

## 22 - 2023 – Gambling 3NT

A good way to improve your Bridge is to read about it. There are some good writers who are published regularly in the newspapers. In Australia, I like Paul Marsden and Ron Klinger for practical tips.

Another good writer is Andrew Robson who lives in the UK, but appears in The Australian.

Andrew recently exhorted us to bid 3NT gambling with a solid long minor and nothing else. So, at this week's game, sitting South I had this hand:

**Dealer N, EW Vul**

	<b>1053</b>	
	<b>A74</b>	
	<b>Q8732</b>	
	<b>85</b>	
<b>K9874</b>		<b>AQ</b>
<b>KJ1098</b>		<b>Q53</b>
<b>K6</b>		<b>A954</b>
<b>7</b>		<b>9632</b>
	<b>J62</b>	
	<b>62</b>	
	<b>765</b>	
	<b>AKQJ104</b>	

**The bidding:**

N	E	S	W
P	1D	3NT (1*)	?

1\* EW are vulnerable. Given partner has Passed, EW may well have 4H or 4S on (+620 Score). If you go down just 3 doubled, that's only -500. You have 6 winners in 3NT, so you hope Partner has 1 winner meaning only 3 down. [Maybe partner has 3 winners and you make 3NT!]

I bit my lip and bid 3NT. It was passed out (not Doubled).

**The Play:**

West led HJ (a bit lucky for me, as EW can take 5 Spades and AK of Diamonds immediately). I took HA, played the 6 top Clubs and then yielded to the inevitable – EW would get the rest. 2 down.

But 2 down was -100, and they can make 11 Tricks in 4S or 4H (+650). So, we scored very well.

Perhaps West should have bid given his shapely hand (I would have bid 4H), but he did not.

**Moral of the Story**

Gambling 3NT bids can be lucrative; you must have a solid suit and preferably are NV with the opponents Vul.

Bidding this way makes it hard for the opponents to find their best contract.

Thank you, Andrew Robson

**Ian Morison**  
Bridge lover  
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