

#42 - Hand of the Week – Posted July 21, 2018

Opponent's bidding should not prevent you from reaching game when you know you have enough points.

Dealer North. None Vulnerable

Try bidding the hands before checking the bidding below.

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

Dlr: North Vul: None		♠ J 7 ♥ Q 10 8 4 ♦ 10 4 ♣ 10 9 5 3 2									
♠ K Q 5 ♥ A 7 2 ♦ 9 8 3 ♣ A Q 7 6	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>North</td> <td>East</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>South</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	West	North	East		1			South		♠ 3 2 ♥ K 9 6 5 ♦ A K J 6 ♣ J 8 4
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	3										
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Bidding:

N	Pass	
E	1♦	Showing 3+ diamonds, no 5-card major, 12 to 21 pts
S	2♠	Pre-emptive bid showing 6 spades, fewer than 12 pts. South might also bid 1♠, an overcall showing 8-16 pts and 5 or more spades
W	3NT	West has 15 pts, stoppers in spades and enough pts for game.
		All pass.

Computer-Generated Prediction and Actual Results:

The best score for E/W was 3NT making 4. The computer shows that 5NT should be makeable. Yes, if we were living in the perfect world, perhaps. The only pair who made 5NT stopped at 1NT! Still, not such a bad board for them, the third highest.

What is there to learn from this game?

West should bid to game. West has stoppers in spades if South bid spades, which we must assume happened. Five West players bid 3NT. One bid 1NT which would show 6-9 pts. East should not be in 4♥ or 2♦. West should not be in 3♣.

Who doubled South's 1♠? Probably West, and then East passed. That was not a good thing to do, either way by either one. West should not double, and if he did, East should not pass! That did not work out well for E/W giving N/S the highest score.

East/West have 27 HCP together and can make game in 5♦ also. Usually, we would like to have 29 pts for game in a minor.

We were #1 East/West. I cannot remember if South bid 1♠ or 2♠? If so, North's lead should have been the ♠Jack. If N/S were competitive, South should not have passed and North should be leading his partner's suit. That's the way most partnerships work.

In our game, the ♥4 was led. the ♥5 was played from dummy's hand (East), the ♥Jack from South and the ♥Ace from West (Declarer). 1 winner.

West plays ♦9 towards ♦AKJ – the ♦10 was played from North, ♦Jack from dummy, taken with the ♦Queen from South. Now there are 3 diamond winners although West might not know it just yet.

If West plays a small club towards the ♣Ace/♣Queen, the ♣King must be played from South and that gives 3 club winners.

Altogether: 2 heart winners, 3 diamond winners, 3 club winners, 1 spade winner (maybe 2) and one more perhaps.

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♠	♥	♦	♣	N																												
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E	3	5	3	2	5																											
W	3	5	3	2	5																											
Board No 1 None Vul Dealer North																																
Pairs		Contract			Scores		Points																									
N/S	E/W	Bid	By	Tks	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W																								
1	1	3NT	W	3		400	1.14	9.86																								
3	5	4♥	E	-2	100		8.77	2.23																								
4	7	3NT	W	4		430	0.05	10.95																								
5	9	3NT	W	-2	100		8.77	2.23																								
6	11	1♠*	S	1	160		10.95	0.05																								
8	2	1NT	W	5		210	2.23	8.77																								
9	4	3NT	W	-1	50		6.05	4.95																								
10	6	2♦	E	3		110	3.32	7.68																								
11	8	3NT	W	-2	100		8.77	2.23																								
12	10	3♣	W	-1	50		6.05	4.95																								
13	12	2♠	S	-2	100		4.41	6.59																								