

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**Review of Convention Card Continues**

|              |                       |             |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------|
|              | 75                    |             |
|              | 732     3 NT          |             |
|              | KJ9874                |             |
|              | A5                    |             |
| J982         |                       | A63         |
| KJ85    PASS |                       | 104    PASS |
| 105          |                       | A62         |
| 1032         |                       | KJ987       |
|              | KQ104                 |             |
|              | AQ96     DEALER – 1NT |             |
|              | Q3                    |             |
|              | Q64                   |             |

West leads the 2 of spades, dummy plays the 5, you win the Ace. Partner led 4<sup>th</sup> best, East knows South has 4 spades and how many points? Add your points to dummy's point, add 15 for opener, what's your answer? How do you defend?

North's 3 NT bid was excellent. Transferring to diamonds, then bidding 3NT gives the opponents too much information. This hand has a good diamond suit that may run, and it has an entry. 3NT ahold be automatic, you'll go down a few times, but on all the occasions where you make 3 NT, you'll get an excellent result.

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|-------------|----------------------|--------------|
|             | J82                  |              |
|             | 54     3 NT          |              |
|             | K9854                |              |
|             | Q75                  |              |
| K106        |                      | A95          |
| J1098       |                      | 7632    PASS |
| 763    PASS |                      | AJ2          |
| 1043        |                      | 982          |
|             | Q743                 |              |
|             | AKQ                  |              |
|             | Q10    DEALER - 2 NT |              |
|             | AKJ6                 |              |

J of hearts lead, you can count 7 winners, you can build 1 diamond trick, where will the 9<sup>th</sup> trick come from? The 9<sup>th</sup> trick can come from diamonds, even if East has both missing diamond honors. South, plan your play.

Twass the night before Christmas, but Covid was here, we all had to stay extra cautious this year

Our masks were all hung by the chimney with care, in case Santa lost his and needed a spare

With Covid upon us, no cookies or cake, So we left sanitizer for Santa to take

The children were sleeping, the brave little tots, the ones over 5 had just had their shots

And Mom in her kerchief and me in my cap, Had just settled in for a long winter's nap

But we tossed and we turned all night in our beds, as visions of variants danced in our heads

Gamma and Delta and now Omicron, these Covid mutations that go on and on

I thought to myself, "If this doesn't get better, I'll soon be familiar with every Greek letter

Then just as I started to drift off and doze, A clatter of noise from the front lawn arose

I leapt from my bed and ran down the stairs, I opened the door and an old gent stood there

His M95 mask made him look pretty weird, But I knew who he was by his red suit and beard

I kept six feet away, but blurted out quick, "What are you doing here, jolly Saint Nick?"

Then I said, "Where's the presents, your reindeer and sleigh? Don't you know tomorrow will be Christmas Day?"

But Santa just stood there, looking sad in the snow, As he started to tell me a long tale of woe

He said he'd been stuck at the North Pole alone, all his "white collar" elves had been working from home.

And most of the others said "Santa don't hire us, we can live off the CERB thanks to the virus

Those left in the toy shop had little to do, with supply chain disruptions they could make nothing new

And as for the reindeer, they'd all gone away, none of them left to pull on his sleigh

He said Dasher and Dancer were in quarantine, Prancer and Vixen refused the vaccine

Comet and Cupid were in ICU, so were Donner and Blitzen, they may not pull through

And Rudolph's career can't be resurrected, with his shiny red nose, they all think he's infected

Even with his old sleigh, Santa couldn't go far, every border to cross needs a new PCR

Santa sighed as he told me how nice it would be, if children could once again sit on his knee

He couldn't care less if they're naughty or nice. They'd have to show proof that they had their shot twice

But then the old twinkle returned to his eyes, he said that he'd brought me a Christmas surprise

When I unwrapped the box and opened it wide, starlight & rainbows streamed out from inside

Some letters whirled round and flew up to the sky, they spelled out a word that was 40' high

There first was an H, then an O, then a P, then I saw it spelled HOPE when it added the E

"Christmas Magic" said Santa as he smiled through his beard, then suddenly all of the reindeer appeared

He jumped in his sleigh and he waved me good-bye, then he soared o'er the rooftops and into the sky

I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight, "Get your vaccines my friends, Merry Christmas, good night"

Then I went back to bed to a sweet Christmas dream, of a world when we finished with Covid 19

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Irene