

## Bulletin 5

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### News

The Real Money rooms have been running since February 1<sup>st</sup> and they are gradually getting busier. On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> of March we opened our doors to the American players. The reason for the delay in us accepting US funds has been the complicated gambling laws related to online gaming. The financial institution 'click2pay' who we use and 'paypal' who we are trying to use will not allow us to accept US funds. We will be able to accept US funds by direct wire transfer. See [HERE](#) on our Web site for full details. In the future we hope to have other methods too.

### Rating System

Reminder

- ★ = Bottom 1/3 of players
- ★★ = Middle 1/3 of players
- ★★★ = Top 1/3 of players
- ☆☆ = Played less than 50 boards

### Tips

- 1). Do not defend doubled part-scores without at least a good 4-card holding in the opponent's suit.
- 2). Sometimes the opponents will bid confidently to a game contract and you know they are short on points. However, they may have a lot of shape so it is usually best to believe them and avoid making a 'they haven't got enough points for game' double.

### Hands From [bridge4money.com](http://bridge4money.com)

We are always looking for hands for our bulletins. If you have a hand that you would like to be written up, with or without your name mentioned please email it, possibly with some explanation to [david@bridge4money.com](mailto:david@bridge4money.com)

## 'The defensive Illusion'

Dealer North: Vul NS

♠ K 6 2  
♥ A Q 7 3  
♦ J  
♣ A J 9 8 7

♠ J 9 8 7	♠ Q T
♥ K 2	♥ J T 9 8 6
♦ A T 8 7 2	♦ 9 5 3
♣ 6 5	♣ K 4 3

♠ A 5 4 3  
♥ 5 4  
♦ K Q 6 4  
♣ Q T 2

North	South
1 club	1 diamond
1 heart	2 notrumps
3 notrumps	

North South bid naturally to 3nt and west led the 7 of diamonds (4<sup>th</sup> best). Declarer played the Jack of diamonds from dummy which held the trick, east following suit with the 3 in an attempt to show an odd number. Next, declarer crossed to hand with the Ace of spades to run the Queen of clubs which held the trick, east ducking smoothly. Thinking he was onto a good thing declarer continued with the Ten of clubs from hand and ran it, losing to east's King. East returned the 9 of diamonds covered by declarer's Queen, west winning the trick with the Ace.

This was the key moment. West could see that if he continued a diamond, declarer would be home with 4 club tricks, 2 diamond tricks, 2 spade tricks and at least 1 heart trick. He also realized that if he exited with a spade declarer could cash dummy's clubs and throw him back in with a spade to either play a heart or a diamond again presenting declarer with 9 tricks.

So, having ruled out a diamond and a spade, west exited with the 2 of hearts. Declarer was suspicious but not wanting to take the heart finesse just yet played low from dummy, allowing east to win the trick with the 6 of hearts.

Now it was east's turn to do something clever. He knew that declarer had the King of diamonds (west had won the last diamond with the Ace) so a diamond could not be right. It couldn't possibly be right to play a heart into dummy's AQ so he exited with the Queen of spades. Declarer won the trick in dummy and cashed the two remaining clubs to come to this position:

♠6	
♥A Q 7	
♦none	
♣none	
♠J 9	♠none
♥K	♥J T 9 8
♦T	♦none
♣none	♣none
♠5 4	
♥5	
♦K	
♣none	

Declarer was in dummy and needed two more tricks. With sight of all four hands it's easy to see that the King of hearts will drop under the Ace. However, declarer was convinced that the King of hearts was with east after west's earlier heart switch so he exited with a spade hoping to endplay east if the spades were originally 3-3. West gratefully won the trick with the 9 of spades and cashed the Jack of spades to defeat the contract by one trick.

### 'Bid Safely, Play Safely'

Dealer South: Vul all

	♠A K T 8 7 5 4	
	♥A Q	
	♦A T 3	
	♣A	
♠Q 3		♠J 6
♥K 9 4 3 2		♥J T 8 7 6
♦VOID		♦Q J 8 2
♣T 9 8 5 4 3		♣7 6
	♠9 2	
	♥5	
	♦K 9 7 6 5 4	
	♣K Q J 2	

South	North
2 diamonds (a)	5nt (b)
6 diamonds (c)	All pass

- a). Weak Two- showing about 6-10 points and a 6-card suit.
- b). 'Grand-slam Force' requesting partner to bid 7 diamonds with 2 of the top 3 honors in diamonds.
- c). South bids 6 diamonds which denies 2 top honors but does promise 1 top honor (6 clubs would deny any top honors).

The auction was simple but highly effective.

West led the Ten of clubs and declarer won with the Ace in dummy. The contract is cold provided declarer does not lose more than 1 trump trick. If the trumps break 2-2 or 3-1 there is no problem. Declarer concentrated his thoughts on diamonds breaking 4-0. If west had all 4 diamonds then playing the 3 from dummy would see east show out and declarer would be able to win with the king and play a small diamond towards dummy's AT to lose only one trick. What about if east had all 4 diamonds? Now playing the 3 from dummy would see east follow. Declarer found a neat solution, he played the 3 of diamonds from dummy and when east followed with 2 he inserted the 9 of diamonds. If this loses to the queen or Jack then the rest of the suit must come in and the contract is safe.

- A perfect safety play.

### 'Manage your hands Carefully'

Dealer North: Vul all

♠A J T  
♥A 6 5  
♦T 2  
♣J 7 6 5 4

♠8	♠K Q 9 7 6 5 4 2
♥T 9 4	♥3 2
♦A K 8 3	♦J 7
♣K 9 8 3 2	♣Q

♠3  
♥K Q J 8 7  
♦Q 9 6 5 4  
♣A T

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
pass	3 spades	4 hearts(a)	Double(b)
redouble(c)	pass	pass	pass

- a). Very aggressive.
- b). Risky facing a pre-empt which has promised no defensive tricks.
- c). A reasonable shot facing a vulnerable 4♥ overcall.

After North had dealt and passed and east had opened 3♠ south found himself with a tricky problem. He had a good hand but partner had passed as dealer and to bid would mean coming in at the 4-level. Undeterred, south overcalled 4♥ and was nervous when west doubled. Now it was north who had a decision, with 2 Aces and 3 trumps facing a vulnerable 4♥ overcall north decided that the time had come to redouble.

West started off by leading his singleton spade, declarer winning with the Ace in dummy. In this type of contract it is always a good idea to set up the side suit first and with that in mind declarer correctly played the Ten of diamonds from dummy and ran it when east incorrectly failed to cover (cover an honour with an honour!). West won the king and exited with a trump, declarer winning in hand cheaply. At this point declarer crossed to the Ace of trumps in dummy and played another diamond to the Jack, Queen and Ace but west simply exited with his remaining trump and declarer was a trick short, having to lose 3 diamonds and a club. Going back to the position where declarer crossed to the Ace of hearts:

♠J T  
♥A 6  
♦2  
♣J 7 6 5 4

♠none	♠K Q 7 6 5 4 2
♥T 9	♥3
♦A 8 3	♦J
♣K 9 8 3 2	♣Q

♠none  
♥K Q J 8  
♦Q 9 6 5  
♣A T

Declarer should have played the queen of diamonds from hand. This makes the contract by pinning the Jack of diamonds in east's hand.

What if east has Jx remaining I hear you say? The queen of diamonds still succeeds because declarer can win the return and ruff a diamond in dummy bringing in the suit as they break 3-3. (West must have the AK of diamonds for his double and east presumably has the Jack as the Ten of diamonds lost to the King).

Note if west started with AK doubleton diamond then it is necessary to play a low diamond from hand in the above position but that is less likely as east who **opened 3♠** is unlikely to have another 4-card suit.

Happy Easter and Good Luck!