

Ask Dwight for June 3, 2018 Newsletter

Thursday afternoon, May 10th, Board 7

Hello Dwight,

My Partner and I had the N/S hand board #7.

The bidding went:

1H Pass 2C Pass

2H Pass 4C Pass

Pass

Hand diagram for Board 7 showing the distribution of cards and High Card Points (HCPs) for each player:

Player	Hand	HCPs
North	♠ A 8 6 5 ♥ A 2 ♦ ♣ A K Q J 6 5 4	18
West	♠ Q 7 4 3 2 ♥ 10 9 6 ♦ 8 7 ♣ 10 3 2	2
East	♠ 10 9 ♥ 7 3 ♦ A J 10 9 6 5 2 ♣ 9 7	5
South	♠ K J ♥ K Q J 8 5 4 ♦ K Q 4 3 ♣ 8	15

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Obviously, we missed bidding the slam!

I thought my jump in clubs showed my very strong holding. My partner thought I was inviting to game if she could support. What was the correct route to the grand slam?

A Nother Bridger.

Dwight's Response

Hello A. Nother Bridger

What an interesting hand! Unfortunately, your jump to 4 Clubs is only invitational and I understand why your partner passed. Other options are below. I am going to give you two auctions. The **first** is one I would recommend if you play Strong Jump Shifts (**SJS**) and the **second** one can be used if you play Weak Jump Shifts (**WJS**).

First: Using SJS

1H-3C

3H-4NT

5C-5NT

6S-7H

3 Clubs shows a very strong hand with 18 + points.

3H shows a long heart suit.

4NT is Blackwood.

5C shows no aces.

5NT asks for Kings (opener's 13+ points must be mostly in hearts since they do not have the Diamond Ace and no points in Clubs).

6 Spades shows 3.

7 Hearts is to play.

Note that North can count at least 13 tricks: 6 hearts, 7 clubs and 2 spades.

Second: Using WJS

1H-2C

3H-4NT

5C-5NT

6S-7H

The key in this auction is that opener should rebid 3 Hearts *not* 2 Hearts in order to get to 7 Hearts as the final contract. The hand has 15 points and a very good long suit. 2 Hearts is an underbid but responder has such a good hand that I would recommend bidding 4NT instead of 4C as you did. You would then end up in at least 6 Hearts and likely 7 Hearts.

If you have further questions, please let me know.

**Regards,
db**