

# Suffolk Simultaneous Pairs 2017

For clubs affiliated to the Suffolk Contract Bridge Association.

Week beginning  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017

**Commentary by Celia Jeal**

2017 Suffolk Simultaneous Pairs

<b>1</b>	♠ Q 9 2	Dir: North Vul: None Par: 2♠= N N/S +110
	♥ K Q 4 2	
	♦ K 6 5 4	
	♣ J 9	
♠ 8	♠ K J 5 4 3	
♥ A 10 9 5	♥ J 8	
♦ Q J 10 9 8	♦ A 7 2	
♣ 10 6 4	♣ K 8 7	
11	♠ A 10 7 6	N ♠♥♦♣ N 1 2 1 - 3 S 1 2 1 - 2 E - - - 1 - W - - - 1 -
7 + 12	♥ 7 6 3	
10	♦ 3	
	♣ A Q 5 3 2	

**West**      **North**      **East**      **South**  
 Pass                  1NT                  ?

East has no sensible rebid, so will probably open 1NT rather than 1♠.

South is likely to compete, but what happens will depend on whether it's with a natural 2♣ (over which West might bid 2♦) or a conventional bid showing clubs and spades (in which case NS might reach the optimum contract of 2♠).

<b>2</b>	♠ Q 6 3	Dir: East Vul: NS Par: 2♥+1 E E/W +140
	♥ K J 5	
	♦ A K 10 5 2	
	♣ K 3	
♠ 9 8 5	♠ A 7	
♥ 8 6	♥ A Q 9 7 2	
♦ J 9 7 6	♦ Q	
♣ A J 7 5	♣ Q 10 9 8 2	
16	♠ K J 10 4 2	N ♠♥♦♣ N - 1 - 2 - S - 1 - 2 - E - - 3 - 4 W - - 3 - 4
6 + 14	♥ 10 4 3	
4	♦ 8 4 3	
	♣ 6 4	

**West**      **North**      **East**      **South**  
 1NT                  2♦                  1♥                  Pass  
 All Pass

Clubs is EW's best suit, but they're unlikely to find it after a 2♦ overcall by North. On winning the diamond lead, North does best to switch to a spade, which will hold East to nine tricks.

<b>3</b>	♠ 8 5 4	Dir: South Vul: EW Par: 1NT-1 E N/S +100
	♥ K 4 3	
	♦ A 9	
	♣ 10 9 8 7 2	
♠ 10 9 7	♠ A Q 3	
♥ Q 6 5	♥ J 9 7 2	
♦ J 8 2	♦ Q 10 7 4	
♣ A Q J 5	♣ K 3	
7	♠ K J 6 2	N ♠♥♦♣ N 1 2 1 1 2 S 1 2 1 1 2 E - - - - - W - - - - -
10 + 12	♥ A 10 8	
11	♦ K 6 5 3	
	♣ 6 4	

**West**      **North**      **East**      **South**  
 Pass                  Pass                  1NT                  Pass  
 All Pass

The computer says NS can make 2♠ on this hand, but in most clubs the opening bid will be 1NT by East and it's hard to see how NS would find 2♠ after that. If EW are playing a strong NT they might even pass it out, which could give them a good score as 1NT goes one down on best defence!

<b>4</b>	♠ A 10	Dir: West Vul: Both Par: 4♠= E E/W +620
	♥ J 10 5 4	
	♦ J 8 4	
	♣ Q 10 4 3	
♠ 6 3	♠ K Q 9 8 5 4	
♥ 8 7 3	♥ A K Q	
♦ K Q 10 7 3	♦ 5	
♣ 9 5 2	♣ A 8	
8	♠ J 7	N ♠♥♦♣ N - - - - - S - - - - - E 2 4 1 2 - W 2 4 1 2 -
5 + 18	♥ 9 6 2	
9	♦ A 9 6 2	
	♣ K J 7 6	

**West**      **North**      **East**      **South**  
 Pass                  Pass                  1♠                  Pass  
 1NT                  Pass                  4♠                  All Pass

Or if playing Benjaminsed Acoll with an opening that could be 'eight playing tricks',

**West**      **North**      **East**      **South**  
 Pass                  Pass                  2♣\*                  Pass  
 2♦\*                  Pass                  2♠                  Pass  
 4♠                  All Pass

Most Easts will be in 4♠ just making, apart from any whose unadventurous partner passes out 1♠, or any lucky enough to have South underlead the diamond ace!

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<b>5</b>	♠ J 4 2	Dir: North Vul: NS Par: 3♦+1 E E/W +130
	♥ K Q 10 7 6	
	♦ 7 3	
	♣ K 10 7	
♠ K 8 6 3	♠ 7	
♥ A 8 2	♥ J 9 4	
♦ Q 9 6 5	♦ A J 10 4 2	
♣ J 6	♣ A Q 9 4	
9	♠ A Q 10 9 5	N ♠♥♦♣ N - 1 - - - S - - - - - E 1 - 1 4 2 W 1 - 1 4 2
10 + 12	♥ 5 3	
9	♦ K 8	
	♣ 8 5 3 2	

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♦	1♠
1NT	2♠	3♣	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

South has a lead problem here as, from the bidding, East could easily be void in spades.

A heart lead works best and will enable NS to hold East to nine tricks unless East manages to discard a heart on a club before NS get in with the trump king to cash the heart king-queen.

<b>6</b>	♠ K 8 4	Dir: East Vul: EW Par: 4♠= S N/S +420
	♥ Q 10 9 3	
	♦ Q 10	
	♣ K 10 6 4	
♠ 6 2	♠ Q 7 3	
♥ J 6	♥ A 8 7 4 2	
♦ J 8 7 5 4 2	♦ A	
♣ 8 7 5	♣ A Q J 9	
10	♠ A J 10 9 5	N ♠♥♦♣ N 3 4 2 - - S 2 3 1 - - E - - - 1 1 W - - - 1 1
2 + 17	♥ K 5	
11	♦ K 9 6 3	
	♣ 3 2	

West	North	East	South
		1♥	1♠
Pass	2♥*[UCB]	3♣	3♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

With a spade fit and 10 HCP, North has just enough for an Unassuming Cue Bid asking South the strength of his overcall. The 3♦ response to the UCB shows an opening hand, so North jumps to 4♠.

A club lead would scupper South's chances here, but West is more likely to lead a heart (his partner's first bid suit), allowing South to draw trumps and discard a club loser on a heart.

<b>7</b>	♠ K 6 2	Dir: South Vul: Both Par: 2♠= S N/S +110
	♥ K 9 7 5	
	♦ Q 9 7	
	♣ K 4 3	
♠ 10 9 7	♠ Q 3	
♥ Q 10	♥ A J 4 3 2	
♦ K 10 8 4	♦ 6 2	
♣ A Q 9 8	♣ J 10 7 6	
11	♠ A J 8 5 4	N ♠♥♦♣ N 1 2 - 2 - S 1 2 - 2 - E - - 2 - 2 W - - 2 - 2
11 + 8	♥ 8 6	
10	♦ A J 5 3	
	♣ 5 2	

All Pass is quite likely, alternatively,

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

This hand is likely to be passed out at most tables, although a few Souths might open 1♠ on Rule-of-19 and find the good 2♠ contract.

If South passes, any Wests opening a mini NT would be transferred to 2♥ for a possible top.

If both South and West pass, a few Norths might consider opening 1NT, which South would transfer to 2♠, but the 3-4-3-3 shape and poor spot cards are discouraging.

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8	♠ J 8 7	Dir: West Vul: None Par: 4♠+1 E E/W +450
	♥ K 10 8 4	
	♦ K 10 8	
	♣ A 6 2	
♠ K 5 2	♠ A Q 10 6 4 3	
♥ 2	♥ A 3	
♦ A Q 7 6 4	♦ J 5 3	
♣ K J 4 3	♣ 10 7	
	N ♠♥♦♣	
	N -- 2 --	
11	♠ 9	
	♥ Q J 9 7 6 5	
13 + 11	♦ 9 2	
5	♣ Q 9 8 5	
	E 2 5 - 5 1	
	W 2 5 - 5 1	

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass
Or			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2NT/3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

With three spades to the King and shortage in hearts, West will probably support spades rather than rebid 2♣. With only seven losers, East will jump to 4♠, which makes easily. Provided East ruffs a heart before drawing the last trump, he should lose only one club and one diamond.

If West does rebid 2♣, it's a little trickier. 3NT would be disastrous, and 5♦, though makeable, doesn't score very well. However, if West shows three-card support for spades with his second rebid, 4♠ should still be found.

9	♠ 10 9 3 2	Dir: North Vul: EW Par: 2♥= S N/S +110
	♥ 8	
	♦ K J 8 4 2	
	♣ A 9 3	
♠ K J 6	♠ Q 8 7 4	
♥ A K J 4 2	♥ 5	
♦ 9 7 5	♦ Q 10	
♣ K 6	♣ Q J 10 5 4 2	
	N ♠♥♦♣	
	N 1 - 2 2 -	
8	♠ A 5	
	♥ Q 10 9 7 6 3	
15 + 7	♦ A 6 3	
10	♣ 8 7	
	E - 1 - - 2	
	W - 1 - - 2	

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
All Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥

Most Souths will open either 1♥ or 2♥, although it's a bit weak for the former and a bit strong for the latter!

2♥ makes in spite of the awful trump split, because NS have a solid sequence from ♥10 through to ♥6 plus outside winners.

West has a terrible lead problem, but will probably opt for ♦7 by process of elimination.

10	♠ J 7 6 4	Dir: East Vul: Both Par: 4♠+1 S N/S +650
	♥ 3	
	♦ A 7 6 5 2	
	♣ K 6 2	
♠ 10 5	♠ K 2	
♥ A Q 10 4 2	♥ K 9 8 7 6	
♦ J 4	♦ K 9 8	
♣ Q 9 8 4	♣ J 7 5	
	N ♠♥♦♣	
	N 2 5 - 5 -	
8	♠ A Q 9 8 3	
	♥ J 5	
9 + 10	♦ Q 10 3	
13	♣ A 10 3	
	E - - 2 - -	
	W - - 2 - -	

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
2♥	3♠	Pass	1♠
All Pass		4♥	4♠/X

This hand presents a dilemma to South. NS have a spade fit and can actually make game fairly easily, but neither points nor Losing Trick Count suggest this to either of them.

EW will almost certainly compete to the level of their heart fit, so South may decide to double rather than bid 4♠. 4♥X goes down two for 500 to NS, but 4♠ would give NS at least 620.

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<b>11</b>	♠ 5 4	Dir: South
	♥ A Q 6	Vul: None
	♦ Q 7 5	Par: 4♠= W
	♣ Q J 7 4 3	E/W +420
♠ K Q 10 8 3		♠ 9 7 6 2
♥ 2		♥ K J 9 3
♦ 10 9 8 6 2		♦ K
♣ K 5		♣ A 10 8 6
	♠ A J	N ♠♥♦♣
11	♥ 10 8 7 5 4	N - - 1 - -
8 + 11	♦ A J 4 3	S - - 1 - -
10	♣ 9 2	E 1 4 - 1 -
		W 1 4 - 1 -

All Pass is less likely at None vul.

West	North	East	South
1♠	2♣/2♥	3♠	1♥
4♠	All Pass		Pass

Another hand that could be passed out if both sides are playing standard systems, and if South decides to open 1♥ on Rule-of-19 it will be disastrous for him.

West will overcall 1♠ and EW will find their excellent spade contract. If South passes it's much more difficult for West to bid unless a weak 2-suited opening is available.

<b>12</b>	♠ K J 10 9 7 5	Dir: West
	♥ J	Vul: NS
	♦ K J 10 6	Par: 2NT= E
	♣ 7 4	E/W +120
♠ ---		♠ A Q 6 4
♥ Q 10 7 5 3		♥ A 6
♦ A 7 5 2		♦ 9 8 4 3
♣ A 10 8 6		♣ J 9 3
	♠ 8 3 2	N ♠♥♦♣
9	♥ K 9 8 4 2	N - 2 - - -
10 + 11	♦ Q	S - 2 - - -
10	♣ K Q 5 2	E 2 - 2 2 2
		W 2 - 2 2 2

West	North	East	South
1♥	2♠	2NT	?

There are likely to be several different auctions on this hand, with their shapes making West, North and South all eager to bid despite their lack of points.

Anyone managing to stop at the two-level should score well, but there's a real danger of either side getting too high and going down.

<b>13</b>	♠ A J	Dir: North
	♥ Q	Vul: Both
	♦ Q J 9 8 5 2	Par: 6♦= N
	♣ A Q 8 4	N/S +1370
♠ 8 7 4 2		♠ Q 10 9 3
♥ K J 10 8 4		♥ 9 7 6
♦ 10		♦ K 7 4
♣ K 9 5		♣ 10 3 2
	♠ K 6 5	N ♠♥♦♣
16	♥ A 5 3 2	N 5 1 1 6 6
7 + 5	♦ A 6 3	S 5 1 1 6 6
12	♣ J 7 6	E - - - - -
		W - - - - -

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Or

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

3NT looks a more likely contract than 6♦ here, as North isn't really strong enough to jump shift into 3♣ even if he counts the ♥Q as a full two points after South's 1♥ bid.

However, if South supports diamonds instead of bidding NT, NS may find the 6♦ slam, which makes on the favourable layout.

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<b>14</b>	♠ A Q 3 ♥ A 5 4 ♦ K 10 9 4 ♣ K 6 3	Dir: East Vul: None Par: 1NT+1 N N/S +120
	♠ 9 8 4 ♥ J 10 8 ♦ A 8 6 3 ♣ Q J 5  16 8 + 9 7	♠ K J 10 7 ♥ K 9 6 3 2 ♦ Q 7 ♣ 10 2

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1♦	Pass	Pass
All Pass		Pass	1NT

Or, North might open a strong NT and play there.

Most tables will be in 1NT by either North or South, but If East decides to compete with a rather weak two-suited overcall, West will probably bid 2♥. This goes down one, but is a better score for EW than letting NS make 1NT.

<b>15</b>	♠ J 7 ♥ K J 4 3 2 ♦ K 9 7 5 ♣ A 5	Dir: South Vul: NS Par: 2♦+2 N N/S +130
	♠ 10 5 3 ♥ A 9 8 7 6 ♦ J 10 3 ♣ 8 7  12 5 + 12 11	♠ A 9 8 4 ♥ Q 5 ♦ 8 2 ♣ K Q J 10 9

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1♥	2♣	Pass
Pass	2♦	X	X
All Pass			3♦

East has quite an attractive hand here, but can't make even a one-level contract without help from the opponents.

NS are likely to find the diamond part-score, and North will probably do best to cross-ruff hearts and clubs as the spot cards in those suits are so poor.

<b>16</b>	♠ 6 3 ♥ J 10 7 3 ♦ 10 5 2 ♣ K 9 6 5	Dir: West Vul: EW Par: 6♣= E E/W +1370
	♠ A J 9 8 7 5 ♥ Q 8 ♦ K ♣ Q 7 4 3  4 12 + 15 9	♠ --- ♥ A 9 6 2 ♦ A Q J 9 4 ♣ A 10 8 2

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Or

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	6♣	All Pass

An awkward hand to bid and play. West isn't strong enough for a high reverse into 3♣, so East may be tempted to rebid 3NT after 2♠ in spite of his void.

If, instead of 3NT, East rebids 3♣, the club slam may be found. The likely ♠K or ♦7 leads make life hard for East as he has no idea of the trump situation. In fact he has a club loser however he plays and even knowing all four hands declarer might fail. So 6♣ will probably go down on a number of tables.

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17	♠ K 4	Dir: North Vul: None Par: 5♦X-1 E N/S +100
	♥ A Q 10 7 3	
	♦ A	
	♣ K 7 5 4 3	
♠ 2	♠ A Q J 6 3	
♥ 8 6 4 2	♥ K	
♦ J 8 7 5 4 2	♦ K Q 10 9	
♣ 8 2	♣ A 9 6	
	N ♠♥♦♣	
16	♠ 10 9 8 7 5	N - 1 4 - 3
1 + 19	♥ J 9 5	S - - 3 - 3
4	♦ 6 3	E - - - 4 -
	♣ Q J 10	W - - - 4 -

West	North	East	South
	1♥	X	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
Or			

West	North	East	South
	1♥	1♠	Pass
Pass	2♣	2♦	2♥
3/4♦	4♥	5♦?	

East is a bit strong for an overcall, so may decide to double. With three reasonable hearts, South should support his partner over the double, and 4♥ should make on the likely ♦K lead. However if North tries to set up clubs before drawing trumps in order to take a trump finesse, and East leads ♠A and another while West still has a trump, 4♥ could go one down.

If East shows diamonds as well as spades, West might be tempted to support to the level of the fit and anything could happen! 5♦ goes only one down, so is a good sacrifice even if doubled.

18	♠ Q 10 9 6	Dir: East Vul: NS Par: 5♣X-1 W N/S +100
	♥ K J 10 8 2	
	♦ J	
	♣ J 5 4	
♠ K	♠ 5	
♥ A Q 7	♥ 9 5 4 3	
♦ A 8 2	♦ K Q 6 5 3	
♣ A K 10 9 7 3	♣ 8 6 2	
	N ♠♥♦♣	
8	♠ A J 8 7 4 3 2	N 1 4 - - -
20 + 5	♥ 6	S 1 4 - - -
7	♦ 10 9 7 4	E - - 1 4 4
	♣ Q	W - - 1 4 4

West	North	East	South
4♣	4♠	Pass	3♠
		5♣?	?

If allowed to play in 4♠, with eleven spades South should go for the drop and will lose only one club, one diamond and one heart for 620.

However, at favourable vulnerability, EW may well compete to 5♣, which goes only one off for a good score even if doubled. NS are vulnerable, so should not be tempted to bid on to 5♠ as that would give them an outright bottom.

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<b>19</b>	♠ 10 9 8	Dir: South
	♥ K Q J 10	Vul: EW
	♦ A 6	Par: 2♦ = W
	♣ Q 9 3 2	E/W +90
♠ K 4	♠ J 7 6 2	
♥ A 6 3 2	♥ 8 7 4	
♦ Q 10 5 4 3	♦ J 8 7	
♣ 10 6	♣ A K J	
12	♠ A Q 5 3	N ♠♥♦♣
9 + 10	♥ 9 5	N - 1 - - 2
9	♦ K 9 2	S - 1 - - 2
	♣ 8 7 5 4	E - - - 2 -
		W - - - 2 -

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1NT	All Pass	Pass

North may scrape home in 1NT on the lead of any suit except a diamond. If he plays low from dummy on a small spade lead he should make two spades, three hearts and two diamonds. Looking at dummy, West should switch to a diamond instead of returning a spade. North must be careful to win with the ♦K in dummy and play on hearts while he still has the ♦A entry to his hand to finesse for the ♠J

EW could actually make a 2♦ contract, but West's diamond suit is a bit weak for a two-level overcall, so not many pairs will be in it.

<b>20</b>	♠ A 9 5	Dir: West
	♥ 10 6	Vul: Both
	♦ Q J 8 3	Par: 3NT = N
	♣ A Q J 3	N/S +600
♠ K 8 6 3 2	♠ 10	
♥ J 7 5	♥ A 9 3 2	
♦ K 9 7 2	♦ 10 6 5 4	
♣ 2	♣ K 9 7 4	
14	♠ Q J 7 4	N ♠♥♦♣
7 + 7	♥ K Q 8 4	N 3 2 2 - 4
12	♦ A	S 4 2 1 - 4
	♣ 10 8 6 5	E - - - - -
		W - - - - -

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Or, playing strong NT

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

A straightforward 3NT by North here. East has a choice of leads, but none is likely to cause much trouble.

<b>21</b>	♠ A 9 6	Dir: North
	♥ A K Q 4	Vul: NS
	♦ A	Par: 6♥ = N
	♣ A K 7 3 2	N/S +1430
♠ Q 8	♠ K 10 7 5 3	
♥ J	♥ 9 7 6 3	
♦ 9 8 6 3	♦ Q 7 5	
♣ Q J 10 6 5 4	♣ 9	
24	♠ J 4 2	N ♠♥♦♣
6 + 5	♥ 10 8 5 2	N 4 3 6 4 3
5	♦ K J 10 4 2	S 4 3 6 4 3
	♣ 8	E - - - - -
		W - - - - -

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

Or

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

If NS find the heart fit and bid 6♥ it has a good chance of making, although the trump split is tricky. North can't afford to draw trumps, but should be able to over-ruff clubs in dummy and discard a losing spade on the ♦K.



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<b>22</b>	♠ Q J	Dir: East Vul: EW Par: 6NT= E E/W +1440
	♥ 9 5 2	
	♦ Q 8 6 4 2	
	♣ A 5 4	
♠ A 5	♠ K 10 9 8	
♥ K 4 3	♥ A 10 7	
♦ K 5	♦ A 10 9	
♣ K 10 9 7 3 2	♣ Q J 8	
	N ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	
9	♥ 7 6 4 3 2	N -----
13 + 14	♥ Q J 8 6	S -----
4	♦ J 7 3	E 6 3 4 2 6
	♣ 6	W 6 3 4 2 6

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
3NT	All Pass	1NT	Pass

EW can make 6♣ or 6NT, but it's difficult to see how they can bid it with two flattish hands and only 27 HCP, so most tables will be in 3NT. This makes 12 tricks on any lead provided East plays on clubs immediately.

A few Wests may decide to tell a white lie and respond 3♣ (game forcing with 6+ clubs) to 1NT, in which case it's possible that slam would be reached. Again, some Easts (particularly if playing a strong NT) will upgrade their hand because of the excellent spot cards, although the 4-3-3-3 shape is not encouraging.

<b>23</b>	♠ A K Q 5 3	Dir: South Vul: Both Par: 3NT= S N/S +600
	♥ 10 8 6 3	
	♦ 4 2	
	♣ 8 7	
♠ 10 7 4	♠ J 9 6	
♥ A Q	♥ K 9 7 2	
♦ Q J 9 5	♦ K 8	
♣ 6 5 3 2	♣ K J 9 4	
	N ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	
9	♠ 8 2	N 3 3 3 2 1
9 + 11	♥ J 5 4	S 3 3 3 2 1
11	♦ A 10 7 6 3	E -----
	♣ A Q 10	W -----

All Pass – or a light third-hand opener?

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	2♠	All Pass	Pass

In theory, NS can make 3NT on this hand, but they are unlikely to bid it with only 20 HCP between them.

South has 11 points, but the hand doesn't obey Rule of 20 and the diamonds are not really rebiddable, so most Souths will pass.

Despite having only five spades, and four of the other major, some Norths will venture a weak 2♠ opening in 3<sup>rd</sup> seat, but this hand is likely to be passed out at a number of tables.

<b>24</b>	♠ 10 3	Dir: West Vul: None Par: 2♠= S N/S +110
	♥ A Q 2	
	♦ K 6 5 4 3	
	♣ Q 9 2	
♠ J 6 4	♠ K 7 5	
♥ 5 4 3	♥ J 9 7 6	
♦ 10 8 7	♦ A Q 9	
♣ K 8 6 4	♣ A 5 3	
	N ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	
11	♠ A Q 9 8 2	N 1 2 2 3 1
4 + 14	♥ K 10 8	S 1 2 2 3 1
11	♦ J 2	E -----
	♣ J 10 7	W -----

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	Pass	1NT	2♠
All Pass			

East has no attractive lead, but will probably settle on a heart as least likely to give away a trick. South should scrape home in 2♠, but could lose two spades, two diamonds and two clubs if he misjudges the trump play.

2017 Suffolk Simultaneous Pairs

25	♠ Q 10 8 5 2	Dir: North Vul: EW Par: 3♥= E E/W +140
	♥ 10 5	
	♦ 8 7	
	♣ K 10 7 6	
♠ K 7	♠ 9 4	
♥ K 4 3 2	♥ A J 9	
♦ J 6 4	♦ K Q 10 9 3 2	
♣ A Q J 4	♣ 8 3	
	N ♠♥♦♣	
	N - 1 - - -	
	S - 1 - - -	
	E 2 - 3 4 2	
	W 2 - 3 4 2	
	♠ A J 6 3	
	♥ Q 8 7 6	
	♦ A 5	
	♣ 9 5 2	
5		
14 + 10		
11		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Or, playing strong NT

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	1♠	2♦/♥	2♠
3♦/♥	All Pass		

This hand could tempt either side into too high a contract. After a weak 1NT from West, East, with 10 HCP, a long suit and good spot cards, might decide to invite game, which West, with a maximum, would accept. This will go down on the likely spade lead.

However, if EW are playing strong NT and five-card majors, West will open 1♣. This allows NS to discover their spade fit and, at favourable vulnerability, they might get carried away.

26	♠ A 5 3	Dir: East Vul: Both Par: 3NT= N N/S +600
	♥ K 5 3	
	♦ K Q 3	
	♣ Q 9 8 3	
♠ Q 6 2	♠ K 8 4	
♥ 10 9 8 7 2	♥ A J 4	
♦ 8 5	♦ J 9 7 6 4	
♣ A 7 6	♣ 5 4	
	N ♠♥♦♣	
	N 3 3 1 2 4	
	S 3 3 1 2 4	
	E - - - - -	
	W - - - - -	
	♠ J 10 9 7	
	♥ Q 6	
	♦ A 10 2	
	♣ K J 10 2	
14		
6 + 9		
11		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

Hearts would be a problem if South were declarer, but are less so for North as he is likely to get a diamond lead, allowing him to set up his club and spade tricks before the opponents have set up their hearts.

After first knocking out the ♣A, North should finesse spades by leading ♠J from dummy towards the Ace and letting it run if not covered. If West doesn't cover with ♠Q, East will win the K and North will need to repeat the finesse later, so he must be careful to keep high cards in clubs and diamonds as entries to dummy.

27	♠ A 10 9	Dir: South Vul: None Par: 4♠= S N/S +420
	♥ J	
	♦ K J 7 6 5	
	♣ Q 5 4 3	
♠ J 4	♠ 8 7 3 2	
♥ A K Q 6 3 2	♥ 10 9 5	
♦ Q 8	♦ A 4 3 2	
♣ J 9 7	♣ 8 6	
	N ♠♥♦♣	
	N - 4 - 4 5	
	S - 4 - 4 5	
	E - - 1 - -	
	W - - 1 - -	
	♠ K Q 6 5	
	♥ 8 7 4	
	♦ 10 9	
	♣ A K 10 2	
11		
13 + 4		
12		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
2♥	X	3♥	1NT
4♥	4♠	All Pass	3♠

With neither side vulnerable this may develop into a bidding war, and NS can actually make 4♠ despite having only seven trumps between them. If EW bid on to 5♥ and are doubled, they will go three or four down for -500 or -800, a phantom sacrifice.

2017 Suffolk Simultaneous Pairs

<b>28</b>	♠ 6 3 2	Dlr: West
	♥ Q J	Vul: NS
♠ J 10 8	♦ K J 10 5	Par: 3NT+1 S
♥ 10 5 4 2	♣ A 10 6 5	N/S +630
♦ 8 7 3		♠ Q 9 4
♣ K Q 2		♥ 9 8 6 3
		♦ A 6 4 2
		♣ J 9
	♠ A K 7 5	N ♠♥♦♣
11	♥ A K 7	N 4 3 2 4 4
6 + 7	♦ Q 9	S 4 3 2 4 4
16	♣ 8 7 4 3	E - - - - -
		W - - - - -

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Or

Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

An easy 3NT here provided South plays on diamonds. He can develop a length-trick in either spades or clubs for +1.

<b>29</b>	♠ 8 7 2	Dlr: North
	♥ 10 7 4	Vul: Both
♠ A K 3	♦ K J 10 6 5	Par: 3NT= S
♥ Q 9 3 2	♣ K J	N/S +600
♦ 3		♠ Q 9 5 4
♣ Q 8 7 6 5		♥ K J 6
		♦ 9 4 2
		♣ 10 9 4
	♠ J 10 6	N ♠♥♦♣
8	♥ A 8 5	N 3 1 - 3 -
11 + 6	♦ A Q 8 7	S 3 1 - 3 -
15	♣ A 3 2	E - - 1 - 2
		W - - 1 - 2

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
X	Pass	Pass	1♦
	3♦	Pass	3NT

If North bids up as is normal over the double, South may well risk 3NT, which makes despite the lack of a spade stop.

<b>30</b>	♠ J	Dlr: East
	♥ K 9 8 7 2	Vul: None
♠ K Q 9	♦ K 10 8 3	Par: 4♥= N
♥ Q 4	♣ K Q 3	N/S +420
♦ 9 5		♠ A 10 4 3 2
♣ A J 10 8 7 5		♥ J 6 5
		♦ J 6 4
		♣ 9 2
	♠ 8 7 6 5	N ♠♥♦♣
12	♥ A 10 3	N 1 - 4 4 -
12 + 6	♦ A Q 7 2	S 1 - 4 4 -
10	♣ 6 4	E - - - - 1
		W - - - - 1

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♣	1♥	Pass	Pass
2♠	3/4♥	1♠	2♥
		?	

East would go three off in 4♠, which would be a good sacrifice if not doubled. North can make 4♥ easily, losing only a heart, a spade and a club.

I based all the auctions on the average English club-player's system: weak no-trump, four-card majors and weak two-bids in the majors. I kept conventions to a minimum (basically Stayman, red-suit transfers and ordinary Blackwood) as there might otherwise be no place to stop.

It's rare in a simultaneous pairs to have three deals might go all pass, but it shows that the selection was indeed random. On some deals I could envisage at least half a dozen different auctions, but I've only given one or sometimes two. That includes those for which, were a strong no-trump in use, opening that (or one-minor when suitable for a weak no-trump) might have an impact.

I hope you enjoyed playing the deals,

Celia

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### **Celia Jeal**

Celia is a bridge player and teacher with a long connection to Suffolk and Bury St. Edmunds. She was a practising advocate of teaching to bring new players to club bridge many years before the approach was widely adopted. That is one reason Abbeygate BC has the largest membership in Suffolk.

Celia is a fully qualified EBU Teacher and Tournament Director and since 2000 she has successfully taught several hundred people to play bridge. She runs a Learn and Play Club for improvers on Wednesday evenings at the Abbeygate Club in Bury St Edmunds. She also runs coaching sessions for improvers online and helps to run bridge on hotel weekends and cruises .

For more information, see <http://www.suffolkbridge.co.uk/education/teachers/CeliaJeal.htm>.