

#33 - Hand of the Week – May 19, 2018
What to do when your opponent is aggressive.

You and partner are playing East/West.
 Dealer West. All Vulnerable

Dir: West Vul: All		♠ J 8 6 5 4 3					
		♥ Q J 6					
		♦ A 3					
		♣ 3 2					
♠ A	♥ A 4	North	♠ K 10 9 7 2				
♦ K 10 7 6 5 4	♣ A 10 7 6	West	♥ K 9				
		4	♦ J				
		South	♣ K J 8 5 4				
<table border="1"> <tr><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td></tr> </table>		8	15	11	6	♠ Q	
8							
15	11						
6							
		♥ 10 8 7 5 3 2					
		♦ Q 9 8 2					
		♣ Q 9					

Try bidding the hands before checking the bidding below.
 Your partner is West and opens the bidding. You are East.
 North overcalls 2♠.

See next page for bidding analysis, actual results with real players, the computer-generated prediction and thoughts on what you can learn from this game.

Bidding: What happened with me and my partner. I was East.

W	1♦	Showing 3+ diamonds and 12-21 pts; no 5-card major.
N	2♠	Pre-emptive, weak bid showing 8+ pts and 6 spades.
E	3♣	Overcall showing 5+ clubs and competing pts.
S	Pass	Difficult to bid anything at the 3 level; no support for partner's bid.
W	Pass	Should bid; a change of suit in first round is forcing.
N	Pass	

Computer-Generated Prediction and Actual Results:

The best score for E/W was either 3NT or 5♣. No one bid the slam in 6♣.

What is unknown is this: Did North overcall 2♠ at all tables? Probably not. North's spade suit is weak and everyone is vulnerable. It takes a very aggressive North player to bid that.

A final contract of 6♣ should make and 3NT should make two overtricks.

What is there to learn from this game?

A pre-emptive overcall of 2♠ can be an effective offensive move. We are advised to pre-empt when we have 2 of the top 3 in a 6+-card suit or 3 of the top 5. North, in this case, was a Gold Life Master player and very aggressive, possibly sensing a weakness in his opponents.

A double by East might have been a better bid than 3♣. West would be forced to bid again and would probably rebid the diamonds. East could bid 3NT in that case.

The pre-empt likely put E/W off from assessing game or bidding a slam as their bidding room was used up.

E/W should have an agreement that a change of suit in first round is always forcing and consideration should be given to the weak overcall by North and a strong suit shown by East. Also, once East overcalls 3♣, West should consider dummy pts (add 2-3 for singleton and 1 for doubleton) which gives his hand more strength. West also has the ♠Ace which will stop the first lead which is likely to be a spade.

Dir: West
Vul: All

♠ J 8 6 5 4 3
♥ Q J 6
♦ A 3
♣ 3 2

♠ A
♥ A 4
♦ K 10 7 6 5 4
♣ A 10 7 6

W	North	E
e	4	a
s	t	s
t	South	t

♠ K 10 9 7 2
♥ K 9
♦ J
♣ K J 8 5 4

8	
15	11
6	

♠ Q
♥ 10 8 7 5 3 2
♦ Q 9 8 2
♣ Q 9

N	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-
E	6	4	-	4 5
W	6	4	-	4 5

Board No 4 Both Vul Dealer West								
Pairs		Contract			Scores		Points	
N/S	E/W	Bid	By	Tks	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W
1	7	3♣	E	6	170	4	1	
2	9	3NT	W	4	630	0	5	
4	12	3♣	E	6	170	4	1	
5	8	3NT	E	3	600	1½	3½	
6	10	4♣	W	6	170	4	1	
13	11	5♣	E	5	600	1½	3½	

Hand of the Week

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