



Bulletin

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Merry Christmas

and a happy and safe New Year and please share the festive spirit by bringing in an unwrapped gift for a child to be placed under the Barnardo's Christmas tree in the club rooms.

An Elegant Insufficiency By Richard Hills

You and your partner have agreed to play a weak no trump and the lebensohl convention.

Matchpoint pairs, South dealer, none vul.

You, South, hold: ♠Q63 ♥93 ♦KJ53 ♣AK87

After you open a weak no trump, West makes an insufficient bid of 1H. Your partner accepts the insufficient bid and bids 1S over it. East passes,:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
---	---	---	1NT
1H!	1S	Pass	?

What call do you make? What other calls do you consider making?

See page 4

Daytime Rankings July—Sept 2006

1=	Jim Murray	54
1=	Neil Naughton	54
3	Flo Gray	52
4=	Rasma Bandle	39
4=	Pat Lewis	39
6	Sheila Murray	36
7	Anne Baldwin	32
8	Malcolm Aldons	29
9=	Eileen Diprose	28
9=	Jim Chan	28
11	Nancy Hitchcock	27
12=	Sue Hume	26
12=	Colleen Perriman	26
14=	Colleen Price	25
14=	June Lomax	25
16	Gillian Parsons	24
17	Connie Treloar	23
18	Ronnie Carlsson	22
19	Inesmarie Hodgkinson	20
20	Ruth Gallagher	19

End Games

by Tim Bourke

Dealer South. EW Vul.

	♠7 4	
	♥A 9 8 6 5	
	♦K 9 2	
	♣A Q J	
♠K J 3 2		♠8 6 5
♥Q J 3		♥10
♦Q 10 7		♦J 8 5 4
♣10 9 5		♣8 7 6 4 3
	♠A Q 10 9	
	♥K 7 4 2	
	♦A 6 3	
	♣K 2	

Dealer West. Both Vul.

		♠7 6 2	
		♥7 6 2	
		♦9 5 4 2	
		♣8 7 2	
♠9 4 3			♠-
♥K Q J 10 9 8 3			♥5 4
♦8			♦K J 10 7 6 3
♣Q 5			♣J 10 9 4 3
		♠A K Q J 10 8 5	
		♥A	
		♦A Q	
		♣A K 6	

West	North	East	South	West	North	East	South
			1NT	3H	Pass	Pass	6S
Pass	2D	Pass	2H	Pass	Pass	Pass	
Pass	4NT ¹	Pass	6H				
Pass	Pass	Pass					

¹ *invitational, implying 5-3-3-2 shape*

West judged well to find a neutral ♣10 lead here, but to no avail. Declarer won with dummy's ♣J and cashed the ace and king of trumps, revealing that he had a trump loser. The contract seemed to depend on finessing East for ♠K, but declarer saw an extra chance if he could remove West's minor-suit cards before he conceded a trump trick. This could come about if West had exactly three clubs and at most three diamonds.

So South cashed ♣K-A, throwing a diamond from hand, then ♦A-K. After ruffing dummy's ♦9, he exited with hx7 to West's ♥Q. As West had only spades remaining, he had to lead away from his ♠K into declarer's ♠A-Q, giving declarer his twelfth trick.

If West had held a singleton or doubleton diamond and three clubs the result would have been the same. No matter whether West overruffed the third diamond, on winning his trump trick he would have to lead into declarer's ♠A-Q.

After the pre-empt, South might have doubled in the hope that the North and East hands were interchanged but the practical leap to slam was a reasonable precaution against any possible misunderstanding in the bidding.

West led ♥K to declarer's ♥A who then cashed ♠A. When East discarded, the possibility of reaching dummy with the third round of trumps to take the diamond finesse evaporated. So South's problem became how to conjure a twelfth trick opposite North's bona fide Yarborough when he was trapped in hand!

As West was marked with ten cards in the majors, the best chance to make the contract was to hope that East had ♦K and at least five clubs. So South cashed the entire trump suit followed by ♣A-K, reducing everyone to three cards.

As East kept two diamonds and ♣J-10-9, he was put on play with the third round of clubs to lead away from ♦K-J and the slam was made. Of course if East had come down to one diamond, declarer would take the best chance and lay down ♦A, as he could no longer make the hand if East was by now void in clubs.

Dealer South. NS Vul.

	♠A J 8 3	
	♥9 7 2	
	♦Q 4	
	♣A Q 7 4	
♠6 4		♠10 7 2
♥Q 10		♥J 8 6 4 3
♦K J 9 5 3 2		♦10 7 6
♣10 9 8		♣6 2
	♠K Q 9 5	
	♥A K 5	
	♦A 8	
	♣K J 5 3	

West	North	East	South
			2NT
Pass	3C	Pass	3S
Pass	6S	Pass	Pass
Pass			

After a simple Stayman sequence, South found himself in a slam where the mirrored distribution left him with little play for his contract.

Drawing three round of trumps and cashing four rounds of clubs the clubs revealed that each defender started with five cards in each black suit. As declarer had only eleven tricks, only an endplay would produce a twelfth trick.

One possibility was to play ♥A-K-5, hoping that the defender who won the third round would also hold ♦K and then be forced to lead away from it. Alas, if the heart suit were 4-3, any reasonably competent defender would unblock hearts when holding ♦K too, allowing his partner to win the trick and lead a diamond thus ensure a diamond trick for the defence.

What if hearts were 5-2? Then playing the third heart would endplay the defender who had five hearts and three diamonds. This would give his partner six diamonds, making the defender with the doubleton heart a 2 to 1 favourite to hold ♦K!

So, after cashing ♥A-K, declarer took another line. He cashed ♦A and exited with ♦8, hoping to

endplay the defender who began with six diamonds. This time declarer's luck was in. West won ♦K but, as he had only diamonds left, now had to concede a ruff and discard on his return, allowing declarer to make his slam.

Dealer South. EW Vul.

	♠K J 9 4 3	
	♥A 7 3	
	♦10 2	
	♣K 5 4	
♠2		♠8 7
♥Q J 10 2		♥8 6 5 4
♦K J 7 5		♦9 8 6 4
♣Q 9 3 2		♣10 8 7

West	North	East	South
			♠A Q 10 6 5
			♥K 9
			♦A Q 3
			♣A J 6
			2NT
Pass	3H	Pass	4S
Pass	6S	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led ♥Q and declarer counted eleven tricks. At first sight it may appear that the contract depended on East holding either ♦K or ♣Q. However, declarer saw that an extra chance was available.

After winning ♥K, he drew trumps with ♠A-K then played ♥A and ruffed dummy's last heart in hand. Next he crossed to dummy with ♣K and led ♦10. When East played low, he played ♦3 from hand and West had to win ♦J or give declarer his twelfth trick immediately. Alas for him, a return into a minor-suit tenace would give the contract away and a heart would see the club loser disappear in a ruff and discard.

Using the ten of diamonds in this way allows the contract to make when West has ♦J and when East has ♦J and one of ♦K or ♣Q, some 87% of the time – a big improvement on the 76% line of relying just on East having ♦K or ♣Q.

An elegant Insufficiency *from p1*

You, South, hold: ♠Q63 ♥93 ♦KJ53 ♣AK87

The bidding has gone:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
---	---	---	1NT
1H	1S	Pass	?

My partner sitting South (Hashmat Ali) assumed that since we had a general agreement to use Lebensohl after an overcall of 1NT (2S would be to play), Lebensohl also applied after an undercall of 1NT, so pard passed.

The complete deal:
(Board 11 of the October Australia-Wide Pairs)

Richard
♠AK97
♥Q62
♦AT92
♣J2

Karapet the Unlucky

♠JT	♠8542
♥AKJ85	♥T74
♦876	♦Q4
♣QT3	♣9654

Hashmat
♠Q63
♥93
♦KJ53
♣AK87

Karapet the Unlucky (who was sitting West) chose to follow the advice of the best experts, who opine that at matchpoints pairs it is compulsory to balance against low-level partscores. So, Karapet now sufficiently rebid 2H.

I completed the description of my hand with a penalty double for +800 and a top.

Melbourne Cup At The Club

Hats



Food



The Serious Business



Daytime Rankings July - September 2006

Monday		Thursday		
19	Flo Gray	Anne Baldwin	20 Pat Lewis	Denise McClelland
14	Gillian Parsons	Koi Headford	15 Sheila Murray	Flo Gray
14	Rasma Bandle	Inesmarie Hodgkinson	14 Jim Murray	Robin Erskine
12	Kleo O'Connell	Elizabeth Rogoyska	13 Colleen Perriman	Ronnie Carlsson
11	Lillian Tidey	Ashok Tulpule	11 Rasma Bandle	Ruth Landau
10	Barbara Crone	June O'Donnell	11 Trevor Berenger	Ian Dalziell
10	Kathleen McIntosh	Jack Dwyer	10 Faye Layland	Norma White
10	Marie Whalan	Ruth Mackey	10 June Lomax	Nancy Hitchcock
9	Roma Kennedy	Ronnie Carlsson	9 Madge Bayin	Mary Houston
9	Sheila Murray	Jim Murray		
Tuesday		Friday		
15	Pat Lewis	June Lomax	12 Neil Naughton	Jim Chan
11	Geoff Koltz	Jane Lindsay	11 Harold McCormick	Lance McDougal
11	Jill Cromer	Jean Wilson	10 June Lomax	Carol Wilson
10	Helen Draper	Pam Brodie	6 Maureen Blackmore	Pat Skinner
9	Betty Lewis	Carol Wilson	6 David Luck	Kaye Campbell
6	Brenda Rogers	Rena Prince	5 Ray Murray	Shirley Kelley
6	Madge Bayin	Lesley Childs	5 Neil Naughton	Patricia Sullivan
6	Peter Butcher	Kerry Butcher	5 Betty Lewis	Nancy Hitchcock
Wednesday		Saturday		
17	Eileen Diprose	Sue Hume	19 Ruth Gallagher	Jim Murray
13	Colleen Price	Anne Baldwin	17 Chris Sheen	Mark Sheen
12	Flo Gray	Gwenda Fitzgerald	10 Neil Naughton	Gillian Parsons
12	Malcolm Aldons	Andrew Leslie	10 Molly O'Donohue	Philip Thompson
9	Alex Preece	Anne Preece	8 Malcolm Aldons	Tom Coogan
8	Neil Naughton	Jim Chan	8 Colleen Perriman	Heather Herrick
7	Mary Tough	Molly O'Donohue	7 Eileen Diprose	Flo Gray
7	Terri Henderson	Basil Rebera	7 Connie Treloar	Brian Treloar
			6 June Robinson	Adam Robinson

How It Works

You are given three points for a first, two for a second and one for a third. If regular night competition players participated in the movement, they were excluded from the calculation. Day-time players playing with a competition player were also excluded from that movement. So if the movement was won by a night-time player, the day time player coming second was allocated the three points. (The two Monday sessions were combined as so many switch between movements over the period). To avoid a bias in favour of smaller movements, you needed to get a score of at least 50 per cent to pick up points.

Adventures in Card Play

By Earl Dudley

Board 2 of Session 17 of the qualifying sessions of the State Open Teams event recently concluded at the Club proved to be a challenge for declarers. It features a problem that declarers often face in the course of play. If communication between declarer's hand and dummy is tricky, declarer may be able to set up the required number of winners yet be unable to cash them without setting up tricks for the defenders to cash.

With NS Vulnerable and East the dealer, the NS hands were as follows:

♠KQ763
♥86
♦AQ32
♣94

♠A
♥KQ43
♦J865
♣QJ73

The bidding at one table was (Pass) 1♦ 2♠: 2NT 3NT. The jump shift to 2♠ was fit-showing (54 in the suit bid and opener's suit with 9-11 HCP). My guess is that opener would have wanted to play in 2NT but since North had a maximum for his initial response he raised to game.

The opening lead is the ♣5 (4th highest). At all tables declarer played low from dummy at Trick 1 and East's ♣8 dislodged a club honour from declarer's hand. We will follow the subsequent (hypothetical) play in 3NT at several tables. Why not work out your preferred line of play first? If you play a diamond from hand, West will play the ♦K and if you play a heart from dummy, the ♥K will score.

First Table

After winning the club, declarer now unblocked the ♠A and led a diamond towards dummy. It was necessary to assume that the ♦K was held by West or else the contract was destined to fail. West kept declarer's hopes alive by playing the ♦K at Trick 3.

Declarer No 1 decided to pin his hopes on East holding the ♥A and played a heart from dummy. The defence now decided that declarer needed some assistance and East chose an inappropriate time to rise with the ♥A in order to switch to the ♣T. Disaster! The ♣7 was promoted to a winner and when the smoked cleared, declarer emerged with an over-trick.

Second Table

Declarer No 2 adopted a similar line of play to the first declarer but here the East defender was more thoughtful (your author was the bunny at Table 1!) and ducked at Trick 4 allowing the ♥K to score. Declarer was now full of optimism. A diamond to the ♦Q followed and declarer cashed the two spade winners in dummy before leading a second heart. Declarer now had nine winners but unfortunately the spade suit divided 5-2 and so the defence were able to cash 5 tricks when East won the ♥A on the second lead of hearts.

Third Table

Declarer No 3 spotted the problem with the first line of play. It required the ♥A to be onside and spades to split 4-3. However, if spades were 4-3, then the contract will succeed even if the ♥A is off side. So he played to establish the 5th spade as a winner. The cruel 5-2 spade split was a bitter blow.

Fourth Table

Declarer No 4 was a resourceful and imaginative player. He analysed the play at Trick 1. The rule of 11 comes into play. Subtracting 5 (the value of the card led) from 11 reveals that East, North and South have 6 cards higher than 5. Consequently, East has two of these cards. It is certain that East does not have the ♣A or ♣K or else that card would have been played at Trick 1. This means that East started with either ♣T82, ♣862, ♣T8 or ♣86.

If East's second club higher than the 5 is the ♣6, then there is only one hope for the contract. East cannot be allowed to capture the lead or else a club continuation will defeat 3NT. Declarer must

play for West to have the ♥A and exactly four spades.

However, if East started with the ♣T, prospects are quite rosy. Declarer played a heart at Trick 4 ducked to the ♥K. Declarer now played the ♣Q and was rewarded when East was obliged to follow with the ♣T. Even if East started with ♣T86, declarer is in full control. West cannot profitably continue clubs or hearts and a spade switch provides an extra dummy to enable declarer to repeat the heart finesse. Well done!

Fifth Table

The expert declarer at Table 5 showed that the hand is truly simple. Why not examine the full hand and decide your line of play?

2006 State Open Teams Qualifying, Session:
17, Board: 2

NS Vulnerable, East Dealer

	♠KQ763	
	♥86	
	♦AQ32	
	♣94	
♠T9852		♠J4
♥JT		♥A9752
♦K		♦T974
♣AK652		♣T8
	♠A	
	♥KQ43	
	♦J865	
	♣QJ73	



Declarer won the opening lead, cashed the ♠A and played a diamond from hand. When the ♦K appeared, declarer paused for a moment to consider if West was engaged in a bit of skulduggery in playing the ♦K from an original doubleton holding. Having decided that it was likely to be a singleton, declarer ducked! The communication problems between declarer's hand and dummy were now solved. West was obliged to exit with a spade and now had the entries to play hearts twice from dummy and cash the spade winners.

Note that an initial spade lead from West is likely to succeed for EW.

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