

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

<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">6</div> <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">D</div>	N Isabelledp ♠ QJ1054 ♥ Q83 ♦ 1062 ♣ J5	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">W</div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">N</div> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">E</div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">S</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">2♥</div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 2px 5px;">P</div> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">2♦</div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 2px 5px;">P</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold;">6NT</div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 2px 5px;">P</div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 2px 5px;">P</div> <div style="background-color: lightblue; padding: 2px 5px;">P</div> </div>																														
	W Dor1938 ♠ K82 ♥ A105 ♦ Q873 ♣ Q109	E jtv54 ♠ A6 ♥ K964 ♦ AKJ ♣ AK32																														
<table border="1" style="font-size: 0.8em; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th></th> <th>♠</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♣</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <th>N</th> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <th>E</th> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>12</td> <td>10</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <th>W</th> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>12</td> <td>10</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </table> <p>Par Score: -2140 Par: EW 7♦</p>		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	1	0	1	3	1	S	1	0	1	3	1	E	12	13	12	10	12	W	12	13	12	10	12	S Tessa 3 ♠ 973 ♥ J72 ♦ 954 ♣ 8764	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; font-size: 0.9em;"> <u>Explanations</u> 2♦ = multi weak major or strong NT 2♥ = Relay 2NT = 21-22 </div>
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																											
N	1	0	1	3	1																											
S	1	0	1	3	1																											
E	12	13	12	10	12																											
W	12	13	12	10	12																											

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

10

D

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	1	1	7	2	1
S	1	1	7	2	1
E	12	12	6	11	12
W	12	12	6	11	12

Par Score: -1440
Par: EW 6NT

W ngbu3466

♠ K
♥ AK
♦ KJ842
♣ KQJ109

N jtv54

♠ 108654
♥ QJ6
♦ 53
♣ A52

W	N	E	S
		1♠	P
2♦	P	2♠	P
4♣	P	4♠	P
6NT	P	P	P

E HawkHand

♠ AQ9732
♥ 4
♦ AQ10
♣ 743

S Dor1938

♠ J
♥ 10987532
♦ 976
♣ 86

Explanations
2♦ = GF
4♣ = A asking
4♠ = 2A

6NT W

NS: 0 EW: 0

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

<div>14 D</div>		N jtv54 ♠ KJ10643 ♥ 76 ♦ J92 ♣ 63	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> <td>1♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4NT</td> <td>5♦</td> <td>5♠</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S			1♣	1♦	1♥	1♠	4♥	P	4NT	5♦	5♠	P	6♥	P	P	P										
W	N	E	S																														
		1♣	1♦																														
1♥	1♠	4♥	P																														
4NT	5♦	5♠	P																														
6♥	P	P	P																														
W Bashewa ♠ AQ ♥ A108543 ♦ A4 ♣ 1042		E abotha ♠ 72 ♥ KQJ2 ♦ Q ♣ AKJ875																															
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	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	0	8	0	7	0																												
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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 : E 1C S 3D W 3H N pass E 4H Ditto hand 1 (+510)

Hand 3 : E 1C S 1D W 1H N 1S E 4H S pass W 4NT N 5D E 5S S pass W 6H (+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

19

D

N

mariemmweb

W

N

E

S

♠ 762

♥ 1087

♦ Q7

♣ AQ1096

1♦	P	2♠	P
3♦	P	3♥	P
6♦	X	P	P
P			

W Dor1938

♠ KJ

♥ 643

♦ AKJ109532

♣

E jtv54

♠ AQ10985

♥ AKJ95

♦ 8

♣ 4

S keijer

♠ 43

♥ Q2

♦ 64

♣ KJ87532

6♦x W NS: 0 EW: 0

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	7	0	0	0	0
S	7	0	0	0	0
E	6	13	13	13	6
W	6	13	13	13	6

Par Score: -2210
Par: EW 7♣, 7♥

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.

D

20

N

mariemmweb

♠ 872

♥ QJ108

♦ AQJ

♣ 642

W

N

E

S

P

P

P

1NT

P

2♥

P

4♥

P

P

P

W

Dor1938

♠ J1064

♥ K3

♦ 854

♣ KJ53

E

jtv54

♠ K95

♥ 942

♦ 9763

♣ 1098

S

keijer

♠ AQ3

♥ A765

♦ K102

♣ AQ7

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

Par Score: 620
Par: S 4♥

4♥ N

NS: 0 EW: 0

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.

<div>3</div> <div>D</div>		N jverberck ♠ J9 ♥ 965 ♦ J95 ♣ QJ762	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S2+</th> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S2+	X	P	1♦	1♣	1♥	2♣	X	P	P	P											
W	N	E	S2+																									
X	P	1♦	1♣																									
1♥	2♣	X	P																									
P	P																											
W Dor1938 ♠ KQ108 ♥ AK103 ♦ A84 ♣ 95			E jtv54 ♠ 732 ♥ 82 ♦ Q1032 ♣ A1043																									
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	♠	♥	♦	NT																								
N	5	3	4	3																								
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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.

10

D

N

jonstrande

♠ Q752

♥ 982

♦ J84

♣ 752

W	N	E	S
		1♥	P
1♠	P	3♥	P
4♥	P	P	P

W

Dor1938

♠ A863

♥ 76

♦ AK95

♣ 1063

E

jtv54

♠ KJ

♥ AKQJ53

♦ 32

♣ KJ9

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	3	4	2	3	2
S	3	4	2	3	2
E	10	9	11	9	11
W	10	9	11	9	11

Par Score: -660

Par: EW 3NT+2

S

HJ Owen

♠ 1094

♥ 104

♦ Q1076

♣ AQ84

4♥ E
NS: 0 EW: 0

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.

<div>11</div> <div>D</div>		N jonstrande ♠ J6 ♥ AJ864 ♦ A ♣ AJ543	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S				P	P	1♥	P	2♥	P	3♥	P	4♥	P	P	P										
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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

<div>12</div>	N buzzard123 ♠ A1094 ♥ ♦ J762 ♣ QJ1032	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S4+</th> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>3♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♥</td> <td>5♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S4+	P	P	P	1♦	X	1♠	2♥	3♦	3♥	5♦	P	P	P													
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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 1 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 : Contract 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

22

D

N jtv54
♠ 9542
♥ 963
♦ J7
♣ K753

W

N

E

S

		1♣	1♥
1NT	P	2♠	P
3♦	P	3NT	P
P	P		

W Heial
♠ 7
♥ 1075
♦ AK10654
♣ Q82

E Tymen
♠ AJ1063
♥ AK
♦ 32
♣ A964

S Dor1938
♠ KQ8
♥ QJ842
♦ Q98
♣ J10

Explanations
1♣ = strong

3NT W
NS: 0 EW: 0

	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT
N	2	1	5	3	3
S	2	1	5	3	3
E	11	11	8	10	10
W	11	12	8	10	10

Par Score: -1370
Par: W 6♦

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

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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 2 : E 4D S X W pass N 4H E pass S pass W pass ? With just 1 certain trick should bid 5D (+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

D 21		N jtv54 ♠ 8 ♥ 10986432 ♦ 7 ♣ AK63	W N E S 2♦ 2♦ X P 2♣ P 4♣ P 4♥ X 4♠ P P P																													
W EmJJ ♠ A975432 ♥ K5 ♦ Q843 ♣			E hfma1913 ♠ KQ106 ♥ A7 ♦ AKJ10 ♣ Q72																													
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	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																											
N	8	0	8	0	0																											
S	8	0	8	0	0																											
E	5	13	5	13	11																											
W	5	13	5	13	11																											
		4♣ W	NS: 0 EW: 0																													

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 Bergen 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