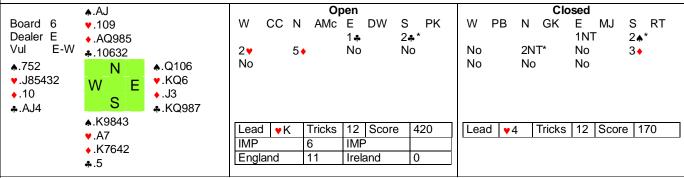


Don't quite see how W was expecting to defeat 5.

Closed

Both rooms managed to use the entries to dummy to ruff out the ♣K – setting up the ♣Q to provide a discard for a ♥ loser.



This came up after a series of flat boards.

Open

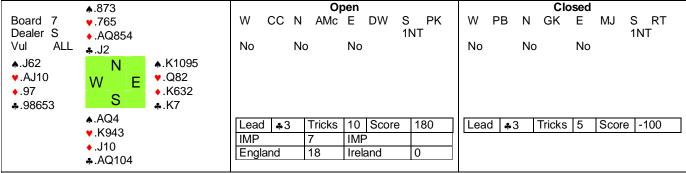
The 2♣ cue-bid showed 5-5 ♠ + ◆ so N had a clear game-call.

Closed

The 2♠ bid showed ♠ + another suit. 2NT enquired and 3♦ showed ♦. N took a dim view to pass.

Both rooms managed to ruff out the ♠ to establish a discard of the ♥10 loser.

Is this a slam that should have been bid we all ask?

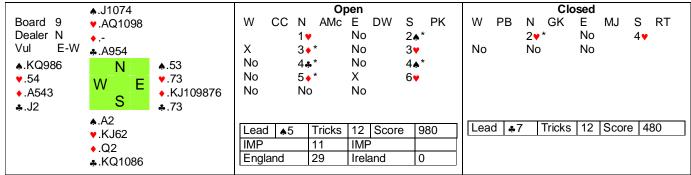


Open

It looks like either E put up the ♣K to make the ♣J an entry or took the ◆J allowing S to then make 4 ◆ tricks and later take the ♠K finesse for 10.

Closed

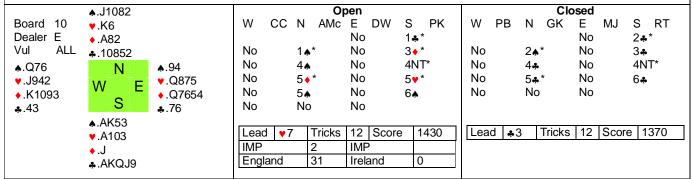
This time E did manage to keep S away from his long ◆ tricks and so held S to 5 tricks.



The 2♠ response was Jacoby. 3♦ showed shortage then 3♥ showed a balanced hand with mild slam interest. 4♣ and 4♠ were cuebids then 5♦ confirmed a void so S had lots of good cards now to bid 6♥.

Closed

2 was Reverse-Flannery. You can't blame S for just bidding 4 vas he does not expect his partner to have a void. No problem in the play as there are 12 easy tricks – just a loser. Interesting point is that 7 loser.

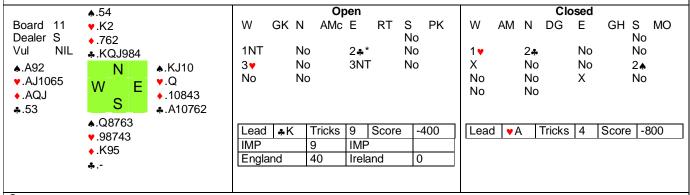


Open

After the Strong-♣, 1♠ showed a balanced response and 3♦ a 3 suiter with short ♦. N tried to close proceedings with 4♠ but S has plenty to bid 4NT – RKCB. 5♦ showed 1 control and 5♥ asked about the ♠Q. 5♠ denied the ♠Q so S settled for 6♠.

Closed

After the Strong-2*, 2* showed a balanced positive then a natural raise of 3* led to 6*. Both rooms had just the *Q to lose.

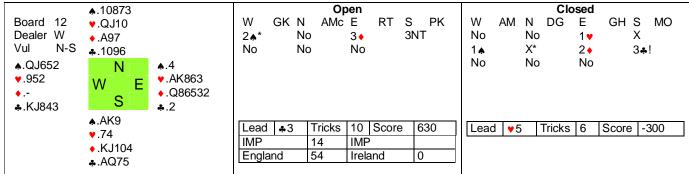


Open

1NT was Strong. N did well to keep out of the auction. 2♣ was an enquiry and 3♥ showed a maximum with 5 ♥ - leading to 3NT. Win ♣A and take ♦K finesse then ♥5 towards ♥Q leads to an easy 9 or 10 tricks.

Closed

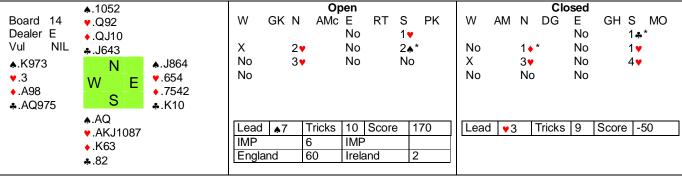
After 1 vou can't blame N for 2 but it leads to disaster. E passes in the modern style and then passes the re-opening T/O-X. S rescues to 2 and then E-W do well to also axe that. The vA was led then v5 for E to ruff with 10. 3 to 9 and J. v6, 6 from N ruffed with J. At this point E might have led K but played another to K and A. W might have also now under-led A but played A to crash E - K. W then had to lead 9 to protect his winners so only down 4 for 800.



After 2♠ (Tartan) and 3♦ - To Play S has to risk 3NT as X would more normally be T/O. On the bidding it is very difficult for W to find the killing ♥ lead so 3NT becomes easy.

Closed

This time S makes a T/O-X of 1 ♥ so 3NT will never make as E has got the required lead mentioned. I think N should bid 1NT over 1 ♠ - rather than X (shows 4♠). S choice of 3♣ looks bizarre when he had either Pass or X – presumably penalty available after 2 ♦ by E. W led ♥5 to ♥K then ♠4 switch to ♠A and ♥4 back to ♥A. E gave W a ♦ ruff, W gave E a ♠ ruff and E gave W another ♦ ruff. W still had to come to 2 more ♣ tricks for 3 down.

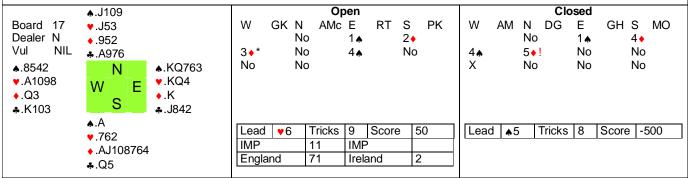


Open

1 v showed 5 so N raised to 2 v. 2 v was probably a Romex trial bid – i.e. asking for help elsewhere so N declined with 3 v.

Closed

After the Strong-♣ N-S got to 4♥ and the spotlight was on W who managed to find the safe ♥ lead. As the ♥ and ♦ were played by S, E showed some interest in the ♣ suit so eventually E-W came to 4 tricks.



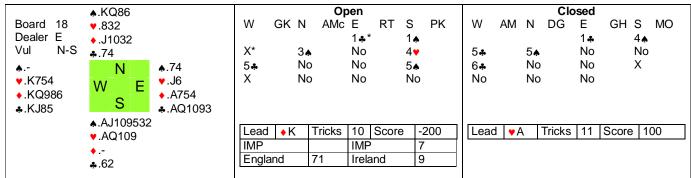
Open

The 3♦ cue-bid showed a full raise to 3♠ so E raised to 4♠. E was not clairvoyant so lost 2♠ and 2 minor aces.

Closed

S made a rather meaty 4♦ pre-empt over 1♠. All would have been well if N had passed 4♠. W did well to find the axe.

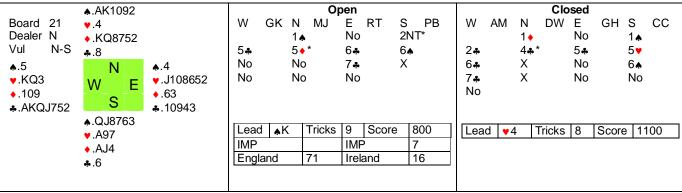
E-W took their 3 ♥ tricks, 1 ♦ trick and a ♣ trick for 3 down.



On this lively board W make a T/O-X of 1♠ and N barraged to 3♠. S showed some slam interest with 4♥ so W bid 5♣ and later made a high card penalty-X of the 5♠ save. E-W came to the obvious 3 tricks.

Closed

S was more aggressive over 1♣ and it looks like W has taken the right action to bid 6♣. E had a look of doom on his face when he discovered the 4-0 ◆ split – 1 down.



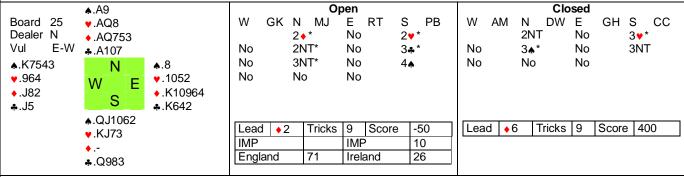
Open

2NT was Jacoby showing a good raise to 4♠ or more. After 5♣, 5♦ showed a non-minimum 2-suiter. E saved in 6♣, S bid 6♠ and E saved in 7♣. S double showed a ♣ loser. A trick was lost in the defence as N did not get a ♥ ruff.

Closed

1 ◆ by N led to a slower auction but both sides knew that it was right to save in 7♣ and also to double 7♣.

The difference was that N-S took their top tricks and also got the ♥ ruff.



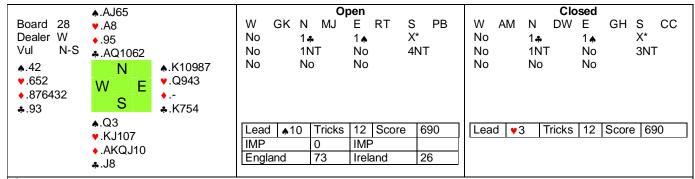
At last Ireland had a game swing their way.

Open

The Multi-2 ♦ was used to show a 2Nt opener. The 3NT response to 3 ♣ (5 card Puppet Stayman) was supposed to show 3 ♣ so S bid 4 ♣. I don't quite know how S went down. W has found the best lead but it does not look like W can make more than the ♠K and a long ♠ while E comes to the ♣K.

Closed

With plenty of points S just investigated a possible ♠ fit before bidding 3NT - this has an easy 9 tricks.

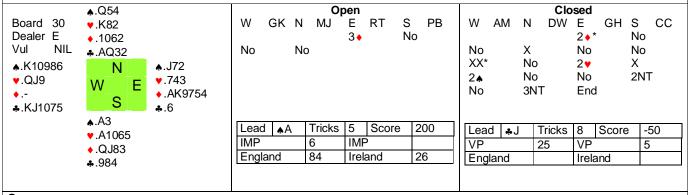


For whatever reason S decided to make a Sputnik-X of the 1♠ overcall to investigate a ♥ fit rather than bidding a natural 2♦. He did at least make a quantitative raise to 4NT. Either N should have accepted because of his 5th ♣ or S should have bid 6NT.

Closed

N-S never got near the slam.

It is vital that N plays 6NT. E has to find a safe lead and that is the \$4. He can also get off lead with the \$7 when he wins the \$K. N can now cash the \$ and \$ winners to squeeze E in the majors for 12 tricks.



Open

The aggressive 3♦ pre-empt came at the wrong moment. Neither S or N could enter the bidding so just took 2 down.

Closed

The more normal Weak-2 • led to a lively auction. A double of the 2 • rescue would have collected 1-2 down on the best defence of 44 to A and the A return. The choice of 2NT by S was sound but N should have passed. If S had any more he would have bid 3 • or 3 • or even 3NT so N has no reason to raise 2NT to 3NT.

S could only develop 8 tricks as W cleared the A stop when he got in with the AK and later has the vital ventry so S cannot duck a v.

	England	Ireland
Slams bid and made	2	1
Games bid and made	16	15
Large Penalty taken	3	1
Part Scores bid and made	6	4
Slams Defeated	0	1
Games Defeated	5	2
Part Scores Defeated	4	0