## 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:

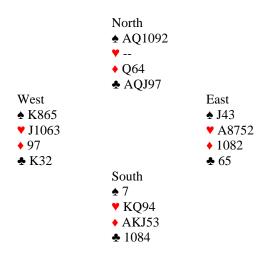
**♣** 7 **♥** KQ94 **♦** AKJ53 **♣** 1084

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



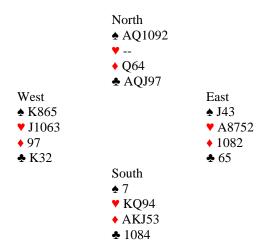
When the deal was replayed on BBO, the auction went this way:

West	North	East	South
			1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	$2^{(1)}$
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	5 <b>\( \big(2) \)</b>
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.

Dealer South: North-South vulnerable



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	<b>2</b> ♦ <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	2♥
Pass	$2NT^{(2)}$	Pass	<b>3</b> ♦ <sup>(3)</sup>
Pass	4♦	Pass	$4^{(4)}$
Pass	4NT	Pass	<b>5</b> ♥ <sup>(5)</sup>
Pass	<b>6♦</b>	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  $\bullet$ 9: four – two – jack. Declarer finessed the  $\bullet$ 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.