

Homework answers 6 Oct

- 1) We realise that with 8 trumps missing the Q we should finesse.
Win Ace Hrts ; lead 3 spades to the K in dummy; lead the 2 spades and play the J.
There may still be problems ahead but that is how to play the trumps here.
- 2) This time we have 9 trumps missing the Q.
With 9 we are not tempted to finesse and "play for the drop".
Win Ace Hrts and play K sp ; then play Ace sp.
All over bar the shouting.
- 3) The leader is the more likely to hold any of the missing high honour cards.
With that in mind we shall finesse the leader for the Qsp.
Win Ace clbs; lead 2 sp to Ace sp; lead 3 sp to J sp.
- 4) Again the leader probably has the Qsp.
Win Ace clbs; lead 7 sp to the K; lead 3 sp to the 10.
- 5) Hrts in (3) lead the 3 Hrts to the 10.
Hrts in (4) lead the 3 hrts to the J
- 6) The player on lead has shown up already with the an A + K + Q *and yet didnt bid*.
There is a presumption that the leader's partner probably has the other outstanding high cards.
However -we do have 9 trumps and would normally play for the drop of the Q with 9.
Hmmm.... the jurys out what to do. Most players would play for the drop regardless.
- 7) Now -we have only 8 trumps; the leader's partner is most likely to hold the Q Sp so we win the Ace clbs; lead the 2 sp to the K; lead the 3 sp to the 9 sp.
- 8) Looks just like a "Bath coup" -oh yes it is. Duck the lead of the K hrts *s-m-o-o-t-h-l-y*; perhaps the leader will continue with another Hrt. Has been known you know.
- 9) Same again I think. The contracts may make even if we miss the Bath Coup play BUT that play does give us a head start.
- 10) 4 Hrts discouraging
- 11) 8 Hrts encouraging
- 12) 8 Hrts encouraging
- 13) South's 2C stayman bid was pushy { actually poor but I suppose if the bidder didnt know that 10 pts was too few for Stayman after all this time its not going to do any good telling them now }.
- 14) South's 3NT was not thought out. How on earth do they expect to get to their partner's spades. They will waffle but all they have to learn is that it is acceptable to raise a preempt with a singleton if the hand warrants it. NB N was 100% right not to call 4Sp over 3NT.

14) { second Q14 -this one with the 4Cl preempt }

S was wrong ---- 4NT was inappropriate for a number of reasons.

- i) opener couldnt have two Aces. {check what you need for a preempt if that surprises you }
- ii) openers responses to Blackwood would get the partnership too high. NB this can happen with minor suits -beware of using Blackwood when the agreed suit is Clubs unless you are sure that you can cope with the responses.

Incidentally S's continuation of 5NT was asking for Kings which isnt too sane when you know you are missing 2 Aces.

15)N was right. The 3NT opener shows a solid minor with very little outside.

S took too much of a gamble in passing; probably a bid of 4Cl { which N would pass } was the safer option.

16) a) v 4Sp } J cl

b) v 6Sp } 4 Hrts

c) v 3NT } 4Hrts

d) v 6NT } J Cl

PS your partner's gobbledy gook theory was right about leads but you prefer the method

of : passive /safe leads against 6NT { top of nothing or top of touching Hons }

active/dangerous leads against 6 Suit { small from a K ; or small from a Q ;

an "anything goes" approach }

17) Trick 1 } Ace Hrts

Tricks 2 } Ace Diamondsintending to follow with K diamonds and ruff a small diamond.

18) Trick 1 } Ace Hrts

Trick 2 } Q Diamondsintending to follow with J diamonds overtaken by the Ace diamonds , and the K diamonds on *which you throw a hrt.*