

Mon 29 th	1 st N-S	Jan Roos & Lasse	60%	2 nd	Arne & Lars	59%
	1 st E-W	Clive & Gerry	66%	2 nd	Douwe & Jacques	62%
Wed 31 st	1 st N-S	Gastone & Terry	63%	2 nd	Hugh & Sally	61%
	1 st E-W	Paul Save.. & Ursula	62%	2 nd	Jan v Koss & Royd	54%
Fri 2 nd	1 st N-S	Gunnar & Lars	60%	2 nd	Alan & Hans	54%
	1 st E-W	Bengt & Wolfgang	57%	2 nd	Janne & Lasse	56%

Bidding Quiz

Standard American is assumed unless otherwise stated.

Hand A

Hand B

With Hand A RHO opens 1♠, what do you bid and what are your intentions?

♠ A93

♠ KQ873

♥ AQ2

♥ 2

With Hand B partner opens 1♥ and you bid 1♠. Partner then bids 2♦, what do you bid?

♦ K102

♦ 84

♣ AK92

♣ KJ972

Bidding Sequences Quiz

C 1♠ pass 2♥ 2NT What is 2NT, is it natural and strong or Unusual?

D 1♣ pass 1♦ pass What is 1♠, is it natural or 4th suit forcing?
1♥ pass 1♠

E 1♠ dbl pass 2♣ How many points is the 2NT bid?
pass 2NT

F 1♥ pass 1♠ pass is 2♠ weak, encouraging or forcing? How many ♠'s?
2♦ pass 2♠

Editorial

I continue to get the odd complaint about this and that, but opinions seem to differ about the suitability of the Tropicana. Here is an e-mail from John Bartlett: -

I am very happy at the Tropicana.

The sandwiches are great, the free 'as much as you want' tea/coffee is just amazing. Big fat room with big fat tables and no interruptions from the Thai staff, luvvly !!!

I keep my bladder in check and have never used the toilets, I have no idea where they are.

I don't smoke, so no smoking upstairs is wonderful.

I like to walk up the stairs, it keeps one fit and it's only 1 flight !

It's a perfect venue, thanks for finding this place, I just love it here and hope we never have to move away !

Manners at our club – another one bites the dust.

Rudeness will not be tolerated at the Pattaya Bridge Club. Emil has finally received a life ban. Dave refunded his playing fee on Wednesday and he's thrown out for good, to join the other dozen or so mis-fits who simply cannot behave in a civilised manner.

A balanced 20 count when RHO opens

Board 8 from Wednesday 31st

North at Table A asked me what he should have done. As it happens I remembered the board as I was North at table B

Dealer: ♠ A93
West ♥ AQ2
Love all ♦ K102
♣ AK92

Table A

West	North(A)	East	South
1♠	2♣ (1)	pass	pass
pass			

♠ KQJ107	N	♠ 842
♥ KJ5	W E	♥ 1096
♦ J6	S	♦ 98754
♣ QJ7		♣ 103
	♠ 65	
	♥ 8743	
	♦ AQ3	
	♣ 8654	

Table B

West	North(A)	East	South
1♠	dbl (1)	pass	2♣ (2)
pass	2NT (3)	pass	pass (4)
pass			

Table A: (1) What did you bid with this North hand A in this week's quiz? This North went into a huddle and did not know what to do. He thought that he had read in the news-sheets that a double of 1♠ promises 4♥'s and he had also read that if you have to lie, then lie in a minor. So he bid 2♣ and awaited developments. Unfortunately he is still waiting.

Table B: (1) This North doubled, the correct answer to question A.
(2) 2♥ is a better bid as doubler generally has 4♥'s.
(3) But North bids 2NT anyway, showing a balanced 19-21 with a ♠ stop.
(4) And South is in a spot now. Partner has a big hand but does he have 4♥'s? South was not quite sure how strong North was (this was a first time partnership) and so passed.

And what happened? There are only 7 immediate tricks in No Trumps; with the ♥ finesse and setting up a ♣ as extra chances. At Table B declarer in 2NT ducked two round of ♠'s and won the third round discarding a ♣ from dummy. He crossed to dummy and took the ♥ finesse. West was later in a bit of difficulty on the 3rd round of ♦'s; he thought that he had to keep the ♥KJ and was reluctant to throw a winning ♠, so he threw a ♣ - this losing decision may well have been influenced by declarer's deceptive discarding of a ♣ from dummy at trick three. Declarer thus made 10 tricks for a near top, only beaten by the one declarer in 3NT: -.

Dave was declarer in 3NT at another table (he doubled and then bid 3NT). For some strange reason he did not receive a ♠ lead, but a ♦. Dave found a nice line to secure the contract when he ducked a ♣ (thus setting up a long ♣ trick provided that the ♣'s split 3-2) and later took the ♥ finesse for the 9 tricks needed.

The bottom lines:

- A double of 1♠ generally promises 4♥'s, but not if you bid again over partner's response –
- Double followed by a NoTrump bid shows a balanced 19-21 with a stop.
- There is no point in leading your own suit of ♦98754 when you have no entry!
- It's usually best to lead partner's suit.
- With a worthless hand, definitely lead partner's suit.

Beware of mis-fitsBoard 5 from Wednesday 31st

East got his side way too high on this mis-fitting deal, and then tried to blame his partner!

Dealer:	♠ A1092					
North	♥ 10874		West	North	East(B)	South
N-S vul	♦ 76		-	pass	pass (1)	pass
	♣ AQ3		1♥	pass	1♠	pass
			2♦	pass	2♠ (2)	pass
♠ -	N	♠ KQ873	3♦ (3)	pass	3NT (4)	all pass
♥ AKQ963	W E	♥ 2				
♦ K9532	S	♦ 84				
♣ 106		♣ KJ972				
	♠ J654					
	♥ J5					
	♦ AQJ10					
	♣ 854					

- (1) A perfect Muiderberg 2♠ opener – I guess this pair were playing normal weak twos.
- (2) What did you bid with this East hand B in this week's quiz? This East hand started off as a good 9 points, but it has got worse with every bid that partner has made. 2♠ here is mildly encouraging and promises a 6-card suit – I would never dream of encouraging nor rebidding this poor 5 card suit. 2♥ is clearly the best bid.
- (3) West chose to show his 5th ♦ rather than his 6th ♥, but it does not really matter as East has got the partnership too high anyway.
- (4) This is a terrible bid, with East overbidding again with nowhere near the values for 3NT. It's a mis-fit and East should simply pass or bid 3♥.

And what happened? 3NT went two down for a totally deserved complete bottom for East. Most pairs were playing in various numbers of ♥'s making anything from 7 to 10 tricks. Note that the ♦A, ♣A, ♣Q and ♠A all lay well for declarer but he still went two down – just goes to show what a really lousy bid 3NT is; swap the North and South hands and declarer will probably only scrape up about 4 tricks! At the end of the deal East was quick to criticise West's 3♦ bid, saying that he should have bid 3♥. A classic 'doing a Chuck' – immediately try to blame partner for your own mistakes.

The bottom lines:

- Beware of mis-fits.
- Bail out at the earliest opportunity (at (2) here) with a mis-fit.
- It is hardly ever correct to play a mis-fit in NoTrumps.
- If you 'do a Chuck' then expect to be written up if I am within earshot. But no names.

Opening 1NT out-of range is not allowed.

East hand 24 from Wednesday 31st

♠ Q1096 I was called over when this East apparently opened this with a 15-17 1NT
♥ A43 and thus fixed the opposition. You are **not allowed** to open 1NT way out
♦ A105 of range and if you do so you will receive an adjusted (unfavourable) score.
♣ K102 This hand is two points shy. Those (like me) who do not simply add points but
also adjust for intermediates and shape will then adjust – add on a point for the good
intermediates but deduct a point for the very bad totally flat shape. So this hand is still two points outside
the stated range and I adjusted the score. One point outside is acceptable, two is not. Incidentally, you
should have a specific (2-4 point) range for your 1NT opening; a statement like “15-17 but could be as
much as 20” is totally unacceptable – especially when it turns out to be 13.

♠ A108 Improve the hand to something like this and I would not argue with a 1NT
♥ K10 opening. It’s still 13 ‘points’ but in reality is worth 15-16 because of the
♦ K105 good shape, the tens and good intermediates.
♣ QJ1098

♠ AQ4 And with a hand like this I would not argue if you chose to open 1♣ and
♥ K43 rebid 1NT – showing 12-14 points. The hand is 16 ‘points’ but the miserable
♦ AJ2 shape and lack of intermediated make it worth about 14.
♣ Q432

Bidding Quiz Answers

Hand A: Dbl, with the intention of bidding 2NT over partner’s non-jump response. The initial double implies 4 ♥’s but the subsequent NoTrump bid negates that inference and simply shows a hand too strong to overcall 1NT (so around 19-21).

Hand B: 2♥. The hand is a mis-fit and you should stop as soon as possible. The hand does not have the values for 2NT and a mildly encouraging 2♠ with just a 5 card suit is a very poor bid.

Bidding Sequences Quiz Answers

- C** 1♠ pass 2♥ 2NT 2NT here in the sandwich seat is the same as an unusual No Trump, weak and 5-5 or better in the unbid suits.
- D** 1♣ pass 1♦ pass This is generally played as natural and forcing, with a
1♥ pass 1♠ jump to 2♠ as 4th suit forcing.
- E** 1♠ dbl pass 2♣ The 2NT bid having doubled shows a hand that is too strong
pass 2NT for an immediate 1NT (15-18) overcall; so 19-21.
- F** 1♥ pass 1♠ pass 2♠ here is mildly encouraging but not forcing. It most certainly
2♦ pass 2♠ should be a 6+ card suit.