

## January 2020 Hand of Month

Dir: N			1
Vul: None	♠ A Q J		
14	♥ J 10 6 5 4		
13 13	♦ K J		
0	♣ Q 9 7		
♠ 10 9		♠ K 8 3	
♥ K 7 3 2		♥ A Q 8	
♦ A Q 10 8 2		♦ 7 4	
♣ A 8		♣ K J 6 4 2	
		♠ 7 6 5 4 2	
		♥ 9	
		♦ 9 6 5 3	
		♣ 10 5 3	

I did not play at the Firestone Game on January 20, 2020 but i did observe the results on Board 1. The correct contract should have been 3NT in the West. The real reason to go over this board is to answer this "?". The correct contract was reached 4 times out of 7.5 was made twice, one made 3 and one went down. Three pairs did not reach game. I do not mean to pick on the lesser results, but I do want to go over easy understandings. The logic on the auction should be:

1H - 2C - P - ?. West has an opening bid and a heart stopper. The 2C overcall shows an opening bid and a decent club suit. Opening hand + opening hand = Game. Bid 3NT!

If East does not overcall 2C, the auction should go:

1H - P - P - 1NT This balancing NT should be 12 - 15. East has 13 so here we go again, opening hand + opening hand = Game!! East should bid 3NT!

Why 3NT was only reached 4 times is the reason for "?".

By the way when West is playing 3NT, they KNOW where all the points are: The spade Ace is on side, take the club finesse, and do not take the diamond finesse - play for a doubleton King. Remember North did open the bidding! I hope this helps those that went wrong.