

Analyses ref : 174                      **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #95534**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 3 November 2025  
Hand Number : 18  
Theme : The Reverse Bid

18

**W** mariemmweb

♠ 932  
♥ 107  
♦ KQ103  
♣ AK98

**S** Dor1938

♠ AJ75  
♥ KQ95  
♦ 975  
♣ 76

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	8	9	10	7	9
S	8	9	10	7	9
E	4	4	3	6	4
W	5	4	3	6	4

**Par Score: 620**  
**Par: NS 4♥**

**N** jtv54

♠ Q  
♥ AJ43  
♦ AJ64  
♣ Q1042

**E** Robot

♠ K10864  
♥ 862  
♦ 82  
♣ J53

W	N	E	S
1♣	1♥	P	P
3♦	X	P	2♥
P	P	3♠	X
P	P	4♣	P

4♣x W      NS: 0 EW: 0

General: The Reverse bid (1) It has come to my notice that most players at the club have absolutely no idea of what is a reverse bid (2) Even teachers that teach bridge seem to not understand what is so important about reverse bids. (3) Unfortunately those of you that play with robots do not realise that robots have been programmed to the correct use of reverse bids. I am using this board to explain the proper use of reverse bids. Par on the hand is N/S with declarer limiting his losses to 2C & 1D (+620) Declarer has to play W for the K & Q of D

Hand 1: E pass S pass W 1C (this is the wrong opening it means you cannot bid D which would show a strong hand and you have a flat 12 points only. YOU MUST OPEN A D) N 1H E pass S 2H W 3D (you have shown your robot a strong hand with clubs and diamonds N X E pass S 3H W pass N pass E 3S SX W pass N pass E 4C S pass W pass N X and now you have nowhere to go and suffer a penalty of (-1100) all because W bid 3D.

Hand 2 : E pass S pass W 1D (yes) N X ( not ideal with a singleton QS –I prefer a I H call on 4 H E 1S S 2H W X (What are you doing after opening 1D –You have bid enough when opening on a poor hand ) N 4H .On the AC lead and a S switch declarer was able to establish JS and the QC and 10C as winning tricks limiting losses to 2C +1D and was able to make the contract (+620)

Hand 3 : E pass S pass W 1C (no) N pass ? (taking some action is difficult with a singleton QS but not bidding is worse-I would bid a H) E 1S S pass W 2S N X E pass S 3H passed out. Declarer after the AC lead and S switch draws trumps and plays the QC when W ducks his Ace . Declarer is now unable to play D from his hand twice but is helped by W who sets up dummy's JD and declarer makes 10 tricks(+170)

Hand 4 : E pass S pass W 1C (no) N 1D (rather bid a major) E 1S S 2H W 2S N 3H on a S lead declarer miss plays the hand by not playing a C (declarer can work out that W MUST have the AK C and the KQ D with E showing up with the KS high card points are easy to count ( N 14+ E 3 or 4+ S 10=27 or 28 so West must have a minimum of 12 points) Declarer adopts a line of ruffing spades and need to play a C from the N hand and as a result makes 9 tricks (+140)

Hand 5 : E pass S pass W 1D (yes) N X (read hand 2) E 1S S 2H W X (read hand 2) N pass E 2S S pass W pass N3H passed out . On a S lead declarer does not work which is the correct hand he should play his minor suits from and plays both D & C from the wrong hand and loses 2C +2D but does ruff 2 spades in the N hand and also makes 9 tricks (+140)

Hand 6 : E pass S pass W 1C (no again) N pass (read hand 3) E pass S 1H W pass N 2C E pass S 2H W pass N 4H .The AC is led followed by the KD which declarer should duck and hope for a C or S switch . If W continues a D declarer need to finesse and draw 3 rounds of trumps to stop W giving E a D ruff ending in her hand to play a C towards dummy. Now in control West can no longer beat the contract .By winning the KD declarer can no longer make the contract.

Analyses ref : 175 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #95534**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 3 November 2025  
Hand Number : 20  
Theme : Sometimes Luck Plays its part

**D 20**

N	jtv54		W	N	E	S
♠ J			2♣	P	4♠	P
♥ 2			P	4NT	P	5♦
♦ QJ9632			P	P	5♠	6♦
♣ KJ542			P	P	X	P
			P	P		

**W mignonlei**

♠ Q97643  
♥ K5  
♦ 105  
♣ A73

S	Dor1938	
♠ 85		
♥ 109873		
♦ AK84		
♣ Q9		

**E arfurh**

♠ AK102  
♥ AQJ64  
♦ 7  
♣ 1086

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	9	10	2	1	2
S	9	10	2	1	2
E	3	3	9	12	7
W	3	3	9	12	7

Par Score: -800  
Par: NS 7♦x-3

Explanations  
2♣ = weak 6 carder  
4NT = minors

6♦x S

NS: 0 EW: 0

General: Bridge is a difficult game. Definitely whether to sacrifice at equal vulnerability is always indeed a difficult decision as there is likely to be an element of LUCK in making that decision. This board is an example of the problem. Par for the board E/W +1430 ( 6S bid & made) N/S + 130 (4D bid and made)No E/W pair bid to 6S and only 1 pair lost 500 in 6D X .But LUCK played it's part given the chance that if S sacrificed all the way to 6D there was the possibility of driving E/W into 6S.

Hand 1 : W pass (playing with a robot you need to open 2S as robots don't play the MULTI 2D)N pass E 1H S pass W 1S N 2NT E pass S 3D W pass N pass E X (take out) S pass W pass Why Mr Robot did not support spades is ridiculous as is the pass by W of a takeout X (N/S +870)

Hand 2 : W 2S N pass E 4S S pass W pass N 4NT E pass S 5D W pass N pass E 5S W pass N pass E pass S 6D W pass N pass E X . The reasoning by S was that he had a total of 9 points but all in the suits N suggested he had (E/W +500)

Hand 3 : W 2D N pass E 2NT S pass W 4S N pass (You snooze you lose)(E/W +680)

Hand 4 : W pass N pass E 1H S pass W 1S N 2NT E 4S S pass (you snooze you lose)(E/W +680)

Hand 5 : W pass N pass E 1H S pass W 1S N 1NT E 3S S 4D W 4S N pass ? E pass S pass (E/W +680)

Hand 6 : W 2S N 2NT E 4S S pass ? W pass N 5C E X S 5D W pass N pass E 5S S pass ? (E/W +680)

Analyses ref : 176 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #95538**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 6 November 2025  
Hand Number : 5  
Theme : Should North Open a weak 2 on this hand?

<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">D</div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 10px; text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">5</div>		<b>N jtv54</b> ♠ 84 ♥ J109864 ♦ J5 ♣ A105	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="background-color: yellow;">2♦</td> <td>P</td> <td style="background-color: yellow;">2NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td style="background-color: yellow;">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		2♦	P	2NT	P	3♣	P	4♥	P	P	P															
W	N	E	S																														
	2♦	P	2NT																														
P	3♣	P	4♥																														
P	P	P																															
<b>W mignonlei</b> ♠ AQ103 ♥ 752 ♦ 86432 ♣ 9			<b>E A3456</b> ♠ K72 ♥ K3 ♦ K1097 ♣ Q762																														
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>♠</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♣</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>10</td> <td>5</td> <td>10</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>10</td> <td>5</td> <td>10</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>3</td> <td>8</td> <td>3</td> <td>6</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>3</td> <td>8</td> <td>0</td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Par Score: 500 Par: EW 5♦x-3</p>			♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	10	5	10	7	8	S	10	5	10	7	8	E	3	8	3	6	5	W	3	8	0	5	1	<b>S Dor1938</b> ♠ J965 ♥ AQ ♦ AQ ♣ KJ843	<u>Explanations</u> 2♦ = multi 2NT = opening hand 3♣ = 6 hearts weak hand
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	10	5	10	7	8																												
S	10	5	10	7	8																												
E	3	8	3	6	5																												
W	3	8	0	5	1																												

General: Should N open a weak 2D or 2H bid as opener> In my opinion there is little doubt that N should, but only 2 Norths out of 6 pairs did, both declarers finishing in 4H making 11 tricks. Of the remaining 4 pairs only one made 11 tricks in NT when E/W failed to attack spades while the 3 other pairs all shared the last 3 places. I have repeatedly told players at this club to get more aggressive in their approach to bridge but it would seem that my pleas are falling on deaf ears. Par for the hand is for N/S to make 4H (+ 620) and make 2NT (+ 120) with best defence and declarer play The following is the bidding and my comments which are important especially when leads are discussed. E/W do not bid in hands 1,2,3 &4

Hand 1: N pass S 1NT N 2D (trf) S 2H N 3H S 3NT( S should bid 4H).The lead is 3D, 4th highest as taught by most bridge teachers but there is a difference if you lead from 86432 or Q6432. The lead is only correct in the second case but definitely not in the first case where you have a duty to tell your partner that the highest D in your hand is the 8D which would be my choice as a lead. East should be made aware that you have NO honour cards in D making it easier to switch to a S when in with the KH .On a S switch 3NT goes 1 down making 3NT the wrong contract to be in. When in with the KH East continues D and 8 tricks become 11 tricks. Declarer has adopted the only line available to him to make the contract as there are insufficient entries in dummy to take both the H finesse and C finesse .Well done Tymen.

Hand 2 : N2D S 2NT N3C (alerted as a 6 card H suit in the lower range as far as points are concerned)S 4H .The lead was the 8D and declarer after cashing both winning D used the AC as an entry to finesse the H dropping the KH in 2 plays and with no further entry to dummy was forced to play a spade. E won the first spade and failed to give partner a C ruff but returned a S and declarer was able to ruff the 3rd spade draw the outstanding trump and take the C finesse making 11 tricks.

Hand 3:N 2D S 2NT N3C S 4H (Identical to hand 2 ) the 9C was led and E played his QC won by KC. Declarer played the A &QH won by E with KH and gave W a club ruff for the 2nd trick and now simply had to cash the AS and play a S to the KS in the E hand to beat the contract but W switched to a D and 9 tricks became 11 tricks as declarer won with the QD and was able to discard 2 spades from dummy on his good clubs after playing a C to the AC returning to his hand with the AD to cash his good clubs for S discards. I have par for the hand is 4S so I explain in H 6 the correct way to make the hand on a C lead.

Hand 4 : N pass S 1C ? (Why not 1NT playing with a robot who understands that 1NT is 15-17 points ) N 1H S 2C (What is now a BAD under bid) N 2H S pass (the second BAD under bid ) The lead is the 2S from E this time and when a third S is played declarer now has 2 entries to the N hand and is able to take both the H finesse and enter dummy with the AC and draw the outstanding trump but declarer now errs by taking an unnecessary D finesse instead of C finesse which win or lose would provide a discard for the D loser in dummy and declarer makes 10 tricks instead of 11 tricks,

Hand 5 : N pass E 1NT S pass (did you count your points?)Worse is to follow as the 4C is led and N does not return the 10 of clubs but returns the JH which is not a train smash as long as S wins his AQ H and reverts back to clubs which loses 1 C to declarer but gains 4 tricks to the defence who should now make (2H +2D +4C= 8 tricks) but the S switch and continuation allows declarer to set up his D suit and 8 tricks become 6 tricks

Hand 6 : N pass E 1D (not a legal bid)S 1NT W pass N 2D (transfer) E pass S 2H W pass N 3H(well done Heather) E pass S 4H The lead is the 9 C and as I have commented above Par is to make 10 tricks so winning with the AC and taking the H finesse limits declarers losses to 2 spades and a C ruff as long as he can get to dummy via a S ruff . The C finesse must simply be taken later not immediately

Analyses ref : 177 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #95538**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 6 November 2025  
Hand Number : 8  
Theme : When to Bid & when NOT to Db!l

	<b>N</b> jtv54 ♠ J106 ♥ K63 ♦ K52 ♣ 10974	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>4♣</td> <td>4♣</td> <td>5♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	3♠	P	P	X	P	4♣	4♣	5♣	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S														
3♠	P	P	X															
P	4♣	4♣	5♣															
P	P	P																
<b>W</b> DvVuuren ♠ Q987543 ♥ Q92 ♦ 108 ♣ A	<b>E</b> abotha ♠ AK2 ♥ 84 ♦ J974 ♣ K632																	
<b>S</b> Dor1938 ♠ ♥ AJ1075 ♦ AQ63 ♣ QJ85		5♣ N      NS: 0 EW: 0																

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	10	8	10	4	4
S	10	8	10	4	4
E	3	5	3	9	5
W	3	4	3	9	5

Par Score: 100  
Par: EW 4♠x-1

General: This board is an exercise (1)When you should bid(2) When not to X (3) What to lead Par on this board for E/W is +140 -3 spades bid and made but every E/W pair that played in spades did or should have made 10 tricks WHY did this happen? Because every defender chose a passive lead or switch instead of active lead or switch.

Hand 1:W pass N pass E pass S 1H W 1S N 2H E 3H S 4H W X I have some advice for W stop doubling without tricks although this time you had 1 and next time open 3S.Also to X with the QH is not clever

Hand 2 :W 3S N pass E pass S X W pass N 4C E 4S S 5C Declarer took the H finesse for the QH through E and went 2 down

Hand 3 :W pass (I don't think much of your pass even if your system says you should pass) N pass E 1NT S 2H W X N pass E 2S S pass N 3H E pass S pass W 3S passed out .I admit to not understanding your system but am pleasantly surprized that it got you to the correct contract and you are a trifle unlucky that the N/S defence allowed so many to call and make 10 tricks in 4S and as declarer E should also have made 10 tricks

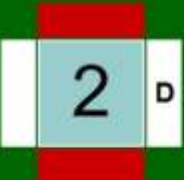
Hand 4 : W 3S N pass E pass S 4H W pass N pass E 4S.The lead was the 3H and N did switch after taking 2 hearts but unfortunately the switch was to a club and not a D

Hand 5 : W 3S N pass E 4S and unfortunately the lead of the 10 C did not help the defence

Hand 6 : W 2S N pass E pass S 4H W X N pass E 4S S pass W pass N X (I agree with the X but next time make an active lead of a D)



Analyses ref : 178 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #11570**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 10 November 2025  
Hand Number : 2  
Theme : The Splinter Bid.

		<b>N jtv54</b> ♠ J10976 ♥ AQ ♦ AK86 ♣ Q6	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>1♣</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♦</td> <td>X</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>5♣</td> <td>P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	1♥	1♠	1♣	P	4♦	X	2♣	P	P	P	5♣	P														
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<b>W Robot</b> ♠ AK5 ♥ K10972 ♦ 4 ♣ J754			<b>E Robot</b> ♠ Q32 ♥ ♦ Q975 ♣ AK10983																														
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	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	1	8	7	6	3																												
S	1	7	6	6	3																												
E	12	5	6	7	9																												
W	12	5	6	7	9																												

General: Par for this board is E/W to make 6C but the only pair that got close to par was 2 robots after using the splinter bid in a well bid and well played hand. Bidding and my comments are as follows

Hand 1: E 1C S pass W 1H N X E 2C S3C Declarer set up his KH for a discard but failed to take the discard and made 11 tricks losing 2 diamonds . Both E and W were guilty of under bidding (+150)

Hand 2 : E 1C S pass W 1H N 1S E 2C S pass W 4C(If only you had splintered) N pass E pass (counting points again) On a S lead declarer did not need to set up a the KH as N decided to cash her AK of D although she had perfect sight of dummy and could see that her KD would be ruffed (+170)


Hand 3 : E 1C S pass W 1H N X E 2C S pass W 3C . Again both E and W were guilty of under bidding. On a D lead N decided to try and cash her AH and a discard had arrived and declarer made 12 tricks (+170)

Hand 4 : E 2C S pass W 2H N 2S E 3C S pass W 5C . On a S lead declarer miscounted trumps and drew 1 too many but managed to set up the KH for a discard and made 11 tricks losing 2 D (+400)

Hand 5 : E 2C S pass W 2D (transfer to H) N 2S E 3C S pass W 3D (asking if E had a stopper in D) N X E 3NT. On the lead of the 2D won by AD N under led his K D which was ducked and when the J D was played N took his AD and cashed his AH and declarer made 9 tricks (+400)

Hand 6 : E 1C S pass W 1H N 1S E 2C S pass W 4D (the splinter bid) N X E 5C : Before drawing trumps on the 8S lead declarer ruffed a H and with N holding only the AQ of H the KH was set as a discard for a D and declarer made 12 tricks and a top I+420)

Analyses ref : 179 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #11570**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 10 November 2025  
Hand Number : 20  
Theme : The Splinter Bid.



**20**

**N** jtv54

♠ AJ1087

♥ A93

♦ J75

♣ Q3

	W	N	E	S
P	1♠		P	2♣
P	2♠		P	4♦
P	5♦		P	5♠
P	P		P	

**W** Bashewa

♠ 6

♥ QJ1082

♦ Q10986

♣ 64

**E** abotha

♠ K943

♥ 76

♦ K432

♣ K82

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	12	6	9	12	10
S	12	6	9	12	10
E	1	6	4	1	1
W	1	6	4	1	1

Par Score: 1430

Par: NS 6♠

**S** Dor1938

♠ Q52

♥ K54

♦ A

♣ AJ10975

Explanations

4♦ = splinter

5♠ N

NS: 0 EW: 0

General: Par Score for N/S is 12 tricks in spades if you play the hand correctly (4S + 2H + 1D + 6C = 13 - 1 = 12 as you must lose a spade) The secret of successful declarer play is easy as long as you give up a S early enough 1st or 2nd round so you retain a S on the table if necessary to ruff a D. The correct play is to win the H or D on the table and run the QS. If that is ducked you simply play another S putting in the 10S and there is nothing E can do to stop 12 tricks being made. If E ducks again the AS is played and the C finesse taken with 2 diamonds discarded on top clubs. The splinter bid would have worked again if only N had realised it WAS a splinter bid and played the hand correctly. In NT the par score is to make only 10 tricks on a D lead. E/W do not bid except for Hand 3. Setting out the bidding and my comments follow

Hand 1: N 1S S 2C N 2N S 3 NT : The defence gets off to a good start by E leading the 2D won by the AD as W shows scant regard to the best lead available by playing the 6D. Bridge is a game of signals so surely with D in the W hand Q 10 9 8 6 W should help partner by playing the 10D and from that point the defence should be able to take 3 tricks as declarer has only 10 tricks (1S + 2H + 1D + 6C = 10) as the spade finesse is off. Instead of keeping only K9 of spades E discards all her D as does W and 10 tricks become 11 tricks (+660)

Hand 2 : N 1S S C N 2S S 4D (the splinter bid) N 5D (obviously has not picked up the splinter.) S 5S The lead is the 7H and declarer does not play the QS as suggested but a small S to the 10S which is ducked (well done Andries) and now declarer takes the C finesse and plays the QS (a bit late) and is forced to duck the S and E wins with KS and takes out dummy's entry the AD (again well done) forcing N to play his clubs to discard a H. Another C is played and a D is discarded as E ruffs and E returns a H (not so well done) A S return at that stage would beat the contract as declarer would be unable to ruff his D and so a hand that started with 12 tricks that fell to 10 tricks finally made 11 tricks (+650)



Hand 3 : W 2H N X E 2S S 3C W 3D N 3S E pass S 3NT. The lead is the 10D and E makes a mistake by playing the KD and the JD becomes a trick. With the KC in the E hand declarer has now 11 tricks by taking the S finesse and will lose only the KS and QD or if a D is not returned when in with the KS 12 tricks will be made but declarer settles for 10 tricks (+630)

Hand 4 : N 1S S 2C N 2NT S 4S . On the 7H lead declarer makes 10 tricks >I can only suggest that declarer notes how to make 12 tricks as explained above (+620)

Hand 5 : N 1S S 3C passed out .I have told members repeatedly that if you are playing with a robot you need to play his system as 3C is not a strong but is invitational to 3NT .2C would be forcing to game. With 6C tricks +4S tricks + 2H tricks + D trick declarer should make 12 tricks but fails to draw trumps and allows W to trump repeated winning spades ( + 110)

Hand 6 : N 1S S 2 C N 2 S S 3 S N 4S S 5C N 5H S 5S having worked out how to make 12 tricks the declarer robot played the board rather badly to make 10 tricks(-100)

Analyses ref : 180 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #11571**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 13 November 2025  
Hand Number : 8  
Theme : Bridge can be a cruel game.

D

8

**N** jverberck  
♠ KJ954  
♥ K76  
♦ 64  
♣ 764

W	N	E	S
P	P	3♣	3♦
P	P	P	

**W** Dor1938  
♠ 108632  
♥ A1053  
♦ K10  
♣ 93

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	6	10	7	8	7
S	6	10	8	8	7
E	7	3	5	5	5
W	7	3	5	5	5

**Par Score: 130**  
**Par: NS 2♦+2**

**E** jtv54  
♠ Q7  
♥ 842  
♦ 32  
♣ AQJ852

**S** offthemarc  
♠ A  
♥ QJ9  
♦ AQJ9875  
♣ K10

3♦ S

NS: 0 EW: 0

General: Bridge can be a cruel game .(1) Learn to defend.(2) Learn to bid. There is only one makeable contact for N/S on this board- 3D making 4 (+130) and yet the 2 pairs that played in 3D were both afflicted with joint bottoms>WHY ? Read what I say under (1) and (2).

- (1) Communication between defenders is a hall mark of GOOD defence. When W led the 9C against a N/S contract of 3NT Both E's rose with his AC instead of playing the JC which allowed declarer to make 10 tricks in NT instead of going 4 down if the JC was played. Why should E play the JC?. With no side entry in the E hand if the 9C is a singleton club there is no hope for the defence so E must credit W with 2 clubs so after the J C is won with the KC E can do no better than drive out the KD and will now lose 7 tricks (AH +KD+ 5 clubs =7tricks)and go 3 down. 2 declarers made 10 tricks in NT when the AC was played immediately by E and one declarer made 11 tricks when E never bid his C suit (read 2 above) and N unsurprisingly led his 3 of spades . Bidding made was as follows ( I have made further comments)

Hand 1: E 3C S 3D passed out The expected lead is the 9C and par is made (+130)

Hand 2 : S 1D W pass N 1S E 2C S 3D. Again the lead is the 9C and par is made (+130)

Hand 3 & 4 : S 1D W pass N 1S E 2C S 3D W pass N 3S S 3 NT. Again the 9C is led and E plays the AC which ends the defence and declarer loses the KD & AH and makes 10 tricks (+430) (+430)

Hand 5 : S 1D W pass N 1S E pass ?(all I can say that the pass is anti - good bridge) S 2NT W pass N 3 NT .On the lead of the 3S declarer loses only the KD and AH and with the AC going to sleep (+460)

Analyses ref : 181

BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #11571

Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday

Date Played : 13 November 2025

Hand Number : 22

Theme :

Low cards are part of bridge.

22

D

N	jtv54
♠ K93	
♥ AK	
♦ KQ82	
♣ 10876	

W	N	E	S
P	1NT	P	P
P	2♥	P	2♦
P	P	P	3NT

E	mariemmweb
♠ AJ542	
♥ 10	
♦ A94	
♣ Q542	

W	Robot
♠ 106	
♥ 98743	
♦ J765	
♣ KJ	

S	Dor1938
♠ Q87	
♥ QJ652	
♦ 103	
♣ A93	

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

**Par Score: 120**

**Par: NS 1NT+1**

3NT N

NS: 0 EW: 0

General: (1) Low cards are part of bridge, try to remember which cards have been played (2) Hold ups are part of good bridge but holding up losing a trick is bad bridge (3) how well you play as declarer and how well you defend are factors that will determine whether you become a good bridge player or not. The bidding was as follows together with my comments

Hand 1 : E/W do not bid N 1NT (15-17) S 2D (transfer) N 2H S 3NT ( having told N you have 5 H you give declarer the option of deciding in which game to play)On the 5 S lead declarer wins with the KS and cashes the AKH noting the bad break in H as E discards the 4D and now plays a C to the 9 clubs in dummy and wins the J C return in dummy and plays a D to QD in his hand won by E with the AD who now switches back to spades and when the 8 spades holds in dummy he cashes 2 good H tricks plays the 10D from dummy and when the 10 D is covered with JD he does well to remember that the 8 D has become a trick (1) above) and his 9th trick has arrived but fails to notice that E has discarded his QC and makes 9 tricks instead of 10(1 good memory and 1 bad memory)

Hand (2) : E 1S (alerted and explained that he could have 11 points) S pass W 1NT N X E pass S 2H?(To pass will be more rewarding if N/S defend reasonably )Declarer does as well as she can making (1S + 5H (including a D ruff )+1D +1C =8)

Hand (3) : E 1S (another robot alert explaining the 11 point opening) S pass W pass N 1NT – Declarer makes 7 tricks (1S + 4H+ 1D +1C =7)When the bad break in H raised its ugly head declarer simply gave up.( I suggest declarer should look at hand 1)

Hand (4) : E pass S pass W pass N 1NT E 2S (rather a risky bid being vulnerable against non – vulnerable opponents as X and even if one down which is a certainty and -200 would be a bad score )S 3H and is beaten by a bad H break

Hand (5) : E 1S (not alerted and is therefore not a legal bid ) S pass W pass N 1NT E pass S 2C W pass N 2D E pass S 3NT . On a lead of a S , W plays the 10 and declarer ducks (read 2 above) The duck not only costs a trick but allows S to be established and declarer goes 3 down. It is really sad to see a keen bridge player make such a silly mistake. Look at hand 1 as how to make the contract

Analyses ref : 182 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #24579**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 17 November 2025  
Hand Number : 2  
Theme : Look for a winning sacrifice.

2

D

**W** mariemmweb

♠ K1052

♥ K

♦ A652

♣ 10653

**S** Dor1938

♠ 643

♥ 9752

♦ 7

♣ AKJ82

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	11	4	11	7	7
S	11	4	11	7	7
E	2	9	2	5	4
W	2	9	2	5	4

**Par Score: 500**  
**Par: EW 6♦x-3**

**N** jtv54

♠ AQ8

♥ AQ1063

♦ Q4

♣ Q97

**E** Robot

♠ J97

♥ J84

♦ KJ10983

♣ 4

**W**

3♦ P

**N**

3♥ P

**E**

2♦ P

**S**

4♥ P

4♥ N

NS: 0 EW: 0

General: With N/S Vulnerable their par score is (+650) 11 tricks in hearts .E/W who are vulnerable an make 3D (+110)so can bid up to 6D X where the penalty of- 500 should be a good score . Only 2 E/W bid to 5D with 1 receiving a top as declarer misplayed a 5H contact and one received a third top going 2 down in the 5D X contract (-300)It was a classic board where I would have expected all E/W couples to look for a winning sacrifice .Bidding was as follows :

Hand 1 : E 2D(weak diamonds - which in my opinion is the correct bid-if you play the multi 2D I would expect a bid of 3D )S pass W 3D N 3H E pass S 4H passed out ( I believe W is the culprit for not bidding 5D (+650)

Hand 2 : E 2D (read hand 1 above)S pass W 3D N X E pass S 4C W pass N 4H passed out (W to read hand 1 above) (+650)

Hands 3 & 4 : E 2D S pass W 3D N 3H E pass N 4H passed out (+650) (+650) (W to read hands 1 & 2)

Hand 5 : E pass ((in my opinion should not pass) S pass W pass N 1C (precision) E 1 D (too little too late)S 2C W 2D N 2H E pass S 4H W 5D (well done Lorraine) N X (N/S + 300) (at last a West noticed the vulnerability)



Hand 6 : E pass (read hand 5) S pass W pass N 1NT (the wrong opening on this hand with a 5 card major and 2 doubleton queens E pass S pass (a slight under bid with a good 5 card club suit) W X N pass E 2D S pass W 2S (why when you have seen partner bid 2D? (but a pass might have allowed N to bid 2H ) N pass E pass S pass ( should surely have bid 3C) N/S have been completely out of bid and suffer a second bottom as W escapes for 1 down (+50)

Hand 7 : E pass (you know what I think of that bid) S pass W 1D N 1H E 3D S 3H W pass N 4H (I should think so after your previous under bid) E 5D S 5H passed out. Declarer completely miss plays the hand on the 4 of clubs lead as he fails to draw trumps allowing E a club ruff which would not sink the contract but being determined to go down he now gifts E his JH.

Analyses ref : 183                      **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #24579**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 17 November 2025  
Hand Number : 22  
Theme : Competitive Bidding

22

D

**N** abotha

♠ 752

♥ J4

♦ A10875

♣ A107

W	N	E	S
		P	1♦
1♠	2♦	3♦	P
3♣	P	P	4♣
P	P	P	

**W** Dor1938

♠ K10984

♥ A95

♦ Q92

♣ 84

**E** jtv54

♠ QJ6

♥ KQ82

♦ K64

♣ 632

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	9	8	6	5	7
S	9	8	6	5	7
E	3	3	6	8	4
W	4	4	6	8	5

Par Score: 110

Par: NS 3♣

**S** Bashewa

♠ A3

♥ 10763

♦ J3

♣ KQJ95

**Explanations**

1♦ = can be short

2♦ = 8-10 points, 5D

3♦ = good support in spade

4♣ S

General: Par score for this board is (N/S 110 for 2 S bid and made) while the E/W par score is (+110 also for 3C bid and made) The points are equally divided 20/20 between E/W and N/S and S is the only player that has a legal opening >The hand is passed out once. Again this board proved that if you don't bid you are allowing your opposition to out-bid you

Hand 1 : E pass S 1C W 1S N 2D (With a flat 8 points this bid promises 10 points and is the wrong bid –read hand 2) E 3D S pass W 3S On the JH lead the defence lost 2 tricks. When in with the AS S switched to the J D and N instead of allowing the JD to pass went up with the AD and returned a D and so a D trick was lost and when declarer drew trumps S who had many clubs to discard, discarded a H giving declarer 4 H tricks and an in creditable 10 tricks and at the same time giving themselves a bottom (E/W + 170)

Hand 2 : E pass S 1C W 1S N pass (? I believe that with 2 Aces you need to bid (read above)and the only bid you should make is 2C) E 2C (obviously a raise in spades)S pass (NO you also need to bid X comes to mind)W 2S passed out. N/S by not bidding have been out-bid (E/W +110 par and a joint 2nd top)

Hand 3 : E 1C (alerted as 2+ but not a legal bid) S pass (correct at this stage) W 1S N 2D (to pass is better at this stage) E pass S pass (has a problem of having passed with an opening bid ,I would bid 3C- to pass is not an option )W 2S passed out (E/W achieve par and a joint 2nd top) N/S have been beaten by an illegal opening a wrong bid by N and silence by S (E/W +110)



Hand 4 : E pass S 1D (and I apologise to Walter a perfectly legal opening and precision club bid )W 1S N 2D (Yes the system being played is at fault)E 3D S pass W 3S N pass E pass S 4C passed out but 1 over par and E/W defend accurately (E/W +50)

Hand 5: passed out (S fails to open)

Hand 6 : E pass S 1C W pass (MUST bid a S) N 1D E pass S 1H W pass N 2C passed out .Declarer fails to play the D suit for extra tricks and makes 2C (+90) Failure by W to bid have seen E/W outbid

Hand 7 : E pass S 1C W pass(read hand 6) N 1NT E pass S 2H W pass N 3C passed out. Declarer receives a C lead and plays well to set up the D suit and makes 10 tricks and a top (+130) Again the failure of W to bid has proved devastating (+130)

Analyses ref : 184                      **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #36797**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 20 November 2025  
Hand Number : 4  
Theme : The importance of bidding

	<b>N</b> jtv54 ♠ J5 ♥ A8532 ♦ J1096 ♣ K7	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♣</td> <td>1♥</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♣	1♥	P	3♥	P	4♥	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S														
P	P	1♣	1♥															
P	3♥	P	4♥															
P	P	P																
<b>W</b> hfma1913 ♠ K107643 ♥ 74 ♦ 74 ♣ 982	<b>E</b> EmJJ ♠ AQ92 ♥ Q9 ♦ AQ85 ♣ 1065																	
	<b>S</b> Dor1938 ♠ 8 ♥ KJ106 ♦ K32 ♣ AQJ43	4♥ S      NS: 0 EW: 0																

General: Why is bidding so important? I discuss this factor in bridge for both this board and the second board for analysis board 21 The bidding for both boards follows with my comments

Hand 1 : W pass N pass E 1C S 1H ( To X with a singleton spade is incorrect and not to bid with 15 points is incorrect and while S has 5C and 4H to bid the MAJOR suit is always correct even if E opens a club-If E opens a S a X would be the correct bid)W pass ? (If W had not been vulnerable I would bid a S but being vulnerable the pass is correct) N 3H (the correct bid) E pass S 4H (with 15 points and a singleton spade S has a good hand)The lead is the 7D and E covers the 9 D with the QD (the worst defence possible) and with H breaking 2-2 declarer wraps up 12 tricks with the 2 spades in dummy discarded on clubs and declarer gives up a D (+680)

Hand 2 : W pass N pass E 1D S X W pass N 1H E 1S S 3H W 3S N 4H .On the 5C lead declarer is also able to discard 2 spades from the table after drawing trumps and make 12 tricks with the help of finessing the QD (+680)

Hand 3 : W pass N 2H (not a book bid) E X S 3H passed out E leads AS and AD and then the QD and declarer makes 11 tricks (+200)

Hand 4 : W pass N pass E 1C S X W 1S N 2H E 2S S 3H passed out. The lead is the AS with a club switch and declarer play differently by finessing H (the correct way) and ruffing his good clubs and makes 11 tricks (+200 ) All roads lead to Rome)

Hand 5 : W pass N pass E 1D S 2C (minor before major) W pass N pass E 2S S pass W 3S passed out with no mention of 9 hearts in the N/S hands> S lead away from his KD and declarer is able to limit his losses to 1 trick (-100)

Hand 6 : W pass N pass E 1D S 2C W 2S( brave but wrong in my opinion) N pass E 3S passed out  
.Slightly different bidding but the same result. While 3S should go down 2 this time N  
discards a D setting up the 4th D in dummy's hand and declarer also goes 1 down (-100)  
Again in the bidding sequence no mention of H

Hand 7 : W pass N pass E 1D S 2C (read all my comments Hands 1,5 &6-no mention of H so clearly  
this is the WRONG bid ) W pass N pass E 2S S pass W 3S –How does this contract go only 1  
down. This time S gives declarer a ruff & discard (so wrong normally) and declarer again  
going 1 down (-100)



Analyses ref : 185 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #36797**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 20 November 2025  
Hand Number : 21  
Theme : The importance of bidding

<b>D</b> <b>21</b>		<b>N</b> ice 3 ♠ KJ10985 ♥ ♦ KQ53 ♣ Q83	<b>W</b> <b>N</b> <b>E</b> <b>S</b> 1♠ P P 4♥ P P																														
<b>W</b> Dor1938 ♠ 4 ♥ AKQJ8742 ♦ A6 ♣ 42		<b>E</b> jtv54 ♠ A763 ♥ 96 ♦ 982 ♣ AKJ7																															
<table border="1"> <tr> <th></th> <th>♠</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♣</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>1</td> <td>7</td> <td>0</td> <td>7</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>1</td> <td>7</td> <td>0</td> <td>7</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>9</td> <td>6</td> <td>13</td> <td>5</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>10</td> <td>6</td> <td>13</td> <td>5</td> <td>13</td> </tr> </table> <p>Par Score: -1520 Par: EW 7NT</p>			♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	1	7	0	7	0	S	1	7	0	7	0	E	9	6	13	5	13	W	10	6	13	5	13	<b>S</b> tymen ♠ Q2 ♥ 1053 ♦ J1074 ♣ 10965	4♥ W      NS: 0 EW: 0
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	1	7	0	7	0																												
S	1	7	0	7	0																												
E	9	6	13	5	13																												
W	10	6	13	5	13																												

General: Why is bidding so important? I discuss this factor in bridge for both this board and the second board for analysis board 21 The bidding for both boards follows with my comments

Only 2 out of 7 E/W partnerships reached a lay down small slam in hearts and it is of great interest that in both cases E BID where E did not bid reaching slam became more difficult but on reflexion W must take some blame.

Hand 1 : N pass? (looking at the hand on the rule of 18/20 N has a 21(11 HCP +6S +4D=21) so it is clearly a good opening E 1C S pass W 4C (I presume gerber) N 4S (clearly too late!) E X S pass W 6H. Absolutely correctly played trumping clubs hoping the Q C would fall and making 13 tricks when it did (+1010)

Hand 2 : N 1S E 2C (has 12 points but more importantly included in the points are 2 Aces and 1 K so IMO it is a good bid. Well done ERNA ) S pass W 6H. Well played as in 1 and 13 tricks made (+1010)

Hand 3 4 & 5 : N 1S E pass ? S pass W 4H (I will discuss this bid under a heading SOME BLAME)  
Boards 3 & 4 were correctly played ensuring 6 hearts would always be made but declarer in hand 5 finessed for the QC which happened to be right but if wrong meant declarer would have 2 losers (a C & D=2) All made 13 tricks (+510)

Hand 6 : N 2D E pass ? (difficult to bid after a 2 D opening )S 2H W 4 H N 4S E pass S pass W 5H N pass E pass (after W has bid up to 5H on his own don't you think with 2 Aces and a K you should respect partners bidding –your bid is clearly an under bid)

Hand 7: N 1S E 2C (well done JAB) S pass W 4H (I would bid 6H) Declarer play was not correct and 12 tricks were made (+480)

Some Blame : The West has 9 iron clad tricks and the hand should be classed as a 2C opening (a force to game ) I believe a cue bid should be made before the jump to 4H.If like the convention I play the cue bid means a 2 suiter hand then it hardly matters. The jump in Hearts should advise partner that your cue bid was a sign of strength and not a 2 suiter hand

Analyses ref : 186 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #51511**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 24 November 2025  
Hand Number : 13  
Theme : Bridge is Not a guessing game

<b>D</b> <b>13</b>	<b>N</b> jtv54 ♠ K ♥ AKQJ109874 ♦ K92 ♣	<b>W</b> <b>N</b> <b>E</b> <b>S</b> 2♥ P 2♠ P 3♦ P 3NT P 4♥ P P																														
	<b>W</b> lindacam ♠ J843 ♥ 2 ♦ 10743 ♣ AQ95	<b>E</b> JB71634 ♠ A1052 ♥ 63 ♦ A65 ♣ J832																														
<table border="1"> <tr> <th></th> <th>♠</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♣</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <th>N</th> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> <td>11</td> <td>5</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> <td>11</td> <td>5</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <th>E</th> <td>7</td> <td>6</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <th>W</th> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> <td>4</td> </tr> </table> <p>Par Score: 650 Par: NS 5♥</p>		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	6	6	11	5	8	S	6	6	11	5	8	E	7	6	2	8	4	W	7	7	2	8	4	<b>S</b> Dor1938 ♠ Q976 ♥ 5 ♦ QJ8 ♣ K10764	<p><u>Explanations</u>  2♥ = strong with 8 tricks in H contract</p> <p>4♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0</p>
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																											
N	6	6	11	5	8																											
S	6	6	11	5	8																											
E	7	6	2	8	4																											
W	7	7	2	8	4																											

General: Time to learn basic rules (1) bridge is NOT a guessing game I will show how I believe how the bidding should go ( 2 ) do NOT pass a forcing bid

Hand 1 : N 2H(1) S 2S N3D S 3NT N 4H (1) N has 9 top hearts the KD and KS with a void in clubs and despite N opening 2H (Strong (8tricks + )I believe 2C is the correct opening so a full investigation of SLAM can be done .Bridge is not a guessing game Declarer loses 2 aces (AS + AD )and makes 11 tricks

Hand 2 : N 1H ( IMO a bad opening as if S does not have 5 points game could be missed (2 points (QD)game is a certainty or even 1 Point( JD) could be enough for game)S 1S N 4H same 11 tricks.

Hand 3 : N 2C ( you are the only N to make the correct opening as I stated-well done Andre ) S 2S ( your hand and S suit are not good enough to make a positive bid )N 4H-11tricks

Hand 4 : N 1C (A precision club bid) S 2C N 4H- 11 tricks

Hand 5 : N 1H (look at hand 2 as to what I think of your bid)S 2C N 3H S 3NT N 6H ( No investigation) The inevitable 11 tricks

Hand 6 : N 1H ( Look at hand 2) S 1S N 6H which goes 1 down after incorrect bidding which started with a BAD opening

Correct Bidding N2C S 2D N 3H (which sets the suit ) S 3NT N 4C (cue bid) S 4H (I have nothing to cue as I have NO first round controls N pass ( the investigation has pinpointed that 2 aces are missing)

Analyses ref : 187 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #51511**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Monday  
Date Played : 24 November 2025  
Hand Number : 15  
Theme : Do not pass a forcing bid

15

D

**N** jtv54  
♠ QJ10  
♥ AKJ98  
♦ AQ5  
♣ 102

	W	N	E	S
		strong hand		1♦
P		2♥	P	2NT
P		3♦	P	4♥
P		P	P	

**W** albertels  
♠ K964  
♥ Q53  
♦ 94  
♣ A943

**E** Simbra  
♠ 753  
♥ 764  
♦ 1086  
♣ J876

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	8	12	12	10	11
S	8	12	12	10	12
E	5	1	1	3	1
W	5	1	1	3	1

**Par Score: 1440**  
**Par: S 6NT**

**S** Dor1938  
♠ A82  
♥ 102  
♦ KJ732  
♣ KQ5

4♥ N
NS: 0 EW: 0

General: Time to learn basic rules (1) bridge is NOT a guessing game I will show how I believe how the bidding should go ( 2 ) do NOT pass a forcing bid

E/W do not bid except on hands 1 & 5 where W makes a pointless double on a flat 9 points with the only possible point in favour of the X was the vulnerability where E/W were not vulnerable and N/S were .

Hand 1 : S 1D W X N 1H S 1NT N2C ( Alerted as forcing ) S 2D N 3 NT The lead was the 4S and dummy won the trick and declarer now had 12 tricks (2S + 5H +5D =12)(+690)

Hand 2 : S1D N 1H S 1NT N2D (Alerted good fit) S 2NT N 3NT The lead was the 3C and E miss guessed and played the JC instead of the 8C and declarer did have the clubs doubly stopped but declarer now failed to take the 12 tricks offered ( 1S + 5H +5D +1C =12) and took the S finesse which lost but when W won and failed to take her AC declarer made 12 tricks anyway (2S + 5H +4D(discarding a good D) +1C=12)(+690)

Hand 3 : S 1 D N 2H ( which in my opinion is an incorrect bid with only a 5 card suit and not solid) S 2NT N3NT The 9D is led and declarer takes the S finesse which is ducked by W who appears determined not to take a S trick as later in play blanked his KS and with tricks to burn declarer also made 12 tricks (3S + 3H (Declarer discarded 2 good hearts +5D +1C=12) (+690)

Hand 4 : S 1D N 2H (read hand 3) S 2NT N 3D? (It appeared to S that N was showing a major distributional hand which in fact was basically flat (see hand 3 for N bid 3NT ) S 4H .On a C lead declarer had 12 tricks (1S +5H +5D +1C =12)680)

Hand 5 : S 1D N 1H S 1NT W X N 3NT The lead is the 4C and when declarer puts up the 10C from dummy E covers with the JC won by declarer with the QC but now declarer is reluctant to take the H finesse fearing a C return if the QH is off side and rather takes the safe S finesse and when W wins with the KS and cashes the AC and declarer makes 11 tricks (2S +2H +5D +2C=11)(+660)

Hand 6 : S 1D N 1H passed out S is guilty of passing a forcing bid I would say probably the worst mistake you can make at the bridge table Making 12 tricks with the help of the finesse of the QH is par for the hand (+230)



Analyses ref : 188 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #63316**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 27 November 2025  
Hand Number : 2  
Theme : Mistakes in bidding, declarer play and defence

		<b>N</b> ice 3 ♠ A107 ♥ 4 ♦ J97 ♣ KQ9852	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>3♦</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>4♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S			P	1♥	2♦	P	3♦	P	P	4♣	P	P	P												
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General: (1) Mistakes by players who should know better (2) The teacher needs lessons (3) Mistakes in bidding, declarer play and defence (4) my comments are made with each hand played,

Par for this board is 4S(+620) given best defence but 5C is not makeable if best defence is found. Best for E/W is 3D bid and made (+110)so as E/W is not vulnerable 5D would constitute a good save(-300)

Hand 1 : E pass S 1S W 2D N 3C E 3D S 3H W pass N 4S. The defence began by playing the AD and a second D which is ruffed. Declarer played the KS and then the JC to set up clubs which was ducked by W who was then forced to win the 10C with the AC and then played the third D which E won with the QD and declarer did well not to ruff but discarded a H and 4 S would become a certainty when after winning the KH with the AH if only declarer had played a S to the 10S in dummy noting that E had 4 spades. With the C suit set up all declarer need to do was to play a set club when E ruffed ,over ruff and play a S to dummy's AS and cash 4C tricks giving him 10 tricks (5S +1H +4C=10)but declarer now miss played and used dummy's two spades to ruff hearts which left him with a H loser going 1 down (-100)

Hand 2 : E pass S 1H (the incorrect opening bid-When you have 2 five card suits you ALWAYS bid the higher suit first(it makes it easier to bid both suits especially if they are H & S) W 2D N pass E3D S pass (if only you had opened a S you could now bid 3H) W pass N 4C passed out The Lead was the KD followed by the K H the JC was ducked by W winning the 10C with the AC cashed the AD but miss defended by not playing another D and 4C was made (+130)It is worth noting that the hand has been miss played as on the defence encountered 11 tricks should be made. Declarer just needs to get to his by ruffing a H and then ruffing a D in the S hand cross to his hand with the AS and knock out the AC. With the 98 of clubs he will need to ruff D return with either and cannot be beaten (5S + 1H + 5C + 2 D ruffs=13 but of course

he has lost the AD and AC) So why have not included PAR as 5C made(+600)Because there is a lead that can hold the hand to 9 tricks. CAN YOU FIND IT? I will tell you at the end of this analysis!

Hand 3 : E pass S 1S W 2D N 3C E 3D S 3H W 3S passed out. Declarer played the hand on a cross ruff which would also yielded 10 tricks if only he had not played the AS to draw a trump from both the N and S hands and the trick count fell to 9 tricks ( 5S +1H + 2 ruffs of H in the N hand + 1C=9) Using the AS in the N hand to ruff a H would have yielded 10 tricks.(+140)

Hand 4 : E pass S 1H W pass N 1NT (Alerted 6 + points )S 2D ( alerted 11-12 points) W X N pass E 2S S 3D (Alerted asking if N has a stopper in D ) W X S 3NT (yes-but NO). The lead is the KH -now let me give E a bit of advice-In a highly artificial auction partner has X D twice. The first time you mistakenly took the X out(you should not when the opposition is bidding artificial suits) BUT when S bids D again and W X she has a D suit and it is better for the partnership if you believe partner and not the opposition and you should lead the KD which would enable you to take the first 7 tricks. Worse is to follow when declarer attacks clubs and W switches to D the suit becomes blocked but you have taken 4 tricks .At least take your 5th trick-not a hand to remember for E who switches and gives N/S an undeserved game (+600)

Hand 5 : E/W pass through out which makes bidding simple for N/S S 1S N 3C S 3 H N 3S S 4S On the AD lead and continuation declarer misplays the hand by playing K S and Q S spades from the S hand and should now go down if W ducks the first club played from the S hand by winning the first C played and switching to a H declarer can now enter the N hand with a C and play the established clubs over ruffing E and is left with only a D loser (+620)

Hand 6 : E/W pass (read hand 5 above) S 1S N 3S S 4H N 4S W leads the AD and another D which declarer trumps and plays the JC as badly programmed robot wins with AC and switches to a H and declarer has no trouble drawing 4 trumps and claiming 11 tricks (5S + 1H +5C=11)(+650)

How to defeat 5C : there are only 2 cards that can defeat 5C by 2 Tricks .As a clue it is not the AC which would not defeat 5C (5S +1H +5C =11) wait for it .....it is either 7 or 6 of clubs. With that lead declarer is doomed to 9 tricks (losses are now three D and the AC. Damn Bridge can be DIFFICULT

Analyses ref : 189 **BBO TOURNAMENT Ref: #63316**  
Tournament : Pretoria Bridge Club - Thursday  
Date Played : 27 November 2025  
Hand Number : 21  
Theme : The teacher needs lessons

<div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">D</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; font-size: 2em; margin: 5px;">21</div> </div>		<div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">N</div> <div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">jtv54</div>	<div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">W</div> <div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">N</div> <div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">E</div> <div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">S</div>																														
		♠ K972 ♥ AK43 ♦ 96 ♣ A109	1♣ P 2♥ P P P																														
<div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">W</div> <div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Robot</div>			<div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">E</div> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Robot</div>																														
♠ 643 ♥ Q1075 ♦ 1074 ♣ 632			♠ QJ1085 ♥ 9862 ♦ Q3 ♣ 84																														
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Scoring range for N/S was 7NT (+2220) 6NT (+1470) 6C (+1390) and 5D (+640)E/W do not bid except for hand 5

Bidding 1: N 1H S 1 NT N 2H S 3C N 3 NT S 4C N 4H S 7NT (I will not try to explain the bidding but it got N/S to slightly less than a 50% grand slam depending on QD being in the E hand and D splitting 3-2 in the E/W hands. With the QD being in the E hand doubleton 13 tricks were made

Bidding 2 : N1C S 3D ( I play 2D as strong but have no idea what 3D is but obviously strong as N bid again ) N 3NT S 4C N 4 NT S 6NT reaching an very good small slam

Bidding 3 : N1D S 2D (must be strong)N 2H S 4NT N 5H S 6NT reaching the correct pairs slam

Bidding 4 : N 1C S 2D N2H S 6C : absolutely one of my worst bidding experiences after pleading with members to always consider NT above minor suit slams and always to fully investigate slams not even to use key card blackwood was awfully wrong. ALL a can tell my partner I was sorry and I did not sleep well Thursday night. The teacher learned a lesson

Bidding 5 : N 1C E 1S S 2D N 2NT S 4C N 5C S 6C (Not as bad as bidding 4 but there was NO investigation)

Bidding 6 : N 1H S 3D (read bidding 2 ) N 3S Obviously does not play reverses S 4C N 4D S 5D .South is to blame for not reaching slam with such a strong hand after N has opened