

## Homework answers -discarding

1) There are options .

we can "spare" ... two hearts leaving us just K6 of hearts BUT this is hardly ideal ie the K hearts would be better protected if it had two small cards with it (K65).

So although that solution aint bad a better one is probably to throw 1 heart and 1 x spade

2)again choices

1 club is easy and ... 1 x spade is best ( though another club is acceptable just about )

3) 1 x club and 1 x heart are my selections

4) 1 x club and 2 x hearts

NB there are two N0 4 questions

4) we can work this out by deciding first what we cant throw.

We need the 4 diamonds for as long as we can keep them ( as declarer has 4 x diamonds themselves ); we need the 4 x clubs again for as long as we can ( as dummy has four clubs );

so ..... we throw hearts -yes partner's suit -we may even throw ALL our hearts- ( you wont find this in the textbooks so lucky youre getting it here ).

Partner's might raise eyebrows at this but we know best.

5) a) 1S-----2D  
2S

NB we cant show clubs as then partner cant go back to our first suit at the 2 level

b) 1C-----1S  
2C

same old same old -if we bid 2H then partner cant bid 2C and will (probably ) have to go 3c which is too high

c) 1H-----1S  
2C

no problem now -partner can stop at two level in 2C ( they can pass) or go back to 2H

6) the sort of problem that catches the unwary -did you finesse in spades ?

You are probably suffering from finessitis or as doctors put it - a chronic inability to stop yourself from taking unnecessary finesses. ( Theres no known cure ).

Some sufferers can keep the problem in check by first counting the top tricks.

In this case there are 8.

A look at the diamonds QJ987 ---K102 reveals a very definite 4 tricks can be obtained there simply by leading the suit until the Ace has been dislodged.

(A topless suit no less ).

So our hoped for 12 tricks are obtainable with no finesses needed by :-

A K + Q hrts and A + K + Q + J clubs and Q + J + 9 + 8 diamonds and A spades.

The order of play is as ever to keep the certain tricks for later and to go for the suits that need to be established.

7) 9 Hrts. Top of nothing is the lead vs 6NT - learn now grasshopper before it is too late.

