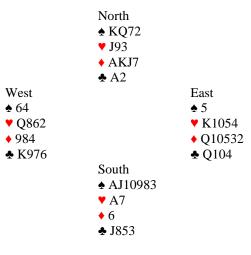
7. Slams, by George!

By Ron Klinger

Today's deals arose in teams' matches played on BBO. They feature successes by George Kozakos – George Smolanko, members of the current Australian Seniors' Team.

South dealer: Nil vulnerable



West	North	East	South
	Smolanko		Kozakos
			1♠
Pass	$2NT^{(1)}$	Pass	3♣ ⁽²⁾
Pass	3 ♦ ⁽³⁾	Pass	3NT ⁽⁴⁾
Pass	4♣ ⁽⁵⁾	Pass	4 ♥ ⁽⁶⁾
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 ♥ ⁽⁷⁾
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

- (1) Game-force, 4+ spades
- (2) Minimum opening
- (3) Tell me more.

North-South +480.

- (4) Short in diamonds
- (5) Cue-bid
- (6) Heart control, singleton diamond
- (7) Two key cards, no ♠Q

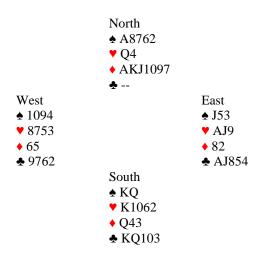
The play was straightforward: draw trumps, cash \bullet A, \bullet K, ditching the \blacktriangledown 7, \clubsuit A, concede a club and ruff two clubs in dummy later, North-South +980. That was worth 11 Imps. The auction at the other table:

West	North	East	South 2.4(1)
Pass	2NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	3 ♦ ⁽³⁾
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
(1) Weak t	wo		
(2) Inquiry			
(3) Short in	n diamonds		

Partner opens 1NT. The opponents pass throughout. What is your approach as responder with:

♠ A8762♥ Q4♦ AKJ1097♠ --

South dealer: Nil vulnerable



West	North Kozakos	East	South Smolanko 1NT ⁽¹⁾
Pass	$2NT^{(2)}$	Pass	3 ♦ ⁽³⁾
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4 ♦ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	4 ♠ ⁽⁵⁾
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

- (1) 15-17
- (2) Transfer to diamonds
- (3) Not a great hand for diamonds
- (4) Sets diamonds as trumps, asks for key cards
- (5) 0 or 3

West led the ♥5. East took the ♥A. South made the rest +1370. That was worth 13 Imps. At the other table:

West	North	East	South 1NT ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2 ♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♠
Pass	3 ♣ ⁽³⁾	Pass	3♦
Pass	4 ♦ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	4 ♠ ⁽⁵⁾
Pass	5 ♣ ⁽⁶⁾	Dble	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	
(1) 15 17			

- (1) 15-17
- (2) Transfer to spades
- (3) Transfer to diamonds
- (4) Asking for key cards for diamonds
- (5) 0 or 3
- (6) Cue-bid

Declarer made 12 tricks, +620. South might have passed the double of $5\clubsuit$. North would then redouble to show first-round control and maybe $6\spadesuit$ could have been reached.

Decided to take an ocean cruise
Became seasick, drank too much booze
The boat was so rocky
I threw up souvlaki
No masterpoints – forgot to pay dues.
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