

31. Dealer : S
Vul : N/S

♠ K			
♥ A 7 3			
♦ Q J 9 4			
♣ 10 9 8 7 5			

♠ A Q J 8 4 3 2	N	♠ 10 6 5
♥ 4	W	♥ K J 10 9 5 2
♦ A K 6 5	E	♦ -
♣ 6	S	♣ A Q J 4

♥ 9 7			
♦ Q 8 6			10
♣ 10 8 7 3 2			14 11
♠ K 3 2			5

W	N	E	S
1♠	pass	2♥	pass
3♦	pass	4♠	pass
4NT	pass	5♣	pass
5♠	end		

Bidding :

3♦ shows a GF strength hand, and East can show a minimum 2♥ bid by jumping to 4♠ (fast arrival - the diamond bid has not really improved East's hand). West might carry on anyway, and East shows one keycard, after which West signs off.

Play :

A club lead looks normal from North, and declarer has 2 losing diamonds to take care of, and a heart to think about.

The 10 would be an unusual lead from the King, so declarer wins the Ace, and plays the Queen, taking a ruffing finesse. South covers (not wanting the King to be ruffed out on the third round), and declarer ruffs, ruffs a diamond, cashes the Jack (discarding a heart), ruffs a heart, ruffs a diamond, and takes a spade finesse. This loses, but plus one should still be a good score.

	N	S	E	W
NT			5	5
♠			6	6
♥			4	4
♦			1	1
♣			1	1
opt	EW		65	-980

32. Dealer : W
Vul : E/W

♠ K Q 7 4 2			
♥ -			
♦ Q 7 3			
♣ 9 8 7 5 2			

♠ A J 8 5	N	♠ 10 6
♥ J 8 7 4	W	♥ 10 6 5 2
♦ 8 5 4	E	♦ A K J
♣ A 6	S	♣ J 10 4

♠ 9 3			
♥ A K Q 9 3			7
♦ 9 6 2			10 9
♣ K Q 3			14

W	N	E	S
pass	pass	pass	1NT
pass	2♥	pass	2♠
end			

Bidding :

East might have considered protecting over 2♠, but the hand is quite flat, they're vulnerable, and West had plenty of chances to bid earlier if they had an interesting hand.

Play :

A passive diamond leads to the defence cashing the first 3 diamond tricks, and then a club switch. The natural thing is the Jack of clubs, but this has the downside of making it easy for declarer when the defence covers the King and plays one back.

Declarer needs to draw trumps, but isn't easy - a spade to the King and another spade is reasonable, but we'll get employed into leading away from dummy again into West's AJ, for 2 of.

	N	S	E	W
NT			1	1
♠				1
♥			1	1
♦			1	2
♣	1	1		
opt	W 1D / EW 1NT			:-90

John Gerrard Simultaneous Pairs

2019

1. Dealer : N
Vul : None

♠ 10 8 3 2			
♥ A 6 2			
♦ J 9 2			
♣ K J 5			

♠ 9 6	N	♠ A K 5 4
♥ Q 5 4	W	♥ J 7 3
♦ 8 6	E	♦ K 10 7 4 3
♣ Q 10 8 4 3 2	S	♣ A

♠ Q J 7			
♥ K 10 9 8			9
♦ A Q 5			4 15
♣ 9 7 6			12

W	N	E	S
pass	pass	1♦	pass
2♣	1♠	pass	1NT
	pass	pass	2♠

Bidding : 1♦ gets passed round to North, who has no clear action, but with all NV has to choose something. 1♠ probably stands the best chance of finding a fit. With 4333 and a double diamond stop, 1NT looks like a good bid from South, but does give West room to venture their club suit, which is likely to get NS back into spades.

Play :

East doesn't have any great leads, but cashing the stiff Ace of clubs looks reasonable, as it might be an unblock, might get a ruff, and we can have a look at the dummy before picking a red suit to switch to. Partner encourages, and we have to choose a switch.

A diamond is dangerous if partner doesn't have the Jack, and a heart is dangerous if partner has the Queen! With that in mind, we might decide just to try to get off lead, by cashing two spades and then another.

Declarer has 2 spade tricks, 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and 2 clubs (with the finesse) for just making. EW did well not to give an over, and to keep them out of 1NT.

	N	S	E	W
NT	2	2		
♠	2	2		
♥				
♦			1	1
♣				
opt	NS		2N : 120	

2. Dealer : E
Vul : N/S

♠ 6 4 3 2			
♥ A 10 2			
♦ K 7			
♣ A 10 8 6			

♠ K 8 7	N	♠ A Q 10 5
♥ K 8	W	♥ Q 9 5 4 3
♦ A Q 10 8	E	♦ 2
♣ K Q 7 3	S	♣ 9 5 2

♠ J 9			
♥ J 7 6			11
♦ J 9 6 5 4 3			17 8
♣ J 4			4

W	N	E	S
1♠	pass	1♥	pass
1NT	pass	2♣*	pass
2♦*	pass	2NT	pass
3NT	end		

Bidding : The exact auction will vary a lot with bidding methods - the above auction is an example of when 1NT is 15-17, and 2♣ is checkback. Whatever your methods, East should be able to check for a 5-3 or 4-4 major fit, discover partner has about 17 points, and get to game.

Play : Particularly if West has opened clubs, as North 1♦ is included to lead a spade, through dummy's probable 4 card suit. This doesn't have much effect on this hand, but it's safe. Declarer wants to start playing on hearts, and entries are a little awkward. We'd like to play a heart to hand, but instead, we'll just have to play the King out of our own hand. North wins this, and plays another spade. Declarer can duck a heart (we always have a loser, so better to duck and keep control), and South return the Jack of clubs - partner has led a passive spade, and appears to have long clubs, so they probably want clubs through declarer. North wins, exits a spade (we can't touch clubs!), and declarer should end up with 9 tricks.

	N	S	E	W
NT			3	3
♠			3	3
♥			3	3
♦			1	1
♣			3	3
opt	EW		3NT :-	400

3.	♠ QJ983 ♥ J105 ♦ K1073 ♣ 8	Dealer : S Vul : E/W	♠ K102 ♥ 743 ♦ AQJ42 ♣ 103
	♠ A75 ♥ AKQ2 ♦ 96 ♣ A976	N W E S	♠ KJ8763 ♥ 8 ♦ KQ7654 ♣ QT ♥ AK9532 ♦ Q972 ♣ 2
	♠ 64 ♥ 986 ♦ 85 ♣ KQJ542	7 17 10 6	

W	N	E	S
3NT	end		3♣

Bidding : Anyone else for 3♣?

At favourable, in first seat, and with a good quality suit, I'm a fan of 3♣, despite only having a 6 card suit. If you do get this opening, West just has to bid 3NT and how partner has some values - without the 3♣ opening, EW should have a fairly straightforward auction to 3NT.

Play :

Queen of spades or a club? North doesn't have a great hand, and are unlikely to find partner with Ace or King, and run the risk of setting up a trick for partner, so I'd just lead a club. QJ10 of spades, and I'd lead a spade instead.

The club goes to the Jack and Ace (no point ducking - we can rule out South having a 5 card suit...). We can't achieve much in spades, and hearts are either 4 tricks or they're not. So, we finesse in diamonds once, come back to hand with a heart, and finesse again, then cash Ace and another diamond.

Had we bravely cashed our hearts first, North would now be employed in spades, however in practice they can exit a heart and come to a spade trick. Anybody leading a spade will guarantee the 12 tricks.

	N	S	E	W
NT			6	6
♠			5	5
♥			6	6
♦			6	6
♣			4	4
opt	EW		6NT :-	1440

4.	♠ A92 ♥ J ♦ 1086543 ♣ A83	Dealer : W Vul : All	♠ 54 ♥ Q10764 ♦ AKJ ♣ J109
	♠ KJ8763 ♥ 8 ♦ KQ7654 ♣ QT ♥ AK9532 ♦ Q972 ♣ 2	♠ K92 ♥ AKJ9862 ♦ K98 ♣ - ♥ 654 ♥ 10 ♦ QJ75 ♠ A10732	9 11 9 11

W	N	E	S
pass	pass	1♠	2♥
pass	pass	3♣	pass
3NT	pass	4♠	end

Bidding : I think West could actually afford to open 1NT here, with a 5 card suits and lots of 10s and 9s. If West chooses not to, they'll pass South's 2♥ bid in the hope of passing a reopening double from partner, but with a very distributional hand and no defence, East bids a second suit instead.

Play :

AK is almost always the correct lead, so we lead that, discover the position, and think. It looks likely that declarer will take losing spade finesses into us anyway, whereas they might not if we get a club ruff. So we switch to a diamond, possibly disrupting some communication.

Declarer wins, probably takes a losing spade finesse, and now we switch to the 2 of clubs. At this point North should know declarer is 6-6 and gives South a club ruff. We can then play King of hearts to keep declarer off the dummy - they might not know whether to play a spade from hand and hope the remaining trumps are 1-1, or play for the actual layout, by crossing to dummy with the 3rd club and playing through North's A9.

	N	S	E	W
NT			2	2
♥			2	2
♠	1	1		
♦	3	3		
♣			4	4
opt	EW		4C :-	130

29.	♠ 108 ♥ 54 ♦ 106432 ♣ J985	Dealer : N Vul : All	♠ AQJ73 ♥ Q73 ♦ A ♣ KQ64
	♠ K92 ♥ AKJ9862 ♦ K98 ♣ - ♥ 654 ♥ 10 ♦ QJ75 ♠ A10732	♠ K92 ♥ AKJ9862 ♦ K98 ♣ - ♥ 654 ♥ 10 ♦ QJ75 ♠ A10732	1 18 14 7

W	N	E	S
1♠	pass	1♥	pass
4NT	pass	3♥	pass
6♣	pass	5NT	pass
7♥	end	6♥	pass

Bidding : 6+ of your own suit and 3 of partner's is always an uncomfortable hand to bid. East is worth a jump to 3♥, and this works out fine as partner has 3 card support anyway. 4NT is RKCB, 5NT shows '2 and a useful void' (i.e. not partner's suit.) 6♣ asks what the void was, 6♥ says 'I don't have room to bid it - i.e. clubs', and now West needs to know if partner has the King of spades.

AKJ hearts, KQJ diamonds is still only 14 points, and so in theory East must have the King of spades, as otherwise there aren't 16 points for their jump to 3♥.

Astute readers will note that West *does* only have 14 points - of course, having the King of partner's suit was one of this things that made it worth a 3♥ bid in the first place, so West is still OK to use this kind of point-counting logic.

Play : Declarer claims 13 tricks.

(NB - South should ask about the bidding, and if they've confidently shown a club void, trust the opponents and not lead the Ace of clubs!)

	N	S	E	W
NT			6	6
♠			7	7
♥			7	7
♦			2	2
♣			2	2
opt	EW		7H/S :-	2210

30.	♠ Q1052 ♥ Q84 ♦ J8542 ♣ 5	Dealer : E Vul : None	♠ 9743 ♥ J10932 ♦ 3 ♣ 876
	♠ KJ8 ♥ K76 ♦ K9 ♣ KJ432	N W E S	♠ 9743 ♥ J10932 ♦ 3 ♣ 876 ♠ A6 ♥ A5 ♦ AQ1076 ♣ AQ109
			5 14 1 20

W	N	E	S
pass	3♣	pass	2NT
pass	3NT	pass	3♦

Bidding :

Opening 2NT on these sorts of hands is quite practical. North employs some form of Stayman to check for a spade fit, doesn't find one, and settles in 3NT.

Play :

West knows partner has no points, and so the name of the game is finding the most passive lead. Kxx heart is the most likely to not give away a trick - in theory, declarer has length in the suit (we're short) and we'll have time to get it back. As it happens, declarer is short in hearts, but we're setting up partner's suit!

If declarer tries the Queen of hearts at trick 1, which holds (East showing count), declarer takes an unsuccessful diamond finesse, and West can now unblock the King of hearts (trusting partner's odd count signal to show 5, knowing from the bidding that declarer can't have 4.)

If declarer plays low however, if West unblocks the King after winning the King of diamonds, declarer has the Queen as a stop. If West plays low, declarer wins the Queen and the King blocks the suit, and West will be employed into giving declarer tricks in the black suits.

	N	S	E	W
NT	3	4		
♠	3	3		
♥	1	1		
♦	5	5		
♣	1	2		
opt	S		3N : 430	

27.	♠ Q 10 3 ♥ K 6 4 ♦ K Q 6 2 ♣ 9 8 3	Dealer : S Vul : None	♠ K 8 4 ♥ A J 9 5 2 ♦ 8 7 4 ♣ A 4
	♠ A J 9 7 ♥ 7 3 ♦ J 10 5 ♣ K 10 7 2	N W E S	♠ K 8 4 ♥ A J 9 5 2 ♦ 8 7 4 ♣ A 4
	♠ 6 5 2 ♥ Q 10 8 ♦ A 9 3 ♣ Q J 6 5		10 9 12 9

W	N	E	S
pass	pass	1NT	pass end

Bidding : The bidding is straightforward, with nobody having enough distribution to consider doing something exciting. (Although I imagine some North's might try a 1♦ opening in 3rd seat, which might lead to 1NT by South.)

Play :

A club lead gives declarer an interesting choice at trick 1. The 10 works when South has under-led Qjxx, the 7 when they've led from H98x (or when North misdefends and plays their honour from H9x, or H8x).

Leading from Qxxx or Jxxx isn't very appealing, (less so than Qjxx) and so declarer plays South to have Qjxx, and tries the 10. This holds, and declarer can start on the heart suit by running the 7 - really we're just ducking a trick, but occasionally it picks up a miracle position. This loses to the 8 (typical), and South could persist with a club (knowing declarer to have stiff Ace, from partner's count signal at trick 1.) Now Ace of hearts and a heart, another club from North, and declarer has 8 tricks - 3 hearts, 2 spades and 3 clubs.

A passive spade lead works better - declarer can't untangle their entries to get to all of their tricks.

	N	S	E	W
NT				
♠			2	2
♥			1	1
♦				
♣			1	1
opt	EW		2S :-110	

28.	♠ A 7 6 3 ♥ 7 ♦ K 8 5 4 3 ♣ Q 4 3	Dealer : W Vul : N/S	♠ K Q 10 8 4 ♥ K J 3 ♦ 9 2 ♣ 10 8 7
	♠ 9 2 ♥ 8 6 5 ♦ A Q 7 6 ♣ A K 5 2	N W E S	♠ K Q 10 8 4 ♥ K J 3 ♦ 9 2 ♣ 10 8 7
	♠ J 5 ♥ A Q 10 9 4 2 ♦ J 10 ♣ J 9 6		9 13 9 9

W	N	E	S
1NT pass	pass pass	2♥ 2♠	dbl end

Bidding : South might double the transfer to show hearts (although it is often more useful to play it as showing a strong hand that would have doubled 1NT), and West can start by passing to show no spade fit. East could redouble as a retransfer, but they don't want a heart lead through the KJx, so they bid 2♠ themselves.

Play : South leads the Jack of diamonds. It's highly unlikely to be from KJx, so declarer takes the Ace and plays a trump. Suspecting partner's lead to be a doubleton (North has 5), North can rise with the Ace, and play a heart through. South can now cash 2 hearts, provide partner a ruff, after which North cashes King of diamonds and plays a diamond.

It isn't a fun guess for declarer - ruffing low might lose a trick to the Jack, ruffing high can mean not being able to pick up North's Jack. The only good news is that the Queen of diamonds has been set up to pitch the 3rd club on.

The defence have actually given declarer a chance to get it right and make the contract - better is just to defend passively and not set up the Queen of diamonds.

	N	S	E	W
NT			1	1
♠			1	1
♥	2	2		
♦	1	1		
♣				1
opt	EW		2SX/2NTX : 100	

5.	♠ 8 2 ♥ K 4 ♦ K Q J 9 5 ♣ Q 8 7 3	Dealer : N Vul : N/S	♠ A 10 3 ♥ Q 6 ♦ 7 6 ♣ K J 9 6 5 4
	♠ Q 7 6 5 ♥ A 9 7 5 3 2 ♦ A 8 2 ♣ -	N W E S	♠ A 10 3 ♥ Q 6 ♦ 7 6 ♣ K J 9 6 5 4
	♠ K J 9 4 ♥ J 10 8 ♦ 10 4 3 ♠ A 10 2		11 10 10 9

W	N	E	S
end	1♦	2♣	2NT

Bidding : North opens on the rule of 20 (and to get a lead directing bid in), and with 6 clubs East can manage an overcall. South is a little stuck for a bid - pass seems feeble, 2♠ would show 5, we'd like to be stronger for 2NT... We might try 2NT, and that's where we'd play.

Play :

A small heart lead, and South's in trouble. We're likely to get the heart wrong, so East wins the Queen, returns one to the Ace, and West clears the hearts with a high one, to indicate an entry in a high suit (i.e. spades). South plays on diamonds - if an impatient West takes this immediately, they will get 5 hearts, a diamond and a spade, but that's it - declarer now has 4 diamonds, a heart, a club, and a spade. If they duck twice, they can cut declarer off from dummy's diamonds, and declarer will lose at least another trick in the black suits.

	N	S	E	W
NT	1			
♠			2	2
♥			2	2
♦	2	2		
♣	1	1		
opt	EW		2H/S :- 110	

6.	♠ A 10 7 ♥ - ♦ K 10 8 7 ♣ A K 8 5 4 2	Dealer : E Vul : E/W	♠ 4 3 ♥ A K 8 4 3 ♦ Q 6 2 ♣ Q J 10
	♠ K Q 9 8 2 ♥ J 10 7 6 ♦ J 4 ♣ 7 6	N W E S	♠ 4 3 ♥ A K 8 4 3 ♦ Q 6 2 ♣ Q J 10
	♠ J 6 5 ♥ Q 9 5 2 ♦ A 9 5 3 ♣ 9 3		14 7 12 7

W	N	E	S
2♠ pass	dbl dbl	1NT 2♥ end	pass pass

Bidding :

With a weak hand 5-4 in the majors, West should bid Stayman rather than just taking out to spades, to look for a heart fit. If partner responds 2♥, you now bid 2♠ over this to show this hand. North starts with a double of Stayman showing clubs, then makes a takeout double of hearts. With nowhere to go and 4 reasonable trumps, South passes and hopes for 200.

Play :

A club lead from South looks normal (it's partner's suit), and the defence should come to 2 clubs, a spade, 2 diamonds and a trump. The only danger I can see of the defence getting this wrong is if North tries to provide a club ruff and South ruffs high - this lets dummy pitch a diamond.

North probably shouldn't be trying to provide a club ruff with that trump holding in dummy, but if they do, then South must ruff small to prevent the diamond going away.

	N	S	E	W
NT	2	2		
♠	1	1		
♥			1	1
♦	5	5		
♣	4	4		
opt	NS		5D : 400	

7.	♠ 10 8 3 2 ♥ 10 2 ♦ A K 8 6 4 2 ♣ K	Dealer : S Vul : All	
	♠ Q 9 7 ♥ 9 8 7 4 ♦ 7 ♣ A Q 10 7 2	N W E S	♠ A K 5 ♥ A Q 6 5 ♦ A Q 10 5 ♣ 9 6 4
	♥ J 6 4 ♥ K J 3 ♦ J 9 3 ♣ J 8 5 3		10 8 15 7

W	N	E	S
pass	1♦	1NT	pass
2♣	pass	2♥	pass
4♥	end		

Bidding : If North has the option to open a weak 2♦ then they will, if not then a light 3rd seat opening will do instead. East can just about manage a NT overall, and West can just about afford to make an entry - however when they discover the heart fit, West can count the diamond singleton and bid game.

Play :

A diamond lead, and a small heart to Queen and King looks like a reasonable start. South can safely play another diamond, ruffed, and a heart to the Ace. Now ruff a diamond, spade to hand and draw the last trump, losing to South, who returns a spade.

It looks like a case of taking a club finesse, but can the King really be with South? This would give North only 9 points at most for their opening (AK diamonds, Jack of spades and clubs), so instead we win in dummy and play to drop the stiff King offside! This (a little miraculously) works, and we can now come to hand with a spade, and pick up South's Jack.

After a 2♦ opener declarer would almost certainly go wrong, but they might also not have reached 4♥. (The East hand isn't worth 2NT over 2♦.)

	N	S	E	W
NT			3	3
♠			2	2
♥			4	4
♦	1	1		
♣			4	4
opt	EW		4H : -620	

8.	♠ K J 7 5 2 ♥ 6 3 ♦ Q 7 6 5 ♣ K Q	Dealer : W Vul : None	
	♠ Q 9 6 4 ♥ K J 10 5 ♦ A K ♣ 9 3 2	N W E S	♠ 8 3 ♥ Q 2 ♦ J 9 8 ♣ A J T 8 7 4
	♠ A 10 ♥ A 9 8 7 4 ♦ 10 4 3 2 ♣ 6 5		11 13 8 8

W	N	E	S
1NT	2♦*	2NT*	pass
3♣	pass	pass	3♦
end			

Bidding : I expect almost as many different auctions as there are tables, but in the above example, North overcalls 2♦ showing Spades and another, and East bids Lebensohl, asking partner to bid 3♣, probably showing a hand that wants to compete to 3♣ or 3♦. South passes to find out which, and then has a tough call - they might now guess that their partner's second suit is either diamonds or hearts, and so can bid 3♦ as pass or correct between the two.

Play :

Club lead (partner's suit) to the Ace, and a switch to the Queen of hearts (leading through strength). Declarer can probably guess that West has the rest of the points. So, duck a heart, win the second one, play a diamond - West wins and plays a heart. On the layout it doesn't matter whether we ruff high or low, but a low one will work best if West had 4 trumps. So, this is over-ruffed, and East exits with a club, not wanting to take finesses in spades for declarer.

A spade to the Ace, another diamond (necessary if West had AKJ) and declarer gets the rest - a 4th heart can be ruffed to establish the suit. The defence took this one off, but it scores well against 3♣ making.

	N	S	E	W
NT			1	1
♠	2	2		
♥	1	1		
♦	2	2		
♣			3	3
opt	NS		3DX, 3SX : -100	

25.	♠ J 5 3 ♥ 7 5 4 ♦ A K J 8 4 ♣ 10 8	Dealer : N Vul : E/W	
	♠ Q 6 2 ♥ Q J 10 6 3 ♦ 7 6 ♣ 9 4 3	N W E S	♠ A K 10 8 7 4 ♥ A 8 ♦ Q 10 ♣ Q 7 5
	♠ 9 ♥ K 9 2 ♦ 9 5 3 2 ♣ A K J 6 2		9 5 15 11

W	N	E	S
2♠	pass	1♠	2♣
pass	3♦	pass	dbl
pass		3♠	end

Bidding :

I wouldn't recommend a 2♣ overall by South if they were vulnerable or not opposite a passed partner. East can probably give up on game opposite just a 2♠ bid (we have a particularly poor club holding on the auction), however South is unlikely to sell out to 2♠ and East will be pushed up to 3♠ anyway. NS have a favourable lie of the cards and can make a lot of tricks in a minor, but that same lie of the cards is what's about to net them a lot of tricks defending 3♠.

Play :

AK of clubs and a club ruff, AK of diamonds and a heart switch, and declarer is quickly 2 off. East might try dropping the Queen of diamonds on the first diamond trick, but North should ignore that - using either a court signal from partner, or trusting that with 5-5 in the minors partner would have overcalled an unusual 2NT rather than 2♣.

	N	S	E	W
NT				
♠			1	1
♥				
♦	5	5		
♣	5	5		
opt	NS		5C/D : 400	

26.	♠ 9 5 4 ♥ J 3 ♦ 7 6 3 ♣ J 7 6 3 2	Dealer : E Vul : All	
	♠ 10 7 6 ♥ A K 8 ♦ Q 9 8 4 ♣ 10 8 4	N W E S	♠ 8 3 2 ♥ 10 9 6 4 ♦ A J ♣ K Q 9 5
	♠ A K Q J ♥ Q 7 5 2 ♦ K 10 5 2 ♣ A		2 9 10 19

W	N	E	S
		pass	1♥
end			

Bidding :

South opens middle of 3 touching 4 card suits, and East is left deciding whether or not to protect. It's rarely right to let the opponents play at the 1 level, but there really isn't very much they can bid. Pass and hope they're in the wrong suit seems like a reasonable option.

Play :

West has almost no clues from the bidding, other than partner is unlikely to have spades - partner would have found a 1♠ bid or a double if they did. A passive spade therefore looks reasonable.

Declarer has nothing to ruff in dummy, and doesn't want their own spades being ruffed, so starts drawing trumps. West should be keen to deny declarer an entry to dummy, so can win and play another spade. Another heart, another spade, and the Queen of hearts. There's no point drawing the last (master) trump, so cash Ace of clubs and a spade, and hope somebody ends up playing into the King of diamonds, or gives a trick to the Jack of clubs.

	N	S	E	W
NT			1	1
♠	1	1		
♥	1	1		
♦	1	1		
♣			1	1
opt	EW		1NT : -90	

23. ♠ Q 10 8 Dealer : S
 ♥ 9 2 Vul : All
 ♦ 7 4 2
 ♣ A K 8 7 2

♠ 9 7 4	N	♠ K J 5
♥ A Q	W	♥ K J 5 3
♦ A 9 8 6 5 3	E	♦ Q 10
♣ 10 6	S	♣ Q J 5 3

 ♠ A 6 3 2
 ♥ 10 8 7 6 4 9
 ♦ K J 10 13
 ♣ 9 4 8

W	N	E	S
pass	pass	1NT	pass end

Bidding :

There's merit to a light 1♣ opening from North, but 1NT by East is likely to be a common contract.

Play : South has an interesting choice of leads - the longer but weaker heart suit, or the stronger but shorter spades? I tend to prefer a heart, as it has more potential when partner has a good holding, and might double up as a passive lead, as is the case here.

On a heart lead, the prospects of establishing the diamond suit is not great - but probably worth a shot. A diamond to the Queen has good chances, so we try that, losing to South's King, who can now continue another heart - more to take out dummy's entry, than to establish the suit.

Cashing the Ace of diamond now brings down the Jack, and the established diamonds are ran while we're still in dummy. Finding discards now gets tricky, but at least we've made the contract, with good chances of an overtrick. A non-heart lead makes life a lot easier, establishing winners, and easing pressure on entries both to hand and dummy.

	N	S	E	W
NT			2	2
♠			1	1
♥	1	1		
♦			2	2
♣				
opt	EW		1NT : -120	

24. ♠ A 10 9 4 2 Dealer : W
 ♥ 9 8 6 Vul : None
 ♦ 10 9 8 6
 ♣ 2

♠ Q	N	♠ 7 6 3
♥ Q 4 3	W	♥ J 10 7
♦ Q 5	E	♦ A 3 2
♣ A K Q J 9 6 3	S	♣ 10 8 7 4

 ♠ K J 8 5 4
 ♥ A K 5 2 4
 ♦ K J 7 4 16 5
 ♣ 5 15

W	N	E	S
1♣	pass	2♣	dbl
3♣	3♠	pass	pass
4♣	pass	pass	dbl
end			

Bidding :

West's 3♣ bid is just preemptive, trying to keep NS out of the auction, rather than an invite. If West wanted to invite, they have 5 other actions (3 suits, 2NT, and XX). North, who had been disciplined in not overcalling 1♣ can now show their suit, and South shouldn't take them too seriously - they did pass 1♣ after all!

West competes with 4♣, and South doubles, this time just showing a strong hand that doesn't think 4♣ will make.

Play :

North leads the 8 of hearts (passive, and one of partner's suits), and South cashes AK - noting partner's 9 on the second trick showing 3. A spade now, as a diamond risks a trick when declarer has the Q, and the defence will come to the King of diamonds for 1 off - still a good sacrifice for EW.

A spade contract by NS is likely to only make 9 tricks as long as the defenders are reasonably careful - it's worth having a look at how South can make 10 double dummy, and why North can't.

	N	S	E	W
NT				
♠	3	4		
♥	2	2		
♦	3	3		
♣			3	3
opt	EW		SCX : 300	

9. ♠ A K 10 3 Dealer : N
 ♥ K J 9 4 Vul : E/W
 ♦ K 2
 ♣ K 8 3

♠ 8	N	♠ Q 9 5 2
♥ 10 8 5	W	♥ A Q 7 3 2
♦ A Q 10 9 7 3	E	♦ 5
♣ Q 9 2	S	♣ A J 10

 ♠ J 7 6 4 17
 ♥ 6 8 13
 ♦ J 8 6 4 8 13
 ♣ 7 6 5 4 2

W	N	E	S
2♦	1♥	pass	pass
pass	pass	rdbl	2♠
		dbl	end

Bidding : North starts with 1♥, and West makes a protective 2v overall. North can't see 2v going off opposite a passed partner, so doubling for takeout when NV seems reasonable, and East redoubles to show a good hand - potentially looking to penalty double whatever NS bid. South takes this out to spades, and with 4 good trumps, and hearts sitting over declarer, East penalty doubles.

Play :

It is often right to lead a trump against a doubled contract, and with no other attractive leads, West does just that. Declarer knows that the spade is offside, so rises with the Ace, and sets about trying to make some trump tricks. A small heart from dummy and East is likely to play the Queen, and another spade won in dummy. Declarer can now ruff a heart, and play a diamond to the King - West takes the Ace and now switches to the Queen of clubs, realising partner must have at least the Ace sitting over the King. EW take their 3 club tricks, and East can play the Queen of spades, pinning South's Jack, and establishing the 9.

If EW doubled and defended well they'll get a top for +300, more likely I suspect is +100 without the double, or the King of clubs being allowed to make a trick.

	N	S	E	W
NT			1	2
♠	1			1
♥			3	3
♦			3	3
♣			1	1
opt	EW		3H: -140	

10. ♠ Q 5 4 2 Dealer : E
 ♥ J 9 5 Vul : All
 ♦ J 6 2
 ♣ A 7 5

♠ K 10 8	N	♠ 9 6
♥ Q 10 8 7 2	W	♥ A
♦ Q 4 3	E	♦ A 10 8 7 5
♣ J 3	S	♣ K Q 9 6 2

 ♠ A J 7 3 8
 ♥ K 6 4 3 8
 ♦ K 9 8 13
 ♣ 10 8 4 11

W	N	E	S
1♥	pass	2♠	pass
2♦	end		pass

Bidding : Non-vulnerable I think South should double 1♥, but at vulnerable and 3 points in the shortage pass seems OK, and EW will settle in 2♦.

Play :

South doesn't have any attractive leads, so a club and hoping it gives nothing away might be best. North wins, and returns a trump, hoping to restrict East to 1 club ruff (as it happens, declarer doesn't need any!). This goes to the King, another diamond to the Queen, the last trump drawn, and with the Ace of spades inside declarer has 10 tricks.

The result would be much the same even if South had doubled, although EW would have to compete to 3♦.

	N	S	E	W
NT			1	1
♠	1	1		
♥			1	1
♦			4	4
♣			4	4
opt	EW		2C/D : -130	

11.	♠ 7 6 2 ♥ 7 2 ♦ J 10 4 3 ♣ A 5 3 2	Dealer : S Vul : None	♠ 10 ♥ K Q J 10 9 8 3 ♦ Q ♣ 10 9 7 6
	♠ A K 9 8 3 ♥ 5 ♦ K 8 7 6 5 2 ♣ Q	N W E S	♠ 10 ♥ K Q J 10 9 8 3 ♦ Q ♣ 10 9 7 6
			♠ Q J 5 4 ♥ A 6 4 ♦ A 9 ♣ K J 8 4
			5 12 8 15

W	N	E	S
1♠	2♣	2♥	1♣
2♠	pass	3♥	end

Bidding : With 4-4 in the blacks, it is common to open 1♣ rather than 1♠, to give partner significantly more bidding room. This allows West to overcall 1♠ (I don't normally recommend bidding shorter suits first, but our spades are much better than our diamonds, and they out-compete hearts.) Even if West ends up showing both their suits, East is going to insist on hearts, and with a misfit they should stay in a part-score.

Play :

Once again South has no stand-out lead - North did raise clubs though, so we can try that. North wins, and returns a trump, so that NS can cash more clubs. South wins the heart and does just that, and with a good guess at declarer's shape, cashes the Ace of diamonds before it is discarded on a spade, to beat the contract by 1 and get a good score - it is easy for the defence to let it through - e.g. by trying to cash a 4th club before the diamond.

	N	S	E	W
NT	2	2		
♠	1	1		
♥			2	2
♦		1		
♣	2	2		
opt	EW		3HX : 100	

12.	♠ 10 ♥ Q 10 3 2 ♦ A K Q 10 7 6 2 ♣ 2	Dealer : W Vul : N/S	♠ A 4 2 ♥ A 9 7 ♦ 5 3 ♣ A Q 8 7 5
	♠ Q J 7 6 5 3 ♥ 8 5 ♦ J 9 8 ♣ J 9	N W E S	♠ A 4 2 ♥ A 9 7 ♦ 5 3 ♣ A Q 8 7 5
			♠ K 9 8 ♥ K J 6 4 ♦ 4 ♣ K 10 6 4 3
			11 5 14 10

W	N	E	S
2♠	3♦	4♠	dbl
end			

Bidding : North's 3♦ bid takes away a valuable 2NT enquiry, and helps convince East that the club finesse might be working, so East is likely to punt 4♠ - even if partner has just KQxxxx the contract has good odds, and partner could have far more. This attracts a double from South, whose partner did make a vulnerable overcall.

Play :

North cashes 3 diamonds, and declarer does best to ruff the 3rd one high, expecting the finesse to be offside anyway. A spade towards hand is ducked by South (we know we can't get any more ruffs, but declarer could be about to play small to the 10 and let partner make a singleton Jack, for example). A heart to table and another spade, and South wins this one and North signals for a heart. South can now lead one confidently, and NS get their heart trick before it disappears on a club.

While East was probably hoping to stand a better chance of making 4♠, it does at least turn out to be a good sacrifice against 4♥, or a more likely a 3NT which slips through. (The defence to beat it isn't obvious even double-dummy.)

	N	S	E	W
NT	2	2		
♠			2	2
♥	4	4		
♦	4	4		
♣	1	1		
opt	EW		4SX : 300	

21.	♠ J ♥ K J 7 6 4 3 ♦ A 5 3 ♣ 10 6 4	Dealer : N Vul : N/S	♠ K 8 7 ♥ A Q 5 ♦ Q 4 2 ♣ A K 7 3
	♠ A 9 5 2 ♥ 10 9 ♦ K J 10 9 7 6 ♣ 9	N W E S	♠ K 8 7 ♥ A Q 5 ♦ Q 4 2 ♣ A K 7 3
			♠ Q 10 6 4 3 ♥ 8 2 ♦ 8 ♣ Q J 8 5 2
			9 8 18 5

W	N	E	S
3♠	2♥	2NT	pass
3NT	pass	3♦	pass
	end		

Bidding :

Should be easy enough for EW to bid 3NT, via some kind of Stayman.

Play :

South has an interesting lead problem - it must be tempting to lead a club, but the suit is pretty ropery, and I never have much faith in the opponents' stops. So, suppose South leads a heart, to the 10, Jack and Queen. Declarer immediately starts on diamonds, North holding up twice. North can then play the second heart honour to establish the suit, but at this point declarer has 5 diamonds, 2 hearts, 2 spades and 2 clubs for 11 tricks.

A non-heart lead might have worked better - not because it actually sets up any more tricks, but because declarer has to take a bit more a gamble to finesse North for both King and Jack of hearts - however, with Hx in hearts South would certainly lead one, so they should still get this right.

6♦ is an excellent contract, but difficult to find, as investigating it means bypassing 3NT, and possibly the best matchpoint score.

	N	S	E	W
NT			5	5
♠			3	3
♥			1	1
♦			6	6
♣			2	2
opt	EW		6D : -920	

22.	♠ Q 2 ♥ J 9 3 2 ♦ A K J 10 ♣ A 6 4	Dealer : E Vul : E/W	♠ J ♥ A K Q 6 ♦ 9 8 7 4 3 2 ♣ 7 3
	♠ A K 9 7 6 5 3 ♥ 8 ♦ Q ♣ J 10 9 2	N W E S	♠ J ♥ A K Q 6 ♦ 9 8 7 4 3 2 ♣ 7 3
			♠ 10 8 4 ♥ 10 7 5 4 ♦ 6 5 ♣ K Q 8 5
			15 10 10 5

W	N	E	S
1♠	pass	1♦	pass
2♠	end	2♣	pass

Bidding :

It's tempting to open 1♥ as East, however the rebid situation becomes quite unpleasant. North is unlikely to be able to get into the auction. West might end up having to bid 3♠ here if 2♠ is weak, but either way should end up in a part-score. (Playing weak jump shifts, West's 2♠ rebid shows a constructive hand.)

Play :

On the auction above North is likely to lead a heart, and immediately declarer pitches a diamond and a club. Declarer can now try a club - if the defenders don't draw trumps then a club can be ruffed, and it must be better for declarer if the defenders open up the spade suit.

The defence should get 3 clubs and a spade for one off. Note that the 'unfortunate-looking' heart lead didn't actually cost anything, as if the defenders cash a diamond, declarer can discard a second club instead.

Had East passed and West opens 3♠, North might be tempted to double, and will either go off in 4♥X, or if South passes (unable to envisage a making game), concede 3♠X making!

	N	S	E	W
NT	2	2		
♠			3	3
♥	1	1		
♦			1	1
♣				
opt	NS		3NTX : -100	

19.	♠ 75 ♥ 942 ♦ KQ986 ♣ 976	Dealer : S Vul : E/W	♠ KQ10943 ♥ 85 ♦ 75 ♣ J84
	♠ A86 ♥ AK103 ♦ AJ3 ♣ KQ5	N W E S	♠ 10862 ♥ 7 ♦ K98652 ♣ 108
	♠ J2 ♥ QJ76 ♦ 1042 ♣ A1032		♠ AKJ9 ♥ - ♦ Q743 ♣ AJ753
			♠ Q4 ♥ J9532 ♦ AJ ♣ K964
			11 11 3 15 11

W	N	E	S
2NT	pass	3♥	pass
4♣	pass	4♥	
4♠	end		

Bidding :

West shows a strong balanced hand, East transfers, West super-accepts to a cue bid to show a maximum, and a useful agreement here is that East can retransfer by repeating their transfer. West does as they were told this time, and they settle in 4♠.

Play :

A top diamond lead looks normal, although it is always slightly unappealing when a strong hand is sitting on the right. There is no point in declarer ducking to try a Bath Coup, as there are no other losers to discard on the Jack!

Most tables will now draw trumps, concede a club and record +1. We should at least try AK hearts ruff a heart - if there is QJ(x) heart the 10 will be good to pitch a diamond on. This isn't the case, and we still only makes 11. Deep makes 12 by playing a heart to the 10 - this only works 25% of the time - not good odds! 11 tricks will be normal, unless perhaps North gives the game away by trying to lead a passive heart - now declarer may well get the position right and discard a diamond loser.

	N	S	E	W
NT			5	5
♠			6	6
♥			3	3
♦			2	2
♣			3	3
opt	EW		6S :-1430	

20.	♠ 753 ♥ AKQ10864 ♦ 10 ♣ Q2	Dealer : W Vul : All	♠ AKJ9 ♥ - ♦ Q743 ♣ AJ753
	♠ 10862 ♥ 7 ♦ K98652 ♣ 108	N W E S	♠ 1092 ♥ KQ102 ♦ K10985 ♣ 2
	♠ Q4 ♥ J9532 ♦ AJ ♣ K964		♠ 65 ♥ J984 ♦ A74 ♣ AJ54
			10 10 12 8 10

W	N	E	S
pass	1♥	dbl	2NT
3♦	4♥	dbl	pass
4♠	pass	pass	5♥
pass	pass	dbl	end

Bidding :

An exciting deal! North is too good for a pre-empt, so opens 1♥. East doubles, and South shows a strong raise with 2NT. West's 3♦ suggests length rather than strength when bidding over a strong raise, and North shows a weak distributional hand by jumping to 4♥. East isn't entirely sure what to do - both 5♠ and 4♥ might be going off, so just doubles again to show a good hand. West now shows the spade fit, North passes to show no defensive values, and South sacrifices in 5♥.

Play :

The defence start by cashing AK of spades. While it seems unlikely the Ace of clubs is going away, as East I would also cash that now - there seems no chance of getting an extra trick, but if North has a freak distribution (3811) then the club could potentially go away.

5♥X -1 is probably a bad score for NS - I can't see anybody not sacrificing over 4♠, but I can see people getting to play in 4♥.

	N	S	E	W
NT	2	2		
♠			4	4
♥	4	4		
♦			5	5
♣			2	2
opt	NS		5HX :-200	

13.	♠ A873 ♥ 6 ♦ QJ62 ♣ K973	Dealer : N Vul : All	♠ 1092 ♥ KQ102 ♦ K10985 ♣ 2
	♠ KQJ4 ♥ A753 ♦ 3 ♣ Q1086	N W E S	♠ 65 ♥ J984 ♦ A74 ♣ AJ54
	♠ Q4 ♥ J9532 ♦ AJ ♣ K964		♠ 65 ♥ J984 ♦ A74 ♣ AJ54
			10 10 12 8 10

W	N	E	S
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
2♥	pass	pass	pass
	end		

Bidding : With a weak hand, East bypasses a diamond suit to bid a 4 card major, and West makes a simple raise. North knows this is almost certainly about to be passed out, so with 4441 shape and a maximum pass must consider a takeout double.

However, partner couldn't manage a 3rd seat opening, a 1♠ overall, or a double of 1♥, and we're vulnerable. All of this combined would put me off, and NS would defend 2♥.

Play : Doubleton spade lead, which North can start by ducking. (Wrong if it's a singleton, but feels more likely on the bidding to be doubleton.) Declarer can see 3 spades, and 3-4 hearts, so needs to find some more tricks. We'd like to try ruffing twice with small trumps - so at trick 2 a diamond to hand. If North plays low they're almost sure not to have the Ace (people rarely duck an Ace with a singleton on table, often wrongly), and so the 10 forces the Ace from South. North provides a ruff with a low spade, indicating a club entry, and South can bravely underlead their Ace of clubs for another ruff. Declarer now can draw trumps in 2 rounds and ruff 2 diamonds, for just making.

	N	S	E	W
NT			1	1
♠			1	1
♥			2	2
♦	1	1		
♣	2	2		
opt	EW		2H :-110	

14.	♠ AK107 ♥ K3 ♦ K6 ♣ QJ742	Dealer : E Vul : None	♠ Q6 ♥ Q10976 ♦ QJ10 ♣ 1085
	♠ 942 ♥ A5 ♦ A943 ♣ AK96	N W E S	♠ 1092 ♥ KQ102 ♦ K10985 ♣ 2
	♠ J2 ♥ QJ76 ♦ 1042 ♣ A1032		♠ 65 ♥ J984 ♦ A74 ♣ AJ54
			10 10 12 8 10

W	N	E	S
1♣	1NT	pass	2♥
		pass	end

Bidding :

East is close to doubling 1NT, but I'd like to be a little stronger. (If partner only has 12, we don't even have half the points.) Additionally, the opponents are NV, so if 2♥ makes, it will outscore 1NTX-1.

Play :

3 of clubs lead (North is likely to have honours sitting over dummy, on the bidding), which declarer should recognise isn't a lead from length!

Ace won, Ace of hearts and a heart to hand - if North played low we'd have a guess, but this is resolved for us when the King goes up. North can provide a club ruff with a high club (showing a spade entry), and so NS can get 2 spades, 1 heart, 2 ruffs, and will come to the King of diamonds for 1 off.

I expect a mixture of results - 2♠ theoretically makes but is difficult to reach after 1♣, but if West opens 1♦ NS will find it much easier to reach 2♠, but won't necessarily make! 1NTX theoretically goes off but is easy to misdefend. Any plus score is likely to be a reasonable score.

	N	S	E	W
NT				1
♠	2	2		
♥			1	1
♦			1	1
♣				1
opt	W		2NTX :100	

15.	♠ 5 ♥ J 8 7 6 3 ♦ K Q 8 3 2 ♣ T 7	Dealer : S Vul : N/S	♠ K 9 2 ♥ K Q 10 9 4 ♦ A 4 ♣ K Q 6
	♠ J 10 7 4 ♥ A 5 2 ♦ J 10 5 ♣ A J 2	N W E S	
	♠ A Q 8 6 3 ♥ - ♦ 9 7 6 ♣ 9 8 5 4 3	6 11 17 6	

W	N	E	S
pass	pass	1♥	pass
2♥	pass	4♥	end

Bidding : With such a poor club suit, South overcalls 1♠ rather than bidding Michaels. West has a tough decision over 1♠ - we'd rather have 4 hearts to raise, we're a bit too strong for 1NT, 2NT might not be natural in your system, and even if it is, our spade stop isn't great!

I generally prefer just to raise partner, and trust them to rebid NT with only 4 hearts, which I would raise to 3NT.

Play : South leads a passive 7 of diamonds, which is likely to go to Jack, Queen and Ace. Assuming no heart losers, declarer can count 9 tricks, and could establish one by force in spades. A heart to the Ace reveals the bad break, but declarer can still pick the suit up for 0 losers. However, after drawing trumps and playing the King of spades, South can simply play diamonds through dummy's 10x for a lot of tricks. Foreseeing this, declarer should just cash out for 1 off..

Declarer might stand a better chance with a small diamond at trick 1. North might still play the Queen, and now a diamond trick can be established instead. Can North work out to play low? The 7 of diamonds is either singleton, doubleton, or MUD. North knows partner has no hearts, so would they really look for a ruff? Probably not, so if declarer plays low at trick 1, North should also play low, playing declarer for Ax, or Ace singleton.

	N	S	E	W
NT			3	3
♠			2	2
♥			3	3
♦	1	1		
♣			1	1
opt	EW		3NT : -400	

16.	♠ 8 6 ♥ A 4 ♦ A Q J 9 6 ♣ A J 9 5	Dealer : W Vul : E/W	♠ A Q J 7 4 3 ♥ K 6 ♦ 10 7 ♣ 8 3 2
	♠ K 10 9 ♥ Q 9 8 5 3 ♦ K 8 5 4 ♣ 6	N W E S	
	♠ 5 2 ♥ J 10 7 2 ♦ 3 2 ♣ K Q 10 7 4	16 8 10 6	

W	N	E	S
pass	1♦	2♠	pass
3♠	end		

Bidding : Opposite a passed partner, a heavy weak 2S overall is going to cause a lot of disruption, without much chance of missing game. South isn't really strong enough to act over 2♠, and likewise with North over 3♠.

Play :

South could lead a top club, but a doubleton diamond also seems appealing. Suppose South leads a diamond - North will win the Jack, and probably can't read the lead - it could be 3 from 1032, or 32. Cashing the Ace and setting up the King of diamonds could go badly, as East might throw away some heart losers. So, North cashes the Ace of hearts first, South discourages, and now North can try the Ace of diamonds and another.

Declarer has to give some consideration to just throwing a club now, however, ruffing 2 clubs seems entirely possible, so our discard would give up a trick. Ruff high, lose a club, North returns a diamond, ruff high (again), ruff a club, heart to hand, ruff a club, draw a trump.

We now need to get back to hand to draw the last trump - we play a heart, and if North ruffs with the 8, we can overruff and our 7 is now high. If they don't ruff, we ruff low and draw the last trump with the Ace.

	N	S	E	W
NT	1	1		
♠			3	3
♥	1	1		
♦	3	3		
♣	4	4		
opt	NS		4C : 130	

17.	♠ Q 10 2 ♥ Q 8 3 2 ♦ K 9 5 ♣ 5 3 2	Dealer : N Vul : None	♠ A 8 6 3 ♥ 10 ♦ 4 3 2 ♣ A K Q J 4
	♠ J 9 7 5 ♥ A J 7 5 ♦ 10 ♣ 9 8 7 6	N W E S	
	♠ K 4 ♥ K 9 6 4 ♦ A Q J 8 7 6 ♣ 10	7 6 14 13	

W	N	E	S
dbl	pass	1♣	1♦
	2♦	3♠	end

Bidding :

With perfect shape for it, West can manage a double over a diamond (better to look for a major fit before supporting clubs), and East's hand is rather good - well worth a jump to 3♠. West's hand looks rather good, with a double fit, a singleton in the opponent's suit, and AJ over the opponent more likely to have values, however it is still only a 6 count, and playing pairs should probably pass.

Play :

South leads a singleton club, hoping for a ruff, and not wanting to underlead AQ of diamonds.

It will require a miracle position to not have 2 spade losers, but if declarer draws trumps they won't have enough spades left to ruff both diamonds. However, we have to be concerned about club ruffs - although they might be 2-2. Declarer should be held to 9 - either the defence get a ruff, or declarer gets their trumps drawn before they can ruff 2 diamonds. However, to draw the last trump requires South to underlead the Ace of diamonds to partner's King, which might not happen...

	N	S	E	W
NT			1	1
♠			3	3
♥	2	2		
♦	3	3		
♣			4	4
opt	NS		4DX : -100	

18.	♠ A 4 2 ♥ 9 7 5 ♦ A 7 3 2 ♣ 9 8 7	Dealer : E Vul : N/S	♠ K J 9 5 ♥ Q 8 ♦ Q 5 ♣ A K Q 10 6
	♠ Q 10 8 7 ♥ A J 3 ♦ 9 8 6 4 ♣ J 2	N W E S	
	♠ 6 3 ♥ A J 10 6 4 2 ♦ K J 10 ♣ 5 4 3	8 8 17 7	

W	N	E	S
dbl	2♥	3♠	pass
4♠	end		

Bidding :

North-South's interference will make it a little tricky for EW to discuss their exact point ranges, and there is no guarantee of the 25 points for game - however if 3♠ shows about 16-18, then West might think there are good chances.

Play :

South might hope partner has a heart honour for their raise and lead a small one, which unfortunately runs to East's Queen. Declarer can now play a heart to the Jack, cash the Ace and discard a diamond.

After that, all there is to do is draw trumps. North wins the second one and cashes a diamond, but declarer can ruff the second one, draw the last trump and claim the rest.

	N	S	E	W
NT			3	2
♠			4	4
♥	1	1		
♦			2	1
♣			4	4
opt	EW		4S : -420	