

Bulletin 11

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News

Firstly on behalf of myself and the team at bridge4money.com I'd like to wish you a happy new year!

We now have 219 regular players and the site has never been busier. The best time to play is between about 7pm and 1am GMT but there are usually games in the afternoon from about 1pm onwards.

The new waiting room indicator has proved to be a success and we have also improved the lobby so that you can select more than one stake to wait for rather than having to guess which game to play in.

The \$5 game has started to become very popular but as yet there are rarely games before 7pm.

I am pleased to see that in general the standard throughout the site is very high. To continue improving the site we need to know what YOU want so in the last few months we have conducted a few surveys. We will hold tournaments and introduce new stakes as time goes on. We always appreciate any feedback or ideas too.

Regarding bidding hats, the programming has proved more difficult than we first thought so they have been delayed but they are on their way.

Some Statistics (As of Wednesday January 16th at 12.20pm)

Top 10 winners	Top 10 most boards played
2,694.91	13,081
1,998.71	12,024
1,017.97	8,412
798.73	8,189
652.8	7,624
489.38	6,926
286.79	6,576
234.68	5,673
201.86	5,584
180.45	5,458

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). However weak your hand may be, remember you are still involved and may have a crucial role in the hand. (See the second hand in this bulletin).
- 2). Tread carefully if your partner is 1 star rated. (See the last hand in this bulletin).

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

`Perfect Par`

Dealer South: All Vul

<p style="text-align: center;">North</p> <p>♠ VOID</p> <p>♥ Q J T 7 6 5 2</p> <p>♦ J 9 7</p> <p>♣ J T 8</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">East</p> <p>♠ A K J T 9 8 6 4</p> <p>♥ VOID</p> <p>♦ 4</p> <p>♣ A K 6 4</p>
<p>West</p> <p>♠ 3 2</p> <p>♥</p> <p>♦ A K 8 6 5 3</p> <p>♣ Q 7 5 3 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">South</p> <p>♠ Q 7 5</p> <p>♥ A K 9 8 4 3</p> <p>♦ Q T 2</p> <p>♣ 9</p>

South	West	North	East
1 heart	2 diamonds (a)	4 hearts (b)	6 spades (c)
pass	pass	7 hearts (d)	Pass (e)
pass	Double (f)	All pass	

- a). An alternative would be to overcall to 2nt (unusual) to show at least 5-5 in the minors.
- b). Hoping to shut out the spades...
- c). Bidding what he thinks he can make!
- d). North judges correctly to save with no defence and lots of offence.
- e). As north/south are obviously saving this is a forcing pass inviting partner to bid 7 spades.
- f). Judging that it is too risky to bid 7 spades, west takes the money.

When the smoke had cleared 7 hearts doubled was 3 off for 800 to east-west. This result was a very exciting 'par' on the deal.

'Be Involved No Matter How weak Your Hand Is'

Dealer East: Vul NS

Anyway at the table the contract was a very poor seven diamonds. The contract looks laydown with the Queen of spades dropping doubleton but west missed a chance to give declarer a chance to go wrong. Early in the play when north lays down the king of spades, west must play the 9 or the Ten. Now south has the option of ruffing a heart to dummy and playing the Jack of spades to 'pin' a potential 109 doubleton offside. Result NS 7 spades= +2220!

'Largest Penalty Of The New Year'

Dealer West: Vul NS

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

West	North	East	South
2 hearts (a)	Double (b)	4 hearts (c)	4 spades (d)
pass	pass	Double (e)	pass
pass	Redouble (f)	All pass	

- a). 'Weak Two'.
- b). Perfect shape for a takeout double.
- c). Expecting to have a good play for it but also hoping to push the opponents into an indiscretion.
- d). Insane.
- e). Pleasure to do business with you!

f). Understandable but on a site where partner your partner is unknown I would recommend a more prudent pass.

The play was pretty horrible but suffice it to say that declarer played it as badly as he bid it and went six off for a penalty of 3400 to East-West!

Thanks to those of you who sent me hands.

Good Luck!

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