

PRE-SESSION QUIZ AT THE NSWBA ON APRIL 9, 2018

with Ron Klinger

1: Dealer South : E-W vulnerable

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	1NT
P	2D (1)	P	2H
P	2S (2)	P	3H (3)
P	4H	All pass	

(1) Transfer to hearts

(2) Natural and forcing to game

(3) Stronger than 4H

What should West lead from:

S Q965432

H 62

D 9

C 854

2: Dealer East : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
---	---	P	1D
P	1NT	P	2S
P	2NT	P	3S
P	4S	All pass	

What should West lead from:

S 53

H K104

D 98732

C AK5

3: Dealer East : Nil vulnerable

West	North	East	South
---	---	1C	1D
1H	2H (1)	4H	4S
P	P	P	

(1) Strong raise, 4+ diamonds

What should West lead from

S 94

H J10854

D J85

C KQ7

4. South dealer : N-S vulnerable

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	1NT
Pass	2D (1)	Pass	2H
Pass	3NT	All pass	

(1) Transfer to hearts

What would you lead as West from:

653

A10843

85

QJ5

5. North dealer : Nil vulnerable

West	North	East	South
---	1C	Pass	1H
Pass	2C	Pass	2NT (1)
Pass	3NT	All pass	

(1) Inviting game

What would you lead as West from:

A108

862

J854

Q65

ANSWERS TO PRE-SESSION QUIZ AT THE NSWBA ON APRIL 9, 2018

1. North has shown 4 spades. South will have 2 spades for the 1NT opening. Thus East is void in spades. So, lead a spade.

Which one? The S9, suit-preference for a diamond return in case you can score a diamond ruff.

2. South has shown five spades and hence six diamonds. North has no 4-card major and probably not 6+ clubs (would bid 3C over 2S). Hence North probably has two diamonds and so East is void in diamonds. Lead diamond for East to ruff.

Which one? The D2, as suit-preference for clubs.

3. South figures to have 5 spades to bid a new suit at the 4-level. Therefore South has six diamonds. North's 2H showed four diamonds and so East is void in diamonds. Lead a diamond?

Which one? The D5, suit-preference for a club return.

4. In *Winning No-trump Leads*, David Bird and Taf Anthias have this to say regarding leading against 3NT after a transfer sequence:

- It is rarely right to lead the 5-card suit that is sitting over you.
- When choosing one of the other suits, there is a slight bias in favour of the other major, because dummy will not hold four cards there.

The deal arose on BBO with robots:

South dealer : North-South vulnerable

	North	
	KQ10	
	QJ652	
	A2	
	432	
West		East
653		AJ874
A10843		9
85		10963
QJ5		1076
	South	
	92	
	K7	
	KQJ74	
	AK98	

All the Wests were human and all the Souths were robots. Only one South was defeated. West led the S6: king – eight – two. Declarer played the H2 to the HK and the HA. West played another spade and East collected four spade tricks for one down.

Three other Wests led a spade, but ultimately to no avail. One led S5: king – eight – nine. South played the H2 to the HK and West ducked. South cashed five diamonds and two clubs for +600. Another led S3: king – eight – nine. South played the H2 to the HK and HA. West switched to the CQ and South had ten tricks, +630. The third West led the S5: king – eight – nine. South played the H2 to the HK and H3. Not happy to take nine tricks, South played the DK and the H7. West took the HA and switched to the CQ. South made 11 tricks, +660.

Five Wests led the H4: N-S 630 x 2, 660 x 3. Two led the HA, N-S 660 x 2. One led the C5, N-S +630 and four lead the CQ, N-S 630 x 3, 660 x 1. One North-South played in 4H via:

West	North	East	South
---	---	---	1NT
Pass	2D (Hs)	2H (1)	Pass
2S	3S	Dble	4H
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(1) For takeout

North lost a spade and two hearts, North-South +620.

5. Winning No-trump Leads at page 112:
Leading when they have bid two suits:

- It is rarely right to lead a suit that has been bid by an opponent.
- When choosing between two unbid suits, there is bias towards the unbid major (because dummy will not hold four cards there).
- A 4-card suit headed by one or two honours is rarely a good lead. Prefer to lead from a shorter holding in the other unbid suit.
- When you are weak, tend towards leading the shorter unbid suit. Your intention is to score tricks in your partner's hand.

All of this indicates a spade lead. Here is the complete BBO deal, with humans in the South seat and robots in the other seats:

	North	
	KJ5	
	Q	
	AQ103	
	J8432	
West		East
A108		97432
862		AJ95
J854		2
Q65		A97
	South	
	Q6	
	K10743	
	K976	
	K10	

There is not much in favour of North's 2C rebid. Most humans would prefer to rebid 1NT.

After the auction given, five Wests led a low spade. South won crossed to the DQ and finessed the C10. West won and played SA and the third spade. South was two down. At some tables, when East overcalled 1S, North became declarer in 3NT, generally going one down after a spade lead.

Want to improve your bridge? Visit www.ronklingerbridge.com for huge content on play, defence, bidding and much more. Visit the website also for available bridge books.

2018 Bridge Holidays with Ron and Suzie Klinger: Tangalooma Wild Dolphin Resort on Moreton Island, Queensland: July 8-15 and Norfolk Island: October 7-14. Details, bookings from suzie@ronklingerbridge.com or telephone 0411 229 705.