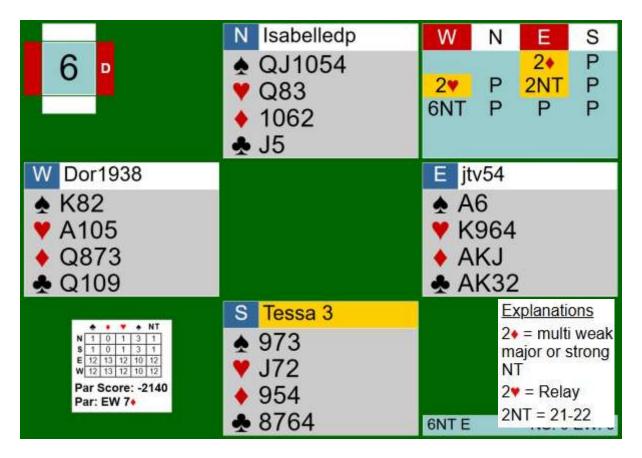
Analyses ref : 134 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54326

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 1 September 2025

Hand Number : 6

Theme : 4 slams available in one session



General: Boards 6 10 14 & 19 are small slam hands and easy to bid and play BUT Board 6 one E/W failed to bid the slam Board 10 2 E/W failed to bid the slam Board 14 2 E/W failed to bid slam and on Board 19 3 E/W failed to bid slam a poor record. Let us look at this problem.

Hand 1 : E 2D (alerted-multi) W 2H (alerted relay) E 2NT (22-23 HCP) W 6NT (the bid is very simple-W has 11 HCP-so the total points in the E/W hands is a minimum of 33 HCP which is the points needed to make a small slam)The defence slips up and both N & S discard spades and 8S becomes the 13th trick (+1470)

Hand 2: E 2C W 2D E 2NT (22-23 HCP) W 6NT-Again W needs to be able to add (+1440)

Hand 3: E 2D W 2H E 2NT (Again 22-23 HCP)W 4C (gerber)E 4 NT (3Aces)W 5C E 5NT (3 Kings) W 6NT (+1440)

Hand 4: E 2C W 2NT E 3NT Neither E or W counted their joint points and as in Hand 1 declarer makes 13 tricks (+720)

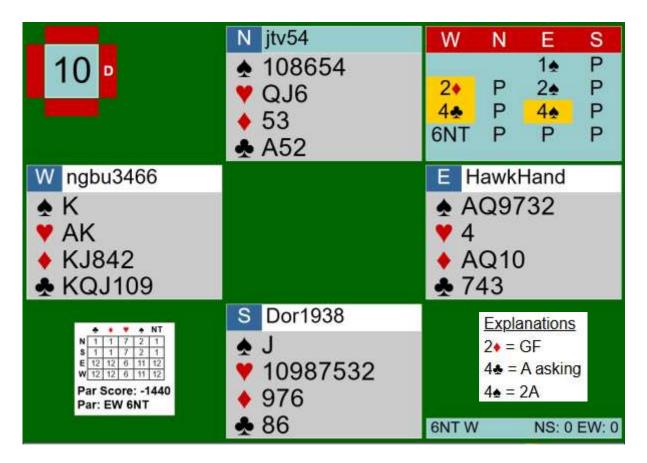
Analyses ref : 135 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54326

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 1 September 2025

Hand Number : 10

Theme : 4 slams available in one session



General: Boards 6 10 14 & 19 are small slam hands and easy to bid and play BUT Board 6 one E/W failed to bid the slam Board 10 2 E/W failed to bid the slam Board 14 2 E/W failed to bid slam and on Board 19 3 E/W failed to bid slam a poor record. Let us look at this problem.

Hand 1: E 1S W 3D passed out (If you play with a robot you need to play his system which is 2 over 1(he thinks 3D is a weak bid with long D) (+170)

Hand 2: E 1S W 3NT (an incorrect bid with 20 points-you need to make a forcing bid)(+690)

Hand 3: E 1S W 2D E 2S W 4C (gerber)E 4S W 6NT (+1440)

Hand 4: E 1S W 3NT (read hand 2) E 4S (W gets lucky as E shows a 6 card suit)W 4NT E 5S (looks like E/W are playing KCB-which shows 2Aces and the QS W 6NT (+1440)

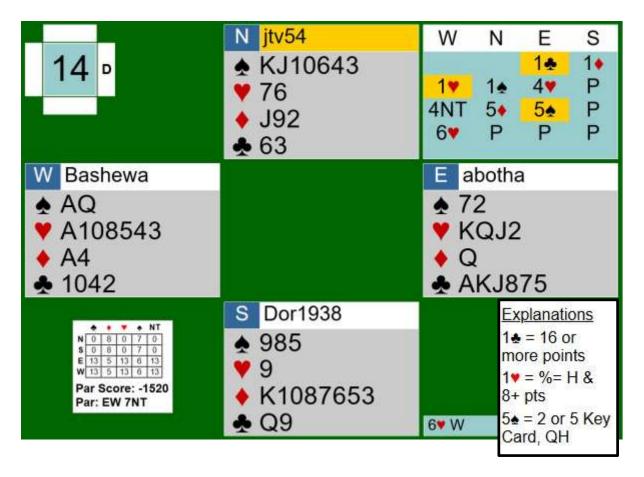
Analyses ref : 136 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54326

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 1 September 2025

Hand Number: 14

Theme : 4 slams available in one session



General: Boards 6 10 14 & 19 are small slam hands and easy to bid and play BUT Board 6 one E/W failed to bid the slam Board 10 2 E/W failed to bid the slam Board 14 2 E/W failed to bid slam and on Board 19 3 E/W failed to bid slam a poor record. Let us look at this problem.

With C breaking 2-2 in the defences E/W will always make 13 tricks in a H contract

Hand 1 : E 1C S 3D W 3H N 4D E 4H – It would seem that the S 3D bid was useful as E/W failed to get to 6H (+510)

Hand 2: E1CS3DW3HN pass E4H Ditto hand 1 (+510)

Hand 3: E1CS1DW1HN1SE4HS passW4NTN5DE5SS passW6H(+1010)

Hand 4: E 1H W 3H E 4NT W 5S E 5NT W 6C E 6H (+1010)

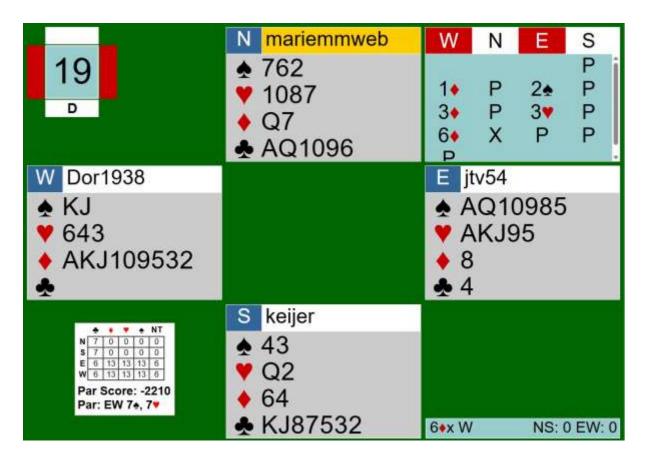
Analyses ref : 137 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54326

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 1 September 2025

Hand Number : 19

Theme : 4 slams available in one session



General: Boards 6 10 14 & 19 are small slam hands and easy to bid and play BUT Board 6 one E/W failed to bid the slam Board 10 2 E/W failed to bid the slam Board 14 2 E/W failed to bid slam and on Board 19 3 E/W failed to bid slam a poor record. Let us look at this problem.

Hand 1: W 1D E 2S W 3D E 3H W 6D N X (Mr Doubler my advice is the same try and X a slam contract with 2 tricks (not 0 tricks) You are lucky nobody got to slam so your X was unimportant)(+1740)

Hand 2: S 3C W 3D N 4C E 4S (+710)

Hand 3: S 3C W 3D N 4C E 4S (+680)

Hand 4:W 5D (incorrect to open game without any investigation)(+640)

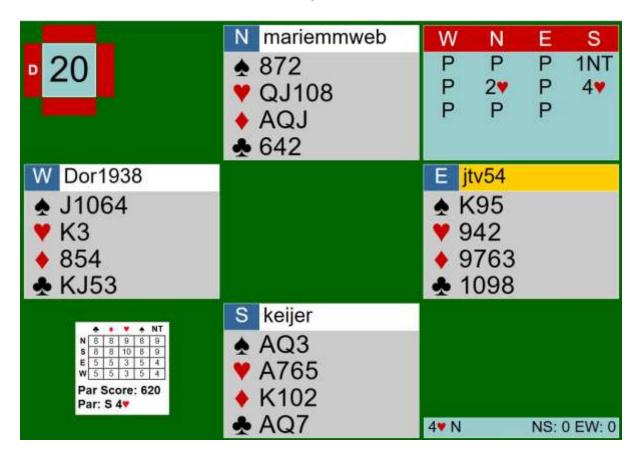
Analyses ref : 138 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54326

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 1 September 2025

Hand Number : 20

Theme : The Danger of flat hands.



General: Board 20 vividly demonstrates the failure to take into account the danger of flat hands when with 29 points all 4 declarers went down in 4H with 3NT good for 9 tricks

- Hand 1: S 1NT(incorrect opening with 19 points) N 2H(obviously not playing transfer bids and definitely not a correct bid as it is showing 5+ hearts) S 4H. With such a flat hand I would simply bid 3NT)
- Hand 2: S 1C precision N 1NT S 2C (is some of backward stayman-if so the bid is wrong as S equals N in a flat hand so I believe 3NT is the better bid) N 2H S 4H
- Hand 3 : S 1D N 1H S 4H This bidding sequence is correct and it difficult for S not to bid 4H
- Hand 4:S 1NT (If you keep opening a hand of 19 points with a bid of 1NT you will miss many games)N 2C (I would not use stayman on such a flat hand) S 2H N 4H

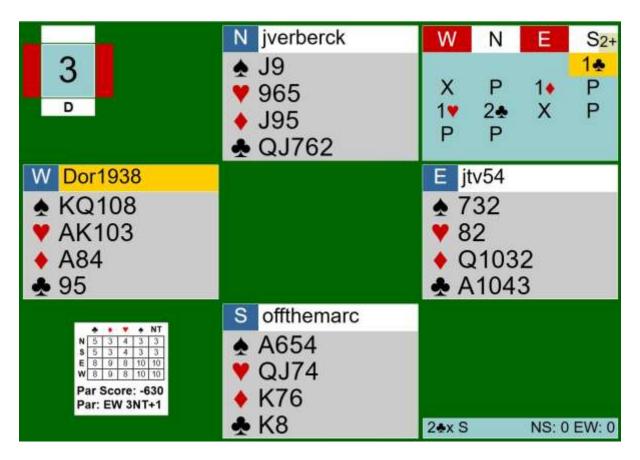
Analyses ref : 139 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54330

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 4 September 2025

Hand Number : 3

Theme : Rules of Leads.



General: Boards 3,10& 11- Rules for LEADS. (1) An opening lead is often the reason for a bad board (2) Always try to follow what your partner is asking you to do and use your cards to indicate preference as what to lead (3) It is normally bad bridge to lead a singleton trump especially if the bidding indicates that the trump suit is not solid(4) NEVER lead away from an AQ of a suit unless partner has bid that suit.(5) NEVER do what robots tend to do by returning a suit that declarer is trying to establish.(6) Try to be as aggressive as you can and leading away from a K or Q is often the correct lead to make.(7) Unless you have opened with a GOOD hand and partner has passed at the 1 level NEVER bid again (8) The importance to get into the bidding

Hand 1: S 1H W 1NT N pass E pass S 2S (read 7 above) (this is a SHOCKING bid for 2 reasons-1 your bid shows a good hand which you definitely do not have 2 W has warned you that he has H stoppers and probably good spades) On the lead of the AH you rate to lose 9 tricks (3S +3H +2D +1C=9) but the defence allows you to make 5 tricks for a joint bottom and you are lucky that you have not been X (-150)

Hand 2: S 1C W X N pass E 1D S 1H (read 7 above) (another SHOCKING bid as W has warned you that he has H and you have opened on a flat 13 point hand)You are lucky not to be X and your reward is a joint bottom(-150)

- Hand 3: S 1C W 1NT (you do not have clubs stopped) N pass E 2D (Why? 1NT rates to be a good contract) S pass (yay)W 2H N 3C (boo- now E should X)E pass S pass W 3D (+110)
- Hand 4: S 1C W X N pass E 1D S pass W 1H N 2C E X .The lead is AH and as W suspects E is short in H and shows a doubleton H and W is very careful to return the 10H to ask for a S back, (read point 2 above) and partner obliges by returning a S won by S with the AS and a S is discarded from dummy on the Q H as E ruffs BUT for some unexplainable reason E fails to follow W advice and now switches to a D forcing W to win with the AD.W switches back to spades and on the play of a trump E wins with the AC but E is determined to lose his D trick with the full view of the JD in dummy under leads his QD and a top becomes a bottom as declarer goes 1 down instead of 2 or 3 down. A double mistake makes all the difference. IT NEVER PAYS TO DISREGARD A PARTNER'S ADVICE. (+100)

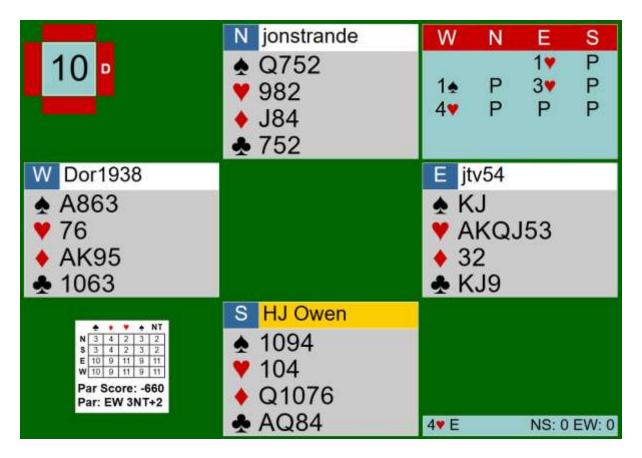
Analyses ref : 140 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54330

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 4 September 2025

Hand Number : 10

Theme : Rules of Leads.



General: Boards 3,10& 11- Rules for LEADS. (1) An opening lead is often the reason for a bad board (2) Always try to follow what your partner is asking you to do and use your cards to indicate preference as what to lead (3) It is normally bad bridge to lead a singleton trump especially if the bidding indicates that the trump suit is not solid(4) NEVER lead away from an AQ of a suit unless partner has bid that suit.(5) NEVER do what robots tend to do by returning a suit that declarer is trying to establish.(6) Try to be as aggressive as you can and leading away from a K or Q is often the correct lead to make.(7) Unless you have opened with a GOOD hand and partner has passed at the 1 level NEVER bid again (8) The importance to get into the bidding

This is a simple hand where EVERY E/W played in 4H and with the AQ of C in the S hand could not make more than 11 tricks. One S (who shall be nameless) holding AQ C led the AC and another C, (read 4 above). Your lead cost you a bottom.

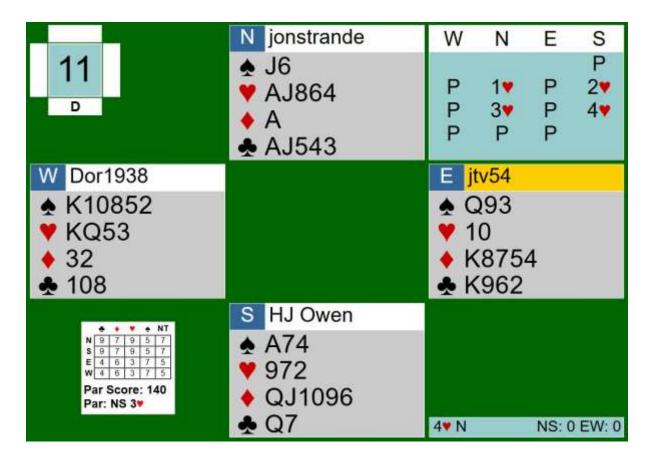
Analyses ref : 141 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54330

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 4 September 2025

Hand Number : 11

Theme : Rules of Leads.



General: Boards 3,10& 11- Rules for LEADS. (1) An opening lead is often the reason for a bad board (2) Always try to follow what your partner is asking you to do and use your cards to indicate preference as what to lead (3) It is normally bad bridge to lead a singleton trump especially if the bidding indicates that the trump suit is not solid(4) NEVER lead away from an AQ of a suit unless partner has bid that suit.(5) NEVER do what robots tend to do by returning a suit that declarer is trying to establish.(6) Try to be as aggressive as you can and leading away from a K or Q is often the correct lead to make.(7) Unless you have opened with a GOOD hand and partner has passed at the 1 level NEVER bid again (8) The importance to get into the bidding

Hand 1: S pass W pass N 1H E 2D (read 8 above) S 2H W 2S (8 above) N 3C E 3S S X W pass N 4H – E/W are rewarded for getting into the bidding getting a top as N has no hope of making 4H on a S lead(-100)

Hand 2: S pass W pass N 1H E pass? (should bid 2D) S 2D(not a great bid with 9 points-should have 10-2H is correct.) W pass N 3C S 3D (Now this bid is even worse as S knows that N has 5H and H is a major and D is NOT)-The bad bidding and bad D break leads to a joint bottom (-100)

- Hand 3: S pass W pass N 1H E pass? (see bidding 2) S 2H W 2S (well done John- with the bidding having gone 1H-2H your bid is correct-8 above) N 3C E pass S 3H W pass N 4H (Although N has only 14 points and should perhaps pass N has distribution so cannot be faulted) E leads the QS and even though declarer plays the hand well the S lead and bad break in H sinks the contract (-50)
- Hand 4: S pass W pass N 1H E pass (see hands 2&3) S 2H W pass ?(This is a case of the pupil teaching the teacher the correct action(see 8 above))N 3C E pass S 3H W pass N 4H With both E and W failing to bid E thinks he has a lead problem and in my opinion chooses the worst lead possible, the 10H (E to read 3 above)What should E lead ? According to my experience he cannot lead a trump so must lead from a suit containing a K or a Q –again from experience it is safer to lead from suit containing a Q rather than a K so spades is the logical choice. E gets a second chance to switch to a S but makes a second mistake by returning a suit that declarer is trying to establish (read 5 above) and all hope to beat the contract fades (N/S +420)

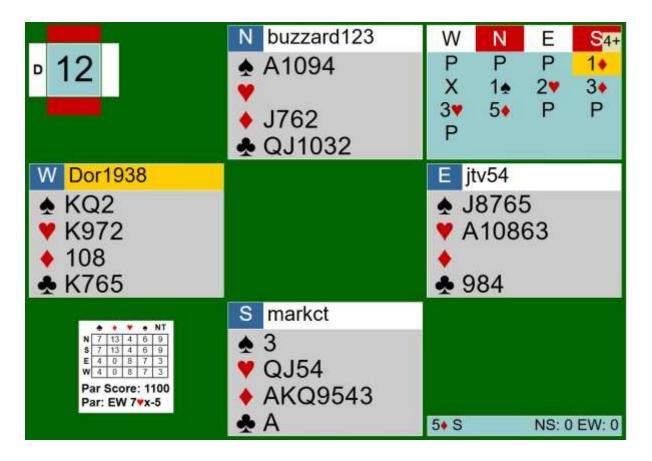
Analyses ref : 142 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54331

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 8 September 2025

Hand Number : 12

Theme : Count Your Winners



General: The only way to become a GOOD declarer is learn to COUNT your winners. Hand 12 is a hand where you have 13 tricks in D but only 12 tricks if a D is led but either way a small slam is a certainty. Only 1 pair managed to get to slam in D (Well done Adri & Ice) while one declarer found a way to go down of course NOT only not counting winners but NOT counting the number of cards she had in the D suit. Hand 22 Declarer has 9 tricks in NT simply by COUNTING winners as well as COUNTING the cards in the best suit declarer had which is D . There is also a NOT so difficult matter of communication to resolve. Here are my comments on the above hands

No D is led: You simply cross ruff the hand (4 ruffs in dummy + AS +AC + 7 diamonds in your hand adds up to 13 tricks) There is 99% chance that you will not be over ruffed:

A D is led: so now you cannot ruff 4 H in dummy so you simply draw 2 trumps and give up a C (7D in your hand +3C in dummy +AS +AC and 2 ruffs of H in dummy =14 tricks but of course you have lost one C to the KC)

A quick look at ALL the hands the following are the problems

Hand 1: Contract is 5D How did declarer go down? Firstly declarer did not count the D and drew I D too many and having deprived herself of a H ruff and then failed to set up 3 C winners in dummy>Not well played but next time look at different options

Hand 2: Contract was 3NT and on KS lead the defence had 4 tricks (2S + 2H) and declarer took the 9 tricks available (AS+ AC +7D tricks)

- Hand 3: Contract was 5D and the 2H was led> Declarer correctly embarked on a cross ruff but unfortunately ruffed two spades with the KQ of D and in a hand where only the 10 and 8 of D was in the defenders hand managed to lose a trick to the 10D.Not easy but it happened! ruffing 1D high was OK but 2 a little extraordinary.
- Hand 4: Contact was 5D and when the defence led 10D declarer did not take the winning option of setting up 3 club winners in dummy but also ended up with 12 tricks by ruffing three H and leaving the Q H as a loser but fortunately did not gift the defenders a D trick
- Hand 5: Contract was again 5D and on the KS lead declarer embarked on a cross ruff but also drew a D and left himself a H loser. Declarer makes 12 tricks
- Hand 6: The final contract was 3NT played by N and on the lead of the 6H declarer made 10 tricks as W winning with KH failed to switch to the KS and the H return gave declarer his 10th trick
- Hand 7: The final contract was 5D with N being declarer and on the lead of the AH had no difficulty in making 13 tricks by embarking on a cross ruff without ruffing high on returning to the S hand Well done Chris you were the only declarer to make 13 tricks,
- Hand 8: AT LAST N/S bid to slam and neither the X or only making 12 tricks mattered as Adri & Ice demonstrated how to bid distributional hands (well done)

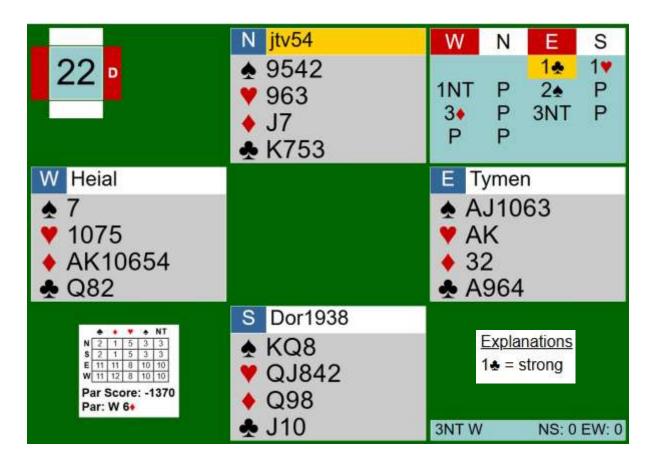
Analyses ref : 143 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #54331

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 8 September 2025

Hand Number : 22

Theme : Count Your Winners



General: 9 tricks in NT is ALWAYS available by ducking the first D trick as W has no entry outside the D entry. You should also calculate that with 8D in the E/W hands, D are % wise likely to break 3/2 in the defenders hands requiring declarer to duck the 1st D. 4 E/W pairs bid 3NT with 1 making 9 tricks,1 11 tricks and 2 going 2 down. Well done Alec & Ice who played the hand correctly. My comments follow:

- Hands 1&2: Both bidding auctions ended in 3NT and both were miss played by declarers to go 2 down With 4 outside tricks (A S +AK H +A C =4) the best way to 9 tricks is five D tricks (COUNT YOUR TRICKS) (-200) (-200)
- Hand 3: E/W played in 3C and declarer did well to make 10 tricks (+130)
- Hands 4 5 & 6 : All three boards were bid E 1S S 2H which were passed out and the outcome with W leading his singleton S was declarer going down 3 tricks in hands 4&5 and 4 tricks in hand 6 when declarer failed to finesse for the QC (-150)(-150)(-200)
- Hand 7: E opened a precision C which could of influenced the final contract of 3NT and on the lead of the 9H Alec played the hand well ducking a D and finished with 9 tricks (+600)
- Hand 8: E opened correctly IMO 1NT and finished in 3NT after W transferred to D and received a favourable lead of the KS won with the AS and ducked a D (well done Ice) when N persisted with spades won by S who now switched to the QH but the damage had been done and when N discarded a S on the run of the D declarer claimed the rest of the tricks (+650)

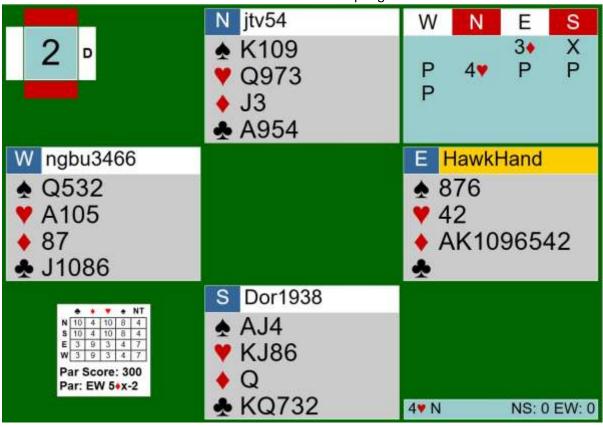
Analyses ref : 144 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #93063

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 11 September 2025

Hand Number : 2

Theme : Lessons on Pre-empting



General:

Board 2: IF you decide to pre-empt the lessons are (1) Pre-empt as high as possible (2) Vulnerability is always a factor if you believe that a non- vulnerable sacrifice will be cheaper than allowing opponents to score a vulnerable game (3) IF partner makes a take —out double you NEVER pass unless you have tricks in the suit being X.(4) Once you have pre-empted you need to leave it to partner to make the final decision of whether to bid or not. (5) In a pairs contest failure to double will prove costly (6) Learn that aggression at the bridge table will make you a better bridge player.

Par for N/S is 4H bid and made (+620) Losing only a H ,D and C due to the bad break in clubs and Par for E/W is therefore (-300) for 5D X which is 2 down losing 3S & 1H) Only 2 N/S achieved par and 5 E/W(except where 2 N/S made 4H) did better than PAR

I would have expected the bidding to have been E 4D S X W pass N 4H E pass S pass W 5D N X and every player's bid would be correct BUT that never happened even once. My comments on the bidding is as follows.

Hand 1: E 3D(read 1 above) S X W pass N 4H (the jump is correct and may have assisted in persuading W not to bid 5D. W did give E a C ruff which was not helpful to the defence (+620)

- Hand 3: E 3D(read 1 above) S X W pass N 3NT (what a shocking bid with no D stopper) E 4D (wrong bid with 8 defensive tricks) S 5 C (now in a hopeless contract with 3 certain losers)W pass (happy with what is transpiring but I believe should X)) N pass E 5D (Why not open 5D you have a partner who has heard you bid D twice maybe he is in a better position to decide whether to bid 5D and two chances to obtain a good score are lost (-100)
- Hand 4: E 3D (read 1 above)S X W pass N 3H (refer to bidding 1)E 4D W pass N pass (you have a 4 card major and 10 points and are given a second chance to rectify your incorrect bidding-you need to get more aggressive at the bridge table)(-50)
- Hand 5: E 4D passed out S pass (Read 7 above) (-50)
- Hand 6: E 3D (read 1 above) S X W 4D (well done) N 4H E 5D S 5H Aggressive bidding and an eventual good board for E/W (-50)
- Hand 7: E 4D S X passed out .The culprit who passed a take- out X also made a simple mistake by failing to rise with the QH gifting declarer a H trick. Eradicating such simple errors will definitely improve your bridge ability (+610)

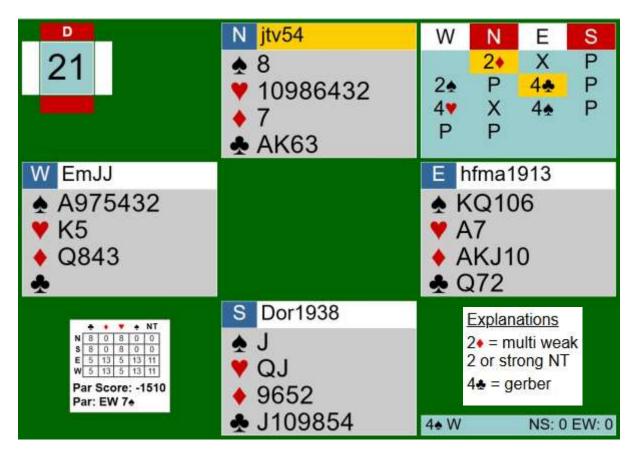
Analyses ref : 145 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #93063

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 11 September 2025

Hand Number : 21

Theme : A disastrous board for most



General: A grand slam in spades (13 tricks a lay down) and 2 partnerships got to a small slam in spades., Well done Ice & Tymen you were the only human pair to get to slam. With 1 pair playing in 3NT (not a great contract and luckily avoided a C lead and bottom) & 4 pairs only got to game in S >We investigate WHY was this a disastrous board for most E/W players? The main reasons for this bad outcome (1) Interference bidding (2) The failure to heed my repeated pleas for bridge players to become more aggressive and (3) the incorrect use of Bergan or any Ace asking convention when cue bidding was the way to go .Correct bidding has a chance to get you to the grand slam in spades. With no interference bidding I would suggest the following auction would have been correct E 1D W 1S E 4S W 5C E 5D W 6C E 6H W 7S. Of course W has to realise that he had a very good hand given the bidding.

Hand 1: N 2D (interference bid) E X S pass W 2S N pass E 4C (Gerber – It is not correct for you to look for to look for slam that was W "s job who should realise that you have a very good hand if you bid 4S and cue bid 5C the best bid you can see and by carrying on the cue bidding system you will definitely get to small slam and maybe grand slam. Bergen was more of a handicap than a help.

Hand 2: N pass (when you have a hand of 7 H and great distribution you need to bid) E 1D S pass W 1S N 2H E 4S passed out .It seems to me that the problem was E not appreciating what a good distributable hand he had was the cause of the failure to reach slam

- Hand 3: N 1H (the bid is not alerted and becomes an illegal bid) E X S pass W 1S (the first problem an under bid 2S is the correct bid N pass E 3S (the second problem bid 4S is the correct bid) S pass W 4S. Both E & W have underbid the real cause of the failure to reach slam. The opening bid although illegal was not responsible for the failure.
- Hand 4: N pass (read hand 2) E 1D S pass W 1S (NO 2S is correct) N pass E 4S S pass W pass ?(clearly the blame for not reaching slam lies with W who has under bid his hand TWICE)
- Hand 5: N 3H E 3NT (with a 4 card S suit and 19 points a X is clearly the better bid) S pass W pass ? Surely with 7 spades W should look for slam in spades At the very least with a C void W should know that a contract in spades is preferable to NT so both E & W have erred place the blame is equal . Bridge is to some extent is dependent on luck and on a H lead 13 tricks are made. A C lead and you end up where your bidding suggest you should be at the BOTTOM
- Hand 6: N 3H E X S pass W 4S N pass E 5H W 6S. It hurts to say that the robots have bid better than any humans to date
- Hand 7: N pass? (where is your bid read Hand 2 and you not bidding is immensely appreciated by E/W) E 1C (precision club) W 1S E 2S W 3D E 3H (cue)W 4H(cue) E 4NT (I would like to think that this is no form of blackwood-I will ask Ice) W 5C (I hope a cue bid) E 6S. While I do not fully understand the bidding well done again on reaching SLAM

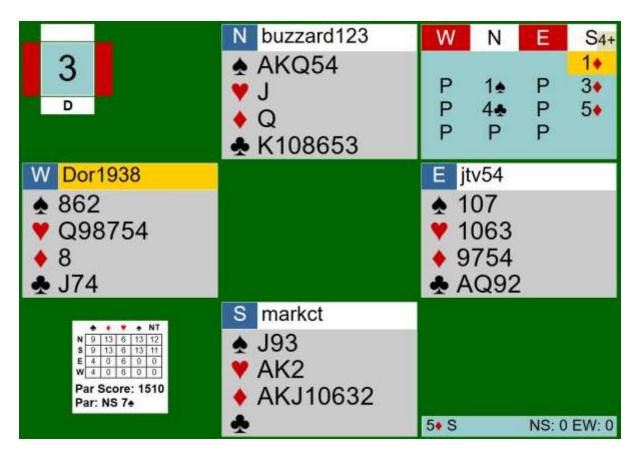
Analyses ref : 146 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #93064

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 15 September 2025

Hand Number : 3

Theme : 14 Tricks available.



General: For a second time a grand slam in S or D with 14 tricks was missed by all N/S players and only 2 partnerships got to small slam. WHY? South the opener has a hand where 9 tricks is almost a certainty and has 1st round control of three suits and IMO cannot open 1D. If the multi 2D is not played where S can show at least a 8 trick hand in D the correct opening is 2C and grand slam in spades is easy to bid. Every S opened 1D except 1 who opened a precision club which incidentally helped the partnership to bid a small slam in spades.3 pairs were in 5D making 13 tricks. 2 pairs finished in a S game making 13 tricks and 10 tricks (I expect this declarer to re-look at his play) I pair heeded my advice to seldom bid game in a minor suit bid 3NT and finished with a 3rd top when 13 tricks were made and 2 pairs actually bid 6 S making 13 tricks. N/S had 8 S & 8 D between them with D slightly better with AKQJ10 of D & AKQJX making D the better grand slam BUT the chances of 5-0 break in spades was so remote that playing pairs spades was the better slam to bid.

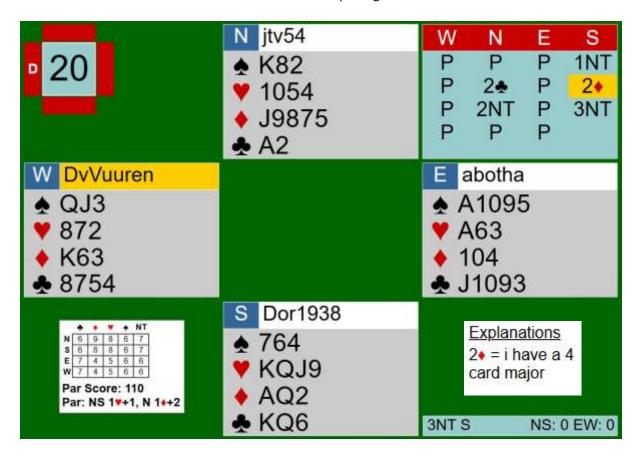
Analyses ref : 147 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #93064

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 15 September 2025

Hand Number: 20

Theme : The correct opening lead



General: N has 8 HCP and S has 17 HCP But on best defence Par is 1NT (+90) but best defence by W is not found. What is best defence? W on lead has 6 points by subtracting 25 (the points that N/S has told you they have) from 40 you can work out that E has 9 points .In addition you know that S does not have 4 spades so by the law of common sense I believe the QS is the correct lead and it rates to be a more helpful lead than clubs or hearts where W has zero help. It is unbelievable that this lead or switch to spades when the KD was won was NEVER found.

Hand 1: 3 NT is made with 2 overtricks (+660)

Hand 2: 3NT is made with 1 overtrick (+630)

Hand 3: 3NT is made (+600) E did well to duck the KH cutting H communication between the N and S hands

Hands 4 & 5 & 6: The 1NT opening is passed out with N having 8 points and declarer made 10 tricks in hand 4 (+180) and 9 tricks in hand 5(+150)and 9 tricks in hand 6 (+150) It would appear that my plea to be more aggressive at the bridge table should have been accepted by S on these hands

Hand 7: After a 1NT opening by S the bidding stopped in 2NT and not that W led the QS but declarer misplayed the D suit by leading JD and cut himself off from dummy in the D suit and only made 8 tricks (+120)Just as well S did not listen to me to be more aggressive at the bridge table

Hand 8: The folly of transferring to D by going to the 3 level in D was exposed when at last W at last switched to the QS but failed to follow up with JS and E played his As thinking maybe that S had the JS but surely he would cover the QS(if he had the JS) so W take a tip and next

time play the JS the first fault is yours so you must take the blame but then declarer forgot to draw trumps and decided that that he should lose the KS and we were back to 1 down but a bottom remains a bottom irrespective of declarer play or defence.(-100)

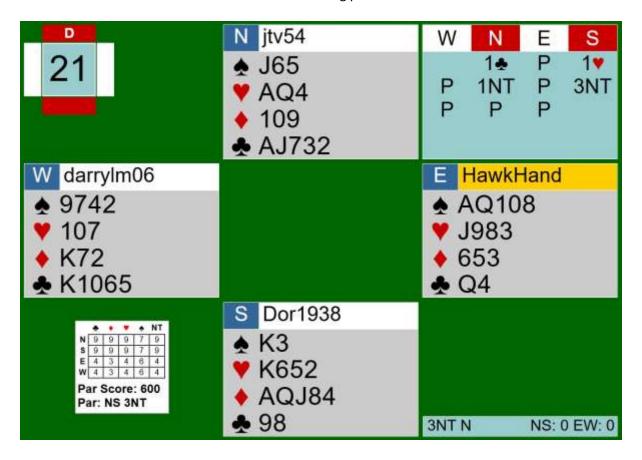
Analyses ref : 148 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #93064

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 15 September 2025

Hand Number : 21

Theme : Three learning points



General: Unlike the previous 25 points in the N/S hand with spades dividing 4-4 in the defences hands there was no way to beat 3NT. But there are a few certainties that some bridge need to learn (1)When you have 12 points and partner opens and rebids 1NT(12-14 HCP) you need to try and get to game (2) There are rules relating to passing of forcing bids which should NEVER happen.(3) If you are declarer in 3NT the suit you should first attack is your BEST suit not your SECOND BEST suit

Hands 1 to 5: There is no problem as declarer plays in 3NT and takes the 9 tricks available (+600)

Hand 6: N pass (N has a legal opening hand 12HCP + 5C +3H=20 so this is under bidding 1)E pass S 1D W pass N 2C E pass S 2D W pass N pass (second under bid- with an opening hand opposite an opening hand you need to reach game) E X S pass W 2S pass N pass (third under bid N/S have 25 points) not surprisingly the contract goes 2 down (-100) My advice to N is if you do not change your bidding style you will suffer many bad boards

Hand 7: N 1C S 1H passed out N has made the worst mistake in bridge which is to pass a forcing bid.

Please LEARN what is a forcing bid and what is not. It will make you a better player. You are lucky to receive only a 2nd bottom

Hand 8: N/S reach their best contract of 3NT which is miss played by declarer who attacks H instead of D and goes 2 down declarer needs to clearly think out the line of play 4 certain D tricks is better than an uncertain 4 H tricks, With 1S trick + 3H tricks + 4D tricks and 1 C trick you have 9 tricks

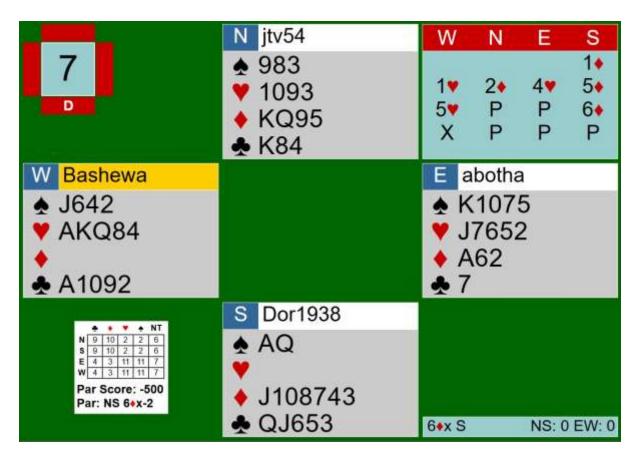
Analyses ref : 149 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #93065

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 18 September 2025

Hand Number : 7

Theme : The Power of Distribution.



General: The power of distribution-When E/W get to 4H the decision of whether to bid 5 D is easy but when E/W get to 5H the decision to bid 6D is not that easy but in those circumstances I am an advocate that if you are not sure bid one more.

Hand 1: S 1D (as you know by now I abide by the rule of 18/20-so a quick count reveals (10HCP+6D +5C =21) Not only an opening hand but a GOOD opening. W 1H N 2D E 4H S 5D (easy as it is highly likely that that E/W have no losing D) W 5H N pass E pass S 6D (with only 1 definite trick the decision is to bid 1 more) W X (the correct decision as W has 2 losing tricks) Luck playing bridge includes who you play against and the decisions they make (E/W +200)

Hand 2: S pass? (read hand 1) W 1H N pass E 4H .N/S do not get into the bidding AT ALL with a contract of 5D cold. Declarer misplays the hand throwing a winning S and not a losing C on the AD (E/W +620)

Hand 3: S1D W1H N2D E4H S5D (the easy decision) W5H (no mistakes made E/W +650)

Hand 4 : S 1D W 1H N 2D E 4H S pass (not so easy –you need to put more aggression into your game)(+650)

Hand 5: S 1D W 1H N 2D E 3H S 4D W 4H N pass E pass S pass (read hand 4)

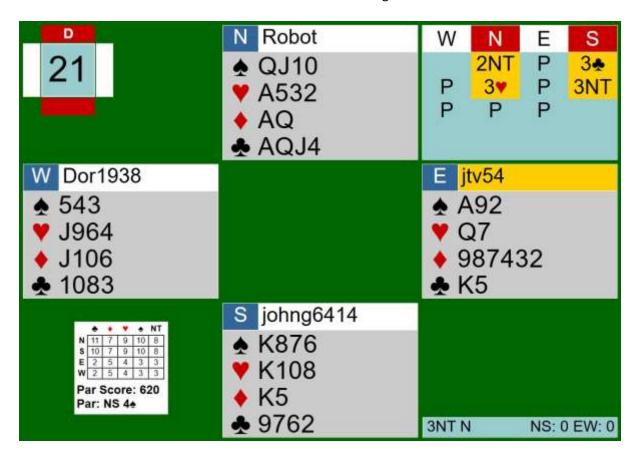
Analyses ref : 150 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #93065

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 18 September 2025

Hand Number : 21

Theme : The Art of Unblocking



General: The art of unblocking –Only 1 declarer had to go down because W unblocked the D suit while 4 declarers should have made 10 tricks as 4 W's failed to unblock the D. It is also a about a correct decision made by E to know what to lead from D 987432. Only N/S bid . Par for the hand is(-200 N/S)but only if the correct lead is made which should help W to unblock his J10 of D

Hand 1: N 2NT S 3C N 3H S 3NT: There is only 1 correct lead when you have a suit like E had in D it is the 9D (Top of a 6 card suit) It should now become easy for W to unblock his J106 of D which is what happened when W played his 10 D Declarer had two suits which would generate 3 tricks C and S so the opening trick went 9D KD 10D QD and declarer took a C finesse which lost to the KC and when E then played the 8D showing he had the 7 D W played his JD unblocking the D suit and E had to get in with the AS to run his 4 remaining D tricks and declarer had to go 2 down losing the AS KC and 4 D tricks. It made no difference if declarer played his S first. All roads led to 2 down (-200)

Hand 2: N 2D S 2H N 2NT S 3C N 3NT This time 4 of D was led which certainly makes it more difficult to unblock. Again the KD won the first trick and declarer took the C finesse losing to the KC with the return now of the 9 D-5D 10D and AD but the D suit was now blocked by the JD but declarer now decided to cash the 3 club tricks she had and W was good enough to discard his JD on the 4th C (well done) and now declarer was doomed to a 2 tricks defeat —declarer would have made 10 tricks if spades were played before the clubs were cashed out (-200)

Hand 3: N 2NT S 3NT = The lead is 7D and with declarer winning with the KD and W plays the 6D which serves to block the D suit when declarer now attacks spades E wins with the AS and now returns the 8D which is won by N who after cashing the JS and 10S ducks a H to JH in the W hand and when after W now plays the JD unblocking the D suit and returns a C declarer refuses to finesse the QC winning with AC hoping H break now break 3-3 but is

- disappointed as H break 4-2 and limits his H winners to 2 with 3 S winners 2D winners and a C winner =8 and goes 1 down (-100)
- Hand 4: N 2NT S 3C N 3H S 3NT On the 7D lead declarer wins with KD with W blocking the D suit by playing the 6D when the D is won in dummy with the KD and declarer then plays the QS and JS which E ducks declarer is forced to play a H to the KH and take the C finesse won by the K C and the 4D is returns D won by the AD . Unlike Hand 2 declarer only cashes 2 C winners and W is not given the chance to discard the blocking JD and plays the QS which is won by E perforce with the AS and plays a D won by the blocking JD and declarer is able to take the rest of the tricks (+630)
- Hand 5: N 2D S 2H N 2NT S 3NT and E becomes the second person after Joe to correctly lead the 9 of D (Well done Heather) BUT W fails to interpret the lead correctly and blocks the D suit by playing the 6D after declarer wins with the KD .Declarer attacks S which E wins with the AS and continues with the 8D won perforce by the AD and declarer cashes all the remaining spades and takes the C finesse won by the KD and returns a D to the blocking JD and declarer makes the rest of the tricks (+630)

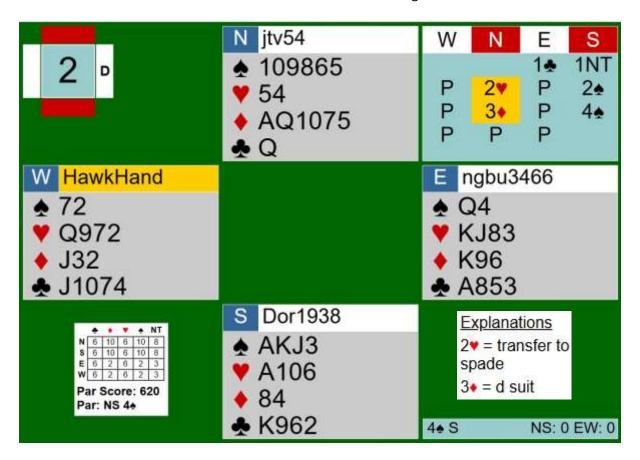
Analyses ref : 151 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #29549

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 25 September 2025

Hand Number : 2

Theme : The Price of Under Bidding



General: (1) The price for under bidding (2) Bad Leads (3) Incorrect declarer play

- Hand 1: E 1C S 1NT (this bid describes the hand correctly a flat 15-17 HCP hand) W pass N 2H (transfer)E pass S 2S W pass N 3D (this bid is a try for game both suits being 5 cards) E pass N 4S –The lead is an unfortunate JC which allows declarer to discard a losing H and with the spades breaking 2-2 and D 3-3 in the E/W hands 11 tricks are made (+650)
- Hand 2: E 1G S X W pass N 1S E pass S 3S W pass N 4S. The lead is a BAD QS (which is the MOST negative lead available when E should be looking for the MOST positive lead which is a H read 2 above) Again 11 tricks are made (+650)
- Hand 3: EID SX (acceptable with no D stoppers) W pass N 2S (Alerted –but a good positive bid) E pass S 4S The lead is the positive 8H which allows declarer to make only 10 tricks-a fitting reward for a good lead (+ 620)
- Hand 4: E 1C S 1S (a bad under bid with 15 points)W pass N 2S E pass S pass? (N has just given you a get out of jail card and for a second time your pass is a hopeless under bid.) The declarer play on 4C lead allows 11 tricks to be made but declarer forgets to discard his losing H on his winning KC and makes only 10 tricks (+170) Declarer to read 3 above!
- Hand 5: E 1D S X (read hand 3) W pass N 1S (I believe 2S to be a better bid)E pass S 2S (acceptable) W pass N pass? (not acceptable having under bid the first time you now need to try for game) On the lead of the 3H only 10 tricks are available (+170)
- Hand 6 : E 1C S 1NT W pass N pass? (WHAT! Did you notice 2 5 card suits one of which is a major< I would suggest you look at hand 1 for the CORRECT bidding)(+120)

Hand 7: E 1NT (alerted so I would expect the correct HCP was confirmed)S pass (with 15 HCP the pass is very bad) The lead is 3S (having read 1 above now read 2 above-the correct lead if you decide to lead a S is the KS – a D switch and declarer can only make 2 tricks not 6 tricks he made (+50)

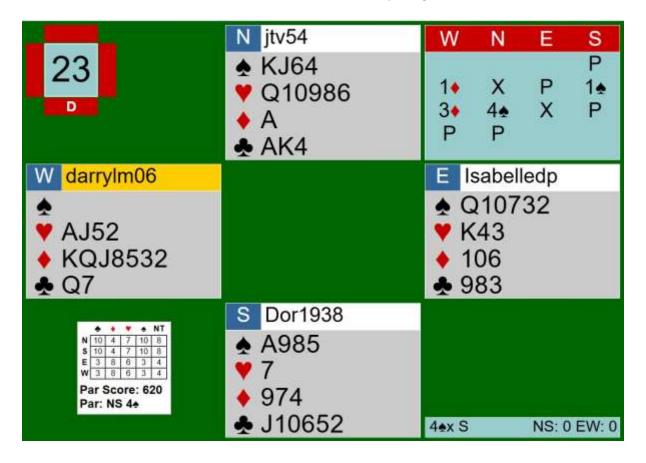
Analyses ref : 152 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #29549

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 25 September 2025

Hand Number : 23

Theme : What is the correct opening!



General: Pars for this board with best defence and correct declarer play is N/S 4S & E/W 2D. (1) Every W opened the bidding with either 1D, 3D or 4D. What is the correct opening? The clue is in defensive tricks which W has .IT IS ONE the AH so I would rule out 1D as the correct opening and because E/W are vulnerable I would chose 3D and being a pre-empt that should be the last bid –Your story has been told! (2) IF you X a contract never forget that you are giving declarer information!

- Hand 1: S pass W 1D N X E pass S 1S W 3D N 4S E X- W has opened 1D and rebid 3D telling partner that he has GOOD hand so if I was holding Q1073 2 of the trump suit I would also X. Using the X for information should help declarer with the way to play the hand. The first play after winning the AD on the table is to play a spade towards A 9 8 5 spades intending to play the 8S but E plays the 10 spades to force declarer to play his AS and W as expected shows out Then the QC comes down in two plays and declarer can cash 3 clubs before playing the singleton H won by W with the AH and continues with the QD ruffed in dummy. When declarer plays a H and E mistakenly plays her KH which is ruffed. When declarer now plays a winning C E throws her losing H but is forced to ruff the 5th club and with only spades left if forced to play a S away from the QS into the KJ S in dummy. When a H is led from dummy E ruffs with 7S gets over ruffed by 8S and 11 tricks are made with E never making her QS (+990)
- Hand 2: S pass W 3D NX E pass S 3H? (Alerted I can only believe it is some sort of transfer) W 4D (has not learnt the golden rule that you NEVER bid again after pre-empting) N 4H (Not on the same page as S) E 5D (saving N/S) S X (phew!) and a little later (-800)
- Hand 3: S pass W 1D N 1H E pass S 1S W2D (certainly better than 3D)N 4S >On the KD lead Declarer (well done Mignon) played the hand very well and showed how to make 10 tricks in spades losing only 2 spades and 1 heart even without the help of a X but assisted by an automatic end play when E was forced to play a S away from the QS into the KJ of spades in dummy losing only 2 spades and a H.(+620)

- Hand 4: S pass W 1D N X (obviously the correct bid with both majors)) E pass S 1S W 2D N 4S E pass S pass W 5D (A completely undisciplined bid ignoring partners repeated passes) but played the hand well and finally when N discarded the 8H instead of the JS set up an extra H trick. It is interesting to note that if N discards the JS instead of the 8H declarer can still get an extra H trick by end playing N in spades(playing the QS to the KS and forcing S to make a H return away from the QH into the AJ of H so well played Loraine
- Hand 5: S pass W 1D N 1H (while some Norths bid 1H this is definitely the wrong bid with 17 HCP & both majors-a X is correct)E pass S 1S W 3D (again incorrect) N 3S E pass S pass W 4D (you are now in X territory and worse still you can push N/S into a makeable 4 S- you have bid on your own with a probable 7 tricks)Luckily 4 D is passed out and only goes 1 down when N switches a H and then gives S a D ruff of a losing H anyway (-100) N should have X and not have miss defended by simply playing the KC after the AC.
- Hand 6: S pass W 1D N1H (WRONG BID AGAIN-read hand 5) E 1S (there goes N/S possible game in spades) S pass W 2D N 2NT (At least is a better bid than the I H overcall –8 tricks actually makes (2S +1D +5C) E pass S pass W 3D and the contract actually makes as when left with KS which is the top spade and the Q 10 of H does not play the KS but returns a H into declarers AJ of H which is a bad miss defence as N should know that declarer has a trump and the AJ of H (+110)
- Hand 7: S pass W 3D N X E pass S 3S W 4D N 4S E pass S pass W X? -The hand is unfortunately miss played when declarer plays trumps the KS is played and now declarer must lose 3S + 1H and goes I down (-200)

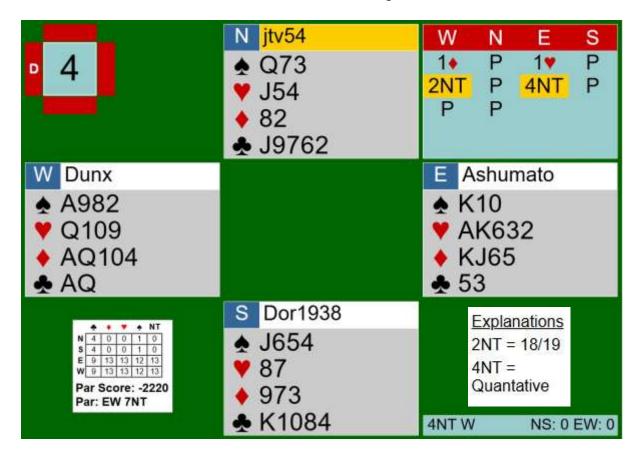
Analyses ref : 153 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #34346

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 29 September 2025

Hand Number: 4

Theme : Woeful slam bidding Boards 4 and 20



- General: N/S do not bid E/W can make 13 tricks in NT H or D with the successful finesse of the QC but only 2 E/W reached slam Heather and Robot reached 6D and Anton and Arthur reached 6NT. Why did 6 E/W fail to reach slam?
- Hand 1: W 1C (18 HCP) E 2H ? (14 HCP) W 3NT .In my opinion the raise to 2H is incorrect but having said that does E know that W has a good 18 point hand. If so E should raise to 6NT.Declarer play is not the best with declarer failing to take the C finesse Woeful
- Hand 2: W INT E 2D W 2H E 4H. I have a huge problem with the I NT opening with a hand which is worth upgrading to 19 HCP(INT is NOT the correct opening.) Woeful
- Hand 3: W 1D E 1H W 2NT E 4NT (If this bid is investigating slam I believe W should bid 6NT not pass as he could hardly have a better 18 points with no Jacks but 2 10's) W pass. Woeful.
- Hand 4: W 1D E 1H W 2NT E 3NT (E should know that the combined point holding is 32 or 33 points and he has a very good 14 point hand with 3 Kings an Ace and a J in W opening suit and above all a 5 card H suit)I believe E is to blame for missing a lay down slam. Woeful
- Hand 5: W 1NT (read hand 2) E 2D W 3NT(does not tell E that you are making up for a BAD opening bid. Woeful
- Hand 6: W 1NT (read hand 2&5) E 2D W 2S E 3D W 3NT (The 1NT opening has caused the bad result. Woeful..
- Hand 7: W 1D E 1H W 1S (correct bid is 2NT)E 2C W 3NT E 6D E/W land in an inferior slam BUT at long last a slam has been bid
- Hand 8: W 1C E 1H W 2NT E 6NT (well done Anton simple bidding has got you to the best slam)

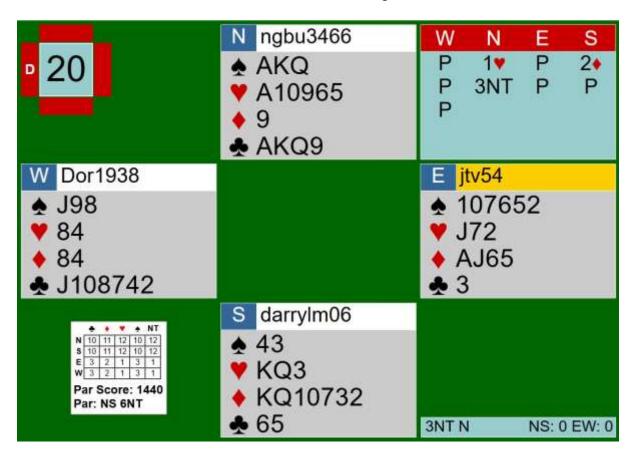
Analyses ref : 154 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #34346

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 29 September 2025

Hand Number: 20

Theme : Woeful slam bidding Boards 4 and 20



General: E/W do not bid except to X the final contract

Hand 1: N 2C S 3D N 3H S 4NT N 5D (1 or 4 key cards-I only can see 3) S 5NT N 6C S 7H W pass N pass E X —and E cashes the AD (-200) Certainly Woeful

Hand 2: N 2C S 2D N 2H S 2S N 3S S 6 H W X (certainly the worst X I have seen since I started playing bridge with not a remote chance of a trick) E led a spade won by declarer and played an D won by E with the AD and switched to a singleton C won by declarer who for some unknown reason only played the KQ of hearts and instead of discarding the only possible loser of the 9C on the KD and then drawing the JH gifted E his JH by playing a C and the worst X I have ever seen, instead of causing a bottom became a joint top (-200) Even more Woeful

Hand 3: N 2C S 3D N 3H S 4NT N 5D (0 or 3 key cards) S 7NT (not the time to ignore the fact that a key card was missing) and that key card the AD had to make (-100) Woeful again

Hand 4: N 2C S 3D N 3H S 4NT N 5C (0 or 3 key cards) S 5H (I have no idea what S was thinking as after opening 2C it is impossible to have 0 key cards) N pass (+680)More Woe

Hand 5: N 2H (The wrong bid 2C is the correct opening) S 4H (+680) More Woe

Hand 6: N 1H (I have seen many under bids but this opening is without doubt the WORST under bid opening I have ever encountered) S 2D N 3NT (+690) The woefulness continues

Hand 7: N 2C S 2S? N 3H S 3NT (S has 10 points including the KQ of H-surely if opener opens 2C you must reach slam but what do I know –I give up (+690) woeful

Hand 8: Andries & Walter play the precision club system and their bidding which went 1C 2D 2H 4H 4NT 5D (one key card the KH) 6H. Andries could have asked if Walter had the QH by bidding 5S WHICH meant they were committed to bid 6 H anyway so purpose of asking was an exercise in futility BUT what if Walter had two KEY cards the AD and KH the key card bid would be 5S showing the QH as well and now the auction could land in 7H which would be the contract of choice and almost a certainty to make.

This is the reason why members SHOULD play KEY CARD BLACKWOOD in preference to GERBER or NORMAL Blackwood

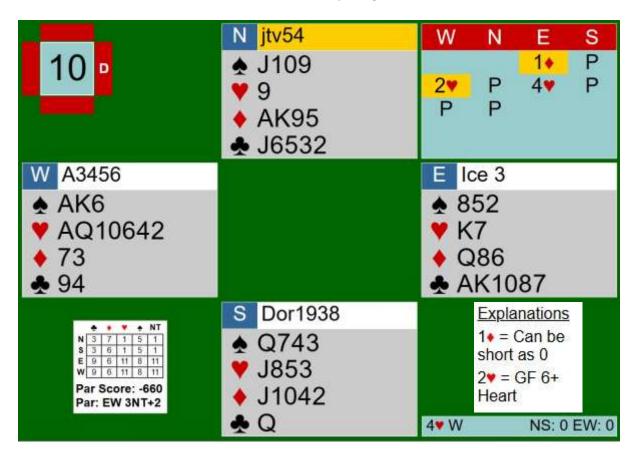
Analyses ref : 155 BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #34346

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday

Date Played : 29 September 2025

Hand Number : 10

Theme : What is the correct Opening Lead?



General: There is only I lead that has a legitimate chance of beating 4H which in my opinion is the best lead to find . (THE JS) found by NO N player. On this hand the lead of a singleton 9H (which is a no-no in my book) and a lead of a top D or a club will give declarer the timing to make 10 tricks in hearts and only with the lead of JS does the defence have the timing to beat the contract if declarer does not finesse for the JH which is probable and against the odds . Let us look at what was led and how the hand should be played. N/S do not bid

- Hand 1: E 1D (precision club) W 2H Alerted 6+H and a game force E 4H The lead is the 9H giving the contract if declarer ducks the H in dummy and wins with the 10 H in her hand.(2S +6H +2C =10 tricks) but declarer has a blind spot or fails to count the hearts wins in dummy with the KH and draws trumps failing to finesse for the JH and goes 1 down (1S+1H + 2D) When N complimented himself for not leading a top D I had my say that in my experience he had made the worst possible lead which I believe should NEVER be made and I hope bridge players of the Pretoria Bridge Club learn from my experience and NEVER lead a singleton trump unless it was clear that the opposition have all the top trumps.
- Hand 2 :E IC W 1H E 2C W 3H E 4H > the lead is the AD with a JS switch. Declarer drew only 2 trumps but instead of now playing a D to the Q to set up a spade discard played on clubs and a cold game went 1 down. Correct play is to draw 3 trumps and then simply play a D to the Q to establish QD to discard a losing S and the defence cannot beat the contract.
- Hand 3: E 1C W 1H E 2C W 2H? (W has an opening hand and should jump to 3H). The lead is again the AD with a C switch which declarer wins plays a H to the AH and now plays a D towards the QD setting up a S discard. N plays a club which when the KC is played is ruffed by S but declarer makes the rest of the tricks discarding the losing S on the QD

- Hand 4: E 1C W 2H E 3C W 3H E pass (not good bridge to pass a forcing bid –with W first bid a jump bid it is a force sing to game bid) Declarer makes 11 tricks when S does NOT shine in defence when he fails to ruff the winning KC but then ruffs a losing C
- Hands 5 to 8 : All E/W arrived at 4 H which were all made on leads of a top D and the setting up of the QD to discard a losing S