

If it looks like a singleton, it probably is.

It's always a good idea to count your tricks. During the bidding it's an educated guess. During the play it's made on more information.

▪

Board	Result	We	They	We	They
8	4♥N=	420		6.4	
9	4♠N+1	450		2.4	
10	3♠N-1		100	2	
11	3NTS-2		100		0.4
12	2♠N=	110		4.9	
				40.5	21.0

Board 8

N Robot
 ♠ A74
 ♥ QJ1086
 ♦ 2
 ♣ QJ42

W Robot
 ♠ 82
 ♥ K3
 ♦ AQ109
 ♣ K10865

E Robot
 ♠ 653
 ♥ 94
 ♦ KJ87643
 ♣ 9

S texashen
 ♠ KQJ109
 ♥ A752
 ♦ 5
 ♣ A73

Bidding:
 W: 1♣, Pass, Pass
 N: 1♥, 2♥, Pass
 E: Pass, Pass, Pass
 S: 2♣, Pass, Pass

Contract: 4♥ North
 Score: 0-0

W 1C

N 1H

E P

S 2C (Yep, the spades are great, but we have at least a 9 card heart fit. Any number of hearts is wrong.

The one level overcall by partner shows 5+ hearts and usually 8-17 high card points. That covers a lot of ground.

So, slam is not out of the picture. The 2C Q bid is the proper way to show 3+ hearts and 10+ dummy points.)

N 2H (Not an opener)

S 4H (4 trump to the ace, an outside ace, a singleton, and a source of tricks in spades. Easy 4H bid)

Passed out.

East leads the 9 of clubs.

I'm looking at 7 clubs between my hand and dummy's. West opened 1C. Yes, West could have only 3 clubs, but that's unlikely.

Usually a 1 C opener has 4+ clubs.

East led the 9 of clubs, Standard leads mean that leading a high card denies an honor in the suit. Sounds like West has the King of clubs.

I count these winners:

5 Spades

4 Hearts

1 Club

10 trick total - at IMPS I'm playing to make it, overtricks are small change. I can't afford to lose the King of clubs, a club ruff, a diamond and a heart.

I win the ace of clubs, and pull trump ASAP. I don't risk the heart finesse either.

8

N Robot
 ♠ A74
 ♥ QJ1086
 ♦ 2
 ♣ QJ4

W Robot
 ♠ 82
 ♥ K3
 ♦ AQ109
 ♣ K1085

E Robot
 ♠ 653
 ♥ 94
 ♦ KJ87643
 ♣

S texashen
 ♠ KQJ109
 ♥ A752
 ♦ 5
 ♣ 73

♣ 2
 ♣ 6 ♣ 9
 ♣ A

4♥ North
 1 0

Then I cash my ace of hearts and play the 2 of hearts.

8

N Robot
 ♠ A74
 ♥ QJ108
 ♦ 2
 ♣ QJ4

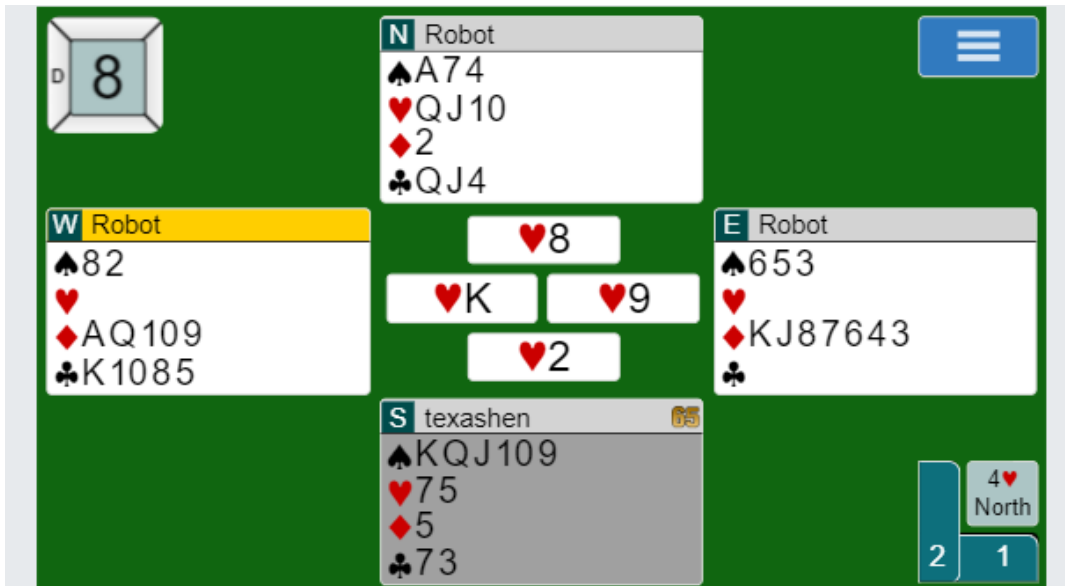
W Robot
 ♠ 82
 ♥ K
 ♦ AQ109
 ♣ K1085

E Robot
 ♠ 653
 ♥ 9
 ♦ KJ87643
 ♣

S texashen
 ♠ KQJ109
 ♥ 752
 ♦ 5
 ♣ 73

♥ 6
 ♥ 3 ♥ 4
 ♥ A

4♥ North
 2 0



I didn't expect the heart finesse to work as West had opened and East couldn't answer. But I didn't want to risk it as the club ruff was still out there.

I still have to lose a diamond but that's it. Making.

Not much to the remaining play. But here it is if you're interested.

<https://tinyurl.com/2bksobj>