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

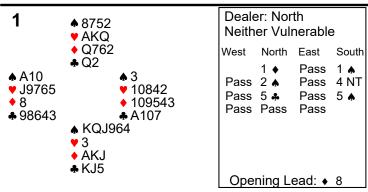
- 1) How many tricks do *I have*?
- 2) How will I get more?
- 3) Can I afford to let them in?

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

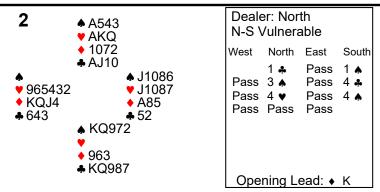
See Book Table to pick up your gift, view information/flyers for Future Cruises.

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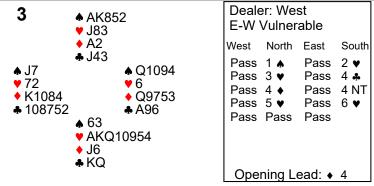
LC54 Slam Bidding



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.



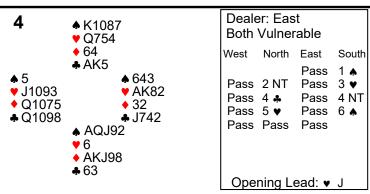
North's 3♠ shows about 17-18 in support of spades. South bids 4♣, his cheapest control. North's 4♥ denies a diamond control, so South signs off in 4♠. When it comes time to play trumps, declarer starts with the ACE--to cater to the only 4-0 break he can pick up.



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

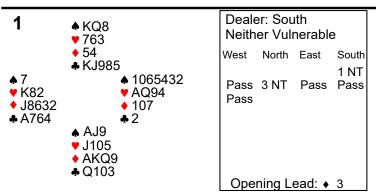


After Jacoby 2NT, South shows his singleton heart. North control-bids in clubs and South Blackwoods into slam. Drawing trump is fatal. Declarer should take the top minor-suit cards and cross-ruff.

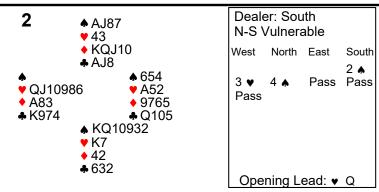
See book table for:
Gift pick-up
Future Cruise Flyers

Larry Cohen 2018 February RAS

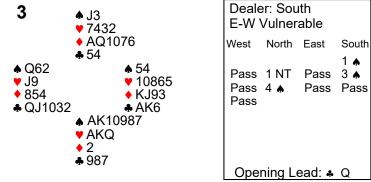
Defensive Strategy



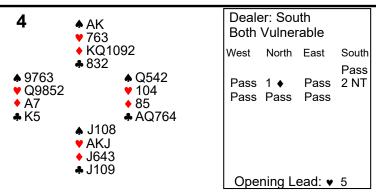
After the first trick goes to South's \$A, West knows that South has \$AKQ9. When he wins his \$A (not on the first round), East throws a discouraging spade so West shifts to a low heart (showing "like"--BOSTON) and defeats the contract.



South opens 24, raised to 44 (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.



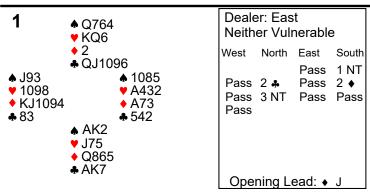
East has diamonds under control, so knows that declarer's only extra tricks might come from ruffing clubs in dummy. To prevent this, he wins the *K (cheaper of equals) and shifts to a trump. When in with the next club, he plays another trump to defeat the contract.



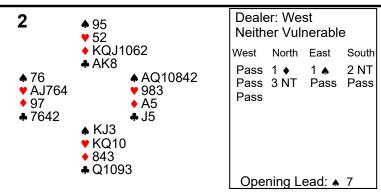
South's 2NT shows 11-12 balanced, no 4-card major. When South wins trick one with the \(\varphi\)J (probably, he should falsecard), West knows declarer has \(\varphi\)AKJ. When diamonds are played, it is a good (the only) shot to switch to the \(\varphi\)K. Partner is marked with good clubs (South is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

Larry Cohen 2018 February RAS

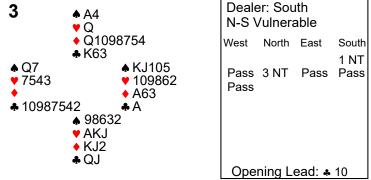
Notrump Defense Tricks 1 & 2



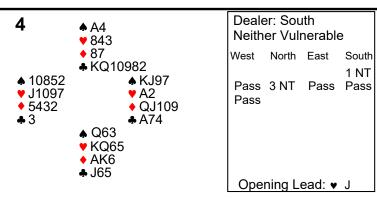
West leads the *J (top of the interior sequence). East wins the *A and returns the 7 (top of a doubleton). Declarer's 8 goes to West's 9. West knows the diamond layout, so shifts. The *10 is best/safest. East wins to play another diamond for down 2.



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.



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).



East wins the **VA** and knowing declarer has all the remaining HCP, makes the spectacular play of the **AK** (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♥ = 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♠)
- $1 \clubsuit$ 1 ♥ $3 \clubsuit$ = 6+ good clubs, invitational (16-18)
- 1♣ 1♥ 3♦ = don't bid this
- 1♣ 1♥ 3♥ = 4 hearts, 16-18 in support
- $1 \clubsuit$ $1 \blacktriangledown$ $3 \spadesuit / 4 \spadesuit$ = 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
- $1 \div 1 \lor 4 \lor = 4 \lor$, 19-20 in support (usually no shortness)