

Answers weak take outs ?

- 1) probably West had better pass –South could be quite strong and may even have spades and it just isn't safe to come in over 1NT
 - 2) Probably West had better bid 2Sp –now South is known to be weak
- Ah so ...on (1) because there was no weak takeout West felt obliged to pass BUT on (2) when there was a weak take out West felt it was safe enough to bid ?Yes.
- 3) East isn't going to let them get away with 2D-what to call though ? Double looks best –West can choose the suit to call.
 - 4) its still close for me (between pass and 2D) but 2D is no doubt right.
 - 5) Now we bid 3D.
 - 6) Some would say the 3NT reply to 1 of a major was ungainly at best and a whole lot of other things at worst . Howeverthe bid exists (and sometimes is a sensible call) –it shows 13-15 pts and not more than 2 hearts.
 - 7) (i) Ace diamonds (ii) 2 hearts (iii) 2 hearts (iv) 9 hearts

So if we lead partner's suit and we have a doubleton we lead the highest but if we don't have a doubleton we don't ? Correct.

But are there any exceptions to that ? Yes. One.

We'll tell us, you can't leave it like that !

Hmmm (grudgingly) ok with A xx or Axxx of partner's suit the highest card is led.

8) a likely explanation is :-

N has 5 diamonds and only 3 spades (and 12-14 pts)

S has only 4 spades (and 13-15 pts)

This isn't certain but one question why the final contract is NTs despite both players bidding spades- this rather leads one to the view that N supported with only 3 spades at their first turn.

Perhaps they held this hand :- AQ5-----Q432-----A8765----3

9) Two plans :-

(i) finesse the J diamonds (ii) finesse the Q clubs

Who knows either could be right BUT most would go for the club finesse.

Win Ace diamonds ; Win Q hearts ; play 10 clubs to the Q (wins); play Ace clubs discarding a diamond; draw trumps.

NB it was imperative to make the discard before the opponents took the lead so trumps had to be put on hold;

10)This is sooo old hat. Haven't you got anything new to teach us ?

Simply -Win Ace hearts; lead the 3 diamonds and play the 2 diamonds from dummy.

Yes sorry –have lots of new lessons just thought you might need reminding about this chestnut. Very sorry won't happen again all new stuff from now on. Oh and well played.

