

Javea Bridge

Friday November 3rd 2017

As bidding systems get more complicated it gets harder to remember the right way to bid hands. The hand below illustrated some of these pitfalls.

Tues 24 Oct		North Bd10 Dealer E, EW Vul.	
		♠ K10	
		♥ 9872	
		♦ J8632	
		♣ 52	
West		East	
♠ 32		♠ AQ94	
♥ AT43		♥ KJ	
♦ AKQ		♦ 754	
♣ AJ73		♣ K964	
		South	
		♠ J8765	
		♥ Q65	
		♦ T9	
		♣ QT8	

For those that play it the East hand is a routine weak no-trump.

West will probably want to consider a slam and may try Stayman as a 4-4 fit in hearts will often lead to an extra trick.

After 1NT-2C-2S West will wonder how to suggest a slam.

What would 4N mean in your system? Is it Ace asking or just invitational in no-trumps?

Have you a 4C bid available and does this change your answer?

Should you be suggesting a slam with a flat 18 opposite a maximum of 14?

One player decided to temporize by bidding 3C but this was disastrous.

Opposite a weak NT a very weak hand with a six card club suit and a four card major can bid Stayman and pass the “correct” major or else bid 3C. Thus the 3C bid chosen led to a disaster when partner passed.

The no-trump slam requires the 4C, 3D, 2S and 3H (possibly 4H and only 1 spade) but this is distinctly against the odds. The club slam is a better bet with at least 5 club tricks available. Can you find it?

This is why systems get complicated.

Try this

1NT -3C (puppet stayman) -3D(4 card, not 5, major)-3S (have 4 hearts)-3NT (I do not) – 4C (slam interest and promising clubs) – 4S (agreeing clubs and promising the spade ace)-6C.

That is why we sometimes enjoy complicated sequences (PS I suggest 4N is invitational, 4C is Ace asking including the King of the agreed Spades). PRH