

321. Another part-score misadventure

By Ron Klinger

Dealer North : North-South vulnerable

(1)

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

(1) 5+ hearts

What would you do as North with:

♠ 732
♥ A754
♦ A986
♣ KQ

After you have made up your decision on (1), clear your mind and consider this problem:

Dealer North : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♥
3♣ ⁽¹⁾	3♥	?	

(1) Weak jump-overcall

What would you do as East with:

♠ AJ6
♥ 62
♦ KQJ32
♣ J72

Today's deal comes from the 2017 Spingold (USA K-O Open Teams) semi-final between [LAVAZZA](#) and [SCHWARTZ](#).

Board 6: Dealer North : North-South vulnerable

	North		West	North	East	South
	♠ 732		<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Sementa</i>
	♥ A754			1♣	1♦	Dble ⁽¹⁾
	♦ A986		Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
	♣ KQ		3♣	3♥	All Pass	
West		East	(1) 5+ hearts			
♠ Q985		♠ AJ6				
♥ 109		♥ 62				
♦ 4		♦ KQJ32				
♣ A109865		♣ J72				
	South					
	♠ K104					
	♥ KQJ83					
	♦ 1075					
	♣ 43					

Yesterday's column advocated competing when the opponents have found a trump fit at the 2-level and it goes Pass : Pass to you. West's 3♣ followed that approach and had the desired effect when North competed to 3♥. It was not attractive for West to make a takeout double as East might choose to repeat the diamonds.

East led the ♦K. North took the ♦A and played ♥K, ♥Q and the ♦10: ♣6 – ♦9 – ♦J. East switched to the ♠J: king – nine – three. Declarer lost 2 spades, 2 diamonds and a club. That was one off, East-West +100

Board 6: Dealer North : North-South vulnerable

<p>West</p> <p>♠ Q985 ♥ 109 ♦ 4 ♣ A109865</p>	<p>East</p> <p>♠ AJ6 ♥ 62 ♦ KQJ32 ♣ J72</p>
<p>North</p> <p>♠ 732 ♥ A754 ♦ A986 ♣ KQ</p>	
<p>South</p> <p>♠ K104 ♥ KQJ83 ♦ 1075 ♣ 43</p>	

In the previous auction, North bid 3♥ over 3♣. It is so passé to pass, but what do you think of that move?

On the one hand, North had 4 hearts and South had shown 5 hearts. It often pays to bid 3-over-3 when your side has 9 trumps. On the other hand, North has 8 losers. A minimum opening hand usually has 7 losers. Despite the 13 HCP including two aces, North has more losers than expected. That could persuade one not to bid 3-over-3, particularly with North's 5 points in clubs likely to yield only one trick.

What would have happened if 3♣ is passed out? With neither red suit appealing for the opening lead, North might lead a spade and the defence will collect a spade, 2 hearts, a diamond and a club for +50. North might lead the ♥A. Given the sight of dummy's diamonds, a spade switch at trick 2 would appeal. Where else could you find a fifth trick?

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Danailov</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>	<i>Stamatov</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
3♣ ⁽¹⁾	3♥	4♣	All Pass

(1) Weak jump-overcall

If 3-over-3 is frequently a losing action, competing 4-over-3 is a long-term loser. You usually wind up minus and you have given up the opportunity to defeat their contract. Sometimes you will beat their contract if they have bid 3-over-3, but you will never beat their contract when you bid 4-over-3.

As you have seen on page 1, 3♥ could / would be defeated. Against 4♣, North led the ♣K – not my choice – sometimes declarer will double finesse in clubs and you collect two trump tricks. West took the ♣A and played the ♦4: six – king – ten (reverse count). West ruffed a low diamond and played the ♣6. North won and switched to the ♠3. Declarer took the ♠A and finished one down, losing a spade, 2 hearts and a club, North-South +50 and 4 Imps to [SCHWARTZ](#).

This is what happened when the deal was replayed in a BBO game:

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dble!	3♥	All Pass	

With diamonds and hearts bid, West's double was for takeout into spades or clubs. West led the ♦4: six – jack – seven. East returned the ♦2 and West ruffed. West cashed the ♣A and exited with the five. Declarer drew trumps, but could not avoid losing two spades later for one down, East-West +100.

Problem for Tomorrow:

Dealer South : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1♥
Pass	2♥	Dble	?

What would you do as South with:

♠ 108
♥ AK763
♦ AJ532
♣ 6

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

If corn oil is made from corn and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?