

Bulletin 9

Editor: David Gold david@bridge4money.com

News

The most major change this month is the new waiting room. It is now possible to select more than one stake to wait at so that as soon as there are 4 people available who can be matched to a particular stake then the game will start. This has reduced waiting times and also eliminated frustrating situations where there are say two people waiting at 25c and two people waiting at \$1 but no game.

In the last month we have had yet another good uptake of membership and we welcome you all to the club!

Everyone is trying hard at the bidding test. If you are having problems with it please email me and I will help. It's not a competition, it's designed to force you to read and understand the system.

I intend to expand the system more over the coming months as players are now sufficiently familiar with the existing system. Do not hesitate to email me with any queries.

Some Statistics

As of Tuesday September 4th at 17.15pm

Top 10 Winners

\$3084.62
\$617.84
\$435.00
\$328.66
\$272.87
\$178.27
\$144.14
\$133.46
\$113.10
\$105.46

Top 10 most boards played

8362
6249
5646
5200
4931
4750
4469
3892
3244
3028

Rating System (If you would like to know your rating, email david@bridge4money.com)

Reminder

- ★ = Bottom 1/3 of players
- ★★ = Middle 1/3 of players
- ★★★ = Top 1/3 of players
- ☆☆ = Played less than 50 boards

Tips

- 1). Please email me hands for the bulletins! It will make them more exciting for everyone.
- 2). Try and give partner the right signal when defending.

Hands From bridge4money.com

We are always looking for hands for our bulletins. If you have a hand that you would like to be written up, with or without your name mentioned please email it, possibly with some explanation to david@bridge4money.com

The following hand Occurred in the \$1 a hundred room

'Think Carefully At Trick One'

Dealer North: Vul all

	North	
	♠ K J T 5	
	♥ 4 3	
	♦ A J T	
	♣ A Q 6 3	
West		East
♠ A 9 7 4 2		♠ Q 6
♥ K T 9 7		♥ A J 8 6 5 2
♦ K		♦
♣ 9 8 4		♣ K J T 7 2
	South	
	♠ 8 3	
	♥ Q	
	♦ Q 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2	
	♣ 5	

North	East	South	West
1 notrump (a)	2 hearts (b)	5 diamonds (c)	5 hearts (d)
Double (e)	All pass		

a). 15-17

b). There is no two-suited defence to 1nt on bridge4money.com, a simple 2 hearts is fine.

c). South has very promising offence but very poor defence so immediately takes away a lot of bidding spades. With a successful spade guess 5 diamonds will make.

d). West has a good fit for partner and doesn't know who can make what so tries 5 hearts.

e). North does not have especially good defence to 5 hearts so might well have passed it round to south who might well have bid 6 diamonds as a two way shot.

South led the 5 of clubs and north won the Ace. At the table North decided to lay down the Ace of diamonds to see if south could signal what north should do next. Disaster! East ruffed, drew trumps and picked up the clubs via a finesse to land his doubled game.

North should have thought more deeply at trick one. Why has partner led an unbid suit? Surely a low doubleton lead in an unbid suit would not be attractive. In addition there is a very real possibility that the Ace of diamonds will not stand. A jump to 5 diamonds surely suggests a 7 card suit at least so an 8 card suit is not unlikely. I think North should have returned a club at trick two and defeated the contract by one trick for +200 to NS instead of +850 to EW-a swing of 1050 points!

'Send Partner The Right Signal'

Dealer North: Vul All

	North	
	♠ A Q 7 6 5	
	♥ T 2	
	♦ T 9 8	
	♣ 9 6 2	
West		East
	♠ 9	♠ K J T 3 2
	♥ Q 9 6	♥ K J 8 7 5
	♦ A Q	♦ K 5 4
	♣ A K Q T 8 4 3	♣
	South	
	♠ 8 4	
	♥ A 4 3	
	♦ J 7 6 3 2	
	♣ J 7 5	

North	East	South	West
Pass	1 spade	Pass	4 notrump (a)
Pass	5 clubs (b)	Pass	6 clubs (c)
All Pass			

- a). This seems slightly premature. Why not respond 2 clubs and see how the auction develops?
- b). Showing 1 (or 4) key cards assuming spades to be trumps.
- c). West hopes that one of east key cards is an Ace and not the King of spades.

West gambled in the bidding and left his partner declaring a slam which was not only missing 2 Aces but also required a favourable position in the trump suit (3-3 or Jack doubleton).

South led the Ace of hearts and North played...

What card should North play?

On an Ace lead particularly against a slam you should give attitude to the suit led. A high card (if you have a choice) would suggest a continuation and a low card would suggest a switch. In this case North was lucky enough to have a clear high card and a clear small card so it looks easy to drop the two of hearts and surely south with that dummy on view will try switching to a spade which defeats the contract. However, north played the Ten of hearts and south continued hearts so the contract made with a hundred honours for a score of 1470 to EW instead of a net score of Zero (1 off +honours) a swing of \$15!

North's Ten of hearts was a mistake. I think north intended the Ten of hearts as suit preference for spades but this is simply not a suit preference situation.

On an Ace lead give attitude in that suit. It is possible to give suit preference if for example, a singleton goes down in dummy and you are defending a suit contract because it is unlikely that you would ever want to insist on a continuation.