

STAMFORD BRIDGE CLUB	30/07/14
WEDNESDAY WORKSHOP	BETTER DEFENCE

<p>♠ QT9 ♥ T752 ♦ K ♣ AKQJ3</p> <p>♠ 84 ♥ J86 ♦ JT972 ♣ 864</p> <p>N W E S</p> <p>♠ AKJ72 ♥ 3 ♦ Q654 ♣ 972</p> <p>♠ 653 ♥ AKQ94 ♦ A83 ♣ T5</p>	Hand No 1	Dealer North		Neither Vulnerable	
		S	W	N	E
		2♥	P	1♣ 4♥	1♣ All Pass
<p>Good defence often starts with the bidding. Here East can make sure partner leads a spade by overcalling. West should lead the ♠8 – top of a doubleton. This gives the defence three spade tricks immediately. From where does the setting trick come? Look what happens if East leads a fourth round of spades. If South ruffs low, West can overruff with the jack. If South ruffs high with the queen, West will make the jack naturally. Well defended.</p>					

<p>♠ AKJ984 ♥ K ♦ K75 ♣ T53</p> <p>♠ 52 ♥ AJ32 ♦ 82 ♣ J9864</p> <p>N W E S</p> <p>♠ 76 ♥ QT976 ♦ AQ63 ♣ A2</p> <p>♠ QT3 ♥ 854 ♦ JT94 ♣ KQ7</p>	Hand No 2	Dealer East		N/S Vulnerable	
		S	W	N	E
		P P 3♣	2♥ 3♥ All Pass	2♣ P	1♥ P P
<p>If NS play in spades East will lead a heart and West will play ♥A. When North drops the king, West knows it must be singleton. What to lead now? The obvious switch is a diamond. Lead ♦8, top of a doubleton. East can cash ♦AQ and a third round gives partner a ruff for one down. If EW play in hearts North will win the first two spades and is likely to switch to a club. Declarer will in practice lose a heart to ♥K. Now East needs the diamond finesse.</p>					

<p>♠ T92 ♥ AJ543 ♦ 83 ♣ A43</p> <p>♠ QJ54 ♥ QT2 ♦ 764 ♣ KJ2</p> <p>N W E S</p> <p>♠ A76 ♥ K97 ♦ KQ9 ♣ QT98</p> <p>♠ K83 ♥ 86 ♦ AJT52 ♣ 765</p>	Hand No 3	Dealer South		E/W Vulnerable	
		S	W	N	E
		P All Pass	P	P	1N
<p>Neither South nor North has the points, or more important the suit quality, to overcall. The question is can NS defeat 1N by East? First the lead. South should lead the Diamond JACK, not fourth highest. Declarer will attack clubs but when North wins the Ace, a diamond return allows South to cash four tricks. The contract should now go one down. South must NOT lead away from the spade king. Any other lead and East must lose ♥A and ♠K for one down.</p>					

<p>♠ QJT6 ♥ 87432 ♦ AT ♣ 98</p> <p>♠ 983 ♥ A ♦ KQJ876 ♣ T52</p> <p>N W E S</p> <p>♠ AK2 ♥ T95 ♦ 52 ♣ AKJ73</p> <p>♠ 754 ♥ KQJ6 ♦ 943 ♣ Q64</p>	Hand No 4	Dealer West		Both Vulnerable	
		S	W	N	E
		P P P	P 1♦ 3N	P P All Pass	1♣ 1N
<p>Best defence will defeat 3N by two tricks. Moderate defence will lead to a one trick defeat. Only poor defence will allow declarer to be successful. First South must lead ♥K, not fourth highest. Next North must DUCK the first round of diamonds, allowing ♦K to win. Win ♥KQ then lead ♥6 to ♥7 in partner's hand. Now declarer cannot enjoy the diamonds in dummy and the contract will finish two down. Very well defended.</p>					

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WEDNESDAY WORKSHOP	BETTER DEFENCE ... continued

♠ A2 ♥ 94 ♦ 763 ♣ KQT986 ♠ K943 ♥ 8763 ♦ Q952 ♣ 5 ♠ Q765 ♥ QT5 ♦ T84 ♣ A43 ♠ JT8 ♥ AKJ2 ♦ AKJ ♣ J72	Hand No 5				
	Dealer North		N/S Vulnerable		
		S	W	N	E
		1♥ 3NT	P All pass	P 2♣ P	P P
There will be a range of results on this hand. Some declarers could make as many as twelve tricks, whilst very best defence will hold the contract to eight. With a choice of four card suits, West should choose the unbid major. East will win the spade lead and must return a spade, knocking the ace out of dummy. This removes a vital entry. East still has to defend well by DUCKING TWO ROUNDS of clubs. Now South enjoys but two club tricks. Contract fails.					

♠ 9 ♥ AQT75 ♦ 98542 ♣ 63 ♠ T6432 ♥ K3 ♦ K7 ♣ AQ52 ♠ QJ875 ♥ J9 ♦ AT6 ♣ KJ4 ♠ AK ♥ 8642 ♦ QJ3 ♣ T987	Hand No 6				
	Dealer East		E/W Vulnerable		
		S	W	N	E
		P	4♣	All pass	1♠
The bidding may be as simple as above. Alternatively, if NS can get into the auction, they may steal the contract in hearts. East should go down in 4♣, losing two spades and two hearts. The defence must, however, cash the tricks quickly or one of the hearts goes away on a club. 4♥ should also fail but again may make at some tables. In 4♥ there are four minor suit losers. On a spade lead a club can be discarded from dummy. Now there are ten tricks					

♠ T7 ♥ T2 ♦ Q9643 ♣ 9832 ♠ AKQJ8 ♥ J65 ♦ KJT ♣ T6 ♠ 96543 ♥ 94 ♦ 85 ♣ AKQJ ♠ 2 ♥ AKQ873 ♦ A72 ♣ 754	Hand No 7				
	Dealer South		Both Vulnerable		
		S	W	N	E
		1♥ All Pass	1♠	P	P 4♣
With a very poor five card suit East should pass as dealer. When partner overcalls 1♠ - promising a five suit - the hand is worth an immediate jump to game. 3♠ is an ok-ish alternative call but a simple 2♠ is a gross underbid. In the latter case game would be missed. North should lead ♥10, top of a doubleton. South should win with ♥Q, playing the <i>lowest</i> of touching honours. South cashes ♥K and plays ♥A. A lazy defender might now wrongly not ruff with ♠10 (perhaps South should play, say, ♥8 on the 3rd round, waking North up.					

♠ AKJ93 ♥ Q ♦ J542 ♣ AT9 ♠ Q652 ♥ AKJ62 ♦ A7 ♣ KQ ♠ 87 ♥ 9743 ♦ KQ ♣ J7643 ♠ T4 ♥ T85 ♦ T9863 ♣ 852	Hand No 8				
	Dealer West		Neither Vulnerable		
		S	W	N	E
		P	1♥ 4♥	1♠ All pass	2♥
Look at the hearts in the South hand – T85. How many tricks will that holding take? On this hand best defence generates TWO TRUMP TRICKS for South. Against 4♥ North will lead a top spade and South must play ♠10 - top of a doubleton - and follows with ♣4 on the second round. Knowing South holds only two spades, North will continue the suit. Whatever trump declarer plays from dummy, South will OVERRUFF. Now a club lead to ♣A (N having played a suit preference ♣3) and a fourth spade gives South a second OVERRUFF. Brilliant defence.					