

Week 3: 1430 Review I

Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 8 2 ♥ 6 2 ♦ J 3 2 ♣ K 7 6 3 2		♠ Q 6 5 ♥ A J 9 8 ♦ K 8 ♣ A Q 10 5	♠ A 9 ♥ Q 7 5 3 ♦ 9 7 5 4 ♣ 9 8 4
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West	North	East	South
	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♠	Pass
6 ♠	All pass		

West issues a Slam Invite in the form of a new suit (3 ♦) after Jacoby Transfer. When East shows 3-cards, West starts to Control Bid with a combined HE of 31+ with a fit (*Slam Zone*) and bids slam after a *KeyCard Ask* sequence. This auction is a typical *Slam Process*.

HE: 16+17=33 (♠)

Lesson: (i) After Stayman/Jacoby a new suit, typically a minor showing a control, is Game Force and a *Slam Invite*; (ii) If there's a convenient *Control Bid* to uncover a critical control, make it before *KeyCard Ask*; (iii) Check for *KeyCards* even when HE is 33+.

Questions: (a) Would West bid slam if the *KeyCard Ask* response was 5 ♥?

Board 2

East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ J 6 ♥ K Q 8 7 2 ♦ Q 8 5 4 ♣ 5 2		♠ A Q 8 ♥ 9 ♦ A K J 10 2 ♣ A Q 10 6	♠ 10 5 4 ♥ J 6 5 3 ♦ 7 3 ♣ J 9 4 3
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West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	5 NT	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	6 ♠	All pass	

North will have an awkward rebid opening 2 ♣ and South is just short of a R20 opening. These factors complicate getting to slam; e.g., North can do no more than a jump-shift on the 2nd round as Partner may only have 5 points or there may be a slam in a minor suit.

A fit, 3 KCs+Q, a good 5-card side suit and a combined HE 30+ makes a slam try reasonable. *KeyCard Ask* is the best approach.

HE: 12+23=35 (♠)

Lesson: (i) If partner's minimum HE plus your holding adds up to the *Slam Zone*, try to find a *Slam Invite* below game. (ii) Opening 2 ♣ with a 2-suited hand can lead to difficult auctions.

Questions: (a) Can South's 3 ♠ bid be passed? (b) If North *Control Bid* 4 ♦ over 3 ♠, how would South interpret that bid? (c) What do you think about a 4 ♥ splinter by North after South's initial 1 ♠ response.

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Board 3
 South Deals
 E-W Vul

♠ A 10 9 5 3
 ♥ A K 10 8
 ♦ 2
 ♣ K Q 3

♠ —
 ♥ Q J 9 7 6 4 2
 ♦ 6 4
 ♣ A 7 4 2

♠	N	♠
♥	E	♥
♦	S	♦
♣	W	♣

♠ J 8 4 2
 ♥ 5
 ♦ A Q 9 5
 ♣ 10 8 6 5

♠ K Q 7 6
 ♥ 3
 ♦ K J 10 8 7 3
 ♣ J 9

West	North	East	South
			1 ♦
3 ♥	Dbl	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	5 ♠
All pass			

South opens with a R20. Although vulnerable, West is likely to preempt 3 ♥. North has a terrific hand, but the preempt warns that suits may not break well. Seven points in the opponent's suit are not as valuable as they would be in Partner's suit. Nonetheless, with a fit, North will want to investigate slam in spite of these *Negative Indicators*.

We're showing a 3-level Negative X followed by a cue-bid to indicate a strong *Slam Invite* for ♠. Alternatively, North might bid 3 ♠ and *KeyCard Asks* when South raises. In the auction shown above, North was prepared to bid 4 ♠ over any non-♠ response by South. This would show a strong hand with 5+cards. North should not insist on slam when South twice declines. Careful play will bring home 11 tricks.

HE: 19+13=32 (♠)

Lesson: (i) A singleton in Partner's first bid suit or a concentration of values in opponent's suit are *Negative Indicators* for slam; (ii) When there's a preempt, other suits often break badly.

Questions: (a) Do you think North should bid 3 NT? (b) If South's hand were KQxx x KQJTxx Kx, what would you bid after the Negative X of 3 ♥?

Board 4
 West Deals
 Both Vul

♠ —
 ♥ 10 4
 ♦ J 10 9 8 6 4 2
 ♣ 9 8 6 4

♠ A J 10 8 5 4
 ♥ K 8 5
 ♦ 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

♠	N	♠
♥	E	♥
♦	S	♦
♣	W	♣

♠ K 9 7 6 3
 ♥ A Q 6
 ♦ A 7 5
 ♣ A K

♠ Q 2
 ♥ J 9 7 3 2
 ♦ K Q
 ♣ J 7 3 2

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Pass	2 NT!	Pass
3 ♦!	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♣	Pass	5 NT	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	7 ♠	All pass

When West opens, East should be thinking Grand Slam with a combined 36+HE. Standing in the way are ♦ losers and the ♥ K. An excellent approach starts with Jacoby 2 NT. Grand slam should not be bid without assuring West has the ♥ K.

HE: 15+23=38 (♠)

Lesson: (i) Axx opposite a singleton is a positive signal for slam investigation as slam needs less HE; (ii) Grand Slam needs a 75%+ chance. You can't be missing the trump Q (unless you have 10+ trump) or require a finesse; (iii) Use Specific Kings when answering 5 NT *King Ask*.

Questions: (a) How should East proceed if West bids 6 ♦ over 5 NT? (Ignore West's actual hand); (b) If East's initial response was 4 NT, what would that mean?