

Open eNews

2022 January Vol 5 Issue 1

Editor: Kevin Davies

Contents

Editor Comments1
LM - Defence in Detail2
♦ BM - Challenge Ahead3
BM - Handle with Care4
MH Role Reversal5

Editor Comments:

This revised Newsletter format (email & PDFs triggered from the email) is designed to ease the big PDF files that used to be delivered. It also allows more focused content. Kevin

Open Challenge Hand 1 (Bid and Play)

•	pen chancinge hand i (Bid and i lay)				
	North	NS Vul, Dealer: South			
	♠ KQT2				
	♥ A872	West will show a 5/5 in the			
	♦ A4	Majors over your 1♦ opening,			
	♣ J95				
		Assuming you can reach a 6◆			
	South (D)	contract, West leads the ♣K.			
	. A8				
	♥ Q5	How do you plan to make your			
	◆ KQT987	slam contract?			
	♣ AT8				

Open Challenge Hand 2 (Bid and Play)

_	P	
	North (D)	NS Vul, Dealer: South
	▲ AJT	
	₽	East will Overcall 2♥ over Norths
	♦ AJ653	1♦ opening,
	♣ Q432	
		Assuming you can reach a 6♠
	South	contract, West leads the ▼2 .
	♠ KQ7532	
	♥ A54	How do you plan to make your
	+ QT7	slam contract?
	♣ A	

Open Challenge Hand 3 (Bid and Play)

North	NS Vul, Dealer: West			
♣ 7				
♥ T	West Passes, Partner Passes			
◆ JT9542	but East will open 4♥			
♣ AT874				
South	Assuming you overcall 4♠, West			
▲ AKJ8532	doubles for penalty. West			
♥ AJ3	leads the v8 .			
+ KQ				
♣ J	You see dummy, how do you			
	plan to make your doubled game			
	contract?			

North Shore Bridge Club: Contacts			
		0418 427 458	
President:	David Fryda	david@frydas.com	
Secretary	Maryann Russett		
,	•	maryann@tremara.com.au	
VP & Tournament	John Mclirath	0437 274343	
Chairman		john@johnmcilrath.com.au	
Online Operations	Gary Barwick	0413 884 805	
Manager	oury Burtilok	garybarwick@outlook.com	
NSBC Face-to-	Liam Milne	0478 626 393	
Face Club Manager	Liaili Willie	manager@bridgeclub.com.au	
Bridge Teaching &	Vav Mayea	0416 002 701	
Training	Kay Moyes	moyes kay@hotmail.com	
NSBC Office		0440.057.040	
Administrator	Margaret Owen	0410 657 048	
	Kevin Davies -: Ian Maclaren -	0403 018 979	
Newsletter Editors:		kdav1951@gmail.com	
Newsieller Editors.		0418 680 879	
		imhmaclaren@bigpond.com	
Web Master	Leo Goorevich	0410 490 123	
TTOD Master	Leo Goolevicii	leo.goorevich@iinet.net.au	
RB Venue	Gary Barwick	0413 884 805	
EL Venue	East Lindfield	02 9415 8344	
WS Venue	Willis	0478 626 393	
CW/NR Venues	Closed	0478 626 393	

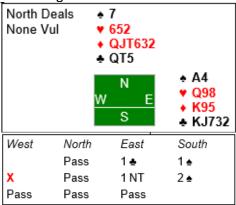
◆ LM - Defence in Detail



Accurate Defence is the hardest part of our game.

Letting autopilot take over is not normally conducive to high quality bridge. But sometimes partner's signal can help you snap out of it.

Playing Matchpoints sitting in the East seat, you hear the following auction:

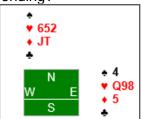


Contract: 2♠ by South

The defence against 2♠ begins very nicely indeed. Partner's ♣8 lead goes to the ♣5, ♣J and declarer takes their ♣A. At trick two declarer leads a diamond and partner win the ♠A in order to continue with the ♣4 confirming a doubleton.

You take the <u>♣K</u> and return the **♣2** to signal for a diamond as partner ruffs. Partner dutifully follows your signal, but declarer trumps your **♦K** then plays the **♠K** around to your **♠A**.

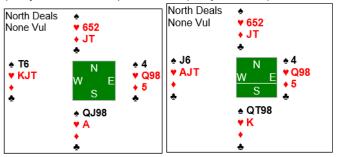
With four tricks in the bag already and dummy completely dead, you naturally continue with the deluge of clubs. On the fourth club, declarer throws the \checkmark 4 and partner throws their last diamond, while on the fifth and final club declarer throws the \checkmark 7 and partner throws the \checkmark 3, low encouraging. What should you play in this ending?



As always, we must start with what we know. Declarer is surely marked with a 6=3=1=3 shape, so they have one heart and four trumps left. Partner has two trumps and three hearts. The top two hearts rate to be split both on the bidding and partner's failure to lead a heart.

The auto-pilot play is to play a diamond. There doesn't seem much that can go wrong, and we might promote a trump trick for partner – for example, if they are down to *Tx at this point. It certainly does look like declarer is trying to avoid a trump promotion. Could it ever be wrong to play your diamond? Yes. If partner has the *A and an unpromotable trump holding, declarer will throw their last (losing) heart on the diamond and partner will be forced to ruff with their trump trick. Turning +150 into +100 won't be a good outcome.

So, does the ending look like this (Play a diamond?) Or (Play a heart)?



There are plenty of clues, but partner has given you one clear signal at just the moment you need it. Their encouraging heart discard when declarer is marked with only one more heart to everyone at the table simply must show the ace. If that is the case, it can never be wrong to play a heart and might be the only way to avoid declarer throwing their *K away.

If partner didn't have the ace of hearts, they could make their need for a trump promotion as clear as possible by throwing a high (discouraging) heart. Even the king (denying the ace) would do the trick nicely!

Point to remember when you aren't quite sure what is going on, conduct a quick recap on what spot cards partner has played. They are the one on your side, after all – even if it doesn't always feel like it!

BM - Challenge Ahead



Brent Manley

Brett Manley was a guest co-editor of the Gold Coast daily bulletin. IPBA executive member and WBF bulletin editor. Link Challenge Ahead

North	Standard Bidding			
♠ KQT2	West	North	East	you
♥ A872				1♦
♦ A4	2•	X	Pass	Pass
♣ J95	2♥	X	Pass	3♦
	Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
South (D)	Pass	4•	Pass	5♣
♣ A8	Pass	6	All	Pass
♥ Q5		Biddin	g Notes	
◆ KQT987	1♦	4+•, opening hand		
♣ AT8	2♦	Michaels 5/5 Majors		
	X	Values		
	Pass/S	Penality		
	Pass/E	No Preference		
	2♥	Better ♥		
	X	Suggeste	d Penality	,
	3♦	Better than min, 6+D		
	3♥	Cue / ask		
	3♠	Cue		
	4♦	No C Control		
	5♣	Cue		
	6♦	To Play		

The complex auction had some points of interest. Your pass over 2*x, followed by 3*, promised extras and long diamonds. You would have bid at your second turn with fewer values.

You also judged that a vulnerable game or slam was more promising than a penalty from 2♥X. After that start, you and partner were forcing to game. Control bidding followed, and once you confirmed a club control, your partner ended the auction by leaping to 6♦.

T1 West leads the ♣K, which you win with the ace. When you lead a low trump toward the ace, West discards a heart. How will you cope with this development with east holding 5x♦ cards to get to your 12 tricks?

Your Solution

Despite the bad trump break, you as declarer did not concede. You saw that he could make 12 tricks provided West had exactly five spades headed by the jack!

- You win the **♣K** lead in hand with **♣A** T1
- T2 ◆7 to the ◆A You find East with 5 diamonds!
- T3 ♦4, ♦3 finessing to the <u>♦8</u>
- You then cashed the ◆K T4
- T5 You cashed **♠A**
- T6 You lead ♠8, ♠4, ♠T successfully finessing West's **♦**J
- T7 You cash the **<u>*K</u>** - East saw that ruffing it would allow the contract to make easily (declarer could overruff, draw the last trump and claim 12 tricks). So, he threw a heart, and so did you
- Cashed the **♠Q** again eliciting heart T8 discards from both East and yourself.
- T9 You then cashed the VA saw club discards from both East and yourself.
- T10 You then lead the ♥2. Declarer ruffed the heart with •9 as East dropped his last
- T11 You then exited with your club loser ♣T. East had to ruff this ◆5.
- T12 East was reduced to just the ◆J6 of trumps, while declarer held the ◆QT of the suit over him, so You had to make the last two tricks and brought your contract home

The full deal:

6+/S	North	
04/3	▲ KQT2	
West	♥ A872	East
▲ J9743	♦ A4	♠ 65
♥ KJT 94	♣ J95	♥ 63
• -		♦ J6532
♣ KQ2	South (D)	♣ 7643
	▲ A8	
Lead 	♥ Q 5	Vul N/S
Leau M	◆ KQT987	Dir: S
	♣ AT8	

BM - Handle with Care



Brett Manley was a guest co-editor of the Gold Coast daily bulletin. IPBA executive member and WBF bulletin editor. Adapted from a **Brent Manly** article in Bridge feed. Link <u>Handle with care</u>

North (D)	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
 AJT	West North (D) East South			South
♥ Q		1+	2♥	2♠
♦ AJ653	Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
♣ Q432	Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
	Bidding Notes			
South	1♦ Opening hand 4+◆			
♠ KQ7532	2♥ Non-Vul Overcall			
♥ A54	2. 5+S, forcing			
+ QT7	4♠ Support min (no cue)			
♣ A	4NT Keycard (S)			
	5♥ 2 Keycards, No sQ			
	6≜ To Play			

You are playing in a team's match and both souths reach a 6♠ slam with good prospects. Both West leads the ♥2. Dummy's ♥Q is covered by East with the ♥K.
What is your plan for getting to 12 tricks?

Preliminary Analysis

Winners: 6♠ +1♥+1♦+1♣

Top Losers: None, maybe **◆K**

Extras Ruff 2x♥ with short trumps?

T1 West leads a MUD **▼7** to dummy's **▼Q**, East's **▼K** and declarer's **▼A**.

Play at your Table

- T2 You as Declarer ruffed a heart ♥4 in Dummy with the <u>◆T</u>
- T3 Then you cashed the <u>♠A</u>, but East showed out. West had <u>♠98xx!</u>
- T3 You then returned to hand **♣2** to **♣A**
- T4 You ran your ◆Q losing to East's ◆K
- T5 East found the best defence of forcing dummy with a high ♥J lead, Dummy had to ruff with the ♠J,

Thereby promoting West's ♠9 into the setting trick. You were now going one off in your 6♠ contract.

Solution at Table 2 (Expert Declarer)

- T2 The expert declarer led **◆2** to dummy's **◆T** discovering the 4-0 break.
- T3 Then he returned to hand with the A
- T4 The expert declarer ran the ◆Q, which held the trick! This declarer was confident that East (a strong player) would withhold the ◆K and that also that West would have covered the ◆Q if he had held the ◆K.
- T5 So, the expert declarer continued with a low diamond to dummy's <u>◆A</u>, but the ◆K did not drop.

The expert Declarer's revised plan was to cross ruff the hand after winning the 2 diamond tricks.

- T6 So, He continued by ruffing **♣2** with **♠3**
- T7 **▼4** ruffed on dummy <u>♦</u>J
- T8 **♣3** was ruffed by **♠5**
- T9 **▼5** was ruffed by **▲A**
- T10 ♣4 was ruffed by ♠7
- T11 Declarer claimed his contract, making two of the last three tricks with his high <u>▶KQ</u> of trumps.

The expert declarer may have relied on **table feel** to make his contract, but his approach was with the odds. A 0=6=3=4 original shape with East was much more likely than 0=6=2=5. If both defenders had followed to the first trump, declarer intended to cross back to hand with the ♣A to ruff a heart. Then, after ruffing a club back to hand for another heart ruff, declarer would return to hand with a second club ruff, draw trumps and finally run the ◆Q. If this had lost, he would still have had a trump in hand to take care of a heart or club return. The full deal:

	North (D)	
	AJT	
West	♥ Q	East
◆ 9864	♦ AJ653	∳ -
♥ 872	♣ Q432	♥ KJT 963
♦ 42		♦ K98
♣ KJ95	South	♣ T876
	♠ KQ7532	
6 ≜/S	♥ A54	Vul NS
Lead ♥7	+ QT7	DIr: N
	. A	

NSBC 2022 Jan Open/Restricted eNews

Our Game of Bridge

♦ MH Role Reversal



Adapted from a hand on the ACBL bridge feed website, "Link <u>Misplay these hands with me</u>" by bridge Author Mark Horton

We are well ahead in the match, when towards the end with only our side vulnerable I pick up this interesting hand with potential:

•AKJ8532, **∀**AJ3, **◆**KQ, •J

North	Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
♠ 7	West (D)	West (D) North East South		
♥ T	Pass Pass 4♥ 4♠			4♠
◆ JT9542	X All Pass			
♣ AT874	Bidding Notes			
South	4♥ Non Vul Pre-empt			
♣ AKJ8532	4≜ Natural long spades			
♥ AJ3	X Penalty			
+ KQ				
♣ J				

The bidding

West and my partner pass, but East pre-empts with 4♥ bid. I overcall 4♠ and West considers for a moment before doubling. That ends the auction. West starts the defence by leading the ♥8 and I get to see a dummy with only a few assets.

Preliminary Planning

Top Winners: 2♠, 1♥, 1♣

Top losers: ◆A, + Deep ♥ losers, likely 2♠ Looks like 4 primary losers ◆, ♥ and 2x♠ Strategies for Making contract

- Ruff a heart in dummy
- Force •A for a diamond trick
- Get some help from EW?

My Solution

- T1 West leads ♥8, ♥T, ♥Q as I win the opening lead with the ♥A.
- T2 I lead ♥3, ♥2, and ruff in dummy with the short trump ♠7, East playing ♥4
- T3 In dummy, I cash the ♣A (♣2, ♣J, ♣4)
- T4 I then lead **♣4** East **♣6**,and ruff **♠2**, West following with the **♣3**

- T5 When I cash a top trump <u>A♠</u> both defenders follow ♠6, ♠2, ♠4. At least they are not a 5-0 split
- T6 I play the **♦K** and West wins **♦A** , **♦4 ♦6**
- T7 West returns the **♦8**, **♦5**, East following **♦3**. As I win **♦Q** in hand.
- T8 It won't help to play another high trump, but I may be able to force West to assist me. So, I exit with a low trump ♠3 and West wins ♠9 (East discarding a hearts)
- T9 West returns the **♣9** to his partner's queen. I ruff with the **♣5**
- T10 I cash the **★**K
- T11 I now exit with a ♠8, but West wins ♠Q
- T12 West plays the **<u>*K</u>** so I have to give East the last heart trick.

This was the layout:

	North	
	♠ 7	
West (D)	♥ T	East
♠ QT96	◆ JT9542	▲ 4
♥ 82	♣ AT874	♥ KQ97654
♦ A87		♦ 63
♣ K943	South	♣ Q62
	▲ AKJ8532	
4≜X/S	♥ AJ3	Vul NS
Lead ♥8	♦ KQ	DIr: W
	♣ J	

Post Mortem

Like so many hands, this one could have been made by better timing:

- T1 Win **▼A**
- T2 Cross & win **♣A**
- T3 Then ruff a club back to hand.
- T4 Ruff a heart using dummy's trump
- T5 Ruff another club back to hand.
- T6 Cash ♠A
- T7 Lead **♦K** to West's **♦A**
- T8 West plays ◆8 exit to your ◆Q
- T9 Small Trump to West's <u>◆9</u>
- T10 West exits his last club ♣3, you ruff
- T11 Cash **★K**
- T12 Exit your last ♠ to Wests' high ♠Q
- T13 West has been stripped of exit cards, and has to lead a diamond into dummy to allow you to pitch the heart loser in hand. Making 10 tricks!

That West can always defeat the contract by leading a trump at trick one (stopping ♥ ruff), then on taking the ◆A, switching to a low club merely serves to illustrate what an impossible the game bridge it sometimes is.