

#50 - Hand of the Week – Posted September 15, 2018

Compete more aggressively when not vulnerable.

Dealer West. None Vulnerable

Try bidding the hands before checking the bidding example below.

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

Dir: West Vul: None		♠ A 7 ♥ Q 10 8 7 6 3 2 ♦ Q 2 ♣ 5 2									
♠ 5 ♥ J 5 ♦ A K 9 5 4 3 ♣ J 10 8 6	<table border="1"> <tr><td>North</td><td></td><td>East</td></tr> <tr><td>West</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td>South</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	North		East	West	8	South				♠ K 3 2 ♥ 9 ♦ 10 8 7 6 ♣ A K Q 9 7
North		East									
West	8	South									
<table border="1"> <tr><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td></tr> </table>	8	9	12	11	♠ Q J 10 9 8 6 4 ♥ A K 4 ♦ J ♣ 4 3						
8											
9	12										
11											

Bidding Example:

W	2♦	Weak opening bid showing 6 diamonds and fewer than 12 pts.
N	3♥	Overcall, showing 7 hearts and a weak hand (fewer than 12 pts). Some might bid 2♥ which would change the bidding from this point on. If bidding is low enough, South could consider a spade bid. Otherwise, South should realize that a fit has been found in hearts.
E	4♦	Good support for partner and shortness in opponent's suit; even though West is weak, they have at least 10 diamonds together, using the "Law of Total Tricks."
S	4♥	Support for hearts, shortness in opponent's suit, should compete further.
W	Pass or 5♦	

Computer-Generated Prediction:

N/S can make 3♥ or 2♠.

E/W can make 5♦; not as likely to get into clubs even though 5♣ can make.

Actual Results:

From an East/West perspective, 5♦ was their best bid, making 5, bonus if it was doubled. Only 2 pairs out of 12 bid it. One went too high (6♦) and that was not a good idea, especially when it can be doubled. Better to leave the opponents in 5♥ and hope they cannot make it.

What is there to learn from this game?

Allowing N/S to take the contract was not beneficial to E/W. The opening bid of 2♦ was a good pre-emptive bid. From the results, it is not possible to tell if any West player passed to start.

Total points are not always a good indicator of how many tricks can be taken. E/W have only 21 HCP total, yet they can make 5♦. East should be considering 15+ pts with a 10-card fit in diamonds and a singleton in opponent's suit.

Allowing N/S to sit at a contract at the 3 level or lower gave E/W a low score.

When not vulnerable, it is beneficial to compete aggressively when a fit in a suit has been found, especially when short in opponent's suit.

Dir: West
Vul: None

♠ A 7

♥ Q 10 8 7 6 3 2

♦ Q 2

♣ 5 2

North		
West	8	East
South		

♠ K 3 2

♥ 9

♦ 10 8 7 6

♣ A K Q 9 7

8	
9	12
11	

♠ Q J 10 9 8 6 4

♥ A K 4

♦ J

♣ 4 3

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	-	-	3	2	-
S	-	-	3	2	-
E	5	5	-	-	-
W	5	5	-	-	-

Board No 8 None Vul Dealer West								
Pairs		Contract			Scores		Points	
N/S	E/W	Bid	By	Tks	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W
1	11	5♦*	W	5	550	0	11	
2	13	4♥*	N	-1	100	5	6	
3	2	5♦	W	5	400	1	10	
4	4	4♣	S	-1	50	8½	2½	
6	8	4♥	N	-1	50	8½	2½	
7	10	4♥	N	-2	100	5	6	
8	12	5♥	N	-3	150	2	9	
9	1	5♣	S	-2	100	5	6	
10	3	4♣	S	-2	100	5	6	
11	5	6♦*	W	-1	100		10	1
12	7	5♥	N	-2	100	5	6	
13	9	3♣	S	3	140		11	0