242. Fancy passing

By Ron Klinger

Dealer South: North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			2 ♣ ⁽¹⁾
3 ♦ ⁽²⁾	?		

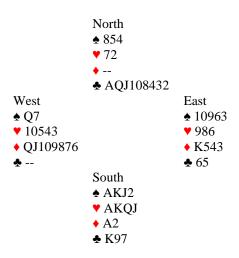
- (1) Artificial, very strong, almost always game-forcing
- (2) Weak jump-overcall

What would you do as North with:

- **♦** 854 **∀** 72
- **•** --
- ♣ AQJ108432

The deal arose in the USA's 2018 Open Team Selection:

Dealer South: North-South vulnerable



After the auction above (2♣ South : 3♦ by West), I would have thought a 4♣ bid was automatic. Shows how little I know. North passed! The result, however, was not what North would have wanted.

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

- (1) Artificial, very strong, almost always game-forcing
- (2) Weak jump-overcall
- (3) Cue-bid, trying to catch up

East led the \bigstar 4: two – nine – \bigstar 4. Declarer finessed the \bigstar J, losing to the \bigstar Q. There was a second spade loser, East-West +100. How embarrassing for North. At the other table, North-South were in $7 \bigstar$, +2140 and +19 Imps.

Problem for Tomorrow:

Dealer West : East-West vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
9			

What would you do as West with:

- **♠** AQ84
- ♥ Q6 Q2
- ♣ J10654

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

So much to do, so little desire to do it.