

PS –if anyone has any packs of cards in the backs of drawers in not too bad condition I need some for some duplicate boards I have just acquired

Answers review splinters –penalty doubles

1) looks perfect – we will lead our singleton spade and make hay
NB 3 off doubled and vulnerable is 800

2)also ok by me with an alternative call of 2NT –which is best ?
Perhaps vulnerability and type of bridge you are playing (rubber/duplicate/Chicago) has a bearing. Both calls will “work” though – u might argue that NTs is better as u have only KJ52 diamonds which will only net a likely two tricks whereas in (1) above we had KQ92 which is likely to make 3 tricks.

3) I don't like this greatly – we have 4 points in diamonds which are “wasted” in the sense that they are opposite partner's singleton or void in diamonds. A duplication of values what ..but u have a lot of points so its not the worst bid ive seen or made. 4Hrt is my call though.

4) This looks better. 6542 diamonds opposite a singleton is perfect

5) 1) win K hearts 2) play 2 sp to the J sp (wins) 3) play Ace spades
And thats it. Take a minus mark for anything much different.
The point is you need the opponent on your right to have precisely Kx spades.

6) 1) win Ace hrts 2) small heart to the 10 wins [think about it]
3)small spade to the J wins 4) small heart to the K 5) small spade to the Q wins
6) play Ace spades

7) a club. Take a minus mark if...oh we have already done that one.
Of course the heart finesse *might* work and we *might* yet take it but there is a fair chance of establishing by force a club eventually if we lead a club every time we have the lead.

8)at trick 2 play a diamond. At trick 3 play a diamond At trick 4 play a diamond and discard a heart. Then draw trumps. You have no chance if you don't start like this.

9) a heart. Partner's double is called a Lightner double (after its creator). The idea is that a double out of the blue of a freely bid slam says I have a void –lead my void suit and I will ruff it. Well a pound to a Euro partner's void suit is hearts with us having so many. [In the past I wouldn't have bothered explaining the logic of that last sentence but these days I know better]