

Club News Sheet – No. 185 www.pattayabridge.com 20th May 2006

Mon 15 th	Pairs	1 st	Dinie & Terry	67%	2 nd	Dave Cutler & Emil	62%
Wed 17 th	Indiv	1 st	equal	Jan v Koss = Phil Lovell			59%
Fri 19 th	Indiv	1 st	Ivy Schlageter	60%	2 nd	Bill Noe	57%

Bidding Quiz

Standard American is assumed unless otherwise stated.

Hand A	Hand B	Do you open with Hand A?
♠ AK107	♠ KJ3	With Hand B partner opens 1♠,
♥ QJ1092	♥ J109	(a) What do you bid?
♦ 95	♦ A4	(b) Suppose you choose 2♣ and partner bids 2♥, what now?
♣ 103	♣ Q7654	(c) Suppose you choose 2♣ and partner bids 3♥, what now?
Hand C	Hand D	It's love all, 1 st seat. What do you open with Hand C?
♠ Q	♠ 82	
♥ AQJ10632	♥ AK3	With Hand D LHO opens 1♥ and this is passed round to you,
♦ 7	♦ AQ10	what do you bid?
♣ 8653	♣ AQJ64	
Hand E	Hand F	With Hand E you open 1♠, LHO overcalls 2♥ and this is passed round to you, what do you do?
♠ A9652	♠ AQ1062	(a) What do you open with Hand F?
♥ Q	♥ AQ6	(b) Suppose you choose 1♠ and partner responds 2♣, what now?
♦ A1087	♦ 72	
♣ A76	♣ A82	
Hand G	Hand H	With Hand G you open 1♣ and partner responds 1♦. RHO then comes in with 1♠, what do you do?
♠ -	♠ A4	
♥ AJ108	♥ A1065	With Hand H you open 1♦ and partner responds 1♠. RHO then
♦ Q95	♦ K642	comes in with 2♣, what do you do?
♣ A109654	♣ Q97	

Bidding Sequences Quiz

J	2♦	2NT	2♦ was multi (so usually a weak ♥ or ♠ hand). What is the 2NT overcall? Is 2NT forcing?
K	1♣	pass	1♦ 1♠
	dbl		what is dbl?
L	1♦	pass	1♠ 2♣
	2NT		how many points is 2NT?
M	1♦	pass	pass 2NT
			how many points is 2NT? Is it unusual?
There is no interference in the following sequences: -			
N	1♠ - 2♣ - 2♥ - 3♠		What is 3♠?
P	1♠ - 2♣ - 3♥ - 3♠		What is 3♠? Is it weakish (+-11 points) or stronger?
Q	1♠ - 2♣ - 3♥ - 4♠		What is 4♠? Is it weakish (+-11 points) or stronger?

It's not unusual

Board 20 from Monday 15th

What was your answer to bidding sequence M this week? There is no such thing as a pre-empt in the pass-out seat: -

Dealer: ♠ QJ63
West ♥ 64
Both vul ♦ J6432
♣ K8

West(A)	North	East	South(D)
1♥ (1)	pass	pass	2NT (2)
pass	3NT (3)	all pass	

♠ AK107	N	♠ 954
♥ QJ1092	W E	♥ 875
♦ 95	S	♦ K87
♣ 103		♣ 9752
	♠ 82	
	♥ AK3	
	♦ AQ10	
	♣ AQJ64	

- (1) Did you open this West hand A in this week's quiz? It's 19 (for the rule of 20) but that solid ♥ suit, 3 tens, and the great intermediates make it well worth an opener in my opinion.
- (2) What did you bid with this South hand D in this week's quiz? Double would be a poor bid with a doubleton ♠ and 1NT is a gross underbid. But fortunately 2NT in this position shows this hand exactly – it is not unusual in this seat by a non-passed hand.
- (3) 3♣, Stayman, would be a better bid here but N-S had not agreed that Stayman and transfers applied over 2NT.

And what happened? Every N-S pair reached 3NT, with results ranging from +3, +1, exact and -1(!).

The bottom lines: -

- 2NT in the balancing seat is not unusual by an unpassed hand.

7 ♥'s and 9 pts, so open 3♥ ?

Board 24 from Monday 15th

Dealer: ♠ AK63
West ♥ 94
Both vul ♦ K108432
♣ 10

Table A
West(C) North East South
3♥ (1) pass (2) pass pass

♠ Q N ♠ 10842
♥ AQJ10632 W E ♥ -
♦ 7 S ♦ AQ6
♣ 8653 ♣ AQJ974
♠ J975
♥ K875
♦ J95
♣ K2

Table B
West(C) North East South
3♥ dbl (2) pass 3♠
all pass

Table A: (1) What did you open with this West hand C in this week's quiz? Everybody chose 3♥ on Monday. Now a 4♥ opening normally promises 8 ♥'s, but with these great solid ♥'s and two singletons (and thus a 2nd 4 card suit) I think that it is well worth a 4♥ opener.

(2) This North hand is not really worth a bid.

Table B: (2) This North tried a rather light double as he was not vulnerable, and was relieved when the bidding died out at 3♠.

And what happened? 2♠ went two down but still scored a top as every other E-W were scoring 170 in 3♥ +1.

The bottom lines: -

- 1714 shape is worth a 4♥ opener if the ♥'s are fairly solid.
- Note the importance of intermediates making a solid trump suit. 4♥ is an easy make even opposite a void because of the solidity of the trump suit. Change the trump suit to something like ♥AQ108632 and even 3♥ may be in jeopardy.

Slow arrival?

Board 15 from Friday 19th

There are a couple of very instructive points on this deal, where two experienced players got way too high: -

Dealer:	♠ KJ3				
South	♥ J109	West	North(B)	East	South(F)
N-S vul	♦ A4	-	-	-	1♠ (1)
	♣ Q7654	pass	2♣ (2)	pass	3♥ (3)
		pass	3♠ (4)	pass	4NT (5)
♠ 87	N	pass	5♥ (6)	pass	5NT (7)
♥ K73	W E	pass	6♣ (8)	pass	6♠ (9)
♦ KJ106	S	all pass			
♣ KJ109					
	♠ AQ1062				
	♥ AQ6				
	♦ 72				
	♣ A82				

- (1) What did you open with this South hand F(a) in this week's quiz? A balanced hand with 16 points so 1NT is obviously an option. But this South (me!) did not like to open 1NT with a good 5 card major *and* a very weak doubleton and so opted for the 1♠ alternative.
- (2) What did you bid with this North hand B(a) in this week's quiz? The hand has values for a raise to 3♠ but that generally promises 4 card ♠ support. The way to show a limit raise with just 3 card support is to bid a minor first with the intention of bidding 3♠ over a minimum response from partner.
- (3) What did you bid with this South hand F(b) in this week's quiz? Here we see yet again the problem with not opening 1NT with a balanced 16 count – there is no good bid here. So South must 'invent' a forcing bid (the hand is too good for 2♠) and so he chose 3♥ in preference to bidding 3♦ which really would be a distortion. Note that playing 2/1 would be a lot easier here as any bid would be game forcing.
- (4) And what did you bid with this North hand B(c)? North's intention was to bid an invitational 3♠ next, but partner's game forcing 3♥ bid has changed that. The auction is now game forcing and so slow/fast arrival apply. With a minimum for his two level response North should jump to 4♠, fast arrival.
- (5) South took the 3♠ bid as encouraging. He could have cue bid as a prelude to Blackwood but with an unfamiliar partner chose to bid RKCB.
- (6) Two key cards.
- (7) With all the key cards present South investigates the grand with a king ask.
- (8) 0 or 3 kings in their methods (the trump king does not count)
- (9) South does not know if it's 0 or 3 and signs off. If partner indeed had the missing 3 kings he would correct to 7♠.

And what happened? West led a trump and the contract went one down.

The bottom lines: -

- With a limit (to 3) raise of partner's major, bid a minor and then 3 of his major,
- But if partner jumps then jump to game (fast arrival) to show the minimum for a two level response.
- Sometimes it is necessary to 'invent' a suit in order to make a forcing bid.
- Play 2/1? Then the above sentence is rarely true and you certainly do not need to jump.

The 'automatic' re-opening double

Board 12 from Friday 19th

E-W got way too high on this deal, what went wrong?

Dealer: ♠ K4
West ♥ AK9862
N-S vul ♦ Q53
♣ J8

♠ A9652 N ♠ QJ3
♥ Q W E ♥ J10754
♦ A1087 S ♦ KJ62
♣ A76 ♣ 10

♠ 1087
♥ 3
♦ 94
♣ KQ95432

Table A

West(E)	North	East	South
1♠	2♥	pass (1)	pass
3♦ (2)	pass	4NT (3)	pass
5♣ (4)	pass	6♠	all pass

Expert Table

West(E)	North	East	South
1♠	2♥	pass (1)	pass
dbl (2)	pass	pass (3)	3♣ (4)
pass (5)	pass	3♠ (6)	pass
4♠ (7)	all pass		

- Table A: (1) East wants to collect a vulnerable penalty, so playing negative doubles he passes and awaits partner's 'automatic' re-opening double.
(2) Unfortunately West forgot that he should double here.
(3) East took West's 3♦ bid as showing a huge unbalanced hand, so with a double fit he went off slamming.
(4) 0 or 3 key cards (for ♦'s).
- 'Expert'
Table (2) 'automatic'.
(3) thank you partner.
(4) But luckily for N-S they have somewhere to run.
(5) These ♣'s are not good enough to double (penalties).
(6) East's hand is probably not quite good enough for 4♠.
(7) But with 3 aces, good shape, known probable ♣ shortage opposite, and a 14 count West's shot at game is very reasonable.

And what happened? 6♠ went down. One N-S pair managed to land in 4♥ doubled going for 1100. The other E-W pair stopped in 3♠ making +1.

The bottom lines: -

- If you play negative doubles, don't forget about the 'automatic' re-opening double.

A negative double by opener?

Board 13 from Friday 19th

N-S missed a comfortable 4♥ on this deal, what went wrong?

Dealer:	♠ -				
North	♥ AJ108	West	North(G)	East	South
Both vul	♦ Q95	-	1♣	pass	1♦ (1)
	♣ A109654	1♠	2♣ (2)	pass	3NT (3)
		all pass			
♠ AQJ103	N	♠ 98752			
♥ 543	W E	♥ Q9			
♦ K103	S	♦ 764			
♣ K8		♣ J32			
	♠ K64				
	♥ K762				
	♦ AJ82				
	♣ Q7				

- (1) Most players will bid 'up the line' here and bid 1♦ in preference to 1♥.
- (2) What did you bid with this North hand G in this week's quiz? That depends upon your answer to bidding sequence K in this week's quiz. Double here is penalties (showing ♠'s) as 'standard' but to play it a similar to a negative double (thus showing 4♥'s) is obviously a very sensible treatment, but it would have to be agreed. With no such agreement North was a bit stuck and chose to rebid his ♣ suit.
- (3) Clearly the value bid, and if NT is correct then South probably wants to be declarer. A forcing 2♥ would be an alternative but perhaps South thought that North had denied a 4 card ♥ suit?

And what happened? 3NT went one down, 4♥ is cold.

The bottom lines: -

- You have to agree on sequence K. I think it's probably best to play it as similar to a negative double, showing 4♥'s.

2NT rebid opposite a 1 level response shows a big hand

Board 7 from Friday 19th

South	West	North	East	South(H)
♠ A4	-	-	-	1♦
♥ A1065	pass	1♠	2♣	2NT (1)
♦ K642	pass	3NT	all pass	
♣ Q97				

(1) What did you bid with this South hand H in this week’s quiz? Now you could play double here as similar to the previous deal, so sort of negative showing 4 ♥’s, but there is little point as partner has presumably denied ♥’s. So standard is that double is penalties. But what is 2NT here (sequence L)? Partner has only promised 6+ points and so 2NT must be a big hand, it most definitely is not 12-14. See table B for the correct bid.

And what happened? Partner happened to have 13 points and so 3NT was comfortable.

The bottom lines: -

- If you open, partner responds at the one level and RHO overcalls at the two level (so sequence L in this week’s sequence quiz); then 2NT by you shows a big hand. In principle it is 18-19 but you could shade this slightly with a very good holding in RHO’s suit. It most definitely is not 12-14.
- There are lots of green pass cards in the bidding boxes – that’s because pass is often the best bid.

A 2NT overcall over a weak two is 15-18

Board 4 from Monday 15th

Dealer:	♠ Q6	West	North	East	South
West	♥ QJ5	2♦ (1)	2NT (2)	pass	3NT (3)
Both vul	♦ AKJ9	♣ KJ104	all pass		
	♣ KJ104				
♠ K873	N	♠ 9542			
♥ A109432	W E	♥ K			
♦ 4	S	♦ Q7632			
♣ Q7		♣ A65			
	♠ AJ10				
	♥ 876				
	♦ 1085				
	♣ 9832				

- (1) This West decided that with his decent ♥ suit he would ignore the usual advice about pre-empting with an outside 4 card major and effectively opened 2♥ (they were playing the multi).
- (2) 2NT here is the same as a 1NT overcall over a 1-level opening, i.e. 15-18.
- (3) South (incorrectly) thought that North’s 2NT was forcing.

And what happened? 3NT went two down but scored an average.

The bottom lines: -

- 2NT over a two level weak bid (or a multi 2♦) is 15-18.

Bidding Quiz Answers

- Hand A: 1♥. The 10's and excellent intermediates and two major suits make this well worth an opener.
- Hand B: (a) 2♣. You have the values for 3♠ but it's best to have 4 trumps for the direct 3♠ bid. So bid 2♣ and then 3♠ next go.
(b) 3♠. Showing a raise to 3♠ (+- 11 points) with 3 card ♠ support.
(c) 4♠. Things are different after partner's game forcing 3♥ bid. You have shown 11 points with the two level response and in a game forcing auction you should jump to game to show a minimum (fast arrival). 3♠ would show a stronger hand looking for slam.
- Hand C: 4♥. The solid trumps and 2nd 4 card suit (so great shape) make this worth 4♥.
- Hand D: 2NT. This is not the UNT in the pass-out seat, but shows a 2NT opener.
- Hand E: Dbl 'Automatic' when playing negative doubles – and with a singleton ♥ you can be pretty sure that partner is lurking with a ♥ stack.
- Hand F: (a) 1♠ or 1NT. It depends upon your style. I don't like to open 1NT with a good 5 card major and a weak doubleton but you may have a rebid problem if you open 1♠.
(b) And here we are – no rebid! This is the problem with not opening 1NT with a balanced hand with 15-17 points. I actually held this hand and opened 1♠ and had this dilemma. Obviously you have to find a forcing bid and so 2♦, 2♥, 2♠, 2NT and 3♣ are out. 3NT is possible but I play that as 18-19. This is one of those situations where you have to 'invent' a suit. 3♦ is possible but I don't like it with a weak doubleton (and who knows, somebody may accuse me of psyching?) and so I chose 3♥, I think that this is best. It's usually not a good idea to 'lie' in a major but if partner does have 4 ♥'s and raised to 4♥ then I would have passed – a 4-3 Moysian fit should play well with the short trump hand being able to ruff a ♦.
- Hand G: Dbl – provided that you have agreed that this is similar to a negative double and shows 4 ♥'s. This is not standard but seems very sensible to me.
- Hand H: Pass. This shows a minimal (12-14) opener. You cannot bid 2NT as that would show a much bigger hand (partner has only promised 6 points).

Bidding Sequences Quiz Answers

- J** 2♦ 2NT 2♦ was multi (so usually a weak ♥ or ♠ hand). What is the 2NT overcall? Is 2NT forcing? Ans: 15-18. Not forcing.
- K** 1♣ pass 1♦ 1♠
dbl what is dbl? Ans: I think it's best to play this as showing 4 ♥'s.
- L** 1♦ pass 1♠ 2♣
2NT how many points is 2NT? Ans: 18-19. (could be a shade less).
- M** 1♦ pass pass 2NT how many points is 2NT? Ans: 20-22, it's not unusual in the pass-out seat by an unpassed hand.

There is no interference in the following sequences: -

- M** 1♠ - 2♣ - 2♥ - 3♠ What is 3♠? Ans: invitational, +- 11 points with 3 ♠'s.
- N** 1♠ - 2♣ - 3♥ - 3♠ What is 3♠? Ans: Strong with 3 ♠'s, slow arrival.
- P** 1♠ - 2♣ - 3♥ - 4♠ What is 4♠? Ans: +- 11 points with 3 ♠'s, fast arrival.