

Analyses ref : 190 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #77864**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 1 December 2025  
Hand Number : 3  
Theme : The support Dbl

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">3</div> <div style="background-color: white; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;">D</div> </div>		<b>N jtv54</b> ♠ KJ63 ♥ KJ102 ♦ AQ ♣ J76	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="background-color: red;">W</th> <th style="background-color: white;">N</th> <th style="background-color: red;">E</th> <th style="background-color: white;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="background-color: yellow;">3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♥</td> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>5♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S				3♣	3♥	X	P	4♣	P	5♣	P	P	P													
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<b>W Bashewa</b> ♠ 5 ♥ AQ9765 ♦ J76 ♣ K83			<b>E DvVuuren</b> ♠ A10942 ♥ 843 ♦ K1083 ♣ 4																														
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th></th> <th>♠</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♣</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <th>N</th> <td>9</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>6</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <td>9</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>6</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <th>E</th> <td>4</td> <td>6</td> <td>9</td> <td>6</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <th>W</th> <td>4</td> <td>6</td> <td>9</td> <td>6</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table> <p>Par Score: -100  Par: NS 3NTx-1, 4♣x-1</p>		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	9	6	4	6	8	S	9	6	4	6	8	E	4	6	9	6	5	W	4	6	9	6	5	<b>S Dor1938</b> ♠ Q87 ♥ ♦ 9542 ♣ AQ10952	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>5♣ S</span> <span>NS: 0 EW: 0</span> </div>	
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General: In my opinion the latest conventions in bridge brought in over the years are good for the game with one exception the so called support double> I feel so anti the support doubles my latest decision is I will not play with a partner that plays the support double. I will tell all my partners (including JOE) I will not play the support double. In future doubles will be either take out or penalty.

What is a support X : If you open a spade which is overcalled by say 2H and you X it now means you have three spades and some points why can you not bid 2S or 3S depending on how many points you have and I believe you have lost a chance of a penalty X. Instead of you making the decision you have asked partner to make the decision, it is simply a cop out bid.

The Take out X : IT should be used to tell partner you are short in the suit bid and have support for the other suits>If you X a spade opening you should have 4 hearts. The only exception can be if you have a very strong hand !

Penalty double: ALL other doubles should be penalty doubles which should make bidding a bit easier

Hand 1:S 3C N3NT ( the correct bid) Although W has not bid E finds the 3H lead. For some unexplainable reason declarer does not finesse the H return and declarer loses 2H + KC + AS and make 9 tricks instead of 10 which end up as a top anyway (+600)Next time I hope West will bid 3H which even with the bad H break (4-0) with 3 H losers that contract should only go 1 down.

Hand 2 : S 3C W 3H N 3NT (the correct bid) E 4H which is surprisingly not doubled by N and is miss played to go 3 down when declarer plays the losing 8D instead of the winning 10D (-300)

Hand 3 : S Pass ? ( Not to bid is incorrect) W pass ( also not correct )N 1NT E pass S 2NT (With 8 points and more importantly a GOOD SIX card 3NT should be the bid ) Like hand 1 3H is led and like hand 1 the H return is not finessed and when after the C finesse loses W switches to D and this time declarer does take a losing D finesse and ends up losing 5 tricks (1S +2H + 1D +1C=5)

Hand 4 : S 3C W 3H N X E pass S 4C( and now S does not know whether it is a support X or penalty X plays it safe) W pass N 5C (certainly an over bid with only 1 ace)with both the C and D finesse losing declare loses AS + 2S ruffs +KD but guesses correctly to drop the KC goes 2 down (-100)

Hand 5 : S pass ? (read hand 3) W 2D N pass( has 15 points) E 3H S pass W pass N X ( take out or penalty S does not have a clue no doubt due to not making an opening bid E pass S 4C passed out. Declarer also gets the 5 S lead and gets a S ruff and switches to the a D declarer does not finesse the D playing his AD and takes the C finesse and now West can play a D to East's KD and get a second S ruff and declarer goes 2 down (-100) Two doubles-two disasters)

Analyses ref : 191

BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #77864

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 1 December 2025

Hand Number :

Theme : The importance of the Opening Lead

<div>15</div> <div>D</div>		<b>N</b> jtv54 ♠ KQ7532 ♥ AK ♦ A43 ♣ 102	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S				P	P	1♠	P	2♥	P	3♣	P	4♠	P	P	P											
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<b>W</b> mariemmweb ♠ A64 ♥ 9643 ♦ KJ87 ♣ J4			<b>E</b> Robot ♠ 98 ♥ J10 ♦ Q1062 ♣ A9863																														
<table border="1"> <tr> <th></th> <th>♠</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♣</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <th>N</th> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <th>E</th> <td>5</td> <td>7</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <th>W</th> <td>5</td> <td>7</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </table> <p>Par Score: 140 Par: NS 2♠+1</p>			♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	7	5	8	9	8	S	7	5	8	9	8	E	5	7	4	3	5	W	5	7	4	3	5	<b>S</b> Dor1938 ♠ J10 ♥ Q8752 ♦ 95 ♣ KQ75	4♠ N      NS: 0 EW: 0
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General: Every N/S pair played the hand in spades 1 declarer made 11 tricks, 2 declarers made 10 tricks and 2 declarers made 9 tricks so what is par for the hand 9 10 or 11 tricks. Well it all depends on the lead. If you lead the AC and catch fresh air (I have told you many times it is a bad lead) it can mean 10 or 11 tricks depending on subsequent defence. If you lead a D it means 9 or 10 tricks depending on declarer play and defence. If you lead a H or S declarer should make 10 tricks. So like many hands in bridge the lead is of vital importance. Declarer starts off with 4 losers (AS+ 2D +AC) One or two D losers need to be discarded or trumped. The following are all the hands played E/W do not bid except hand 3 where W X a 3D bid

Hand 1: S pass N 1S S 2H N 3S S 4S The lead is AC and the switch is to the JH leaving an entry of a C to dummy. Declarer can now draw trumps cash the KH and enter dummy with a C and discard both losing D on the QH and QC. (+650)

Hand 2 : S pass N1C (Precision club ) S 1H N 1S S 2C N2S S 4S The lead is the JH which declarer wins and plays a S to dummy's J10 of spades. W now wins with the AS and returns a H won by declarer with the KH and another S is played to the JS in dummy. Needing to return to his hand to draw the last remaining trump declarer now misplays the hand by returning to his hand by playing a D to the AD and now has 4 losers (AS + AC + 2D=4) I refer declarer to hand 1 where declarer trumped a H high and drew the last S with his other high heart. Declarer now played a C towards dummy's KQ which was misdefended by E by ducking the AC and declarer was able to discard a losing D on his QH making 10 tricks (+620)

Hand 3 : S 2D (Alerted H & another suit but is an illegal opening ) N 2NT S 3D ( alerted C is other suit) W X N4S. Lead is the 2D and now the hand should go down (AS+AC +2D) with the defence able to take 2D. They must simply now attack trumps to prevent dummy from ruffing his 3rd losing D but E misdefends by winning the D return and not playing trumps

but plays another D which allows declarer to ruff a D (something that declarer was always trying to do) Declarer still has KQ&JS and can hold the trump losers to 1(+620)

Hand 4 : S pass N 1S passed out (S has 8 points so has passed a bid he should make-not a recommended bridge bid)Lead is the 2D and declarer plays trumps and is not able to ruff a D and settles for 9 tricks (+140)

Hand 5 : S pass N 1S S 1NT N 3S S 4S Lead is the JH and declarer takes a different line of play by trying to ruff a D (the defence can always beat that line of play by playing trumps)and succeeds in ruffing a D but is then beaten when trying to ruff a H back to the N hand to draw trumps the 7S is over ruffed with 8S (-100)

Analyses ref : 192 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #7815**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 4 December 2025  
Hand Number : 1  
Theme : Make your own luck at Bridge

<b>D</b> 1		<b>N</b> abotha ♠ Q1062 ♥ 8763 ♦ J1096 ♣ 5	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♣</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S		P	P	1♣	X	P	1♦	1♥	2♣	2♥	P	4♥	P	P	P											
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2♣	2♥	P	4♥																														
P	P	P																															
<b>W</b> Dor1938 ♠ J984 ♥ 5 ♦ K3 ♣ AK8632			<b>E</b> jtv54 ♠ K75 ♥ Q94 ♦ 8742 ♣ J94																														
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	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	5	10	11	7	7																												
S	5	10	11	7	7																												
E	8	3	2	6	3																												
W	8	3	2	4	3																												
		4♥ S	NS: 0 EW: 0																														

General: Boards 1 & 2 : Make your own luck at bridge. I cannot remember starting off a bridge tournament with 0 out of 200 ever before but that happened on Thursday when we were playing against Andries and David. I therefore decided to check both boards to see where we went wrong and I am happy to say that there was nothing we did wrong and our bad boards was as a result of good play by David. Well done Andries and David. Here is the bidding on the hands and my comments

Board 1 :

Hand 1 S 2NT passed out . On the lead of 6C the declarer play is awful as declarer must have had a senior moment ducking the JC and then losing 6C +QH &KS =8 tricks. The only other comment I need to make is that with a singleton and two 4 card majors N should look for a major fit. In the wrong contract & badly played and a deserved bottom(-150)

Hand 2 : S 2NT N 3C S 3H N4H (a well bid game contract with N looking for a fit in a major putting S into game . Well done Tymen on both your bids. The obvious lead the AC is made followed by the 4S and the next play by declarer determines the fate of the contract. If he plays the 10 S the contract is made if he plays the QS the contract is one down. My comment is the following. The S switch is essential as if is not made declarer will be able to throw his losing spade on the 4th D in dummy so is it just a guess ? S has led AC showing he has the AK of clubs so declarer I think should E play for the KS with a second reason being players reluctance to lead away from kings. The QS was played and the contract went 1 down (-50)

Hand 3 : S 2C W X (now I want to comment on this X –S opening does not show a C suit so the X by W is showing a GOOD club suit and is NOT a take -out X) N 2D S 2H N 4H –Again the obvious AC is led a d the switch is to the 4S and the QS is played and like hand 2 the contract goes 1 down (read hand 2 why I think 10S should have been played ) (-50)

Hand 4 : S 2D W 3C N X E pass S 3NT (my comment is that with such a flimsy stopper in C I would rather bid 3H which should definitely be done if you read NX as shortage in clubs) On the lead of 2 C the contract only goes 1 down as N throws a winning C when the KH is played (-50) Wrong contract which should go 2 down

Hand 5 : S 2H N 2NT (a bad bid when partner has shown good hearts-surely 4H which should show weakness is the correct bid) S 3NT ( Surely N should bid 4H ) Again a wrong contract has been bid this time played by N A D is led and when W wins with K D and cashes AK of C and switches to a S and now if declarer plays the 10 S the contract would make but declarer does not play the 10 S but the hopeless 6S and when H fail to break is lucky to go 1 down (-50)

Hand 6 :S 1C W X (as explained a C suit ) N pass E 1D (not a take- out X) S 1H W 2C N 2H (well done Andries) E pass S 4H .Like all W's on lead the AC is led and the switch is to the 9S and David plays the 10S –well done ) and 4 hearts is made (The only positive score for N/S +620)

Analyses ref : 193 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #7815**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 4 December 2025  
Hand Number : 2  
Theme : Make your own luck at Bridge

<div>2D</div>		<div>N abotha</div> <div>♠</div> <div>♥ AJ1072</div> <div>♦ KQ1086</div> <div>♣ 983</div>	<div>W N E S</div> <div>2♣ 2♥ 1♠ P</div> <div>2♠ P P 4♠ X</div> <div>P P P</div>																														
<div>W Dor1938</div> <div>♠ 763</div> <div>♥ K85</div> <div>♦ A94</div> <div>♣ K752</div>		<div>E jtv54</div> <div>♠ AK852</div> <div>♥ Q963</div> <div>♦ J72</div> <div>♣ A</div>																															
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	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	7	6	6	5	6																												
S	7	6	6	5	6																												
E	5	6	7	7	7																												
W	5	6	7	7	7																												

General: Bad breaks in suits is part of the game of bridge. IT is a big part of playing good bridge to use bad breaks to your advantage. On another day, 4 spades would make but it has no chance with a 5-0 break. Of all the South's only David (well done) took advantage of the bad break and with QJ1094 he found a X. I am equally upset that no other South's found the X partner and I are the only victims of a bad breaking suit

Hand 1 : E 1S S pass W 1NT N 2H E X S 3C W 4S passed out(-100) ( down 2)

Hand 2 : E 1S S pass W 2C N 2S E 3S passed out (-100) ( 2 down)

Hand 3 : E 1S S pass W 2C N 2S E 3H passed out (-100) (2down)

Hand 4 : E 1S S pass W 3S N pass E 4S S passed out (-150)(3 down)

Hand 5 : E 1S S pass W 2S N 3D E 3H S pass W 4S passed out (-150)(3 down)

Hand 6: E 1S S pass W 2C N 2H E pass S pass W 2S N pass E 4S S X (-300)(2 down)

Final comment: Unless 5 players that played S become more aggressive at the bridge table you will battle to win a tournament

Analyses ref : 194                      **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #22438**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 8 December 2025  
Hand Number : 3  
Theme : A laydown slam

3

D

**N** jtv54

♠ 104

♥ K10654

♦ Q1043

♣ J3

W	N	E	S
1♣	P	1♠	P
1NT	P	4♣	X
4NT	P	5♣	P
5♦	X	7♠	P
P	P		

**W** Bashewa

♠ J3

♥ A3

♦ AJ975

♣ AQ54

**E** abotha

♠ AKQ98765

♥ J7

♦ K8

♣ 9

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	6	1	6	0	0
S	6	1	6	0	0
E	6	10	6	13	13
W	6	10	6	13	13

**Par Score: -2220**  
**Par: EW 7NT**

**S** Dor1938

♠ 2

♥ Q982

♦ 62

♣ K108762

**Explanations**

1♣ = 16+

1♠ = 8+, 5S

4♣ = Gerber

4NT = 3 aces

5♣ = Asking for Kings

5♦ = 0 or 4 K's

7♠ E

General: E/W have 12 tricks in spades(8S+AH + A&KD 2 + AC =12 ) but declarer has all the tools to make 13 tricks . Not only was small slam bid only twice going 1 down once when declarer obviously did not count tricks and managed to find a way to go down by losing a D when there was no losing diamonds to be found turning 12 tricks into 11 tricks . The grand slam was bid once (Well done Walter & Andries ) and 13 tricks made as Andries demonstrated how the contract should be played (Well done Andries). While a H lead is best, played by a competent declarer 13 tricks is always available with little risk Declarer starts off with a H loser and has the entries in dummy to set up the 5th D to discard the losing H. Declarer has 4 entries the JS +AH +AD +AC and if the lead takes out an entry the JS must be used correctly as an entry. Looking at all the bidding the following is my comments

Hand 1: N/S do not bid W 1D ( with 16 points I would favour a INT opening E 2S (the correct bid) W 2NT (this looks like a huge under bid) E 4C (gerber-still played by players who should rather play KCB)W 4 NT (3 Aces)E 5C ( asking for kings) W 5D (no kings) E 6S The lead is the 2 H so to make 13 tricks not having to take a finesse declarer needs to play a S to the E hand and now play KD and a D to the Ace ruff a D high and then play a S to the JS and ruff another D. setting up the 5th D to discard a H using the AC as the entry to get to dummy. Declarer makes a dreadful play of finessing the JD losing a D and a H (-100)

Hand 2: W 1D (read hand 1) E 1S (the wrong bid-read hand 1) South now bid 2C and W makes an under bid of 2NT (read hand 1 ) E 4S (also under bidding the hand) .With 2 under bids of course slam is missed . The lead is the 2H and declarer simply takes 12 tricks not bothering to finesse the KC which S has announced that he has to throw the losing H (+680)

Hand 3 : W 1D (read hand 1) E 1S (read hand 1) W 2C (slightly better than 2D but you are bidding a 16 point hand) E 3S W 3NT E 4NT W 5C (3 aces) E 5S (Is 3 aces bad ? there are only 4 aces in a pack of cards) The lead is the 7C and declarer has a chance to take a free finesse (If it loses you discard the losing H on the AC but plays the AC and simply takes 12 tricks (+ 680)

Hand 4 : W 1NT (at last) E 2H (transfer) W 2S E 4S ( do you realise that you have 9 tricks opposite a 1NT opening ? ) The lead is the JC and with a free C finesse 13 tricks is easy ,(+710)

Hand 5 :S pass W 1C precision club) N 1H E 1S S 2H W 3NT N pass E 4NT S pass W 5C (3 aces) N pass E 5NT S pass W 6C (0 kings) E 6S .The lead is the QH which does make declarers task harder and while the 5th D was set up but there was no entry to the W hand to use it as declarer had not played two D before the JS as I suggested and 12 tricks was made (+1430)

Hand 6 : W 1C (precision) E 1S W 1NT E 4C (Bergen) S X W 4NT (3 aces ) E 5 C W 5D N X E 7S . While I am a fan of interference bidding I doubt if the two X made was beneficial as on a D lead declarer did not have to play the JS as an entry and the 5th D was easily set up> However I felt I should congratulate Walter and Andries on their bidding and Andries on a well -played hand (+2210) and a well earned TOP.

Analyses ref : 195 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #22438**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 8 December 2025  
Hand Number : 13  
Theme : A multitude of lessons

D

13

N darrylm06

W

N

E 2♦

S

♠ Q3

♥ A10

♦ A8543

♣ 10932

2♠

P P P

W Dor1938

♠ 10

♥ K9752

♦ QJ6

♣ A875

E jtv54

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	9	8	6	4	4
S	8	7	6	4	4
E	4	5	6	8	7
W	4	5	7	8	7

**Par Score: 110**  
**Par: N 3♣**

S ngbu3466

♠ A64

♥ QJ86

♦ 107

♣ QJ64

2♠ W      NS: 0 EW: 0

General: I have chosen this board because there is so many lessons that a bridge player can learn from the board.(1) If you hold the East hand you need to open the bidding (2) Being vulnerable it is better to keep the bidding as low as possible so I believe a 2S or 2D opening is the correct opening (3) If you are on lead with the N hand you should never lead the AH especially when W has told you he has a H suit-Aces are meant to capture kings & queens not 2's and 3's (4) If you are on lead with the S hand and feel you should lead a H the only H you should lead is the QH otherwise the only person you are fooling at the table is your partner.(5) If you have a misfit stop bidding as soon as possible.(6) If you see that covering an honour has no benefit DON'T COVER. Par for the hand in spades is 2S(+110) as declarer should lose 5 tricks (1S + 2H +1D + 1D ruff=5)

Hand 1: E 2D (correct)W 2S (Alerted has a H fit if that is E suit)passed out –The lead is a AH (read 3 above) and declarer makes 10 tricks (but N should also read 6 above)(+170)

Hand 2 : E 2S passed out .This time S is on lead and leads the 8H (read 4 above) and fools partner and declarer escapes a second H loser N should read 6 above (+170)

Hand 3 : E 2S passed out . This time the QH is led which wins the trick but thereafter the defence goes wrong (1 S switches to a D )N wins the AD and (2 switches to a C) this allows declarer to escape the H loser as he can now enter dummy with a D and discard his losing H on the AC. The 10S is led and N does not cover and declarer guesses wrong and plays his KS and declarer must lose 2 spades (+140)

Hand 4 : Passed out E to read point 1 above (0)

Hand 5 : E 3S ( read 2 Above)The defence does get the D ruff but bad defence by S allows declarer to evade his 2ND H loser but declarer loses two spades tricks achieving par (-100)

Hand 6 : E 1S Technically E has made a illegal bid in terms of the 18/20 rule ( $9\text{HCP} + 7\text{ S} + 3\text{D} = 19$ )W  
1NT E 2S W 2NT (read point 5 above) E 4S (A clear over bid but W should have passed the 2S  
bid .Declarer loses 5 tricks making par (-200)

Analyses ref : 196                      **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #33859**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 11 December 2025  
Hand Number : 8  
Theme : Mistakes that should NEVER be made

D

8

**N HJ Owen**

♠ AK854

♥ J63

♦

♣ K10985

	W	N	E	S
P	1♠	P	2♦	
P	3♣	P	4NT	
P	5♥	X	5NT	
P	6♦	P	7NT	

**W Dor1938**

♠ Q6

♥ 72

♦ Q8762

♣ 7632

**E jtv54**

♠ 1092

♥ Q109854

♦ 1043

♣ 4

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	13	11	9	13	13
S	13	11	9	13	13
E	0	2	4	0	0
W	0	2	4	0	0

**Par Score: 1520**  
**Par: NS 7NT**

**S gelino**

♠ J73

♥ AK

♦ AKJ95

♣ AQJ

7NT S      NS: 0 EW: 0

**Before passing on old lessons not learned so well I would like to wish members a merry Christmas and happy new year with the hope that all of us can play better bridge in 2026**

General: This is a fortunate board where both 7NT and 7S should be made. That 13 tricks were not made by 4 declarers out of five is the case where declarers it seems fails, as they not able to differentiate(1) between what is a gift to the defence and what is a finesse and (2) for those in NT not understanding that communication between dummy and declarers hands are vital in many hands. Even where declarer made 13 tricks in spades it was not due to good declarer play but bad defence.

Hand 1 : N 1S S 2D N 3C S 4NT (asking key cards ) N 5H (2 KC –AS KC no QC) E X S 5NT (asking Kings) N 6D (KS)S 7NT .When dummy's hand is revealed declarer has (2S+2H + 2D + 5C=11 tricks) and declarers hope of making 13 tricks rests solely on dropping the QS in 2 and this was the fortunate lie of the cards. Declarer miss plays unfortunately by first cashing his C tricks and when the QS dropped declarer had no entry to dummy to cash his winning 4th & 5th spades and made 3 spades instead of 5 and went 1 down (-50)

Hand 2 : N 1S S 4C (Bergen what about an investigation) N 4S (either the AS & AD or AS & KS I have no idea) S 7S. Declarer plays the JS which is covered by the QS and declarer is now the sole culprit to the loss of a S. I have written before about finessing when you have NO finesse. You do not have the 10S nor even the 9.You have simply gifted the defence a spade trick. WHY is it so difficult to understand that playing the JS is BAD BRIDGE (-50)

Hand 3 : N 1S S 3D (yes the correct bid) N 3S (Why you have another 5 card suit?) S 4NT N 5H (2 key cards –no QS (a red flag in my opinion but by repeating S North has showed more than a 5 card suit) S 5NT N 6S (I have no idea what this means for even if the KD is being shown partner knows you have the KS) S 7NT. Identical to hand 1 Declarer miss plays the hand but first cashing his clubs and although he correctly cashes his AS & K S he has no entry to make his 4th & 5th Spade (-50)

Hand 4 : N 1S S 3D N 3S? (read hand 3) S 4S (rather timid with 23 points) Declarer plays the spades correctly and should always make 13 tricks. W discards a D which gives declarer a helping hand as declarer throws winning C's from dummy (+510)

Hand 5 : N 1S (4+S) S 1NT( 6+ HCP) N 2D(11-12 HCP E 2H S 3C (key card ask) N 3S ( 2 KC) S 4C asking kings 4H (1 extra king) E X (may as well) S 5C (asking queens) N 5D (no Q) S 6NT a really complicated way to get to the correct contract. On a H lead declarer plays a S and 1C only and then the JS ( I have said the JS should not be played) covered with the QS and declarer loses a S but makes 12 tricks and a top (+990)

Analyses ref : 197 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #33859**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 11 December 2025  
Hand Number : 22  
Theme : Aggression at the bridge table is an asset.

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General: What is par for this board. On a D lead it is either 11 tricks in H (+650) or 10 tricks if you miss guess the H finesse (+620). Only on a C lead does the defence gain a C trick and only guessing the correct play in H achieves 10 tricks. Should you guess the correct play in H? I think so given the fact that E has opened the bidding especially if E opens 1NT > What should be the final contract is largely depended on how aggressively N views the N hand. I have always felt aggression at the bridge table is an asset and I believe bidding 4H by N is correct.

Hand 1 : E 1D S 1H W pass N 4H The lead is the 2D and declarer wins the D return 7 plays the JH going up with the AH when W fails to cover and correctly finesses the QH and draws trumps. With spades breaking 3-3 11 tricks are made (+450)

Hand 2 : E 1D S 1H W pass N 3H The lead is the 7D and play follows the same pattern except declarer plays the 3H, wins with the AH finesses the QH in the E hand and makes 11 tricks (+200)

Hand 3 : E 1D S 1H W pass N 2H (this bid is a definite under bid) The lead is the 2D & on a D return declarer ducks to the JD. When declarer fails to finesse for the QH only 9 tricks are made (+140)

Hand 4 : E 1NT S 2H W pass N 3H The lead is the 5C but the opening NT bid pin points where the QH is and declarer does finesse correctly for the QH and after losing A S AD KC has 10 tricks to claim. He then ducks a D? and a S?? and instead of making 10 tricks makes 8 (-50)

Hand 5 : E 1D S 1H W pass N 4H The lead is the 2D and declarer starts well by winning with the KD but fails to take the H finesse and was down to 10 tricks .Instead of now playing the JS wastes a trump in both hands playing a H to the Q and when E now plays a D is forced to ruff in the N hand and he now blocks the S suit by playing KS and when E persisted with D was forced to ruff in the S hand discarding a club in the N hand making it easy for E to get out with the KC and another trick was lost 10 tricks became 8 tricks and a bottom (-100)