

Answers -blocking/unblocking

- 1) trick 1) lead 4 Hrts --partner plays K Hrts --declarer wins Ace Hrts*
trick 2) declarer leads a diamond and partner wins with the Ace)
trick 3) partner leads the J hrts [wins]
trick 4) partner leads 2 Hrts

* although it is normal to wait when weak when a declarer holds only the Ace in the led suit at N.Ts many experts don't bother when they have only two cards (ie Ax); the theory being that they can only hold up one round anyway. They also claim that the defenders may misjudge if you win with the A from Ax straight away (possibly believing you to be stronger).Anyway that is what this declarer did.

- 2) trick 1) lead 4 Hrts --partner plays K Hrts --
trick 2) declarer leads the 2 hrts

simple maxim -when you have only two cards left in the suit you are leading back , then lead the highest. e.g with Q4 lead Q with 92 lead 9 with K4 lead K.

With more cards than two in the suit you are leading back lead a low one e.g with Q42 lead 2 with 983 lead the 3 with K74 lead the 4.

- 3) (i) correct to rebid 2Sp and *not* introduce the clubs at the 3 level
NB had you bid your second suit clubs , partner would not have been able to go back to your first suit at the two level (they wouldnt have been able to bid 2Sp)
 - (ii) incorrect to keep bidding hearts (with the 2H rebid). Opener should have bid 2C.
If responder had not liked clubs much they could always go back to Hrts at the 2 level.
 - (iii) correct to rebid 2C and *not* introduce the diamonds .
NB had you bid your second suit diamonds , partner would not have been able to go back to your first suit at the two level (at the very least you would have pushed them to the 3 level)
- 4) You can afford to discard 1 spade (just). ie come down to Q87 sp
You cant afford to throw any clubs ie you need to keep the J c guarded (J765).
So ... you have to throw partner's suit hearts. Throw the J95 hearts.

5) 1S-----2C (start of a DGR)
2D-----4S
4NT-----5D
6S

i) Q Hrts led which we win with the Ace

need to get rid of our hearts before drawing trumps

- (ii) J clubs -overtake with Ace
- (iii) K cl -discarding a heart
- (iv) Q cl -discarding a heart
- (v) now start drawing trumps

The opps will take their Ace sp but when they lead a heart we have none left so can ruff that lead.

6) Tricky hands to bid with any degree of science and accuracy. Maybe you should go to 7 rather than 6 as actually its as easy to make 13 as 12 !
Am not saying 13 is laydown and quite possibly the unwary will only make 11 BUT the "wary" ! will probably make 13.

2C-----2D (1st negative)
2Sp-----3C (NOT a 2nd negative. 2NT would be the 2nd neg.)
3S-----4Sp
4NT-----5D (1 Ace)
6/7 sp ?

(i) Q hrts lead which we win with the A

*we have two losers in a diamond and a heart ;
one can be ruffed in dummy and one can be discarded on the Ace clubs.*

- (ii) play K hrts (creating a void in hrts in dummy)
- (iii) play K clubs (an unblocking play)

- (iv) lead the 2 hrts and ruff it in dummy
- (v) play the Ace clubs and discard the 5 diamonds
- (vi)..... draw trumps.