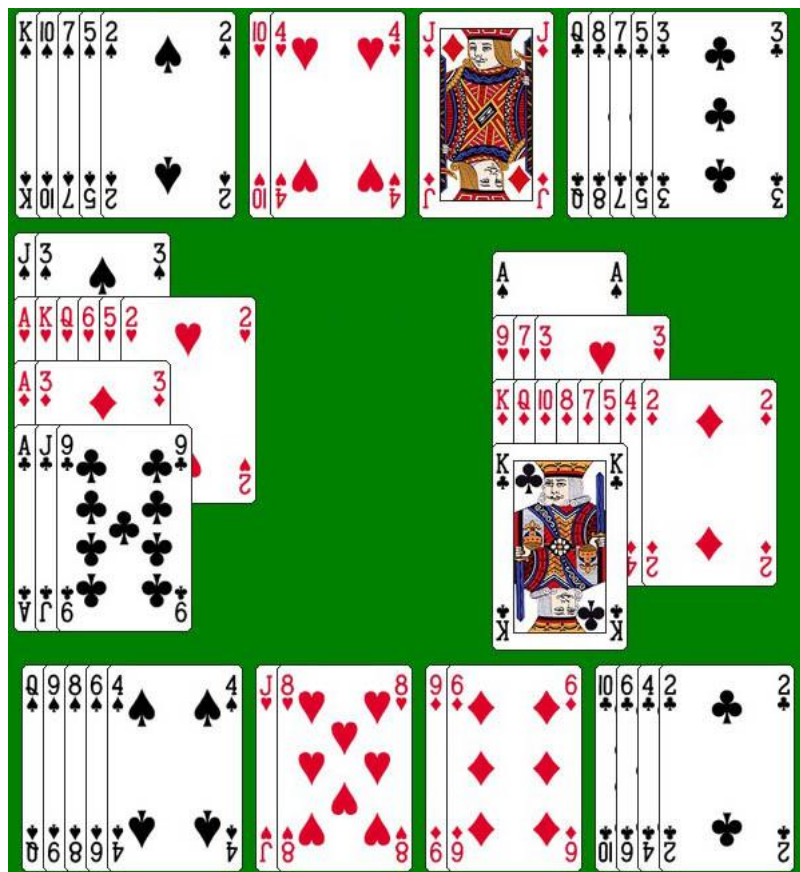


Bidding in a teams event is different from pairs. In pairs, you might as well go for broke. For example, last Friday the following hand:



Dealer was East who opened 1D. The opposition had nothing to speak of. Partner

West	North	East	South
		1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
7NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

with 19 HCPs bid H to which I responded with 3D.

Partner knows that we are in a slam contract and asks for Key cards with 4NT.

We play Roman key card so I responded with 5S. This gave partner the confidence to go for slam in Hearts or Diamonds but as we were playing pairs, 7NT was the best call.

	West	North	East	South
1	3♠	K♠	*A♠	6♠
2	*A♦	J♦	2♦	6♦
3	3♦	8♣	*K♦	9♦
4	2♥	4♥	*Q♦	2♣
5	J♠	3♣	*10♦	4♣
6	9♣	10♥	*8♦	4♣
7	J♣	5♣	*7♦	6♣
8	5♥	2♠	*5♦	8♥
9	6♥	5♠	*4♦	8♠
10	*A♣	7♣	K♣	10♣
11	*A♥	Q♣	3♥	J♥
12	*K♥	7♠	7♥	9♠
13	*Q♥	10♠	9♥	Q♠

The King of Spades led and taken in Dummy with the rest of the play being quite straight forward.

Had we been playing in a teams event, we would have gone to slam with 7D or 7H. In Pairs however, 7NT gives you a better score than anyone else who has gone 7D or 7H.

*Happy Bridging, Bal*