



When to Compete by Steve Moese Sep 3, 2013 Tues Eve
Larry Cohen, renowned National Champion and Bridge Teacher published an analysis of 1,000,000 hands from top flight competition (at www.larryco.com). Here are some interesting statistics:

- 51.6% played in game
- 40.7% played in a part score
- 5.8% played in a small slam
- 0.5% played in a grand slam
- 1.5% passed the hand out.

Part scores are a BIG part of our game. Knowing when to bid one more requires keen judgment, when the assets are split about evenly between

each pair. So what does this have to do with Tuesday Night? Here's a hand I over-bid. I wanted to double 2♥, but bid to 3♦ instead. I knew my mistake the instant I made it. Let's look at it together. (*Not played by 99ers*).

- ♠ J 10 7
- ♥ A 6 2
- ♦ 9 8 6
- ♣ K J 10 9

← Our hand. RHO deals and opens 1♥. You pass and so does LHO (*what does this mean?*). Partner bids 2♦ in the pass out seat (*what does partner have?*). RHO bids

	East	You	West	Partner
2♥ (<i>what does that mean?</i>)	1♥	Pass	Pass	2♦
Over to us. How do we	2♥	???		

think about this hand? What do we choose to do? (*Always THINK before we play. Now's the time to answer those questions...*).

Let's see what we know. We hold 9 HCP. **West has at most 4 HCP.** (*Most respond with 5 HCP. That's what the 1st pass means*). Partner needs 8-14 HCP and 5 cards to balance 2♦. (*With 15-17 HCP and a good suit partner jumps to 3♦. With 15+ partner doubles 1st*).

South's rebid after partner's pass shows either extra strength (*a King more than opening or 16+ HCP*) or extra distribution. So our first HCP picture: 9 + 4 + Partner + 16 = 40 so Partner has ~11 HCP. Each side has ~ 20 HCP – no safety at the 3 level (*For safety at the 3-level we want 23 HCP or 9-card fit. Trust me – it matters*). Do we have a 9-card fit? **We don't know. Partner does.** Trust partner to rebid 3♦ with a 6-card suit or an extra King (safety at the 3-level). **Pass** looks like a good option.

Look again at our hand – does it look like partner is going to ruff many side-suit losers with our ♦s? **NO!** The 3=3=3=4 shape is the worst we can have. Both our Ace and King will be as valuable on offense as defense. Our poor shape argues loudly for defending, not for bidding on. Look again at the auction. Will they bid to

9/3 - 99er Leaders

- 1st OA: **Karen Kalla & Richard Horvitz** (66.7%)
- 2nd OA: **Mark Mitchell & Andy Heldman** (54.4%)
- 3rd OA(tie): **R. Roark & S. Koster/B. Cooper & J. Crotty Hall** (54%)



New! Tues Eve 6:30 PM Sharp!
Have a question? Mike & Steve will

discuss any bridge topic of interest before the Tuesday Game. Starts Tuesday September 10, 2013.

CBA NLM Games – Play Often!

NEW! NLM Game Tues Mornings 11 AM

- Mon <2000 7 PM
- Tues NLM 11 AM
- Tues 99er 7 PM
- Wed Home Style 11:00 AM [*Wed 199er 6:30 PM NKY*]
- Thu Eve 7 PM (if attendance warrants)
- Fri NLM 11 AM (Lecture 10:30) [*1st Fri 99er 10AM NKY*]
- Sat 99er 10 AM to 12 Noon **Supervised Play**

Area Tournaments

- Sep 6 – 8 Madisonville KY S
- Sep 9 – 15 **Fort Wayne IN R**
- Sep 13 – 15 Pineville KY S
- Sep 20 – 22 Lucas KY S
- Sep 24 – 29 **Fairborn, OH R**

For Details go to <http://tournaments.acbl.org/display.php>

the 3-level? **Very unlikely.** LHO is VERY weak. **Pass must be a winning choice.** Here's the full hand → The results? Every NS pair declared, most in ♦s. 2♥ by East down 1 for +100 would have been an 83 board. We

Board 22 ♠ KQ8
East Deals ♥ 843
E-W Vul ♦ AQ432
♣ 87

♠ 632	N	♠ A954
♥ 107	W	♥ KQJ95
♦ KJ105	E	♦ 7
♣ 6543	S	♣ AQ2

NS 1N; 1♥; ♠ J107
E 1♠; ♥ A62
EW NS 1♦ ♦ 986
♣ KJ109

Bd 22	Scores		MPs	
	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
2♦ xx N	560		6	0
2♦ N		50	5	1
2♦ x N		100	2.5	3.5
3♦ N		100	2.5	3.5
3♦ N		100	2.5	3.5
2♣ S		100	2.5	3.5
3♦ N		150	0	6

didn't even have to double EW! If we visualize what's going on, we make better decisions. We got the HCP right without peeking. **Think! Rough estimates are better than none at all. Bid & play as if we see all 4 hands.**

Newcomer News – Mike “Keeping Fun On My Convention Card” Purcell 513 702 4007

Last week we had over 4 tables again! Thanks to all in attendance. This coming Saturday Phyllis Bishop and Lorna Davis will be running our Informal Supervised Play session 10-12. Remember starting this Saturday the new game rate is \$2 per person, \$1 for youth.

This week’s hand focuses on play more than bidding discussing more difficult finesses and showing us the importance of overtricks. Enjoy!

Board 3
 South Deals
 E-W Vul

♠ K 9 5
 ♥ 9 6 4
 ♦ A Q 9 6
 ♣ A Q 5

♠ J 10 7 4 3
 ♥ 8 5
 ♦ J 8 2
 ♣ K 7 6

♠ 8 6
 ♥ Q J 7 3
 ♦ K 7 5
 ♣ J 10 8 3

♠ A Q 2
 ♥ A K 10 2
 ♦ 10 4 3
 ♣ 9 4 2

(Tues 9/3)

Bidding – South has 13 HCP but no five card major. With 3-3 in the minors, we open 1♣ (if 4-4 we would open 1♦). North with 15 HCP and no 4 card major will bid directly to game at 3NT. They will not worry about ♥s thinking partner’s points must be somewhere. Even if partner does not have ♥ values, opponents have to lead ♥s and be able to run 5 ♥s to set you.

Play of the Hand – Assuming a ♥3 lead by East (fourth best from length), we see we have 7 winners (3♠, 2♥, 1♦, 1♣). Which suits are best to attack to develop more tricks?

- ♠s: We already have the top tricks in ♠s so nothing can be gained here.
- ♥s: We can win at least one more trick if we can finesse/capture the ♥Q or ♥J.
- ♦s: We can develop 2 more tricks if we can capture either the ♦K or ♦J.

♣s: We can get 1 more trick if we finesse the ♣K and win. If we are wrong we have set up opponents’ suit.

The best plan is take finesses in ♥s and ♦s to develop our long suits and look for a ♣ finesse later. When at trick one you play low in dummy and win the first ♥ with ♥9, you are reasonably sure ♥Q and ♥J are finessable for two extra tricks. Play another ♥ to dummy to win and now that you well positioned to start on the ♦ suit by playing from dummy (South) through to with the ♦10 finessing for both missing honors. This finesse loses to the ♦K but we know eventually we can pick up the ♦J if we continue to finesse West. Assuming West switches to a spade after winning their ♦, continue to finesse ♥s and ♦s and then take your ♣ finesse winning your ♣A and ♣Q. This plan of play yields 12 tricks (3♠, 4♥, 3♦, 2♣) for making +490.

Defense to hold Declarer to 5NT – on a non-♥ lead or switch by East, Declarer cannot pick up the all 4 ♥ tricks if they break the suit first assuming East covers the ♥9 with the ♥J to eventually set up their ♥7!

Post Mortem – When planning your play in NT count winners, assess which suits you can develop to get more tricks before the opponents’ can run their suits. Make sure to consider transportation between hands in your plan. This hand is a good example of when you will want to finesse between two suits at the same time to optimize transportation between hands.

Post Mortem II – Why do we worry about overtricks in matchpoint scoring? In the open game even getting two overtricks was average at 2.5 MP (out of 6 MP). Getting one more overtrick (+490) got you another 2.5 MP. Getting one less (+430) yielded 0 MP. Bottom line: Overtricks Matter!

Bd 3	Scores		MPS	
	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
1♥ x E	1400		6	0
3NT N	490		5	1
3NT S	460		2.5	3.5
3NT N	460		2.5	3.5
3NT S	460		2.5	3.5
3NT N	460		2.5	3.5
3NT S	430		0	6
3NT N	490		6	0
3NT N	460		4.5	1.5
3NT N	460		4.5	1.5
3NT N	430		2.5	3.5
3NT N	430		2.5	3.5
3NT N	400		1	5
3NT N		50	0	6

Looking to improve your game? If you have an Intel Computer we highly recommend the free software offered by the ACBL and developed by Mr. Fred Gitelman. Check it out at: <https://web.acbl.org/LearnToPlayBridge/>