



Bridge Hands Gone Wild!

By Jared Johnson
ScoreCard Editor

I couldn't decide on the best title for this article, so I used both. You are about to see some of the weirdest bridge hands of all time, mostly constructions, not real life deals. We start out with two old chestnuts just to set the tone. Most tournament bridge players have probably seen these hands, but not everyone (and we do have new readers).

Did You Think You Could Make Seven?

The first is the "Mississippi Heart Hand" All vulnerable, *South* dealer.

<i>North</i>		<i>East</i>	
♠7654	♥----	♠J109832	♥----
♦765432	♣876	♦8	♣1095432
<i>West</i>		<i>South</i>	
♠----	♥8765432	♠AKQ	♥AKQJ109
♦AKQJ109	♣----	♦----	♣AKQJ

You are shown just the *South* hand and asked to pick your contract. Naturally, you choose 7♥. But as it turns out you cannot even make a small slam in hearts. You cannot make game. You cannot even make one heart. You will take only six tricks.

Take a look at the *West* hand. You get tapped immediately on a diamond lead. It doesn't matter what you do. Try to cash a side suit winner and *West* ruffs and plays more diamonds. You can't draw trumps because *West* has more and will ruff in on the first side suit trick and cash diamonds. You take only six trump tricks.

No Tricks with 32 HCP

Next up is the "Duke of Cumberland Hand," another hand wrecked on the rocks of distribution. All vulnerable, *East* dealer.

<i>North</i>		<i>East</i>	
♠97643	♥J98765	♠10852	♥10432
♦J10	♣----	♦----	♣65432
<i>West</i>		<i>South</i>	
♠----	♥----	♠AKQJ	♥AKQ
♦98765432	♣AQ1087	♦AKQ	♣KJ9

As you survey your fine collection as *South*, an impudent *East* on your right opens 7♣. You angrily double and play commences. You are about to become angrier. *South* leads a side suit and the contract is cold. Declarer *East* sets up diamonds with ruffs in hand while hooking *South* out of his club honors on the way back to dummy.

That magnificent *South* hand with 32 high card points doesn't take a single trick on defense!

Nearly Three Dozen Different Results on One Hand

Next up is a hand from real life. Of course, the great appeal of duplicate bridge is comparing what various players did on the same hand, especially the weird ones.

This deal arose at the 1982 Summer NABC in Albuquerque. "What did you do on board 15?" quickly became the inquiry of the afternoon.

North/South vulnerable, *South* dealer.

<i>North</i>		<i>East</i>	
♠----	♥J10876	♠A9753	♥K2
♦---	♣AKQ96542	♦AK1032	♣J
<i>West</i>		<i>South</i>	
♠KJ106	♥4	♠Q842	♥AQ953
♦QJ98754	♣3	♦6	♣1087

The same hand was played over and over again by hundreds of different foursomes in a very large pairs event. There were an astonishing 35 different results on this hand - 35 different scores ranging from +2470 *North/South* for making 7♥, doubled, to +1310 *East/West* for 6♠, doubled, making seven (a revoke penalty or something).

From the *North/South* perspective, these were all the different scores: +2470, +2330, +2210, +2140, +1860, +1740, +1660, +1460, +1430, +1390, +1250, +1150, +1050, +710, +640, +500, +300, +100, +50, -100, -150, -200, -400, -420, -450, -480, -550, -660, -650, -650, -920, -1000, -1090, -1210 and -1310.

All those scores on the same hand! Even for duplicate players, there were scores you rarely see, such as the +2330 for seven clubs, doubled and making, vulnerable.

The strangest result? Perhaps minus 1000 when *North/South* went set 10 tricks in six notrump. Isn't there some line about how a bridge player's hell is finding out that partner's first round control in a notrump slam contract is a void?

Grand Slam in All Four Suits

And finally, can you imagine a hand cold for a grand slam in all four suits, but not in notrump? A deck of cards is a wondrous thing, and this may

be one of the most counterintuitive hands of all time.

North/South vulnerable, *South* dealer.

<i>North</i>		<i>East</i>	
♠AKJ10	♥AKJ10	♠9876	♥9876
♦AKQ	♣AK	♦1098	♣109
<i>West</i>		<i>South</i>	
♠Q54	♥Q54	♠32	♥32
♦765	♣8765	♦J432	♣QJ432

Check it out. There are many possible layouts. This is just one.

The play: We look at it with *South* as declarer, but if *North* declares, it's no different. We assume that *West* (or *East*) leads a minor, giving nothing away. If you play in 7♥ or 7♠, you win in dummy, play the ace-king of the major that isn't trumps, ruff the third round, and then draw trumps in the other major by finessing for *West*'s queen.

In diamonds, you draw three rounds of trumps, ruff out one major with the last trump in the *South* hand, and hook *West* for the queen in the other major.

Playing in clubs, draw two rounds of trumps, ruff out one major, draw the rest of the trumps and hook in the other major. Simple.

A Look Ahead

A few more wild hands in coming months: Forty high card points and no slam. A hand cold for seven notrump on 11 high cards. A hand cold for a notrump slam both directions. A grand slam on an endplay (how could that be?). Making a grand slam never winning a trick with an ace or a king and only once with a queen, despite the opponents' best efforts to thwart that objective. And more.

Los Alamos Sectional

July 30 – August 1, 2010

Betty Ehart Senior Center
1000 Oppenheimer St
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Friday, July 30th	
Stratified Pairs (single session)	2:00 pm
Stratified 299er Pairs (single session)	2:00 pm
Stratified Pairs (single session)	7:15 pm
Saturday, July 31st	
Stratified Pairs (single session)	8:45 am
Bracketed Knockout Teams (1 st round)	8:45 am
Stratified Pairs (single session)	1:15 pm
Stratified 299er Pairs (single session)	1:15 pm
Bracketed Knockout Teams (2 nd round)	1:15 pm
Swiss Teams (single session)	7:00 pm
Bracketed Knockout Teams (Finals)	7:00 pm
Sunday, August 1	
Stratified Swiss Teams (2 sessions)	9:30 am and TBA
Stratified 299er Swiss Teams (2 sessions)	9:30 am and TBA

*** All stratified pair and team games stratified by average Masterpoints ***

Entry Fees: \$10.00/person/session. \$96.00/team for Sunday Swiss Teams (includes lunch); \$1.00/person/session additional for non-members and non-dues paying players

Tourney Chairperson: Jennifer Young (505) 699-2072; jyoung@los-alamos.net
Partnerships: Patty Thomas, (575) 693-5422; pkthomas75@hotmail.com
Director in Charge: Robert Craig
Strats: A=2000+, B = 750-2000, C=0-750 299ers: D= 150-299, E=50-150, F=0-50

*Complimentary dinner between sessions on Friday
Coffee, tea and snacks provided during all sessions
Free continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday morning*

Hotel: Comfort Inn & Suites, 2455 Trinity Drive is our host hotel. For special bridge rates of \$85 + tax, reserve by 7/12/10 at (505) 661-1110. Check www.losalamos.com/lodging for other hotels and Bed & Breakfasts in Los Alamos.

PRESCOTT SUMMER SECTIONAL

June 25, 26 and 27, 2010
Adult Center of Prescott
Rowle P. Simmons Community Center
1280 E. Rosser Street
Prescott, AZ 86301
928-778-3000

Sanction #: S1006096
Unit: 355 District 17

<p>Entry Fee: \$9.00 for Members per Session \$10.00 for Non & Unpaid Members per session</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, June 25, 2010</p> <p>10:00 am & 3:00 pm 10:00 am & 3:00 pm 3:00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, June 26, 2010</p> <p>10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday June 27, 2010</p> <p>10:00 a.m. & TBA</p>	<p>Stratified Open Pairs Stratified 199ers Pairs Bracketed KO Teams</p> <p>Stratified Open Pairs Stratified 199ers Pairs Bracketed KO Teams</p> <p>Swiss Teams</p> <p>Single Session Single Session Bracket 1 may be Handicapped</p> <p>Single Session Single Session</p> <p>Stratified by Team Average</p>
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1-800-967-4637 **PRESCOTT RESORT** Rate change after 5/25/10

Rates: Guest Rooms - Deluxe: \$ 99.00 plus tax
Suites - Deluxe: \$ 119.00 plus tax

*Additional persons (over two) add \$10.00 per person, per room, per night.
*Must identify yourselves as Prescott Adult Center Bridge Tournament.

<p>Tournament Chairperson Don Dimmel 928-717-4976 D_Dimmel@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Stratified Events A = 1,500 + B = 500 - 1,500 C = 0 - 500</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hand Records will be used.</p> <p>Smoking breaks, complimentary coffee & refreshments. Zero Tolerance observed! Use of cell phones prohibited during sessions. No host lunch counter available Sunday only.</p>
<p>Partnership Chairperson Fran Edmond 928-445-7716 franedmond@webtv.net</p>	<p>Stratified 199er Pairs 0/50 50/100 100/200 (Minimum of 3 Tables)</p>	
<p>Director In Charge Gary Zeiger</p>		