

# 214. The magnificent seven

By *Ron Klinger*

Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
3♦	4♠	Pass	1♠
		?	

What would you do as East with:

♠ Q  
♥ Q863  
♦ 1042  
♣ K8754

Have you made up your mind? If so, now consider what you would do as East if the bidding had gone like this:  
Pass : 1♠ : 4♦ : 4♠ to you. What would you do now?

Today's deal comes from the 2017 Spingold (USA Open Knock-Out Teams) Round of 16 match between [FLEISHER](#) and [TULIN](#).

Board 9: Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

<div> <div>North</div> <div>♠ K984</div> <div>♥ 1075</div> <div>♦ Q3</div> <div>♣ AQJ9</div> </div>			
<div>West</div> <div>♠ J72</div> <div>♥ 92</div> <div>♦ AKJ9876</div> <div>♣ 10</div>		<div>East</div> <div>♠ Q</div> <div>♥ Q863</div> <div>♦ 1042</div> <div>♣ K8754</div>	
<div> <div>South</div> <div>♠ A10653</div> <div>♥ AKJ4</div> <div>♦ 5</div> <div>♣ 632</div> </div>			
<div>West</div> <div><i>Cohen</i></div>	<div>North</div> <div><i>Verhees</i></div>	<div>East</div> <div><i>Moss</i></div>	<div>South</div> <div><i>Prooijen</i></div>
3♦	4♠	5♦	1♠
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass
<div>West</div> <div><i>Padon</i></div>	<div>North</div> <div><i>Hampson</i></div>	<div>East</div> <div><i>Birman</i></div>	<div>South</div> <div><i>Greco</i></div>
4♦	4♠	5♦	1♠
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass

Louk Verhees led the ♠8, Geoff Hampson the ♦3(!). It made no difference. With the ♣A onside, declarer could always set up the ♣K, ruff one spade in dummy and discard the other on the ♣K. Both declarers lost a spade, two hearts and a club, two light, North-South +300, no swing.

Suppose you are playing weak jump-overcalls. You are at favourable vulnerability. Partner passes and your right-hand opponent opens 1♠. What would you do with:

♠ J72  
♥ 92  
♦ AKJ987  
♣ 106

This looks like a textbook WJO of 3♦, right?

If that is so, what would you do with:

♠ J72  
♥ 92  
♦ AKJ9876  
♣ 10

Is this not one trick better? If the first hand was worth 3♦, then this one should be worth 4♦. The advantage of 4♦ is that it is more likely to persuade partner to sacrifice when it is right to do so.

Board 9: Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

	North	
	♠ K984	
	♥ 1075	
	♦ Q3	
	♣ AQJ9	
West		East
♠ J72		♠ Q
♥ 92		♥ Q863
♦ AKJ9876		♦ 1042
♣ 10		♣ K8754
	South	
	♠ A10653	
	♥ AKJ4	
	♦ 5	
	♣ 632	

This is what happened when the Spingold deal was replayed in a BBO game:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
3♦	4♠	All Pass	

West led ♦A, ♦K. South ruffed and played ♠K, ♠A and ♣2: ten – queen – king. Back came the ♥3, ace. South could run clubs, discarding the ♥4, and endplay West with a spade. West precluded that option by ruffing the second club and playing a heart into South's ♥K-J. That was ten tricks and +620 for North-South.

## Problem for Tomorrow:

You are the dealer at unfavourable vulnerability. What do you do with:

♠ Q5  
♥ Q93  
♦ AQJ43  
♣ AQ5

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

*A hundred years ago, everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars. Nowadays everyone has a car and only the rich own horses.*

New book: *The Power of Pass* (by Harold Schogger and Ron Klinger). \$A25.00 Available from Suzie Klinger, post free until 2021: email [suzie@ronklingerbridge.com](mailto:suzie@ronklingerbridge.com) or telephone 0411 229 705.