



Commentary for the SBU Bobby Allan / Easter Pairs 2024

Tuesday 19th March 2024

Dear Bridge player

Thank you for supporting the Bobby Allan / Easter Pairs 2024. We do hope you enjoyed the hands, found them interesting, challenging and fun whatever result you ended up with! The overall winner will be awarded the Bobby Allan Trophy. There are generous masterpoint awards and red points for those who do well.

So now you can relax and enjoy the commentary - did you see the hands in the same way I wonder. We would like to thank our commentators – Liz McGowan for the Monday, Iain Sime for the Tuesday, Derek Sanders for the Wednesday and Brian Short for the Thursday.

Do have a look on the [SBU web site](#) and [Facebook page](#) for all the SBU news and also for information about forthcoming tournaments.

SBU UPCOMING NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

16th to 22nd April	SBU Overseas Congress	Side, Turkey
Saturday 27th April	BAM for BAMSAs Fundraiser	RealBridge
Sunday 5th May	Ranked Individuals	BBO
Saturday 25th May	Mens Pairs & Women's Pairs	RealBridge

Board 1	♠ 5	Dealer N
	♥ AQJ2	Vul: None
	♦ A62	
	♣ AQJ73	
♠ QJ97		♠ AK832
♥ 754		♥ K983
♦ KQ85		♦ J94
♣ 62		♣ K
	♠ 1064	
	♥ 106	
	♦ 1073	
	♣ 109854	

The par contract is Four Clubs by North. The auction may be 1♣-1♠-Pass-2♣-Double-Pass-3♣. Either East or West will bid Three Spades and North will try Four Clubs. Quite rightly too, since Three Spades will make easily.

Lacking an early dummy entry, declarer may drop the club King to escape for one down. Be suspicious of any Greek gifting you that entry.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	3	-	-	-	1
S	3	-	-	-	1
E	-	2	-	3	-
W	-	2	-	3	-

Board 2	♠ 106	Dealer E
	♥ A107653	Vul: N-S
	♦ 8753	
	♣ 10	
♠ AK987		♠ Q532
♥ 82		♥ KJ94
♦ AK4		♦ Q106
♣ KQ2		♣ Aj
	♠ J4	
	♥ Q	
	♦ J92	
	♣ 9876543	

East-West bid INT-2♥-3♠ (four trumps, minimum)-4♣ (cue)-4♥-4NT etc. to Six Spades.

If South leads his heart singleton, the contract is beaten by trick two. If South leads something else, declarer can succeed even if he mis-guesses hearts. Provided that he has stripped

out the minors, South will be forced to give a ruff and discard on winning the heart Queen.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	2	4	3	5	6
W	2	4	3	5	6

Board 3	♠ 65	Dealer S
	♥ 65	Vul: E-W
	♦ A108764	
	♣ Q94	
♠ KQ92		♠ AJ103
♥ A10		♥ KJ843
♦ 932		♦ J5
♣ A1082		♣ J5
	♠ 874	
	♥ Q972	
	♦ KQ	
	♣ K763	

Four Spades is a so-so contract. Maybe INT-2♣-2♠-3♠-? At matchpoints, I don't mind missing it. It will be interesting to see how well 170 scores.

To make ten tricks, declarer probably needs get the hearts going. That will mean ruffing twice before drawing all the trumps. So, four trumps, two ruffs, the club ace, the heart Ace-King and the long heart makes ten tricks.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	1	-	-	-
S	-	1	-	-	-
E	1	-	3	4	1
W	1	-	3	4	1

Board 4	♠ A10653	Dealer W
	♥ 1093	Vul: Both
	♦ A105	
	♣ 97	
♠ J942		♠ K8
♥ K7		♥ AQ
♦ 863		♦ KJ42
♣ KJ82		♣ AQ1065
	♠ Q7	
	♥ J86542	
	♦ Q97	
	♣ 43	

East-West may bid 1♣-1♠-2NT-3NT. 27 points, but the heart duplication will result in most going down after a heart lead.

Deep Finesse makes, by winning the King and playing a spade to the King. If North wins, the Queen drops next time and the Jack is the ninth trick. If North ducks, back to dummy and a diamond to the King for nine tricks.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-		-	-
S	-	-		-	-
E	4	3	-		3
W	4	3	-		3

Board 5	♠ 6	Dealer N
	♥ AKJ107	Vul: N-S
	♦ QJ854	
	♣ 104	
♠ KJ754		♠ A108
♥ 95		♥ Q864
♦ K1032		♦ 96
♣ J3		♣ 9875
	♠ Q932	
	♥ 32	
	♦ A7	
	♣ AKQ62	

This time North-South are in a ropery 3NT. 1♥-2♣-2♦-2♠ (4th suit forcing)-3♦-3NT.

Best defence beats 3NT but many Wests will allow the spade nine to take a trick. Now declarer loses a heart to East and has nine winners. If East can duck the heart in tempo, declarer still succeeds by attacking clubs. West had to abandon spades after two rounds.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	2	3	3		
S	3	3	3		2
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Board 6	♠ 10865	Dealer E
	♥ K965	Vul: E-W
	♦ KQ5	
	♣ 53	
♠ AQ7		♠ KJ432
♥ 1032		♥ AQJ7
♦ 643		♦ J
♣ AK64		♣ QJ8
	♠ 9	
	♥ 84	
	♦ A109872	
	♣ 10972	

Slam on a finesse? Not a good idea in a mixed ability field at match points, where some will be in the wrong contract, and some will not take twelve tricks, perhaps by not taking the heart finesse soon enough. I cannot improve on 1♠-2♣-2♥-4♠-Pass.

"Twelve tricks partner? That was unlucky."

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	6	-	5	6	
W	6	-	5	6	

Board 7	♠ 10874	Dealer S
	♥ 94	Vul: Both
	♦ J42	
	♣ Q543	
♠ 92		♠ AK53
♥ KQ865		♥ 3
♦ 765		♦ Q1098
♣ K102		♣ J987
	♠ QJ6	
	♥ AJ1072	
	♦ AK3	
	♣ A6	

South's One Heart opener is passed round to East who should double. If West passes for penalty, he may be rewarded with plus 200- a very good score on partial hands at match points. The defence takes two spades, a ruff, the heart honours and a trick in each minor.

To avoid this calamity, North must come to the rescue. An SOS redouble should either result in One Spade or INT, both of which can be made.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	2	1
S	-	-	-	1	1
E	1	1	1	-	-
W	1	1	1	-	-

=====

Board 8	♠ K754	Dealer W
	♥ KJ72	Vul: None
	♦ A	
	♣ A1043	
♠ A8		♠ J93
♥ 65		♥ A10983
♦ K109864		♦ J52
♣ 982		♣ J5
	♠ Q1062	
	♥ Q4	
	♦ Q73	
	♣ KQ76	

West opens a weak Two Diamonds, North doubles and East raises to 3♦. South can bid Three Spades, raised to game by North.

Scariest defence is a heart ducked. Declarer would have to guess very well from here to make the eleven tricks he is entitled to. I suspect that many will miss Four Spades, so making only ten tricks would still be a satisfactory score.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	5	-	1	5	-
S	5	-	1	5	-
E	-	1	-	-	-
W	-	1	-	-	-

=====

Board 9	♠ J	Dealer N
	♥ KQ10865	Vul: E-W
	♦ J2	
	♣ Q987	
♠ KQ10983		♠ 74
♥ J432		♥ A9
♦ 4		♦ AK863
♣ 102		♣ K643
	♠ A652	
	♥ 7	
	♦ Q10975	
	♣ AJ5	

Pre-empt works. North opens Two Hearts and it is hard to criticise East's Three Diamond overcall. South gleefully doubles. Best defence is minus 1400, but 1100 is more likely after the normal heart lead.

West would do well to rescue to Three Spades. Deep Finesse escapes for minus 200, but Deep Finesse can see the singleton Jack offside.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	2	2	2	-	2
S	2	2	2	-	2
E	-	-	-	2	-
W	-	-	-	2	-

=====

Board 10	♠ Q32	Dealer E
	♥ QJ7	Vul: Both
	♦ A3	
	♣ AK765	
♠ J86		♠ K10954
♥ A10854		♥ 932
♦ Q5		♦ K109
♣ 1094		♣ 32
	♠ A7	
	♥ K6	
	♦ J87642	
	♣ QJ8	

All roads lead to 3NT, but will it be North or South who declares? If it is South, can West find the killing spade lead? Perhaps only after a very informative auction, or if East has had a chance to show spades.

If North declares and East leads a spade, declarer should make ten tricks. A passive heart lead would save a trick.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	5	4	1	1	3
S	4	3	1	-	2
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

=====

Board 11	♠ AJ1064	Dealer S
	♥ AJ964	Vul: None
	♦	
	♣ K93	
♠ K9875		♠ 2
♥ K102		♥ Q75
♦ Q1032		♦ AJ8754
♣ 10		♣ 852
	♠ Q3	
	♥ 83	
	♦ K96	
	♣ AQJ764	

Some will bid to Six Clubs. Perhaps the auction starts 1♣-1♠-2♣-2♥ (forcing by the way)- 3♣-? North has a great hand for clubs and drives to the poor slam despite no encouragement from South, whose diamond king looks worthless. It isn't- if they lead diamonds, just throw a heart from dummy. Slam is unbeatable with the spade King and, if needed, the heart ten onside.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	6	-	4	3	5
S	6	-	4	3	5
E	-	1	-	-	-
W	-	2	-	-	-

=====

Board 12	♠ Q852	Dealer W
	♥ Q652	Vul: N-S
	♦ 97	
	♣ Q42	
♠ AK743		♠ 96
♥ AK7		♥ 83
♦ KQ5		♦ 8642
♣ K3		♣ AJ1098
	♠ J10	
	♥ J1094	
	♦ AJ103	
	♣ 765	

Some Wests will show their spades, but many will bid to 3NT without any suit being mentioned. Perhaps 2♣-2♦-2NT-3NT. They may be favoured with a spade lead and can postpone the club guess until late in the hand.

Some may help declarer by pitching a club. A look at dummy should indicate that clubs will be the suit declarer will attack next, so let's keep him guessing about who has the Queen.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	6	4	2	4	4
W	6	4	2	4	4

=====

Board 13	♠ AKQ42	Dealer N
	♥ AQ9	Vul: Both
	♦ 84	
	♣ AKJ	
♠ J985		♠ 6
♥ K1052		♥ J7643
♦ A762		♦ J
♣ 9		♣ Q87643
	♠ 1073	
	♥ 8	
	♦ KQ10953	
	♣ 1052	

North's hand is similar to the West hand on 12 but has two important differences. The spade Queen and small doubleton should steer North towards bidding Two Spades after 2♣-2♦. South will raise spades and the unlucky slam could be reached. East leads his singleton, makes a ruff, and there is still a trump to lose.

Six Diamonds is an inferior contract but a lucky make.

Makeable Contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	1	6	-	4	3
S	1	6	-	4	3
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	1	-	-

=====

Board 14	♠ A3	Dealer E
	♥ Q9743	Vul: None
	♦ QJ65	
	♣ 108	
♠ J1097		♠ K6
♥ 108		♥ 652
♦ 107		♦ AK943
♣ AQJ94		♣ 732
	♠ Q8542	
	♥ AKJ	
	♦ 82	
	♣ K65	

Bidder's vulnerability and a part score battle. Win this one and you wipe out the slam disaster on the previous board. With a spade suit he doesn't want to rebid, South opens 1NT. North transfers to hearts and plus 110 is possible. Even minus 100 would be a better result for East-West, so they must compete. If they reach clubs, that +110 could be on the other side of the scoresheet. Now it's North-South who must bid again, losing 50 or 100 in Three Hearts.

Makeable Contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	2	-	-
S	-	-	2	-	-
E	3	2	-	1	1
W	3	2	-	1	1

=====

Board 15	♠ A9	Dealer S
	♥ Q42	Vul: N-S
	♦ AK5	
	♣ AK1076	
♠ K6		♠ Q1073
♥ K9875		♥ 63
♦ J9832		♦
♣ 4		♣ QJ98532
	♠ J8542	
	♥ AJ10	
	♦ Q10764	
	♣	

North opens 2NT. How do you handle the South hand after 3♥ (transfer)-3♠? The minor suit game at matchpoints is 3NT. Plus 430 beats even an overtrick in the minor (+420).

This time Five Diamonds fails with an adverse trump break. 3NT can make an overtrick, but probably won't. On discovering the diamond position declarer turns his attention to spades. Three diamonds and two in every other suit is nine tricks.

Makeable Contracts					
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	1	3	2	3	3
S	-	4	2	3	3
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

=====

Board 16	♠ 1076	Dealer W
	♥ 1076	Vul: E-W
	♦ KQ109	
	♣ A95	
♠ K8		♠ QJ94
♥ AK543		♥
♦ A64		♦ 832
♣ J72		♣ K108643
	♠ A532	
	♥ QJ982	
	♦ J75	
	♣ Q	

Acol players are unlikely to bid clubs, let alone reaching the making (but perhaps only by Deep Finesse) club game. Who can argue with 1♥-1♠-INT-Pass?

Many play that Two Clubs next would be Checkback Stayman. Do they also play that

Three Clubs is natural and to play? They should; this hand illustrates why.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	1	-	-
S	-	-	1	-	-
E	5	1	-	1	2
W	5	1	-	1	2

=====

Board 17	♠ 10	Dealer N
	♥ 1098	Vul: None
	♦ 98632	
	♣ AQJ10	
♠ J752		♠ AKQ986
♥ 7543		♥ AQJ6
♦ Q5		♦ 4
♣ 764		♣ K9
	♠ 43	
	♥ K2	
	♦ AKJ107	
	♣ 8532	

East opens Two Clubs. Will South stick in a Two Diamonds overcall? If so, it paves the way for a sacrifice over Four Spades.

That would only cost 100 against Four Spades making. An even bigger pay-off is when East-West bid on to Five Spades, losing a trick in each suit. The five level belongs to the opponents.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	4	4	-	-	-
S	4	4	-	-	-
E	-	-	3	4	-
W	-	-	3	4	-

=====

Board 18	♠ Dealer E	
	♥ J107654	Vul: N-S
	♦ AQ8	
	♣ 8764	
♠ QJ94		♠ AK1065
♥ A		♥ 8
♦ KJ543		♦ 10762
♣ J92		♣ A53
	♠ 8732	
	♥ KQ932	
	♦ 9	
	♣ KQ10	

East-West have 23 combined points, but it is North-South who can make game. Will they even venture into the auction at unfavourable vulnerability?

Many won't. If they do it is East-West who must sacrifice. My guess is that the par result (5♠ doubled minus 300) will have a lower frequency than 990 (4♥ doubled plus 1) or 850 (5♥ doubled making).

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	1	-	5	-	-
S	1	-	5	-	-
E	-	2	-	3	1
W	-	2	-	3	1

=====

Board 19	♠ AJ954	Dealer S
	♥ J986	Vul: E-W
	♦ A3	
	♣ K4	
♠ Q1086		♠ K3
♥ K73		♥ AQ104
♦ J104		♦ K62
♣ J86		♣ A932
	♠ 72	
	♥ 52	
	♦ Q9875	
	♣ Q1075	

North opens One Spade and East doubles. West will probably bid INT. Yes, we can see that passing the double for penalty would have been a success, but the spade king is more likely to be in the North hand. INT can make eight tricks, perhaps even nine if North leads spades. A heart lead may even hold declarer to seven tricks.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	1	-	-	-
S	-	1	-	-	-
E	1	-	2	2	2
W	1	-	2	2	2

=====

Board 20	♠	109865	Dealer W
	♥	K532	Vul: Both
	♦	K63	
	♣	9	
♠	KQ4		♠ J2
♥	AJ7		♥ Q84
♦	AJ8		♦ Q109742
♣	AK65		♣ J3
	♠	A73	
	♥	1096	
	♦	5	
	♣	Q108742	

West opens 2NT and East raises to 3NT. Ten tricks in 3NT beats even twelve in Five Diamonds at matchpoints.

However, this time both contracts are doomed to fail. Five Diamonds trivially, and 3NT provided that North holds up the diamond King to kill the dummy. Failure to do so would turn eight tricks into ten for West.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	1	4	1	1	2
W	1	4	2	1	2

=====

Board 21	♠	AQJ6532	Dealer N
	♥	A98	Vul: N-S
	♦	J8	
	♣	3	
♠	10874		♠ K
♥	6		♥ K52
♦	AK10		♦ Q7643
♣	K10984		♣ AJ62
	♠	9	
	♥	QJ10743	
	♦	952	
	♣	Q75	

Can East-West reach five of a minor? Perhaps 1♠-Dble-Pass-3♣-3♠-4♣-Pass-5♣.

Can West make this after North starts with two Aces then another spade? Yes, but he would need to guess well. Club Ace, run the club Jack, draw trumps and pitch the remaining spades on dummy's diamonds. Unlucky if you ruffed the second spade with the Jack, playing the opening bidder for the Club Queen or for spades 6/2. Seemed a reasonable shot.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	3	2	-
S	-	-	3	2	-
E	5	5	-	-	3
W	5	5	-	-	3

=====

Board 22	♠	QJ74	Dealer E
	♥	104	Vul: E-W
	♦	A763	
	♣	A84	
♠	A65		♠ K982
♥	J7		♥ KQ9652
♦	KQ542		♦
♣	K32		♣ Q95
	♠	103	
	♥	A83	
	♦	J1098	
	♣	J1076	

East opens 1♥ and may reach 4♥. Many will go down. The diamond Ace is onside for a ruffing finesse, but that is only nine tricks. The tenth can come from spades, starting with the nine. A bit far-fetched.

3NT, by contrast, can be beaten but may be let through. A spade lead is not best, but not yet fatal. South ducks the first heart, wins the next one and shifts to diamonds. When declarer discards, the winning defence is clear.

Makeable Contracts	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	1	-	-	-
S	-	1	-	-	-
E	1	-	4	2	2
W	1	-	4	2	2

=====

Board 23 ♠ AK73 Dealer S
 ♥ A743 Vul: Both
 ♦ 106432
 ♣

♠ 98652 ♠ J10
 ♥ J109 ♥ K865
 ♦ J ♦ AKQ8
 ♣ J1084 ♣ 652

♠ Q4
 ♥ Q2
 ♦ 975
 ♣ AKQ973

Another tight 3NT game, this time for North-South. Perhaps 1♣-1♦-2♣-2NT-3NT by South, expecting that clubs will be a source of tricks.

East has a lead problem. Only a spade or an unlikely diamond 8 will definitely beat 3NT. Starting with a top diamond looks normal, but declarer can now attack diamonds to set up two tricks to go with the Heart Ace and three in each black suit.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	3	3	1	2	2
S	3	3	1	2	2
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Board 24 ♠ AK8 Dealer W
 ♥ Q1082 Vul: None
 ♦ 1094
 ♣ 982

♠ 942 ♠ Q6
 ♥ 3 ♥ A765
 ♦ AKQ7653 ♦ 82
 ♣ 74 ♣ QJ653

♠ J10753
 ♥ KJ94
 ♦ J
 ♣ AK10

The West hand is the traditional "Gambling 3NT" opener. A solid minor with no outside Aces or Kings. If 3NT is passed out, the "textbook" lead from the North hand is the spade Ace. The textbook is again proved to be

right as the defence will cash the first seven tricks.

However, plus 150 is no match for those who reach and make four of a major. Anyone for a "Landy" Four Clubs against the Gambling 3NT, showing both majors? A different textbook.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	1	-	5	4	-
S	1	-	5	4	-
E	-	2	-	-	-
W	-	2	-	-	-

Board 25 ♠ Q73 Dealer N
 ♥ QJ Vul: E-W
 ♦ 63
 ♣ KQ10832

♠ 10852 ♠ AJ964
 ♥ A8 ♥ K9754
 ♦ QJ72 ♦ 84
 ♣ 976 ♣ J

♠ K
 ♥ 10632
 ♦ AK1095
 ♣ A54

Some will find excuses to open the North or East hand- OK, if you play a gadget showing both majors that is a reason, not an excuse. Most Souths will be allowed to open 1♦ and North responds 2♣. Heedful of the vulnerability, East doubles; 2NT would be 5/5 but too risky. Can North-South discover that they have both the majors stopped for 3NT? Very difficult, and some will go minus in Five Clubs or defending Three Spades.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	4	2	-	-	3
S	4	2	-	-	3
E	-	-	-	3	-
W	-	-	-	3	-

Board 26 ♠ A6 Dealer E
 ♥ Q86532 Vul: Both
 ♦ Q103
 ♣ 72

♠ Q10843 ♠ K97
 ♥ A ♥ KJ7
 ♦ A ♦ J9876
 ♣ AKJ1098 ♣ Q5

 ♠ J52
 ♥ 1094
 ♦ K542
 ♣ 643

We haven't had a slam for a while. Six of a black suit is makeable, but declarer will have to negotiate spades for one loser. That will require finding the Jack. If North has stuck in a heart bid, play him for Ax of spades. If not, play that way anyway as you can handle a singleton Ace with North.

Auction? 1♣-1♦-2♠-2NT-3♠-4♠-4NT etc. Declarers in Six Clubs will be able to postpone their spade decision until later in the play.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	6	3	1	6	4
W	6	3	1	6	4

Board 27 ♠ 10963 Dealer S
 ♥ A4 Vul: None
 ♦ A1097
 ♣ K53

♠ Q742 ♠ A85
 ♥ KJ62 ♥ 8753
 ♦ 5 ♦ 62
 ♣ 10987 ♣ A642

 ♠ KJ
 ♥ Q109
 ♦ KQJ843
 ♣ QJ

3NT by South. At many tables the auction will be either 1♦-1♠-1NT-3NT or 1♦-1♠-2♦-3♦-3NT. A heart lead gives ten tricks with little interest in the play. A club lead would make declarer work for his tenth trick. At match points it is often better to make passive leads.

Anyone in Five Diamonds? As usual, you are paying off to 430, but this time it doesn't even make.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	4	-	1	3
S	-	4	-	1	4
E	1	-	1	-	-
W	1	-	1	-	-

Board 28 ♠ AJ Dealer W
 ♥ KQ862 Vul: N-S
 ♦ KQ5
 ♣ KJ3

♠ 10742 ♠ KQ953
 ♥ 3 ♥ 7
 ♦ J843 ♦ 102
 ♣ 10972 ♣ AQ854

 ♠ 86
 ♥ AJ10954
 ♦ A976
 ♣ 6

We finish with another competitive auction. East-West can sacrifice in Four Spades and even in Five Spades if North-South bid on. North opens One Heart and East makes a 2♥ Michaels cue bid (spades and a minor, 5/5+).

South may splinter with Four Clubs. That should discourage North, because KJx is not a good holding opposite a shortage. Any Norths not so discouraged are likely to end up in Six Hearts going down; East has an obvious high spade lead.

Makeable Contracts

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	4	5	-	4
S	-	4	5	-	4
E	1	-	-	2	-
W	1	-	-	2	-

Some interesting hands today. I hope that you enjoyed the commentary. My apologies for any errors or if I missed your brilliancy.
 Iain Sime