

January 2021 Hand of Month

Dir: S		7
Vul: Both	♠ 9 3 2	
	♥ 10 7	
	♦ 6 5 4 2	
	♣ Q 9 8 3	
2		
14 12		
12		
♠ A 7		♠ K Q 10 8
♥ Q 6 3 2		♥ 9 8 5
♦ K 8 3		♦ A 10 7
♣ A J 7 2		♣ K 10 4
	♠ J 6 5 4	
	♥ A K J 4	
	♦ Q J 9	
	♣ 6 5	

No trump overcalls are usually played with 15 - 18 HCP. 1NT bids in the "balance" position are done with 12 - 15 HCP. For example:

1D - P - P - 1NT This bid shows 12 - 15. It can be a very important bid to make. At the evening game on 1/19/21 South opens 1D and West has the best hand at the table and cannot bid for these reasons:

1. No takeout double - only at 2 card spade suit.
2. Not good enough for a NT overcall.
3. No suit good enough for an over call.

No bid available.

So, the auction should be: 1D - P - P - 1NT

P - 3NT

Partner's "balancing" NT made your 3NT bid easy. Be sure to discuss with partner what conventions you play after a "balancing" NT. Stayman, Transfers...