



♦ Bridge Puzzle 30

		This article was derived from Bridgefeed, "Puzzle This no 30"			
North	Standard Bidding				
♠ K54	West	North	East	South (D)	
♥ AQ					1NT
♦ 8643	Pass	3NT	All Pass		
♣ T987					
South (D)	Bidding Notes				
♠ A82	1NT	15-17 Bal			
♥ 52	3NT	To Play			
♦ AK972					
♣ A65					

Playing IMPs game, you open 1NT as South, and partner, who thinks you play every contract so well, blasts to 3NT without inviting.

- T1 West leads the ♠6, ♠4 dummy, East playing the ♠Q, and you duck with ♠2.
 T2 East returns the ♠9.

Where do you win this trick, and what should you do next?

Solution on P5

LABOUR DAY

Pairs

Monday 2nd October
Starts @ 10am

East Lindfield Club Champion

[Click to enter](#)

MYABF

♦ 2023 Melbourne Cup Pairs

\$25.00
Bring a Plate and share lunch
Free champagne, wine and juice

MELBOURNE CUP PAIRS

TUESDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER
AT 10:30AM
AT EAST LINDFIELD

BOOKING ESSENTIAL
via Website

Traditional celebration lunch and fun pairs bridge game on Tuesday 7th November, 10:30 am at East Lindfield. Bring a plate to share - the club will provide drinks, wine, champagne! There will be sweeps, a hat parade and of course watching the race on the big screen. Entry fee is \$25 - Booking is essential - click on above heading or go to Upcoming Events

Christmas PARTY

Friday 1st December
at East Lindfield @ 10 am

Play a duplicate Session at 10 am and stay for Lunch.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

TRUE MIXED TEAMS

THURSDAYS 2, 9, 16 & 23RD NOVEMBER

Club Champion Online

♦ BM – Good Technique



Brent Manley

This Challenge hand was adapted from a Brent Manley article. Sourced from the ACBL Bridge feed website

North		Standard Bidding			
		West	North	East	South (D)
♠ KT543					1♦
♥ AQ6					
♦ 42		PASS	1♠	PASS	1NT
♣ A87		PASS	2♦ ⁽¹⁾	PASS	2NT ⁽²⁾
		PASS	3NT	ALL PASS	
South (S)		Bidding Notes			
♠ A9		1♦	4+D, opening hand		
♥ K54		1♠	4+♠, 6+ HCP		
♦ KT53		1NT	Bal 12-14		
♣ K653		2♦ ⁽¹⁾	GF Checkback		
		2NT ⁽²⁾	<4♥ <3♠ <5♦ ie 2344		
		3NT	To Play		

The Bidding:

You (South) open 1♦, Partner bids 1♠ and you limit your hand with 1NT (12-14 Bal). Partner uses Game Forcing Checkback 2♦, and you respond 2NT (Not 4♥, Not 3♠ & Not 5♦ = 2344 shape). Partner places the game in 3NT. West starts the defence by leading the ♥J. What is your plan for taking nine tricks?

Preliminary Analysis

Winners: 2♠+3♥+2♣ = 7 top winners

Losers: ♦A, more deep losers

Strategies for 9 tricks?

- Set up the long ♠ – If 33 then 2 extra.
- Set up ♣, if 33 then 1 extra
- Lead up to ♦K, If onside 1 extra

Your Solution

Your assessment was that the most likely way to generate the extra two tricks you needed was to develop the long tricks in spades. If spades were 3-3, any play would work, but declarer saw that playing the ♠AK and another spade would waste his ♠9.

- T1 West starts the defence by leading the ♥J, You choose to win the first trick in dummy with the ♥A. East playing ♥2 (Likely 3) and ♥4 from hand
- T2 You led a low spade from the table ♠3. East following with the ♠2 and You played the ♠9 from hand, West ♠8. Which won!
- T3 You then cashed the ♠A. West ♠7, ♠6. Spades are breaking 2-4
- T4 You crossed back to dummy with a low club ♣3, ♣2 to the ♣A, East ♣9.
- T5 You cashed the high ♠K, ♠J, ♠3, ♠4
- T6 You then played the ♠5, East winning ♠Q, ♠5, ♥7.
- T7 East shifted to the ♦9. Declarer covered with the ♦T and West took the trick with the ♦J, ♦2.
- T8 West exited with a heart ♥T as cashing ♦A would likely give declarer an over trick

At this point you claimed your nine tricks: four spades, three hearts and two clubs.

Declarer's play in spades was the best play. It picks up four tricks against all 3-3 breaks, ♠QJ doubleton with West, East holding four spades with the ♠QJ, plus a ♠Qx or ♠Jx doubletons with East. This offers slightly more than a **60% chance** of making four tricks in spades – quite an improvement over the **39%** offered by just banging out the ♠AKx.

Not to mention that, on the given layout, banging out ♠AK another spade would have allowed East to lead diamonds through declarer's hand twice and defeat you!

The full deal:

		North			
		♠ KT543			
West		♥ AQ6		East	
♠ 87		♦ 42		♠ QJ62	
♥ JT97		♣ A87		♥ 832	
♦ AJ7				♦ Q986	
♣ QT42		South (S)		♣ J9	
		♠ A9			
		♥ K54			
		♦ KT53			
		♣ K653			
3NT/S Lead ♥J				Vul NS Dir: South	

♦ JF – Get too High



Julian Foster

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

Board 19		North	Dealer: South
West		♠ 2	East
♠ T6	♥ 7654	♦ JT96	♠ KJ87
♥ 93	♣ AQ83		♥ KQJT
♦ K84			♦ AQ52
♣ K96542			♣ J
		South (D)	
		♠ AQ9543	
		♥ A82	
		♦ 73	
		♣ T7	
7			
6 17			
10			

Board 19 in a club game, saw the majority of pairs reach a contract EW going down, although a couple were allowed to make 3NT. Could they have avoided getting too high?

There are several possible auctions on this hand. South has to initially decide whether to open and, if so, whether to open 1♠ or treat the hand as a weak 2♠. See advanced section for some more on this.

Where South initially passed

West	North	East	South (D)
			P
P	P	1♦	1♠
P	P	?	

This usually ran round to East who opened 1♦. South overcalled 1♠ and this ran back to East. Now what? My answer may surprise people.

Pass!

Why pass even though we have 17 points? The question to ask is where are we going? Remember partner passed initially and then again over 1♠. He cannot have much. In addition:

- He hasn't raised diamonds.
- He hasn't doubled 1♠. If he had even 6 points with 4 hearts he would have made a negative double. So, the only time we have a heart fit partner will be incredibly weak.

- Furthermore, this hand isn't worth anywhere close to 17 points now – the ♠KJ are sitting under the 1♠ overcall and the ♣J could also be worthless. Our hand could be worth as little as 12 points.

There really isn't much likelihood of us making much if partner couldn't bid. On the other hand we have plenty of defence against a Spade Contract.

What else could we bid anyway?

- Double? This is takeout so partner is going to bid clubs almost all the time(!) and then we will have to rebid 2NT when partner could have absolutely nothing.
- 2♥? This was chosen at a couple of tables but it is a reverse showing at least 4 hearts and at least 5 diamonds, plus a strong hand (we are effectively forcing to 3♦ if partner has to go back there). We need more strength and shape for that. Both those tables ended in 3♦ going 2 off.
- 1NT? No – very risky because partner is known to be a weak hand. A free 1NT here typically should show a good 18-19, here we have a bad 17.

Where South opened 2♠, this also came round to East. This is harder and this time I probably would bid. See advanced section for why it's different. Most tables facing this problem chose to double and then had to bid 3NT over the (almost inevitable) 3♣.

What happened in the play to 3NT?

South naturally starts with a spade so the ♠T probably scores in dummy. Declarer will surely knock out the ♥A but that still only gets them up to 7 tricks (1♠, 3♥, 3♦). They can probably engineer an 8th but they just don't have 9 tricks. The defence are likely to score 2♠, 1♥ and 2♣ first. If declarer tries for diamonds 3-3, he may set up a diamond trick for North as well. The times 3NT made were when South continued with a 2nd spade after winning the ♥A. This is too risky as it is known to be giving declarer a 2nd cheap spade trick (if partner had a spade honour they would have played it at trick 1). Also, your outside entry to your spade suit (♥A) has now been knocked out so there's little point in setting them up. South should go passive because they should know partner has

something in clubs (see advanced section for why).

Observe that if we had passed out 1♠ it might scrape home for a score of +80 NS or it might drift off. Either are a lot better than EW scoring -200 by going off themselves!

Key points to note

- Having length in the opponent's suit in an auction is **generally a bad sign** – you should be cautious in the bidding.
- Consider what partner has NOT done (but could have done) in the auction as well as what he has done.
- Don't be afraid to pass an auction out if you don't think your side is going anywhere.
- Sometimes you can infer partner must have something in a suit because otherwise declarer would be playing on it themselves (see advanced section).
- A lot of the time it is right for the defence to be passive and not open up new suits.

More advanced

Should South pass, open 1♠ or open 2♠? There is no right or wrong answer – it has more to do with partnership agreement and style. These days when they are at “green” (i.e. not vulnerable v vulnerable) many pairs agree to make very aggressive pre-emptive openings. So, if they are opening 2♠ on something as bad as ♠Kxxxxx xxx xxx x then if they ALSO open 2♠ on this hand, partner will have no idea what to do opposite. They might be cold for game or going off in 2♠! Playing that style, this hand is too good to open a weak 2♠ and you would probably pass or open 1♠ instead. Partner should of course allow for that in the auction. Conversely had we been vulnerable and our agreed style is to be much more conservative then we would probably open this hand 2♠.

Note of course the information about this style is extremely important and the opponents are entitled to know it as well. When explaining bids, you should indicate your partnership's agreed style where you have one.

West	North	East	South (D)
			2♠
P	P	?	

What about the auction 2♠-P-P to East? This is harder. There are 3 bids that might be considered, none of them ideal:

- **Double**. Most East's did this and when their partner, unsurprisingly, bid 3♣ they bid 3NT. Double has the upside that you might find a heart fit but also risks getting too high as you can't pass 3♣ which is the most likely bid partner is going to make!
- **2NT**. Not truly balanced but it at least limits the strength of the hand and allows West to pass it when they have rubbish.
- **Pass**. For the same reasons given earlier about passing out 1♠. But here it risks our side missing game.

I think I would bid **2NT** (usually about 16-19 here). If partner has enough values to move, he can still check for a heart fit so we won't lose that. But we can bail out in 2NT if partner is weak.

Why is this situation different to **1♦ 1♠ P P ?**

Because there, partner was known to be weak (he has already declined two chances to bid). But over 2♠ partner could have some quite reasonable hands they just couldn't bid on immediately. Therefore, game is still a distinct possibility from our perspective.

What about the defence to 3NT? How does South know North has something in clubs when they win the ♥A? Two reasons:

1. By inference – if declarer had something in clubs surely they would be playing on the suit?
2. By signals. South should not win the ♥A straight away, they should duck the first round. On that trick North should have given us a count signal (playing reverse count that would be the ♥4). On the next heart we do win the A♥ and this time North should give us a suit preference signal. They should play the ♥5, the lowest of their remaining hearts – to indicate a preference for clubs.

Just because partner has indicated a preference for a suit doesn't mean that is a

command for us to play it though. The defenders cannot afford to cash their club tricks and set up the ♠K while the ♦K is still in dummy. So, they should go passive and probably just exit in a red suit leaving declarer to try everything himself. 3NT will drift at least 1 off provided the defence stays passive and don't give declarer tricks. That is an all-too-common theme. Years ago, I remember reading an article which claimed that every time the defence switch suits they typically give away ½ a trick. One of the great skills in bridge is knowing when you need to be **"active"** and when **"passive"**. but in general players tend to be more active in defence than they should be.

Julian Foster (many times NSW representative)

Canapé

We'll be getting canapés with the prize-giving today, which usually means a savoury topping on a piece of bread or toast. We'll see. In French, it's an appetiser before the main course, like choosing to open 1♦ with

♠ AJ6 ♥ AKJ43 ♦ Q1063 ♣ 8

a French bidding idea from the 1940s. You start the ball rolling with 1♦, planning to reveal the main course 2♥ with your rebid. It's pretty rare these days. At least now you know whether you should be ticking the Canapé ☐ box on your ABF system card.

ED: at least I pair play canapé in the NSBC Open sessions.

Playing IMPs game, you open 1NT as South, and partner, who thinks you play every contract so well, blasts to 3NT without inviting.

T1 West leads the ♠6, ♠4 dummy, East playing the ♠Q, and you duck with ♠2.
T2 East returns the ♠9.

Where do you win this trick, and what do you do next?

Top Winners: 2♠+1♥+2♦+1♣ – 3 short
So, it looks like you need five diamond tricks which requires a 2–2 division of the suit. Should you, therefore, just bang down the ♦A and see what happens?

No. There's a better line and it requires taking the heart finesse.

T2 East returns the ♠9, Win the ♠A in your hand, West playing ♠3 (5?)
T3 You play a heart ♥2 to the ♥Q.

If it loses, you're no worse off than you were before: Win the return and play on diamonds.

If the ♥K finesse wins, however, you will then need only four diamond tricks, so you can afford a simple safety play.

T3 You play a heart ♥2 to the ♥Q. East ♥3
T4 Play a low diamond ♦3 from dummy, intending to insert the ♦7 if East follows low (the ♦5).

♦ Bridge Puzzle 30 solution



This article was derived from Bridgefeed,

["Puzzle This no 30"](#)

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♠ K54	West	North	East	South (D)
♥ AQ				1NT
♦ 8643	Pass	3NT		All Pass
♣ T987				
South (D)	Bidding Notes			
♠ A82	1NT	15-17 Bal		
♥ 52	3NT	To Play		
♦ AK972				
♣ A65				

If West wins this trick, you'll know the suit was either 2–2 or 3–1 originally, and you will be able to run diamonds as soon as you regain the lead in any suit.

If East covers the low diamond exit from dummy with an honour ♦T, however, you will win the ♦A and watch what West plays.

If he follows suit, you can clear diamonds by cashing the king and exiting with another diamond.

If West shows out on the first round, however, you can just play a low diamond back toward

dummy's ♦8. This play allows you to overcome the layout at right where East started with all four diamonds. East can win the ♦8 with an honour, but you will win whatever the defence returns and take the marked diamond finesse to score four tricks in the suit.

	North	
	♠ K54	
West	♥ AQ	East
♠ JT763	♦ 8643	♠ Q9
♥ K764	♣ T987	♥ JT983
♦ -		♦ QJT5
♣ KJ32	South (D)	♣ Q4
	♠ A82	
3NT/S	♥ 52	Vul NS
Lead ♠6	♦ AK972	Dir: S
	♣ A65	

♦ Thursday Comp Night –Q3/4 2023

The current event (Club MP Pairs Championships) is running, no further entries.



Note there is a break on 19/Oct for Spring Nationals.

The Next Event is the Mixed Teams in November



40th Online Club True Mixed Teams Comp Night – Club True Mixed Teams

Thursdays 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd Nov

7pm Start– Club Mixed Teams Championships (Imp/VP)

Prize Pool: Generous Prize Pool

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Gary Barwick 0413 884 805

Director: Ronnie Ng

Entry Management: Enter by MyABF

Pre-payments: Visitors "ABF Credits", Members via "Club PP System"

39th 2022 Winners: Joan Butts, Michael Courtney, Avrii Zets, Craig Gower

NORTH SHORE BRIDGE CLUB
Online Venue with RealBridge
Tel: 0413 884 805

Player Fees per Team (\$304 ABF Credits) Members (via Club PP System only \$256)

Why not join? Remote Members just \$25/year

A 1-week break for the GNOT National finals & then the XMAS Teams

Christmas Teams

Thursdays 7th, 14th & 21st Dec

14th Online XMAS Teams Comp Night – XMAS Teams

Thursday's 7, 14, 21 Dec

7pm Start– Club XMAS Teams Championships (Imp/VP)

Prize Pool: Generous Prize Pool

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Gary Barwick 0413 884 805

Director: Ronnie Ng

Entry Management: Enter by MyABF

Pre-payments: Visitors "ABF Credits", Members via "Club PP System"

13th 2022 Winners: Martin Bloom, Mathew Vadas, Shane Harrison, George Fleischer

NORTH SHORE BRIDGE CLUB
Online Venue with RealBridge
Tel: 0413 884 805

Player Fees per Team (228 ABF Credits) Members (via Club PP System only \$192)

Why not join? Remote Members just \$25/year

Then the 2024 Calendar starts after Christmas with the Summer Imp Pairs.

SUMMER PAIRS

28th Dec
5th Jan
@ 7PM

Online IMPS

♦ 2024 Draft Comp Night Program

2024 Tentative Comp Night Events Program					
Start Date	N	Ven	Type	Grade	CC Event Name
Thu-28-Dec	2	RB	Pairs	Open	Summer Imp Pairs
Thu-25-Jan	4	RB	Teams	Open	Summer Teams
Thu-07-Mar	3	RB	Pairs	Open	Club Mixed Pairs Championships (State Qual)

SUMMER PAIRS

28th Dec
5th Jan
@ 7PM

Online IMPS

2023 NSBC Congress Programme

♦ 2023 Oct EL MP Congress

LABOUR DAY

Pairs

Monday 2nd October
Starts @ 10am

East Lindfield Club Champion

Click to enter

MYABF

7th

Labour Day Pairs Congress
EL Open Pairs (Matchpoints)



Monday 2nd Oct 2023 @ our East Lindfield Venue
 10:00am Start 2 Sessions – Matchpoint Pairs Event

Prize Pool: Generous but dependent on entries, + Best Intermediate Team

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott 0435 528 872

Director: Ronnie Ng

Entry Management: Enter by MyABF 

Pre-Payments: Visitors pay MyABF Credits & NSBC Members select "Club PP System"

2022 6th Winners: NS: Kevin Davies - Elli Urbach
 & EW: Margaret Foster - Colin Clifford




NORTH SHORE BRIDGE CLUB
 Lindfield Rollers Bowling Club
 2b Carlyle Road, East Lindfield
 Tel: 02 9415 8344

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. Yellow systems Restricted.

Player Fees (pp) \$45pp includes Refreshments & a Light Lunch

♦ Bridge Lessons.



Anita Curtis has restarted
 Thursday Morning Lessons.
 With **Gentle Hand Analysis**

NSBC Thursday mornings online at 9.30am
October - November 2023 Program
with Anita Curtis



Thursday mornings for the rest of the year will be consolidation through hand analysis of the DYS course and also a few lessons at lower intermediate level - Broaden Your Game (BYG). These lessons will be held **on-line**. You can **watch the video at any time** or participate in the **zoom** session (9.30-11.30am). You can also play the hands on **Realbridge** after the lesson at your convenience.

Date	Lesson Topic
Oct 5	End of course Hand Analysis 4 (Gentle Hand Analysis)
Oct 12	I hate No Trumps!
Oct 19	NO LESSON
Oct 26	End of course Hand Analysis 5 (Gentle Hand Analysis)
Nov 2	NO LESSON
Nov 9	Covering honours in defence
Nov 16	Gentle Hand Analysis 6
Nov 23	Card combinations part 2 (missing 2 honours)
Nov 30	Gentle Hand Analysis 7

Visitors \$20; Members \$17

♦ 16 Dec RB Festive Congress Swiss Pairs



Saturday 16th Dec at 10am
 2 x Sessions

[CLICK TO ENTER](#)

♦ 17 Dec RB Festive Congress Swiss Teams



Sunday 17th Dec at 10am
 2 x Sessions

[CLICK TO ENTER](#)

FESTIVE EVENTS



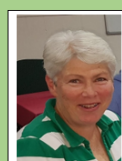
Swiss Pairs
 16th Dec

SWISS TEAMS
 17TH DEC

♦ 2024 Draft Congress Program

2024 Tentative Congress Events Program				
Dates	Ven	Type	Grade	CC Congress Name
Sun-7-Jan	RB	Teams	Open	Summer Teams
Sun-28-Jan	RB	Pairs	Open	Aust Day Weekend Swiss Pairs
Sun-10-Mar	EL	Pairs	Open	Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs
Sun-21-Apr	RB	Pairs	Open	Online Autumn Swiss Pairs

NSBC Intermediate/BYG October 2023 Program ONLINE WEDNESDAYS at 2pm 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
4 Oct	Eddie Kantar's No Trump tips	Intermediate/BYG declarer play. Eddie Kantar explains best practice principles in NT contracts.
11 Oct	Gentle Hand Analysis 4, 2023	BYG/Intermediate all skills. 8 hands to bid, play & defend at the intermediate level
18 Oct	No lesson	
25 Oct	Eddie Kantar's Competitive bidding after a takeout double	BYG/Intermediate bidding. So, you think you know what to do after your partner makes a takeout double? Eddie Kantar will test what you really know and your bidding judgement in competitive situations.
1 Nov	No lesson	

Visitors \$25; Members \$20

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