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★ ★ ★ Masterpoint Winners ★ ★ ★

Partnership Pct Rank MP

Jill Hartel - John Hartel 58.79 1st OA 1.46
 Larica Taylor - Randy Patterson 57.92 2nd OA 1.10
 Connie Van Patter - Patty Kleckner 56.68 3rd OA 0.82
 Martha Ward - Susan Kroney 55.89 4th OA 0.62
 Franci Moses - Marcia Messinger 53.90 5th OA 0.46
 Beth Castleberry - Josephine Basel 52.98 3rd SA 0.37
 EVENT>Db1 Pnt 299er Prs |SESSION>Sunday Aft |SECTION> B N-S

DATE>March 16, 2014 |CLUB NO.>260117 | 03/16/2014 16:06

DIR> Kathy Bumgardner|RATING>Unit Championship |MOVEMENT>MITCHELL

AVE> 63.0 |TOP> 6 |MP LIMITS>300/175/100 |CLUB>Bridge Academy Of North D

PAIRS IN STRAT A=7/B=4/C=3

								Overall			
Section	Final										
No Name	Name										
|Flt|	Rnk-A|	Rnk-B|	Rnk-C|	Rnk-A|	Rnk-B|	Rnk-C|	Score	Pct	Awards		
1	Jill Hartel	John Hartel					C	1	1	1	1
1	1	74.08	58.79	1.46(OA)							
2	Genny Lemeshev	Yuri Lemeshev					A	.	.	.	.
.	.	63.42	50.33								
3	Craig Briney	Mary Ann Briney					A	.	.	.	.
.	.	44.08	34.98								
4	Josephine Basel	Beth Castleberry					A	.	.	.	3
.	.	66.75	52.98	0.37(SA)							
5	Randy Patterson	Larica Taylor					C	2	2	2	2
2	.	72.98	57.92	1.10(OA)							
6	Kevin Broderick	Judy Noble					B	.	.	.	.
.	.	64.58	51.25								
7	Louella Josset	Selwyn Josset					C	.	.	.	.
.	.	55.58	44.11								
							Totals				
441.47											

EVENT>Db1 Pnt 299er Prs |SESSION>Sunday Aft |SECTION> B E-W

Untitled

AVE> 63.0 |TOP> 6 |MP LIMITS>300/175/100 |CLUB>Bridge Academy Of North D

 PAIRS IN STRAT A=7/B=7/C=5

							Overall						
Section	Final						Pct	Awards					
No Name	Name						Score						
|Flt|	Rnk-A	Rnk-B	Rnk-C	Rnk-A	Rnk-B	Rnk-C							
1	Connie Van Patter			Patty Kleckner			C	3	3	3	|	1	
1	1	71.42	56.68	0.82(OA)									
2	Anita Mukamal			Sharon Lux			C	.	.	.	|	.
.	.	44.10	35.00										
3	Denise Strueber			John Ellis			B	.	.	.	|	.
.	.	67.58	53.63										
4	Susan Kroney			Martha ward			C	4	4	.	|	2	
2	2	70.42	55.89	0.62(OA)									
5	Jon Bauman			Lou Bauman			C	.	.	.	|	.
.	.	60.92	48.35										
6	Franci Moses			Marcia Messinger			C	5	.	.	|	3	
3	.	67.92	53.90	0.46(OA)									
7	Karen Bedell			Cathy Bruff			B	.	.	.	|	.
.	.	57.75	45.83										
							Totals						
440.11													

1 ♠K5
 ♥JT73
 ♦AT943
 ♣T8
 Dir: North
 Vul: None

♠J76432
 ♥A52
 ♦6
 ♣654
 ♠Q
 ♥Q94
 ♦J752
 ♣AK932

Untitled

♠AT98
♥K86
♦KQ8
♣QJ7

8
5 12
15

Double Dummy Makes

NS: 3♦ 1♥ 1/2NT ♣6 ♠6
EW: 1♣ 1♠ ♦4 ♥5/4 NT5/4

LoTT: 16 - 16 = 0

Par: +120 2NT-S

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
110		6.00	0.00	2♦ N +1	♣K	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
90		4.50	1.50	1N S	♠4	B3-Briney-Briney vs B5-Bauman-Bauman
90		4.50	1.50	2♦ N	♠Q	B4-Base1-Castleberry vs
B7-Bedell-Bruff						
50		3.00	3.00	2N W -1	♣4	B7-Josset-Josset vs
B6-Moses-Messinger						
	50	2.00	4.00	3♦ S -1	♠4	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis						
	100	1.00	5.00	2N S -2	♠2	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner						
	150	0.00	6.00	2N S -3	♠4	B6-Broderick-Noble vs B4-Krone1-Ward

David Loeb Hand Analysis

West North East South

Pass Pass 1NT

All pass

The Bidding:

East's hand, with 12 HCP and nine cards in the two longest suits, would meet the Rule of 20 for an opener if not for the downgrades. The singleton Queen, the unsupported Queen third, and the unsupported Jack fourth are all negatives. worse yet, the hand has a rebid problem if partner responds 1♠. Some open all 12 HCP hands. Partnerships allowing judgment to be utilized should pass East's hand in tempo.

South will open 1NT. West should not consider bidding their pathetic spade suit.. North now must decide whether to pass or bid Stayman. Stayman is a winner if partner has four hearts. If South responds 2♦ or 2♠, North would need to invite game by bidding 2NT. North's decision will vary depending on the partnership's 1NT range. If playing a 14-16 HCP range, North will pass 1NT. If

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playing a 15-17 HCP range, North has the safety to bid Stayman and invite with 2NT.

Let's look at both scenarios. If North passes 1NT, East's meets Mel's Rule of 2, and East will balance. Few partnerships have methods to balance showing clubs and diamonds at the two-level. With an anemic diamond suit and desiring a club lead, East should use the partnership's method for showing a club one-suiter. At most tables, North will balance with 2♦. Some partnerships playing Negative Doubles will choose to double, hoping to find a fit in hearts or diamonds. When South bids 2♠, North will retreat to 2NT, hoping partner has a stopper.

At tables where North bids Stayman, South will bid 2♠, and North will invite game with their 2NT rebid. South, with a minimum 1NT opener, will decline the invitation, and 2NT will be the final contract.

Related Articles for Advancing Players:

Steve Weinstein advises passing marginal hands with rebid problems in his "Let's Take a Pass" article on Bridge Winners .

The Play:

Against a notrump contract, a club lead from three small is difficult for west to find. Declarer has five quick tricks. The club stopper will provide a sixth trick. A heart trick can be established on power. A lobbing finesse towards the King, or a pushing finesse against the Queen are options. If hearts break 3-3 with the Queen onside, two heart tricks can be established. There are also possibilities if the heart Nine is doubleton. When the Queen falls on the first round of spades, declarer can establish a spade trick by knocking out the Jack. Declarer will have two additional diamond tricks whenever diamonds break 3-2, a 68% chance. If East shows out on the second round of diamonds, Jack fourth in west's hand can be picked up by finessing against the Jack on the third round of diamonds. This, plus the possibility of a singleton Jack, improves the probability the diamonds will run by 17%. Worst case, an additional diamond trick can be established by knocking out the Jack.

Setting up the heart suit may well require giving up the lead twice. With just one club stopper, attacking the heart suit is not attractive. My preference would be to attack the diamond suit. If diamonds run, the defense will have to find discards, and may well make an error.

On an opening spade lead, declarer will likely duck from dummy to preserve the King as an entry to dummy and to guarantee three spade stoppers. When diamonds do not break, the spade communication is tangled. So declarer will likely force out the ♦Jack to establish a fourth diamond trick and guarantee the contract. 1NT making one.

On this board, with hearts break 3-3 and the queen onside, an overtrick can be secured with a pushing finesse against the heart Queen if a club is not led initially. Establishing two tricks in hearts missing six cards including the Six and the Nine requires quite a bit of luck. Using the diamond entry or spade entry to dummy, sets up a winner for the defense. The risk is the defense will

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score four or more club tricks, two heart tricks, and either a spade or a diamond trick to set 1NT.

2 ♠Q652
 ♥9876
 ♦J42
 ♣T6
 Dir: East
 Vul: N-S

♠AKJ84
 ♥Q2
 ♦A75
 ♣J97
 ♠93
 ♥AT5
 ♦KQ983
 ♣AQ5

♠T7
 ♥KJ43
 ♦T6
 ♣K8432

3
 15 15
 7

Double Dummy Makes

NS: ♣3 ♦1 ♥5 ♠1 NT2
 EW: 4♣ 6♦ 2/1♥ 6/5♠ 5NT

LoTT: 17 - 16 = +1
 Par: -980 6♠-W

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
150		6.00	0.00	6♠ E -3	♥3	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
50		5.00	1.00	6♠ E -1	♦T	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner						
	180	4.00	2.00	2N E +2	♣3	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B7-Bedell-Bruff						
	460	2.00	4.00	3N W +2	♥9	B6-Broderick-Noble vs B4-Krone-Ward

						Untitled
460	2.00	4.00	3N E +2	♣3	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs	
B3-Strueber-Ellis						
460	2.00	4.00	3N E +2	♣3	B3-Briney-Briney vs	B5-Bauman-Bauman
490	0.00	6.00	3N E +3	♣3	B7-Josset-Josset vs	
B6-Moses-Messinger						

David Loeb Hand Analysis

West North East South

Pass 1NT1

Pass 2♥2 Pass 2♠

Pass 4NT3 All pass

1.15-17 HCP

2.transfer to spades

3.quantitative

The Bidding:

West will be pleasantly surprised to hear partner open 1NT. How west proceeds will depend on the partnership's range for an opening 1NT bid.

Opposite a 14-16 HCP range, the partnership has at most 31 HCP. A notrump small slam typically requires 33 HCP. In matchpoints, there is no need to stretch for a slam. Much of the field will not bid the slam. If the slam were to go down, the matchpoint result would be terrible. There will be plenty of matchpoints available for finding the right strain and taking all your tricks.

What is the right strain? In "Matchpoints", Kit Woolsey describes when a suit contract "might produce an extra trick over notrump" when it "acts a stopper so the opponents cannot run a suit", "a player has a short suit, losers from the other hand can be ruffed", or "a trump suit allows for more flexibility in the play, for such things as end-plays, establishing a long suit by ruffing, etc.". The combined strength of the two hands, 29-31 HCP, decreases the likelihood a suit contract will score better than notrump. It is more likely suits are well stopped, more likely suits can be established on power, and less likely a loser needs to be ruffed. With that in mind, west should not look for a 5-3 spade fit. My preference would be to use Stayman to look for a 5-4 spade fit, placing the contract at 3NT if there is not a nine-card spade fit.

Opposite a 15-17 HCP notrump, the partnership has 30-32 HCP. If a fit can be found and partner has a maximum, there may be a good play for slam. Playing Jacoby Transfer s, the approach to showing a 5-card spade suit, a balanced hand, and slam invitational values is to transfer to spades and then bid 4NT as a quantitative invitation to slam. East's 15 HCP hand is by no means a minimum. The 5-card suit, two Aces, and the two Queens working in combination with a higher honor merit an upgrade. However, East should decline the invitation. The defense could easily have two quick tricks.

Related Articles for Advancing Players:

Larry Cohen shares the "LC Standard -- Notrump Openings (Part 1)" he recommends

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as part of "LC Standard" . The article covers a variety of sequences including a quantitative 4NT after a Jacoby Transfer.

In "Gambling at Bridge Part 6 -- Choice of Slams" Andrew Gumperz shares advice on responding to a quantitative 4 notrump bid to enable a partnership to find slams in a suit contract which may have better play than a notrump slam.

The Lead:

On the auction, East-West can be expected to have at least thirty to thirty-two HCP. Holding seven HCP, South knows partner has at most a King. The opponents did not bid slam because they are worried the defense has two tricks. To help their prediction become reality, a passive lead looks best. My preference would be the ♦Ten.

The Play:

In a notrump contract, declarer has nine tricks when diamonds break 3-2. The spade suit offers the potential for up to three additional tricks. The odds of Queen third onside are just 18%. A double finesse against the Queen and Ten will take all the tricks 21% of the time. Playing for the drop, finessing against the Queen, and the double finesse, all, provide two additional spade tricks on this board with the Queen offside and the Ten-Seven doubleton. That brings declarer to eleven tricks. At tables where South failed to find a passive lead, declarer would have scored their ♥Queen or ♣Queen (or Jack) at trick one for their twelfth trick. With a passive opening lead, declarer will take a losing club finesse against the King. 4NT making five.

A declarer who could see all the cards would execute a club-heart Squeeze against South for their twelfth trick. A defender who could see all the cards would sever declarer's spade transportation to dummy to break up the Squeeze.

3 ♠QJ
♥A863
♦A2
♣AT872
Dir: South
Vul: E-W

♠KT754
♥T95
♦QJ98
♣9
♠9863
♥4
♦K6543

Untitled

♣Q64

♠A2
♥KQJ72
♦T7
♣KJ53

15
6 5
14

Double Dummy Makes

NS: 6♣ 6♥ 6NT ♦4 ♠4
EW: 3♦ 3♠ ♣1 ♥1 NT1

LOTT: 21 - 18 = +3

Par: +990 6NT-NS

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
	980		5.92	0.08	6♥ S	♣9	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis	480		3.58	2.42	4♥ S +2	♣9	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner	480		3.58	2.42	4♥ S +2	♣9	B7-Josset-Josset vs
B6-Moses-Messinger	480		3.58	2.42	4♥ N +2	♦Q	B6-Broderick-Noble vs B4-Krone-Ward
	420		1.25	4.75	4♥ N	♦4	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B7-Bedell-Bruff	50		0.08	5.92	6♥ S -1	♣9	B3-Briney-Briney vs B5-Bauman-Bauman

David Loeb Hand Analysis

West North East South

1♥

Pass 2NT1 Pass 3♥2

Pass 4♣ Pass ?

- 1.game forcing heart raise
- 2.non-minimum with no singleton or void

The Bidding:

The North-South hands are quite tricky to bid. Both North and South have concern about two quick losers in a side suit. North-South have a nice nine-card heart fit. However, with each holding two doubletons in the same two suits, North-South have no ruffing power unless an end play can be engineered.

Untitled

Few partnerships have the bidding gear to diagnose the lack of ruffing power during the auction.

At most tables, South will open 1♥ and North will show game forcing values and four (or more) card support with a Jacoby 2NT raise. Playing the traditional Jacoby 2NT structure, South will rebid 3♥, showing better than a minimum with no shortness. Yes, South has two doubletons, but they are not considered "shortness" in the traditional structure. A bid of three of a new suit would show a singleton or a void.

After South shows extra values, North is interested in slam. Concerned about two quick spade losers, North will cue bid 4♣. South can infer North lacks a spade control, but cue bidding 4♠ commits the partnership to the five-level. With two quick diamond losers, South is not eager to push past game. Some expert pairs treat a 4♦ bid here as a Last Train cue bid. It shows a spade control and interest in slam, but says nothing about diamonds. With that agreement, South may bid 4♦. North will bid 4NT Roman Keycard, and will confirm possession of all the key cards and the Queen by bidding 5NT asking for Kings. Missing two Kings North-South will settle in 6♥.

Pairs not playing a Last Train cue bid and pairs playing a 3NT rebid by opener shows a "balanced" non-minimum will likely signoff in 4♥.

The Play:

Declarer will be disappointed to see the mirrored doubletons. With only five tricks likely from the trump suit, declarer will need to seven tricks in the side suits. The good news is that clubs can provide five tricks if the Queen can be located. If the opponents do not lead a diamond, declarer can fallback to a spade finesse if a trick is lost in clubs. Unfortunately for declarer on this board, West has a natural diamond lead from an honor sequence.

When drawing trump, declarer will note West has three hearts and East has just one. Should this influence the play in the club suit? The maxim "Eight ever nine never" suggests playing for the drop, taking a finesse if possible when the suit breaks 4-0. Playing an honor and then taking a finesse has slightly worse odds than playing for the drop. When East shows out on the second round of clubs, the Vacant Space principle tells declarer West is more likely to hold the ♣Queen than East. The 3-1 heart breaks makes East a 2:1 favorite for holding the long clubs if the suit breaks 4-0. So whether planning to play for the drop or the finesse, declarer should cash the ♣Ace first as a safety play against the more likely 4-0 break. Similarly, the 3-1 heart break makes East a 3:2 favorite to hold the long clubs if the clubs break 3-1.

The reason "Nine Never" favors playing for the drop is the odds of a 2-2 break are higher than either of the two possible 3-1 breaks. When one of the 3-1 breaks becomes more likely, the odds of the finesse improve. Here the finesse is a slight favorite over playing for the drop.

If declarer takes the club finesse against East, the slam will be made. Declarer will have 5 heart tricks + 5 club tricks and two Ace. A losing diamond will be discarded on the long club, and declarer can attempt the spade finesse for their thirteenth trick. Declarers playing for the drop will take eleven

Untitled

tricks, eventually losing a spade or a diamond in addition to a club.

Related Articles for Advancing Players:

Larry Cohen shares a Jacoby 2NT structure for serious long-term partnerships which allows hands with two doubletons to be described in his "Modified Jacoby 2NT (for Advanced-Expert Level)" article. Kevin Wilson's Wilson 2NT structure also provides a way for opener to show hands with two doubletons.

Kitty Cooper shares advice about whether to finesse or play for the drop in her "Why Nine Never?" article.

4 ♠K32
♥AKQ7
♦J4
♣KQ52
Dir: West
Vul: Both

♠AT764
♥J632
♦Q9
♣64
♠98
♥985
♦AT75
♣AJ87

♠QJ5
♥T4
♦K8632
♣T93

18
7 9
6

Double Dummy Makes
NS: 2♣ 2♦ 2♥ 1/2♠ 2NT
EW: ♣4 ♦5 ♥5 ♠5 NT5

LOTT: 13 - 14 = -1

Untitled

Par: +120 2NT-NS

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
630		6.00	0.00	3N N +1	♥5	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B2-Mukamal-Lux						
150		5.00	1.00	1N N +2	♦5	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B6-Moses-Messinger						
100		2.00	4.00	3N S -1	♠4	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner						
100		2.00	4.00	3N S -1	♥2	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B7-Bedell-Bruff
100		2.00	4.00	3N N -1	♣8	B7-Josset-Josset vs B5-Bauman-Bauman
100		2.00	4.00	3N N -1	♣7	B3-Briney-Briney vs B4-Krone-Ward
100		2.00	4.00	3♦ N -1	♠9	B6-Broderick-Noble vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis						

David Loeb Hand Analysis

West North East South

Pass 1♣ Pass 1♦

Pass 2NT1 Pass 3NT

All pass

1.18-19 HCP

The Bidding:

After North opens 1♣ and South responds 1♦, North will jump to 2NT, showing a balanced hand with a point range between the 1NT and 2NT opening bids. How the auction proceeds from here will depend on the partnership's 1NT range. Playing a 14-16 HCP 1NT range, South knows the partnership has between 23 and 25 HCP. With just 6 HCP, South will likely pass. Playing a 15-17 HCP 1NT range, South knows the partnership has between 24 and 26 HCP. Now South will look for reasons to accept the Game Try. The fifth diamond, the Queen-Jack combination in spades, and the Ten-Nine combination in clubs, argue for an upgrade. So South will bid 3NT.

The Lead:

East has a difficult decision for the opening lead. North can easily have a 4-card major on this auction. South will not have a 4-card major. Leading a minor does not seem right with the opponents bidding clubs and diamonds. What does East know about their partner's hand? North-South have at most fourteen cards in the majors. So West has a minimum of seven cards in the majors. With North-South showing game values, East will have at most six or seven high card points. West's weakness makes it unlikely a spade lead will be successful. Even if West has a five-card spade suit, West will not have the suit quality and entries needed to establish and run the suit. A heart lead looks best.

For a poll on East's opening lead, [click here](#). The poll will be available shortly after 5:00 p.m. EDT.

The Play:

A heart picks up the suit for declarer. If declarer is left to break the heart

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suit, the best play for four tricks is to run the Ten, hoping the Jack is onside and the Nine-Eight or doubleton or tripleton. If declarer is up to running the Ten and west covers with the Jack, East should drop the Eight or Nine in tempo under declarer's honor. This gives declarer the losing option of finessing against the remaining spot card on the second round.

with few entries to dummy, declarer has little chance of establishing and enjoying winners in the diamond suit. Instead, declarer will go after the club suit. A pushing finesse against the ♣Jack is preferable to a lobbing finesse against the ♣Ace which requires a second entry to repeat. The defense must establish a second diamond trick to set 3NT. If declarer is allowed to setup two spade winners and two club winner to go along with four heart tricks, a lobbing finesse towards the ♦King will provide declarer's ninth trick.

5 ♠QJ6
♥KT83
♦KT842
♣5
Dlr: North
Vul: N-S

♠AK
♥AQ92
♦53
♣KQ732
♠T94
♥J4
♦J6
♣AJT984

♠87532
♥765
♦AQ97
♣6

9
18 7
6

Double Dummy Makes

Untitled

NS: 2♦ 1♠ ♣3 ♥5 NT4
 EW: 4♣ 2♥ 2NT ♦5 ♠6

LOTT: 18 - 20 = -2

Par: -130 4♣-EW

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld
	150		6.00	0.00	3♠ E -3	♦A B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B2-Mukamal-Lux						
50			4.00	2.00	5♣ W -1	♠Q B3-Briney-Briney vs B4-Kronek-Ward
50			4.00	2.00	5♣ W -1	♦8 B5-Patterson-Taylor vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner						
50			4.00	2.00	5♣ W -1	♦8 B7-Josset-Josset vs B5-Bauman-Bauman
130			1.50	4.50	4♣ W	♦K B4-Base1-Castleberry vs
B6-Moses-Messinger						
130			1.50	4.50	3♣ W +1	♦4 B6-Broderick-Noble vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis						
150			0.00	6.00	3♣ W +2	♦2 B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B7-Bedell-Bruff

David Loeb Hand Analysis

West North East South

Pass Pass Pass
 1♣ Db1 3♣1 Pass
 4♣ Pass 5♣ All pass

1.weak

The Bidding:

West will open 1♣ planning to jump to 2NT over a 1♦ response, raise a 1♥ response to game, or reverse into hearts over a 1♠ response. Most pairs do not play Inverted Minors by a passed hand. So East will make a simple raise to 2♣. If North choose to make a light takeout double as a passed hand, East-west pairs playing Jordan can preemptively raise to 3♣.

After a simple raise to 2♣, West has the strength to jump to 3NT. The lack of a diamond stopper is a concern. When you don't have an eight-card or better fit in a major suit, the preferred game contract is notrump. If notrump is not viable, a 4-3 major suit fit is often preferable to a minor suit game. The difficulty here is that looking for an alternate contract may increase the chance of the opponents finding the right lead. Blasting to 3NT has the advantage of hiding opener's shape and stoppers from the defense. It has the disadvantage of hiding that information from partner. A 2♥ bid here is typically treated as a Game Try with at least a heart fragment. Partner will often raise with 3-card support, having already denied holding a 4-card major. My preference at matchpoints would be to blast to 3NT and hope partner has a diamond stopper or the opponents do not find a diamond lead. Are there some with the West hand who will venture a "psychic" anti-lead directing 2♦ Game Try?

Untitled

If North doubles for takeout and East preemptively raises to 3♣, South has a decision to make. With a 5-card suit, a singleton club, and 6 HCP, South may consider competing to the 3-level. Because of the weakness of the spade suit, South may prefer making a Responsive Double rather than competing directly to 3♠, planning to correct 3♥ to 3♠. There is also something to be said for a lead directing 3♦ bid. West is marked with a big hand. If partner leads a heart or a spade, it may well cost the defense a trick. Passing is also a consideration. Given that partner is a passed hand, the vulnerability, and the weakness of South's hand, it is unlikely North-South can make a 3-level contract and a penalty double could prove costly. Call me timid. My preference would be to pass.

What should West do if North makes a takeout double, East raises preemptively to 3♣, and South passes? Here, West has more inferences available than if there was no competition and the auction began 1♣-2♣. Playing Jordan over a takeout double, East has the option of raising to 2♣. Since East chose the preemptive raise to 3♣, it is unlikely East has the ♣Ace and a diamond stopper. East's weak raise to 3♣ does not guarantee six clubs. So there may not be nine cashers even if the defense does not lead a diamond. So West should not risk 3NT. West may choose to look for a club game. There is no need to stretch for a game at matchpoints. An invitational 4♣ bid seems best. A 3♥ bid is an option, but reduces the chance of a heart lead. Either way, with a sixth club and two doubletons, East will bid game in clubs.

Related Articles for Advancing Players:

Roger Lee shares advice on Responsive Doubles in his lecture on BBO .

The Play:

There is not much to the play on this board. Against 3NT, a diamond lead will set the contract. Declarer has nine tricks on any other lead. If the defense does not lead a diamond, declarer should not consider risking the matchpoints for making 3NT by taking a heart finesse for an overtrick. 3NT making will score plenty of matchpoints.

5♣ is quite a good contract. Its success depends on the heart finesse. With the ♥King offside, the judgment to prefer the minor suit game to 3NT is not rewarded.

6 ♠AKJ843
♥T8
♦3
♣K984
Dir: East
Vul: E-W

♠62
♥KQ532

Untitled

♦AK6
 ♣QJ2
 ♠QT7
 ♥A9
 ♦T9872
 ♣A75

♠95
 ♥J764
 ♦QJ54
 ♣T63

11
 15 10
 4

Double Dummy Makes
 NS: ♣5 ♦3 ♥3 ♠6 NT4
 EW: 1♣ 4♦ 3/4♥ 1♠ 3NT

LoTT: 16 - 16 = 0
 Par: -620 4♥-E

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
200		6.00	0.00	3N* E -1	♠9	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner						
100		4.50	1.50	3N W -1	♠K	B6-Broderick-Noble vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis						
100		4.50	1.50	3N E -1	♠9	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B7-Bedell-Bruff
	50	3.00	3.00	2♠ N -1	♥A	B7-Josset-Josset vs B5-Bauman-Bauman
	100	1.50	4.50	4♠ N -2	♥A	B3-Briney-Briney vs B4-Krone-Ward
	100	1.50	4.50	3♠ N -2	♦T	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B2-Mukamal-Lux						
	130	0.00	6.00	3♦ E +1	♠9	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B6-Moses-Messinger						

7 ♠J52
 ♥A74
 ♦AJT6
 ♣AQ5
 Dlr: South
 Vul: Both

Untitled

♠K9876
♥982
♦9
♣KJ63
♠AQ43
♥KQJT
♦852
♣94

♠T
♥653
♦KQ743
♣T872

16
7 12
5

Double Dummy Makes
NS: 2♣ 3♦ 2NT ♥6 ♠4
EW: 1♥ 3♠ ♣5 ♦4 NT5

LoTT: 18 - 18 = 0
Par: -140 3♠-EW

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld
	180		6.00	0.00	1N N +3	♥K B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner	120		4.50	1.50	1N N +1	♥K B6-Broderick-Noble vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
	120		4.50	1.50	1N N +1	♥K B7-Josset-Josset vs B4-Kronev-Ward
	110		3.00	3.00	3♦ N	♥K B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B7-Bedell-Bruff	90		1.50	4.50	1N N	♥K B1-Hartel-Hartel vs
B6-Moses-Messinger	90		1.50	4.50	1N N	♥K B3-Briney-Briney vs B3-Strueber-Ellis
	140		0.00	6.00	2♠ W +1	♥A B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman						

8 ♠Q943
♥J6
♦AJ2

Untitled

♣QT82
 Dir: West
 Vul: None

♠AT82
 ♥AK3
 ♦984
 ♣KJ6
 ♠KJ7
 ♥T85
 ♦QT5
 ♣A954

♠65
 ♥Q9742
 ♦K763
 ♣73

10
 15 10
 5

Double Dummy Makes
 NS: ♣4 ♦5 ♥6 ♠4 NT4
 EW: 3♣ 1♦ 1♥ 3♠ 3NT

LoTT: 15 - 14 = +1
 Par: -400 3NT-EW

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
B4-Basel-Castleberry vs	50		6.00	0.00	3N W -1	♣2	
B5-Bauman-Bauman		90	5.00	1.00	1N E	♥4	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B7-Bedell-Bruff		150	3.00	3.00	2N W +1	♠3	B6-Broderick-Noble vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
		150	3.00	3.00	1N E +2	♥4	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs
B6-Moses-Messinger		150	3.00	3.00	1N E +2	♥4	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner		400	0.50	5.50	3N W	♠3	B3-Briney-Briney vs B3-Strueber-Ellis
		400	0.50	5.50	3N W	♠3	B7-Josset-Josset vs B4-Krone-Ward

Untitled

9 ♠652
 ♥K652
 ♦AQJ32
 ♣A
 Dir: North
 Vul: E-W

♠QJ3
 ♥AQ4
 ♦K85
 ♣KQJ7
 ♠K84
 ♥JT93
 ♦9
 ♣T9543

♠AT97
 ♥87
 ♦T764
 ♣862

14
 18 4
 4

Double Dummy Makes
 NS: 3♦ 2♠ ♣4 ♥6 NT6
 EW: 2♣ -/1♥
 ♦3/4 ♥6/7 ♠5 NT5

LOTT: 17 - 18 = -1
 Par: +110 2♠-NS/3♦-NS

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
	400		6.00	0.00	3♥ E -4	♥8	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs
B6-Moses-Messinger	200		5.00	1.00	1N W -2	♦2	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman	110		3.50	2.50	2♦ N +1	♥J	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner	110		3.50	2.50	2♦ N +1	♣4	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B7-Bedell-Bruff	90		2.00	4.00	2♦ N	♥J	B7-Josset-Josset vs B4-Kronev-Ward
	90	90	1.00	5.00	1N W	♦Q	B3-Briney-Briney vs B3-Strueber-Ellis

110 0.00 6.00 2♦ W +1 ♥J B6-Broderick-Noble vs B2-Mukamal-Lux

Untitled

10 ♠KT9865
♥5
♦8652
♣A6
Dir: East
Vul: Both

♠732
♥8764
♦J9
♣T942
♠AQ
♥AQT9
♦AQ43
♣KQ5

♠J4
♥KJ32
♦KT7
♣J873

7
1 23
9

Double Dummy Makes

NS: ♣5/4 ♦5 ♥4 ♠6 NT5
EW: 2♣ 1♦ 3♥ 2NT ♠6

LoTT: 15 - 16 = -1
Par: -140 3♥-EW

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld
Patter-Kleckner	200		5.00	1.00	2N E -2	♠J B6-Broderick-Noble vs B1-Van
	200		5.00	1.00	5♥ E -2	♠J B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B5-Bauman-Bauman
	200		5.00	1.00	3♥ E -2	♠J B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B7-Bedell-Bruff	90	3.00	3.00	1♣ E +1	♠J B5-Patterson-Taylor vs	

Untitled

B6-Moses-Messinger	150	1.50	4.50	2N	E +1	♥2	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B4-Kroney-ward	150	1.50	4.50	2N	E +1	♥2	B7-Josset-Josset vs B3-Strueber-Ellis
	170	0.00	6.00	2♥	E +2	♠J	B3-Briney-Briney vs B2-Mukamal-Lux

11 ♠8
 ♥54
 ♦T872
 ♣986432
 Dir: South
 Vul: None

♠K64
 ♥JT6
 ♦KQJ3
 ♣J75
 ♠QJ973
 ♥973
 ♦A65
 ♣AT

♠AT52
 ♥AKQ82
 ♦94
 ♣KQ

0
 11 11
 18

Double Dummy Makes
 NS: 2♣ 1♥ ♦6 ♠4 NT6
 EW: 2♠ ♣5 ♦6 ♥5 NT6

LoTT: 16 - 16 = 0
 Par: -100 3♣*-NS-1

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
300		6.00	0.00	3♠* E -2	♥A	B3-Briney-Briney vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
100		5.00	1.00	3♠ E -2	♥A	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs

Untitled

B4-Krone-ward							
50	3.00	3.00	3♠ E -1	♥A	B7-Josset-Josset vs B3-Strueber-Ellis		
50	3.00	3.00	2♠ E -1	♥A	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs		
B6-Moses-Messinger							
50	3.00	3.00	2♠ E -1	♣K	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B5-Bauman-Bauman		
100	1.00	5.00	3N S -2	♦K	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs		
B7-Bedell-Bruff							
110	0.00	6.00	2♠ E	♥A	B6-Broderick-Noble vs B1-Van		
Patter-Kleckner							

12 ♠KJT7
 ♥742
 ♦QT9642
 ♣-
 Dir: West
 Vul: N-S

♠Q8642
 ♥853
 ♦5
 ♣AQJ4
 ♠-
 ♥AQT96
 ♦AK873
 ♣K76

♠A953
 ♥KJ
 ♦J
 ♣T98532

6
 9 16
 9

Double Dummy Makes
 NS: 1♠ ♣4 ♦6 ♥3 NT5
 EW: 2/3♣ 4♥ 2NT ♦6 ♠6

LOTT: 17 - 16 = +1

Untitled

Par: -420 4♥-EW

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
150		6.00	0.00	5♥ E -3	♦J	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B5-Bauman-Bauman
100		5.00	1.00	4♥ E -2	♦J	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B4-Krone-ward						
50		3.50	2.50	4♥ E -1	♦J	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B6-Moses-Messinger						
50		3.50	2.50	4♥ E -1	♦J	B6-Broderick-Noble vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner						
	140	2.00	4.00	2♥ E +1	♦J	B7-Josset-Josset vs B3-Strueber-Ellis
	170	1.00	5.00	2♥ E +2	♦J	B3-Briney-Briney vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
	420	0.00	6.00	4♥ E	♦J	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B7-Bedel-Bruff						

13 ♠Q965

♥QJ72

♦JT93

♣9

Dlr: North

Vul: Both

♠AT742

♥A4

♦8

♣KT743

♠8

♥K8653

♦K72

♣AQJ8

♠KJ3

♥T9

♦AQ654

♣652

6

11 13

10

Double Dummy Makes

NS: 1♦ ♣1 ♥4 ♠5 NT5

Untitled

EW: 6♣ 2♥ 2/1♠ 2NT ♠6/5

LoTT: 19 - 18 = +1

Par: -1370 6♣-EW

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld
100		5.50	0.50	3♥ E -1	♦A B6-Broderick-Noble vs B7-Bedell-Bruff
100		5.50	0.50	4♣ E -1	♥9 B7-Josset-Josset vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
	140	4.00	2.00	2♠ W +1	♦3 B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B6-Moses-Messinger					
	150	3.00	3.00	4♣ E +1	♦A B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis					
	300	2.00	4.00	3♦ S -3	♥A B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman					
	600	0.50	5.50	3N E	♦5 B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B4-Krone-Ward
	600	0.50	5.50	3N E	♦4 B3-Briney-Briney vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner					

14 ♠JT6

♥AQ53

♦J9542

♣Q

Dlr: East

Vul: None

♠9752

♥6

♦AQ

♣AK7643

♠83

♥J42

♦K763

♣T852

♠AKQ4

♥KT987

♦T8

♣J9

10

13 4

Untitled

13

Double Dummy Makes

NS: 1♦ 4♥ 3♠ ♣3 NT4

EW: 4♣ ♦5 ♥3 ♠4 NT4

LoTT: 20 - 19 = +1

Par: +100 5♣*-EW-1

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld
420		3.50	2.50	4♥ S	♣A B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B4-Kronev-Ward
420		3.50	2.50	4♥ S	♣A B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis					
420		3.50	2.50	4♥ S	♣A B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman					
420		3.50	2.50	4♥ S	♣A B6-Broderick-Noble vs B7-Bedell-Bruff
420		3.50	2.50	4♥ S	♣A B7-Josset-Josset vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
420		3.50	2.50	4♥ S	♣K B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B6-Moses-Messinger					
170		0.00	6.00	3♥ S +1	♣A B3-Briney-Briney vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner					

15 ♠852

♥J8754

♦J654

♣6

Dlr: South

Vul: N-S

♠J7

♥QT932

♦T9

♣J532

♠AKQ964

♥A

♦Q82

♣A74

♠T3

♥K6

♦AK73

♣KQT98

Untitled

2
4 19
15

Double Dummy Makes

NS: 1♦ ♣5 ♥5 ♠4 NT4

EW: 2♣ 1♥ 3♠ 3NT ♦6

LoTT: 16 - 16 = 0

Par: -400 3NT-EW

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
	140	5.50	0.50	3♠ E	♥K	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B4-Kronev-Ward
	140	5.50	0.50	3♠ E	♣K	B6-Broderick-Noble vs B7-Bedell-Bruff
	170	3.50	2.50	3♠ E +1	♦A	B3-Briney-Briney vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner						
	170	3.50	2.50	3♠ E +1	♦A	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis						
	200	2.00	4.00	3♦ S -2	♠J	B7-Josset-Josset vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
	400	1.00	5.00	3N E	♣K	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman						
	630	0.00	6.00	3♠* E +1	♥K	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B6-Moses-Messinger						

16 ♠72

♥74

♦KQJ8

♣K6532

Dlr: West

Vul: E-W

♠AJT53

♥A98

♦52

♣A97

♠9

♥J532

♦AT976

♣Q84

♠KQ864

♥KQT6

Untitled

♦43
♣JT

9
13 7
11

Double Dummy Makes

NS: 1/-♠ ♣6 ♦6 ♥5 ♠7/6 NT6
EW: -/1♣ 1♦ 1♥ 1NT ♣6/7 ♠6

LoTT: 14 - 14 = 0

Par: -90 1NT-EW

N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
300		6.00	0.00	2N E -3	♥6	B3-Briney-Briney vs B7-Bedell-Bruff
	50	5.00	1.00	2♣ N -1	♠9	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman						
	120	4.00	2.00	2N W	♣3	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B2-Mukamal-Lux						
	150	1.50	4.50	1N E +2	♠4	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs B4-Krone-ward
	150	1.50	4.50	1N E +2	♥6	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B3-Strueber-Ellis
	150	1.50	4.50	2♥ S -3	♠A	B7-Josset-Josset vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner						
	150	1.50	4.50	2♥ S -3	♦5	B6-Broderick-Noble vs
B6-Moses-Messinger						

17 ♠AKT92
♥T
♦T8652
♣J5
Dir: North
Vul: None

♠J73
♥A753
♦KQ
♣KQ96
♠Q86
♥QJ2
♦A4
♣A7432

Untitled

♠54
♥K9864
♦J973
♣T8

8
15 13
4

Double Dummy Makes
NS: 2♦ ♣3 ♥5 ♠6 NT3
EW: 3♣ 2♥ 3NT ♦5 ♠6

LoTT: 17 - 18 = -1
Par: -300 4♦*-NS-2

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
	300		6.00	0.00	4♥* W -2	♥T	B6-Broderick-Noble vs
B6-Moses-Messinger	100		5.00	1.00	5♣ E -2	♠5	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B3-Strueber-Ellis
	150		4.00	2.00	2N E +1	♠5	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B2-Mukamal-Lux	430		2.00	4.00	3N W +1	♠A	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman	430		2.00	4.00	3N W +1	♠A	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs B4-Krone-ward
	430		2.00	4.00	3N W +1	♠A	B7-Josset-Josset vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner	460		0.00	6.00	3N E +2	♠5	B3-Briney-Briney vs B7-Bedell-Bruff

18 ♠A86
♥JT8754
♦-
♣KJ65
Dir: East
Vul: N-S

♠J54
♥Q3
♦KJ9754
♣32
♠KT9

Untitled

♥K62
 ♦AQT632
 ♣A

♠Q732
 ♥A9
 ♦8
 ♣QT9874

9
 7 16
 8

Double Dummy Makes
 NS: 4♣ 3♥ 1♠ ♦2 NT4
 EW: 4♦ 1NT ♣2 ♥4 ♠4

LoTT: 20 - 22 = -2
 Par: -130 4♦-EW

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld
	50		6.00	0.00	4♦ E -1	♥A B4-Basel-Castleberry vs
B2-Mukamal-Lux		130	4.50	1.50	4♦ E	♥A B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B3-Strueber-Ellis
		130	4.50	1.50	3♦ E +1	♥A B5-Patterson-Taylor vs B4-Krone-ward
		150	2.50	3.50	3♦ E +2	♥A B3-Briney-Briney vs B7-Bedell-Bruff
		150	2.50	3.50	3♦ E +2	♥A B6-Broderick-Noble vs
B6-Moses-Messinger		400	0.50	5.50	5♦ E	♥A B7-Josset-Josset vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner		400	0.50	5.50	5♣ E	♥A B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman						

19 ♠AK9
 ♥AKT96
 ♦J7
 ♣852
 Dlr: South
 Vul: E-W

♠J765432

Untitled

♥J8
 ♦83
 ♣J6
 ♠Q8
 ♥Q752
 ♦52
 ♣AT743

♠T
 ♥43
 ♦AKQT964
 ♣KQ9

15
 3 8
 14

Double Dummy Makes
 NS: 3♣ 6♦ 5♥ 2♠ 6NT
 EW: ♣4 ♦0 ♥2 ♠5 NT1

LoTT: 17 - 18 = -1
 Par: +990 6NT-NS

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
	1020		6.00	0.00	6N S +1	♠5	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
	990		5.00	1.00	6N N	♣4	B6-Broderick-Noble vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman	490		3.50	2.50	3N N +3	♣4	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B4-Krone-ward	490		3.50	2.50	3N N +3	♣4	B3-Briney-Briney vs
B6-Moses-Messinger	420		2.00	4.00	5♦ S +1	♠J	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner	50		0.50	5.50	6N S -1	♠5	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis	50		0.50	5.50	7♦ S -1	♠4	B7-Josset-Josset vs B7-Bedell-Bruff

20 ♠J5432
 ♥65
 ♦AKT
 ♣K93
 Dir: West

Untitled

Vul: Both

♠T9
♥T82
♦852
♣AQ542
♠76
♥KQ743
♦Q3
♣JT86

♠AKQ8
♥AJ9
♦J9764
♣7

11
6 8
15

Double Dummy Makes
NS: 1♣ 6♦ 1♥ 6♠ 5NT
EW: ♣6 ♦1 ♥6 ♠1 NT1

LoTT: 18 - 18 = 0
Par: +1430 6♠-NS

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld
B5-Patterson-Taylor vs	680		5.00	1.00	5♠ N +1	♣J
B3-Strueber-Ellis	680		5.00	1.00	4♠ N +2	♥K
B7-Josset-Josset vs B7-Bedell-Bruff	680		5.00	1.00	4♠ N +2	♥K
B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs	650		3.00	3.00	4♠ N +1	♥K
B4-Krone-ward	620		1.00	5.00	4♠ N	♥K
B3-Briney-Briney vs	620		1.00	5.00	4♠ N	♥K
B6-Moses-Messinger	620		1.00	5.00	4♠ N	♥K
B4-Basel-Castleberry vs B1-Van	620		1.00	5.00	4♠ N	♥K
Patter-Kleckner	620		1.00	5.00	4♠ N	♥K
B6-Broderick-Noble vs	620		1.00	5.00	4♠ N	♥K
B5-Bauman-Bauman						

Untitled

21 ♠KT
 ♥AK63
 ♦T63
 ♣Q954
 Dir: North
 Vul: N-S

♠QJ6
 ♥8
 ♦AQ8
 ♣AKJ832
 ♠A742
 ♥QT9742
 ♦K2
 ♣6

♠9853
 ♥J5
 ♦J9754
 ♣T7

12
 17 9
 2

Double Dummy Makes

NS: ♣3 ♦5 ♥3 ♠3/4 NT4
 EW: 4♣ 1/2♦ 4♥ 3♠ 2/3NT

LoTT: 15 - 15 = 0

Par: -420 4♥-EW

	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W	Contract	Ld	
	50		6.00	0.00	3N E -1	♦5	B7-Josset-Josset vs B7-Bedell-Bruff
		110	4.50	1.50	2♥ E	♣T	B5-Patterson-Taylor vs
B3-Strueber-Ellis		110	4.50	1.50	3♣ W	♦T	B6-Broderick-Noble vs
B5-Bauman-Bauman		120	3.00	3.00	2N W	♦T	B3-Briney-Briney vs
B6-Moses-Messinger		130	2.00	4.00	3♣ W +1	♥A	B1-Hartel-Hartel vs B2-Mukamal-Lux
		150	1.00	5.00	2N W +1	♣4	B4-Basel-Castleberry vs B1-Van
Patter-Kleckner		400	0.00	6.00	1♣ N -4	♥7	B2-Lemeshev-Lemeshev vs
B4-Krone-ward							

Untitled