

112. It's a set-up

By Ron Klinger

Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

North
♠ Q73
♥ --
♦ 1098
♣ AK98765

South
♠ AK984
♥ Q6542
♦ 42
♣ J

West	North	East	South
		1♥	1♠
Dble ⁽¹⁾	2NT ⁽²⁾	3♥	Pass
4♥	4♠	All Pass	

(1) Minors or one long minor

(2) Spade raise

West leads the ♦A, ♦K and ♦6: ten – queen – ♠4. Plan the play.

The final of Alt-Invitational Mixed Teams I was between [PEPSI](#) (May Sakr – Jacek Pszczola, Anna Gulevich – Andrei Gromov, Danuta Kazmucha – Dominic Filipowicz) and [MELTZER](#) (Rose Meltzer – Nick Demirev, Catherine D'Ovidio – Benedict Cronier – Michel Abecassis, Marc Bompis – Sylvie Willard).

Board 2: Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

	North	
	♠ Q73	
	♥ --	
	♦ 1098	
	♣ AK98765	
West		East
♠ 1062		♠ J5
♥ J7		♥ AK10983
♦ AKJ65		♦ Q73
♣ 1032		♣ Q4
	South	
	♠ AK984	
	♥ Q6542	
	♦ 42	
	♣ J	

After the auction above, West led ♦A, ♦K and ♦6. May Sakr (S) ruffed and set about setting up the clubs: ♣J to ♣A, ♣K, pitching the ♥2, and the ♣5: ♠J – ♠A – ♣10. She continued with ♠K: two – three – five and the ♠8: six – seven – ♥3. The next spade to dummy's ♠Q drew West's last trump and declarer had the rest, +650.

The defence could have defeated the contract. West needed to play a heart at tricks 1, 2 or 3. If declarer ruffs, dummy's club length is nullified. If it starts ♦A, ♦K, heart switch and South discards dummy's ♦10, East can win with a top heart and must continue with the other top heart to beat 4♠.

At the other table, it went 1♥ : 1♠ : 2♣ (shows diamonds) : 2♠, 3♦ : Pass : Pass : 3♠, all pass. The play started the same way, but South ruffed two hearts in dummy and made 9 tricks, +140 but –11 Imps.

[PEPSI](#) won Set 1 40-10 and lost Set 2 by 13-29 but still led by 53-39.

Dealer East : Both vulnerable

North
♠ AK5432
♥ 2
♦ 42
♣ K832

South
♠ 7
♥ A1087
♦ KQ9
♣ AQ976

South opened 1♣, North bid 1♠ and with no East-West bidding, South has reached 6♣. West leads the ♥J (underleading): two – four – ace. All follow to the ♣A. Plan the play.

Decide on your plan before going further.

In yesterday's second problem, South also reached 6♣. West leads the ♦J: four – ace - nine. East switches to the ♥4: ace – nine – two. Plan the play after that start.

Session 3: Board 31

Dealer East : Both vulnerable

	North	
	♠ AK5432	
	♥ 2	
	♦ 42	
	♣ K832	
West		East
♠ J6		♠ Q1098
♥ QJ953		♥ K64
♦ J10873		♦ A65
♣ 10		♣ J54
	South	
	♠ 7	
	♥ A1087	
	♦ KQ9	
	♣ AQ976	

MELTZER North-South:

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

(1) Artificial, forcing

West led the ♦J. East won and switched to the ♥4. Marc Bompis (S) took the ace and, with the diamond position secure, he ruffed a heart, crossed to the ♣A, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♣K, returned to hand with a diamond and the ♣Q drew the last trump. The other heart loser went on dummy's second spade winner, +1370.

Dealer East : Both vulnerable

	North	
	♠ AK5432	
	♥ 2	
	♦ 42	
	♣ K832	
West		East
♠ J6		♠ Q1098
♥ QJ953		♥ K64
♦ J10873		♦ A65
♣ 10		♣ J54
	South	
	♠ 7	
	♥ A1087	
	♦ KQ9	
	♣ AQ976	

PEPSI North-South:

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

(1) Forcing

(2) Cue-bid, first- or second-round control

(3) Two key cards plus the ♣Q

West led the ♥J, underleading. With the ♦A at large, the situation was more precarious. May Sakr (S) took the ♥A, cashed the ♣A, continued with the ♠7 to the ♠A and ruffed a low spade. Then came the ♣Q and the ♣7 to the ♣K, followed by the ♠K, discarding the ♦9, and another spade ruff. After the ♦K, taken by the ace, South could claim with the ♦Q in hand and the last trump and two spade winners in dummy.

Problems for Tomorrow:

1. Dealer East : Nil vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT – 15-17
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(1) Natural, forcing

What would you lead as West from:

♠ Q8762
♥ 10876
♦ Q74
♣ 9

2. Dealer East : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass	?

(1) Game-force, 4+ spades

What would you do as South with:

♠ AK9863
♥ KQ5432
♦ --
♣ 4

Why not phone or email your bridge partners and compare your answers and your reasoning?

In the USA, 50 million children are being home-schooled by gun-owning parents. There has not been a single school mass-shooting. Arming teachers works!!!