

November 2019 - Hand Evaluation

Dir: E	♠ 9 5	30
Vul: None	♥ J 7 3	
10	♦ K J 8 7 6	
14 12	♣ A J 6	
4		
♠ A Q J 10 4	♠ K 8 7 2	
♥ K 9	♥ A Q 10 6 4	
♦ A 9 5 4 3	2	
♠ 2	♦ -----	
	♠ K 7 4	
	♠ 6 3	
	♥ 8 5	
	♦ Q 10 2	
	♠ Q 10 9 8 5 3	
	Double Dummy Makes	

On November 5, 2019 hand # 30 in the Fairlawn Game is a good example of evaluating the East/West hands. The auction probably proceeded:

1H - P - 1S - 2D

3D - P - ?

3D is a strong Spade raise highly suggesting game or slam. So, West should piece together what the East hand has. Probably 4 Spades to the King, must have a good Heart suit since they opened 1H, some diamond control and something in Clubs. Now some self-evaluation: no Spade losers, the Heart king must be HUGE, Diamond Ace should handle Diamonds. This spells slam. Ask for Aces finding you are off 1 and bid 6S.

Bidding slams requires "Controls". Both hands are loaded. 26 point slams are not often bid unless you examine the pieces. Always try to picture partner's hand from the auction.