



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2017-18



While waiting for 10am – Week 13

Travellers – yet again

Ignore where you are sitting around the table – pretend you are a referee watching the game from the side. Just answer the following questions – where you are sitting is irrelevant.

Is the board number (top right) present and correct? If not, fix it.

What pair number is NS? Find that row.

What pair number is EW? Write that number beside NS's number.

What was the contract **and the result**? Write it in the contract column.

Who was declarer? Write N S E or W in the "by" column.

IGNORE THE LEAD COLUMN for u3aib, **just get the rest correct.**

How many tricks did declarer make? Write 0 .. 13 in Tricks column.

What was the score? Write a positive number in the relevant column:

If NS got the points, use NS or NS+ column.

If EW got the points, use EW or NS- column.

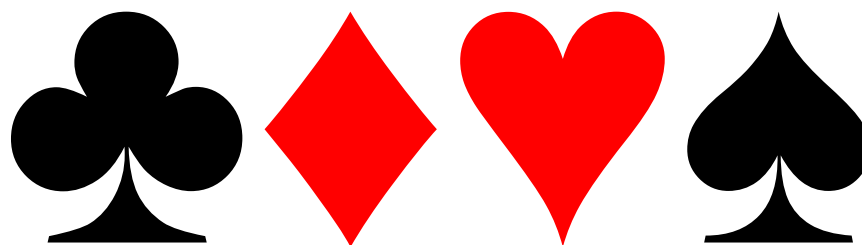
And all FOUR travellers per board should be IDENTICAL.



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids



Steve Bailey



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

What does Opener bid after the sequences:

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) ?

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) ?



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

What does Opener bid after the sequences:

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) ?

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) ?

... It depends what they hold in their hand.



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

What do the various bids mean?

X is a major suit, Y is some other suit.

1♥

?

Opening 1X

1♠



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1♥

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Opening 1X

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There are various levels of explanation:

- 12..19, L4+X



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

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X is a major suit, Y is some other suit.

1♥

?

Opening 1X

1♠

There are various levels of explanation:

- 12..19, L4+X
- 12..19, L4+X or rule of 20
(9..11 HCP,
HCP + LX + LY greater than or equal to 20)



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

What do the various bids mean?

X is a major suit, Y is some other suit.

1♥

?

Opening 1X

1♠

There are various levels of explanation:

- 12..19, L4+X
- 12..19, L4+X or rule of 20 (9..11 HCP, HCP + LX + LY more or equal to 20)
- With a balanced hand (4333, 4432 (not ♠), 5332), 15..19 HCP.
Check system card to see if L5X is opened as X or NT.

With unbalanced hand, 12..19 Points. If 11- HCP, meet both 12..19 Points and Rule of 20.

With 4441 shape, 14..19 HCP for ♥, not ♠.



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

Partner follows suit

1X 12..19, L4+X or rule of 20

1♥ (-) 2♥

?

A raise in the major

1♠ (-) 2♠



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

Partner follows suit

1X 12..19, L4+X or rule of 20

1♥ (-) 2♥ 6..9 HCP balanced, 6..9 Points unbalanced, L4+X

1♠ (-) 2♠ Therefore a joint 18..28 Point Fit.
(Occasionally L3X if nothing else better than 1NT)

Andrew Robson says

"The guideline is to raise to 2♥/♠ with three cards in preference to responding the dustbin 1NT, unless you have both a very flat hand (eg 4333) and three small cards."



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

Major Suit Trial Bids and related other bids.

1X

12..19, L4+X or rule of 20

1X (-) 2X

6..9 Points, L4+X

Opener's rebids

Trial Bids

Use a "Trial bid" if you need help with one specific suit.

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 2♠

I think game is possible (25+ Pts),
I have a weak spade suit, can you help?

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 3♣

Game? Can you help with clubs?

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♣

Game? Can you help with clubs?

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 3♦

Game? Can you help with diamonds?

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♦

Game? Can you help with diamonds?

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♥

Game? Can you help with hearts?

More bids on next slide...



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

Major Suit Trial Bids and related other bids.

1X		12..19, L4+X or rule of 20
1X (-) 2X		6..9 Points, L4+X
1X (-) 2X (-) 3Y	(or 2♠)	Game possible, Can you help with Y?
1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) P		I am weak, Game not on despite the fit.
1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) P		<i>"One up, Shut up."</i>
1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 3♥	*	I think THEY own the auction. Preemptive bid to shut them out.
1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♠	*	
1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 2NT	*	I have a strong 17..19 HCP balanced hand, Please choose from: Pass, 3X, 3NT, 4X.
1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 2NT	*	
1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 4♥		Now we have a fit, I can see we have enough (25) points for game even if partner is 6 Point minimum.
1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 4♠		

* Discussed further another week.



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

Major Suit Trial Bids and related other bids.

1X (-) 2X (-) 3Y (or 2♠)

Game possible, Can you help with Y?

Responder's Answer

Negative

I can't help. Back to FIT at lowest level.

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♥

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 3♣ (-) 3♥

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♣ (-) 3♠

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 3♦ (-) 3♥

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♦ (-) 3♠

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♥ (-) 3♠

Positive

I can help. To FIT at game level.

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 2♠ (-) 4♥

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 3♣ (-) 4♥

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♣ (-) 4♠

1♥ (-) 2♥ (-) 3♦ (-) 4♥

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♦ (-) 4♠

1♠ (-) 2♠ (-) 3♥ (-) 4♠



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

Major Suit Trial Bids and related other bids.

1X	12..19, L4+X or rule of 20
1X (-) 2X	6..9 Points, L4+X
1X (-) 2X (-) 3Y (or 2♠)	Game possible, Can you help with Y?
1X (-) 2X (-) 3Y (-) 3X	I can't help.
1X (-) 2X (-) 3Y (-) 4X	I can help.
1X (-) 2X (-) P	I am weak, Game not on.
1X (-) 2X (-) 2NT	Strong balanced: Choose.
1X (-) 2X (-) 3X	Preemptive bid to shut them out.
1X (-) 2X (-) 4X	Game

- A Trial bid says that game is possible, but if the reply comes back "I can't help" from Partner, the pair play in 3X.

In which case (3X) they need 23 Points jointly. As partner may have only 6 Points, Opener needs to have 17..18 to consider a major game.

*Note these are **Points**, not **HCP**. Include length and, now a fit is found, shortage points.*



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

Major Suit Trial Bids and related other bids. *(Slide edited post session)*

1X (-) 2X (-) 3Y (or 2♠) Game possible, Can you help with Y?

"I am weak in suit Y" defined:

A WEAK suit Y is one with **L3+Y** and 2 or 3 losers and **NOT 2+ winners**.

SGB added the bit in blue above to assist with trying to get the algorithm right.

Jxx	L3, 3 losers Jxx, WEAK
Axxx	L4, 3 losers xxx, WEAK
AQxx	L4, 3 losers Qxx, WEAK
AQx	L3, 2 losers Qx, <i>SGB reckons this is therefore</i> WEAK

Ax	L2, so NOT weak (as it happens only 1 loser x)
xx	L2, so NOT weak (as it happens 2 losers xx)
KQJx	L4, 2 losers Kx, but 2 winners, NOT weak
AKxx	L4, 2 losers xx, but 2 winners, NOT weak

Some of these examples are by SGB and are not expert validated.



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids

Major Suit Trial Bids and related other bids.

(Slide edited post session)

1X (-) 2X (-) 3Y (-) 3X

I can't help.

1X (-) 2X (-) 3Y (-) 4X

I can help.

"I can / can't help with suit Y" defined:

Three options for Responder after call for help with Y:

The number of losers is only for suit Y.

(a) 0..1 Y losers

(or 2+ winners)

0: A

0: void

1: Ax

2: KQJx, 2 losers (Kx), **but also** 2 winners (QJ)

Bid game, **4X**, even with only 6 Points.

(b) 2 Y losers

Judge hand and choose between (c) and (a).

Generally with 6..7 Points, choose (c),

and with 8..9 Points, choose (a).

(c) 3+ Y losers

Signoff in **3X**, the lowest level.

23 Points should be ok for this.



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Week 13 Play

Play

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

EW have the pair number of their table plus 8.

Play boards in sequence. Have an incoming pile and an outgoing pile. Pass outgoing to next lower numbered table – Table 1 to highest table.

Many boards have instructions on coloured card. **The appropriate people should read each card at the time it says and follow its instructions.**

If you play a board twice, record second play on traveller with pair numbers PLUS TEN (eg 1 v 9 becomes 11 v 19)

As part of the learning process – I would like the partner of whoever has just bid to take whatever action is **standardly required** (eg 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.

If you wish to fill in a personal results card, they are available here. They are commonly used at duplicate clubs.

Any questions?

Tea / coffee & biscuit. (20p)

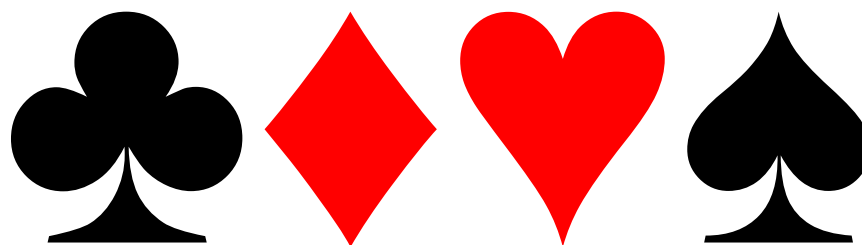
PLAY



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids



The end

Week 13 set hand
references follow.



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Week 13 Set hands

Set hand sources

GTMj Set hands: Bernard Magee seminar on "Game Tries in Majors"

===

Blue results as played.

Red results are reference results.

Boards as played are rotated compared to the book presentation (which mostly make South dealer). Rotation defined by position of A♠.

Each board had a card defining what bidding was expected. Tables were inviting to play with their bidding, or the expected bidding or both.



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Week 10 Set hands

Dlr Vul Source

Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

1 N None GTMj#1

A♠=S

1 9 4S= N 10 420 -

2 10 4S= N 10 420 -

3 11 4S= N 10 420 -

4 12 4S= N 10 420 -

Ref 4S= N 10 420 -

No problems with this one, a flat board.



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Week 10 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source				Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.
2	E	NS	<i>GTMj#1 variation</i>				A♠=E
1	9	3NT=	W	9	-	400	Presumably Responder bid 1NT
3	11	3NT=	E	9	-	400	
4	12	4H-1	E	9	50	-	First play, table bidding
4	12	3NT=	E	9	-	400	Second play, expected bidding
Ref		3NT=	E	9	-	400	

Table 4 nicely demonstrates what the Trial bid can achieve.



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Week 10 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
3	S	EW	GTMj#3			A♠=S
1	9	4S=	S 10	420	-	
2	10	4S=	S 10	420	-	
3	11	4S=	S 10	420	-	
4	12	4S-1	S 9	-	50	
Ref a		4S=	S 10	420	-	
Ref b		5C*-2	W 9	500	-	Here it is bad for W to overcall

Note that you need to be able to evaluate scores in your head during bidding to work whether a potential sacrifice is a good idea or not.

The reference was altered after verification post-session.



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Week 10 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source				Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.
4	W	All	GTMj#8				A♠=N
1	9	4H-1	W 9	100	-		
2	10	3H+1	W 10	-	170	Where did overtrick come from?	
4	12	4H-2	W 8	200	-	And second undertrick here?	
Ref		3NT=	W 9	-	140		

The point of the Trial bids is to work out when to stop bidding short of game.

Here we (should) have

W	N	E	S
1H	P	2H	P
3C(1)	P	3H(2)	P
P	P		

(1) I think game is possible, but I have 3 losers in Clubs, can you help?

(2) C:92, so 2 losers, so **choose**. 7 HCP is bottom half of range. Answer "No".



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Week 10 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source				Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.
5	N	NS	GTMj#13				A♠=N
1	9	3S+2	N 11	200	-	<i>{E} lead wrong suit for trick 3</i>	
2	10	3S=	N 9	140	-		
3	11	3S=	N 9	140	-		
Ref		3S=	N 9	140	-		

Effectively a flat board. Good.



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Week 10 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.			
6	E	EW	GTMj#6	A♠=W			
1	9	3C+1	S 10	130	-	A great result for NS	
2	10	4S-1	E 9	100	-	Should have made	
3	11	3S+1	E 10	-	170	Game should have been bid	
Ref		4S=	E 10	-	620		

Table 2: EW have 7 Top Tricks and need 3 eXtra Tricks.

This needs to be planned at trick 1.

With H:3 opposite H:A652, trumping 3 x H is the answer.

There are plenty of entries ~ S:KQJ, D:A

Table 3: Bidding should have been

E	S	W	N
1S	P	2S	P
3H(1)	P	#4S(1)	P
P	P		

(1) I think game is possible. But I have 3 losers in hearts (652), can you help?

(2) With H:3, I only have one (heart) loser, I can help.



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Week 10 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
7	S	All	GTMj#2			A♠=N
2	10	4S+1	S 11	650	-	
3	11	4S+1	S 11	650	-	
4	12	4S+1	S 11	650	-	
Ref		4S=	S 10	-	620	

Either great declarer play, or poor defence play – unsure which, but well done Souths.



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Week 10 Set hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
8	W	None	GTMj#5			A♠=E
2	10	2S-1	W 7	50	-	
3	11	4S-1	W 9	50	-	
4	12	2S-1	W 7	50	-	
Ref		2S-1	W 7	50	-	

Sometimes an opening hand plus minimal support isn't enough. In which case stop as soon as you can and accept the loss.

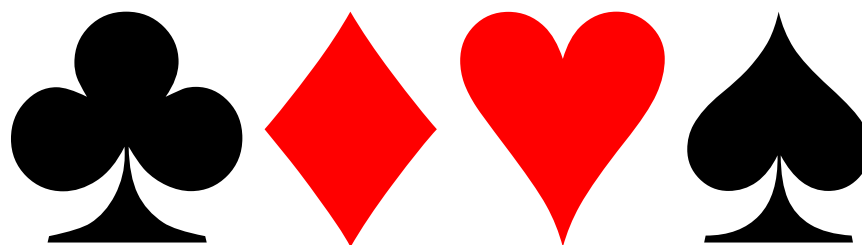
Not sure how Table 2 bid to 4S, nor how W made 9 tricks.



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Week 13 Major Suit Trial Bids



The very end