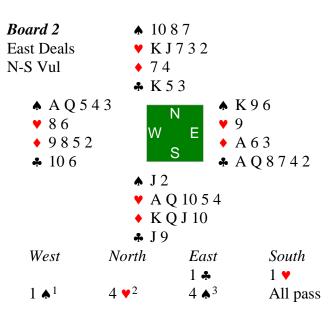
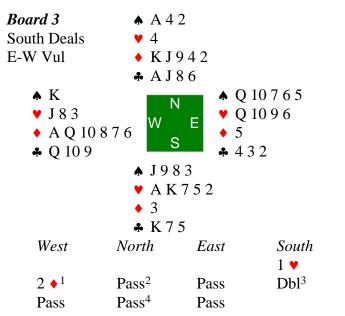


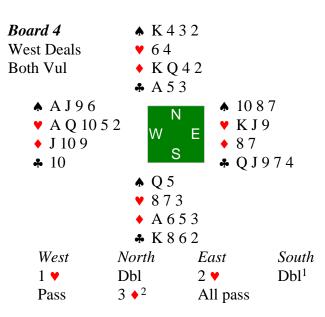
- 1. Negative Double (by agreement) showing precisely four hearts\* and the values to compete (a good six points upwards).
  \*Or five+ hearts with not enough strength to bid 2 ♥.
- 2. A really powerful five Losing Trick hand in support of hearts: surely worth a game bid.



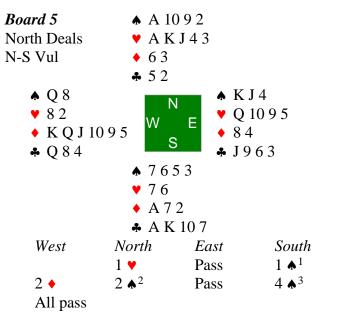
- 1. Playing Negative Doubles, West's 1 A response guarantees five(+) cards with four spades he would double.
- 2. Jamming the bidding. North knows his side has 10 hearts, so bids for ten tricks (bidding to the "level of the fit" has proved a most effective competitive bidding strategy).
- 3. If West only had just four spades, East might well chicken out and pass.



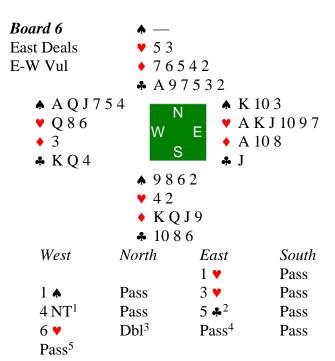
- 1. We have all made far worse overcalls
- 2. Double would be Negative, so North passes, expecting his partner to reopen (he is bound to have short diamonds and so suspect the reality).
- 3. Doing his duty even with a minimum.
- 4. Converting into penalties.



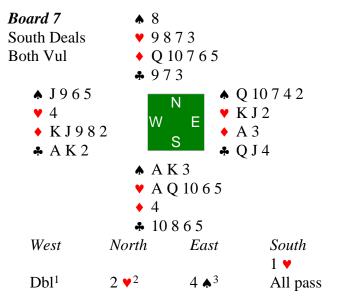
- 1. Responsive Double effectively take-out without four spades (or he would simply bid spades).
- 2. South having implied both minors



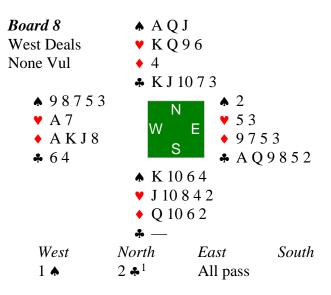
- 1. The correct response. Gone are the days when a new suit response guaranteed Jxxx or better.
- 2. Playing the Support Double (North doubling 2 ◆ to show any hand with three-card spade support), this bid promises four-card support.
- 3. Knowing of four trumps opposite, South eyes up his ◆ A and ♣ AK and tries for the vulnerable game bonus.



- 1. Roman Key Card Blackwood
- 2. Zero/Three of "five" aces (incl. ♥ K)
- 3. The Lightner Slam Double, requesting an unusual opening lead.
- 4. Is it too far fetched for either East or West to remove to either 6 ♠ or 6 NT (both making)? Easier after the fact.
- 5. As above

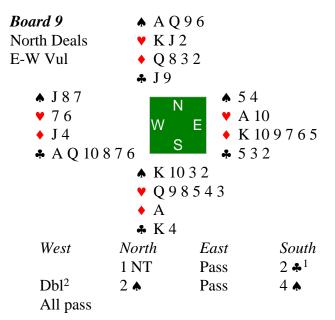


- 1. Satisfying the "SOS" criteria
- 2. Be bolder giving support for opener after a double...
- 3. ...But East is not inconvenienced

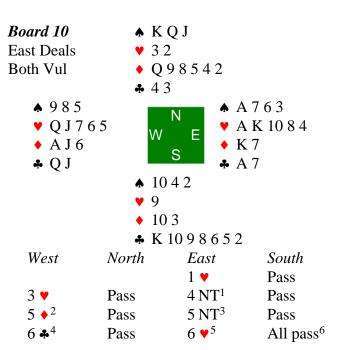


1. North did not enjoy his 2 ♣ contract. He won the spade lead and led the ♥ K. West won the ace, led a second ♠ for East to trump, won the ◆ return (to dummy's ten and his jack), and led a third spade. East trumped again and still held 3 natural trump tricks. Down three.

Had East succumbed to the temptation to double 2 ♣, South would surely have removed the double and the heart fit would be located. Indeed it takes a second-round spade ruff to defeat 4 ♥.



- 1. Stayman
- 2. Lead Directing Double "partner lead a club"



- 1. Blackwood asking for Aces
- 2. 1 Ace
- 3. Blackwood asking for Kings
- 4. No kings
- 5. settles for small slam
- 6. Lead a spade as partner had opportunity to use Lead Directing Double in diamonds or clubs but didn't