

Young Chelsea Bridge Club
U26 Pairs 12 Feb 2021 – **Highlights**

Board 2 – Al playing 4S

♠ A K Q 7 3	WEST NORTH 2 SOUTH EAST	♠ J 8 4 2
♥ Q 10 7		♥ K 9 3
♦ A 10 7 5		♦ J 9 2
♣ 4		♣ A 8 2

North lead a Diamond, which was a singleton.

Al won his Ace of Diamonds and **drew trumps straight away**.

He lost only one Diamond and one Heart for 4S+1, gaining 3.5 IMPs.

Lesson: *Unless you have a good reason not to, draw trumps.*

Board 3 – Al bidding

♠ 76
♥ QJ5
♦ AJ654
♣ K64

Opposite my 1S opening Al has 11 points. He correctly responded 2D.

(If he only had 6-9 points he'd have to bid 1NT)

Lesson: *With 10+ points you can respond to partner's 1 level opening bid at the 2 level.*

Board 3 – Kevin on Opening Lead

♠ QJ3
♥ 1062
♦ K
♣ A98732

On lead against 3S Kevin chose to lead Clubs. **He lead the Ace.**

(if instead he *underlead* the Ace with a low Club he would have never won a Club trick, as declarer had the King in one hand and a singleton in the other)

Lesson – don't underlead an Ace

Board 3 – Harry playing 2C

♠ K5	
♥ A943	
♦ 10932	
♣ Q105	
♠ QJ3	
♥ 1062	
♦ K	
♣ A98732	

Harry had the South hand.

He has 10+ points and six Clubs so correctly overcalled 2C, which he ended up playing.

He drew trumps, then set up the Spades. On this hand, there is no need to ruff a Spade in dummy as after knocking out the Ace your Spades will be winners already.

As a bonus, West underlead his Ace of Diamond so Harry got an extra trick winning his singleton King!

In the end he got 2 Spades, 1 Heart, 1 Diamond and 5 Clubs.

2C+1 was a top score and gained 5.5 IMPs.

Lesson: *you don't need to ruff in dummy if your cards are already winners*

Board 6 – Michael playing 4S

♠ AQ1084	
♥ 2	
♦ Q73	
♣ 10765	
♠ J652	
♥ 85	
♦ K9654	
♣ A8	

There is potentially one loser in each suit.

To avoid a trump loser, Michael crossed to the South hand to **lead up to his high cards**.

He lead the Jack of Spades. He can afford to do this as he also has the Ten.

The advantage of leading the Jack is that if the finesse wins he's still in the South hand to repeat it.

In the end he lost just one Heart, one Diamond and one Club, for 4S= and +12.8 IMPs.

Lesson: *If you have enough high cards, finesse by leading a high card so you can easily repeat it*

Board 7/8 – Al on Opening Lead

♠ Q95
♥ AQ9754
♦ Q98
♣ 6

Declarer had bid Hearts.

So Al chose a Spade, leading the 5

♠ KJ83
♥ 42
♦ K32
♣ 10532

Declarer had already bid Spades.

So al Chose a Diamond, leading the 2

Lesson: *Don't lead the opponent's suit in NT*

Lesson: *Lead low from a suit with an honour*

Board 8 – Aidan Bidding

♠ J10643
♥ —
♦ K643
♣ K1075

Aidan's partner opened 2H – a weak two showing 5-9 points and six Hearts.

Aidan has a void in partner's suit.

He didn't panic but correctly passed. Partner has six Hearts so it won't be too bad, and if Aidan responded in a new suit partner would bid again and most likely they'd just end up even worse playing 3H.

Lesson – if you are weak don't try and rescue your partner. If they have a long suit let them play there

Board 9 – Harry playing 3H

♠ QJ4		♠ 973
♥ AK10973		♥ 64
♦ K		♦ 42
♣ A75		♣ KJ10963

The defence took the first three Spade tricks, with the Ace-King and a ruff.

It looks like Harry still has the Ace of Diamonds to lose, plus maybe a trump.

But he was able to draw trumps (the remaining four split 2-2) and then played on Clubs, throwing his losing King of Diamonds on a spare club from dummy.

He made 3H+1

Lesson: Use dummy's winners to discard your losers

Board 10 – Harry & Aidan bidding

♠ Q1072		♠ 865
♥ Q107653		♥ A982
♦ 86		♦ Q1074
♣ J		♣ K3

Harry was West. He made a *weak jump overcall* of 2H (5-9 points and six Hearts).

Aidan was East. He raised to 4H. His hand is also weak but with four card support it's a good raise.

4H has five top losers but somehow only lost four tricks (you guessed it, a defender underlead an Ace). But even two off would have been a good score.

Lesson: If partner makes a weak opening or weak jump overcall you should raise with trump support

Board 12 – Kevin and Michael in Defence

Bd 12, Dlr W 2NT-2 S		♠ J10873 ♥ 53 ♦ 976 ♣ J83	N Edward Conlong												
W Kevin Ren ♠ Q542 ♥ A642 ♦ J5 ♣ 1096			Michael Kennedy E ♠ 9 ♥ KJ987 ♦ AQ1043 ♣ 72												
	S Simon Raine ♠ AK6 ♥ Q10 ♦ K82 ♣ AKQ54	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>2NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		W	N	E	S	P	P	P	2NT	P	P	P	
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P	P	P	2NT												
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Kevin was West. He correctly lead a low Heart (leading low as he has an honour)
 Michael was East. He played 'third hand high', won his King and returned the suit
 The defence took the first five Heart tricks, then a Diamond for one off.

Lesson: Lead a low card from a suit with an honour

Lesson: Play 'third hand high' in defence

Board 16 – Michael Bidding

♠ A7
♥ J10842
♦ K10984
♣ Q

Kevin opened 1H. Michael has this 10 point hand, so raised to 3H, inviting partner to bid game.

Lesson: With 10-12 and support for partner's major opening, raise to the 3 level.

Board 16 – Al in Defence

♠ J8
♥ –
♦ A3
♣ 765

Defending 4H Al was down to the cards above.
 He had already won two tricks, and his Jack of Spades and Ace of Diamonds were winners.
 Al cashed them both to defeat the contract by one
 (if he hadn't of done this he never would have won them and declarer would make the contract)

Lesson: Keep track of how many tricks you need in defence and be ready to 'cash out' when you can

Board 17 – Harry slam bidding

♠ AJ94
♥ AQ84
♦ AQ6
♣ K5

Harry has this nice 20 point hand.

His partner opened 1C and the next opponent overcalled 1S.

This enemy overcall increases the value of Harry's hand. With the missing points in the hand before his, the Heart finesse is almost certain to win, and his Spade Jack is likely now going to be a winner too.

Harry pushed to 6NT, making for a great score. Only two of five tables bid this slam.

Lesson: *Re-evaluate your hand based on where the missing high cards are likely to be. Work out if your successes are likely to succeed or fail*

Board 18 – Kevin and Michael in Defence

♠ K3		♠ 742
♥ 4		♥ Q107532
♦ AQ7654		♦ 8
♣ 10974		♣ Q53

Michael was East, defending against 4S.

He lead his singleton 8 of Diamonds.

Kevin was on the same page and won his Ace, then gave partner a ruff.

Later, declarer won his King of Spades gave partner a second ruff to beat the contract.

Lesson: *Look out for partner leading a singleton.*