Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

♥A K 6 4 2
♥10
♥A K 5
♥K Q 2
♥9 3
♥Q J 9 8 6
♥T 4 2
♥A 6 5
♥Q 8 7
♥K 7 5 3
♥7 6 4
♥J 9 7

Bidding: Wow, nice hand north. You have 20 HCP and 2 distribution points. Easily enough to try our new convention, open 2C. Afterwards the auction should follow.

2C-2D; 2S-3S; 4S
2D is waiting
2S is natural
3S is I like spade and I have 3 card support
4S is we should play, an alternative to 4S would have been 4D showing the ace of diamonds, this is called a cue bid, which we will talk more about later.

Lead? The Q of diamonds, top of a sequence. In suit contract 2 card honor sequences are good enough to lead.

Play: Most people will be making four on this hand, but five can be made with a little planning. I have 6 spades, 2 diamonds and 2 clubs, once I set the club up. Where can I get another. Well I can take the heart finesse. If my king wins, then I got another trick. If East hops up with the ace, I can cross to the board, and play the King of Hearts, discarding my losing diamond. Timing is important, as if I play 2 rounds of trump, I can not get to the dummy, so I should cash the A and K of trump, see that they are drawn, then play a heart.

Board 3

South Deals
E-W Vul

♥A Q 9 7
♥9 6 4
♥A J
♥7 4 2
♥K 10
♥A K 10
♥K 9
♥A Q 10 9 5 3
♥Q 8 7
♥J 8 7 5
♥8 7 5 4 3 2
♥J

Bidding: West should open the bidding with 2C. The 19 high card points and 6 card club suit is enough. Though it wouldn’t be surprising if some players did open 1C and jump 2C.

2C-2NT; 3NT West should not show their club suit, as 3NT is home sweet home.

Lead: South has a hard choose, having nothing, and no hope to ever get back into hand, anything would be acceptable. The 4 of diamonds, being what the class has suggested.

Play: Not much too it, but with some time you can make lots of tricks.

Strong 2C
Hands from 2/12/07
These hands were played as part of the Bridge Plus Game sponsored by the MIT Draper Laboratories Bridge Club.
The other hands were randomly shuffled.
Board 6

East Deals
- ♠J 9 8 6 5 4 2 J 9 6
- ♥9 8 2
- ♦10 8 7 5 4 3 2
- ♣A K Q J 10 K Q 7

Bidding: South has a moose. While we would normally open 5-5 in the majors with 1S, this hand is too good, and a 2C bid is called for.
- 2C-2D; 2S-3D; 3H-4H
- 2D is waiting
- 2S is natural
- 3D is natural, remember 2S was forcing, you can not pass
- 3H is natural, usually 5 cards
- 4H is that were I think we should play, remember 3H was forcing, you can not pass even with your 2 count.
- No matter how bad you hand it, your partner has some good stuff, so you can’t pass.

Lead: K of clubs

Play: ruff, draw trump, take your tricks

Board 9

North Deals
- ♠10 5
- ♥A J 8 4
- ♦8 4
- ♣10 9 7 4 2

Bidding: Some East might open, but I don’t think it enough, pass seems like the right call regardless of your agreements.

West should open the auction:
- 2C-2S; 3D-3S;  4S(6S)

We haven’t discussed slam yet, but when you bid a contract at the 6lvl its call a slam. At the 7lvl a grand slam. These are rare, and thus get extra bonus.

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<th>Bonus</th>
<th>Game</th>
<th>Slam</th>
<th>Grand Slam</th>
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<td>800</td>
<td>1300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vul</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1250</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

If you got there, good for you, but the expected result was 4S by East.

Lead: South should lead the 3 of hearts, fourth from longest and strongest. Any other lead gives up the trick.

Play: If you didn’t get a heart lead, after drawing trumps you can play your diamonds from the top and pitch all your hearts, yes even the King.

Strong 2C
Hands from 2/12/07
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