

Homework Answers-defensive measures

- 1) We can guess that declarer made their contract by playing on diamonds and taking 4 diamond tricks { plus 3 x Sp + 3 x Clubs}.
What's wrong with that you say. Well the declarer could only get 4 diamond tricks if partner played their Ace Diamonds too early { thereby giving declarer easy access to the diamond suit}. Of course partner should have withheld the Ace Dis until the last moment.
- 2) Partner presumably bodged the defence again -this time no doubt they they played their Ksp on dummy's 9 sp and watched it lose to declarer's Ace. No doubt partner will claim they were in the right and make appeals to *3rd player plays high* but you won't be listening as you will be in search of a new partner.
The lead of the 2sp was clearly from the J sp and all partner had to play was the 10 Sp.
- 3) Ah -you know this one - when declarer trumped your opening lead of the Q Hrts you allowed yourself a quick smirk. You realised that all you would have to do every time you got the lead was to lead Hrts *forcing* declarer to trump. Pretty soon the declarer will have run out of trumps, but you won't have.
- 4) You won the Ace Hrts at trick 1 { nothing to be gained by ducking }.
Now you had to find a switch. Leading up to weakness in dummy is what you know to do and you are right of course. The Diamonds are the weak suit so you lead a diamond from your KJ4. Which one? Probably the 4 but you could make a case for any of them.
- 5) Well it was a shame that dummy had a singleton Hrt for if you lead one again the dummy will obviously trump that lead. It occurs to you to lead a trump to draw dummy's trumps. Good idea. Unfortunately you led the 2 Sp and declarer simply won and used dummy's other trump to trump a Hrt. *What* you should have led was the Ace Sp followed by another trump.
- 6) Partner's double of 1NT is a penalty double; in the sequence given the double promises 10 + pts.
- 7) Partner's bid of 2Hrts { rather quaintly such bids were originally known as *free bids* } promises a long suit { probably six cards in length } and approx 6-9 pts. NB NOT 10 pts as then they would have doubled.
- 8) Partner will have 8 -----15 pts and five + spades.
- 9) Partner will have 10-14 pts in this, the protective seat.
- 10) The trouble with drawing trumps is that you may lose to the opp's K spades { who will then lead out the Ace Cl }.
Better is to postpone drawing trumps and play three rounds of diamonds throwing both clubs, *then* draw trumps.
- 11) Again drawing trumps is premature. You have a loser in spades { you did count your losers I suppose? } and that must be catered for. Best is to trump the spade while you still have some trumps left in the dummy, *then* draw trumps.