

Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> N-S Henrik & Jan	60%	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bill & Mike	51%
1 <sup>st</sup> E-W Dave & Per-ake	64%	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Derek & Gerard	64%
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> Bob Short & Dave	68%	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lewis & Terry	59%
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> Lewis & Terry	71%	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Per-Ake & Jan	55%

**Bidding Quiz**

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

**Hand A**      **Hand B**      With Hand A partner opens 1♣ and you bid 1♠. Partner raises to 2♠, what do you do?

♠ J863	♠ K5
♥ Q10	♥ 7432
♦ KQ96	♦ A52
♣ QJ7	♣ J854

With Hand B partner opens 1NT, what do you bid?

**Hand C**      **Hand D**      With Hand C you open 1♥ and partner makes a weak jump shift into 2♠. What do you bid?

♠ -	♠ K75
♥ QJ97542	♥ KJ
♦ K4	♦ AK1094
♣ AK54	♣ 942

- (a) What do you open with Hand D?
- (b) Suppose you choose 1♦ and partner responds 1♥. What now?

**Hand E**      **Hand F**      With Hand E RHO opens 1♥, what do you bid?

♠ A	♠ KQ965
♥ AK10863	♥ 7
♦ Q1065	♦ J932
♣ Q2	♣ A98

With Hand F partner opens 1NT and RHO overcalls 2♥ (5♥'s and a minor suit). What do you bid?

**Hand G**      **Hand H**      With Hand G RHO opens 1♣, what do you bid?

♠ J9	♠ AKQJ72
♥ KJ109	♥ QJ532
♦ K864	♦ A2
♣ Q97	♣ -

- (a) What do you open with Hand H?
- (b) Suppose you choose 1♠ and partner responds 2♠. What now?

**Hand J**      **Hand K**      With Hand J LHO opens 1NT and RHO bids 2♣, Stayman. What do you do?

♠ K52	♠ 542
♥ 1082	♥ AQ84
♦ 5	♦ 93
♣ QJ9742	♣ KJ84

- With Hand K partner opens 1♣ and RHO doubles.
- (a) What do you do?
  - (b) Suppose you redouble, LHO bids 1♦ and this is passed round to you. What now?

**Bidding Sequences Quiz**

**L** 1NT 2♥ dbl      What is the double – penalties or a transfer to ♠'s?

**M** 1♠ pass 1NT dbl      What is the double?

**N** 1♣ dbl rdbl 1♦  
pass pass dbl      What is the double?

**Editorial**

published. This is the most comprehensive book on 1NT openings and continuations ever written (264 A4 size pages) with every conceivable sequence in an uncontested auction categorised, indexed and discussed in detail. Order your copy now, details are on the web-site.

### 'Sacrifice' in NoTrump?

Board 19 from Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>

I said just last week not to sacrifice in No Trumps without a good long suit. Here is a very interesting deal: -

Dealer:	♠ J53	West	North	East	South
South	♥ K842	-	-	-	1♠
E-W vul	♦ 10	2♦	2♠	3♦	3♥
	♣ QJ1073	3♠ (1)	4♥	4NT (2)	pass
		pass	dbl	all pass	

  

♠ 109	N	♠ A62
♥ Q7	W E	♥ 1096
♦ AKJ9842	S	♦ Q763
♣ A2		♣ 985

  

♠ KQ874
♥ AJ53
♦ 5
♣ K64

- (1) Asking for a ♠ stop for NoTrump (and obviously by inference a good long ♦ suit).
- (2) I have a ♠ stop (but it's a shame that I have to show it at the 4-level). Actually this 4NT was a two-way bid as East did not know if it was making or not but was pretty sure that 4♥ was making.

And what happened? There are only 9 tricks and so 4NT was one down but it was still a good score as 4♥ is making. Two pairs sacrificed in 5♦ but that went two down.

The bottom lines: -

- With a good long suit and a stop in the opponent's suit then a No Trump 'sacrifice' may occasionally be sound as opposed to sacrificing in the suit one level higher. But this is not common and this is a rare but illustrative example.

### Hand Evaluation – part 1

#### Beware of quacks and a poor trump suit

Board 10 from Monday 28<sup>th</sup>

Five out of seven tables got too high on this deal: -

Dealer:	♠ J863	<u>Table A</u>			
East	♥ Q10	West	North(A)	East	South
Both vul	♦ KQ96	-	-	pass	1♣
	♣ QJ7	pass	1♠ (1)	pass	2♠
		pass	3♠ (2)	pass	4♠ (3)
		all pass			

  

♠ AQ10	N	♠ 94
♥ 9864	W E	♥ KJ52
♦ 104	S	♦ AJ87
♣ 9653		♣ 1082

  

♠ K752
♥ A73
♦ 532
♣ AK4

  

<u>Table B</u>				
West	North(A)	East	South	
-	-	pass	1♣	
pass	1♠ (1)	pass	2♠	
pass	pass (2)	pass		

- Table A: (1) It's a matter of style/agreement if you respond 1♦ or 1♠ in this sort of situation. My preferred treatment is Walsh whereby you bid the major with a hand worth only one bid and bid the ♦ suit if you intend to bid again.
- (2) What did you bid with this North hand A in this week's quiz? Eleven points so an automatic 3♣ invitation? I was North at Table B.
- (3) Whether South should accept is close (the 4333 shape is very bad but otherwise it's a good 14 points), but even 3♠ is too high anyway!
- Table B: (2) Eleven 'points' it's true, but what a miserable eleven! The trump suit is very poor and 6 out of the 7 honours are quacks. Did you pass with this North hand A in this week's quiz? I did.

And what happened? It's a combined 25 'points' and a 4-4 fit, but 2♠ is the limit. Two pairs stopped in 2♣ but one managed to go down (not me!). Everybody else was way too high, usually in game.

The bottom lines: -

- Do not be a 'points pundit' and automatically invite with 11 'points': -
- Downgrade a hand with Jxxx as the trump suit.
- Downgrade a hand with five quacks.

## Hand Evaluation – part 2

### Honours belong in long suits

Board 9 from Monday 28<sup>th</sup>

Four out of seven tables got uncomfortably high on this deal: -

Dealer:	♠ K5		<u>Table A</u>			
North	♥ 7432		West	North(B)	East	South
E-W vul	♦ A52		-	-	pass	1NT
	♣ J854		pass	2♣ (1)	pass	2♠
			pass	2NT	all pass	
♠ 876	N	♠ 10932	<u>Table B</u>			
♥ J5	W E	♥ AQ106	West	North(B)	East	South
♦ QJ94	S	♦ 103	-	-	pass	1NT
♣ K632		♣ A97	pass	pass (1)	pass	
	♠ AQJ4					
	♥ K98					
	♦ K876					
	♣ Q10					

Table A: (1) What did you bid with this North hand B in this week's quiz? Eight points so an automatic 2NT invitation? I was North at Table B.

Table B: (1) Eight 'points' it's true, but what a miserable eight! The two four-card suits are very poor and there are no intermediates. Did you pass with this North hand B in this week's quiz? I did.

And what happened? As the cards lie 2NT usually made (but it did go down at one table). Swap the E-W hands and even 1NT may be dicey (♥A with West).

The bottom lines: -

- Do not be a 'points pundit' and automatically invite with 8 'points' opposite 1NT.
- Downgrade a hand lacking honours in the long suits.
- Downgrade a hand with no tens or intermediates.

### The play's the thing – part 1. Discard your loser

Board 23 from Monday 28<sup>th</sup>

I've covered just about everything on bidding (again and again) in the news-sheets and so I thought I'd put in a few simple play hands where people went wrong.

Dealer: ♠ 1054

South	♥ 987643	West	North	East	South
Both vul	♦ A	-	-	-	1NT
	♣ A64	pass	2♦	pass	3♥ (1)
		pass	4♥	all pass	
♠ K83	N	♠ A96			
♥ 105	W E	♥ Q			
♦ QJ7643	S	♦ 10952			
♣ 92		♣ QJ875			
	♠ QJ72				
	♥ AKJ2				
	♦ K8				
	♣ K103				

(1) A super-accept

And what happened? Everybody played in ♥'s (4♥, 5♥ or 6♥) but I note that only 10 tricks were made at three tables. 11 tricks are cold on any lead; declarer should draw trumps at the first opportunity, cash the ♦A and then throw a losing ♣ on the ♦K. Note that it is incorrect to throw a ♠ as there are always just two losers in that suit and a ♠ discard makes no difference

The bottom lines: -

- A very basic strategy: draw trumps and then throw a loser on an established high card.

### The play's the thing – part 2. Unblocking

Board 21 from Monday 28<sup>th</sup>

4 out of seven tables landed in an inferior 3NT on this deal (6♦ makes and 3NT should go one down): -

Dealer:	♠ K75	<u>Table A</u>			
North	♥ KJ	West	North(D)	East	South
N-S vul	♦ AK1094	-	1NT (1)	pass	2♣ (2)
	♣ 942	pass	2♦	pass	3NT (3)
		all pass			
♠ 1062	N	♠ J83			
♥ 965	W E	♥ 10742			
♦ 75	S	♦ Q6			
♣ AJ853		♣ KQ76			
	♠ AQ94				
	♥ AQ83				
	♦ J832				
	♣ 10				
		<u>Expert Table</u>			
		West	North(D)	East	South
		-	1NT (1)	pass	3♣ (2)
		pass	3♦ (4)	pass	3♠ (5)
		pass	4♦ (6)	pass	4♥ (7)
		pass	5♦ (8)	pass	6♦
		all pass			

Table A: (1) What did you open with this North hand D(a) in this week's quiz? With this great ♦ suit I think that an upgrade to a strong 1NT is best.

(2) Without the mechanism to splinter over 1NT (see expert table) South reasonably tried Stayman

(3) And with no major suit fit he really has no choice but to punt 3NT.

Table B: (3) Our experts have read 'The definitive guide to **Strong No Trump openings, Stayman and Transfers**' – referred to as 'the NoTrump bidding book' on the web site, and know all about ambiguous splinters over 1NT. 3♣ here is an ambiguous splinter (either ♣, ♦, or ♠ shortage).

(4) Which shortage?

(5) ♣ shortage.

(6) ♦'s are trumps, slam interest. Although just 14 'points' this hand has become enormous opposite ♦ support and ♣ shortage.

(7) Roman Key card Blackwood for ♦'s. Our experts play Kickback.

(8) 2 keycards plus the ♦Q. With extra ♦ length North says that he has the ♦Q. This is the magic of playing Kickback – even the highest response (2 keycards + key queen) does not go above 5 of the agreed suit.

And what happened? One pair did reach 6♦ making but 4 pairs found themselves in 3NT. At two tables the ♣6 was led and West won with the ♣A. He then returned the ♣5 (correct) and North played the ♣4. At my table (I was North at table A) East exclaimed ‘what a nice cheap trick’ as he won with the ♣7 and thus blocked the suit! The bottom lines: -

- Check out ambiguous splinters over partner’s 1NT opening.
- When you win partner 4<sup>th</sup> best lead against NoTrump then return your original 4<sup>th</sup> best.
- Beware of Greek gifts. East should win the 2<sup>nd</sup> ♣ with the ♣Q, cash the ♣K and lead his last small ♣. Note that this only fails if declarer started with J9xx(x) but with that holding he would have inserted the ♣9 or ♣J at trick two.
- Play something other than 4NT as (RKC)Blackwood when a minor suit is agreed. My personal preference is Kickback (the suit above trumps); it is described on the web site and in the No Trump bidding book. Another option is to play 4-of-the-minor as Blackwood but obviously that would not work here as North does not know if South has slam interest or not.

**The play’s the thing – part 3. Play to make** Board 22 from Monday 28<sup>th</sup>

Sometimes you need to make a risky play in order to make the contract: -

Dealer:	♠ 9				
East	♥ AQJ1063	West	North	East	South
E-W vul	♦ 5	-	-	1♦ (1)	pass
	♣ AKQ84	1NT (2)	4♥ (3)	4♠ (4)	pass (5)
		pass	5♥ (6)	dbl	all pass
♠ 42	N	♠ AQ863			
♥ K82	W E	♥ 5			
♦ K873	S	♦ AQJ42			
♣ J1052		♣ 93			
	♠ KJ1075				
	♥ 974				
	♦ 1096				
	♣ 76				

- (1) I would open 1♠.
- (2) Clearly the best response.
- (3) Bidding what he thought he could make.
- (4) Having not opened 1♠ East now has to come in rather high (vul) to mention them.
- (5) I would double, surely there is 800 here and that’s what Deep Finesse says.
- (6) With no defence (no values in the opponent’s suits) North really has to bid. 5♣ may be a better bid but it was an unfamiliar partnership

And what happened? Everybody played in ♥’s. Two pairs ended in 4♥ doubled and made exactly. In 5♥ declarer has to take a risk and play 3 rounds of ♣’s in order to be able to lead the ♥9 from table and finesse the ♥K. Luckily East had two ♣’s and so this line worked and thus scored more than the two players making 4♥ doubled exactly.

Note that in 4♥ you should not take the risk of East ruffing the 2<sup>nd</sup> ♣. You need to draw exactly two rounds of trumps before playing ♣AK and ruffing a ♣. If you play a ♥A and another then if West has ♥Kxx then he will lead a 3<sup>rd</sup> round and you then have a ♣ loser. The safety play is to lead the ♥Q first – giving up a ♥ trick even in the (unlikely) event that West has the singleton ♥K but ensuring the contract when ♣’s break 4-2.

The bottom lines: -

- When you know that a player is short in a suit (East and ♣’s) then it’s usually best to pull a round or two of trumps; but you may have to take a gamble if it’s the only way to make the contract.

**It’s penalties unless you agree otherwise** Board 24 from Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>

What was your answer to bidding sequence L? Penalties is the ‘standard’ answer and is most certainly what I play.

Dealer: ♠ A72 West North East South(F)  
 West ♥ KQ83 pass 1NT 2♥ (1) dbl(2)  
 Love all ♦ Q6 pass pass (3) pass  
 ♣ KJ53

♠ J1084 N ♠ 3  
 ♥ A92 W E ♥ J10654  
 ♦ 1084 S ♦ AK75  
 ♣ 1062 ♣ Q74  
 ♠ KQ965  
 ♥ 7  
 ♦ J932  
 ♣ A98

- (1) ♥'s and a minor.
- (2) What did you bid with this South hand F in this week's quiz? Now you can agree (I suppose) that double is 'stolen bid' but that really is not a very good treatment as you lose the penalty double which you most certainly need if the overcall is just a 5 card suit. The 'correct' bid here is 3♠, natural and forcing. 2♠ would be weakish (to play) and if you play Lebensohl then you invite game with 2NT - 3♣ - 3♠.
- (3) I believe that North assumed that it was a transfer (because he held such good ♥'s?) but elected to pass.

And what happened? 2♥ doubled went just one down for a complete top to E-W. 3NT (making or +1) was the popular N-S spot.

The bottom lines: -

- I have written about it a few times, but in my opinion it's best to play 'stolen bid' only over a 2♣ overcall so that double of 2♠ is Stayman and systems (transfers) are on.
- Over any higher bid it's best to play double as penalties and all bids natural. More experienced players should play Lebensohl.

Summary after partner's 1NT bid is overcalled

Overcall	Bid	Meaning
2♣	dbl	Stayman
	2♦/♥	Transfer
2♦ and higher	dbl	penalties
	2?	to play
	2NT	Lebensohl
	2NT - 3♣ - 3?	to play unless ? could have been bid at the two level, in which case the sequence is invitational
	3?	A new suit at the 3-level is forcing
	3(their suit)	(game forcing) Stayman

There is a lot more to Lebensohl. I have a leaflet on it and it's described on the web.

Pass partner's weak jump shift Board 6 from Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>

If you play weak jump shifts then opener should normally pass.

Dealer: ♠ K109854 West North East(C) South(E)  
 East ♥ - - - 1♥ pass (1)  
 E-W vul ♦ AJ973 2♠ (2) pass (3) 3♥ (4) dbl (5)  
 ♣ J8 all pass

♠ QJ7632 N ♠ -  
 ♥ - W E ♥ QJ97542

♦ 82                      S                      ♦ K4  
 ♣ 109763                      ♣ AK54  
                          ♠ A  
                          ♥ AK10863  
                          ♦ Q1065  
                          ♣ Q2

- (1) What did you bid with this South hand E in this week's quiz? With length and strength in the suit opened it's best to pass – nice things may happen. And if your partner understands balancing it will not be passed out, especially with you holding a ♠ singleton.
- (2) A weak jump shift. Promising 2-5 points 6 ♠'s and a mis-fit for partner.
- (3) Double would be take-out for the minors and so North passes – nice things may happen.
- (4) What did you bid with this East hand C in this week's quiz? You should pass and hope not to get doubled. Partner has made a pre-emptive bid showing a distinct dislike of ♥'s and you should pass and hope not to be doubled. If 2♠ does gets doubled then you could try 3♣ if you really want to (it would have worked here).
- (5) Nice things come to those who patiently wait.

And what happened? Everybody got in a mess with this board and 3♥ doubled went for 500/800 the two times it was bid.

The bottom lines: -

- When partner has pre-empted with a weak jump shift (showing a dislike for your suit) do not rebid your suit at the three level!
- Opposite a weak jump shift you should only bid if you have support for partner's suit.
- With a very good hand opposite a weak jump shift you can bid Ogust to find out exactly how weak/strong he is – it's described on the web.
- When RHO bids your suit (as happened twice in this deal) then pass - sit back and wait for the nice things to come.

### After a redouble, doubles are penalties

Board 17 from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>

Dealer:            ♠ AQ86  
 North             ♥ 65  
 Love all         ♦ J8  
                          ♣ A10632

West	North	East(G)	South(K)
-	1♣	dbl (1)	redbl (2)
1♦	pass (3)	pass	dbl (4)
1♠ (5)	dbl (6)	2♦	pass (7)
pass	dbl (8)	all pass	

♠ K1073            N                      ♠ J9  
 ♥ 732                W E                      ♥ KJ109  
 ♦ A10752            S                      ♦ K864  
 ♣ 5                      ♣ Q97  
                          ♠ 542  
                          ♥ AQ84  
                          ♦ 93  
                          ♣ KJ84

- (1) What did you bid with this East hand G in this week's quiz? Apart from it being a bit light, I would never dream of doubling with this flat hand with 3 ♣'s and just 2 ♠'s.
- (2) What did you bid with this South hand K(a) in this week's quiz? Redouble is 9+ points and usually a mis-fit looking for a penalty. With great support for partner's ♣'s I would not redouble (you cannot subsequently double either pointed suit for penalties) and I would just bid a (forcing) 1♥ and support ♣'s later if there is no ♥ fit.
- (3) This is forcing, double would be penalties.
- (4) What did you bid with this South hand K(b) in this week's quiz? South meant this double as take-out. It is not, it is penalties. If you had elected to redouble at (2) then the best bid now is 1♥; showing 9+ points, a 4 card ♥ suit and an inability to double 1♦ for penalties.



- (5) Luckily West decided to bid (North would have passed 1♦ doubled).
- (6) Penalties. All doubles after a redouble are for penalties.
- (7) As I indicated, I would not have bid like this but 3♣ must surely be best now.
- (8) North did not really understand what was going on and so doubled.

And what happened? 2♦ doubled went one down for an exact average. At every other table E-W bid to 3♦ or even 4♦ going down but they were not doubled.

The bottom lines: -

- When the bidding starts with an opening, double and redouble then any subsequent double by opener or responder is for penalties.
- When partner opens and RHO doubles then it is usually best to redouble only if you can penalise at least two suits of the three other suits.
- When partner opens and RHO doubles then a new suit at the one level is natural and forcing but a new suit at the two level is non-forcing.
- It is usually best not to redouble when you have length in partner's opening suit.

**Do not bid Blackwood with a void**

Board 23 from Friday 1<sup>st</sup>

I was asked how to bid this one. A cold grand slam, but nobody even found a small slam with these E-W cards and three out of 4 pairs even played in the wrong suit: -

Dealer:	♠ 10		<u>Table A</u>			
East	♥ 87		West	North	East(H)	South
Both vul	♦ 9765		-	-	1♠ (1)	pass
	♣ KQ9875		2♠ (2)	pass	4NT (3)	pass
			5♦	pass	5♠ (4)	all pass
♠ 854	N	♠ AKQJ72	<u>'Expert Table'</u>			
♥ AK64	W E	♥ QJ532	West	North	East(H)	South
♦ J103	S	♦ A2	-	-	1♠ (1)	pass
♣ J104		♣ -	2♠ (2)	pass	3♥ (3)	pass
	♠ 963		4♥ (5)	pass	5NT (6)	pass
	♥ 109		7♥ (7)	all pass		
	♦ KQ84					
	♣ A632					

- Table A: (1) What did you open with this East hand H(a) in this week's quiz? The hand has the values for a 2♣ opening and I guess I cannot argue with that. But I prefer to bid two-suiters naturally as you sometimes do not get the chance to bid them both naturally after a 2♣ opening. So I would open 1♠ with a view to jumping in ♥'s next go.
- (2) West is max but this is clearly the only sensible bid.
- (3) What did you bid with this East hand H(b) in this week's quiz? Actually there are a few reasonable options (4♣ splinter, 5♣ Exclusion Roman Keycard Blackwood) but unfortunately 4NT is not one of them (a reasonable option). The best bid is that of our experts.
- (4) East knows that there is an ace missing but he does not know which one.
- 'Expert' Table (3) This 3♥ bid is the answer to H(b). It is a game try that happens to also be natural and actually a slam try (if partner 'signs off' in 3♠ then a subsequent 4♦ by East would be a cue bid and slam try).
- (5) West accepts the 'game try' and shows 4♥'s just in case there is a 4-4 fit there.
- (6) Life is easy for East now. He can settle for the small slam or try for the grand which is secure if partner has the two top ♥'s and no more than 7 cards in the pointed suits (so that the ♦ losers go on the long ♠'s). 5NT is the Josaphine Grand Slam Force (GSF) and asks West to bid the grand slam with two out of the top three ♥ honours.
- (7) There are various sophisticated variations on the GSF but 7♥ is reached whatever.

And what happened? 5♠, 4♠(twice) and 4♥ were the final contracts and all made 12 tricks (looks like an easy



13 in ♥'s to me).

The bottom lines: -

- Do not bid Blackwood with a void.
- You can use a help-suit-game try as a slam try.
- Use the Josaphine GSF if you only need to know about top trumps.
- If you open 1♠ with 5+ ♠'s and 4+ ♥'s look for the ♥ fit if you have game +values.
- A good 4-4 fit plays better than 5-3 and a 5-4 fit plays better than 6-3.

**A double of Stayman means ♣'s**

Board 21 from Friday 1<sup>st</sup>

Dealer:	♠ K52				
North	♥ 1082	West	North(J)	East	South
N-S vul	♦ 5	-	pass	1NT (1)	pass
	♣ QJ9742	2♣	dbl (2)	2♦ (3)	pass
		3NT	pass	pass	dbl (4)
		4♥	all pass		
♠ Q986	N	♠ A104			
♥ AQ96	W E	♥ KJ7			
♦ Q642	S	♦ AJ87			
♣ 10		♣ K86			
	♠ J73				
	♥ 543				
	♦ K1093				
	♣ A53				

- (1) It's totally flat (so knock off a point) but it's still (just about) worth a 1NT opener.
- (2) What did you bid with this North hand J in this week's quiz? Of course you can pass but if the opponents end up in 3NT you want a ♣ lead. I chose to double.
- (3) East could pass but it makes no difference.
- (4) South thought (quite correctly) that holding ♣Axx opposite partner's double that 3NT would not make.

And what happened? 4♥ went three down for a top to N-S. 3NT would have gone one down doubled on a ♣ lead, also for a top.

The bottom lines: -

- A double of Stayman means ♣'s and asks for a ♣ lead.

### **Bidding Quiz Answers**

- Hand A: Pass. This is a very miserable 11 'points' with poor trumps and loads of quacks. If you do not agree and think that any 11 points should invite then 2NT is better than 3♠.
- Hand B: Pass. 8 points is normally enough for an invite (so 2♣ Stayman and then an invitation). But this is a very miserable 8 'points' with no top honours in the long suits. Make a try and you will go down more often than you will make a dodgy game.
- Hand C: Pass. Bidding 3♥ opposite partner's very weak pre-empt is suicidal.
- Hand D: (a) 1NT. This is the complete opposite of Hands A and B with good top cards, an excellent ♦ suit and just one quack. It's worth an upgrade to a strong 1NT.  
(b) I don't know. As I said above it's worth more than 14 points which is what a 1NT rebid (12-14) means but it's not quite good enough for a jump to 3♦.
- Hand E: Pass. With length and strength in RHO's suit it is usually best to pass and wait for nice things to happen. On good days you will be able to double them later at a high level.
- Hand F: 3♠, natural and forcing. It is best not to play 'stolen bid' (i.e. double for transfer) this high and to have the penalty double in your armory (especially if the overcall may be a 5 card suit). Note that if you play Lebensohl then you can show everything: a weak(2♠), strong(3♠) or invitational(2NT-3♣-3♠) ♠ hand.

- Hand G: Pass. You will be fixed if you double “to show an opening hand” and partner bids the inevitable 1♠. Also of course you may well run into a redouble from the next hand and be in a load of trouble. Why do people at this club continue to ignore the experts’ (I do not mean me) advise and keep on doubling with flat hands? Since people clearly believe that I do not know what I am talking about I have purchased a couple of copies of “The take-out double” by Tony Sowter for the club. Read it!
- Hand H: (a) 1♠ or 2♣? I guess that it’s a matter of style. The hand easily has the strength/values for a 2♣ opening but I personally prefer a 1♠ opening with the intention of jumping in ♥’s next go to show the strong two-suiter.  
 (b) 3♥. There is now no need to jump as this is forcing. It actually is a help-suit game try but if partner attempts to sign off in 3♠ you simply bid 4♦ which is then a cue bid and slam try.
- Hand J: Dbl. Of course you can pass if you prefer, but I want to get partner off to the right lead.
- Hand K: (a) 1♥, forcing. Redouble (9+ points) is a sound alternative but I prefer to usually only redouble when I know exactly where we are going or if I have a mis-fit for partner and can double (for penalties) at least two of the unbid suits.  
 (b) 1♥. Double would be for penalties.

### Bidding Sequences Quiz Answers

- L** 1NT 2♥ dbl Double is best played as penalties, especially if the overcall may be just a 5 card suit. With ♠’s you can bid 2♠ to play or 3♠ forcing.
- M** 1♠ pass 1NT dbl This double is a take-out double of the opening bid.
- N** 1♣ dbl rdbl 1♦  
 pass pass dbl This final double is penalties.