



Trumps Update

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www.trumps.net.au

(02) 9969 5959

trumps@trumps.net.au

www.facebook.com/trumpsbridgecentre

What might happen here? by Nick Hughes

NORTH

♠ AKQ4

♥ 9763

♦ J7

♣ K32

WEST

♠ —

♥ KQJ1082

♦ 9532

♣ QJ9

EAST

♠ 97653

♥ 4

♦ 1084

♣ 10854

SOUTH

♠ J1082

♥ A5

♦ AKQ6

♣ A76

South Deals, Both Vulnerable

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♦
2♥	dbl	pass	4♠
pass	5♠	pass	6♠

South was too strong to open 1NT, so started with 1♦. West made a weak jump overcall.

When South jumped to 4♠ over the negative double, North decided there was enough strength for slam.

Hearts could be a problem, so North bid 5♠ to ask partner to bid slam with control of hearts. Despite having weak trumps, South did as asked.

West led the ♥K to South's ace.

This is a good slam. If trumps break 3-2, there are 12 easy tricks: four trumps plus a ruff, four diamonds, two clubs and the ♥A. Easy.

Even if trumps are 4-1, declarer simply needs to arrange a heart ruff in hand before drawing the rest of East's trumps. Not a problem.

So South plays a trump at trick two. The 5-0 break is a big blow. What to do?

In notrumps, there are 11 top tricks. Playing in 6♠, you might get by with 10 of those tricks, if you can arrange two ruffs in one hand or the other. Which hand? Not yours. If you give West a heart trick early on, East will pitch diamonds, in which case you won't be making many diamond tricks at all.

The solution is a cross-ruff, so make sure you start by cashing three diamonds, pitching a **club** from dummy as East has to follow.

Next ♣K-A and a club ruff, then graciously concede a heart. Now you are home on a high cross-ruff, whether East pitches or ruffs in to play a trump. ♣♦♥♠



Are you ever available as concierge to greet players and partner a single, or to be called in to fill a table, or to mentor less experienced players? Or you might have a special volunteer project such as a charity fundraiser. Please let us know!

Bidding Forum moderated by Alex Kemeny

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

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, Nick Hughes and Nicoleta Giura.

South Deals, EW Vulnerable

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♣
Pass	1♥	pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	pass	?
	♠ A 2		
	♥ Q 3		
	♦ K Q		
	♣ K Q J 9 6 5 4		

Votes by our panellist	
CALL	VOTES
3♠	5
3♥	2

A great suit but partner has the red suits. Is there anything better than a jump to 5♣?

Browne: 3♥. With a spade stopper and no fit for the red suits, the obvious action is 3NT. However, I prefer 3♥, which is more flexible with a sympathetic partner. The spades are a worry for notrumps; we want to be in 4♥ if partner has xx-KJTxx-Axxx-xx. The 3♥ bid still leaves room to find 3NT if it is right. I think 3♠ by partner over my 3♥ should be exploratory (a variation of fourth suit forcing) allowing us to find 3NT if partner has weak hearts and/or a notrumpy hand, such as the following: JT9-Axxxx-Axxx-x.

Fahrer: 3♠. Fourth suit forcing, usually asking for a stopper. If partner doesn't have the ♣A, then we are not making 3NT unless there is some spade help over there. If he has ♠:Q-x-x then we want him to be declarer to guarantee 2 spade stoppers if they lead that suit. If partner denies a spade stopper then I will gladly rebid 5♣.

Klinger: 3♠. Seeking help for 3NT. No matter what you do, you will not always be right. One stopper in spades might not be enough for 3NT if you have to knock out the ♣A. On the other hand, 5♣ might easily have 3 losers. If partner can bid 3NT (Q-x-x would be great), fine. If not, I'll settle for 5♣.

Hughes: 3♠. Not 3NT when partner is likely to have some red pictures and maybe nothing else. The guess will come over 4♦ by partner.

Giura: 3♠. My stopper is too skinny, need some partner co-operation.

Rigal: 3♠. Maybe I should bid 3NT now (and facing ♠J-10-x that would be good) but you can imagine many hands that don't include the club ace will give us play for 5♣ while 3NT is just down on a spade lead. ♠A-x-x would be a much more comfortable 3NT call.

Zines: 3♥. I need partner to hold ace of clubs or a spade stopper. With the latter, she may well have bid 3NT herself. I can bash 3NT, but in more circumspect mode I decide to try 3♥. Holding ♣A, partner might then try 3♠.

Partner's useful cards were ♥A-K-J-8-6 and ♦A-T-9-8-2 in a 2-5-5-1 shape. We can make 6♣, or 11 tricks in hearts, diamonds or notrumps, the latter one because West's ♦J comes down (doubleton).

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

Bridge at Manors, 6 Hale Rd

2pm Wednesdays from 9 March

Duplicate at Monash, Ingleside

9.30am Thursdays

Bridge @ Mosman Rowers

1pm Thursdays from 10 March



Trumps publishing:

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

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

Lessons & events

Beginners' card play lessons

From March, 7pm Thursdays or 10am Fridays. Suitable as a refresher. See Derrick for details.

Intermediate Bridge lessons

10am Wednesdays.

Red points & more

1.20 for 1.30pm Fridays, & some Wednesdays BBO and Fri nights.

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

- Marjorie Nicklin & Marika Krupp

Thursday morning

- Jane Armitage & Cia Benecke

Saturday afternoon

- Vivienne McDonald & Sue Robinson

Top Rated

	Name	Ratings
1	Derrick Browne	68.35
2	Eric Lippey	66.72
3	Alessandro Gado	66.62
4	Kerry Boytell	66.56
5	Alex Kemeny	65.31
6	Barbara Gassmann	63.41
7	Neil Williams	63.26
8	Fay Cooney	63.08
9	Rob Holgate	62.88
10	Kim Dalling	62.82

Most improved Rating

	Name	Old	New	Gain
1	Steve Jappy	46.99	48.71	1.72
2	Kerrie Steggles	39.64	40.75	1.11
3	Rob Taggart	49.73	50.82	1.09
4	Shonie Glasgow	41.84	42.76	0.92
5	Brian Young	51.25	52.14	0.89
6	Cia Benecke	60.70	61.58	0.88
7	Kim Dalling	61.99	62.83	0.84
8	Marjorie Nicklin	57.31	58.13	0.82
9	Nola Rose	41.73	42.52	0.79
10	Leif Rasmussen	48.86	49.64	0.78

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

Online Bridge

BBO 1pm Wednesdays

Funbridge

Search for Trumps under
exclusive tournaments.

Password Trumps

Need Partner?

Almost each month we get few
players looking for suitable
regular/casual bridge partner.
If you are in the similar
situation call or email us with
your preferred level and
session day/time.

Fill in

Are you available to be called
in as a fill-in guest to fill a
table? Email or call us with
possible days/times/venue(s).



Masterpoint Promotions (December – February)

Heath Henn	National
Suzanne Addision	National
Jamal Yazdanparast	Regional
Olivia Johnson	Regional
Penny Barry	Silver Local
Richard Samuel	Bronze Local
Peter Grant	Bronze Local
Pamela Veillard	Bronze Local
David Hutchinson	Club
John Neil	Club
Jane Ellis	Graduate

Masks are no longer mandatory, but we ask you to wear one if the opponents wish. Alternatively you may sit at a table with screens. We also endeavor to let those who are keen on masks sit in the "empty" room if they wish (where feasible).

Bridge Celebration!

Sunday 13 March

1pm (nibble/drink)
for 1.30pm (bridge)

Free if joined/renewed for
2022 else normal table fee.



Canberra Mercure

Sun 11 to Wed 14 Sep from \$699pp



What to bid?

Choose your call then compare with the experts (published in next month's edition). Standard bidding and Pairs scoring.

West Deals, Nil Vulnerable

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♥	2♣	pass	?

♠ K J 7 2
♥ J 9 2
♦ K Q 8 2
♣ 9 5

Timetable

Open Duplicates

	Morning	Afternoon	Night
Mon	9.50* (Int)		
Tues	<i>join other game</i>	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		1.20*	7pm*
Tues	9.50*		
Wed	(lessons)		
Thurs			
Fri	<i>see p5 lessons</i>		
Sat	10am*		

*Supervised games start with a talk.

(Check bridge at other venues on **p3** 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
- 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, Trans Restaurant, Thai Kanteen, Hotel Mosman, Lok Lok Dumpling Bar, Fourth Village, and Baytree Greenwich.



♠♥ Happy Trumping! ♦♣