

Lesson Notes for Feb 3-10 Regional at Sea with Larry Cohen

These are the notes/deals for Larry's 9:00-9:45 lectures on Feb 4,5,6,7,8,9

We will cover these topics/deals and others. This first 2-sided sheet is for the first few days – after that other sheets will be available at the start of each lesson.

BIDDING:

10 times more important than learning/adding conventions is to know:

- 1) Partnership style (aggressive/conservative)?
- 2) The basic meaning of responses (with or without interference).
- 3) The basic meanings of opener's rebid and responder's rebid. Understand the difference between opener's reverse as opposed to a jumpshift.
- 4) Takeout doubles + follow-ups, and Negative doubles.

SLAM BIDDING:

Don't use Blackwood with a Void.

Don't use Blackwood with 2 quick losers in a suit.

Control-bid a 1st or 2nd round control (up the line).

DEFENSE:

- 1) Signals – Attitude is most important, but count is useful for more experienced players.
- 2) Don't grab aces – capture something with them.
- 3) On defense, usually go passive (don't break suits)—try to "punt" back to declarer unless there is a sense of urgency.
- 4) When returning partner's suit at notrump, return high from two, low from three.

DECLARER PLAY:

Suit Contract

- 1) What tricks will I *lose*?
- 2) What can I do about those losers?
- 3) Should I draw trump right away?

Notrump

- 1) How many tricks do I *have*?
- 2) How will I get more?
- 3) Can I afford to let them in?

After the Sunday, Monday, Tuesday & Thursday afternoon games: Hand Analysis

See Book Table to pick up your gift, view information/flyers for Future Cruises.

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LC54 Slam Bidding

1

♠ 8752
♥ AKQ
♦ Q762
♣ Q2

♠ A10
♥ J9765
♦ 8
♣ 98643

♠ 3
♥ 10842
♦ 109543
♣ A107

♠ KQJ964
♥ 3
♦ AKJ
♣ KJ5

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♦ 8

South has a good hand for Blackwood, but off 2 aces, puts on the brakes. After the (potentially singleton) diamond lead, declarer plays the top hearts (throwing diamonds) before playing trump. If he plays trump first, West wins the ♠ and reaches partner in clubs for a diamond ruff.

2

♠ A543
♥ AKQ
♦ 1072
♣ AJ10

♠ 965432
♥ KQJ4
♦ 643
♣ 643

♠ J1086
♥ J1087
♦ A85
♣ 52

♠ KQ972
♥
♦ 963
♣ KQ987

Dealer: North
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♦ K

North's 3♣ shows about 17-18 in support of spades. South bids 4♣, his cheapest control. North's 4♥ denies a diamond control, so South signs off in 4♠. When it comes time to play trumps, declarer starts with the ACE--to cater to the only 4-0 break he can pick up.

3

♠ AK852
♥ J83
♦ A2
♣ J43

♠ J7
♥ 72
♦ K1084
♣ 108752

♠ Q1094
♥ 6
♦ Q9753
♣ A96

♠ 63
♥ AKQ10954
♦ J6
♣ KQ

Dealer: West
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♦ 4

North's 4♦ control-bid is what South needs to use Blackwood and reach the good slam. West should lead a diamond--best chance to build a defensive trick. Declarer must set up dummy's spades (using trump entries) to get rid of his diamond loser.

Lessons every morning 9-9:45 A.M.

Hand Analysis w/Larry after the Sun/Mon/Tue/Thur Afternoon Pair games

4

♠ K1087
♥ Q754
♦ 64
♣ AK5

♠ 5
♥ J1093
♦ Q1075
♣ Q1098

♠ 643
♥ AK82
♦ 32
♣ J742

♠ AQJ92
♥ 6
♦ AKJ98
♣ 63

Dealer: East
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♥ J

After Jacoby 2NT, South shows his singleton heart. North control-bids in clubs and South Blackwoods into slam. Drawing trump is fatal. Declarer should take the top minor-suit cards and cross-ruff.

See book table for:

Gift pick-up

Future Cruise Flyers

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Defensive Strategy

1

♠ KQ8	♠ 1065432
♥ 763	♥ AQ94
♦ 54	♦ 107
♣ KJ985	♣ 2

♠ 7	♠ AJ9
♥ K82	♥ J105
♦ J8632	♦ AKQ9
♣ A764	♣ Q103

Dealer: South			
Neither Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♦ 3

After the first trick goes to South's ♦A, West knows that South has ♦AKQ9. When he wins his ♣A (not on the first round), East throws a discouraging spade so West shifts to a low heart (showing "like"--BOSTON) and defeats the contract.

2

♠ AJ87	♠ 654
♥ 43	♥ A52
♦ KQJ10	♦ 9765
♣ AJ8	♣ Q105

♠ QJ10986	♠ KQ10932
♥ A83	♥ K7
♦ K974	♦ 42
	♣ 632

Dealer: South			
N-S Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
			2 ♠
3 ♥	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

South opens 2♠, raised to 4♠ (after West's 3♥ overcall). East wins the heart lead and should shift to a low club--his only chance (dummy's diamonds are threatening). West plays third-hand high (♠K) and the defense takes 4 tricks to set the contract.

3

♠ J3	♠ 54
♥ 7432	♥ 10865
♦ AQ1076	♦ KJ93
♣ 54	♣ AK6

♠ Q62	♠ AK10987
♥ J9	♥ AKQ
♦ 854	♦ 2
♣ QJ1032	♣ 987

Dealer: South			
E-W Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♣ Q

East has diamonds under control, so knows that declarer's only extra tricks might come from ruffing clubs in dummy. To prevent this, he wins the ♠K (cheaper of equals) and shifts to a trump. When in with the next club, he plays another trump to defeat the contract.

4

♠ AK	♠ Q542
♥ 763	♥ 104
♦ KQ1092	♦ 85
♣ 832	♣ AQ764

♠ 9763	♠ J108
♥ Q9852	♥ AKJ
♦ A7	♦ J643
♣ K5	♣ J109

Dealer: South			
Both Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♥ 5

South's 2NT shows 11-12 balanced, no 4-card major. When South wins trick one with the ♥J (probably, he should falsecard), West knows declarer has ♥AKJ. When diamonds are played, it is a good (the only) shot to switch to the ♠K. Partner is marked with good clubs (South is a passed hand)--and it is the only chance--and it works!

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Notrump Defense Tricks 1 & 2

1

♠ Q764
 ♥ KQ6
 ♦ 2
 ♣ QJ1096
 ♠ J93
 ♥ 1098
 ♦ KJ1094
 ♣ 83
 ♠ 1085
 ♥ A432
 ♦ A73
 ♣ 542
 ♠ AK2
 ♥ J75
 ♦ Q865
 ♣ AK7

Dealer: East
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♦ J

West leads the ♦J (top of the interior sequence). East wins the ♦A and returns the 7 (top of a doubleton). Declarer's 8 goes to West's 9. West knows the diamond layout, so shifts. The ♥10 is best/safest. East wins to play another diamond for down 2.

2

♠ 95
 ♥ 52
 ♦ KQJ1062
 ♣ AK8
 ♠ 76
 ♥ AJ764
 ♦ 97
 ♣ 7642
 ♠ AQ10842
 ♥ 983
 ♦ A5
 ♣ J5
 ♠ KJ3
 ♥ KQ10
 ♦ 843
 ♣ Q1093

Dealer: West
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♦	1 ♠	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♠ 7

East wins the ♠A and sees no future in spades. He shifts to the ♥9 (Top of Nothing) and West ducks declarer's king (if declarer plays the 10, West wins the jack and returns a low one). East gets in with the ♠A to play another heart for down 2.

3

♠ A4
 ♥ Q
 ♦ Q1098754
 ♣ K63
 ♠ Q7
 ♥ 7543
 ♦
 ♣ 10987542
 ♠ KJ105
 ♥ 109862
 ♦ A63
 ♣ A
 ♠ 98632
 ♥ AKJ
 ♦ KJ2
 ♣ QJ

Dealer: South
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♣ 10

East wins the ♣A and counts points. His partner has 0-2. East's best (only) chance is a low spade switch (not the jack, which might block the suit).

4

♠ A4
 ♥ 843
 ♦ 87
 ♣ KQ10982
 ♠ 10852
 ♥ J1097
 ♦ 5432
 ♣ 3
 ♠ KJ97
 ♥ A2
 ♦ QJ109
 ♣ A74
 ♠ Q63
 ♥ KQ65
 ♦ AK6
 ♣ J65

Dealer: South
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ J

East wins the ♥A and knowing declarer has all the remaining HCP, makes the spectacular play of the ♠K (Merrimac coup) to knock out dummy's entry to the clubs.

Summary of Opener's Rebid after 1♣ - 1♥ (February, 2018 RAS)

1♣ - 1♥ - 1♠ = 4 spades, 12-18 NF

1♣ - 1♥ - 1NT = 12-14 balanced, usually not 4♠

1♣ - 1♥ - 2♣ = 6+ clubs (not 4♠, not 4♥)

1♣ - 1♥ - 2♦ = 5+♣, 4+♦, 17+ not balanced

1♣ - 1♥ - 2♥ = usually 4 trump, up to about 15 in support (balanced or unbalanced)

1♣ - 1♥ - 2♠ = 4+♠, unbalanced, GF

1♣ - 1♥ - 2NT = 18-19 balanced (could have 4♠)

1♣ - 1♥ - 3♣ = 6+ good clubs, invitational (16-18)

1♣ - 1♥ - 3♦ = don't bid this

1♣ - 1♥ - 3♥ = 4 hearts, 16-18 in support

1♣ - 1♥ - 3♠/4♦ = 4 hearts, splinter bid, 19-20 in support, GF

1♣ - 1♥ - 3NT = Good long clubs, good hand, stoppers, "to play"

1♣ - 1♥ - 4♣ = 6+ good clubs, 4 hearts, 19-20 in support, GF

1♣ - 1♥ - 4♥ = 4♥, 19-20 in support (usually no shortness)