

Slam Bidding When Partner Opens 1NT

by Steve Moese Tues Eve Oct 21

Board 27 ♠ A98742

South ♥ 2

Deals ♦ A9

None Vul ♣ QJ107

♠ K65

♥ K763

♦ K63

♣ 962

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 3

♥ QJ9854

♦ J10542

♣ 5

♠ QJ10

NS 7N; 7♣; ♥ A10

7♣; EW 2♥ ♦ Q87

♣ AK843

Take North's viewpoint. Partner just opened 1NT. How excited should you get? 1NT usually showing a 6-loase hand. Does partner fit ♠ or ♣? That's what we need to know. Let's bid accordingly. Assume EW pass throughout.

Do we have a constructive hand, and invitational, hand or a Game Force? With 6 losers (2♠, 1♥, 1♦

and 2♣) we know we belong in game. So bid 4♥ (transfer to 4♣) and be done, right? WRONG! We need more information. If partner fits our ♠s, and has support in ♣, and has either Ax(x) or xx(x) in ♥, we might have slam. There are two approaches to get there.

1) **The Mild Slam Try** – this approach takes advantage of playing both Jacoby and Texas Transfers. With 6+ ♠ cards and a game bid opposite a 1NT opener, responder can make a Texas Transfer (here 4♥). With a slam going hand responder can transfer to ♠ at the 2-level (2♥ Jacoby Transfer) and then jump to 4♠. This slam try announces a 6±Card ♠ suit, and 13-14 HCP. It usually denies a singleton or void (unless you do not have a way to show one). Opener is encouraged to investigate slam with a fit and a maximum with 3 or more prime cards. S over 1N-2♥-2♠-4♠, South should bid 4N looking for Key Cards, content that 5♠ is safe to play if we are missing 2 Keys.

2) **The Game Force** – this approach transfers to ♠ at the 2-level and rebids ♣ to create a game force and room for slam bidding. Here South would rebid 3♣ confirming ♠ fit and asking for control bidding. With no slam interest and a fit, South rebids 4♠. Over 3♣ responder can rebid 4♦ showing a first or second round control. While South could continue Contorl bidding, there is every reason to bid 4NT and ask for Key cards. When North shows 2 w/o the Q, 6♠ is easy to bid.

Bidding Slam was worth all the MPs. Note, a Grand Slam is a poor choice, working only when the ♠K is on side – 50% odds. Not enough reward for risk.

Bd 27	Scores		MPs	
	NS	EW	NS	EW
6♠ S	1010		4.5	0.5
6♠ S	1010		4.5	0.5
4♠ S	510		1.5	3.5
4♠ S	510		1.5	3.5
4♠ S	510		1.5	3.5
4♠ N	510		1.5	3.5

10/21 – Future Master Leaders

1st OC: Susan DeRoos & Lisa Eisenstein

2nd OC: Dave Elliott and Verna Gibson



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

Tues Eve 6:30 PM Sharp!

CBA Newcomer Games – Play Often!

Mon PM < 2000

Fri AM NLM + Lecture

Tue PM 149er LTB

Sat AM Supervised Play

Wed AM Homestyle

Sat PM NLM (Homestyle Available)

Events at the Cincinnati Bridge Center

- **Fri Oct 24 through Sun Oct 26 – Cincinnati Spooktacular Sectional at the Bridge Center.** Club games & Supervised bridge resume the following weekend.
- **NEW! Thurs Oct 30 11 AM Club App'n Board A Match Team Game. 3X MPs.** Call Debbie Cummings. 859-331-0558
- **Last Tue AM in Oct: SWISS TEAM** games.
- **Oct Thu Eve** is <2500 MP Pairs Game (1st, 2nd, 4th)
- **October CBA Flyer – October is Jane Johnson Club Appreciation Month.** CBC, NKy, and Anderson offer games with EXTRA MASTERPOINTS!

Area Tournaments

[Cincinnati OH Spooktacular Sectional](#)

Oct 24-26

[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>

6-5 Come Alive! By Steve Moese Tue Oct 21

Board 16 ♠ A83

West Deals ♥ 109

E-W Vul ♦ KQ63

♣ 10865

♠ 76

♥ Q4

♦ J75

♣ AKQJ94

♠ KQJ542

♥ A75

♦ 4

♣ 732

NS 4♥; 5♦; ♠ 109

E 4♣; ♥ KJ8632

EW 2♠; 1N; ♦ A10982

W 3♣; ♣ —

Distributional hands can be exciting. Here NS can bid game in either red suit, and EW can play safely in 3 or 4♣, though best defense against 4♠ might be hard to find at the table (N must switch to a ♣ when in with the trump A). With 11 NS tricks in ♦ and 10 EW tricks in ♣, this is a 21 trick hand. The Law of Total Tricks suggests 18 tricks are available (9♠s+9♣) – a deviation of 3 tricks. The LAW works poorly when both sides have 2-suited fits. The auction? West opened 1♣ - P - 1♠ - 2♥ - 3♣ - P - 3♠ - 4♦ - 4♠ - 5♦ - All Pass. With 6-5 come alive! (Thanks, Marty Bergen).

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

NO GAME THIS SATURDAY! This weekend Fri-Sun we are hosting the **Cincy Spooktacular Sectional Tournament** at the Cincinnati Bridge Center. **Join us to win SILVER POINTS!** We will resume Sat Supervised Play next Saturday Nov 1st.

This week we look at a tricky hand where opponent’s opening first causes problems in reaching game. Enjoy!

Board 8 ♠ AKJ1062
 West ♥ 52
 Deals ♦ A64
 None Vul ♣ 32

♠ 54		♠ Q83
♥ QJ976		♥ 103
♦ Q85		♦ 109732
♣ AK4		♣ J106

NS 4♠; 3N; S 2♥; 3♣; 1♦; N 2♣; 1♥	♠ 97
	♥ AK84
	♦ KJ
	♣ Q9875

Board 8 (Friday 10/17)

Bidding – West with 5 hearts and 12 HCP opens 1♥ (12-21 HCP, 5+ Hearts). North with 12 HCP and 6 spades has an easy 1♠ overcall (8-16 HCP, 5+ spades). East passes. South has 13 HCP but only 2 spades for partner. They can choose to bid 2♣ (10+ HCP, 5+ clubs) or 2NT (12-14 HCP). Note for the 2NT call we need more values than if our partner opens because for their overcall they could be as light as 8 HCP. I prefer a 2NT call here over 2♣. After 2NT by South, North can assume two card support for a spade fit, upgrade their hand to 14 support points (12 HCP plus 2 more for the doubletons) and easily rebid a 4♠ game. If South bids 2♣ instead of 2NT, then North will rebid 2♠ showing their 6 card suit. South will invite game with a 3♣ call. This call is critical to give partner a chance to count support points to get to game. North can count 14

support points plus a better than 10 point hand from partner and should bid game in 4♠.

Play of the Hand – On a ♥10 lead (partner’s suit) declarer (North) has 4 losers (1♠, 1♦, 2♣). You can ruff a diamond in the short hand to get rid of one loser. A finesse for the ♠Q fails but you still make your contract for +420.

Post Mortem – When opponent’s open first it often makes it more difficult to reach the best contract. When you find a fit and can afford an invite, do so. Allowing partner a chance to count support points could give your side just what you need to reach game.

Bd 8	Scores		Mps	
	NS	EW	NS	EW
3 NT S	430		11.96	0.04
4 ♠ N	420		8.71	3.29
4 ♠ N	420		8.71	3.29
4 ♠ N	420		8.71	3.29
4 ♠ N	420		8.71	3.29
3 NT S	400		5.46	6.54
2 ♠ N	170		4.38	7.63
3 ♠ N	140		1.67	10.33
2 ♠ N	140		1.67	10.33
2 ♠ N	140		1.67	10.33
2 ♠ N	140		1.67	10.33
4 ♠ N	420		3.50	0.50
4 ♠ N	420		3.50	0.50
2 ♠ N	170		2.00	2.00
2 ♠ N	140		1.00	3.00
4 ♠ N		50	0.00	4.00