# 215. Adjustment bureau

## By Ron Klinger

Dealer East: North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Dble	2NT
Pass	?		

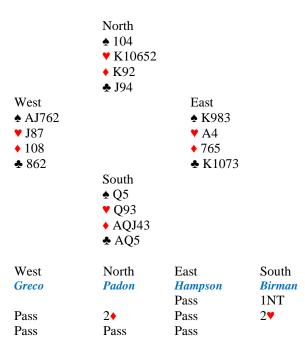
What would you do as North with:

- **★** 104
- **♥** K10652
- ♦ K92
- **♣** J94

#### (Answer later)

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

Board 12: Dealer East: North-South vulnerable



West led the  $\bullet$ 10, taken by the king. After  $\blacktriangledown$ 2, four, queen, and the  $\blacktriangledown$ 3: eight – ten – ace, the defence took two spade tricks. Declarer had the rest, North-South +170.

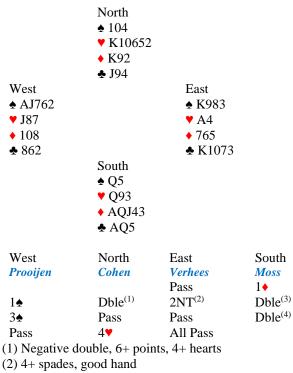
You are the dealer at unfavourable vulnerability. What do you do with:

- **♦** Q5
- **♥** Q93
- ♦ AQJ43
- **♣** AQ5

If your 1NT opening is 16-18 points or 15-18, opening 1NT is fine. If your 1NT opening is 15-17, this hand is too strong. You should add 1 point for holding a 5-card suit. When the 5-card suit is strong (has 3 or more honours), you could reasonably add 2 points to the HCP total. That makes it suitable for a 1-opening and jump in NT next.

That is what South had in mind at the other table:

Board 12: Dealer East: North-South vulnerable



- (3) Support double, 3 hearts
- (4) Strong hand

East led the ♠8: five – jack – ten. West cashed the ♠A: four – three – queen. As West could see no tricks coming for the defence in the minor suits, West continued with the ◆6, ruffed with the ♥2. Declarer crossed to the ◆0 and played the ♥3: seven – king – ace. North now had to lose another trump trick to West's ♥J-8. That was one down, East-West +100 and 7 Imps to TULIN.

### Today's problem:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Dble	2NT
Pass	?		

Recommended for North is to show the 5-card heart suit. Some might bid 3♥, asking South to support with three hearts and to rebid 3NT with only two hearts. Others play 3♥ as showing 6+ hearts and use a 3♣ rebid over 2NT as a checkback to locate 3-card support. Either way, you would end up in 4. That requires you to play the hearts for one loser. Low to the ♥Q and finesse the ♥10 on the way back works.

When the deal was replayed in a BBO game, North rebid 3NT over 2NT and everyone passed. West led the ♠6 and you would think that 3NT would now be two down routinely. That is not quite what happened.

It began ♠6: four – eight – queen. Declarer crossed to the ♦K and finessed the ♣Q. Next came the ♥Q: seven – two – ace. East returned the  $\clubsuit 3$ : five – jack – ten. West brought back the  $\spadesuit 2$ :  $\checkmark 5 - \spadesuit 9 - \checkmark 3$ . Then followed the ♠K, which West overtook to cash the ♠7. That was one down, East-West +100. All's well that ends well.

## **Problem for Tomorrow:**

Dealer South: East-West vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	$2NT^{(1)}$
Pass	<b>3</b> ♦ <sup>(2)</sup>	Dble	3♥
Pass	<b>3</b> ♠ <sup>(3)</sup>	Pass	?
(1) 10 101	11		

- (1) 18-19 balanced
- (2) Artificial, checkback
- (3) 5 spades

What would you do as South with:

- **♦** A104
- ♥ Q1095
- ♦ KJ2
- **♣** AKJ

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

Definition humour: A malapropism walks into a bar, looking for all intensive purposes like a wolf in cheap clothing, muttering epitaphs and casting dispersions on his magnificent other, who takes him for granite.

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 or telephone 0411 229 705.