306. Bridge athletics: The high jump

By Ron Klinger

Dealer South : Nil vulnerable

West North East South $1 \bigstar$ 1 ♥ ?

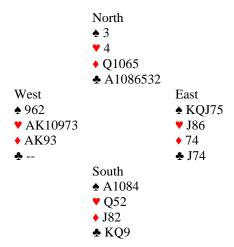
What would you do as North with:

▲ 3
♥ 4
◆ Q1065
▲ A1086532

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

Qualifying Round 9: Board 17

Dealer South : Nil vulnerable



MOSSOP North-South:

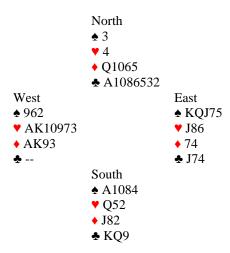
West	North	East	South Pass ⁽¹⁾		
1♥	3♣	Pass	3NT		
Dble ⁽²⁾	4♣	4♠	All Pass		
(1) Few pass a 12 point hand nowadays					
(2) Strong and takeout of clubs					
Lead: ♣K, ruffed in dummy. ♠6 to ♠K					
wins, club ruff, ♦A, ♦K, diamond ruff					
▲ J, ace. Declarer picked the ♥ Q with					
South and made 10 tricks. East-West +420					

CONNECTOR North-South

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

West led the \mathbf{A} , followed by the \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{A} and a diamond ruff to take $5\mathbf{A}$ two down, East-West +300, but -3 Imps

Dealer South : Nil vulnerable



PSZCZOLA North-South:

West	North	East	South	
Prooijen	Brink	Verhees	Drijver	
			1NT ⁽¹⁾	
Dble	4♣	4♠	All Pass	
(1) 12-14	points			
Lead: $\bigstar K$, ruffed. $\bigstar 6: 3 - Q - A$.				
▲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: thre	ee – 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 \bigstar J: queen – \forall 3 – \bigstar A;					
North played the •Q and East finished					
two down, East-West –100					

TULIN North-South

West	North	East	South		
No'sadzki	Padon	Kalita	Birman		
			1♣		
1♥	5 ♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	Pass		
Dble ⁽²⁾	Pass	5♥	All Pass		
(1) Quite a contrast to 2 by CONNECTOR's					
North on p	age 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: \bigstar 3: king – ace – six; \bigstar 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-wha	(1) Do-what's-right double				
Lead: ♣ K;	ruffed; 4	6: three	e – 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 ◆ Q1095 ▲ Q93		
West	North	East	South 1NT ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2♣	Pass	2
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
(1) 15-17	points		

West led the $\forall 5$: four – queen – three. East switched to the $\diamond Q$: ace – three – five. South cashed the $\forall A$ and ruffed the $\forall J$ with the $\diamond 6$. Next came the $\diamond 7$: 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?