343. A real bid

By Ron Klinger

Dealer West: Nil vulnerable

```
West North East South

4♦ Dble<sup>(1)</sup> Pass ?

(1) Primarily for takeout
```

What would you do as South with:

AQ10874QJ82K64

Recommended for action after a pre-empt is to play partner for two tricks. If North is prepared to be in game opposite two tricks, that will translate into a hand with about 18+ points or about a 5-loser hand. A two-trick hand is about 6-9 points, but South is much better than that. South has 12 HCP, an excellent spade suit and control in clubs. Opposite an 18-point hand or better, South is certainly worth a shot at slam.

The deal comes from the 2017 Spingold (USA Open Teams) semi-final match between DIAMOND and MITTELMAN.

Board 38: Dealer West: Nil vulnerable

```
North
              ♦ KJ92
              ♥ A96
              ♦ A3
              ♣ AK76
West
                          East
♠ 6
                          ♦ 53
v 105
                          ♥ K743
♦ QJ1098752
                          4
                          ♣ J98532
♣ Q10
              South
              ♠ AQ10874
              ♥ QJ82
              ♦ K6
              ♣ 4
```

MITTELMAN North-South:

```
West North East South

4♦ Dble<sup>(1)</sup> Pass 4♠

Pass Pass Pass

(1) Primarily for takeout
```

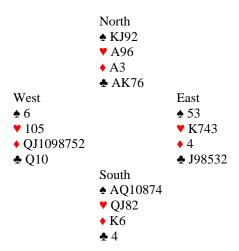
West led the ▼10. Declarer took the ▼A, drew trumps and had 12 tricks for +480. (Note to self: Never double this South player for penalties)

DIAMOND North-South:

```
East South
 West
         North
         Dble<sup>(1)</sup>
 4
                    Pass
                            5♠
         6<del>\(\)</del>(2)
 Pass
                    Pass
                           6♠
         Pass
 Pass
                    Pass
(1) Primarily for takeout
(2) Cue-bid, interested in 7♠.
```

West led the ♥10, ace. South made 12 tricks, +980 and + 11 Imps.

Board 38: Dealer West: Nil vulnerable



When the deal was replayed in a game on BBO, it went:

```
West North East South

4♦ Dble<sup>(1)</sup> Pass 6♠

Pass Pass Pass

(1) Primarily for takeout
```

South was Australian representative, Susan Humphries. 6♠! That's a real woman's bid.

Problem for Tomorrow:

Dealer East: Both vulnerable

```
West North East South
Pass 2NT<sup>(1)</sup>
Pass ?
(1) 20-22 points, balanced
```

What would you do as North with:

- **♦** 98
- ♥ A9542
- ♦ J104
- **♣** 875

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

If you see people talking into envelopes, they are probably trying to send voicemail.