

# Bidding Advice Column

## Sue's Bidding Advice

Sue Crompton gave this hand to the Rookie and Open group Wednesday 7th February

11

D

N

undefined

♠ AK8

♥ K63

♦ KQ2

♣ AJ103

W

undefined

♠ J10953

♥ 92

♦ 8753

♣ K5

S

undefined

♠ Q762

♥ AQ5

♦ AJ4

♣ Q64

W	N	E	S
			1NT
P	4♣	P	4♣
P	7NT	P	P
P			

E

undefined

♠ 4

♥ J10874

♦ 1096

♣ 9872

7NT S

NS: 0 EW: 0

Rewind


Previous

Next

Options

GIB

Play



### How would you recommend bidding and playing this hand?

*Sue's Solution:*

South opens 1NT. Partner (North) has 20 points and asks for Aces with 4Clubs. This is the only time I like Gerber. South shows two Aces and so North now bids 7NT. Yes, you maybe be missing one King as you have 3. But you are feeling lucky today and you hope partner is too.

You have 3 Spade tricks, 3 Heart tricks. And 3 Diamond tricks. 1 club trick but you have the potential for 4 club tricks by taking the finesse. You should test the spades just in case they break but they do not.

If you lead the Q of Clubs West should play the King and now you do not make your contract. So play a low club towards the AJ10. Come back to your hand and take the finesse again. Now the King pops up and you make your 7NT how exciting.

Wednesday, 7 February 10am OPEN EL session – Board 11

NorthNV

♠ 4  
♥ A Q J 6 5 3  
♦ A Q 10 4 3  
♣ A

WestNV

♠ K J 9 5 3  
♥ 10 2  
♦ K 9 5  
♣ J 5 2

EastNV

♠ Q 7 2  
♥ 7 4  
♦ J 7  
♣ K 10 9 7 6 3

SouthD NV

♠ A 10 8 6  
♥ K 9 8  
♦ 8 6 2  
♣ Q 8 4

HCPs

17  
8 6  
9

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
North	1	6	6	1	4
South	1	6	6	1	4
East	-	-	-	-	-
West	-	-	-	-	-

How would you recommend bidding this hand?

There was a lot of discussion on this hand as no one bid to 6 Hearts. North has 3 losers, so my first thoughts were to open 2C, a game force hand. However, I always like to check with other experienced players and they also agreed with my thinking; yes you do only have 3 losers but what if you open a game force and partner doesn't have hearts but has spades like this for example:

SKQxxx

H x

D xx

C KQxxx

With your game force partner will put you into slam which more than likely will not make.

Sue's Solution: You decide to open 1Heart and partner bids 2 Hearts. You have heard about cue bidding and decide to give it a go and you show your Ace of Clubs first round control in club. Partner co-operates and bids 4Spades. You now know you have all the Aces. You are not sure about the King of trumps. So you bid 4NT; this Roman Key Blackwood. Partner bids 5H showing 2 keycards. That's enough for you and you bid 6Hearts.

Wednesday, 7 February 2pm ROOKIE Realbridge – Board 11

NorthNV

♠ Q 8  
♥ 10 6  
♦ J 8 7 5  
♣ A Q J 10 6

WestNV

♠ J 9 6  
♥ Q J 9 5 4 2  
♦ 9 2  
♣ K 3

EastNV

♠ A 10 5 3 2  
♥ K 7  
♦ Q 6 3  
♣ 8 4 2

SouthD NV

♠ K 7 4  
♥ A 8 3  
♦ A K 10 4  
♣ 9 7 5

HCPs

10  
7 9  
14

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
North	5	6	-	1	5
South	5	6	-	1	5
East	-	-	-	-	-
West	-	-	-	-	-

This hand seemed to cause quite a few problems and not everyone got to the correct contract.

South opens 1Diamond. West should (definitely) overcall 2Hearts (weak jump overcall). You want to make things as difficult as possible for the opponents. They might be your friends outside of bridge but at the table they are your enemies 😊.

Now as North it is more difficult for you. I like 3D which is a good raise in diamonds by North. Now partner (South) will bid 3NT with a heart stopper. Declarer should duck the heart lead twice. Play the 9 of clubs and only cover if the opponents do. You don't mind if the finesse fails as you know the opponents wont' be able to return a Heart. It works and you now play low towards the 10 of clubs now the King pops up and you play the Ace of Clubs. Now you should play a small spade to your King. You now are fairly sure West doesn't have the Ace of Spades as their hand wouldn't be weak. There aren't any guarantees. East plays low and your King wins. You have now 1 Heart trick, 5 club tricks, 1 Spade trick. And now you can take that Ace and King of Diamonds for your nine tricks.

## Tuesday, 20 February 2pm ROOKIE Realbridge – Board 4

**North** V  
 ♠ A J 10 8 4  
 ♥ A Q 2  
 ♦ A 3  
 ♣ 10 7 5

**West**
D
V

♠ 9 7 5  
 ♥ K 4  
 ♦ 10 9 5 4  
 ♣ K 4 3 2

**East**
V

♠ 6 2  
 ♥ 9 6  
 ♦ K J 8 6  
 ♣ A Q J 8 6

**South**
V

♠ K Q 3  
 ♥ J 10 8 7 5 3  
 ♦ Q 7 2  
 ♣ 9

HCPs

15		
6	11	
8		

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
North	-	1	6	6	2
South	-	-	6	6	2
East	1	-	-	-	-
West	1	-	-	-	-

On this hand yes 6 Hearts and 6 Spades makes but it is a very friendly contract. So please don't be worried you didn't get to slam. However some people failed to get to game. You have 15 HCP and a balanced hand. I like to open all balanced hands with (15-17) even with a 5 card major. This is not something I just thought of it seems to be a trend now where most of the fancy players do this. But I also like to do my research and I contacted Eddie Kantar who has written a lot of great books and is a awesome player too. What he does is if the hand is 15-16 HCP he opens 1NT with the 5 Card Major. If the five card major is very strong and has 17HCP he opens 1 of the Major and jumps two 2NT. It really doesn't matter too much what you play as long as you and your partner are on the same page.

The bidding will go 1NT then transfer to hearts. You have 8HCP 6 hearts and singleton and now you should jump to 4 Hearts as you know partner has 2 hearts and you have a fit and can add on 3 points for your singleton.

*If you have boards you'd like advice on please email [news@northshorebridgeclub.com.au](mailto:news@northshorebridgeclub.com.au)*