

<b>Board 4</b>	♠ 9654		
<b>Dealer W</b>	♥ Q		
<b>All Vul</b>	♦ 10		
	♣ AKJ10953	♠ AKQ10832	
♠ 7		♥ 1075	
♥ AKJ932		♦ AK9	
♦ Q6543		♣ —	
♣ 6	♠ J		
	♥ 864		
	♦ J872		
	♣ Q8742		
		NT	♠ ♥ ♦ ♣
		N	0 0 0 1 10
		S	0 0 0 1 10
		E	6 13 13 12 3
		W	6 13 13 12 3
Par -2210 7♠= EW			

What an interesting board.

Exactly how the bidding should go is difficult.

It depends on how many clubs North bids as an overcall over the 1♥ opening.

In researching what club overcalls made I discovered a horrifying statistic.

At 6 of the 16 tables West opened either a weak 2♥ or a Multi 2♦.

No. I am not kidding you. 6 players out of 16 thought West had a WEAK hand.

They have a disease even more transmissible than Delta or Omicron.

It is called POINTITIS. Contracting it is usually fatal to your bridge score.

Sufferers just count their points, look at the length of their suit and make a bid

You can set a test like the following and ask “which is the strongest hand?”

♠ – 7	♠ – 73	♠ – QJ	♠ – Q
♥ – AKJ932	♥ – AKJ932	♥ – J87543	♥ – AJ9542
♦ – Q6543	♦ – K4	♦ – AK	♦ – Q6543
♣ – 6	♣ – 832	♣ – J43	♣ – Q

Every player today would get it right. Correctly choosing the first hand.

Despite the fact that every other hand has either 1 or 2 more points.

They would solve this problem because they have been asked to THINK.

But when choosing an opening, POINTS become a substitute for thinking.

That is how they make the weakest bid with the strongest of those 4 hands.

Bridge players are smart. When buying a house none of them would say:

“I have read the Government valuation. That is all I need to know”

Do your due diligence in valuing your bridge hands as well!