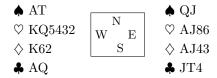
Solution 100227

March 6, 2010

100227.1



North leads a \heartsuit T against your $6 \heartsuit$ contract. You play ace from dummy and South follows. How would you play this contract?

Solution:

You should try to find a line in which you can take all your chances. Here we should clear all the trump, finesse the \clubsuit first because even if it lost to North, he can do no harm to your contract. If the finesse holds, then you can cash \clubsuit A to see if \clubsuit K drops, then play \diamondsuit A, \diamondsuit K and lead another small \diamondsuit towards the jack. You win if diamonds are 3-3, Q doubleton, or Q is in North's hand. And your last chance is the spades finesse. If the club finesse lost, then you can cash the \clubsuit A and use the \clubsuit T to discard a diamond. Play \diamondsuit K and \diamondsuit A and ruff another diamond to see if \diamondsuit Q drops. Agian, your last chance would be the spade finesse.

100227.2

This is a problem from the match I played against Hsinchu Tsinghua University in September, 2008.



Notes: Please check the original problem to see the bidding sequence.

North leads $\spadesuit A$ and continues another \spadesuit . You discard a diamond under $\spadesuit K$ and play $\heartsuit A$ from dummy. Surprisingly North fails to follow a heart. How would you play this contract?

Solution:

It seems tricky here, but all you need to do is ruff (or overruff if needed) 2 rounds of diamonds. You can discard the other 2 diamonds under your strong club suit after you draw all the trump.