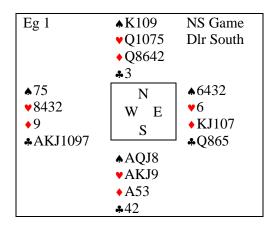


Lesson 40 Examples

Some sacrifices



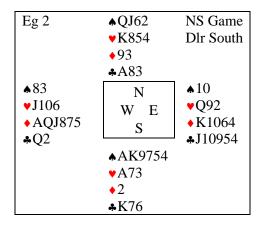
West	North	East	South
	-	-	1♥
2.	2♥	3 ♣	4♥
5 .	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West does not expect to make 5♣! He thinks "4♥ will probably make. I cannot take many club tricks in defence now that partner has raised me.

They have bid and raised hearts, so partner is short in that suit and I can ruff hearts in his hand. I am short in spades and diamonds, so 5* will not go many down.

Two down is -300, far less than -620.

I will *lose less* by bidding 5♣ than by defending against 4♥". West is quite right: he loses just 300 points in 5♣ doubled. And there is the possibility of a bigger gain: if South thinks he is being pushed around and bids 5♥ he will go down, and East-West will get a plus score.



West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1 🛦
2 ♦	3♠	Pass	4
Pass	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
Pass	Double All Pass		

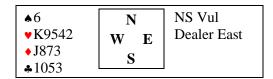
Here East thinks it unlikely that the vulnerable 4♠ contract will go down, and he hopes to lose no more than 500 points in 5♠. Indeed, 5♦ did go three down, so EW lost 500 instead of 620.

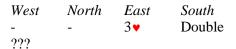
(But perhaps if East had bid 5 ♦ one round earlier he might push North-South into 5 ♠ and actually make a plus score!)



Lesson 40 Examples

Advance sacrifices





This is favourable vulnerability.

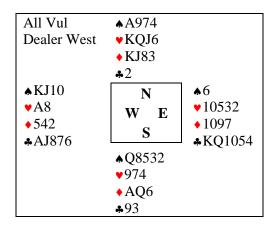
East has 7 hearts and very few HCP which suggests opponents can surely make $6 \clubsuit$, perhaps even $7 \spadesuit$. A high-level heart contract cannot go many down when you have 12 trump between the hands. It is a good tactic to bid $5 \heartsuit$, or even $6 \heartsuit$ with this West hand, before opponents can investigate their best fit. If you remove their bidding room they must guess what to do – and sometimes they will guess wrong.

▲ K10963	N	Love All
♥ 8	W E	Dealer East
◆10432	S	
* 965	1	

West	North	East	South
-	-	1 🛦	Double
???			

At any vulnerability this hand should leap 4., not because you expect to make the contract but because we are confident that opponents can make theirs – probably 4.

When not to sacrifice



You are West, and you must **not** "sacrifice" in 5. You have a **balanced distribution** - 5. might go many down. You are far from sure that 4. will make. Your strength in spades makes their game dubious at best. East's hand looks much more like a sacrifice, and West should deter partner from sacrificing by making a **penalty double**.

If your side were to sacrifice it would be called a "*phantom sacrifice*" – a sacrifice against a game that is not making. Not a good idea!