

Monday 10/5/04

Friday 14/5/04

1st Kenneth/David 64%
 2nd Chuck/Hans 58%

1st Kenneth/Chuck 64%
 2nd = Ian/Tomas 56%
 2nd = Dave/Bob 56%

Well done Kenneth, the first double-header for a while. Mind you, you will be docked a few points if your Monday partner opens 3♣ on a hand like Hand D again.

The recent election in India has been heralded as a great achievement. Perhaps they will lend out their electronic voting machines to countrie(s) that have problems counting votes?

Bidding Quiz**Standard American is assumed unless otherwise stated.**

Hand A

Hand B

♠ 9752
 ♥ Q42
 ♦ Q72
 ♣ K92

♠ KJ104
 ♥ K76
 ♦ Q107
 ♣ J102

With Hand A partner opens 1♣, what do you respond?

With Hand B partner opens 2NT, what do you respond?

Hand C

Hand D

♠ KQ1092
 ♥ Q10
 ♦ J6
 ♣ KQ32

♠ K8
 ♥ -
 ♦ 10862
 ♣ AKQJ9872

With hand C RHO opens 1♥, what do you bid?

What do you open with Hand D?

Hand E

Hand F

♠ A10964
 ♥ AK5
 ♦ AKQJ
 ♣ K

♠ KQJ1074
 ♥ KQ9
 ♦ -
 ♣ KJ108

What do you open with Hand E?

With hand F you open 1♠ and partner responds 1NT.

(a) what is your rebid

(b) suppose that you choose 3♣, then what do you do when partner bids 3♦?

Hand G

Hand H

♠ A74
 ♥ KQ9
 ♦ K9
 ♣ KQJ95

♠ AJ5
 ♥ Q8
 ♦ KQJ
 ♣ AJ964

What do you open with hand G?

What do you open with hand H?

Hand J

Hand K

♠ A2
 ♥ 10976
 ♦ AJ
 ♣ AJ752

♠ 109
 ♥ AKJ3
 ♦ A942
 ♣ K103

With Hand J partner opens 1♣ and you respond 1♥. Partner then bids 1NT (12-14), what do you do?

With hand K partner opens 1♣ and you respond 1♦ or maybe 1♥. Partner then bids 2NT (18-19 balanced, no 4 card major).
 What do you do?

Deny a 4 card major? – part 1Board 3 from Monday 10th, E-W vul

North (A)	South	West	North	East	South
♠ 9752	♠ 104	-	-	-	1♣
♥ Q42	♥ AK93	pass	1NT (1)	all pass	
♦ Q72	♦ J54				
♣ K92	♣ AQ76				

1NT by North made but scored a joint bottom, it is usually best for the stronger hand to be declarer. So, anything wrong with the bidding?

Yes. One should never deny a 4 card major and North should bid 1♠ at (1). Maybe not so important on this particular deal, but 1NT is a disaster if South has 4♠'s and less than 17 points, when he will pass 1NT and you miss the fit. Why did South bid 1NT? He said *'I thought it more important to show my balanced 7 points that to bid my poor 4 card major'*. This view is totally against the philosophy of natural type systems such as Standard American and Acol. If you want to show points instead of (major) suits, then take up Precision ♣.

Deny a 4 card major? – part 2Board 21 from Monday 10th, N-S vul

West	East (B)	<u>Table A</u>			
♠ AQ983	♠ KJ104	West	North	East	South
♥ A983	♥ K76	-	pass	pass	pass
♦ A9	♦ Q107	2NT (1)	pass	3NT (2)	all pass
♣ AK	♣ J102	<u>Table B</u>			
		West	North	East	South
		-	pass	pass	pass
		2NT	pass	3♣ (2)	pass
		3♥ (3)	pass	3NT (4)	pass
		4♠ (5)	pass	pass (6)	pass

A silly 3NT was bid at table A (4♠ is a far better contract), so who's to blame?

Table A: So is it the opening bid that's wrong? With 9 cards in the majors one should never open 1NT, but 2NT is different. A 1♠ opening may mean missing game if partner cannot respond and so 2NT is the correct opening. So why didn't East bid Stayman at (2)? Perhaps he has been reading one of those silly books that says don't bid Stayman when 4333 or 3433? The bin is where they (those books) belong. With a good suit like this ♠ suit one must look for the fit.

Table B: This is more like it. East bids Stayman at (2) but with which suit does West respond at (3)? Actually it does not matter, the ♠ fit is always found. 3NT at (4) guarantees a 4 card ♠ suit and so West corrects at (5). East is close to looking for slam but with the totally flat shape I think that pass at (6) is fine.

And what happened? Silly contracts of 3NT (+1) and 6NT (-1) were reached at two tables. 6♠ was bid and made once and 4♠ & 5♠ made 11 tricks at the other tables.

The bottom lines. Never deny a 4 card major. Stayman applies over 2NT as well as 1NT openings. If you have a good 4-4 (or 5-4) fit it is usually better than NT.

A sound Pre-empt?

Board 22 from Monday 10th,

Dealer:	♠ 952	West	North	East (D)	South
East	♥ A6				
E-W vul	♦ AKQ873	-	-	3NT (1)	pass
	♣ 104	pass (2)	pass		

♠ A1064	N	♠ K8
♥ Q9432	W E	♥ -
♦ 6	S	♦ 10862
♣ 653		♣ AKQJ9872
	♠ QJ73	
	♥ KJ10875	
	♦ J94	
	♣ -	

3NT is obviously a silly contract that went 4 down, let's look at the bidding: -

So what did you open with Hand D in this week's quiz? If you play the gambling 3NT that would be an option, except that most players insist on nothing outside and a king is too much (certainly in my preferred style). Now presumably this pair had not discussed it, and I happen to know that this West does not like the gambling 3NT and plays an opening 3NT as 25+ points. So what's with his pass at (2)?

If East's 3NT was 25+ (I don't like this either) then obviously West should bid Stayman or transfer (it's a bit of a mess as there is little room, that's why a strong opening 3NT is silly). Anyway, slam is in the air. If East's 3NT is the gambling variety then you have to bid 4♣ when you do not have stoppers in 3 suits. Partner will then pass or correct to 4♦. Either way, West should bid 4♣ and he got what he asked for with his pass (a miserable score).

So what should East open? The hand is close to a 2♣ opener but 1♣ is really the best bid. Two (!!) players chose to open 3♣ on Monday. This is ridiculous and I will award adjusted (unfavourable) scores in future for atrocious bids like this. Anybody who thinks that the East hand is weak (a 3♣ pre-empt) really needs to go back to the pre-beginner's school. A 9 playing trick hand with 8 solid tricks off the top is not generally considered to be weak.

And what happened? What a mixed bag of results! 4♠ by West went 5 down, 4♠ by South went 3 down (quite how both sides can reach a silly 4♠ contract is beyond me) and 5♣ was bid twice, making 11 and 12 tricks (doubled) resp.

As you can see, 5♣ is a good contract and can only be beaten with an initial ♣ lead. As South was void in ♣'s it was cold; but I guess it's more fun to go 4 down in 3NT?

A word about the gambling 3NT. This is a 3NT opening bid with a long solid minor suit. Some play that the hand contains no outside ace or king, others allow one outside king. The former approach is much sounder and is what most experts play, if opener may or may not have something outside then responder has no clue what to do when he has a few bits and pieces. This hand is a perfect example, 5♣ is cold because responder's ♠ A is an important card, it would not be if opener did not have the king.

The bottom lines. I keep on saying that 3NT is usually better than 5 of a minor, but not when you have **two** suits without a semblance of a stop between them! If you want to play the gambling 3NT, then play the variation with nothing outside. Responder should then know to bid 4♣ when he does not have 3 suits stopped.

A strong opener?Board 11 from Monday 10th, love all

North	South	West	North	East	South (E)
♠ K72	♠ A10964	-	-	-	2♣ (1)
♥ 9732	♥ AK5	pass	2♦ (2)	pass	2♠ (3)
♦ 102	♦ AKQJ	pass	4♠ (4)		
♣ J987	♣ K				

A comfortable contract making an overtrick, but 2 pairs failed to reach game on Monday. Why? Because they did not open with a strong bid. Playing strong twos I would open 2♠ (via 2♣ if playing Benjamin). Playing weak twos then I would open 2♣, the hand is too strong for a 1♠ opening. In this actual auction 2♣ (1) was 23+ or game forcing; 2♦ (2) was negative/waiting; 2♠ (3) was game forcing and 4♠ (4) was weak (fast arrival).

The bottom line. If just one card in partner's hand is sufficient to make game a good prospect then open with a strong bid. With this South hand, either the ♠K or the ♣A opposite would usually be sufficient for game.

Don't open 1NT out-of-rangeBoard 4 from Monday 10th, both vul

West	East (G)	<u>Table A</u>			
		West	North	East	South
♠ 65	♠ A74	pass	pass	1NT (1)	pass
♥ 8732	♥ KQ9	pass (2)	pass		
♦ A107	♦ K9				
♣ A863	♣ KQJ95				
		<u>Table B</u>			
		West	North	East	South
		pass	pass	1♣ (1)	pass
		1♥ (3)	pass	2NT (4)	pass
		3NT	pass	pass	pass

E-W missed a good game at table A, what went wrong?

Table A: It's the usual suspect, a 1NT opening out of range. This East hand is far too good for a 1NT opening. 18 points is one too many, but perhaps even more important is the decent 5 card suit.

And West's pass at (2)? West has 2 good cards and 11 bad ones. With two poor 4 card suits and little in the way of intermediates a pass of a 15-17 NT would be the choice of many. Reasonable, although many would make an effort.

Table B: Now this is how it should be bid. 1♥ at (3) is correct, never deny a 4 card major, even a poor one. The 2NT rebid at (4) shows a balanced 18-19 points and so West has a comfortable raise to 3NT.

What happened? This sequence at Table B should be automatic, but only one pair out of 5 found it. 3 pairs were in silly part-scores and one pair played in an equally silly 4♥.

The bottom lines. The obvious one first, do not open 1NT with a good 18 points. Remember that a jump rebid in NT is the way to show a balanced 18-19 points.

Is 4NT natural or ace-ask?

Board 13 from Monday 10th, both vul

West (K)	East (H)	<u>Table A</u>			
		West	North	East	South
♠ 109	♠ AJ5	-	pass	1NT (1)	pass
♥ AKJ3	♥ Q8	2♣	pass	2♦	pass
♦ A942	♦ KQJ	3NT (2)	all pass		
♣ K103	♣ AJ964				

<u>Table B</u>					
		West	North	East	South
		-	pass	1♣ (1)	pass
		1♥	pass	2NT (3)	pass
		4NT (4)	pass	6NT (5)	pass

E-W missed a good slam at table A, what went wrong?

Table A: It's the usual suspect, a 1NT opening out of range. This East hand is far too good for a 1NT opening. 18 points is one too many, but perhaps even more important is the decent 5 card suit. Think I've said all this before? Groundhog day.

After a 1NT (15-17) opening the West hand is borderline as to whether to look for slam or not. 3NT at (2) is quite reasonable with no fit or long suit.

Table B: Now this is how it should be bid. The 2NT rebid at (3) shows a balanced 18-19 points.

West then knows that there are 33-34 points, but with a flat hand and no fit, the West hand is marginal as to whether it should launch into slam or simply invite. I would invite, and the invitational bid for 6NT is 4NT. 4NT over partner's 1NT, 2NT or 3NT is always an invitational raise, looking for 6NT.

Should East accept? Just 18 points, but this hand is *not* minimum. The decent 5 card suit is worth more than an extra point and East correctly accepted.

What happened? 6NT was bid twice but three pairs stopped in 3NT. 12 or 13 tricks were made on every occasion.

The bottom line. The obvious one, do **not** open 1NT with a good 18 points.

And a word about Blackwood, Gerber and an invitational 4NT. Now you can play whatever you want, but this is a recommended simple approach: -

4♣ is always Gerber after partner's last natural bid was 1NT or 2NT, even if ♣'s have been bid naturally before. Examples: -

1NT - 4♣; 1♣ - 1♥ - 1NT - 4♣; 2NT - 4♣; 1♥ - 1♠ - 2NT - 4♣

Thus a 4NT bid in these situations is quantitative, looking for slam: -

1NT - 4NT; 1♣ - 1♥ - 1NT - 4NT; 2NT - 4NT; 1♥ - 1♠ - 2NT - 4NT

If partner's last bid was 3NT, then 4NT is still a quantitative raise. In this situation, if you want to ask for aces then 5♣ is Gerber, Gerber is always a *jump* in ♣'s. Examples (3NT here shows 18-19 points):

-

1♥ - 2♣ - 3NT - 4NT	4NT is a quantitative raise
1♥ - 2♣ - 3NT - 4♣	4♣ is natural and forcing
1♥ - 2♣ - 3NT - 5♣	5♣ is a jump in ♣'s and so is Gerber.

NT is usually better than a minor.Board 24 from Monday 10th, love all

West	East (J)	<u>Table A</u>			
		West	North	East	South
♠ K95	♠ A2	1♣	pass	1♥	pass
♥ A32	♥ 10976	1NT	pass	3♣ (1)	all pass
♦ K85	♦ AJ				
♣ K864	♣ AJ752				

<u>Table B</u>					
West	North	East	South		
1♣	pass	1♥	pass		
1NT	pass	5♣ (1)	all pass		

<u>Table C</u>					
West	North	East	South		
1♣	pass	1♥	pass		
1NT	pass	3NT (1)	all pass		

E-W missed a good 3NT contract at tables A and B, what went wrong?

Table A: With two doubletons East decided that he did not like NT. He thus supported partner, but unfortunately partner passed. 3♣ here is only invitational, and if you play Checkback Stayman it is weak.

Table B: This East had a similar dislike for NT. With game going values (a combined 26-28 points) and a fit, he jumped to the ♣ game. Reasonable?
No! You need around 25 points for game, but that is 4 of a major or 3NT. To make 5 of a minor you need more, around 29.

Table C: Finally somebody got it right. With adequate points and aces in both of the unbid suits 3NT is clearly the bid at (1).

And what happened? 5♣ went one down. 3♣ was the contract at two tables and it made or made +1. 3NT was bid just twice and it made 9 or 10 tricks for the top scores.

Overcall or double?Board 2 from Monday 10th, N-S vul

West (C)	East	West	North	East	South
♠ KQ1092	♠ J3	-	-	pass	1♥
♥ Q10	♥ K972	dbl (1)	1NT	all pass	
♦ J6	♦ K543				
♣ KQ32	♣ 864				

1NT by North went minus 1 but scored well. Why? Because East did not lead the ♠ J! With a good 5 card major suit, do not double but overcall in the major suit. People who believe that you have to double to show an opening hand are living in the stone-age. There is, initially, no difference in strength between an overcall and a double (an overcall is around 7-16 pts and a double is generally around 11+), the difference is in the shape of the hand. If you double and then bid again then that shows a strong hand (say 17+ or equivalent); that's why you cannot double with this West hand, if you double and then bid ♠'s over a ♦ response from partner then that shows a much stronger hand.

NT bids are limit bidsBoard 21 from Friday 14th, N-S vul

North	South	West	North	East	South
♠ AQ4	♠ K72	-	1♥ (1)	pass	2♦ (2)
♥ K9543	♥ 107	pass	2♥ (3)	pass	2NT (4)
♦ 3	♦ AQJ1075	pass	pass (5)	pass	
♣ Q1092	♣ A7				

A comfortable 3NT was missed, whose fault?

- (1) North's 1♥ opening is borderline; it conforms to the rule of 20 and with good intermediates in the 2nd suit I think it's fine. Also, if partner responds with the expected 1♠ or 1NT, you have an easy rebid.
- (2) Of course partners never do the easy thing.
- (3) The rebid over 2♦ is not so automatic It's probably a matter of partnership agreement whether to bid 2♥ or 2NT. The modern tendency in Standard American is to bid 2♥ with a minimum (11-12) and 2NT with 13-14 points. Once partner responds in ♦'s this hand is sub-minimum!
- (4) This ♦ suit should come in handy in NT, so bid 2NT?
No! In Standard American the 2♦ response promises 11+ points and a subsequent 2NT shows 11-12 points and is not forcing. This monster should bid 3NT. 2NT is only acceptable if you play 2/1 as the 2♦ bid has set up a game force.
- (5) As I said, with a singleton in partner's suit this hand is now sub-minimal and so North correctly passed.

What happened? 10 tricks were made at every table; 3NT bid twice and 4NT once.

The bottom line. Nearly all NT bids are limit bids, telling partner how many points you have and are non-forcing. A 2NT bid by responder is virtually always 10-12 points and invitational, whether on the first or second round of bidding.

Obey the LawBoard 19 from Friday 14th, E-W vul

North	South	West	North	East	South
♠ AJ83	♠ 5	-	-	-	pass
♥ J987	♥ KQ6	pass	pass	1♦	pass
♦ 5	♦ 9874	1♠	dbl (1)	2♠	pass (2)
♣ K1053	♣ AJ976	pass	pass		

2♠ made +1 for a top to E-W, could N-S have done any better?

Yes! North's double at (1) promises at least 4-4 in the *two* unbid suits. With 5 ♣'s South should compete with 3♣ at (2). It's The Law. With roughly equal strength between the two sides, compete to the total number of combined trumps (9 ♣'s = the 3 level). E-W were vulnerable and with only 8 combined trumps they would have passed 3♣.

And why did South take no action? His excuse was that partner was a passed hand. Totally irrelevant.

And what happened? Various results but the top for N-S was 2♣ making 10 tricks. The bottom line. With 9 combined trumps, compete to the 3 level.

When the 5-3 fit is better than NTBoard 7 from Friday 14th, both vul

North	South	West	North	East	South
♠ KQ5	♠ AJ92	-	-	-	pass
♥ KQJ104	♥ A32	pass	1♥	pass	1♠ (1)
♦ A10	♦ J8652	pass	3NT (2)	pass	pass (3)
♣ A43	♣ 9	pass			

This contract made +2 but scored a fat zero. Who's fault?

- (1) There is an argument for a 4♣ splinter here, but there may be a ♠ fit and 1♠ is OK I guess. But 5-3 fits are excellent if you can ruff with the short hand.
- (2) The 3NT bid shows about 19 points and a balanced hand (with 5+ ♥'s of course).
- (3) This South hand, with good 3 card support for partner, two aces and a singleton is a monster after partner has shown a huge hand. I would look for slam. But it's difficult to show that ♥'s are trumps, that's why I like a 4♣ splinter at (1). Anyway, this South was not looking for 6♥, but he should look for 4♥ and bid it at (3)! When you have 3 card support for partner's 5 card major and a singleton you will get ruffs in the short hand – that is extra tricks.

And what happened? Every other table was in 4♥, making 12 or 13 tricks.

When NT is better than the 5-3 fitBoard 14 from Friday 14th, love all

North	South	West	North	East	South
♠ K742	♠ A86	-	-	pass	2NT
♥ K10653	♥ Q97	pass	3♦ (1)	pass	3♥
♦ 9	♦ AK2	pass	3♠ (2)	pass	3NT (3)
♣ 1094	♣ AK83	all pass			

A 5-3 ♥ fit again, but is it better than NT this time?

- (1) Transfer
- (2) Showing 5 ♥'s and 4 ♠'s
- (3) This time ignoring the 5-3 fit worked out fine. But is it the best bid or should South bid 4♥ here? At teams scoring I would always bid 4♥, at pairs it's not so obvious but I think that 4♥ is usually better:

♠ J742	Just change the North hand slightly to something like this. 4♥ probably
♥ K10653	makes but 3NT stands no chance if the ♥A is trippleton (greater than 50%)
♦ 9	as there is no quick entry to the North hand and opponents will get their ♦'s
♣ J109	before you can get your ♥'s.

And what happened? This time the Gods were kind and 11 tricks were there in either contract and so 3NT was the top spot. 3NT was bid at two other tables, quite how one established pair reached 4♠ by North I don't know. Perhaps South was confused and bid 4♠ at (3)?

The bottom lines, for both of the above. The 5-3 major suit fit is usually better than NT, but you can take a view if you have all unbid suits well stopped or have tenaces. Three card support for partner is great if you have shortage somewhere.

You don't need support with a self-sufficient suitBoard 15 from Friday 14th, N-S vul

North (F)	South		<u>Table A</u>		
		West	North	East	South
♠ KQJ1074	♠ 3	-	-	-	pass
♥ KQ9	♥ 874	pass	1♠	pass	1NT (1)
♦ -	♦ QJ9742	pass	3♠ (2)	pass	pass (3)
♣ KJ108	♣ A62	pass			
			<u>Table B</u>		
		West	North	East	South
		-	-	-	pass
		pass	1♠	pass	1NT (1)
		pass	3♣ (2)	pass	3♦
		pass	4♠ (4)	all pass	

Table A: South does not have enough points to bid 2♦ at (1) and so 1NT is correct. So what did you bid with Hand F in this week's quiz? North's 3♠ bid at (2) shows around 16-17 and is invitational. So OK?

I don't think so. This North hand is a monster and worth game after partner's 1NT response. Points Smoints. South's pass at (3) is quite understandable.

Table B: This North chose a game forcing 3♣ bid at (2), 4♠ directly would be a reasonable alternative. After South's 3♦ bid there is no ♣ fit and so 4♠ at (4) is the right bid. North could have bid 3♠ but he did not as there really is no point (4♠ is where you want to play anyway) and he was afraid that is partner would not realise that the sequence is still game forcing and might pass (he would have!).

And what happened? Only this pair reached the excellent 4♠. One pair stopped in 3♠, one pair stopped in 2♠ and one pair found the seemingly impossible contract of 3NT (minus 2) by North. Nothing on Earth would make me bid NT at any stage with this North hand.

The bottom lines. If you have a self-sufficient (major) suit then don't bother consulting partner. Bid it! Don't rebid NT with a void.

Defenders can finesse!Board 5 from Friday 14th

N	♠ J10	West	North	East	South
W	♥ J2				
E	♦ Q762	-	pass	pass	pass
S	♣ AQ1054	1♠	pass	2♣	pass
♠ K5		2♥	pass	2♠	all pass
♥ KQ106	Dealer:				
♦ K1095	North				
♣ J107	N-S vul				

You are South and East is the dummy. Partner leads the ♦3 and dummy plays the ♦2. Which card do you play?

You should play the ♦9, not the ♦K. This is a 'finesse' against dummy's ♦Q, but it's not one of those 50% chances, it's 100%! It cannot lose unless you have one of those partners who underleads aces. Partner's low card lead usually promises an honour and it can only be the ♦J. Even if declarer turns up with that card it's still best to play the ♦9 as you then have the ♦K10 sitting over the ♦Q. The bottom line? As Henry VIII once said, kings are for taking queens.

The Dutch have a saying 'Derde man doe twat hij kan' (3rd man plays high). But it's double Dutch if there's a finessable honour in dummy.

Don't pass partner's take-out double

Board 14 from Friday 14th, N-S vul

North	South	<u>Table A</u>			
		West	North	East	South
♠ 72	♠ AQ6	-	pass	1♦	pass
♥ KJ84	♥ Q63	pass	1♥ (1)	1♠	pass (2)
♦ K104	♦ 862	pass	2♣	pass	pass
♣ A643	♣ J1098	2♠	pass	pass	pass

Table B

West	North	East	South
-	pass	1♦	pass
pass	dbl (1)	pass	pass (3)
pass			

Table A: North has an interesting choice at (1) in the balancing seat. Pass is certainly reasonable, 1♥ maybe less so. 1NT is probably the best bid. With 3 card support, South should bid 2♥ at (2).

Table B: But the one bid I don't really like at (1) is double with only 2♠'s. But the really really silly bid is South's pass at (3). Just because you have no nice bid, that's no reason to gift the opponents a top (1♦ doubled rolled home with an overtrick). So what should South bid at (3)? The cheapest 4 card suit, so 2♣ is recommended. 1NT would be the bid with a ♦ stop.

The bottom lines. Don't make a take-out double with just a doubleton in an unbid major. Don't pass partner's take-out double unless you have excellent trumps and expect to set the contract, you will get a bottom score.

Bidding Quiz Answers

Hand A: 1♠. Do not deny a 4 card major by bidding 1NT.

Hand B: 3♣, Stayman. Do not deny a 4 card major by bidding 3NT.

Hand C: 1♠. An overcall with a 5 card major is better than a double.

Hand D: It's probably not quite strong enough for 2♣, so 1♣ playing Standard American. This is a good hand for Benjamin twos – open 2♣ and rebid 3♣ over partner's 2♦; this shows 9 playing tricks in ♣'s (with the ♠K, an outside 4 card suit and a void, it's worth 9 tricks). Two (!!) players elected to open with a pre-emptive (??) 3♣ on Monday. They are in my black book.

Hand E: 2♣. Too strong for a 1 level opening.

Hand F: (a) 3♣ or 4♠. The hand is worth game and 3♠ is non-forcing.

(b) 4♠. The auction is game forcing, but with this excellent suit there is little point in bidding anything other than 4♠.

Hand G: 1♣ (and rebid 2NT over partner's 1♦/♥/♠/NT). Far too good for a 1NT opening.

Hand H: 1♣. Ditto.

Hand J: 3NT. Clubs are for cave men.

Hand K: Look for slam. Asking for aces (4♣) or simply bidding 6NT are reasonable but I don't think that the hand is quite good enough to charge in. I would bid 4NT, quantitative.