

21. To be Continued

By Ron Klinger

West dealer : Both vulnerable

North
♠ KJ10
♥ KJ
♦ Q743
♣ 9852

South
♠ AQ987
♥ AQ1095
♦ A8
♣ 7

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2♥ ⁽²⁾
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦ ⁽³⁾	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(1) Artificial, maximum passed hand

(2) Natural and forcing to game

(3) One key card for spades

West leads the ♠K and continues with the ♣4: five – ace – ♠7. Plan the play for South. How do you avoid losing a diamond if the ♦K does not come down singleton?

Today's deals come from *Polish Bridge* magazine and were spotted by Wally Malaczynski of Sydney.

West dealer : Both vulnerable

North
♠ KJ10
♥ KJ
♦ Q743
♣ 9852

West
♠ 652
♥ 873
♦ K96
♣ KQ104

East
♠ 43
♥ 642
♦ J1052
♣ AJ63

South
♠ AQ987
♥ AQ1095
♦ A8
♣ 7

You can see 11 tricks via 5 spades, 5 hearts and the ♦A. To collect the extra trick needed, you will need trumps 3-2 (or, if trumps are 4-1, the wildly unlikely situation that the hand with 4 trumps also has five hearts). At trick 3, play the ♠8 to the ♠10 and ruff a club. Play another spade, win it in dummy and ruff dummy's fourth club. Cross to the ♥K and draw the last trump, discarding the ♦8 from hand. Overtake the ♥J and the remaining cards in your hand are high.

The technical term for this play is a 'dummy reversal'. Because it is usually wrong to take unnecessary ruffs in the longer trump holding, it is easy to overlook a dummy reversal.

East dealer : Nil vulnerable

<p>North ♠ 864 ♥ J3 ♦ 752 ♣ KJ1064</p>	<p>East ♠ AK753 ♥ 2 ♦ KQJ4 ♣ 532</p>									
<p>West Pass</p>	<table style="border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">North</td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">East</td> <td>South</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">1♠</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;"></td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	North	East	South	Pass	1♠	4♥		Pass	
North	East	South								
Pass	1♠	4♥								
	Pass									

West leads the ♠J: four – king – two. East cashes the ♠A: queen – nine – six. What would you play as East at trick 3?

<p>West ♠ J9 ♥ 1054 ♦ 109863 ♣ A98</p>	<p>North ♠ 864 ♥ J3 ♦ 752 ♣ KJ1064</p>	<p>East ♠ AK753 ♥ 2 ♦ KQJ4 ♣ 532</p>
	<p>South ♠ Q102 ♥ AKQ9876 ♦ A ♣ Q7</p>	

The question is, how do you continue from J-10-9 after you lead the jack. The 10 next or the 9? Recommended is jack, then ten. On that basis, jack-then-nine = a doubleton and East should play the ♠7 at trick 3 as suit-preference for diamonds. West ruffs this and South will be one down. If East switches at trick 3, South will make 4♥.

The same recommendation applies after you have led the 10 from 10-9-3. The 10 followed by the 9 is consistent with 10-9 doubleton, 10-9-x or 10-9-8-x or similar. The 10 followed by the 8 or lower = a doubleton.

The same is not true, however, for the Q-J-10 sequence in this situation:

<p>West ♠ QJ10</p>	<p>North ♠ K42</p>	<p>East ♠ A9876</p>
	<p>South ♠ 54</p>	

West leads the queen: two – six – four. West should play the 10 next. West is known to have the jack, else South would have played the king at trick 1. If West plays queen-then-jack, it denies the ten.

Problems for Tomorrow:

1. South dealer : East-West vulnerable

North
♠ 973
♥ 64
♦ KQJ1085
♣ A2

West
♠ AQ2
♥ J8752
♦ A
♣ 9643

South opens 1NT (15-17 points) and North raises to 3NT (better than showing the diamonds), all pass. West leads the ♥5: four – nine – king. South plays the ♦6: ace – five – nine. What would you play as West at trick 3?

2. South dealer : Both vulnerable

North
♠ K62
♥ A10
♦ J84
♣ KJ852

West
♠ 95
♥ Q8643
♦ AQ2
♣ A9

South opens 3♠ and North bids 4♠, all pass. West leads the ♣A; two – seven – ten. You are playing low encourage. What do you play at trick 2?

Why not discuss the problems by phone with your bridge partners and compare your answers and your reasoning?

*A bridge playing fellow named Wade
Was unhappy with how he had played
He was down in the dumps,
For though hearts had been trumps,
The card he pulled out was a spade.
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