cash prizes. Both Partnership players must be “Restricted status” (ie <300 MP or less). This event is open to all Restricted players (Members or Visitors).

Directors: Normal
 Convenor: **Gary Barwick**

Red Points (B5)

We welcome **all players** who are financial members of the ABF subject to MP status, to play in this event. Yellow complex Systems are not permitted

2021 Restricted Champions: **Lorna Davies - Sharon Thompson**

Normal RB daytime rates apply
\$11 Members (PP) & \$14 visitors

◆ Festival EL Restr & Novice Congress

Two Men and A Truck
Restricted & Novice **Swiss Teams**

Saturday 18th June @ East Lindfield

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Teams (IMP) Event

Prize Pool: 1st \$400, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100, Best Novice Team \$200

This event incorporates the 8th running of the NSBC Festival “Two Men & a Truck” Restricted & Novice Teams Championships

Convenor, Queries & Partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872
 Director: Ronnie Ng Entry Management: Enter by **MyABF**

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select “Club PP System”
 Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA. The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA’s Disciplinary Regulations

Previous 2021
 7th Restricted Teams Champions : **Winstone Horne**, Peter Cloke, Virginia Cohen, Gail Armstrong
 Novice Teams Champions : **Sandra Belcher**, Joe Camilleri, Russell Spear, Peter Napier

Player Fees (pp) \$45 (Light lunch and snacks provided)

Two Men and A Truck
Restricted & Novice **Swiss Pairs**

Sunday 19th June @ East Lindfield

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Pairs (IMP) Event

Prize Pool: 1st \$200, 2nd \$150, 3rd \$100, Best Novice 1st \$100

This event incorporates the 5th running of the NSBC Festival “Two Men & a Truck” Restricted & Novice Pairs Championships

Convenor, Queries & Partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872
 Director: Ronnie Ng Entry Management: Enter by **MyABF**

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select “Club PP System”
 Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA. The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA’s Disciplinary Regulations

Previous 2021 4th Restricted Pairs Champions : **Clare Ainsworth & Mary Poynter**
 Novice Pairs Champions : **Paula Nigem & Richard Sheldrake**

Player Fees (pp) \$45 (Light lunch and snacks provided)