

234. A matter of location

By Ron Klinger

Dealer South : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	?

What would you do as South with:

♠ 7
♥ KQ94
♦ AKJ53
♣ 1084

A good test for this kind of problem is this: Are most of your High Card Points in your long suits or in your short suits? If in the long suits, rebid 2♦ as here. The hand is not good enough for a 2♥ reverse. If most of your points are in your short suits, prefer a 1NT rebid. For example, after 1♦ : 1♠, rebid 1NT with:

♠ 7
♥ Q965
♦ Q9765
♣ AKQ

Not everyone adheres to that, as you will see shortly when the auctions in the original deal (2017 Spingold Round of 16) are given.

Dealer South : North-South vulnerable

	North	
	♠ AQ1092	
	♥ --	
	♦ Q64	
	♣ AQJ97	
West		East
♠ K865		♠ J43
♥ J1063		♥ A8752
♦ 97		♦ 1082
♣ K32		♣ 65
	South	
	♠ 7	
	♥ KQ94	
	♦ AKJ53	
	♣ 1084	

When the deal was replayed on BBO, the auction went this way:

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

(1) Looks right to me

(2) With North's sequence showing shortage in hearts, South does not want to cue-bid 4♥.

West led the ♥3: ♠2 – ♥A – ♥4. South could draw trumps and finesse in clubs for 12 tricks, +620.

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	North	
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♠ K865		♠ J43
♥ J1063		♥ A8752
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♣ K32		♣ 65
	South	
	♠ 7	
	♥ KQ94	
	♦ AKJ53	
	♣ 1084	

In the 2017 Spingold Round of 16, with **FIREMAN** North-South, it went 1♦ : 1♠, 1NT : 2♣ (new minor forcing), 2♥ : 3♣ (natural and forcing), 3♥ (hearts stopped) : 3NT, all pass. West led the ♣2: seven – five – eight. South made a spade, a heart, 5 diamonds and 5 clubs, +690.

PIEDRA North-South:

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

(1) Artificial, game-force

(2) Tell me more

(3) 5 diamonds

(4) Spade control

(5) 2 key cards, no ♦Q

West led the ♦9: four – two – jack. Declarer finessed the ♣Q, drew trumps, repeated the club finesse and made 12 tricks, +1370 and +12 Imps.

Problem for Tomorrow:

Dealer West : Nil vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1NT	Pass	?

What would you do now as South with:

♠ 7
♥ K42
♦ AKQ654
♣ AQJ

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

A gerund and an infinitive walk into a bar, drinking to forget.