

## Answers –Thurs unblocking /overtaking

1) Ace Hrts ; Q Hrts ; a heart ruff; Ace club.

le 1) overtake K hearts with Ace

2) return the 9 hrts to partner's Q

3) partner leads a third heart which I ruff

4) Ace clubs

2) Partner has a doubleton diamond holding e.g K 2.

They are overtaking our Q with their K to unblock the suit.

(if they didn't then declarer could just wait when weak and the suit would be forever blocked)

3) (i) play K hrts on partners Q --- declarer ducks.

Then lead the 2 to partner's 10 ( declarer ducks)

Partner leads a third hearts removing declarers Ace.

Declarer (taking their best chance) goes to dummy's K clubs and leads....

The Q spades for a finesse of the K----- partner wins with the K spades and plays two more winning diamonds ie contract 1 off

(ii) DON'T play K hrts on partners Q --- declarer ducks.

Partner leads a second heart to our King –declarer ducks.

We then ...err... well make our excuses to partner ( the light was bad , there are problems at home etc etc ) because there is NO way that declarer can now be beaten. In fact they make 3NT plus 1.

We blocked the run of the heart suit by our stubborn ( that's charitable) refusal to play the K on our partner's Q.

4) opener had reversed, ie they have 5 hrts and 4 spades AND 17+ pts.

(Re look up your notes on reverses if you didn't know that ).

So responder's second call should have been 4 Hrts not 3. ie partners 17+ their 9=26

5) hand (i) ie opener started with diamonds and then bid spades and therefore has more diamonds than spades. (They rebid the second suit of spades so had five spades and thus 6 diamonds )

5) (again) the answer is (iii).

NB because we have four trumps in dummy we don't prepare for the ruff in dummy (yet). After we have drawn trumps we still don't go looking for the ruff in dummy but rather set about establishing extra tricks .

6) the answer is (iv). This time we only hold 3 trumps in dummy ( ie not 4 !). With less than 4 trumps in dummy its essential to go full pelt after the heart ruff in dummy before drawing trumps.