248. Limit bet

By Ron Klinger

This was yesterday's problem:

Pairs: Dealer West : East-West vulnerable

West North East South Pass $2NT^{(1)}$ Dble⁽²⁾ $3 \bullet^{(3)}$ Pass Pass ? (1) Weak, clubs + hearts OR diamonds + spades (2) Strong hand (3) Pass or correct

What would you do now as East with:

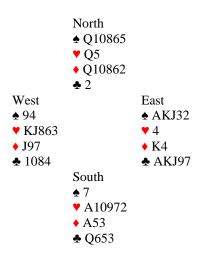
▲ AKJ32
♥ 4
♦ K4
▲ AKJ97

A very tough problem. You have a very good hand, no doubt the strongest at the table, but what should you do?

Given you have spades and clubs, you knew at once after North opened 2NT and the explanation was given of the meaning of 2NT that North has 5+ cards in one of your suits. Once North passed 3^{\diamond} , North was marked with spades and diamonds. South's 3^{\diamond} rather than 3^{\diamond} , pass or correct, implies length in clubs and/or hearts. It is hard to let go of a good hand, but all of the preceding analysis suggests it is best is to pass and accept any resulting loss.

Today's deal comes from an ABF member in Western Australia. The deal arose in a club duplicate.

Dealer West : East-West vulnerable



Results: E 3♣ +130, +110, E 1♠ +80, -100, N 3♦ -50, E 3♠ -100, -300, E 3NT -300, E 4♠ doubled -500.

Problem for Tomorrow:

Pairs: Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

What would you lead as West from:

West	North	East	South	♠ 10732
		Pass	1♥	V 954
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♥	♦ K108
Pass	4♥	All Pass		♣ J98

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

The problem with practical jokes is that sometimes they get elected.