

# HIWCBA Chidwick Cup

DUPLICATE PAIRS COMPETITION

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in aid of

Hampshire & Isle of Wight  
Air Ambulance



Commentary by Julian Pottage

ECATS Session 4972

<p>Hand 1</p> <p>♠ K7 ♥ T873 ♦ J63 ♣ A954</p>	<p>♠ T8653 ♥ K64 ♦ K72 ♣ KJ</p> <p>N/-</p> <p>♠ QJ92 ♥ QJ9 ♦ T9 ♣ Q872</p> <p>♠ A4 ♥ A52 ♦ AQ854 ♣ T63</p>	<p>If South opens a weak 1NT in third seat, North, with poor spades but enough values to expect 1NT to make, needs to decide whether to let 1NT play rather than transfer into spades. In 1NT declarer is likely to make nine tricks (three tops in the majors, five diamonds and a club) even without guessing correctly in clubs. A spade contract plays less well, the losers being three in trumps and usually two between the pointed suits.</p>
<p>Hand 2</p> <p>♠ Q8 ♥ AKQ6 ♦ QJ842 ♣ QT</p>	<p>♠ K542 ♥ 92 ♦ 97 ♣ A9732</p> <p>E/NS</p> <p>♠ 963 ♥ T753 ♦ A6 ♣ KJ65</p> <p>♠ AJT7 ♥ J84 ♦ KT53 ♣ 84</p>	<p>East-West are in danger of getting too high if West opens 1♦ and raises East's 1♥ response to 3♥. Stopping in 3♥ may be slightly easier if a strong no-trump is in use as then West opens 1NT and is the one to decide whether to advance from 3♥ to 4♥. While hearts are 3-2, the ♦K is offside and 9 tricks are the limit. A no-trump contract fares less well, with at least five losers (in the black suits) and often the ♦K to lose too.</p>
<p>Hand 3</p> <p>♠ 7 ♥ AJT874 ♦ AKQT ♣ T9</p>	<p>♠ Q52 ♥ 92 ♦ 63 ♣ AJ7632</p> <p>S/EW</p> <p>♠ J983 ♥ 653 ♦ J8542 ♣ Q</p> <p>♠ AKT64 ♥ KQ ♦ 97 ♣ K854</p>	<p>After South opens 1♠, West overcalls 2♥ and North raises to 2♠. West reopens with either with a double (intending to convert 3♣ to 3♦) or with 3♦. As the cards lie 3♦ works better because North could bid 3♣ over a double, alerting South to the two-suit fit. The play has little interest unless spades are trumps and West cashes the red tops before playing a third diamond. Then declarer does best to ruff in hand, retaining the marked trump finesse option if (as is the case) West shows out on the second spade.</p>
<p>Hand 4</p> <p>♠ J85 ♥ 732 ♦ K964 ♣ 642</p>	<p>♠ ♥ AQJT9 ♦ J752 ♣ KT75</p> <p>W/All</p> <p>♠ 2 ♥ K864 ♦ QT83 ♣ AQ83</p> <p>♠ AKQT97643 ♥ 5 ♦ A ♣ J9</p>	<p>Assuming North opens 1♥ and South has a strong jump shift available, that is how the auction starts. If somehow South gets North to cue bid and East doubles a 4♣ cue bid then the partnership should stop out of a slam. At most tables South, with ten playing tricks facing an opening bid, is not going to stop. On a red suit lead 6♠ is makable if declarer takes no finesses but instead runs all the trumps, forcing East to bare either the ♥K or the ♣A and guesses whether to drop the ♥K or endplay East. More commonly the club situation means that 6♠ will fail.</p>

<p>Hand 5</p> <p>♠ A8732 ♥ 82 ♦ KT64 ♣ KQ</p>	<p>♠ QT ♥ Q93 ♦ 9832 ♣ JT83</p> <p>N/NS</p> <p>♠ 96 ♥ AJT4 ♦ Q7 ♣ A9642</p> <p>♠ KJ54 ♥ K765 ♦ AJ5 ♣ 75</p>	<p>Playing a weak no-trump and that a jump accept of transfer shows a minimum with 4-card support, 1NT-2♥-3♠-4♠ is the way to bid the East-West cards. After a safe trump lead, declarer is likely to end up needing to guess the diamonds. The very fact that South chose to lead a trump rather than a diamond might help declarer to guess right. If West declares, this inference will not be available and it will harder to find the winning view.</p>
<p>Hand 6</p> <p>♠ T72 ♥ J953 ♦ JT54 ♣ Q8</p>	<p>♠ 8 ♥ AQ864 ♦ Q76 ♣ K954</p> <p>E/EW</p> <p>♠ A543 ♥ KT ♦ K3 ♣ AJ632</p> <p>♠ KQJ96 ♥ 72 ♦ A982 ♣ T7</p>	<p>At most tables East passes as dealer and gets to overcall 1♠ after South opens 1♣ and North responds 1♥. South is likely to rebid 1NT and I suspect that North, after checking for a 5-3 heart fit, settles for 3NT. Since the ♦A is with the long spades, holding up the ♠A does not help much. Declarer will need to drop the ♣Q to make 3NT. Higher scores are available in a suit contract, potentially with just the ♦A and (if hearts are trumps) a heart to lose.</p>
<p>Hand 7</p> <p>♠ J96 ♥ K72 ♦ 76 ♣ Q6432</p>	<p>♠ QT753 ♥ J4 ♦ KJ984 ♣ T</p> <p>S/All</p> <p>♠ K8 ♥ A93 ♦ Q5 ♣ AKJ875</p> <p>♠ A42 ♥ QT865 ♦ AT32 ♣ 9</p>	<p>North-South are liable to get too high if, as is likely, South upgrades the hand because of the long club suit. 1♣-1♠-2NT-3♦-3NT is a typical auction. Possibly South bids 3♥ over 3♦ to express doubt, though with J-x in the unbid heart suit North then bids 3NT anyway. The poor communications mean that 3NT should go at least two down after a heart lead. A spade contract plays better, though 3♠ could fail if declarer tries to discard a heart on the second round of clubs.</p>
<p>Hand 8</p> <p>♠ A86 ♥ 3 ♦ K965 ♣ AQ872</p>	<p>♠ KQ52 ♥ AK864 ♦ AQ4 ♣ 3</p> <p>W/-</p> <p>♠ 97 ♥ QJ ♦ JT8732 ♣ T94</p> <p>♠ JT43 ♥ T9752 ♦ ♣ KJ65</p>	<p>After West opens 1♣, North is a bit too good for a simple 1♥ overcall and starts with a double. Without the double, East would bid hearts; with it, a pre-emptive raise in clubs may be in order. Whether East bids 1♥ and West 2♣ or East raises clubs, North doubles again and South bids diamonds. The bad breaks in the red suits mean that 9 tricks should be the limit in a diamond contract. If clubs are trumps, an initial trump lead and (after South gets in with a heart) a trump continuation holds declarer to 9 tricks.</p>

<p>Hand 9</p> <p>♠ Q42 ♥ K42 ♦ KJT7 ♣ Q82</p>	<p>♠ A73 ♥ QJ976 ♦ 43 ♣ J73</p> <p>N/EW</p> <p>♠ T85 ♥ AT3 ♦ Q86 ♣ AKT6</p> <p>♠ KJ96 ♥ 85 ♦ A952 ♣ 954</p>	<p>If South opens 1NT in third seat and North transfers into hearts, East can reopen with a double when 2♥ comes back round. West will probably then bid 3♦, though there is a case for bidding 2♠ because if you are playing a 4-3 fit you would rather do so at the two level and in a major. With the ♣A-K and ♥A all favourably placed, you can make 3♦ with a winning diamond guess. Since spades are 3-3, you can also make 9 tricks with spades as trumps. With the ♣Q offside, 2♥ fails if the defenders get on to spades.</p>
<p>Hand 10</p> <p>♠ AK6 ♥ JT74 ♦ AT9 ♣ J76</p>	<p>♠ T753 ♥ 9852 ♦ 82 ♣ KQ4</p> <p>E/All</p> <p>♠ J942 ♥ AK3 ♦ KQJ54 ♣ 3</p> <p>♠ Q8 ♥ Q6 ♦ 763 ♣ AT9852</p>	<p>In the modern style, after South opens, West might venture a takeout double. North may bid 1♥, in which case 2♣ is probably enough on the East cards since any free bid shows some values. If North passes, East might well jump to 3♣. South will not want to defend 2♣, so 3♣ is likely to be the final contract in many tables. By finessing in trumps East can make 3♣. If North-South find their spade fit, 2♠ should go down if the defenders do not crash trump honours.</p>
<p>Hand 11</p> <p>♠ Q ♥ KT942 ♦ AT7 ♣ 9876</p>	<p>♠ KJT42 ♥ 8 ♦ J932 ♣ JT3</p> <p>S/-</p> <p>♠ 986 ♥ QJ5 ♦ Q6 ♣ KQ542</p> <p>♠ A753 ♥ A763 ♦ K854 ♣ A</p>	<p>Being in third seat, North might well open a weak 2♠. If East does not fancy a 2NT overcall, West should find a reopening double. East-West should reach 4♥ one way or another. How they get to 6♥ is another matter! A cross-ruff plays beautifully if you time it well. The precautions needed are to cash the ♥A before ruffing the fourth of clubs and to cash two diamonds and take the final club ruff before leading a fourth round of spades. This way 12 tricks result.</p>
<p>Hand 12</p> <p>♠ 7643 ♥ J942 ♦ T3 ♣ 842</p>	<p>♠ AT ♥ 7653 ♦ AQ4 ♣ QJT9</p> <p>W/NS</p> <p>♠ K82 ♥ KT8 ♦ K87652 ♣ 6</p> <p>♠ QJ95 ♥ AQ ♦ J9 ♣ AK753</p>	<p>If North opens a weak 1NT and East doubles, South has no reason to run but West has a problem. Traditional advice is to pass on the basis that anything else may be worse. These days West might try 2♣ hoping that someone else does something! Here South would compete to 2♦ but East (if thinking 2♣ is natural) goes on to 3♣. Rather than press on to 3♦, South should double 3♣ to give North more options. East-West may score well if the final contract is some undoubled partscore.</p>

<p>Hand 13</p> <p>♠ A762 ♥ T5 ♦ KJT98 ♣ J9</p>	<p>♠ QJ853 ♥ K7 ♦ 72 ♣ QT83</p> <p>N/AII</p> <p>♠ 9 ♥ AJ9632 ♦ A43 ♣ AK5</p> <p>♠ KT4 ♥ Q84 ♦ Q65 ♣ 7642</p>	<p>East-West are likely to bid 1♥-1♠-3♥-4♥. With 16 HCP and a fair 6-card suit, East is too strong for 2♥ rebid. With a doubleton as adequate support for a 6-card suit and with no certain club stopper, West prefers 4♥ to 3NT. With both red suits friendly, 12 tricks result even if you ruff a club in dummy (and so can lead trumps from there just once). If West is in 3NT, a spade lead restricts declarer to a single overtrick while any other lead would potentially allow 12 tricks.</p>
<p>Hand 14</p> <p>♠ QJ952 ♥ AT3 ♦ AT2 ♣ A5</p>	<p>♠ T4 ♥ KJ762 ♦ 65 ♣ K962</p> <p>E/-</p> <p>♠ AK86 ♥ 84 ♦ Q84 ♣ QJ83</p> <p>♠ 73 ♥ Q95 ♦ KJ973 ♣ T74</p>	<p>It is quite likely that South opens a weak 1NT and West starts with a double. After North retreats to 2♥, via a conventional escape mechanism for some, West probably competes to 2♠. North does best to lead a club against 2♠, though this is not such an easy lead to find. On a diamond lead declarer might be able to hold the losers to three trumps and one in a rounded suit. 2♥ should fail either if West scores a club ruff or if East scores a spade ruff.</p>
<p>Hand 15</p> <p>♠ Q6532 ♥ AQJ3 ♦ K7 ♣ 97</p>	<p>♠ K974 ♥ 98742 ♦ A8 ♣ QJ</p> <p>S/NS</p> <p>♠ A ♥ KT65 ♦ J543 ♣ T853</p> <p>♠ JT8 ♥ ♦ QT962 ♣ AK642</p>	<p>A reasonable Acol auction for West and East is 1♠-2♣-2♥-3♠. East needs to avoid getting too carried away with the void. The 4-1 trump break, particularly combined with the fact North is overruffing West in both minors, means there is likely to be too much work to do to make nine tricks. If West has not bid hearts naturally then North might lead a heart, in which case 3♠ could make.</p>
<p>Hand 16</p> <p>♠ K5 ♥ T ♦ QJT852 ♣ AT53</p>	<p>♠ 8762 ♥ A853 ♦ 64 ♣ KJ7</p> <p>W/EW</p> <p>♠ J3 ♥ KQ972 ♦ K973 ♣ Q2</p> <p>♠ AQT94 ♥ J64 ♦ A ♣ 9864</p>	<p>Being non-vulnerable and with a 6-4 shape and good intermediates, West is likely to open 1♦. East responds 1♠ and much depends upon West's choice of rebid. East would raise 2♣ to 3♣ but probably bid 2NT over 2♦. A club contract plays well with just two trumps and a heart to lose – declarer ruffs two hearts in hand. 2NT fares rather less well, with little scope to make more than five spade tricks and the two minor-suit aces.</p>

<p>Hand 17</p> <p>♠ Q62 ♥ AQJ4 ♦ 87 ♣ J963</p>	<p>♠ KJT953 ♥ T32 ♦ K62 ♣ Q</p> <p>N/-</p> <p>♠ A874 ♥ 975 ♦ QJ ♣ K752</p> <p>♠ ♥ K86 ♦ AT9543 ♣ AT84</p>	<p>If North opens a weak 2♠, East is likely to overcall 3♦ rather than make a takeout double. If South then jumps to 4♠, West has little choice but to make a penalty double. If South raises to just 3♠, West still doubles, though this time for takeout. 4♣ makes easily, indeed with overtrick chances on a non-trump lead. 4♥ would be an interesting spot. In theory 4♥ makes only from the East seat; the ♣Q lead, with South overtaking if dummy ducks, can beat 4♥ by West.</p>
<p>Hand 18</p> <p>♠ K9 ♥ T52 ♦ AQJ5432 ♣ Q</p>	<p>♠ A3 ♥ Q643 ♦ KT6 ♣ AKT4</p> <p>E/NS</p> <p>♠ JT765 ♥ J7 ♦ 987 ♣ 653</p> <p>♠ Q842 ♥ AK98 ♦ ♣ J9872</p>	<p>West is likely to finish in 3♦ after East opens 1♣ whether or not North braves a 1NT overcall in the sandwich seat. At first glance declarer in 3♦ just has one loser in each suit. However, if North finds an inspired low heart lead, South can get to make an uppercut on the fourth round of hearts to create a second defensive trump trick. If North overcalls and East-West defend, South could go two down in 2♠ doubled.</p>
<p>Hand 19</p> <p>♠ J62 ♥ KQT2 ♦ QJ7 ♣ Q63</p>	<p>♠ K9753 ♥ A97 ♦ T96 ♣ 92</p> <p>S/EW</p> <p>♠ T ♥ J654 ♦ AK42 ♣ AJ74</p> <p>♠ AQ84 ♥ 83 ♦ 853 ♣ KT85</p>	<p>If North-South play a weak 1NT, South rebids 2♣ after opening 1♦ and seeing a 1♠ response. If a strong no-trump opening is in use, South may prefer to rebid 1NT. North would give preference to 2♦ after the 2♣ rebid. After the ♥K lead and the ♦Q switch, declarer might go two down in 2♦ by playing a spade to the king at trick three; one off will be more common. 1NT could go two down after the ♥K lead and a switch to the ♠J.</p>
<p>Hand 20</p> <p>♠ AKT2 ♥ QJ86 ♦ 2 ♣ AQ74</p>	<p>♠ 6543 ♥ 753 ♦ J94 ♣ T82</p> <p>W/All</p> <p>♠ 97 ♥ KT942 ♦ KQ87 ♣ 96</p> <p>♠ QJ8 ♥ A ♦ AT653 ♣ KJ53</p>	<p>East might respond to 1♣ with a 3♥ splinter (club raise with short hearts). With full opening values outside hearts West will be interested in a slam. Having extra values East should be happy to co-operate. The friendly layout means you can make all 13 tricks even on a trump lead. You win with one of West's honours and proceed to ruff three diamonds, taking the first two ruffs low and the third ruff with West's other trump honour. 6♠ is a bit of a lucky make.</p>



<p>Hand 21</p> <p>♠ AK94 ♥ 932 ♦ J543 ♣ K3</p>	<p>♠ J6 ♥ AQT ♦ KQT9 ♣ T752</p> <p>N/NS</p> <p>♠ Q532 ♥ 84 ♦ A72 ♣ AJ64</p> <p>♠ T87 ♥ KJ765 ♦ 86 ♣ Q98</p>	<p>Playing a weak no-trump and Stayman, North-South reach 2NT via 1NT-2♣-2♦-2NT. If they play a strong no-trump, North opens one of a minor and rebids 1NT, which South raises. The defenders can defeat 2NT no matter how well declarer guesses if East keeps leading spades and West keeps leading hearts: they score three spades, two hearts and a club. More likely a heart lead will give declarer a chance to make, possibly with an overtrick by guessing to start clubs with the ♣10.</p>
<p>Hand 22</p> <p>♠ 73 ♥ AK6 ♦ 8752 ♣ J873</p>	<p>♠ KQJ5 ♥ 873 ♦ AKJ64 ♣ 6</p> <p>E/EW</p> <p>♠ 9864 ♥ JT9 ♦ 3 ♣ KT542</p> <p>♠ AT2 ♥ Q542 ♦ QT9 ♣ AQ9</p>	<p>If East opens a weak no-trump and North-South play Multi Landy, it is unclear what action North can take. Perhaps some will fudge and bid 2♠ even though that normally shows five spades with a minor. If South leads a pointed suit (spades surely) against 1NT, this will prevent any overtricks; on other leads declarer can make three clubs, four hearts and a spade for 120. 2♠ would make with just five top tricks to lose.</p>
<p>Hand 23</p> <p>♠ T763 ♥ AT96 ♦ 5 ♣ KQJ8</p>	<p>♠ AKQ85 ♥ Q75 ♦ 97 ♣ 632</p> <p>S/All</p> <p>♠ 94 ♥ K82 ♦ AQJ6432 ♣ 9</p> <p>♠ J2 ♥ J43 ♦ KT8 ♣ AT754</p>	<p>West is a little bit light, especially when vulnerable, to double 1♦. North responds 1♠ and South rebids 2♦. Lacking any club stopper, North has a tricky rebid. Some will choose 2NT despite this flaw, which works OK if South retreats to 3♦. As the cards lie (the ♥A with West and ♦K with East), 11 tricks are on in a diamond contract. A club lead and eventual heart switch would beat 2NT. On a non-heart lead North can make 2♠.</p>
<p>Hand 24</p> <p>♠ 972 ♥ K9 ♦ Q9 ♣ AJ9764</p>	<p>♠ KT ♥ J72 ♦ T642 ♣ Q853</p> <p>W/-</p> <p>♠ AQ6543 ♥ 8643 ♦ AK ♣ K</p> <p>♠ J8 ♥ AQT5 ♦ J8753 ♣ T2</p>	<p>This West hand is less attractive than it was on board 16 and many players will pass as dealer. This being the case, South opens 1♠ in fourth seat. Then West overcalls 2♣ and South reopens with double, thereafter converting 2♦ to 2♠. If the defenders slip, declarer might score an overtrick, making six trumps, two diamonds and a club. They can thwart this either if West (after discarding a diamond on the third round of hearts), scores a diamond ruff or if they manage to force dummy to ruff a heart with the ♠K.</p>

<p>Hand 25</p> <p>♠ 963 ♥ QJ84 ♦ T73 ♣ A86</p>	<p>♠ A72 ♥ 2 ♦ KJ652 ♣ Q954</p> <p>N/EW</p> <p>♠ K54 ♥ AKT96 ♦ Q4 ♣ J32</p> <p>♠ QJT8 ♥ 753 ♦ A98 ♣ KT7</p>	<p>Given the soft values in the minors, South might reasonably open a weak 1NT, though in third seat opening 1♥ with a view to passing most responses is reasonable too. The 3-3 diamond break makes it fairly easy to make 8 tricks in a no-trump contract even on a spade lead. East's natural spade lead should stop the overtrick in 2♦. By contrast, 110 is available with either clubs or hearts as trumps.</p>
<p>Hand 26</p> <p>♠ JT52 ♥ T964 ♦ J6 ♣ T84</p>	<p>♠ K76 ♥ KJ ♦ T85 ♣ K9763</p> <p>E/All</p> <p>♠ AQ83 ♥ Q532 ♦ KQ72 ♣ J</p> <p>♠ 94 ♥ A87 ♦ A943 ♣ AQ52</p>	<p>If East opens a weak 1NT, I would bid 2♣ (both majors, usually at least 5-4 but can be a 4441 type) with the South cards. North then plays in 2♠. Any lead other than a club, a lead East would hardly choose, should stop the overtrick in 2♠. If South passes over 1NT, I would bid 2♣ Stayman on the West hand and finish in 2♥. That should go two or three down. East would go two off in 1NT.</p>
<p>Hand 27</p> <p>♠ J96 ♥ 8654 ♦ AK6 ♣ A52</p>	<p>♠ QT74 ♥ 732 ♦ QJ75 ♣ 87</p> <p>S/-</p> <p>♠ 53 ♥ AKJT9 ♦ 94 ♣ J964</p> <p>♠ AK82 ♥ Q ♦ T832 ♣ KQT3</p>	<p>If as will happen at the vast majority of tables, West opens the bidding, staying out of game will be nigh on impossible. While in theory 3NT fails due to a lack of a heart stopper, if South has not bid hearts but West has (in response to a Stayman enquiry) then North is unlikely to lead a heart. With the ♠Q and ♠10 onside, declarer can make four spade tricks by two finesses – but not everyone will take them. 2♥ doubled by South would be two down.</p>
<p>Hand 28</p> <p>♠ T ♥ J7642 ♦ Q96 ♣ J832</p>	<p>♠ KQJ832 ♥ A85 ♦ 8 ♣ AT6</p> <p>W/NS</p> <p>♠ A76 ♥ QT3 ♦ AJ54 ♣ Q54</p> <p>♠ 954 ♥ K9 ♦ KT732 ♣ K97</p>	<p>1♠-2♦-2♠-4♠ is one way that North-South might bid. Most routes lead in 4♠ to exactly 11 tricks. Even if East finds a safe trump lead, the way that the rounded suits are, declarer cannot really guess anything wrong. Cashing the ♥A as the first play in the heart suit means that the ♥K pops up on the second round. In the club suit, either low to the ♣Q or low to the ♣10 holds the losers in that suit to one.</p>