

FOB Commentary – Thursday 2nd February 2023

<p style="margin: 0;">♠ KQJ109 ♥ 107 ♦ AK105 ♣ K5</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 5 ♠ A732 ♥ A98 ♥ KQJ62 ♦ 7643 ♦ 98 ♣ 109642 ♣ 87</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 864 ♥ 543 ♦ QJ2 ♣ AQJ3</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;">HCP</th> <th colspan="5">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4 10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">E</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">W</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> </table>	HCP	Makeable contracts						♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	16	N	2	2	-	3	1	4 10	S	2	2	-	3	1	10	E	-	-	1	-	-		W	-	-	1	-	-	<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="width: 25%;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="width: 25%;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="width: 25%;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♥</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">East leads 3 rounds of hearts – West should overtake the first or second round to continue the suit.</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">If East takes his ♠A the third round of spades and then plays another heart his own ♠7 will be the only trump left and declarer will go down in a contract that has been made at most tables.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1♠	2♥	2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass	
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<p>♠ 9732 ♥ AQ862 ♦ 74 ♣ A6</p> <p>♠ KQJ ♠ 864 ♥ KJ9 ♥ 53 ♦ 986 ♦ AKQ ♣ KJ92 ♣ Q10754</p> <p>♠ A105 ♥ 1074 ♦ J10532 ♣ 83</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>♣</td> <td>♦</td> <td>♥</td> <td>♠</td> <td>NT</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>11</td> <td>S</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>5</td> <td>E</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>W</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts								♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		10		N	-	-	1	1	-	14	11	S	-	-	1	1	-		5	E	3	1	-	-	1			W	3	1	-	-	1	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>North leads his fourth highest heart and declarer wins trick one with the ♥J. This tells North that declarer has ♥KJ9 and when North gets in with the ♣A he knows to switch to a spade so that the second round of hearts can come from his partner through declarer's ♥K resulting in 3NT-1.</p> <p>North is careful to switch to a highish spade spot card e.g. the 7 to tell South that he has no interest in spades and that he wants South to return North's original first suit.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
HCP		Makeable contracts																																																							
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 8654 ♥ KJ92 ♦ AQ ♣ K53</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A932 ♠ KQJ ♥ A7 ♥ 843 ♦ 1098542 ♦ 76 ♣ 7 ♣ 98642</p> <p style="margin: 0;"> ♠ 107 ♥ Q1065 ♦ KJ3 ♣ AQJ10</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		13		8	6	13		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	-	3	1	2	S	2	-	3	1	2	E	-	2	-	-	-	W	-	2	-	-	-	<p>Board 9 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>East leads ♠K.</p> <p>When you have the ace of trumps you can control the defence and West should see that he can organise a club ruff for himself to go with 2 spade tricks and the ace of trumps.</p> <p>West overtakes his partner's ♠K with the ace and switches to his singleton club. Then he wins the first round of trumps and returns a spade to East who will know to return a club for West to ruff. 4♥-1.</p>	West	North	East	South		1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass			
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 75 ♥ Q9742 ♦ 85 ♣ A543</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AQ2 ♠ KJ109643 ♥ KJ10 ♥ A3 ♦ 10932 ♦ 764 ♣ KJ10 ♣ 7</p> <p style="margin: 0;"> ♠ 8 ♥ 865 ♦ AKQJ ♣ Q9862</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		6		14	8	12		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	1	-	2	-	-	S	1	-	1	-	-	E	-	1	-	3	2	W	-	1	-	3	2	<p>Board 10 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>South leads the ♦AKQ and now North has to get South to lead a club to defeat the contract. North can try signally interest in clubs but there is no guarantee that South will lead a club at trick 4 – in his eyes a fourth round of diamonds might look safe or even a trump.</p> <p>To avoid any accidents, North should ruff his partner's winning ♦Q and cash the ♣A. 4S-1.</p>	West	North	East	South			3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass		
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<p>♠ QJ7 ♥ K107 ♦ QJ ♣ QJ1093</p> <p>♠ 86 ♠ 109432 ♥ Q65 ♥ J82 ♦ A7653 ♦ 942 ♣ 742 ♣ AK</p> <p>♠ AK5 ♥ A943 ♦ K108 ♣ 865</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>8</td> <td>S</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>E</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>14</td> <td>W</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts								♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		12		N	4	-	2	2	2		6	8	S	4	-	2	2	2				E	-	-	-	-	-			14	W	-	-	-	-	-		<p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> </table> <p>West leads ♦ 6.</p> <p>As long as East-West keep playing diamonds and as long as West keeps his ♦ A until the third round of the suit then 3NT will go one down – with the defenders winning 3 diamond tricks and 2 club tricks.</p> <p>When you have no entries (as declarer or defender) you ‘duck’.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	3NT	All Pass	1NT
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<p>♠ AQ10 ♥ 9762 ♦ AQ9 ♣ 976</p> <p>♠ KJ4 ♠ 532 ♥ 854 ♥ KJ3 ♦ KJ5 ♦ 7632 ♣ A542 ♣ Q83</p> <p>♠ 9876 ♥ AQ10 ♦ 1084 ♣ KJ10</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">HCP</th> <th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>5</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>6</td> <td>S</td> <td>5</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>E</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>10</td> <td>W</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	HCP		Makeable contracts								♣	♦	♥	♠	NT		12		N	5	5	6	6	6		12	6	S	5	5	6	6	6				E	-	-	-	-	-			10	W	-	-	-	-	-		<p>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>This won't be a very pleasant experience for declarer. If the defenders follow the wise advice of leading through strength and up to weakness then declarer might only win 1 trick!</p> <p>North has to lead hearts and South has to lead diamonds and spades.</p> <p>For sure if declarer makes 3 tricks he will score 90%+ and even making 2 tricks might score well above average.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT	All Pass		
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 42 ♥ 953 ♦ Q10973 ♣ AKQ</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KQ1063 ♠ 975 ♥ J862 ♥ A104 ♦ K4 ♦ J2 ♣ J3 ♣ 98752</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AJ8 ♥ KQ7 ♦ A865 ♣ 1064</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		11		10	5	14		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	4	1	-	1	S	2	4	1	1	2	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">West leads ♠K and declarer ducks (Bath Coup). It is really important that East gives a discouraging attitude signal here and it is even more important for West to read the signal correctly.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">If East had either the ♠A or the ♠J he would have encouraged the opening lead so when he discourages he is telling West that declarer has both of those cards and West knows to switch to a heart at trick 2 (♥8). East wins and returns a spade and now 3NT-1.</p>	West	North	East	South	2♠	Pass	Pass	1NT		3NT	All Pass	
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ K42 ♥ A9542 ♦ 765 ♣ 43</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q3 ♠ AJ109876 ♥ 10 ♥ 73 ♦ AJ1098 ♦ KQ ♣ KJ1098 ♣ AQ</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 5 ♥ KQJ86 ♦ 432 ♣ 7652</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>5</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		7		11	16	6		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	1	-	-	S	-	-	1	-	-	E	6	6	-	5	2	W	6	6	-	5	2	<p>Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td>5♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">South leads ♥K.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">North should see that if he can get South to play a second heart thereby forcing dummy to ruff, that his ♠K will become a winner because declarer will not be able to catch it.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">The problem is that if declarer tries to encourage the heart lead that South will interpret the signal as a suit preference signal and will switch suits or worse still play a trump at trick 2.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">But why should North allow South the chance to go wrong when he can see the winning defence himself – simply win trick one with ♥A and return a second round of hearts and then sit back and wait for the setting trick with the ♠K.</p>	West	North	East	South	2♦	Pass	1♠	Pass	4NT	Pass	3♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass	5♥	Pass
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ A93 ♥ J62 ♦ AK8 ♣ AKQ6</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ K102 ♠ Q864 ♥ A743 ♥ 85 ♦ QJ97 ♦ 1062 ♣ 109 ♣ J754</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J75 ♥ KQ109 ♦ 543 ♣ 832</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="padding: 2px;">HCP</th> <th colspan="5" style="padding: 2px;">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">♣</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">21</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">10 3</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">S</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">E</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">W</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> </table>	HCP	Makeable contracts						♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	21	N	2	2	3	1	2	10 3	S	2	2	3	1	2	6	E	-	-	-	-	-		W	-	-	-	-	-	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">2NT</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">3♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="padding: 2px;">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">East leads ♠4 and dummy should play small. If dummy plays the ♠J then West has an easy cover with the ♠K and as long as West ducks the ♥A until the 3rd round of hearts then declarer will only make 8 tricks.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">However, if declarer correctly plays small from dummy at trick one, West should keep the ♠K for ♠J and instead insert the ♠10 at trick one. Playing the ♠K on ‘thin air’ at trick one will mean that dummy’s ♠J will eventually be a winner and an entry to the 4th heart.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass			
HCP	Makeable contracts																																																								
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J102 ♥ J64 ♦ Q1087 ♣ 1054</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q63 ♠ AK75 ♥ Q107 ♥ AK32 ♦ 63 ♦ K54 ♣ KJ762 ♣ Q3</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 984 ♥ 985 ♦ AJ92 ♣ A98</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="padding: 2px;">HCP</th> <th colspan="5" style="padding: 2px;">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">♣</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">8 19</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">S</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">E</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">W</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> </table>	HCP	Makeable contracts						♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	4	N	-	-	-	-	8 19	S	-	-	-	-	9	E	5	2	5	5	3		W	4	2	4	4	2	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">1♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">1NT</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">3NT</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">2♥ would be a good response by West and that would lead to 3NT being played from the right side.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">North leads his 4th highest diamond and of course declarer should play small from dummy – if South beats his partner’s ♦7 then declarer will make 9 or 10 or maybe even 11 tricks.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">South should use the ‘Rule of 11’ to work out that declarer cannot beat the ♦7 and therefore South should let the ♦7 run. The defence win the first 5 tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
HCP	Makeable contracts																																																		
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J104 ♥ KQ3 ♦ KJ9 ♣ KJ62</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 97632 ♠ 85 ♥ A7642 ♥ 985 ♦ Q3 ♦ A10764 ♣ 8 ♣ Q109</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AKQ ♥ J10 ♦ 852 ♣ A7543</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		14	6	6	14	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	3	2	-	2	2	S	3	2	-	2	2	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 17 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3NT</td> </tr> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>East leads the ♦ 6 to West's ♦ Q. Declarer can win or duck but sooner or later the defence will come to 4 diamond tricks and the ace of hearts.</p> <p>The only mistake that East could make would be to gift declarer a second diamond trick – the second round of diamonds must come from West through declarer.</p>	West	North	East	South		1NT	Pass	3NT
HCP																																																			
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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 985 ♥ 864 ♦ 93 ♣ AKQJ10</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 106 ♠ J3 ♥ KQJ10 ♥ A2 ♦ J76 ♦ 108542 ♣ 9832 ♣ 7654</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AKQ742 ♥ 9753 ♦ AKQ ♣ -</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">18</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		10	5	7	18	Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	4	1	3	3	3	S	4	1	3	3	3	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 18 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3♣</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Against good defence declarer can't even make 4♠ never mind 5♠ or 6♠.</p> <p>West leads ♥K and the first necessity is for East to overtake and return the suit – that gets the defence to three tricks. On the third heart, West will be looking for a signal from East as to what to lead at trick 4.</p> <p>East must try and tell West that he has no interest in diamonds and in that case the only hope of a fourth defensive trick is to hope that East can over-ruff dummy on the fourth round of hearts.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass	
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