

A Wild One by Steve Moese Tues Eve Dec 2

Board 15

♠ J53
South ♥ 8
Deals ♦ J98532
N-S Vul ♣ KQ6



♠ 74
♥ J96542
♦ 4
♣ J942

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 10986
♥ AQ1073
♦ Q10
♣ 85

NS 6♣; 6♦;
5♠; 1N;
EW 2♥;
Par +1100:
EW 7♥x-5

♠ AKQ2
♥ K
♦ AK76
♣ A1073

You can tell that some hands are nightmares the minute they're dealt. 4441 hand patterns are often difficult to bid when very strong. Lacking a specific system or convention, many will choose between a 2♣ opening bid and 1 of a minor. (It's a matter of style

and debate whether to open 1♦ or 1♣ with 4-4 in the minors. There are pluses both ways). South has 23 HCP, 5 QT and 4 losers – a very powerful hand. Game is possible in 3 strains, and even 3N might make if partner holds as little as ♥Jxx and the ♣Q. There are risks to either opening bid – 2♣ will face a rebid problem over the expected 2♦ (waiting) or 2♥ immediate negative (If you play that bid). Opening 1 of a minor will allow partner to pass with many hands that can make game but have less strength than necessary for a 1 over 1 response. In either case, West can overcall 2♥!! After 2♣ all we need is favorable vulnerability and a 6-card suit to insert a bid at the 2-level. West has both! Alan Truscott recognized that once the opponents open the bidding we should be very aggressive with preempts. He modified the Rule of 2-3-4 to 2-3-4-5. That means at favorable vulnerability (we are not vulnerable and they are) we count the number of “winners” we have (13 minus Losers) and add 5, then bid to that level. Here we have 9 losers or 4 “winners”. Adding 5 says bid to the level of 9 tricks or 3♥. A prudent 2♥ bid over 1♣, 1♦, or 2♣ is low risk. Here are two auctions:

S	W	N	E
1♦	2♥	3♦	4♥
DBL	P	5♣	P
5/6♦	AP		

S	W	N	E
2♣	2♥	P*	4♥
DBL	P	6♦	AP
*Positive Values			

If South opens 1♦, North will make a simple raise over 2♥ thought a 3♥ cue bid (10 Support Points) is possible too. West will raise to 4 or 5♥. Knowing partner has 6 or more ♥ cards means at this vulnerability bidding to take away the opponent's bidding space makes sense. Indeed Larry Cohen would say bid to the number of trumps your side holds (5♥ here). Many will choose 4♥.

In either auction South has a reasonable double showing values to compete at the 5 level and shortness in ♥s. Some

11/25 – Future Master Leaders

1st OA: Debra Sontag & Reeta Brendamour (63.8%)

2nd OA: Evelyn McCarthy & Joan Diers (61.3%)



12/2 – Future Master Leaders

1st OA: Gail Zimmer & Patricia Burnam (57.5%)

2nd OA: Mark Mitchell & Andy Heldman (56%)



Future Masters
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will play this double as a penalty double. Then South might raise ♦ to 5. South doesn't know if North has enough strength or length to bid 6♦ directly. North will reason as follows: With 3 or 4♦ cards and 4 losers, partner and I can make 12 tricks in ♦. (24-12 losers = 12 tricks). Bid 6♦. Here the WEAK hand is better placed to judge how high, once the strain is agreed.

Several chose to rebid 2N (EW stayed silent) and paid the price for not having a real ♥ stopper. You take your chances with singleton Ks! Over 2N (22-24) North should insist on ♦. 6♦ got you top score. Any making slam in a storm! Don't fear bidding over 2♣ when vulnerability is right and you hold a long suit. Opponents don't like when you get in their way.

Bd 15	Scores		MPs	
	NS	EW	NS	EW
6♦N+6	1370		5	0
4♥xW-2	300		4	1
7♦N-1		100	3	2
3 NTS-2		200	1	4
3 NTN-2		200	1	4
3 NTN-2		200	1	4
5♥xE-4	800		1.75	0.25
Adj	AVE	AVE	1	1
5♠	710		0.25	1.75

The Winter Bridge Class Schedule (http://www.cincybridge.com/CBA_Lessons_3.html) for classes starting in January is on the CBA website. Volunteers for this Saturday’s 10am game are Bob Fisk , Lorna Davis, and myself. This week’s hand shows the importance of distributional points and giving partner a chance to account for them. Enjoy!

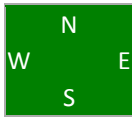
Board 1 (Tuesday 12/2)

Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 8
♥ Q 7 5 4 2
♦ Q 6 5 3 2
♣ 9 3

♠ 6
♥ J 9 8
♦ A J 10 7
♣ Q J 10 4 2



♠ A 10 9 5 3
♥ K 10 3
♦ —
♣ A K 7 6 5

EW 6♣; 3N;
2♥; 1♠;
NS 1♦;
♠ K Q J 7 4 2
♥ A 6
♦ K 9 8 4
♣ 8

Bidding – East with 14 HCP and 5-5 in the black suits opens 1♠ (12-21 HCP, 5+ spades). South with 6 spades and a good hand should pass for now and look to come in at 2♣ later. West has 9 HCP and 5 clubs. In Standard American bidding West can respond either 1NT (6-9 HCP, 0-2 spades) or 2♣ (10+ HCP, 5+ clubs). With solid club and diamond suits I like upgrading this hand and bidding 2♣. East with 5 clubs of their own has a hand worth 19 supports in clubs (14 HCP, 3 for the void and 2 more for extra trump). They can comfortably bid straight to game at 5♣ knowing they have at least 29 support points between the two hands.

If you play 2/1 Game Force – In 2/1, West must respond to partner’s 1♠ open with a 1NT call (5-11, 0-2

spades typically). East will rebid 2♣ (3+ clubs, 12-17 HCP). Now West knows there is at least an 8 card club fit making their hand worth 11 support points (9 HCP plus 2 for the singleton) and should invite game with a 3♣ call. East with extra trump and distribution (19 support points) can jump to a 5♣ game.

Play of the Hand – Played from the West hand on any lead declarer has 5 losers (2♥, 3♦). However you can ruff all 3 diamonds losers as long as clubs break which happens in this case. If you play the hearts to finesse the ♥Q that eliminates one more loser giving you 12 tricks and a +420 result.

Post Mortem – Distributional points work just as well as HCP in suit contracts. In the 2/1 bidding sequence, it was critical for West to invite game at 3♣ to give their partner a chance to add in their support points. Most of the time you are likely to be passed out but every once in a while you will be rewarded.

Bd 1	Scores		MPs	
	NS	EW	NS	EW
3♣E+5		150	5	0
3NTW+3		400	3.5	1.5
5♣E+5		400	3.5	1.5
5♣E+6		420	2	3
3NTW+5		460	1	4
3♦xS-3		500	0	5
2♦N+2	90		2	0
5♣E-1	50		1	1
3♣E+5		150	0	2

