

Warwickshire Charity Simultaneous Pairs – In aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance

Tuesday 12 May 2016



1	92
North	K63
None	K874
	QT83
87543	AKJT6
T7	AQ854
652	T
J75	62
	Q
	J92
	AQJ93
	AK94

For most it will be a part score contest. For ambitious bidders the 15pt. game will not be beyond reach. After North passes East will open a ♠. South doubles. Sitting West how will you view the situation? Well you have five trumps and the 'courtesy raise' to either two or three ♠s will see East bid four ♠s. The helpful position of the king of ♥s and the 3-3 break will bring this home.
If South bids again over 4♠ with a double North removes for a gain - one down only, or passes for a bottom.

2	KJ984
East	KQ942
NS	2
	75
AT653	2
765	T
A753	KQJT9864
6	QT8
	Q7
	AJ83
	AKJ9432

An opening of 4♦ or 5♦ will be found at most tables. ♣s from South and ♦s from West will see North receiving the bidding at the five or six level and wondering how to bid his two five card majors! He could double and live to regret it. He might choose to bid ♠s, unlucky if this is passed out. East however may come to his rescue with 6♦.
A high level guessing game. How was your luck?
Likeliest auction? 5♦-6♣-6♦-X.

3	J2
South	J952
EW	AT42
	K74
AQT63	954
KQ7	A84
J96	KQ53
T6	J92
	K87
	T63
	87
	AQ853

With NS silent a sequence of 1♠-2♦-2♠ passed out will see EW score well. South may try an adventurous 3♣ (♠K not well placed) but EW can bid to 3♠ or better still introduce a double.

Those who chose to open 1NT with the West hand are likely to score poorly.

4	Q5
West	9
All	Q94
	AJ98653
T96	832
8	JT62
AT832	J765
T742	KQ
	AKJ74
	AKQ7543
	K

North will get the ball rolling with 3♣. 3♥ from South is absolutely forcing but how do you respond as North? With a poor pre-empt you would bid 4♣ but you are quite good with the two queens. You cannot raise the ♥s with a singleton so your options are 3♠ or 3NT. 3♠ will see the improbable ♠ contract, perhaps at the six level. South has a wide choice of bids over 3NT. Possible bids are 4♥, 4♠ and 6♥. Also available is 5NT - partner pick a slam. Partner bids 6♣ and employing pass or correct you bid 6♥ to show your 6-5 major 2 suiter.

5	K72
North	K63
NS	QT954
	T4
J3	AT86
75	T42
KJ8632	A7
AJ5	Q872
	Q954
	AQJ98
	K963

A part score battle with South bidding 1♥. An overcall of 2♦ or 3♦ should see North pass. When this comes round to South a reopening double should be made. North will be delighted and although Deep Finesse forecasts 2♦ to be a make there are not many who will find their way home.
Those jumping to 3♦ will be disappointed with the 5 card suit sitting over them.

Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary



Warwickshire Charity Simultaneous Pairs – In aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance

Tuesday 12 May 2016



6	8742
East	AQJT62
EW	QT
	T
KQ	AT953
754	K9
AK54	9862
8732	Q6
	J6
	83
	J73
	AKJ954

There will be some Souths opening 1♣. I can imagine Double (horrible!), 1♦ (not much better) and pass by West but undaunted North has a 1♥ response. East will introduce their ♠s and South should pass. Bidding again here promises a non-minimum, or sub-minimum hand. Yes you have a sixth ♣ but only 10pts!

EW should prevail in the part score battle as they hold the ♠s. Where West overcalled 1♦, East will compete in ♦s.

An opening 3♣ will be found at a number of tables (I had a ♠ in with my ♣s partner) and likely to be passed out.

7	Q6
South	T876
All	AKT
	9643
AT98432	75
J5	Q9432
QJ7	63
2	Q875
	KJ
	AK
	98542
	AKJT

A small slam for NS in three denominations. Good luck to those bidding any of them. All it needs is the QJx of ♦s onside as well as the ♣Q! A likely auction is 1♦ from South and 3♠ by West. Are you a man or a mouse? Pass by you doesn't get the job done and you only have 9pts, enough for a double in this competitive world? Where pass is chosen this goes round to South who has a clear cut double. Now what? North probably bids 4♥. This may end the auction or South may try 5♣.

Those who have a 19pt. 2NT option in their bidding system will play steadily in 3NT and should score well. Where 1♦ is opened and West bids 3♠ the best bid by South is 3NT in preference to double.

8	QT
West	QT87542
None	Q82
	6
9872	63
J6	K3
T95	AJ74
KT73	AQ952
	AKJ54
	A9
	K63
	J84

A standard 3♥ opener from North. East will want to bid but double is fraught, holding only two ♠s. Whatever East decides to do South has an obvious 4♥ bid. If East-West can find 5♣ perhaps following an overcall by East of 4♣ (pushy) then they will be well rewarded.

9	KJ4
North	KQ632
EW	J87
	42
AT65	9872
95	J84
A93	KQ5
KQT3	J97
	Q3
	AT7
	T642
	A865

Three passes to West who will bid 1NT. North may overcall 2♥ which is likely to end the auction. Where North passes the defence can take eight tricks for plus 200. It does pay to pass sometimes.

10	AJ5
East	QT
All	J976
	T764
KQT982	7
7	J98543
32	Q84
K532	Q98
	643
	AK62
	AKT5
	AJ

Not my idea of a weak 2 in the East hand, especially at the vulnerability, but some intrepid bidders will chance their arm. South, too good for 2NT, doubles and then bids 3NT over North's 2NT bid (usually Lebensohl) or minor suit response. When the ♦ finesse works it is just a question of overtricks. Where West intervenes with ♠s NS have the opportunity for a very good score with a double, West only making four trump tricks and one ♣.

If North gets to play 3NT a ♣ lead leads to ten tricks only. Any other lead declarer can make eleven.

Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary



Warwickshire Charity Simultaneous Pairs – In aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance

Tuesday 12 May 2016



<u>11</u>	KQJ642
South	4
None	52
	K972
T853	A7
Q	T985
AKQ8763	T94
Q	AT65
	9
	AKJ7632
	J
	J843

This is either a one or four level opener. However I can 'see' several will open 3♥. Over 3♥ West has little option but to bid 4♦ which East should raise to five. You need to take two ♠ ruffs in East so taking two rounds of trumps will see you a trick short.

Where 1♥ is chosen as the opening bid West may decide that an overcall does not do the hand justice and double. North will bid 1♠ and East will try 1NT. West raises to 3NT where there are nine easy tricks.

I expect to see a number of large scores conceded by NS.

<u>12</u>	AQ7
West	QJ5
NS	AJ63
	JT2
J6	KT52
K94	763
KT92	Q4
9873	AKQ6
	9843
	AT82
	875
	54

A pass by West will see North open 1NT playing 15-17 or 1♦ for the 12-14 players. The strong NT will silence everyone and NS will chalk up 200 in the minus column. Where 1♦ is chosen as the opening bid East will double and now West plays in 1NT for a below average score.

<u>13</u>	AKJT
North	972
All	A8
	J742
8765	4
4	A853
QT975	KJ643
963	AK5
	Q932
	KQJT6
	2
	QT8

North to open 1NT. A number of possibilities now exist. East could double. He has 15pts and a good five card suit to lead. With 10pts South may steer the contract into 1NTxx. Unfortunately the defence have seven tricks for 400 to EW for one down. However does West stand the redouble? Many will run to 2♦. A part score battle with NS exploring the majors and EW persevering with ♦s should now take place.

<u>14</u>	T9632
East	QJ8
None	A
	K642
K	J7
K652	AT43
KJT53	Q82
QJ9	AT53
	AQ854
	97
	9764
	87

Many will open the East hand. 1NT will find its way on to the table. The final contract of 4♥ will find declarer having a comfortable ride providing he is careful with the trumps should a ♠ be lead and a second round brings him down to three trumps only. Should East open 1♣ South will overcall and a sacrifice of 4♠ will be found.

Where North is declarer they may try the ace of ♦s looking to get a ruff but you have a natural trump trick and this can only help declarer.

<u>15</u>	Q8
South	854
NS	T3
	AT9653
K93	T765
KJT6	A93
A975	864
J2	K74
	AJ42
	Q72
	KQJ2
	Q8

Playing a strong NT South has an easy 1NT bid. West has no bid available and what will North do? Everyone these days has a 'route' to play in three of the minor. But should you do that? The often overlooked question is 'Does my hand warrant playing in a nine trick contract when 1NT has chances? I would choose to pass.

Where South is playing a weak NT what is your style? Do you bid a ♦, bidding the ♠ suit later, or do you bid 1♠ intending to rebid NT's? Both pairs here need to go carefully as it will be easy for either pairing to stretch too far.

With NS playing a weak NT North will likely play in 1NT. With different leads and declarers there will be a wide range of results.

Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary

Warwickshire Charity Simultaneous Pairs – In aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance
Tuesday 12 May 2016



<u>16</u>	T84
West	K3
EW	J6543
	AJT
KQ7	A9632
T92	QJ764
97	T2
Q9642	5
	J5
	A85
	AKQ8
	K873

Again a hand for the strong NT. Should the auction follow three passes, South bids 1NT, North raises to three, and South emerges with 10 tricks when West leads a ♣. Where South opens a minor suit East is likely to be able to show both majors so making 3NT a dangerous choice for NS. Bidding beyond 5♦ will prove expensive for both sides. Where West and North pass many in the East seat will choose to bid, opening 1♠ or 2♣ if playing a two suited Lucas style method. This will prevent South playing in 3NT. NS will do well to reach 5♦ but will not score well against 3NT by South receiving a ♣ lead.

<u>17</u>	75
North	J9864
None	
	AQT743
AKT432	QJ8
A72	KQT3
K64	87
2	J986
	96
	5
	AQJT9532
	K5

North may have a 2-suited 'gadget' such as Lucas and open 2♥. Whether South makes a bid or not, West will not be denied the ♠ suit and 4♠ will be reached. Meanwhile South will be remembering the old adage 'What do you call an eight card suit?' Trumps! West should be remembering 'The five level belongs to the opponents' and applying a take the money approach, double. All well and good so far. However did you take your five tricks for three down and a very good score? Lead the A♠. East should drop the QUEEN. This promises the jack and the way forward is clear. Lead your singleton ♣. When you win the second round of ♦s underlead your king of ♠s to partner's 'known' jack and ruff the ♣ return. If he doesn't return a ♣ find another partner!

<u>18</u>	KQJ9
East	52
NS	T632
	A93
5	AT87
AKQ987	
KJ987	AQ
K	QJ87542
	6432
	JT643
	54
	T6

A misfitting hand with game available in four out of the five denominations. Which one was chosen at your table? As is often the case with hands such as these No-trumps brings the greatest reward. A likely sequence would be East to open 1♣, West 1♥ and East 1♠. 2♦ now will be Fourth Suit Forcing and East can bid 2NT with their ♦ stop or 3♣ (better of the two bids) to show extra length. West may persevere with 3♦ but now East has a clear cut 3NT. Should West now bid any further they will play in an inferior contract.

<u>19</u>	A974
South	2
EW	KT87
	AJ52
62	K83
AJ543	9
Q643	A52
63	KQT974
	QJT5
	KQT876
	J9
	8

A weak 2♥ opener from South? To some it is a crime to have four in the other major. Sure enough here ♠s is better. However the hard and fast 'with four of the other major never open 2♥/♠ or 3♥/♠ needs to be questioned. For my money it is the quality of the four card suit that decides. If the suit is playable opposite four in partner's hand then don't open. With four small pre-empt to your ♥'s content. Where South passes so will West and North bids 1♦. East overcalls 2♣, South either bids 2♥ but may double. Either way the ♠ contract should be reached. Where South opens a sub-minimum 1♥, 4♠ will be reached by North. A singleton ♥ lead quickly puts 4♠ one down after the ♥ ruff.

<u>20</u>	QT6542
West	J
All	T98632
J9	AK7
97632	AKQ85
Q	K5
Q7654	AK9
	83
	T4
	AJ74
	JT832

West will not contribute. North may some sort of imaginative bid (2S or 3♠?) over which East brushes all that aside with 3NT. Given an uninterrupted run East will open 2♣. Following the 2♦ reply do you choose 2♥ to show the ♥ suit or 3NT to get the points across? As is often the case No Trumps is best here not conceding a ruff in ♣s as is the case when South leads a ♣ against a ♥ game or slam. The slam is enormous here and Kokish - a method where 2♣-2♦(forced)- 2NT shows 25+ gets the job done. Bidding 6♥ beaten by the ♣ ruff is a successful operation with the patient unfortunately dying.

Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary



Warwickshire Charity Simultaneous Pairs – In aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance

Tuesday 12 May 2016



21	K74
North	Q9652
NS	T8
	AJ7
QT862	A93
J843	A7
K7	J652
K3	T952
	J5
	KT
	AQ943
	Q864

After North and East pass do you open 1NT or choose to open 1♦ with the 5422 shape? Most will decide on 1NT which is optimistic but likely to end the auction. Unless EW block the ♠s declarer can only make seven tricks but I expect 8 or 9 tricks on the score sheets.

On a ♠ lead playing 4th highest (♠6 lead) East should play the ace.

22	A84
East	AQ876
EW	K8
	K87
KQJ652	93
4	KJT5
964	AJ532
532	AJ
	T7
	932
	QT7
	OT964

Another 5422 hand. Most will open this 1♦. I am not a great advocate of this as after 1♠ or 2♣ from partner you will have to rebid 2♦, leaving your four card major unspoken. So that the possibility of a ♥ suit can reasonably be tested I prefer 1NT. West will transfer with 2♥, North will double and East should pass to indicate only two ♠s.

West will of course convert to 2♠ and North may well bid on with 3♥, although double is best.

23	2
South	K974
All	9543
	K742
AJT9654	K73
8	QJ632
A	QT87
QJ85	9
	Q8
	AT5
	KJ62
	AT63

1NT from South and 3♠ from West. East should raise to four with three trumps and the singleton ♣. Running the nine of ♣s brings home ten tricks.

Without a trump lead you can ruff two ♣s in dummy for ten tricks. A ♥ lead gives you the contract as you can take your two ruffs as the defence cannot take advantage of you getting the ♣s wrong as they are unable, because of communication problems, to prevent the two ♣ ruffs.

24	T75
West	K76432
None	A
	KJ4
KQ83	A942
J5	Q8
K653	JT4
753	AQT6
	J6
	AT9
	Q9872
	982

A pass by West will usually be followed by 1♥ from North. East doubles, South, not good enough to bid 2♦ bids 2♥ but EW have the 'Boss Suit' and will outbid their opponents in ♠s.

25	765
North	K93
EW	AKJ943
	K
KJ42	AQ9
J2	AT8765
865	
Q954	AT32
	T83
	Q4
	QT72
	J876

North opens 1♦. Do you double or bid 1♥? If you double partner bids 1♠. Now does your hand qualify for a 2♥ bid which shows a hand too good to overcall 1♥? Not in my view. Bid 1♥ now and then double later. Partner 'knows' you have five or six ♥s, cards in both black suits and should produce some sort of ♥ raise.

Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary



Warwickshire Charity Simultaneous Pairs – In aid of Warwickshire Air Ambulance

Tuesday 12 May 2016



26	53
East	63
All	QT832
	Q875
AKT962	J87
A	KQT82
K65	94
J96	A32
	Q4
	J9754
	AJ7
	KT4

Not many will open with the East hand but most will venture 1♥ as South. 1♠ from West, pass by North and an Unassuming Cue Bid (UCB) by East, 'How good is your overcall?'. Very good says West, jumping to 4♠. 4♠ on a ♦ lead brings an easy 12 tricks. A ♣ lead takes two tricks with a ♥ lead leaving declarer with some chances of 12 but probably making only 11.

27	K542
South	AK54
None	75
	QJ5
	QJ98
Q9862	J
JT64	AK32
K984	AT73
	AT763
	T73
	Q98
	62

Two passes will see North open 1NT. East might try a double - risky. A pass will bring a transfer sequence of 2♥ by South and 2♠ from North. East may think this is a good contract to defend but the more adventurous may choose to compete further with a bid of 2NT - showing two suits. If EW play in three of a minor they have a good score as they will if NS 'stretch' to 3♠ and likely doubled! If NS's methods include 'breaking the transfer' when holding four of the major they clearly will be too high.

28	976
West	T94
NS	7
	KT8642
QT2	AKJ43
KQJ75	
A953	8642
3	QJ97
	85
	A8632
	KQJT
	A5

1♥ from West will receive the clear cut 1♠ from East. South will be a little put out but has no bid to make. What of West's rebid? 2♦ (not best) and 2♥ (definitely not best) are options but 2♠ is best. It will be difficult for East to pass with their 11pts but you are on a misfit and caution would be well rewarded. Should East try and he really should, it is better not to simply raise to 3♠ but to show partner where you have values. Here bid 3♣. Whether West bids to 4♠ is not clear but game is a good prospect and very unlucky to have three losing ♦s.

29	42
North	K65
All	QT82
	AT65
AJ7	Q8653
JT973	Q4
A7	9643
KQ7	42
	KT9
	A82
	KJ5
	J983

Two passes and 1NT by South. A 15pt double here looks suitable with the sound ♥ lead. However against a good declarer all a disappointed West can take is six tricks to concede 180. The Post Mortem may see West 'suggest' partner took out to 2♠!

30	J6
East	KQT5
None	K43
	6542
T52	AQ843
7643	AJ2
J98	T75
K73	J9
	K97
	98
	AQ62
	AQT8

1♠ from East will see a 1NT overcall from South. With West silent North should make a move towards game. Those resting quietly in 2NT will salvage something, those pressing on to 3NT will not score well.

Our thanks to David & Martin Jones for preparing this commentary