

Homework answers –defensive ploys

1) Partner has done well to start with spades and after we have knocked out declarer's other high spade honour we should beat the contract. BUT ...meanwhile declarer is making headway and adding club tricks . It can do no harm to wait before taking our K clubs. I am going to duck the Q clubs. As I have done it so fast declarer will never suspect my cunning plan. In fact they will probably return to hand somehow and repeat their "winning " finesse. Then I can win and smirk (and return partner's spade lead). It may be declarer has no clubs left and the good clubs in dummy will be stranded as declarer cannot get over to dummy ie I have the K Hrts which will prevent the Q hrts being an entry

2) Same same (just about) –it does no harm to inconvenience declarer and duck the diamond finesse (FAST) – it may come to naught as this time declarer seems to have entries to the dummy (the Q clubs) BUT who knows. Anyway its fun to lead the declarer on.

3)Well in practise declarer will take the club finesse and if it wins is likely to return to hand (with Ace hrts say) and take another club finesse (which loses to you). BUT if you perhaps gave the game away when the club finesse was taken (by hesitating) well the declarer could give up on clubs and play 3 rounds of hearts. Now the 13th heart becomes a winner and declarer wont repeat the club finesse.

So contract beaten if you play speedily and makes if you hesitate.

4)
a) double b) NT c)1H d) pass

see previous notes if u mucked those protective bids up

5) (i) Pass Partner has six spades and a weak hand 6-----9

(ii) 4Sp Partner has six spades and a moderate hand 10-----12

5) (i) we need to draw trumps from dummy –weak to strong.
So will go to Ace diamonds and lead 2 sp towards Q s.
Later will go to K diamonds and lead 3 sp to J sp

(ii) the play will be the 2 sp to the Q sp BUT we have to get to dummy to do that.
Try a diamond to the K (probably will lose) never mind when we next have lead , lead diamond to Q. Now as above 2 sp to the Q. When that wins !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! play ace spades and watchj the K drop. Finally small sp to J