

Daily Bridge Club

Trials and errors

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“Your honor,” the District Attorney stated, “we will prove that South committed a felony. He lost a cold game.”

“Proceed,” the judge instructed.

“Against four spades,” the DA began, “West led the king of clubs. East played the ten, and West continued with the ace and seven. Declarer ruffed East’s nine, drew trumps and lost a heart finesse with dummy’s queen.

“East next led the queen of clubs,” the DA went on. “Declarer ruffed, cashed the king of diamonds and tried a diamond to dummy’s jack. East took the queen for down one.”

“My client was unlucky,” South’s counsel roared.

10TH TRICK

“Guilty,” the judge ruled. “After South ruffs the third club, he can draw trumps ending in dummy and lead the jack of clubs. When East covers, South pitches a heart: a loser on a loser. East must concede the 10th trick.

“By the way,” the judge added, “charge East-West with misdefense. East should discourage with the five of clubs at Trick One. If West shifts to a heart, South always fails.”

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A Q 7 ♥ A Q 3
♦ A J 5 ♣ J 6 4 3. You open

one club, your partner responds one spade, you jump to 2NT and he bids three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner’s three hearts is forcing (as would be any bid over your 2NT). He will often have five spades and four hearts. Bid three spades. Show your three-card support for his first suit, which may be what he wants to hear about. Partner may hold K J 9 6 3, K 10 6 4, Q 6 4, 2.

North dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ A Q 7
♥ A Q 3
♦ A J 5
♣ J 6 4 3

WEST
♠ 8 5 3
♥ 10 8 7
♦ 10 6 4 3
♣ A K 7

EAST
♠ 6
♥ K J 6 5
♦ Q 8 7 2
♣ Q 10 9 5

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 9 4 2
♥ 9 4 2
♦ K 9
♣ 8 2

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 NT	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

Opening lead – ♣ K