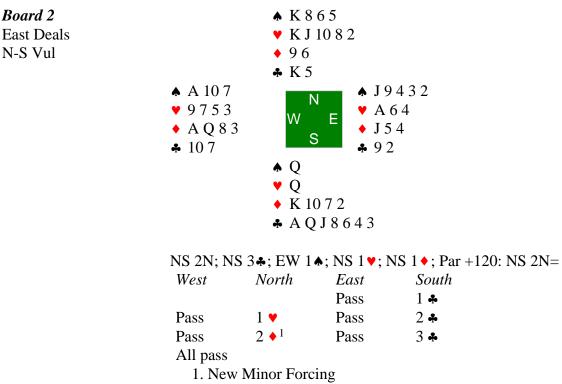


After the preempt in clubs, South's hand rises dramatically in value. This hand is well worth a double then bid showing (18+ pts) although there is the risk that partner insists on playing in diamonds.

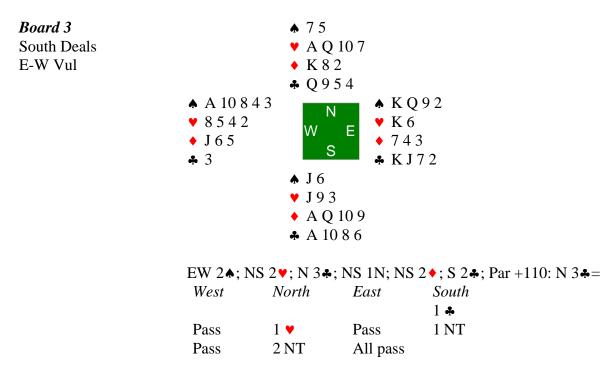
NB: North's hand is on the edge of being a full opener some partnerships will open this hand and others will pass. If your partnership is going to open this type of 11 counts then make sure you adjust your invites accordingly.



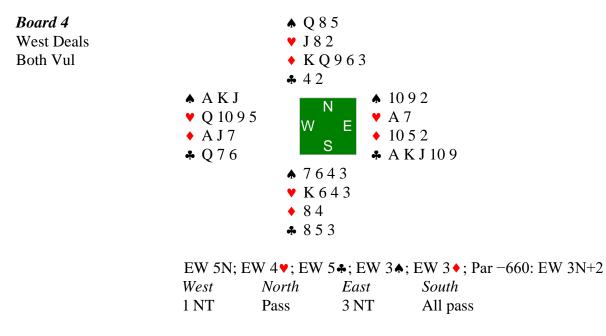
South will find an easy open and rebid of 1 holding a nice hand. Couple of things to note about the auction, South bypassing 1 will generally deny holding 4 spades. Opening 1 and then rebidding 2 generally implies holding 6+ clubs in most modern bidding systems although 5 card suits are still possible; they just happen a minority of the time.

North's hand is on the fence of an inviting south to game. Possible paths to inviting include bidding  $2 \blacklozenge$  an asking bid,  $2 \bigstar$  (reverse by responder), or 2 NT.

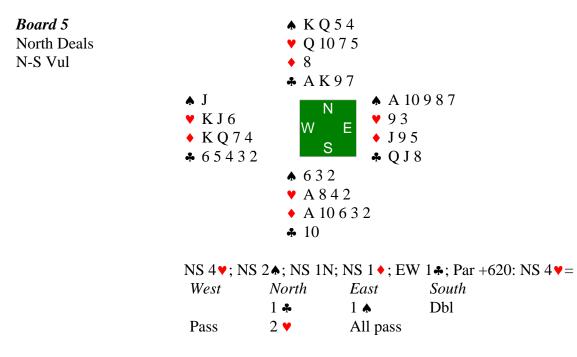
For those that reach 3 NT they can go down with proper defense but many will make their contract with some potential for overtricks.



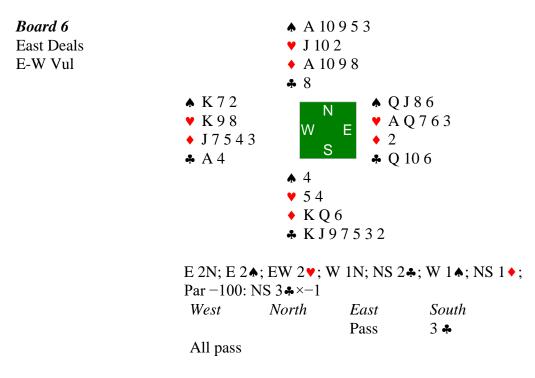
North/South will reach a reasonable 2 NT contract with 23 HCPs but are doomed to go down.



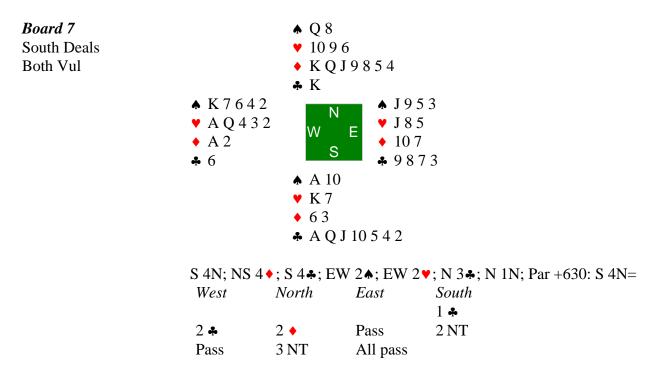
If East/West use some form of puppet Stayman they will go thru that sequence before finally reaching 3 NT. If North leads a 4th beast diamond west has to be careful to play a small diamond from dummy to secure 2 sure stoppers in the suit.



South will make a negative double of  $1 \blacktriangle$  showing 4+ hearts and competing values. With perfect declarer play north probably could make 4 but most pairs will end up just making 3.

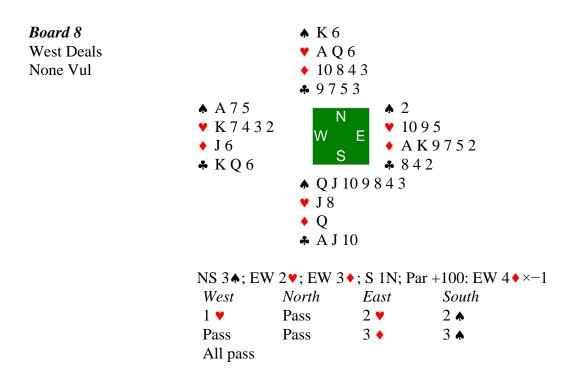


South will make a preempt in clubs and buy the auction. Note if west leads a 4th best diamond south should be careful and win the first diamond with the king in an effort to conceal the diamond holding. Winning the first trick with 8 or Q will tell West that East holds a singleton diamond.

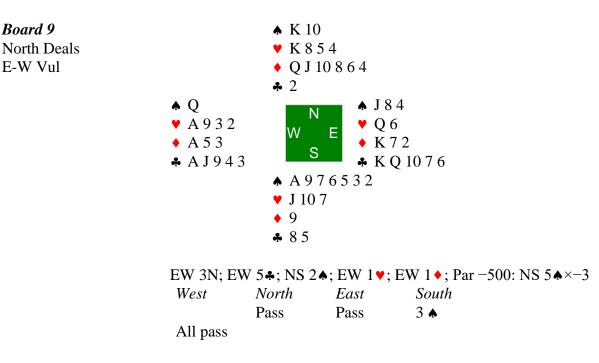


West 2  $\clubsuit$  bid here is a Michaels cue bid showing 5-5 shape in the majors. North will bid a natural and forcing 2  $\blacklozenge$ . South with stoppers in both majors will offer notrump which North will either raise to 3 or try to get out for 3  $\blacklozenge$ .

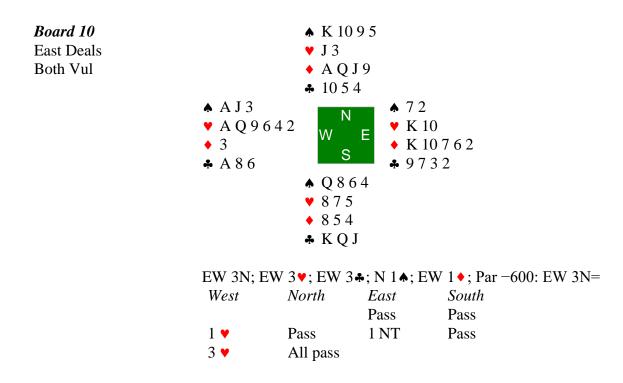
On a spade lead declarer will have to guess in order to make 3 NT, while those that receive a heart lead will have 9 top tricks and likely tenth when West becomes squeeze on the run of the clubs.



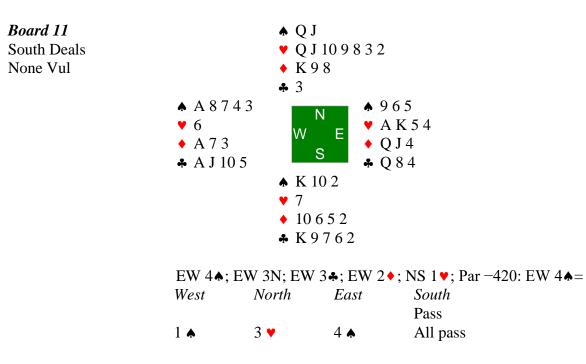
After a normal start to the auction east will probably balance with 3 to both compete in hearts and also to get partner off to a diamond lead instead of a heart lead. After East competes south with a nice 7 card suit will likely compete again. North could raise south to game with well placed heart honors and Kx in support a partner who has bid their own suit twice.



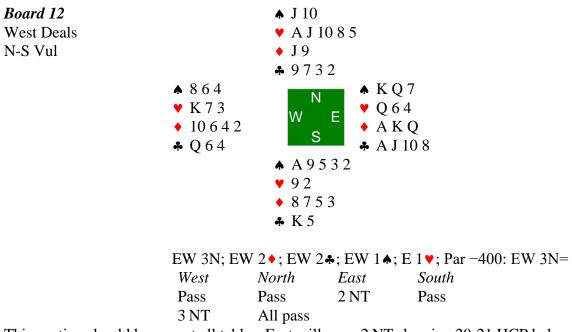
Some Norths might preempt in diamonds creating a vastly different auction. While West has the shape but it does not have enough values to compete at that 4-level vulnerable opposite a pass hand partner. If the West hand was instead  $\bigstar x \checkmark A932 \blacklozenge Axx \clubsuit AQJ93$  then a double would be a substantially better. As generic rule in bridge , points in your long suit is better for competing while points in your short suits is better for defense.



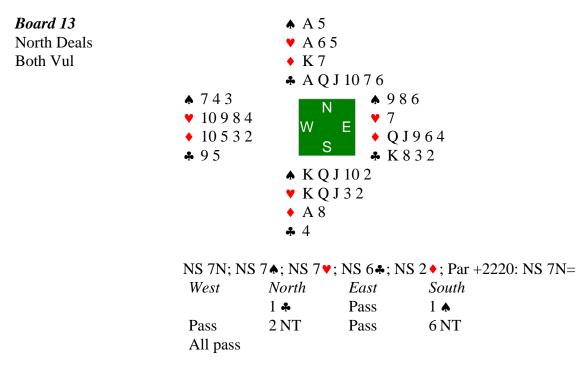
West will jump rebid in hearts showing a decent 6+ card suit and 15-17 points, and east with only two kings will have an easy reject.



This hand is another example why people like to preempt they create problems for the opponents. East has a tough decision to make after  $3 \checkmark$  preempt either 3 NT or  $4 \bigstar$  or  $4 \checkmark$  are reasonable choices.4  $\checkmark$  will show an opening hand with spade support but with a 4-3-3-3 shape and soft values East might be just a hair to weak to bid  $4 \checkmark$ . As a rule 8 card major suit fits are better than notrump. Those in  $4 \bigstar$  will be happy to see the spades 3-2 and will come to ten tricks, losing two spades and a diamond. Those in notrump will make ten tricks if south starts a club but will likely only come to 9 tricks if south starts a heart.

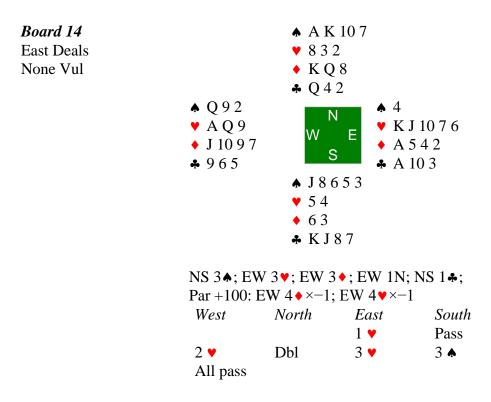


This auction should happen at all tables, East will open 2 NT showing 20-21 HCP balance and West will raise with 5 HCP. South will start a spade and East will win the first spade trick and cash diamonds getting good news when the jack falls on the second round. Trick 5 will decide if East makes the contract, those that try a heart towards dummy will go down while those that try a club towards the queen will make.

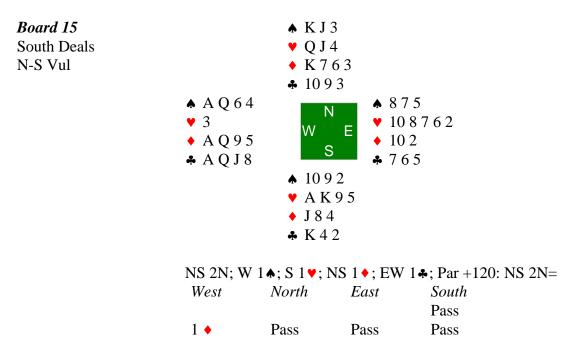


After North normal 1 \* opening bid South will respond 1 \*. Note with 4-4 in the majors go up the line, with 5-4 start with the 5 card suit, with 5-5 respond start with spades and rebid hearts, following these steps will make sure you never miss an 8 card fit.

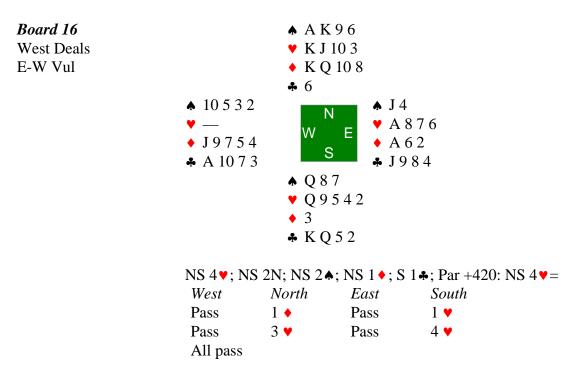
Some North will want to rebid 3 but this an unbid showing 15-17 points preferably is either 2nt showing 18-19 balance or reversing into 2 (Do not do this without discussing with partner first). With 16 HCP after partner has shown 18-19 balance South will have no problem driving for slam. Those with the methods will be able to explore finding a heart and a possible grand.



After a normal start, north being non-vul will make an aggressive take-out double. East willing to go to the 3 level will preempting bid  $3 \checkmark$  to box north/south from finding a fit. South thinking their side is on a 9 card spade fit will likely compete in spades.

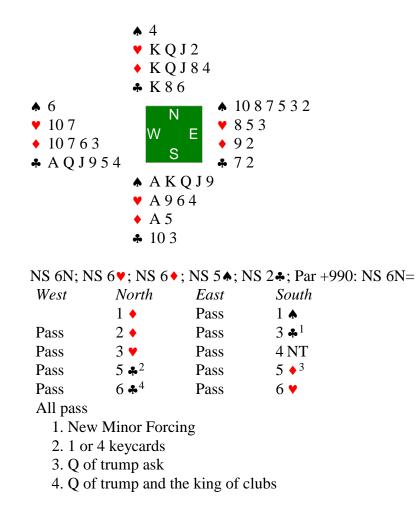


West will pick a nice hand and start with a 1 but will be disappointed when she buys the contract. South might be tempted to balance with 1 but has to many diamonds and the vulnerability is wrong.

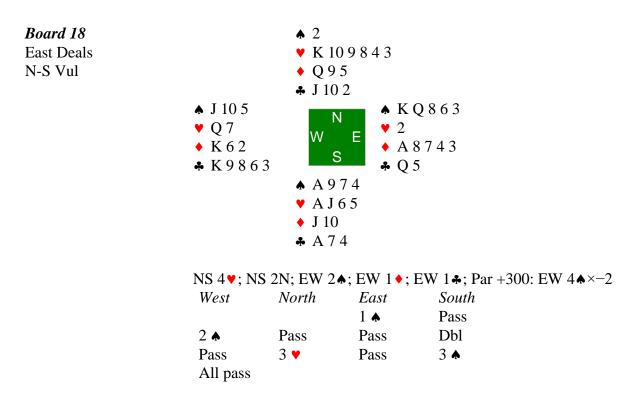


North jump rebid in hearts will show 4 card support and 15-17 support points. With 18+ support points North should bid 4  $\checkmark$  instead of 3  $\checkmark$ . South with an extra heart and decent hand will raise to game. North/South should lose 3 aces and come to ten tricks.

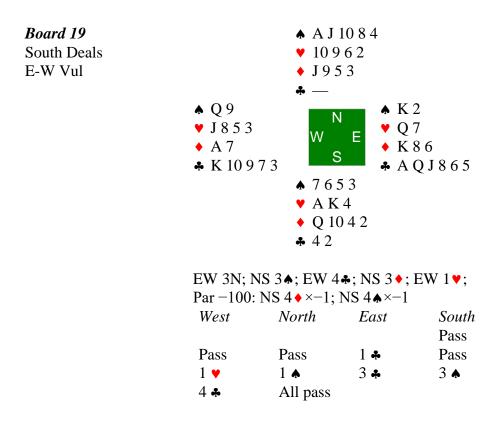




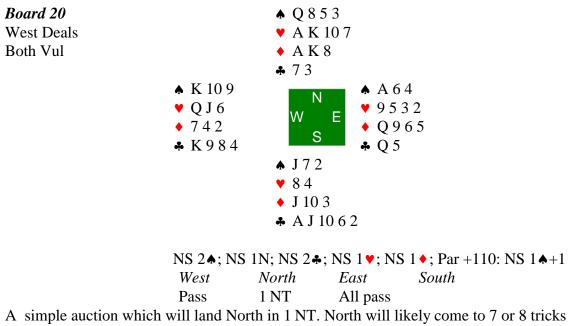
After North opens the bidding South with a nice 18 HCP hand will likely drive to slam.  $3 \div by$ South is a forcing bid which may be artificial asking north to further describe their hand. North will show  $4 \checkmark$  and South with a nice 18HCP and 4-4 heart opposite an opener will drive to slam in hearts, although 6 NT by North is the ideal matchpoint spot it is hard to reach.



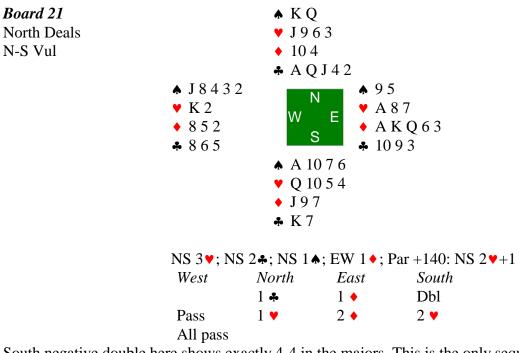
East with nice 5-5 shape and being non-vul will likely open 1 spade. North/South will likely push them to at least 3 **A** which is has one loser in each suit.



A strong argument could be made for east to open 1 NT as the hand looks like a 15-17 HCP balance hand however most East will open 1 . A competitive auction will likely lead to East/West playing in 4 & making or 5 & down 1. If North/South fail to compete East/West will reach a good 3 NT which has 9 tricks.



collecting 1 spade, 3 hearts, 2 diamonds and 2 clubs



South negative double here shows exactly 4-4 in the majors. This is the only sequence where you will guarantee exactly 4-4 in the majors. Note bidding  $1 \checkmark$  or  $1 \bigstar$  only shows a 4+ card suit. Also if you have 5-4 in the majors start with the 5 card suit.

The play should be relatively simple losing 2 diamonds and 2 hearts.