

Monster Hand

by Steve Moese Tues Eve Nov 4

Board 17 ♠ 72

North ♥ 9532

Deals ♦ 652

None Vul ♣ J1053

♠ AK5

♥ A

♦ KQ1074

♣ AKQ8

	N	E	
W			E
	S		

♠ Q8643

♥ QJ106

♦ 93

♣ 74

♠ J109

EW 6♠; 6♦; ♥ K874

5N; 4♥; 5♣

♣ 962

You are South. After 3 passes, LHO opens 2♣ strong forcing and artificial. RHO offers 2♦ a waiting bid.

N	E	S	W
P	P	P	2♣
P	2♦	?	

What do you choose to do? You've already passed, and partner cannot expect much from you on this auction but you have 2 control cards in the red suits. One idea is to

double. This is a **lead directing double** (unless you play a conventional overcall scheme over strong artificial auctions). This can give partner a safe out, and allow you to view dummy before deciding how to direct the defense.

Now let's take on West's perspective. 25 HCP hands don't come along very often. How might West handle the auction after South's double? A pass by West is FORCING, and would show no clear direction. Redouble is penalty – that is West wants to play 2♦ redoubled. 2♦ redoubled making 6 as the cards lie is worth 1360!! West should redouble to show at least 4 good ♦ cards, and no biddable 5-card major. North should pass, so should East. South now must stand or bid 2♥. If South does bid 2♥, West might double (Penalties). As the cards lie, this leads to down 5 or +1100. If West passes, East faces a decision to double (penalties) or bid ♠s.

The issue both sides face? Choices that are almost incalculable because of the simple lead directing double. Sometimes simply stepping into an auction can create enough confusion to steer opponents wrong. Doubling a 2-level auction rarely pays off more than slam (this hand is a rare exception, but how can EW be certain?).

N	E	S	W
P	P	P	2♣
P	2♦	P	3♦
P	3♠	P	4♣
P	4♥	P	6♠

Let's look at the auction without the lead directing double. West bids their pattern naturally. East shows

positive values and 5=4 in the majors. Since East has at most 4 minor suit cards and West covers 3 of them (♣AKQ) bidding 6♠ is a no-brainer. From West's perspective, if East has ♠Qxxxx and no more than 4 minor suit cards, slam is appealing.

11/4 – Future Master Leaders

1st OA: Lois Jones & Caroline Richards (59.3%)

2nd OA: Evelyn McCarthy & Joan Diers (54%)



Bring your Questions, Hands, Ideas. Let's learn together!

Tues Eve 6:30 PM Sharp!

CBA Newcomer Games – Play Often!

Mon PM < 2000

Tue PM 149er LTB

Wed AM Homestyle

Fri AM NLM + Lecture

Sat AM Supervised Play

Sat PM NLM (Homestyle Available)

Events at the Cincinnati Bridge Center

- **NEW!** Kay Mulford offers 2 new 0-10 MP games (Free Lunch & Newsletter too): **Wed Nov 12 0-10 MP Homestyle** (\$5 1st time). **Fri Nov 14 0-10 Pairs**. Lecture 10:30 AM. Call Kay 631-8070 or kmulford@cinci.rr.com for partner.
- **Last Thu PM in Nov: SWISS TEAM** games.
- **November CBA Flyer** – Check out the special games.

Area Tournaments

[Louisville-Lexington KY Regional](#)

Nov 3-9

[Indianapolis Sectional](#)

Nov 21-23

[FALL NABC – Providence RI](#)

Nov 27-Dec 7

ACBL Tournaments <http://tournaments.acbl.org/display.php>

Notice if West held ♠ AK5 ♥ A1074 ♦ KQ ♣ AKQ8 then West would prefer 6♥ to 6♠. Do you see why? When choosing between a 5-3 fit and a 4-4 fit, the 4-4 trump fit will lead to one more trick whenever trumps break reasonably because you can pitch a loser on the 5-card suit. Should West ask for key cards? That works only if you have a clear agreement with partner what suit the 4NT call picks as trumps. A good agreement is that it is opener's suit if opener has set trumps or the last bid suit (here ♥s). If you don't have an agreement here, 4N can be confusing. We should resort to keycard asks only when we are clear that any answer has a clear action (no doubleton xx or voids) and when we are sure we do not have 2 possible quick losers in a side suit. Here West can safely jump to 6♠ knowing partner has values in the majors. When you can see 12 tricks, bid slam.

Scores MPs

Bd 17	NS	EW	NS	EW
4♦ W	150	2	0	
4♠ W	480	1	1	
4NT W	490	0	2	
6♠ E	50	3	0	
2♥ W	170	2	1	
4♠ E	450	1	2	
3NT E	460	0	3	

The Play – A ♥ lead tightropes the hand. You have 1 entry to hand and cannot use it. Cash ♠AK. Then lead ♦K. If South wins and returns a small ♥, duck to your hand (and repeat the ruffing finesse). If they return anything else, draw trumps and play on ♦. Lack of entries to East's hand make this a very difficult hand to play.

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

Volunteers for this Saturday’s 10am game are Lorna Davis, Nancy Luetge, Cliff Pleatman and Potter Orr. This week’s hand presents us with a difficult choice between games.

Board 11 ♠ Q9
 South ♥ 863
 Deals ♦ 10654
 None Vul ♣ K1063

♠ 7	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ AKJ864
N					
W E					
S					
♥ A1075	♥ QJ4				
♦ AK8	♦ Q92				
♣ QJ985		♣ 2			

EW 5♠; 5♥;
 4N; 4♦; 4♣

♠ 10532	♥ K92
♦ J73	♣ A74

before.

Play of the Hand – On a ♥2 lead (low from an honor) declarer (East) has 3 losers (1♠, 1♥, 1♣). Taking the heart finesse at tricks eliminates the heart loser. Play a diamond to the West hand so you can take a spade finesse for the queen. While this works, the 4-2 break promotes the 10 in South’s hand. Draw three rounds of trumps total and finesse hearts again to capture the ♥K and set up the fourth heart pitching your club loser for 12 tricks or +480.

Post Mortem – When you know your side has game make sure you get there. Even when you do not have perfect information as on this deal, getting to game is much preferred to missing out on a game bonus. On this deal in the Future Master’s section bidding and making either 3NT or 4♠ will score well for your side.

Board 11 (Tuesday 11/4)

Bidding – West with 14 HCP and 5 clubs opens 1♣ (12-21 HCP, 3+ clubs). East has 13 HCP and 6 spades. When you hold this hand you know you belong in at least game, likely spades but could be NT. East’s first bid is 1♠ (6+ HCP, 4+ spades). West with values in the remaining suits should rebid 1NT (12-14 HCP, 1-2 spades). East still is not sure if spades or NT is best. If you do not play New Minor Forcing then you must choose between rebidding 3NT or 4♠ now. Do not give partner a chance to pass short of game with this strong a hand. Given the NT rebid from partner, I would choose 4♠.

If you play New Minor Forcing - After 1NT from West, East can bid 2♦ (10+ HCP, 5 spades). West will now show their 4 card heart card by bidding 2♥ in case partner is 5-4 in the majors. This is no help for East (this time) and they will likely rebid 4♠ as

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	NS	EW	NS	EW
4♠ E	450	1.5	0.5	
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3 NT W	460	0	2	
3 NT E	50	3	0	
2 NT W	150	2	1	
2♠ E	200	1	2	
3 NT E	430	0	3	