

Daily Bridge Club

Louie’s losing bet

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Unlucky Louie found a new way to lose money in his penny game. He was East, and West led the king of spades against 3NT.

South was Ed, my club’s expert. He ducked, won the second spade and led a club to dummy’s queen. Louie took the king, huddled and shifted to the king of diamonds, attacking Ed’s entry to his long clubs.

“Good play,” Ed said. He played low, won the next diamond with dummy’s queen, cashed the A-J of clubs and A-K-Q of hearts, and exited with dummy’s last heart at Trick 11. Louie took the jack and had to lead a diamond, and Ed got the ace and a winning club. Making three.

UNBEATABLE

“I did my best,” Louie sighed, “but 3NT was unbeatable.”

“Ten dollars says I can beat it,” Ed said.

Louie unwisely took the bet, and they replayed the deal with Ed as East. The play began the same way, but when Louie took dummy’s high hearts, Ed followed with the jack, ten and nine. Then the three won, but dummy had only spades left. Louie lost the last two tricks to West.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 10 ♥ 6 5 4 ♦ A 8 4 ♣ 10 9 6 5 3. Your partner opens one club, you raise to two clubs and he

bids two hearts. South in today’s deal then bid 2NT with this hand. Do you agree with that call?

ANSWER: I think it was timid. South had eight high-card points, including two aces, when he might have had a point or two fewer. He had a fifth card in clubs that figured to be a winner. South could have jumped to 3NT at his second turn.

North dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH
♠ 8 6 5 2
♥ A K Q 3
♦ Q J
♣ A Q J

WEST
♠ K Q J 9 4 3
♥ 8 7
♦ 7 6 5 3
♣ 4

EAST
♠ 7
♥ J 10 9 2
♦ K 10 9 2
♣ K 8 7 2

SOUTH
♠ A 10
♥ 6 5 4
♦ A 8 4
♣ 10 9 6 5 3

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	All Pass		

Opening lead – ♠ K