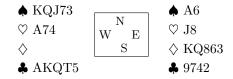
Solution 100220

February 27, 2010

100220.1

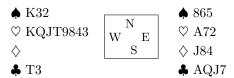


North leads a $\heartsuit K$ against your 6 \clubsuit contract. You win by your ace and draw trump. Clubs are 3-1 outside. How would you play after you win by the ace?

Solution:

The key point of this problem is that you need a plan B if spades are worse than 4-2. Also, you need to be careful about entries with this plan: \Diamond finesse. You need to clear the trump, cash \bigstar K first, and small spade to \bigstar A. If both defenders follow, then you don't have to risk the \Diamond finesse. If spades are worse than 4-2, you have to hope South has \Diamond A and you can finesse him immediately after you discover the bad split of spades. You can use the last trump to cash your established \Diamond winner.

100220.2



Against your 4♡ contract, North leads ◊K and South follows ◊T to encourage. How would you play this contract?

Solution:

You can't afford South attack your spades, so we have a delicated play here. Discard a small club at first round to cut off the connections between defenders (A variation of **Scissors Coup**). Cash A and play Q to trump-finesse later. In this way you will lose at most one trick in each of the suit.