



# Trumps Update September 2021

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## Read that lead by Derrick Browne

Conceal the North and West cards and consider the hand below. East opened 1D and you, South, made a weak jump overcall to 2S. West ventured 3H, raised to 4H by East. Your partner leads the D5 which goes to your D10 and declarer's DA. Declarer cashes the CA then plays a trump and your partner, North, wins with the HA then switches to the SK. How should you defend?

		♠ K J	
		♥ A 6 2	
		♦ 5	
		♣ 10 8 7 6 5 4 3	(dummy)
♠ 4 3		♠ 6 5 2	
♥ 10 9 8 7 5		♥ K Q J	
♦ A Q 8 7 6		♦ K J 4 3	
♣ A	(you)	♣ K Q 2	
♠ A Q 10 9 8 7			
♥ 4 3			
♦ 10 8 2			
♣ J 9			

The question to ask yourself is: Why did partner initially lead an opponent's bid suit, diamonds, instead of your bid suit, spades? The usual reason is that partner has a singleton (or a strong sequence, clearly not the case here).

The correct defence, then, is to *overtake* partner's SK with your SA, then return a diamond. When leading a suit for partner to ruff, you lead a suit preference signal, so lead your highest remaining diamond (the 8) to ask partner to lead back the higher of the other suits, spades. Partner duly leads the SJ, and you again overtake (thus play the SQ) in order to lead another diamond for partner to ruff.

The contract is thereby defeated by two tricks. If, on the other hand, the defence persist with spades and the diamond ruff is not given, declarer will ruff the third round of spades high, draw trumps and claim ten tricks.

At one table, declarer even made 12 tricks. North led a club at trick one; declarer won the CA, crossed to dummy with a diamond, and cashed dummy's club honours, throwing the spade losers from hand.

Note that North's trump holding made the singleton lead quite attractive. When you have the trump ace, you know that is a sure entry, and you hope to then be able to get partner in to offer you the ruff. As well as the ace, North had a couple of small trumps which made ruffing an appealing prospect. The club lead did not have much to recommend it on this occasion, and sure enough, was not a success.



# Bidding Forum moderated by Alex Kemeny

You are South with the hand shown. Choose your call then compare with the experts. Trumps Standard and Pairs scoring.

On our panel, Derrick Browne and leading world bridge authorities Barry Rigal and Ron Klinger are joined by Nick Fahrre from The Bridge Shop and NSW representatives Tina Zines, Nick Hughes and Nicoleta Giura.

## South Deals, EW Vulnerable

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1D	1S	Pass	1C ?
	♠ Q 6 3		
	♥ K Q 7		
	♦ 8 4 3		
	♣ K Q J 9		

Votes by our panellist

CALL	VOTES
2S	4
1NT	3

*Do we want to raise partner when we only have three spades and a very balanced hand? Some do:*

**Browne:** 2S. The 4-3-3-3 shape makes 1NT tempting, but I'm not creative enough to fantasise the 8-4-3 of diamonds into being a stopper in the enemy suit, so put me down for 2S in the possible 4-3 fit.

**Klinger:** 2S. The least misleading bid. My partnerships can use 2NT to check back for my degree of spade support. Here I could bid 3C to confirm only three spades and (usually) five clubs. Close enough.

*A good agreement. Partner's 2NT could hardly be natural to play after a spade raise.*

**Hughes:** 2S, though 1NT is okay, since it doesn't promise a stopper under the gun. After all, what would opener rebid if the ♠3 were the ♥3?

**Zines:** 2S. No ambitions just yet.

**Fahrer:** 1NT. I didn't promise you a rose garden. I'm not convinced 1S promises five.

*Agreed, 1S here does not promise five spades. Double after 1C-(1D) is usually played to show 4/4 in the majors*

**Rigal:** 1NT. I have a balanced hand and the absence of diamond stop is absolutely not a concern. So often when it is the wrong thing to do one of the other three opponents will rescue me.

**Giura:** 1NT. My style allows me to rebid 1NT here to show 12-14 flat and does not (the only time) guarantee a diamond stopper. Don't like a spade raise with no ruffing value.

*I've been experimenting with 1NT "without a stopper" on all 4-3-3-3 hands over the past year. Nothing bad has happened yet. If partner does have just four spades, notrumps may make the same number of tricks, and scores the best at match-pointed pairs. It can also bluff left-hand opponent into not leading that suit.*

*Partner had A J 9 7 5, 10 3, A J 5, A 4 3 so if 1NT is rebid, playing 2♣ or 2♦ Checkback would be important, so that partner could find out you did have three-card spade support. Those in 3NT scored +400, those in 4S +420*



### Newsletter now mainly emailed:

We are now doing more frequent newsletters, but mainly emailed, with a few legacy copies being printed for those who do not have email. We will also do occasional mailed newsletters, e.g. at year end. If anyone is not receiving our monthly emailed updates, we would appreciate being given the person's email address so we can rectify the situation!

### Trumps publishing:

Check our full range of books, pamphlets, software and other bridge merchandise.

[www.trumps.net.au/about-trumps/trumps-shop](http://www.trumps.net.au/about-trumps/trumps-shop)

## Top Rated

	Name	Rating
1	Derrick Browne	68.85
2	Alessandro Gado	66.26
3	Kerry Boytell	66.24
4	Eric Lippey	66.15
5	Alex Kemeny	64.27
6	Neil Williams	63.85
7	Tina Strickland	62.84
8	Rob Holgate	62.75
9	Kevin Murray	62.68
10	Barbara Gassmann	62.5
11	Fay Cooney	62.09
12	Marjorie Thomas	61.93
13	Ceiny Maybury	61.83
14	Cia Benecke	61.83
15	Sue Robinson	61.71
16	Vivienne McDonald	61.6
17	Kevin Ellwood	61.4
18	Kim Dalling	61.33
19	Tim Trahair	61.29
20	Michael Kidd	61.29

## Most improved Rating

	Name	Old	New	Gain
1	Virstine Yazdanparast	58.55	60.01	1.46
2	Jamal Yazdanparast	58	59.11	1.11
3	Jenny Harley	49.37	50.38	1.01
4	Margaret Scott	50	50.92	0.92
5	Tim Trahair	60.62	61.29	0.67
6	Bob Fletcher	56.57	57.18	0.61
7	Sue Craig	56.61	57.21	0.6
8	Tony Franklin	58.59	59.08	0.49
9	Elizabeth Neil	60.57	61	0.43
10	Robin Ho	60	60.42	0.42

(Members who have played 13 times in the last six months are rated)

## NEW BBO session!

### 1pm Thursdays

Individual tournament (no partner required, Trumps standard system)

## NEW Trumps cards!

We have bought a shipment of Trumps cards. They feel great! We need to pay our supplier, so we are offering to sell them at \$5/deck, a super price for quality cards. Enquiries welcome.



## Online Bridge

Currently we are running online bridge on BBO:

10am Tuesdays

7pm Tuesdays

1pm Wednesdays

1pm Thursday (NEW!)

1pm Saturdays

## Funbridge

Search for Trumps under exclusive tournaments.  
Password Trumps



## Masterpoint Promotions

Noreen Armstrong

Bronze Life

Simon Moore

State

Gillian Pearce

Local

Lorraine Sladden

Graduate

***Congratulations!** See us when you are at Trumps to collect your promotion certificate and token.*

## Assign the blame

North made 4S doubled, while East-West easily make 5C. Who is to blame? Email your analysis, then compare with the experts.

### West Deals, All Vulnerable

♠ K Q 8 7 6 3 2  
♥ A 2  
♦ 8 6 4  
♣ 6

♠ —  
♥ J 10 6 4  
♦ A K 9 2  
♣ K J 10 9 7

♠ A J 9 5  
♥ 9 7 5 3  
♦ Q 3  
♣ A 5 3

♠ 10 4  
♥ K Q 8  
♦ J 10 7 5  
♣ Q 8 4 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1C	1S	2C	2S
3C	3S	P	P
4C	4S	X	All pass

## What to bid?

Choose your call then compare with the experts (published in next month's edition). Trumps Standard and Pairs scoring.

### East Deals, NS Vulnerable

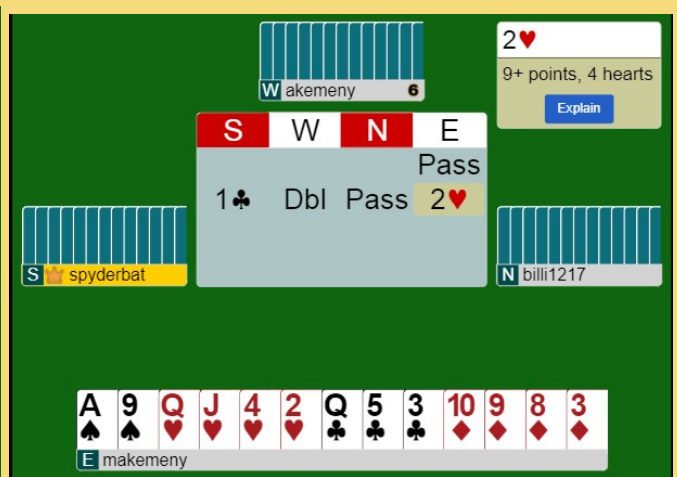
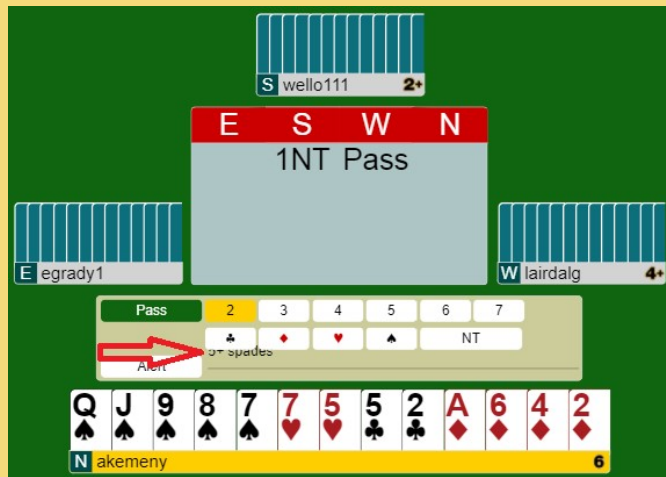
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	1C	?

♠ J 9 2  
♥ J  
♦ A K Q J  
♣ A K J 7 4

## BBO Tips

**Use the “confirm” feature to avoid the need to request UNDOs.** On your computer (or similar procedure on other devices), login to BBO, then click on the Account tab at right, then click on Settings at the top, then turn on (drag to right) the “Confirm bids” and “Confirm cards” buttons. Now after specifying your proposed call each time, you will need to click OKAY; and to confirm which card you play each time, you click it twice. Given that you should have activated these Confirm features, the director will usually not accept requests for UNDOs (if not granted by your opponents) as they are only for genuine misclicks by the fingers (mechanical errors), which Confirm should eliminate.

**“Self-alert” your own calls.** In the BBO online tournaments, you alert YOUR OWN bids. You can write a short explanation in the box under any artificial call, before making the call. Partner cannot see it but the opponents can. If you forget and just make your artificial bid, then double-click your bid and enter a late explanation. Do not alert by chatting to "Table". Partner can see that. Pretty much anything should be alerted, even something obvious like a negative double, no harm in alerting, partner cannot see the alert if done as explained above. Even 2C Stayman in an uncontested auction, you can alert it, even though at the club it is not alertable. And remember, do not alert by chatting to "Table". Partner CAN see that. For example, in the first screen shot below, North, holding five spades, is about to respond to partner's 1NT opening with a transfer bid of 2H. Before clicking on 2H (or after this but before clicking the OKAY button as mentioned in Point One), North has typed **5+ spades** in the area shown by the red arrow (slightly obscured by the other available bids in this screen shot). When your opponent makes an alert, it appears as shown in the second screen shot, 2H here isn't alertable, but there's no such thing as over-alerting in this format, you can see here that the hand shown at the bottom of screen wanted to make it clear to the opponents that the 2H bid was showing 9+ points but might be only as few as four hearts.



**Ensure your profile is up to date including your first (preferred) name and surname.**

