# Beginners' Lesson 11: Pre-emptive Openings

NG34Bridge

## Board 17
North Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 3
♥ A 10 7 4
♦ Q 6
♣ 8 7 6 5 4

♠ A K Q 9 6 2         ♠ J 7
♥ J 8 2               ♥ K Q 9 6
♦ J 5    N            ♦ 10 9 7
       W   E
♣ A 2    S            ♣ Q J 10 9

♠ 8 5 4
♥ 5 3
♦ A K 8 4 3 2
♣ K 3

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | Pass  | Pass | 2♦    |
| 2♠   | All pass |   |       |

Lead: ♦ Q

West has a good suit to overcall. North is not strong enough to bid and East's hand is not suitable to raise.

The weak 2♦ opener made it hard for EW to reach 4♠.

The ♦Q lead is the top of partner's suit

Declarer draws trumps, plays on hearts, then clubs.

## Board 18
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ K 7 4 3 2
♥ A 9 4 3
♦ A Q J
♣ Q

♠ —                   ♠ J
♥ K Q 6               ♥ J 10 7
♦ 8 5 4 3 2   N       ♦ 10 9 7
            W   E
♣ K 9 6 5 2   S       ♣ A J 10 8 7 3

♠ A Q 10 9 8 6 5
♥ 8 5 2
♦ K 6
♣ 4

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      |       | Pass | 3♠    |
| Pass | 4♠    | All pass |   |

Lead: ♥K

Whilst East has a weak long suit, they can't open 2♣, so passes. South pre-empts 3♠ and North raises to 4♠.

The ♥K lead is the top of a sequence.

Declarer should draw the trump then play diamonds (♦K first) to discard a small heart or club.

## Board 19
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 4 3
♥ A 8 6 4
♦ K 9 8
♣ A K 10 8

♠ K Q J 9 7 2         ♠ A 8 6 5
♥ J 2                 ♥ 10 5 3
♦ 4 2    N            ♦ A 7 6 5 3
       W   E
♣ J 6 5  S            ♣ 3

♠ 10
♥ K Q 9 7
♦ Q J 10
♣ Q 9 7 4 2

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      |       |      | Pass  |
| 2♠   | Dbl   | 4♠   | All pass |

Lead: ♦ 8

North double promises a good opening hand. East should bid 4♠ with 4 trumps. South has a difficult decision to make now and will probably pass. 4♠ is one down which is a good result as NS can make 5♥.

Lead is ♦8.

South draws trumps and ruffs 2 clubs in dummy.

## Board 20
West Deals
Both Vul

♠ K 9 6
♥ 10 9
♦ A Q J 8 7 4 3
♣ 7

♠ J 7                 ♠ A 10 8 5 2
♥ J 8 4               ♥ A 6 5 2
♦ 10 2    N           ♦ K 9
        W   E
♣ A Q 10 8 4 3  S     ♣ 9 6

♠ Q 4 3
♥ K Q 7 3
♦ 6 5
♣ K J 5 2

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| Pass | 3♦    | All pass |   |

Lead: ♣ 9

North opens 3♦ showing a weak 7 card suit. South must not be tempted to bid, as their hand is not good enough..

Lead is ♣9 - top of a doubleton.

North should play a heart towards dummy, then take a trump finesse

## Board 21
North Deals
N-S Vul

♠ K J 10 5 4 3 2
♥ 10 8 3
♦ K 8
♣ 5

♠ 9 7 6               ♠ A Q 8
♥ K J 9 6 4           ♥ A 7
♦ 2      N            ♦ A Q 7 5 4
       W   E
♣ A 8 7 3   S         ♣ K Q 9

♠ —
♥ Q 5 2
♦ J 10 9 6 3
♣ J 10 6 4 2

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 3♠   | 3NT   | All pass |   |

Lead: ♦J

North's 3♠ bid shows 7 cards and a weak hand.

East should not be put off by the 3♠ opening and bid 3 NT with a good spade hold and a strong hand.

The ♦J lead is the top of a sequence.

Declarer should play ♥A then a heart to the ♥J

## Board 22
East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ J 10 9 6 4 2
♥ 3
♦ J 6 5
♣ A J 5

♠ Q 5 3               ♠ 8
♥ A                   ♥ K Q J 10 9 7 6 5
♦ A 7 4 2   N         ♦ 8 3
          W   E
♣ K 10 6 3 2  S       ♣ 9 4

♠ A K 7
♥ 8 4 2
♦ K Q 10 9
♣ Q 8 7

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      |       | 4♥   | All pass |

Lead: ♠A

East opens 4♥ which shows an 8-card suit and a weak hand.

This pre-empt makes it difficult for NS to reach 4♠.

The lead of the ♠A is promising the ♠K.

Declarer should draw trumps and lead up to ♣K

## Board 23
South Deals
Both Vul

♠ Q 10 8
♥ K 5 4 2
♦ Q 8
♣ J 10 9 3

♠ 9 7 5 4             ♠ A K J 6 3
♥ 9                   ♥ Q
♦ A J 9 7 5   N       ♦ K 10 6 3
            W   E
♣ A Q 5       S       ♣ 8 7 2

♠ 2
♥ A J 10 8 7 6 3
♦ 4 2
♣ K 6 4

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      |       |      | 3♥    |
| Pass | 4♥    | All pass |   |

Lead: ♠7

North's raise to game is solely based on the 4-card trump support. EW can make 4♠ but will probably find it too difficult to bid.

DO NOT lead a small spade which would promise an honour

Declarer can make 8 tricks. EW could have made game in spades.

## Board 24
West Deals
None Vul

♠ 9
♥ A K J 8 6 4
♦ 10 9 4 2
♣ 8 7

♠ K J 6 5             ♠ Q 10 8 7 2
♥ 10 7                ♥ 9 5 3
♦ A J 7 6   N         ♦ 5 3
          W   E
♣ Q 10 9    S         ♣ K 4 2

♠ A 4 3
♥ Q 2
♦ K Q 8
♣ A J 6 5 3

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| Pass | 2♥    | Pass | 4♥    |
| All pass |   |   |   |

South bids to game with 16 HCP and a fit in hearts

Lead ♠7 which is 4th highest from their longest and strongest.

Declarer draws trumps then plays towards the diamond honours in Dummy.