

306. Bridge athletics: The high jump

By Ron Klinger

Dealer South : Nil vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1♥	?		1♣

What would you do as North with:

♠ 3
♥ 4
♦ Q1065
♣ A1086532

Today's deal arose in the 2018 Rosenblum (World Open Teams):

Qualifying Round 9: Board 17

Dealer South : Nil vulnerable

	North	
	♠ 3	
	♥ 4	
	♦ Q1065	
	♣ A1086532	
West		East
♠ 962		♠ KQJ75
♥ AK10973		♥ J86
♦ AK93		♦ 74
♣ --		♣ J74
	South	
	♠ A1084	
	♥ Q52	
	♦ J82	
	♣ KQ9	

MOSSOP North-South:

West	North	East	South
1♥	3♣	Pass	Pass ⁽¹⁾
Dble ⁽²⁾	4♣	4♣	All Pass

(1) Few pass a 12 point hand nowadays

(2) Strong and takeout of clubs

Lead: ♠K, ruffed in dummy. ♠6 to ♠K wins, club ruff, ♦A, ♦K, diamond ruff ♠J, ace. Declarer picked the ♥Q with South and made 10 tricks. East-West +420

CONNECTOR North-South

West	North	East	South
1♥	2♣ ⁽¹⁾	2♥	1♣
4♥	5♣!	Pass	3♣
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

(1) Very subtle

West led the ♦K, followed by the ♥A, ♦A and a diamond ruff to take 5♣ two down, East-West +300, but -3 Imps

Dealer South : Nil vulnerable

	North	
	♠ 3	
	♥ 4	
	♦ Q1065	
	♣ A1086532	
West		East
♠ 962		♠ KQJ75
♥ AK10973		♥ J86
♦ AK93		♦ 74
♣ --		♣ J74
	South	
	♠ A1084	
	♥ Q52	
	♦ J82	
	♣ KQ9	

PSZCZOLA North-South:

West	North	East	South
<i>Prooijen</i>	<i>Brink</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Drijver</i>
			1NT ⁽¹⁾
Dble	4♣	4♠	All Pass
(1) 12-14 points			
Lead: ♣K, ruffed. ♠6: 3 – Q – A.			
♠10, taken by ♠J. ♠K cashed; ♥J:			
two – three – four; ♥A; ♥K; East pitched			
a club on the fourth heart, ruffed by			
South who cashed the ♠Q. East made			
10 tricks, +420.			

BERTHEAU North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♣
1♥	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass
Lead: ♥K. Then ♦K, ♦A, diamond			
ruff, 9 tricks, East-West +300			

CAYNE North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Dble	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	5♠	All Pass
Lead: ♣K, ruffed; ♠6: three – jack – four;			
club ruff with ♠9; ♦A; ♦K; diamond ruff;			
East now needed to play on hearts and			
finesse against South's ♥Q; instead			
East exited with the ♠J: queen – ♥3 – ♣A;			
North played the ♦Q and East finished			
two down, East-West –100			

TULIN North-South

West	North	East	South
<i>No'sadzki</i>	<i>Padon</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Birman</i>
			1♣
1♥	5♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	Pass
Dble ⁽²⁾	Pass	5♥	All Pass
(1) Quite a contrast to 2♣ by CONNECTOR's			
North on page 1.			
(2) A 'Do what's right' double			
Lead ♠3 to ♠A; ♠4, return ruffed. ♣A ruffed;			
♥A; 11 tricks, East-West +450, +1 Imp.			

MIXED UP North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♣
1♥	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dble ⁽¹⁾	Pass	4♥	All Pass
(1) Primarily for takeout			
Lead: ♠3: king – ace – six; ♠9 switch, ruffed.			
11 tricks, East-West +450, +4 Imps.			

SCHWARTZ North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♣
1♥	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble ⁽¹⁾	Pass	5♠	All Pass
(1) Do-what's-right double			
Lead: ♣K; ruffed; ♠6: three – king – four;			
then a low trick: ♥6: two – three – four!			
♣4, ruffed; ♥A; ♥K; ♥10: ♣8 – ♣J – ♠8;			
♦J, taken by ♦A; ♦K; diamond ruff; ♠Q,			
taken by ♠A; 11 tricks, +450 and +11 Imps			
to CAYNE. (East: Alfredo Versace)			

At the six BBO tables where South opened 1♣, one North bid 2♣, one bid 4♣ and four bid 5♣. My choice would have been 4♣. That allows partner to save in 5♣ or to pass or double and defend against their contract.

Problem for Tomorrow:

Dealer South : Nil vulnerable

North

♠ 8765

♥ 64

♦ AKJ

♣ J762

East

♠ QJ

♥ KQ10

♦ Q10954

♣ Q93

West	North	East	South
			1NT ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

(1) 15-17 points

West led the ♥5: four – queen – three. East switched to the ♠Q: ace – three – five. South cashed the ♥A and ruffed the ♥J with the ♠6. Next came the ♠7: jack – nine – two. What would you play as East at trick 6?

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

Don't you hate people who use big words just to make themselves look perspicacious?