

South's who didn't lead the DA took no tricks. It's hard to lead a diamond from the AQ, but I suspect the auction might have given South a clue.

an overall West has an interesting problem, particularly if playing constructive raises and/or Bergen raises. The fourth trump, an Ace and a singleton makes this a pretty good dummy.

The Glenns, Schaeffers, & Boettcher-Gaynor found the par spot.

♣♦♠♥

Board 22

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 7 3
♥ J 7 6 4
♦ 7 6 5 2
♣ Q 3 2

♠ 9
♥ K Q 10 5
♦ Q 3
♣ K 10 8 7 5 4

W N E S

♠ A Q 10 4 2
♥ 9 3 2
♦ K 10
♣ A J 9

♠ K J 8 6 5
♥ A 8
♦ A J 9 8 4
♣ 6

	N-SE-W	N-S	E-W
2♥ W	100	8.00	0.00
4♦ x S	100	6.00	2.00
4♦ S	100	6.00	2.00
3♦ x S	100	6.00	2.00
3♣ W	130	3.00	5.00
3♣ E	130	3.00	5.00
3♣ W	130	3.00	5.00
3♥ E	170	1.00	7.00
5♣ W	600	0.00	8.00

♣♦♠♥

The Glenns appear to be the only pair to find the CQ to make 5♣ on board 22. Tom Utter and his niece Jeanette did nearly as well playing in their Moysian heart fit part score.

There's a lot of work to do and timing involved including a club finesse of the Q and negotiating a heart ruff I 5♣.

Well earned tops for these two pairs.

Board 4

North Deals

Both Vul

♠ K Q 5
♥ 4 2
♦ A 3
♣ J 10 5 4 3 2

♠ 8 7 3 2
♥ Q 8
♦ K J 6
♣ A K 8 6

W N E S

♠ A J 9 4
♥ A J 10 9
♦ Q 10 9 8 5
♣ —

♠ 10 6
♥ K 7 6 5 3
♦ 7 4 2
♣ Q 9 7

	N-SE-W	N-S	E-W
3 NT E	200	7.50	0.50
4♠ x W	200	7.50	0.50
3 NT W	100	5.00	3.00
4♠ W	100	5.00	3.00
4♠ W	100	5.00	3.00
4♠ W	620	2.00	6.00
4♠ W	620	2.00	6.00
4♠ W	620	2.00	6.00
3 NT W	630	0.00	8.00

Pairs who took the percentage line on this spade layout were disappointed when the T was offside and both royals were onside.

Mary and Kent took a top by avoiding a spade contract and scoring up +630. Deep Finesse sez it takes a low club lead to hold the contract to 3.

Missing the top 3 club spots and needing partner to hold at least one makes a low lead best, no?

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 7 4 3
♥ A 10 4 3
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ K

♠ 5 2
♥ K 9 5
♦ 10 8 7 6 4 2
♣ J 3

W N E S

♠ A 8
♥ Q 8 7 2
♦ 9
♣ Q 10 9 7 6 2

♠ K Q 10 9 6
♥ J 6
♦ A J
♣ A 8 5 4

	N-SE-W	N-S	E-W
6♠ S	980	8.00	0.00
4♠ S	480	4.00	4.00
4♠ N	480	4.00	4.00
4♠ S	480	4.00	4.00
4♠ N	480	4.00	4.00
4♠ S	480	4.00	4.00
4♠ S	480	4.00	4.00
4♠ S	480	4.00	4.00
4♠ S	450	0.00	8.00

The Meedens were the only defenders to score 2 tricks. A heart lead is the only way to hold a spade contract to 5. Nancy made an aggressive double after North raised South's spade call. This action might be de rigueur at favorable vulnerability, but it worked here also.

The traveler seems a little surprising. With N opening 1D and NS in spades I would certainly be concerned with pitches coming from dummy's diamond suit.

The Kniers drove to slam to earn a top

Board 6
 East Deals
 E-W Vul

♠ K 9 5 2
 ♥ K 6 4
 ♦ A 5 2
 ♣ 8 7 2

♠ Q 4
 ♥ Q 10 8 7
 ♦ J 9 7 3
 ♣ J 9 3

♠ A J 8 6
 ♥ 9 5 3
 ♦ K Q
 ♣ Q 10 6 4

♠ 10 7 3
 ♥ A J 2
 ♦ 10 8 6 4
 ♣ A K 5

	N-SE-W	N-S	E-W
2♠ x E	200	8.00	0.00
1 NT W	100	7.00	1.00
1 NT S	50	5.50	2.50
1 NT S	50	5.50	2.50
1 NT W	90	4.00	4.00
2♠ N	100	2.50	5.50
2♠ N	100	2.50	5.50
1 NT E	120	0.50	7.50
1 NT W	120	0.50	7.50

It's not very often that you see pairs playing in 2 different strains from opposite directions on the same hand

NS have the balance of power but EW were declaring 5 of the 9 times. 6 of the 9 declarers failed.

Board 18
 East Deals
 N-S Vul

♠ A 6 2
 ♥ 10 8 7 5 3
 ♦ 9 8 7 4
 ♣ 3

♠ K J 9 8
 ♥ J
 ♦ K 3
 ♣ A K Q 10 8 5

♠ Q
 ♥ A K 4 2
 ♦ A Q J 6 5
 ♣ J 7 6

♠ 10 7 5 4 3
 ♥ Q 9 6
 ♦ 10 2
 ♣ 9 4 2

	N-SE-W	N-S	E-W
7 NT E	50	8.00	0.00
3 NT W	520	6.00	2.00
3 NT W	520	6.00	2.00
3 NT W	520	6.00	2.00
6♣ E	920	3.00	5.00
6♣ W	920	3.00	5.00
6♣ W	920	3.00	5.00
6♣ W	940	1.00	7.00
6 NT W	990	0.00	8.00

Jean and Steve reached the par spot: 1♦-2♣, 2♥-2♠, 3♣-4N, 5♥-6N where Jean's 2♥ rebid promised extra strength. I prefer showing stoppers after 1♦-2♣. It's also worth a discussion re. whether or not 2♣ is a GF, and if not, if you are only forced to 2N or 3♣. The Schaeffers were more adventurous and very unlucky: 1♦-1♠, 2N-7N. Tim Adamson found the spade lead from Txxxx!

I could understand 7NX -100 when North, by doubling, asks South to lead dummy's first bid suit.

On Deck

3/02 No Game - 178 Sectional at the TCBC

3/09 Mixed Pairs Club Championship

3/16 @TCBC Mentoring Game: play with a 499er

3/23 @TCBC Team of Two Pairs (Signup sheet at the TCBC). Please consider giving back to the bridge community by participating in events where less experienced players can learn from you. Plan to bring a snack, appetizer, or treat with you too. Play with your partner and be paired with a 499r pair. You play in your own section and each pair's scores are added to determine the winning teams.

3/30 Club Night #4

Grand National Teams

As D14 GNT Coordinator I made a promise in Sioux City to accommodate online play for the Open Flight if we could have a 5 team field, and thus, be able to pay a full 36MP award. We have a commitment from an offsite team captained by Jade Barrett, but I know of only 2 local teams who regularly compete.

I would like to appeal to MGSC members to consider playing in the event even if you have no desire to go to the NABC in Philadelphia if you happen to win the district final. This is an opportunity for the best players in the district to compete against each other. Unless we field 5 teams by April 1, so that scheduling with BBO for the district finals can be arranged, we will have to give up on the online option. I would be happy to assist in team formation if you are willing to participate. Here is a link to the relevant information: http://moot.typepad.com/minnesota_bridge/2012/01/grand-national-teams.html#more