

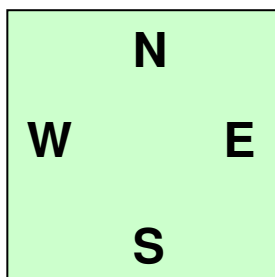


U3A Intermediate Bridge 2015-16



While waiting for 2pm

♠ J 10 9 8
♥ A K 10 9
♦ A Q 5 2
♣ 2



NS are vulnerable. You are West and dealer.

What is your opening bid (perhaps pass?) and why?

If you make an active bid, what is your rebid for partner raising in each suit or in NT?

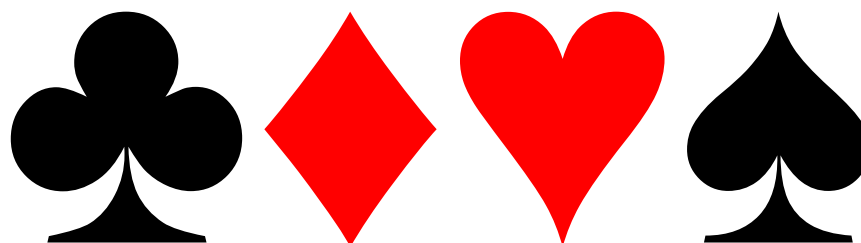
From BRIDGE #146 pg1 q3



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2015-16



Week 1 Introduction



Steve Bailey

I have only been playing bridge for 7 years and I do not claim to be an expert. However I am able to drive the technology and present the material from our chosen course book.



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Week 1 ... of the week

Procedure of the week:

When playing with a new partner (or one you haven't done this with yet...!) spend a couple of minutes discussing and agreeing your bidding and playing methods.

Basic Acol? Strong or Weak 2? Weak take out or Red transfers?
Conventions – Blackwood, RKCB, Gerber? What signals and discards will you use? Attitude (when), Counts (when)?

Hint of the week:

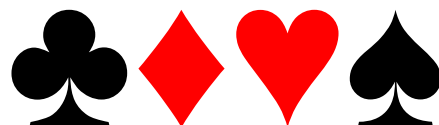
You can write the above down quickly on the forms on a results/convention/system card. I have plenty available for you to use.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2015-16



Week 1 Introduction



This will be the fourth year we have been studying our course book, aka “The Green book”.

The Right Way to Play Bridge by Paul Mendelson

Often abbreviated to “RWPB”.

If you came to this group last year, you will be familiar with the book and, hopefully, know much of its content. You also know the way these sessions run.

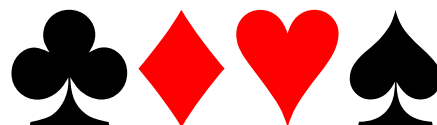
Those of you who are new may have a struggle as we have already spent 3 years looking at most of the book and we are about to start looking at the remaining sections – which are perhaps the hardest – or at least, the least pre-known. *I will spend around 3 weeks summarising what we have already covered.*



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2015-16



Week 1 Introduction



Administration: Please sign the register each week.

I would appreciate if you would put £1 in the pot for the initial crib sheets and bidding stationery we use each week.

Please show me your U3A membership card.

This presentation and other information will be available shortly after the session on

<http://www.stocton.org/bridge.htm>

(No K in stocton).

Optional tea break after the presentation, before play starts. Please just make a cup and bring it to the tables to minimise lost time.

Please use the coasters provided to protect the cloths.

Wash up afterwards.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2015-16



Week 1 Introduction

This group is aimed at duplicate bridge 'pairs' events as played at most clubs. Much of what we cover here is relevant for social Chicago bridge and for duplicate team bridge. However rubber bridge is most definitely not covered and has completely different strategy.

In duplicate pairs, what matters is not whether your partnership "beat" the opposing partnership. Your opponents are not your opponents!

Your **real opponents** are the people sitting at the same seats as you when they play the same cards.

Your aim is to do better with the set of cards dealt than others playing the same cards.



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Week 1 Introduction

Your aim is to do better with the set of cards dealt than others playing the same cards.

Imagine this straightforward example:

You are N/S pair 1 playing board 1 against E/W pair 2.

You bid and make **3NT+1** for **430**.

Elsewhere N/S pair 3 played board 1 against E/W pair 4.

There the score was **3NT=** for **400**.

So pair 1 (NS) has beaten pair 3 (NS) by 430 to 400.

Pair 1 has the more positive score.

But also pair 4 (EW) have beaten pair 2 (EW) by -400 to -430.

The scores may be negative, but pair 4 has the most positive of them both.



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Week 1 Introduction

Imagine this more complex example.

You are N/S pair 1 playing board 2 against E/W pair 2.

The result was **4S= by N/S** for **620**.

Elsewhere N/S pair 3 played board 2 against E/W pair 4.

The result was **5Hx-3 by E/W** for **500**.

So pair 1 (NS) has beaten pair 3 (NS) by 620 to 500.

Pair 1 has the more positive score.

But also pair 4 (EW) have beaten pair 2 (EW) by -500 to -620.

The scores may be negative, but pair 4 has the most positive of them both.

The sacrificial bid by E/W pair 4 produced a great result for them.

*Make sure you are very happy with working out the scores so that you can **easily** decide when sacrificing is worthwhile..*



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Week 1 Introduction

As you are bidding, these thoughts need to be in your mind.

But once the play starts, your sole aim is to get as many tricks as you can.

You are not trying to “make game” or to “get them down”, you are not trying to make your / break their contract. All you are trying to do is make more tricks than the others in YOUR seats.

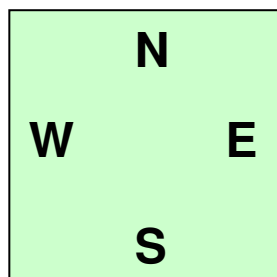


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Week 1 The 'Before 2pm' problem

♠ J 10 9 8
♥ A K 10 9
♦ A Q 5 2
♣ 2



NS are vulnerable. You are West and dealer.

What is your opening bid (perhaps pass?) and why?

If you make an active bid, **what is your rebid for partner raising in each suit or in NT?**

This is the one bit of “bridge” I am covering this week – the rest is procedural or practical.

First, evaluate your hand...

From BRIDGE #146 pg1 q3



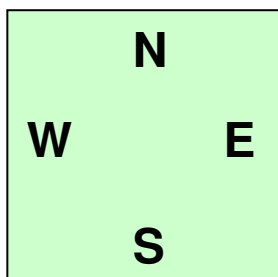
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Week 1 The 'Before 2pm' problem

Read 14+ as 14 or more, read 14- as 14 or less.

♠ J 10 9 8
♥ A K 10 9
♦ A Q 5 2
♣ 2



Read L1♣ as "length one club", my shorthand for a singleton club.

First, evaluate your hand...

4441 shape, so you need more than minimum to consider opening. (RWPB recommends 14+ HCP, or perhaps a strong 13 HCP).

W has 14 HCP, he should open.

W has no length Pts, but may have shortage Pts for the L1♣, but not yet.

BM of "Mr Bridge" also adds 1 Pt for the good 10s and 9s in this hand. 14 HCP or 15 Pts.

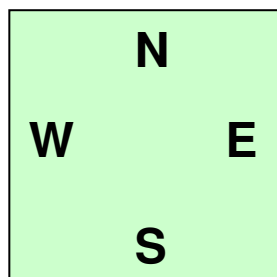


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Week 1 The 'Before 2pm' problem

♠ J 10 9 8
♥ A K 10 9
♦ A Q 5 2
♣ 2



RWPB recommends when choosing between L4 suits, to choose ♥ if you can.

Open 1♥.

If opponents do not bid, but partner responds, what will your rebids be?

Partner's responses:

1♠

1NT

2♣

2♦

2♥

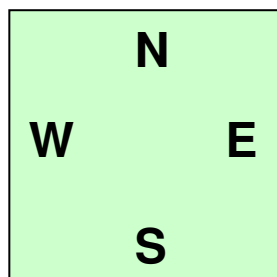


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Week 1 The 'Before 2pm' problem

♠ J 10 9 8
 ♥ A K 10 9
 ♦ A Q 5 2
 ♣ 2



You open 1♥.

If E responds 1♠ :

E has L4♠ and 6+ HCP. With a fit, you now have 17 Pts : +3 for the L1♣.

You have 6 losing tricks: AKQ♠, Q♥, K♦, A♣. Assume partner has 9 LT as he bid at the 1 level. $18 - 9 - 6 = 3$. Suggesting a 3 level bid.

At least 23 Pts between you, Game or more may be on.

Bid Stop 3♠.

This is my analysis – it does not come from any book.

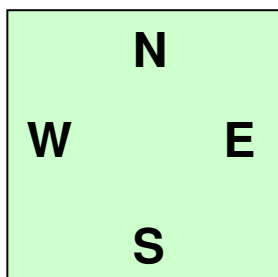


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Week 1 The 'Before 2pm' problem

♠ J 10 9 8
♥ A K 10 9
♦ A Q 5 2
♣ 2



You open 1♥.

If E responds 1NT :

E has 6-9 (or a weak 10) HCP
with ANY shaped hand.

Can't add Pts for the L1♣ yet.

2♠ would be a **reverse**, for which you
are not strong enough - so don't bid it.

2NT risks too much with ♣.

Rebid 2♦ showing L5♥ and L4♦,
even though this is a lie.

*This is my analysis – it does not come from any
book.*

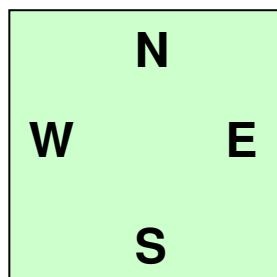


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Week 1 The 'Before 2pm' problem

♠ J 10 9 8
♥ A K 10 9
♦ A Q 5 2
♣ 2



Open 1♥.

If E responds 2♣ :

E has L4+♣ and 8+ HCP.

2♦ suggests L5♥ and L4♦.

2♥ suggests L5+♥ (probably L6♥).

2♠ is a reverse.

2NT suggests A balanced hand with 15..16 HCP.

But BM of Mr Bridge evaluated the hand as 14 HCP but 15 Pts. Thus 2NT.

This is the answer as published in Bridge 146.

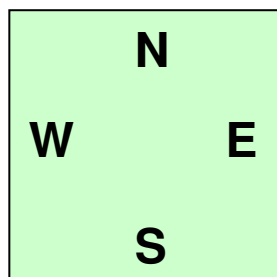


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Week 1 The 'Before 2pm' problem

♠ J 10 9 8
 ♥ A K 10 9
 ♦ A Q 5 2
 ♣ 2



You open 1♥.

If E responds 2♦ :

E has L4+♦ and 8+ HCP.

Rebid 3♦ to show a fit.

You now have 17 Pts : +3 for the L1♣.

At least 25 Pts between you, Game or more should be on.

This is my analysis – it does not come from any book.

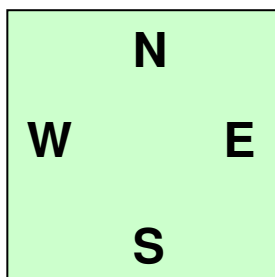


U3A Intermediate Bridge 2015-16



Week 1 The 'Before 2pm' problem

♠ J 10 9 8
♥ A K 10 9
♦ A Q 5 2
♣ 2



You open 1♥.

If E responds 2♥ :

E has L4+♥ and 6..9HCP.

You now have 17 Pts : +3 for the L1♣.
So with a combined 23..26 HCP, bid a
game invite: 3♥.

*This is my analysis – it does not come from any
book.*



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2015-16



Week 1 Introduction

At a duplicate club:

Hands are dealt for the session before the start of play into boards (or wallets) so that everyone can have a go at playing the same hands.

Each time the board is played, the results are recorded on a traveller (a results sheet that travels with the board). At the end of the session, the director takes the sheets and produces the final placings.

There is a LOT of procedural ‘stuff’ – all there for a reason. Learning this is part of learning duplicate bridge.

The English Bridge Union (EBU) publishes assorted “rule books” which provide details if you are interested. Eg

www.ebu.co.uk/documents/laws-and-ethics/blue-book/blue-book-2015.pdf



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2015-16



Week 1 Introduction

At a duplicate club:

The table will be cluttered with

- A board in the middle. *It STAYS THERE to form a barrier between the each 13-card hand.*
- Bidding boxes. Most folk place them in the corner to their right, but some (eg left-handed people) may want them on the left.
- Table numbers and movement cards. *Generally with North.*
- Cards already played. Longways, pointing at the pair who won the trick. *Leave them in situ **until AFTER** the result has been **AGREED** by **ALL FOUR**.* Put them along the edge of the table.
- Visible cards – the one you are playing and the dummy. *And any penalty cards. Play your card for this trick well in YOUR quadrant.*
- Individual results sheets, convention cards, drinks on coasters.



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Week 1 Introduction

Playing a hand (1)

Check you are at the right table in the right seats, with the right board in front of you. North is responsible organising things.

Check the board is the right way round. Remove the cards from the board and count them FACE DOWN, in case there is a problem.

Sort your cards and prepare to bid. The player labelled “Dealer” by the board starts the bidding. Communication between a partnership, other than by bidding or play is not allowed.

Make your bid. Form a staircase of your bids so that the entire history can be seen. Place the bids at the edge of the table where the tricks will go – then they can stay there until replaced into the box.

If your bid is a jump bid, place the STOP card on the table followed immediately by the bid. Then count at a normal speed to 10 and put the STOP card away. The next player may not bid until after that.



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Week 1 Introduction

Playing a hand (2)

If your partner's bid is not natural then you wave your alert card briefly. The next opponent may (will?) ask you to explain the bid you alerted.

The bidder must remain silent during alerter's explanations – even if alerter has got it wrong.

A few bids are “announced”. Eg the point range of an opening 1NT bid. Eg a level 2 opening (*use the STOP card*). Eg Stayman. Eg Transfers.

Additional to any “announcements”, as a teaching aid, you are all asked to explain every bid (or pass) your partner makes. Have the table discuss any discrepancies.

Note that the explanations are of the meaning of the card bid & are NOT an explanation of the cards the bidder actually holds.



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Week 1 Introduction

Playing a hand (3)

Just because someone bids game, do not assume the bidding has ended. Wait for 3 passes. *And note that the last player to make an active bid shouldn't try to make a final PASS.*

Leave the bids on view on the table. Ideally do not move them.

Agree the contract and who declarer is. Perhaps record it on your personal record sheet.

The initial lead is made **FACE DOWN**, at which point leader says “any questions partner?”. At this point, **with the card still hidden**, questions about the bidding may be made. Such as “East, what did West’s 4NT bid mean” *expecting an answer such as Blackwood or Roman Key Card Blackwood.*

I repeat: the initial lead is made **FACE DOWN**.

I repeat: the initial lead is made **FACE DOWN**. Remember to do this.



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Week 1 Introduction

Playing a hand (4)

Then the initial lead is exposed and placed about four inches from the table edge in the leader's quadrant. It is placed flat on the table and not fingered. It is not placed so that it is obscured by coffee cups, hands, bidding boxes or by the pile of boards on the table.

Then dummy is placed on the table – which may be done with the bids still along the edge of the table. The central board may be moved a few inches by North to ease this process. **It must not be removed, nor may it be rotated.**

Then all the bidding cards are put back into the bidding box. Some folk use one bidding card as a flag to remember the contract.

Then declarer makes a plan.

Then declarer asks dummy to play the card of declarer's choice.
Declarer does NOT touch Dummy's cards. (Handicap excepted.)



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Week 1 Introduction

Playing a hand (5)

Play of the cards follows.

At the end agree the result (3S-1 or whatever) before picking your 13 cards up **and shuffling them**. Put them back in the board in the same slot they came from. *Shuffling is particularly important if a board was passed out.*

Record the score on YOUR results sheet. North also writes the result 3 times on the traveller: as a contract and over/under tricks, as number of tricks made and as a score. All 3 must match. When done North shows it to East who checks it. **East does not look at the other results and say “ooh someone bid 6NT and made it”. He checks the data and the maths.** After which, a quiet discussion of the other plays sometimes occurs.

As a teaching aid, we have 4 travellers in a board so everyone learns to fill them in. Show to the player on your **left** for checking.



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Week 1 Introduction

Playing a hand (6)

Place the board just played in an “outgoing” pile and take the next in sequence from the “incoming” pile. At a club it may be one pile in the middle of the table – move from the top to the bottom.

-----FOR U3A INTERMEDIATE BRIDGE ONLY-----

Most boards will have a commentary attached. As a teaching aid, discuss the hand amongst yourselves and read the commentary.

It may be beneficial sometimes to talk out loud your thought processes. *Not all together – when it is your turn.*

“So that is 7 trumps played. Left hand opponent opened, so he has at least 12 points. We have 25, so that leaves Right hand opponent with 3 at most, so he can't have the A♣. So a finesse would do better leading from dummy.”

“My partner led an Ace – that means I need to signal my third round control. We play ‘reverse attitude’ and I don't have the queen, so I must play a high card.” *and so on.*



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Week 1 Introduction

Bidding

Generally each bid has a **specific and limited** meaning. It is allowable to 'lie', but that doesn't change the meaning of the bidding card.

Maybe you have a 16 HCP 4441 hand. Your first two bids of
1H and 2C

say "12 to 19 points, at least 5 hearts, at least 4 clubs" – even though it happens to not be the case. Please distinguish between what the bids **mean**, and what you have in your hand.

Also the meaning of a bid depends upon its context. An opening 1NT is completely different to a response with 1NT or an overcall with 1NT.

Feel free to ask questions of your table-mates and of me. Feel free to look at notes – including the No Fear Bridge Crib sheet. But try to keep things moving, otherwise you'll only play 4 hands.



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Week 1 Play

Play

Divide yourselves into pairs and then into tables.

This week I do not plan to ask you to move, in future weeks we may.

NS have the pair number of their table, N has his back to the screen.

EW have the pair number of their table plus 6.

When you have played a hand, pass it to the next numbered table in sequence. The highest numbered table passes to table 1.

And one last thing – **as part of the learning process** – I would like the partner of whoever has just bid to take whatever action is **standardly required** (announcing 1NT to be 12-14 points, ALERTing a conventional bid, ...) – **AND ALSO** to give a brief **description** to the other three players on what the bid means.

Any questions?

Tea, coffee & biscuit. (20p)

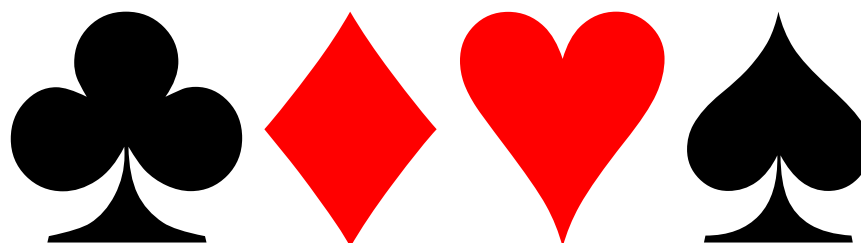
PLAY



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Week 1 Introduction



The end

(Set hand references follow.)



U3A Intermediate Bridge



Week 1 Set Hands

Set hand sources

AR = Andrew Robson book

BAO = Bidding as opener

CM&HAT = Common mistakes & how to avoid them

DBL = Double

DEF = Defence

DTC = Declaring trump contracts

E&S = Endplay & squeeze

R&4SF = Responder & fourth suit forcing

S&T = Stayman and transfers

SLAM = Slam



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

Dlr Vul Source Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

1 N None AR:BAO#1 A♠=W

1	7	1NT=	N 7	90	-
2	8	1NT=	N 7	90	-
Book		1NT+1	N 8	120	-

Bidding ok. Play failed to get that extra trick.



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

#	Dlr	Vul	Source	Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.
2	E	N/S	AR:DBL#2	A♠=S

4	10	4H-1	N 9	-	100
Book		4H=	N 10	620	-

Bidding obtained right result – though the sequence missed out the double which may have helped declarer with the play.

Play failed to get that last trick.



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

Dlr Vul Source Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.
 3 S E/W AR:DTC#14a A♠=E

3	9	4S-1	S	9	-	50
4	10	2S+1	S	9	140	-
Book		4S=	S	10	420	-

Bidding partly right. Play failed to get that last trick.



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

#	Dlr	Vul	Source	Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
4	W	All	AR:DEF#1			A♠=E
3	9	3NT=	W 9	-	600	
4	10	3NT=	W 9	-	600	
Book		3NT-1	W 8	100	-	

Bidding right. The book was addressing defence techniques, and defence failed to deny the extra trick.



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
5	N	N/S	AR:S&T#S1			A♠=W
2	8	4S-1	E 9	50	-	
3	9	4S+1	W 11	-	450	
Book		4S+1	E 11	-	450	

*Bidding partly right – curious as to how W was declarer once.
One table matches the book – well done.*



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
6	E	E/W	AR:SLAM#17			A♠=E
2	8	4H+1	W 11	-	650	
3	9	4H+2	W 12	-	680	
Book		6H=	S 12	-	1430	

Bidding wrong. One table achieves 12 tricks though.



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.
7	S	All	AR:E&S#36	A♠=N

1	7	5Dx-4	W 7	1100	-
Target	6S=	S 12	1430	-	

Bidding wrong by declarer, but a GREAT sacrifice by EW – which should have been overbid by N.

The book actually says 7S=.



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
8	S	None	AR:CM&HAT#1			A♠=E
1	7	3H+1	E 10	-	170	
2	8	4H-1	E 9	50	-	
4	10	3H-1	E 8	50	-	
Book		4H=	E 10	-	420	

One table bid right, a different table played right.



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Week 1 Set Hands

Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.
9	N	E/W	AR:R&4SF#15	A♠=W

Unplayed.