

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♦ ⁽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♦, North was marked with spades and diamonds. South's 3♦ rather than 3♣, 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

North	
♠	Q10865
♥	Q5
♦	Q10862
♣	2

West	East
♠ 94	♠ AKJ32
♥ KJ863	♥ 4
♦ J97	♦ K4
♣ 1084	♣ AKJ97

South
♠ 7
♥ A10972
♦ A53
♣ Q653

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	
		Pass	1♥	♠ 10732
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♥	♥ 954
Pass	4♥	All Pass		♦ K108
				♣ 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.