

Answers defensive play 29 sep - 1 oct

- 1) The 9 diamonds signal is clearly a high card and is therefore requesting a switch to the highest of the remaining non-trump suits. A heart is called for. Lead the 8 hearts
- 2) A bit of a trick question from yours truly as the 7 diamonds although looking like a high card (on cursory inspection) actually definitely is the lowest card your partner held in diamonds. You can check that if you dont believe it.
Partner wants a club. We lead the K clubs.
Now if it turns out that partner was daydreaming again and didnt want ba club at all and you have just wasted your K clubs well you wont be polite will you ?
- 3) Pretty soon we will win the J clubs lead and I intend to win it now (wait and see why).
Having won the club now what ? Declarer still holds the A + 10 of diamonds (that much I do know because partner played the J diamonds at trick 1 and so cant hold the 10 diamonds). I mustn't lead another diamond as that will only assist declarer. I need to lead a non-diamond (!!).
Well a heart is safer than a spade (always select a top of nothing exit rather than a lead from an honour in such situations) but actually I am going to exit with a club. I can you see as I won the Ace clubs straight away.
Lead a club or a heart if you have to and play a waiting game. You may beat the contract yet and wont have helped declarer with this sort of passive defence.
- 4) 1H (middle of "three touchers") 5) 1C (lowest of "three non touchers")
- 6) 2NT or 1H ? both have problems and I have tried both over the years.
Opening 2NT at least makes for a simple auction and hopefully partner will remember to use Stayman if they have a major
- 7) 2S (8 playing tricks) 8) 2C (only 3 losers)
- 9) 2S 10) 2D 11) 3D (jump shift) 12) 2D (D.G.R.)
- 13) (i) 1) Ace hrts 2) Q d 3) K d 4) Ace D *throwing a heart* 5) draw trumps

we had to do all that first as we had 4 losers and couldnt allow the opps to get in with the Ace trumps until we had discarded a loser

(ii) HmMMM

- 1) Ace hrts 2) 8d to the J d for a finesse *...of course this might lose and we will end up two off in the contract but*

.....if the finesse of the J diamonds won then

- 3) Ace diamonds 4) K diamonds *throwing a heart* 5) draw trumps

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