



Commentary for the CBAI Simultaneous Pairs

Tuesday 3rd March 2026

Dear Bridge Player,

Thank you very much for playing in the CBAI Simultaneous Pairs 2026, and for your continued support for the Association.

The funds that you contribute via these Simultaneous Pairs will help the CBAI in its ongoing development work – training new teachers and new TDs, promoting the game and trying to attract new members, developing junior bridge, and so on. Many of the input costs, like costs generally these days, are increasing significantly, so your support for this event, and for the various live competitions run during the season by the CBAI, is greatly appreciated.

I hope that you enjoyed the chance to test yourself against your fellow players across Ireland (and for those still playing online, maybe overseas as well). As always, the hands (which are randomly generated by computer with no manual intervention whatsoever) provided plenty of difficult decisions. Many thanks to our expert commentators Jeannie Fitzgerald (Monday), Gay Keaveney (Tuesday), Brian Senior (Wednesday), Enda Glynn (Thursday), and our latest Grand Master Hilary D-L McDonagh (Friday) for their guidance through the fog. I hope that you have picked up some useful tips from their advice. Congratulations to anyone who ends up in the prizes; with over 1,000 pairs playing on most days, you've earned it!

Don't forget to check your standing in the national results at www.ecatsbridge.com/sims. You'll find the daily commentaries there too.

John Phelan

President, Contract Bridge Association of Ireland

Board 1 ♠ 54 Dealer N
 ♥ 4 Vul: None
 ♦ K1032
 ♣ AQ10762

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ♠ K10876 ♥ KJ5 ♦ J7 ♣ J84 | ♠ Aj ♥ A109632 ♦ 94 ♣ K53 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ♠ Q932 ♥ Q87 ♦ AQ865 ♣ 9 | |
|-----------------------------------|--|

North should pass though I know some might open 3♣. East will open 1♥ and as many play 5-card majors West will respond 2♥ though some will respond 1♠. This would afford North now an opportunity to double or bid INT to show his minors on a passed hand, or make an overcall of 2♣.

In a ♦ contract played by South declarer can make 10 tricks provided he plays on clubs before he draws trumps. If three rounds of Spades are played by the defence in a ♦ contract South must ruff with the ♦10 to ensure he makes 10 tricks and then play two rounds of trumps before he ruffs clubs for the second time in hand. East holding 6 hearts based on the Law of Total tricks will almost certainly go to 3♥ over 3♦. (9 trumps, therefore The Law says you can go to the 3-level).

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 3 | 4 | - | - | - |
| S | 3 | 4 | - | - | - |
| E | - | - | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| W | - | - | 2 | 2 | 1 |

Board 2 ♠ J53 Dealer E
 ♥ 52 Vul: N-S
 ♦ 542
 ♣ Q9864

♠ 64 ♠ AKQ107
 ♥ J83 ♥ Q106
 ♦ K1098 ♦ AJ63
 ♣ J1032 ♣ 5

♠ 982
 ♥ AK974
 ♦ Q7
 ♣ AK7

East will open 1♠, South overcalls 2♥ and both West and North will Pass.

Unfortunately East does not have a suitable shape to make a takeout double because he holds three hearts, so if he bids he is likely to bid 2♠. If he defends 2♥ he will only get it two off for +200 by cashing two diamonds before he plays a fourth round of spades thereby promoting an extra trump trick in the West hand. This defence is virtually impossible to find.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| S | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| E | - | 3 | - | 3 | 2 |
| W | - | 3 | - | 3 | 2 |

Board 5 ♠ AJ7 Dealer N
 ♥ AQ5 Vul: N-S
 ♦ K
 ♣ AQ10642

| | |
|---------|----------|
| ♠ 932 | ♠ 65 |
| ♥ K9 | ♥ J10862 |
| ♦ AJ107 | ♦ Q985 |
| ♣ K973 | ♣ J8 |

♠ KQ1084
 ♥ 743
 ♦ 6432
 ♣ 5

This is a very difficult hand for a natural system. 1♣ is the correct opening and everyone will respond 1♠. The rebid is a big problem. The hand is probably too strong for 3♣ and 2NT showing 18/19/20 doesn't sit well holding a singleton ♦. In fact some might open 2NT holding singleton K and this now will definitely get you to 4♠ after transferring. Some players after a 1♣ opening and getting a 1♠ response might jump to 4♠ only holding three but holding ruffing values due to the ♦ shortage. I have to say I have rarely done this but I do think it's the best bid here.

To make 11 tricks you need to first finesse the ♣Q and discard a heart loser. You now come back to North hand via a heart, finessing the Q if you have not got a heart lead and ruff a fourth round of clubs thereby establishing the suit. Your plan of play on this hand depends so much on the opening lead with the ♥J being the most common choice. I have to say finessing the club could mean you make a trick less than you were entitled to make if the K was offside.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 4 | - | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| S | 4 | - | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| E | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| W | - | 1 | - | - | - |

Board 6 ♠ 103 Dealer E
 ♥ J4 Vul: E-W
 ♦ 10932
 ♣ K9852

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ♠ AQ652 ♥ 985 ♦ J87 ♣ 107 | ♠ J874 ♥ AQ ♦ K54 ♣ AJ63 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

♠ K9
 ♥ K107632
 ♦ AQ6
 ♣ Q4

This is one of the quieter hands. If you open a strong NT on the East hand partner will transfer into 2♠ which will be the final contract. Playing a weak NT after opening 1♣, partner will respond 1♠ and you raise to 2♠. (Same even with a flat 16). You should lose two diamonds, one club and one heart.

Those playing from the East hand will make an overtrick if South leads a heart. The most common other lead from South is likely to be the ♣Q and this holds the contract to 9 tricks.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | - | - | - | - |
| S | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| E | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 3 |
| W | 1 | - | - | 3 | 1 |

Board 7 ♠ AQ Dealer S
 ♥ 1083 Vul: Both
 ♦ AJ764
 ♣ J95

♠ J1092 ♠ 874
 ♥ QJ7654 ♥ 92
 ♦ 53 ♦ K109
 ♣ 10 ♣ KQ743

♠ K653
 ♥ AK
 ♦ Q82
 ♣ A862

This hand will be generally played in 3NT, usually by South, and after a small heart lead declarer will immediately tackle diamonds by finessing the J. After a ♥ return declarer can cash his diamonds followed by two spades. West's last 4 cards must be ♣10, two spades and heart Q.

Now to make 11 tricks South must play ♣J to pin the 10 and set up two club tricks.

I cannot see many finding that play. I would predict that 10 tricks will be the most common result.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 4 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| S | 4 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| E | - | - | - | - | - |
| W | - | - | - | - | - |

Board 8 ♠ J976 Dealer W
 ♥ 764 Vul: None
 ♦ K632
 ♣ KJ

♠ Q102 ♠ K4
 ♥ AK2 ♥ Q109
 ♦ Q94 ♦ J108
 ♣ Q983 ♣ 107542

♠ A853
 ♥ J853
 ♦ A75
 ♣ A6

Board 8 is probably the least interesting of the set with West making either 2♣ or INT, after a diamond lead.

On a spade lead from North against INT you can lose two spade tricks, two clubs, and two diamonds. But if the defenders do not take their two diamond tricks after taking their winning spade you will make 8 tricks.

A contract of 2♣ is trouble-free in practice, despite the double-dummy analysis below. Some might play inverted minor responses and bid 3♣ as a response on the East hand to a 1♣ opening by West. That unfortunately is a level too high.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | | | | - |
| S | - | | | | - |
| E | | - | - | - | |
| W | | - | - | - | |

Board 9 ♠ 6 Dealer N
 ♥ A854 Vul: E-W
 ♦ AKJ9
 ♣ 8765

♠ A93 ♠ 107542
 ♥ Q10 ♥ J93
 ♦ Q754 ♦ 1032
 ♣ AJ43 ♣ K10

♠ KQJ8
 ♥ K762
 ♦ 86
 ♣ Q92

Board 9 penalises normal bidding, North should open 1♦ because if South responds 1♠ he has no rebid unless 1NT fits in with his system. Fortunately here South responds 1♥ so North has a simple 2♥ rebid. With 11 points, South now must make a game try by bidding 2♠. This is where North's singleton spade is now evaluated. A singleton is usually worth 2 extra points but not when it is in the suit in which your partner is looking for help. In that case, a top honour is required. North should simply bid 3♥ after the 2♠ bid.

The lead that will kill 3♥ is a low club from AJ43, which will not happen. The most likely lead is ♦4. The Ace will win in dummy but the brave declarers will finesse the J. Then they will immediately play two rounds of trumps and then discard a club on the third diamond. Now a ♠ is played to the K and A.

For those who did not finesse the ♦J earlier they must do so before they play a ♠ to the K to make 9 tricks so they can discard a club. Otherwise they could lose three club tricks if a low club is switched from the Ace.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| S | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| E | - | - | - | - | - |
| W | - | - | - | - | - |

Board 11 ♠ K4 Dealer S
 ♥ KQ98 Vul: None
 ♦ 92
 ♣ J9873

♠ AQJ5 ♠ 732
 ♥ A75 ♥ 10642
 ♦ 10 ♦ AKQ86
 ♣ A6542 ♣ K

♠ 10986
 ♥ J3
 ♦ J7543
 ♣ Q10

West will open 1♣ and East will respond 1♦ with West rebidding 1♠. 2♥ now from East is game forcing and 2NT from West which shows a ♥ stop gets E/W to 3NT. North will probably lead the ♥8 though some will lead the ♥K.

Now I know the hand analysis says 9 tricks are makeable but that is only by playing ♠A followed by ♠5 dropping the doubleton King, thereby establishing three spade tricks. No bridge player would do that.

Most will fail to make 3NT though a mis-defence will allow some to make 9 tricks. Note once a club is not led at trick one it is possible to establish 4 diamond tricks in dummy by running the ♦10 to South's J.

On the lead of ♥8 it is important that South does not play the J.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | - | - | - | - |
| S | - | - | - | - | - |
| E | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| W | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 |

Board 13 ♠ 965 Dealer N
 ♥ A6 Vul: Both
 ♦ AJ7652
 ♣ 52

♠ 10874 ♠ KQJ2
 ♥ 1084 ♥ K9753
 ♦ KQ108 ♦ 9
 ♣ K7 ♣ AQ3

♠ A3
 ♥ QJ2
 ♦ 43
 ♣ J109864

Some players play three weak two opening bids. If North opens 2♦, East has an almost ideal takeout double though many will bid 2♥ instead, West will probably pass that at most tables but if he invites game East can easily go overboard.

Alternatively if North passes and East opens 1♥ playing 5-card majors, West will probably raise to 2♥ or bid 1♠. East will make a game try but with only an 8 count and an aceless hand West should turn down the invitation.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| S | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| E | - | - | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| W | - | - | 3 | 3 | 3 |

Board 15 ♠ J965 Dealer S
 ♥ J10 Vul: N-S
 ♦ K93
 ♣ Q954

♠ A1083 ♠ K72
 ♥ AK752 ♥ Q843
 ♦ A72 ♦ QJ654
 ♣ A ♣ 3

 ♠ Q4
 ♥ 96
 ♦ 108
 ♣ KJ108762

Here South might open 3♣, but this is as thin as you should ever be to make a vulnerable 3-level opening. West will double and, holding 4-card support for partner's pre-empt, North might raise to 4♣ (which can go for 800).

This might only provoke East to bid 4♥ but 4♦ will be the popular choice. West will now bid 5♦ but some will probably go to 6♦. If North doesn't bid 4♣ East will want to bid more than just 3♥ or 3♦ and best would be 4♣, as a force.

If partner now chooses spades he will have five as he has skipped both diamonds and hearts.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| S | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| E | - | 6 | 6 | 4 | 3 |
| W | - | 6 | 6 | 4 | 3 |

Board 16 ♠ 963 Dealer W
 ♥ 65 Vul: E-W
 ♦ 875
 ♣ AJ1062

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ♠ AQJ82 ♥ AJ10 ♦ AK6 ♣ K5 | ♠ 1054 ♥ Q843 ♦ J1093 ♣ 73 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ♠ K7 ♥ K972 ♦ Q42 ♣ Q984 | |
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Here West might open a 2NT showing 20/22 but some might upgrade it to show 23/24 holding the 5-card spade suit. If you play a 3♣ as asking for a 5-card major in the 2NT hand this is the one hand where you will get your reward as you can make 10 tricks in spades but only 8 in NT.

After entering dummy via the ♠10 you must finesse the ♦J first and then switch your attention to the ♥Q. 4♠ is a poor contract but with all missing critical cards in the South hand, it will make.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | - | - | - | - |
| S | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| E | - | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| W | - | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 |

Board 18 ♠ AJ95 Dealer E
 ♥ 9 Vul: N-S
 ♦ J952
 ♣ KJ72

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ♠ 642 ♥ 542 ♦ AQ104 ♣ 1093 | ♠ 10 ♥ AKJ1073 ♦ 86 ♣ A854 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ♠ KQ873 ♥ Q86 ♦ K73 ♣ Q6 | |
|-----------------------------------|--|

East will open 1♥, South overcalls 1♠, and West will raise to 2♥ as most players play 5-card majors. Most North players will raise to 3♠ by whatever methods they use but some will even raise to 4♠ holding a singleton and three controls (an Ace and a King).

If North just invites game South should decline because his hand has only two controls – the ♠K and the ♦K and soft values in those two side-suit Queens.

After a ♥ lead, East's doubleton ♦ switch now defeats 3♠ by getting two ♦ tricks and a subsequent ♦ ruff to go with the two aces. Unlucky really.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | 1 | - | 2 | - |
| S | - | 1 | - | 2 | - |
| E | - | - | 3 | - | - |
| W | - | - | 3 | - | - |

Board 19 ♠ 873 Dealer S
 ♥ AQ10543 Vul: E-W
 ♦ 3
 ♣ AK6

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ♠ AQJ52 ♥ K ♦ K75 ♣ J1095 | ♠ 1096 ♥ J98 ♦ A9864 ♣ 42 |
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| ♠ K4 ♥ 762 ♦ QJ102 ♣ Q873 | |
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Here West will open 1♠, North will overcall 2♥ and East has just about a 2♠ response. South will now compete with 3♥ and is mindful that ♠K looks badly placed.

Some might double now with the West hand as a game try (a big stretch as East has a max of 10 points) but most will just bid 3♠. I suppose 4♥ is kind of unlucky as ♠K is badly placed and you also end up with a ♥ loser due to the 3/1 division.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 1 | - | 3 | - | - |
| S | 1 | - | 3 | - | - |
| E | - | 2 | - | 2 | 2 |
| W | - | 2 | - | 2 | 2 |

Board 20 ♠ 9853 Dealer W
 ♥ 42 Vul: Both
 ♦ AQJ
 ♣ AK64

♠ KJ762 ♠ 10
 ♥ Q765 ♥ J983
 ♦ 86 ♦ K743
 ♣ 72 ♣ Q1083

♠ AQ4
 ♥ AK10
 ♦ 10952
 ♣ J95

North will open either a weak NT which South will raise to 3NT or if playing a strong NT system he will open 1♣, South will respond 1♦ and North rebids 1NT. I can guarantee that some Wests will overcall 1♠ which to me is a complete no-no vulnerable.

In the play first finesse a ♦ and win the probable ♥ return, clear the top diamonds and lead a club towards the J. Irrespective of which major is led at trick one, win the first trick and proceed as above. You make 3 tricks in each minor, and three top major tricks.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 3 | 4 | - | 2 | 3 |
| S | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| E | - | - | - | - | - |
| W | - | - | - | - | - |

Board 21 ♠ Dealer N
 ♥ KJ763 Vul: N-S
 ♦ A95
 ♣ K9853

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| ♠ AQ10652 ♥ 82 ♦ 10 ♣ A642 | ♠ K4 ♥ Q954 ♦ KJ764 ♣ 107 |
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| ♠ J9873 ♥ A10 ♦ Q832 ♣ QJ | |
|------------------------------------|--|

North will open 1♥ and South responds 1♠, North rebids 2♣ and I must admit I'd just respond 2♥ as you know North has 9 cards between two suits which make your ♦ and ♠ stops for NT very fragile. I'd resist the temptation to respond 2NT.

Because of the favourable club position and depending on the opening lead you can make 8 , 9 or 10 tricks in hearts.

If you get a ♦ lead and you go Q from dummy you will now definitely make 10 tricks with the fall of the ♣10.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 3 | 3 | 4 | - | |
| S | 3 | 3 | 4 | - | |
| E | - | - | - | | - |
| W | - | - | - | | - |

Board 22 ♠ Q105 Dealer E
 ♥ J52 Vul: E-W
 ♦ KQ83
 ♣ 1064

♠ AJ96432 ♠ K87
 ♥ 98 ♥ AK764
 ♦ J5 ♦ 106
 ♣ Q7 ♣ AK2

♠
 ♥ Q103
 ♦ A9742
 ♣ J9853

East will open either 1♥ or a strong NT depending on their NT system. This hand certainly favours the strong NT system because it will get 4♠ played by East and thus avoids the ♦K lead by North against a West declarer.

Obviously you are held to 10 tricks on a ♦ lead but on any other lead you will make at least 11 tricks ... 12 if you play ♠A first in drawing trumps (although this would cost a trick if South held the three trumps).

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| S | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| E | - | - | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| W | - | - | 2 | 4 | 1 |

Board 24 ♠ 10 Dealer W
 ♥ J8763 Vul: None
 ♦ AJ95
 ♣ J73

♠ AJ983 ♠ K652
 ♥ A9 ♥ 54
 ♦ 107632 ♦ K
 ♣ 2 ♣ AK10986

♠ Q74
 ♥ KQ102
 ♦ Q84
 ♣ Q54

Some Wests will open 2♠ showing less than 12 hcp and 5 spades and 5 of another suit. Some will open 1♠ but the majority will probably pass. Irrespective of whether you open 1♠, 2♠ or Pass, you will almost certainly arrive in 4♠.

It's another one of those hands where you are missing a keycard and the trump Q so slam should be avoided. You obviously can make 12 tricks in a spade contract but to do so you need to play for a 3/1 division.

I think 11 tricks will be the common result as you can set up the club suit by ruffing once.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| S | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| E | 4 | 1 | - | 6 | 2 |
| W | 4 | 1 | - | 6 | 2 |

Board 25 ♠ J7 Dealer N
 ♥ AJ Vul: E-W
 ♦ KJ972
 ♣ J974

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| ♠ Q109653 | ♠ AK2 |
| ♥ K4 | ♥ Q10987 |
| ♦ 4 | ♦ A8 |
| ♣ AQ62 | ♣ 1085 |

 ♠ 84
 ♥ 6532
 ♦ Q10653
 ♣ K3

Some Norths might open 1♦ but I think the majority will pass. East will open or overcall 1♥ and, depending on the level of the bidding when it arrives around to him, West will show his spades. I don't think anyone will bid 6♠ and it is only the fortunate appearance of the ♥J on the second round that makes 12 tricks possible.

You can enter dummy if necessary via a top trump but that should not be necessary if the ♥K was hit by the A. Note a 5♦ save goes for 800.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| S | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| E | 4 | - | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| W | 4 | - | 6 | 6 | 3 |

Board 26 ♠ Q75 Dealer E
 ♥ 10984 Vul: Both
 ♦ 762
 ♣ AJ3

♠ K10 ♠ 62
 ♥ 65 ♥ AK
 ♦ KJ10985 ♦ A43
 ♣ KQ8 ♣ 1097642

♠ AJ9843
 ♥ QJ732
 ♦ Q
 ♣ 5

East will open 1♣ and most players have methods to show two major suits usually 2♦. For those Souths that don't they will overcall 1♠. Now West will bid 2♦ or 3♦ forcing over whatever has been overcalled against him.

North if he is looking at a vulnerable 2♦ bid by partner and holding ♣A and ♠Q might well bid 4♥ but he is certainly worth 3♥. If looking at a 1♠ overcall North will certainly raise to 2♠. East will raise to 3♦ and I think with 11 major-suit cards South will bid 4♠. West definitely will bid 5♦. It's only the lie of the club suit that beats this, with AJ3 is sitting over the KQ8. At the same time 4♥ is beaten by the ♠K being offside.

The only game contract making is 3NT by E/W, a most unlikely final contract because of the huge number of major-suit cards held by N/S.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | - | 3 | 3 | - |
| S | - | - | 3 | 3 | - |
| E | 4 | 4 | - | - | 3 |
| W | 4 | 4 | - | - | 3 |

Board 28 ♠ Q4 Dealer W
 ♥ J8642 Vul: N-S
 ♦ Q1052
 ♣ J7

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|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ♠ 953 ♥ A107 ♦ A4 ♣ A10965 | ♠ A1082 ♥ K5 ♦ J86 ♣ KQ82 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| ♠ KJ76 ♥ Q93 ♦ K973 ♣ 43 | |
|-----------------------------------|--|

West will open either 1♣ or a weak NT. If a weak NT, after Stayman E/W will land in 3NT. After a 1♣ opening and a 1♠ response, West will rebid 1NT and 3NT will again be the final contract.

I think 9 tricks only will be the final result over 90% of the time as there are 9 top tricks with no possibility of an extra trick in any other suit. South just has to hold the same number of spades that are left in dummy.

Makeable Contracts

| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | NT |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | = | = | = | = | == |
| N | - | - | - | - | - |
| S | - | - | - | - | - |
| E | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| W | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |