

Supplementary Notes (Scoring)

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Slide 18

Board 15
South dealer
NS vul

♠AKT5
 ♥QT
 ♦AT93
 ♣Q42

♠9862
♥A9
♦KQJ8
♣J97

W N
S E

♠Q4
 ♥K8543
 ♦654
 ♣T85

♠J73
 ♥J762
 ♦72
 ♣AK63

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Board 21
North dealer
NS vul

♠A93
 ♥AJ42
 ♦98
 ♣Q965

♠KQT8
 ♥QT983
 ♦J74
 ♣J

W N
S E

♠J6
♥K65
♦Q63
♣T8432

♠7542
♥7
♦AKT52
♣AK7

The board came down to mostly whether E treated their 9 HCP hand as a game force or not over a 15-17 1NT. The majority did not, and there are a lot of invitational sequences where they hope their partner will accept with a 16-17 HCP hand. It's worth thinking a bit about **when you accept an invitation** with a 3-point range. Do you accept with any 16-17 HCP hand? Or do you think it's about half-half when you hold 16? If it's the latter, what does it depend on and why?

No right or wrong answers – but it's good to have a consistent expectation in your partnership.

Suggested auction:

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Not much to say – should be a straightforward path to 3NT with E having a maximum 12-15 opener and W an invitation. Note that those who failed to find game had mostly **downgraded** the W hand and rebid 1NT instead of inviting with 2NT. That can be sensible if your partnership opens quite light (in this tournament, there were many players who were happy to open with 10 or 11 HCP consistently) – but again, that’s up to discussion and agreement rather than what’s right or wrong.

Suggested auction:

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

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Board 17
North dealer
None vul

♠976432
♥83
♦2
♣J942

♠QT5
♥J2
♦AQ9863
♣86

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠AK
♥AQ7965
♦T
♣KQT5

♠AJ8
♥K4
♦KJ754
♣A73

The field was rather split between players who opened the N hand 3♦ and those who passed – as you might guess, Multi 2♦ was a popular convention this tournament and not many were able to open 2♦. Where N opened, most Es bid 4♥, and obviously S bid 5♦ with enormous trump support. Note that no matter whether you play Weak or Intermediate Jump Overcalls normally, it's a good rule of thumb to **never preempt a preempt**. So 4♥ should be at least intermediate.

Interestingly, the only tables who played 3NT were those where N passed initially and E simply opened 1♥, with S overcalling 1NT. Now N comfortably raised to 3NT, seeing their diamond suit as a **source of tricks** rather than a potential trump suit.

It's also worth thinking about how good the E hand is in context of (1) A 3♦ opening from N, and (2) A 1♥ opening from E and 1NT overcall from S. When N opens, E thinks that their singleton is very good. However, when S overcalls 1NT, E might anticipate that the points will lie over them (especially in the trump suit!) and be more conservative.

Although it's true that 3NT happened to be a better contract on this board, it doesn't mean it was realistic to reach. It's certainly not likely to be right to play 4NT after 3♦ (4♥), nor is it right to double when you have a very good hand for diamonds. It's not worth worrying about – you did the best you could in your situation. It's not a mistake even if it didn't work out.

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Board 16
West dealer
EW vul

♠KT	♠65	♠AQ9742
♥85	♥AQJ	♥9
♦KQ6	♦A874	♦JT95
♣AKQ732	♣J654	♣T9

♠J83
♥KT76432
♦32
♣8

S definitely doesn't have a 'classical' preempt – we teach it as 6-9 HCP and a good 7-card suit (2 honours). Even if you see the T as an honour, it's a very weak hand and you might not be so keen to open. What matters here is seeing that the vulnerability means you can't get punished very much for going down. Even if the opponents double you, supposing that they can make something like 3NT, you won't need to take too many tricks – your goal is to go **down 3** or better.

If you want to preempt more aggressively, make sure your partner knows this and doesn't take you *too* seriously! In this case, partner can **sacrifice** knowing that you have nothing but hearts, and they essentially have nothing but hearts too. But if they want to think about seriously making the contract, they'll likely need a much stronger hand than before. It's all about setting the right expectations in your partnership.

Suggested auction:

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♠	3♥
Double	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♥	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Note that W's action is indeterminate. DBL is here to give partner a chance to bid 3NT – you're lying a little with not having 3 spades. That's alright. In general, **the less space you have, the more wide-ranging your bids have to be** – in both shape and strength.

West	North	East	South
Pass	1NT	2♥	Double
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			