The Summer Festival of Bridge

Daily Bulletin 11

Saturday January 24 2015



Congratulations to the winners of the South West Pacific Teams:

Bill Jacobs, Justin Williams, Ben Thompson and Phil Markey

AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED, ENABLING THE SUMMER FESTIVAL TO DONATE SOME \$900 TO NEUROLOGICAL RESEARCH.





Tim Bourke's Problem

11. INSURANCE Dealer North. E-W Vul.

> NORTH ▲ J 10 8 ♥ A K 6 5 ♦ Q 10 8 ♣ 7 6 3 SOUTH ▲ A K Q 9 7 4 3 ♥ 8 3 2 ♦ -♣ K 4 2

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	4♠
All pass			

West leads the ten of hearts. How do you plan to make the contract?

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Tim Bourke's Problem

SOLUTION

You have nine top tricks and there will always be a tenth if East started with the ace of clubs. The idea is to look for some additional way of making a tenth trick. Obviously, a 3-3 heart break is the main extra chance but the danger is that the full deal is something like this one:



On this layout there is no direct way of exploring for a 3-3 heart division without East gaining the lead and shifting to what would be a contractkilling queen of clubs.

So, what else could you try? The answer is that you should win the first trick with dummy's king of hearts and draw a round of trumps with the jack before leading a diamond from dummy with the intention of throwing a heart from hand if it is not covered.

The question now is "Which diamond should you lead?" After a little reflection you should realise that the







eight of diamonds is the best choice. You should see that if you lead the queen the defence will prevail when East began with A-K-9 and West has the jack of diamonds. Additionally, there is no way East will play the nine with that holding on the first round of the suit as it might lose to a singleton jack in declarer's hand.

As it is 100% certain that East will play the king of diamonds here from the holding shown, you will ruff that card high and return to dummy with a trump to lead the queen of diamonds. East will cover the queen of diamonds with the ace and again you will ruff high. On the above layout, after crossing back to dummy with a heart you will lead the ten of diamonds and throw the eight of hearts from hand.

West will win the trick with the jack of diamonds, but have no effective return. A diamond concedes a ruffand-discard while a club sees you make your tenth trick with the king of clubs. West's remaining option of leading a heart will see you ruff high and return to dummy with a trump to the dummy's ten to cash the thirteenth heart for a club discard. Finally, you can try for an overtrick on the above layout by leading a club to the king (as you would have had the hearts proved to be 4-2). Alas, West will produce the ace but you will have made ten tricks.

Of course if East were able to cover the ten of diamonds too on the third round of the suit you would ruff and





play a heart, hoping the king of clubs was onside and hearts were 3-3.

The Start of the NOT

This saw SWPT winners Thompson play the highest numbered seed to survive, Morrison. There was plenty of action.

Thompson swept out to an early lead;



Phil Markey and Justin Williams were quickly in 4♥. The defence started with the minor suit Aces and Phil claimed his 10 tricks. Ib the other room, Paul Lavings and Tony Leibowitz never got their auction going. 1♣ from Paul (N) received a transfer response of 1♥ and Ben Thompson doubled. Paul called 1NT and Bill Jacobs 2♦. Tony could have shown nine of his cards with a 2♥ bid but, presumably put off by Ben's double, he just repeated his spades and that was that. Two overtricks but still 6 imps to Thompson.

And 6 more on the next though it could have been huge for Morrison.



Kim Morrison passed as dealer and Justin opened 2♠ (obviously some systemic gadget – at least I hope). Viv Wood overcalled 3♥ and Phil raised to game in spades. Back to Viv who doubled. On best 4♠x is losing ♣A, two club ruffs and four top red cards for 4 off and a snappy 1100 to Morrison. However, this wasn't clear to Kim and he called 5♥. The position of the ♥Q meant one off. Meanwhile Ben and Bill stopped in 4♦ and took all 13 tricks when spades weren't led and declarer was able to set up the heart suit.

More to Thompson on 3.



Justin opened the South cards 1NT! Their system card shows (9-10) 11-14, more often 9-10 in first seat. Viv doubled and Phi called 2♥ which Kim











doubled. A pass from Justin saw Viv try 2♠ and Phil put in 3♥ - only 300 on offer this time but Kim preferred 3♠ and Viv converted to the nine trick game. There were, however, only eight tricks available so one down. Ben and Bill had an invitational auction peter out in 3♠, managing an overtrick to make the match score 19-0 to Thompson.

Morrison got on the board with 2 imps on hand 4 via overtricks. Then a much bigger bite into the lead:



Viv opened 1♠ and Phil interposed 2♥. Kim bid the spade game. There were three Aces to lose but nothing else +620. In the other room, the auction was

West	North	East	South
		Р	Р
2♠	3♥	3♠	4♥

And there it rested. There were only nine tricks but that was only a loss of 50.

Thompson picked up 3 more imps on boards 7 to 10 before:



Justin opened 4♠ as South. The ♥A was opened, followed by the ♦K and ♦A. The ♦10 was ruffed with dummy's trump and over-ruffed by Kim's Jack. He cashed the ♣A before switching to the ♥K. When he played the ♥Q, Justin could ruff low and be overruffed for the ♦Q to score or he could ruff high and that would see West's ♦10 promoted so instead, he discarded his losing diamond and settled for 5 shy.

Meanwhile, Tony opened the South cards a more normal looking 2. Ben looked for 3NT via a 3. call but Bill shot straight to the club game. The three top spades were led, enabling Paul to discard both his diamonds and accept a ruff in that suit at trick 4.

The Thompson team had played two games for a total of 7 undertricks and 8 imps to Morrison and leave the match tied at 22 all.

Six imps to Thompson on the next when they handled the defence to 3♥ more accurately when that contract was played in both rooms.











Against Phil, Kim led the \clubsuit K and switched to \blacklozenge A and a diamond to the King. That saw one of Phil's spade losers disappear and he had nine tricks.

In the other room it was played from South and Ben led the ◆Q, taken by Bill with the Ace. He switched to a spade and now Tony had no recourse – one off and 6 imps away. They came back with 100% interest on the next.



The auction in Phil and Kim's room saw everyone bidding repeatedly

West	North	East	South
Viv	Phil	Kim	Justin
	1♣	1♦	1♠
2♥	2♠	3♦	3♠
4♦	4♠	Х	

PENLINE





Not one pass before the final contract was settled.

A diamond was led to the Queen and Ace and Kim returned the ♥Q, taken by dummy's King. Justin led a spade to the Jack and Queen and Viv played another heart, taken on table. A spade to the King and Ace led to Justin trumping a heart in the closed hand. A diamond ruff at this point would have minimised declarer's losses but he chose to play a club to the King and Ace. Kim's trump return meant that the diamond could not now be ruffed and that was two off and -500.

In the other room, Ben declared 4♥ on the ♣K lead. Dummy's Ace won and a club was ruffed. Ben played a trump to dummy's Queen and a trump back to the Jack and King. Paul led a club from North and Ben ruffed in hand. A diamond to the Queen and Ace followed and a diamond back to the King saw Paul discard a spade. The position now was:



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Ben led the \diamond 3 and Paul ruffed to exit with yet another club. Ben ruffed in hand and led another diamond. Paul ruffed with the Ace and led his last club, locking Ben in hand with a spade loser for one down and 12 imps to Morrison.

9 of them went back on the next when Phil and Justin were conservative and Paul and Tony went overboard.



Justin brought home 2NT for +120 while the auction in the other room was

West	North	East	South
		2♠	2NT
3♠	3NT	Р	Р
Х	4♥	Р	Р
Х			

The ♠Q was led to declarer's Ace and Paul played the ♥5, collecting the Jack, Queen and King. Ben cashed the ♣A and crossed to Bill's ♣Q. A third club saw Paul ruff with dummy's Ace but there was no way to avoid two down and 9 imps to Markey.

Then 5 back to Morrison and it could have been more.









Justin declared 4♥ from South and the defence cashed the spade tops to start proceedings. A club went to East's Ace and the ♠Q was ruffed by the 2 and over-ruffed by Viv's 3. She continued a small diamond which was won by declarer's 7. He cashed the •A and ruffed a diamond on table. Justin cashed the ♣K and then ruffed a club. The ♦Q came next, Viv didn't cover and Justin ruffed with dummy's 5, only to be over-ruffed by Kim with the 7. Kim laid down the trump Ace for 3 off.

In the other room, Bill declared the East cards in 2. A club was led to the Ace and Bill returned a club, Tony discarding a heart and Paul winning with the 9. He cashed the &K and continued with a heart to Tony's Jack. If at this stage, Tony can find the magic •Q switch then Bill is going down. At the table, it was too hard to see and 2. crept home but still 5 imps to Morrison.

Morrison had edged ahead by 2 but there was still one drama to come.





Peaceful enough for Paul, Tony, Ben and Bill – Tony played 4♣ down 1 which is just about par. However...

Viv opened 1♦ and Phil overcalled 1♥. 1♠ from Kim saw Justin take a swing at the big bikkies – 3NT

The first nine tricks were rather embarrassing for declarer as a barrage of pointed cards hit the table one after another – five down and 5 more imps to Morrison who took the set by 7 after conceding a 19 imp deficit in the first three boards.

One thing that strikes me as I write up the hands – the vast majority of swings occurred in the auction, some few as a result of defensive contrasts and none at all from declarer play!

Rara Avis

Michael Wilkinson brought me this one which fulfilled a minor ambition. I have long wanted to report a smother play and, after 293 Bulletins, it has finally happened. There was one claimed smother play here about 10 years ago but Kieran Dyke was quick to point out that it wasn't a real one. This one is.



Susan Crompton declared 3♥x from East. South began by cashing the ◆AK and then led the ♣K to dummy's Ace. Susan played the ♣J back to South's Queen and dummy's 10 won when the suit was continued, North not ruffing with the Ace. North didn't ruff the next club either but when Susan discarded a spade, South did with the ♥2.

South cashed the A and played a diamond ruffed by dummy's 9. Susan then ruffed a spade to bring about:











Susan played a trump, taken by North's Ace and the diamond continuation smothered South's Jack. If the ♥ was overuffed then Susan's ♥10 would score the last trick. If the 8 was under-ruffed then Susan would discard dummy's club and score the last trick with the ♥Q.

OK folks, that's one minor ambition satisfied – you've got to the end of the day to satisfy the other one. Who can produce a Devil's Coup on Saturday?

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Winning Imps

After my comment at the end of the report about the first session of the NOT about the auction and the defence swinging imps, I decided to have a look at three hands in the third session where there promised to be swings.

First up was this little number – plenty of shape but nobody can make anything worthwhile:



Most N-S combinations found their way to 4♥ going variously 1,2 or 3 off.

Terry Brown and Avi Kanetkar suffered from an accurate defence when Avi played 4.

The ▲10 was led and ruffed and the ♣Q returned to the King and Ace. The ♠9 was ruffed and the ♣10 cashed. The ♥A and ♣J meant 3 down and Avi hadn't fired a shot.

Ashley Bach maximised the equity for his side by doubling in this auction:









West	North	East	South
Р	1♥	Р	1♠
2NT	3♥	3♠	Р
4♣	4♥	Р	Р
Х			

The defence was accurate so that was -800.

Other defenders let 8 or even 9 tricks through. Only in the Morrison / Thompson match was any pair able to stay out of game – and both managed it – both tables playing 3♥. However, Jacobs/Thompson defended more accurately than Morrison / Wood for a 2 imp pickup.

Two tables managed to avoid heart contracts altogether but spades were no more productive. Both Tislevoll/Lambardi and Gill/Hans played 4. - Ware/McManus doubling the former.

Ware/McManus held Lambardi to 7 tricks and so pushed the board with Ashley Bach's double of 4♥. Gill was allowed to make 8 tricks to pick up 3 imps against Kanetkar/Brown's 4♥ down 3.

Onto board 6, where DeepFInesse has three grands available.



When dummy tracks you'd be happy not to have reached 7. Even 6NT is going to be a nervous affair if a spade lead is found – needing to find both the ♥K and ♣Q. 6♣ or 6♥ seem to rest on finding one of the other of these two cards.

The majority of pairs reached 6♥ -Brown/Kanetkar's auction was simple and direct

Ν	S
	1♠
2♣	27
3•	3NT
4♥	4NT
67	

I rather liked Bagchi/Smolanko's auction

Ν	S
	1♠
2♣	27
3♥	3♠
4♣	4♦
57	6♣

The last bid presumably offering a choice of slams.

Somewhat unlucky to lose 3 imps to 6♥ making 7 in the other room.

Even at this level, there are some partnerships less practised than others. One such is the Tislevoll / Lambardi pairing – a NorwegianKiwi and an Argentine probably don't get too much time together. Add in that they were playing the highly artificial (though not HUM) methods of





McManus/Ware and it was an accident waiting to happen.

East opened 1♥ showing 7-9 and any shape and Lambardi doubled. West redoubled, no doubt with some arcane meaning – probably "Beam me out of here Scottie."

Tislevoll now shot the heart game and that was that.

The McManus / Ware methods caused problems on our next exhibit:



East opened 2♦ - 3 to 7 with a 5 card major. West responded 2♥ - one assumes pass or correct (with a heavy prayerful emphasis on the "correct") but that was that. Somehow Lambardi/Tislevoll and been taken out of the auction despite their 27 points.

The aim must be, of course, to get to 3NT but what if West starts jumping about in spades?

Most West seemed content to only jump to the two level and 3NT was then generally bid. There were a couple of exceptions. Tony Leibowitz, sitting South chose to ask Paul







Lavings for a spade stop instead of acknowledging the one in his own hand – that saw them stop in 4 after

West	North	East	South
		Р	1♣
2♠	3♦	Р	3♠

While Ashley Bach was probably happy when of his intrusion of 3♠, over 1♦ from South, got doubled for -500 against a vulnerable slam but Lambardi/Tislevoll's misadventure meant only a small pickup.

Burgess/Lorentz also had to contend with a 3 bidder and failed spectacularly to cope – registering the only NS minus on the board.

Lorentz opened 1NT as South and the Neill team West put in 3. Burgess doubled and Lorentz kissed 3NT goodbye with a 4. continuation. Burgess tried his luck in 5. but the defence was not extended to take 3 tricks for one down.

So once again, no dazzling declarer plays – good, bad and ugly contracts reached – good, adequate and ugly defences produced.

One thing's for sure, if the hands I watched today are any guide – if you want to win matches – improve your bidding. The Hideous Hog says something like "A knowledge of squeezes and smother plays and so on won't keep a hummingbird in ant's eggs for a week".

Though I'm fairly sure that hummingbirds eat nectar.





National Open Teams Championship - Quarter Finals						
The following per	The following penalties have been applied: Lambardi 15 imps, Lazer 3 imps.					
1	Stanza 1	Stanza 2	Stanza 3	Stanza 4	Total	
THOMPSON (1)	37	31	49	53	170	
MORRISON (2)	44	30	35	14	123	
LORENTZ (3)	42	16	30	24	112	
NEILL (4)	9	41	51	45	146	
BLOOM (5)	25	28	60	38	151	
THOMSON (6)	19	68	8	34	129	
LAZER (7)	49	11	36	44	137	
LAMBARDI (8)	23	32	41	20	101	
RICHARD WALL RICHARD BRIGH SHEILA BIRD			CREET -	67		
RICHARD BRIGH			CREET -	67		
PAUL FREELANI DAVIES - JOHN			Y - KATE	64		
SENIORS						
SIMON HINGE - PETER BUCHEN - BILL 81 HAUGHIE - CHRIS HUGHES						
BERNARD WATERS - ROY NIXON - PAM CRICHTON - ROSS CRICHTON - MICHAEL 52 PEMBERTON - GRAHAM WAKEFIELD						

	onship
Results after 6 of 6 matches	
Place Team	VPs
1 GIURA (2)	92.19
2 ANDREW (4)	89.03
3 BURROWS (10)	79.63
4 DAWSON (3)	77.88
5 ALI (7)	73.2
6 CROMPTON (1)	68.7
7 MARTIN (16)	68.17
8 WALLIS (5)	63.99
9 FRANK (18)	63.8
10 STEFFENSEN (6)	62.54
11 BILSKI (8)	62.03
12 JENNER-O'SHEA (21)	61.42
13 WEAVER (11)	55.78
14 TALSMA (20)	53.29
15 LISLE (9)	52.47
16 BANDY (15)	50.76
17 MCAULIFFE (13)	48.24
18 CARROLL (17)	47.57
19 RHODES (12)	44.31
20 MCDONALD (14)	44.1
21 ANDERSON (19)	43.79
22 *HOUSE (22)	17.11