

# 31. Show case

By *Ron Klinger*

East dealer : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	2♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	1♠

(1) Transfer to hearts

What would you do as South with:

♠ K107642  
♥ A9  
♦ AK982  
♣ --

From the final of the 2019 Spingold (USA Open Knockout Teams) between **BLASS** and **ZIMMERMANN**.

Bd 18: East dealer : North-South vulnerable

	North	
	♠ 8	
	♥ 102	
	♦ QJ105	
	♣ 1076432	
West		East
♠ AQJ3		♠ 95
♥ J543		♥ KQ876
♦ 43		♦ 76
♣ AK5		♣ QJ98
	South	
	♠ K107642	
	♥ A9	
	♦ AK982	
	♣ --	

West	North	East	South
<i>Martens</i>	<i>Driver</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1NT	Pass	Pass	1♠
3♥	Pass	2♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	2♥ <sup>(2)</sup>
Pass	Pass	4♥	Dble
	Pass	Pass	

(1) Transfer to hearts

(2) Strong hand

North led the ♠8: nine – ten – queen. The ♥J went to the ace and South cashed ♦K, ♦A. Then came the ♠2 (suit-preference for clubs): three – ♥10 – ♠5. North switched to a club. South ruffed. That was two down, N-S +300.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Multon</i>
1NT	Pass	Pass	1♠
3♥	5♦!	2♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	3♦!
		Dble	All Pass

(1) Transfer to hearts

	North	
	♠ 8	
	♥ 102	
	♦ QJ105	
	♣ 1076432	
West		East
♠ AQJ3		♠ 95
♥ J543		♥ KQ876
♦ 43		♦ 76
♣ AK5		♣ QJ98
	South	
	♠ K107642	
	♥ A9	
	♦ AK982	
	♣ --	

South's 3♦ was a better description of the nature of the South hand than South's 2♥ at the other table. South ruffed the ♣K lead and played ♠2, ♠J. West switched to the ♥3. South took the ♥A and played ♠10: queen – ♦Q – ♠9. After ♦5 to the ♦9 and the ♦K, South played ♠6, ace, ♦J. South lost a heart and a spade, +750, +10 Imps.

You rarely get rich by doubling opponents who have bid to a high level at unfavourable vulnerability. Assuming the opponents are sane, what they lack in high cards almost always has compensation in extreme shape. Note that North-South have only 17 HCP, but South can make 5♦ against any defence. East would have done better to bid 5♥. That would have reduced the loss.

In a practice match on the same deal on BBO, it went:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	2♥	3♦
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

East was two down, –100.

South dealer : East-West vulnerable

North  
 ♠ AK1053  
 ♥ KQ10  
 ♦ Q92  
 ♣ 43

South  
 ♠ --  
 ♥ A87642  
 ♦ 104  
 ♣ AJ1076

West	North	East	South
			1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	Dble	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

(1) Fourth-suit, forcing to game

West leads the ♦K: two – eight – ten.  
 West continues with the ♦7: nine – jack – four.  
 East plays the ♦A . . . What do you play as South?

This arose in the same match:

South dealer : East-West vulnerable

	North	
	♠ AK1053	
	♥ KQ10	
	♦ Q92	
	♣ 43	
West		East
♠ 98762		♠ QJ4
♥ J5		♥ 93
♦ K7		♦ AJ8653
♣ KQ95		♣ 82
	South	
	♠ --	
	♥ A87642	
	♦ 104	
	♣ AJ1076	

*(Directions changed for convenience)*

West	North	East	South
<i>Helness</i>	<i>Brink</i>	<i>Martens</i>	<i>Driver</i>
		Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣ <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	2♦ <sup>(2)</sup>
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

(1) Game-force relay

(2) Any minimum opening

West led the ♣K, ace. South played ♥K, ♥Q, ♠A, ♠K, pitching two diamonds, and the ♣4 to the ♣J. He ruffed a club later for 12 tricks, +480

West	North	East	South
<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
		Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	Dble	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

(1) Fourth-suit, forcing to game

East's double of the fourth-suit 2♦ asked West to lead a diamond. After ♦K, the ♦7, nine, jack, and the ♦A, South ruffed with the ♥8. West over-ruffed with the ♥J. South had a club loser later, one down and 11 Imps away.

In a practice match, after the same auction and the same first two tricks, followed by the ♦A, South ruffed with the ♥A. South drew trumps in two rounds, pitched two club losers on the ♠A, ♠K, and made ten tricks, +420.

## Problems for Tomorrow:

1. West dealer : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1♦	?		

What would you do as North with:

♠ 8653  
♥ KJ7  
♦ J  
♣ AQ832

2. North dealer : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
?	1♦	1NT	Dble

What would you do as West with:

♠ 82  
♥ 9865  
♦ 1032  
♣ 10983

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

*Comment to partner when dummy comes down much weaker than expected: "Whatever happened to the hand you held during the bidding?"*