

Presentation Wednesday 25th April – Competitive Auction

Wed 4th Apr Hand 14

♠ K 6 5 3 2
♥ K J 6 4 2
♦ J 10
♣ Q

Dealer E
Vul None

♠ J 9 7 4
♥ 8
♦ 8 7 5 3 2
♣ A K 10

♠ Q
♥ A 3
♦ K Q 9 6 4
♣ J 9 5 3 2

♠ A 10 8
♥ Q 10 9 7 5
♦ A
♣ 8 7 6 4

10
8 12
10

Double Dummy Analysis

North/South have 10 Tricks available in Hearts and 9 Trick in Spades
East/West have 10 tricks available in either Clubs or Diamonds

Results

Tuesday Board 14 - Love all							
NS	EW	Contract	By	NS	EW	MPs	
5	5	4H=	S	420		15	1
4	3	5D-2	E	100		8	8
3	1	5Dx=	E		550	2	14
2	8	3NT-4	E	200		12	4
1	6	6Dx-1	W	100		8	8
9	4	4H=	N	420		15	1
8	2	5Dx=	E		550	2	14
7	9	3NT-2	E	100		8	8
6	7	5Dx=	E		550	2	14

Wednesday Board 14 - Love all							
NS	EW	Contract	By	NS	EW	MPs	
7	7	4D=	E		130	4	8
6	5	3D+1	E		130	4	8
5	3	4H=	S	420		12	0
4	1	2H+1	N	140		10	2
3	6	5D=	E		400	0	12
2	4	4D=	E		130	4	8
1	2	4H-1	S		50	8	4

North	East	South	West
	1♦	1♥	2♦(1)
3♥(2)	Pass	4♥(3)	Pass
Pass	Pass		

- 1) Is this bid correct? I saw this at least once when looking around. A simple raise does not give partner much to go on.
- 2) LTC based on partner having an 8-loser hand for the overcall.
- 3) Actually has a 7-loser so can raise to 4

This auction is too easy for North/South although even then some players missed their opportunity

An alternative more competitive auction might go

North	East	South	West
	1♦	1♥	3♦(1)
4♥(2)	5♦(3)	Dbf (4)	Pass
Pass	Pass		

- 1) With an 8-loser hand and/or 9 tricks on Law of Total Tricks (LTT) West should be more pro-active (esp at 'love all' vulnerability). By bidding to the level of the fit (LTT) partner can better understand the potential of the two hands.

- 2) This time, although the hand is only a 7-loser opposite a potential 8-loser the auction has entered the territory of the LTT because it has become very competitive. So with a 10-card trump fit this is now worth a bid at the four level
- 3) Now East has a 6-loser against what looks like an 8-loser. At Game level the LTC sometimes makes + over its estimated target a calculated 37% of the time. So a raise to 5 diamonds looks like a sacrifice that may even turn into making Game itself.
- 4) Now South has the scariest decision. A classic Double Pass or Bid dilemma

General observations about the results

The average contract level bid to on Tuesday is 4.44

The average for Wednesday is 3.71

The experienced players are more pro-active to bid their hands in a competitive auction.

The scary game of who dare bid highest is best undertaken with an understanding of the trick making potential of the hands. Techniques like the 'Losing Trick Count' and the 'Law of Total Tricks' have a valuable role to play.

When 'Not Vulnerable' the penalty for failure is at its weakest so players should be prepared to bid their hand to its maximum potential. This also means to be prepared to sacrifice a minus score if it looks like the opponents have a Game on. Even two off doubled for minus 300 is better than opponents making 400 or 600.