

Correct the Bidding and/or Playing Error(s) - 1

- 1 -

A North

K984
 QT
 A873 S N
 QT7 1H 1S
 1-NT P

South

J6
 AJ964
 KJ5
 AJ4

B North

A2
 AQJ5
 AKQ94 N S
 85 1D 1H
 4H P

South

K85
 KT983
 J6
 AQ7

C North

J864
 A74
 J6 S N
 J654 1D 1S
 2H P

South

7
 KJ85
 KQT7
 A932

D North

KQ96
 AJ5
 AJ7 S N
 AKQ 1-NT 7-NT
 The Spade 7 is led

South Declarer
 A8542 takes
 KQT the first
 KQT trick with
 J4 North's King

E North

432
 A432
 AK5 N S
 Q85 1D 1H
 2H 2S
 2-NT 3H

South

A5
 KQ9865
 QJ7
 97

F North

J4
 K2
 AQ98 N S
 Q9642 1D 1H
 2C 3H
 P

South

98
 AQJ9854
 K7
 K3

G North

AK842
 86
 9 N S
 AQ973 1S 2D
 3C 3-NT

South

P
 76
 AJ7
 KT642
 842

H North

AQT2
 AQ8
 A94 N S
 985 1-NT "2C"
 2S 4S

South

P
 K853
 KT9
 752
 AJ6

I North

AJT4
 AQT54
 82 N S
 A2 1H 3H
 4H P

South

K976
 K98
 KQ3
 543

Answers

A) When holding 15 or 16 HCP's and a 5-card Major suit, Opening 1-NT instead of one-of-the Major, oft times eliminates the need for an awkward re-bid.

South, in this example, should open **1-NT**, not **1H**, so as to eliminate the need for an awkward re-bid and a potential miss-representation as to the actual HCP holding within the hand. The bidding should have proceeded:

1NT – “2C” – 2H – 3NT - Pass

B) A jump to game-level by Opener after hearing from Responder who could hold as few as 6 HCP's is not a sign-off. It is merely a reflection of a 20 (+) HCP (5-loser holding subsequent to which Responder might continue the bidding to a feasible Slam-level contract.

South, here, should not “Pass,” rather instead, should explore for a possible Slam. The bidding here, should have proceeded:

1D – 1H – 4H – “4NT” – “5S” – “5NT” – “6D” – 7-NT– Pass

C) A “Reverse” by Opener exhibits 17 or more HCP's, and is forcing for one round.

South, here, is too weak, and should not have “Reversed,” and North cannot “Pass” since a “Reverse” was bid. The bidding should have proceeded:

1D --1S -- 2C -- Pass

D) Before even playing to trick 1, Declarer must think through the play of the hand.

South should take the first trick with the Spade Ace so as to protect against West holding **JT73**. If East were to hold, **JT73** the contract is doomed no matter how Declarer plays the suit, but playing the Spade Ace at trick 1 does protect against the possibility of West holding this 4-0 split, and, therefore, insures the contract.

E) Once Opener has limited his/her holdings, it is incumbent upon Responder to “Captain” the Partnership to its final level by “Passing,” inviting to game, else going directly to the appropriate game-level contract.

North, here, holding 3-3 in the Minors should have opened, **1C**, not **1D**.

South, here, should re-bid **4H** on his/her 2nd call, not **2S**!

“He who knows - goes”

The bidding here should have proceeded: **1C – 1H – 2H - 4H – Pass**

F) *Holding game-level values and a Major suit quality of 10, a Responder to an Opening bidder who has evidenced minimum values, should make an immediate game-level bid in his/her own self-sufficient suit.*

South's re-bid should be **4H** not **3H**. He/she holds game values and a Heart suit with a suit quality of 10.

G) *When holding specifically 5-Clubs and 5-Spades with minimum hand HCP values, the correct opening is 1C not 1S.*

North, with a minimum opening count, should open **1C**, then re-bid Spades twice as if the distribution were 6-5. North's opening **1S** and then re-bidding **3C** over South's **2D** bid is called a "**High Reverse**," and shows 17 or more HCP's. South, here, did not hold sufficient values to have first responded **2D**. South should have first called **1NT**, a default first response.

Both Partners, here, overbid their hand. The bidding, here, should have proceeded:

1C – 1D – 1S – 1NT – 2S – 3C – Pass

H) *There are two occasions when a Responder to Partner's opening of 1-NT should not invoke Stayman even when holding a 4-card Major: (a) with a 4-3-3-3 distribution, and (b) when the total Partnership HCP count exceeds 28 HCP's. Hands with these features make a better match-point score than 4 of either Major suit.*

South, holding here a 4-3-3-3 distribution should not invoke Stayman, rather bid a No-Trump game without hesitation. A 4-3-3-3 hand holds no ruffing values and a No-Trump contract is often the better one. Note that this hand makes **3-NT** but does not make **4S**

The bidding should have proceeded: **1NT – 3NT**

Note: A final contract of **3-NT** makes, here, but one of **4S**, does not!

I) *A 4-4 Major suit fit plays better than a 5-3, with the larger disproportioned suit serving as the side suit upon which potential losers in the Minor suits can be discarded once trumps are drawn.*

South, here, should first bid **1S**, seeking a 4-4 Spade fit rather than first showing the 5-3 Heart fit. The bidding, here, should have proceeded:

1H – 1S – 3S – 4S

Note: In the preferred contract of **4S**, South is able to discard two Club losers, thus avoiding a second Club loser, as would have occurred had the final contract been **4H**.