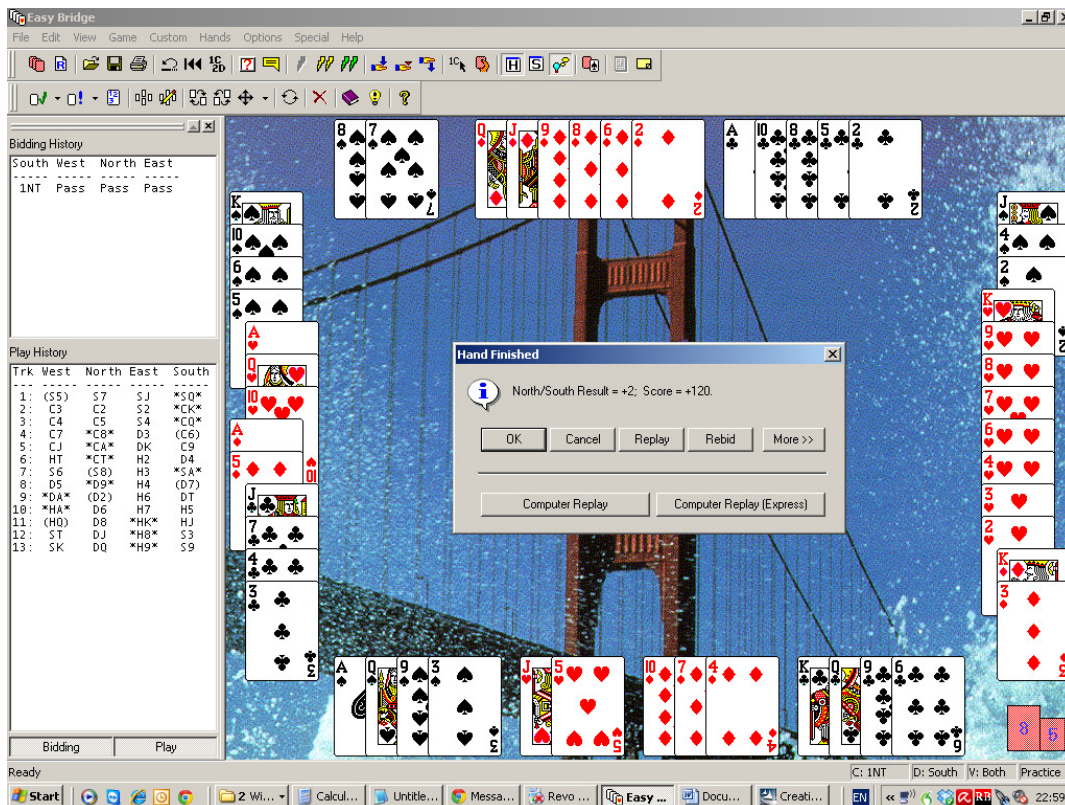


Welcome to the first in a weekly(-ish!) offering of interesting hands, some from outside sources, and some from our own Club.

There are several points of note on the below hand from a computer Bridge Game I've downloaded (It's free - search for Easy Bridge).

Bidding:

Under the Benjaminised Acol I play, the N-S bidding should go 1NT-2S (Reverse Stayman for the Minors)-3C. This should make easily. The reason I recommend this use of 2S is because I feel that, playing Transfers, 2S is a wasted bid, since using it for 11 points is very limited.



Play: (Note that the card in Brackets is the lead, the one in asterisks is the winner.)

Here is an example of where "4<sup>th</sup> of your longest & strongest" fails miserably. I believe that the odds favour leading "The Other" major, i.e. the one you don't have: Partner is more likely to have it, and you are signaling the return lead (This convention, like all others, must be declared to Opponents).

Here, this would have succeeded spectacularly. Provided East signals a Diamond entry once he realises that West has blocked the suit! I hope to have some relevant examples of my discard system and where it applies very soon.

Enjoy mulling it over, and I'd welcome any comments, queries, suggestions etc.

Jimmy O'Brien