

Answers bigraises

1) 4C this is FORCING of course

2) 3D

3) Hmmm I really could make a case for NTs here (which would have the plus of keeping alive hopes for game in 3NT) ...however such bids aren't for everyone and the bid of 4C can't be questioned. 4C is undoubtedly correct.

No Q 4

5) South should bid 4Sp NB they know from their partners two calls of 1Sp and 4D that their partner has 5 spades (and 4 D) so playing in the 5----3 spade fit is normal.

6) Well now what ? 5D ? 6D ? 4NT ?

The call of 5D is for wimps and btw (if u ever play duplicate) u will soon discover that there will be noone playing in 5 of a minor so u r destined to have a unique result (almost certainly not a good thing at duplicate). No , u have to see this through and 4NT is the woman's bid. What ? Sexist ? But if I said it was the "man's" bid what would I be accused of then. Try again , 4NT is the bid made by good bridge players everywhere regardless of ethnicity or gender. Oh ,and it's the mans bid.

7)ok these have been set to catch even the best of you out.

Its no good learning a set of "rules" and just trotting them out (because the "rules" change with the circumstances).What you have to be able to do is decide what you are hoping for and what is best to achieve that.

(i) The Ace Hrts .

(ii) The 10 Hrts

(iii) The J Hrts.

You can puzzle out why but assuming partner led from

KQxx in (i)

KJxx in (ii)

Q10xx in (iii) might help.

8) (i) play to discard a heart from hand before drawing trumps.

So ...Ace diamonds –then K clubs ...then Ace clubs ...then J clubs discarding a heart. Next start drawing trumps.

(ii) Ugggh my least favourite sort of hand.

If you count winners it's reasonable to expect 4 x spades 1 x hrt 1 x Diamond 2 x clubs ; to make 2 more you can plan to ruff 2 hearts in dummy.

This line is reasonable; 1) Ace diamonds ; 2)small heart from dummy.

...now whether you make 10 or 11 will probably depend on where the Ace hearts is BUT everything is in place to make the 10 tricks we provisionally counted (on).

NB it might have been important NOT to draw trumps straight away (which is why I didn't) – you will need at least two "spare" trumps to ruff with and you might not have had those if you prematurely drew trumps.

(iii)Win K diamonds. Draw trumps. Then (and only then) play Ace diamonds and Q diamonds discarding a heart.

