



TRUMPS UPDATE

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www.trumps.net.au

(02) 9969 5959

trumps@trumps.net.au

www.facebook.com/trumpsbridgecentre

Reverse Smith-Peter Signals by Alex Kemeny

In the book "Deadly Defence", the last chapter discusses Dorothy Truscott's suggestion in regard to defending against NT. When following suit to the first suit led by declarer, a low card by either defender is an encouraging signal in regard to the suit we led at trick 1, and high is discouraging. This idea is also known as a Reverse Smith-Peter signal.

This signalling strategy only applies against NT contracts only, and only when we have not won the first trick. Then, on the first suit led by declarer, both defenders, if playing a low card to that trick, should signal their attitude to the suit led at trick 1 (rather than the usual practice of giving count in declarer's led suit). If a defender needs to play an honour to that trick, then the signal can be given on the next trick on which that defender plays low to declarer's lead.

Trick 1 proceeds C6,3,9,K and then declarer plays a low spade. West wins SA and East follows with the S2 (low-like) to say that they like the suit originally led (clubs). This clarifies to West that they must continue with a club, which is necessary to beat the contract.

With no club interest, East would have played the S8. In that case, the DQ switch looks like West's best chance to defeat the contract, playing east for **AJx** or better in diamonds. (Although the CK at trick 1 suggests declarer lacks the CA, a crafty declarer may win with the CK from that holding, in order to encourage a club continuation from West at trick 2.)

It should be recognised that playing Reverse Smith-Peters means we cannot also give count on the first round of declarer's suit. When declarer leads the second round of his suit, we should then give count, based upon present-count (so if left with an odd number after the Smith-Peters signal, play high-low and if left with an even number, play low-high). *continued*

The following hand shows the principle:

Dlr Any; Vul Any; Any Scoring			
	♠	QJ4	
	♥	875	
	♦	K543	
	♣	Q103	
♠ A			♠ K872
♥ J943			♥ 1062
♦ Q1076			♦ 92
♣ 8654			♣ AJ97
	♠	109653	
	♥	AKQ	
	♦	AJ8	
	♣	K2	
Bidding:			
West	North	East	South
P	P	P	1NT
P	2NT	P	3NT
Lead: C6			



Masterpoint Promotions

Derek Ponsford	Bronze State
Heath Henn	Bronze State
Gill Chambers	State
Julie Mansfield	State
Nick Armitage	Silver Local
Clive Todd	Club
David Hutchinson	Graduate

Congratulations! See us when you are at Trumps to collect your promotion certificate and token.

This is an very useful convention and so should be used by any serious partnership. Here are three more examples:

Dlr Any; Vul Any; Any Scoring			
		♠	AQ62
		♥	A865
		♦	AJ3
		♣	A6
♠	843		♠ K1095
♥	QJ1072		♥ 3
♦	K75		♦ Q1092
♣	KJ		♣ 10732
		♠	J7
		♥	K94
		♦	864
		♣	Q9854
Bidding:			
West	North	East	South
P	1C/1D	P	1NT
P	3NT	End	
Lead: HQ			

Here after HQ lead, declarer wins HK immediately, in order to conceal the heart position. He then plays C4,J,A,2, then C6,3,9,K (restricted choice indicates to declarer to not play CQ). West wins CK perforce.

East must follow with the C7 then C2 to tell West to not continue hearts, since the H3 may have been low-encouraging (from 93 doubleton). When East wrongly played C2 then C3, West continued with the H2 and declarer's 9 won, and now declarer has nine tricks by playing on clubs, the SJ being the entry back to the South hand.

Dlr East; Vul Any; IMPs			
		♠	109854
		♥	5
		♦	K9
		♣	KQJ42
♠	763		♠ Q
♥	A10842		♥ J96
♦	5		♦ A1087432
♣	A653		♣ 108
		♠	AKJ2
		♥	KQ73
		♦	QJ6
		♣	97
Bidding:			
West	North	East	South
		3D	3NT
End			
Lead: H4			

West led the H4,5,J,K. Now declarer plays to the CK then continues with the CQ. East must follow with C10 then C8 as West takes his CA at trick 3. Now west knows to not continue hearts. But East (who had agreed to play Reverse Smith Peter signals) mistakenly followed with C8 then C10 so West thought East must have started with H:QJx. West continued hearts and so when the SQ appeared under the SA, that was the end of the defence.

If East follows C10 then C8, West will switch to a diamond. East will win and seeing no future there will send the killer pusher card back: the H9. Now the defence will score four hearts and the two aces for two off.

Even the defender who led to trick one should give a Reverse Smith-Peters signal, since he may or may not like his own led suit any more, depending upon dummy's holding and the cards played at trick one.

Here is another example:

		North	
		♠	97
		♥	Q102
		♦	7654
West	♣	AKQJ	East
♠	A10842		♠ QJ5 (J65)
♥	987		♥ KJ64 (A654)
♦	K3		♦ 1098
♣	973		♣ 1082
		South	
		♠	K63 (KQ3)
		♥	A53 (KJ3)
		♦	AQJ2
		♣	654

North opened 1-minor and South bid 3NT showing 13 to 16 points and no major. West led the S4. South won the SJ with the SK now played a club to dummy, planning to take the diamond finesse next.

West must follow with the C3 to show that West liked what happened in spades at trick one, confirming a suit headed by ace-ten or ace-queen. East should follow at trick two with the C2, showing a desire for west to continue spades. In the non-italicised layout, EW must cash their five tricks as soon as the DK is won.

However if East follows with the C8 (as he would if the cards were as shown in italicised parentheses) it would show a desire for West, when in with the DK, to switch. So West will switch to a heart, now east will rise HA and play a spade back as instructed by West at trick two, which is the only way to defeat the contract on the italicised layout.

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

Bridge at other venues:

Did you know beside our regular games at Trumps (66 Spit Rd) we also run weekly games at following venues:

Social duplicate at RAC, Circular Quay
10.30am Tuesdays

Bridge @ The Manly Club
11am Tuesdays

Social duplicate at Baytree, Greenwich
2pm Tuesdays

Bridge at Manors, 6 Hale Rd
2pm Wednesdays

Supervised duplicate at Monash, Ingleside
9.30am Thursdays

Bridge @ Mosman Rowers
1pm Thursdays



Lessons & events

Australia wide novice pairs
1.15 for 1.30pm Wednesday 26 May

Improvers Lessons
7 pm Mondays till 14th June.

Intermediate Lessons 10 am
Wednesdays till 16th June.

Day GNOT (Gold points)
1.30pm Fridays to 28 May.

Night GNOT (Gold points)
7pm Fridays to 28 May.
(Enter/play as a pair for GNOTs)

Inter-club Teams (@NSBC)
9.45am Sunday 23 May.

Trump's June Pairs (Red points)
1.30pm Fridays to 4 – 25 June.

Bidding Forum *moderated by Alex Kemeny*

You are South with the hand shown. Choose your call then compare with the experts. Trumps Standard and Pairs scoring in all four.

On our panel, Derrick Browne and leading world bridge authorities Barry Rigal and Ron Klinger are joined by Nick Fahrre from The Bridge Shop and NSW representatives Tina Zines, Richard Douglas, Nick Hughes and Nicoleta Giura.

East Deals, NS Vulnerable

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

Pass 1NT Pass 1♦
Pass 1NT Pass ?

♠ K Q 5 3
♥ K Q 9 5
♦ A K J 9 7
♣ —

CALL	VOTES
2♥	6
2♠	1
3NT	1

Browne: 2H. A few months ago I had a similar hand and bid an impatient 3NT, counting on partner (who has denied a major and failed to support diamonds) to have clubs covered. I almost wonder if this is the same hand, but I don't recall submitting it. In a less restless mood, I would reverse to 2H and then introduce spades, to allow partner to place the contract.

Douglas: 2H. Showing reversing values. Without prior discussion I'd expect partner to bid 2S now with some values there, over which I shall bid 3D; over 2N I shall try 3NT. Over 3C I'll have to decide whether to bid 3NT or pass, which could easily be right even with a void.

Fahrer: 3NT. "Confidently."

Giura: 2S. If partner bids 3C, I'll bid 3H giving partner the whole of my hand; if I bid 2H instead, it would get awkward...

Hughes: 2H. No major fit but this will give us a chance to find out about clubs. Can pattern out with 3S next, prepared to bale in 4D.

Klinger: 2H. Reverse, forcing, and 3S on the next round unless something good happens. Of course something bad might happen too (partner has moderate, long clubs).

Rigal: 2H. I plan to force to game in most cases, and again we are in artificial territory where 2S is any non-acceptance 2NT 3C/3D all natural and GF by partner. Over 2S I bid 2NT NF.

Zines: 2H. 3NT is a distinct possibility, especially at matchpoints. But 5D may be better (even 6D) and the only way to explore is via a reverse to 2H to show my 5+ diamonds. Will follow with 3S if pard bids 3D, or 3NT if she bids 3C. It gives away a lot to the opposition, but I'm willing.

There has been a request for us to move the **Red Point** session from Friday afternoons back to Wednesdays (but it would be moved to the morning, c. 10am). Let us know which option you prefer!

Player of the Month

Each month, we take the average of your best **SIX** scores in **Open** matchpoint sessions to decide the month's top achiever

Neil Williams **62%**

Newsletter now mainly emailed:

We are now doing more frequent newsletters, but mainly emailed, with a few legacy copies being printed for those who do not have email. We will also do occasional mailed newsletters, e.g. at year end. If anyone is not receiving our monthly emailed updates, we would appreciate being given the person's email address so we can rectify the situation!



Trumps/ABF membership

Welcome to all our newly joined members. Collect your nametag ABF membership card if you have not collected them.

For existing members with home club Trumps, new ABF cards are now available to be collected from the back foyer or see staff.

Trumps publishing:

Check our full range of books, pamphlets, software and other bridge merchandise.

www.trumps.net.au/about-trumps/trumps-shop

Month winners

To work this out, we take the best three scores by member pairs from the 4 or 5 matchpoint sessions that make up each monthly event. (**Seven pairs** need to have played three or more times for meaningful results)

Tuesday afternoon

- Eric Lippey & Kerry Boytell

Tuesday night

- Kevin Ellwood & Michael Kidd

Wednesday afternoon intermediate

- Judith Stefanek & Frances Harridge

Wednesday afternoon open

- Judith Oliver & Marika Krupp

Wednesday night

- Anthony Pearce & Gillian pearce

Thursday morning

- John Green & Michael Hutchinson

Thursday afternoon

- Kim Dalling & Cia Benecke

Thursday bridge @ Rowers

- Angela Mullighan & Carole Vildzius

Saturday afternoon

- Vivienne McDonald & Sue Robinson

Most improved Rating

		Old	New	Gain
1	Jenny Small	50.31	51.54	1.23
2	Marika Krupp	57.63	58.79	1.16
3	Neil Williams	62.81	63.90	1.09
4	Victoria Westphal	51.10	52.11	1.01
5	Suzanne Garner	53.54	54.50	0.96
6	Robyn Scott	48.03	48.84	0.81
7	Christine Algie	56.70	57.47	0.77
8	Rob Holgate	62.31	63.07	0.76
9	Margaret Parker	41.67	42.42	0.75
10	Peter Fitzmaurice	59.65	60.38	0.73

(Members who have played 13 times in the last six months are rated)

Timetable

Open Duplicates

	Morning	Afternoon	Night
Mon		1.20*	
Tues	9.50*	1.20*	7pm*
Wed		1.15*	7pm*
Thurs	9.50*	1.20*	
Fri	9.50*	1.20*	7pm*
Sat		1.30	

*These games start with a short talk.

Red/gold points 1.20pm Fridays.

Supervised

Mon	9.50*	1.20*	7pm*
Tues	9.50*		
Wed	(lessons)		
Thurs	9.50*		
Fri	10am*		
Sat	10am*		

*Supervised games start with a talk.

(Check bridge at other venues on page 3 for other session time)

We run normal sessions on most public holidays, but there is a special program at year end and Good Friday / Easter.

Benefits

Of Trumps membership

- A monthly update of news, views and tips
- Save \$3 on duplicate sessions at and lessons at Trumps
- Reciprocal membership rights at Mosman Rowers Trumps Bridge Group, Bridge @ The Manly Club, Social Bridge, Turramurra, Killara & Narrabeen
- Special events for members
- 10% discount at Taste of India (under new management!)
- Members' phone book
- We pay your ABF fees if we are your home club (\$10 extra).

Rights and duties

- We cater for players of all levels
- Use the suggestion box in the main foyer
- Greet your opponents
- Let us know if you are available as a "fill-in" player, to be called in at the last moment (as our guest) if we are short
- Post mortems should never hold up play
- Support those who support bridge! *Australian Bridge* magazine (also in novice edition) and the Bridge Shop. We recommend: Mosman Rowers, The Manly Club, A Taste of India, Trans Restaurant, Thai Kanteen, Hotel Mosman, Lok Lok Dumpling Bar, Fourth village, and Baytree Greenwich.



♠♥ Happy Bridging! ♦♣