

Answers -discards

1) 9 Spades. A HIGH spade -remember?

we want a spade lead -NB dummy has AJ4 and we are *sat behind dummy* with KQ92 and can get two tricks if the suit is led (twice).

No marks for the 8 diamonds discard asking for a diamond.

2) again we want a spade -we have AK52

How to signal that ? If the 5sp was the 8 or 9 we could confidentially play that card but maybe the 5 is too small a card (to show interest).

here are Two ways to do it :-

(i) first discard the 5 sp and then secondly discard the 2 sp ie a Hi-LO in sp

(ii) first discard 2 diamonds and then secondly discard the 2 clubs ie two low signals in the other suits points to spades being the suit we really want.

Which is best ? I think (i) but there are arguments both sides.

3)In general I am not against passive defences of leading suits that you know neither dummy nor declarer can gain advantage from. So here , a heart continuation is not beyond the pale. Partner does seem to have gone out of their way to signal though (the 7 clubs is a HIGH club) so will lead the 3 clubs.

4) you have 4 losers and will go down if you draw trumps.

You need to discard a loser before drawing trumps.

Play A diamonds -then Q diamonds (overtaking with the K) -then J diamonds discarding a losing heart.

Ooooh thats good you might say having got it wrong and before going onto the next question. Well so it is but it is now time for YOU to get that sort of thing right.

Think on.

5) 2 Losers ie 1 too many.

You need to do something before drawing trumps.

Attempt to trump a heart in dummy.Go on . Try it. (Its the only way to make the contract)

6) At trick 2 lead a diamond. Keep leading diamonds.

This way you will take 12 tricks with no need for any finesses.

Minus marks if you took a spade finesse.

7) Opener has bid two suits (with 12-14) and pushed their partner too high to the three level.

