

# 11/05/2021 Hand of the Week 63: Establishing a ruff in defence

A slightly unusual bidding sequence gave NS a chance in defence. East opens 1NT- many pairs play transfers but in this case West made a natural sign off in 2♥

<div>15</div> <div>D</div>		<div>N Erika Pick</div> <div>♠ A7</div> <div>♥ K94</div> <div>♦ Q10432</div> <div>♣ 963</div>	<div>W N E S</div> <div>P P 1NT P</div> <div>2♥ P P P</div>			
<div>W pamelacoop</div>			<div>E Adnil1954</div> <div>♠ K10963</div> <div>♥ Q105</div> <div>♦ AK</div> <div>♣ 1042</div>			
		<div>S med029</div>				
			<div>2♥ W NS: 0 EW: 0</div>			

North leads A♠, partner playing an encouraging 8♠. North continues with 7♠, won on table with the K. Declarer then loses a heart finesse to the K and Erika switched to a club.

Partner cashes AK♣ and then played Q♠

<div>15</div> <div>D</div>		<div>N Erika Pick</div> <div>♠ ♥ 94 ♦ Q10432 ♣ 6</div>	<div>W N E S</div> <div>P P 1NT P 2♥ P P P</div>			
<div>W pamelacoop</div>		<div>♠ J</div> <div>♠ Q</div>	<div>E Adnil1954</div> <div>♠ 1096 ♥ 105 ♦ AK ♣ 10</div>			
		<div>S med029</div>				
		<div>2♥ W NS: 4 EW: 1</div>				

What do you discard?

Erika correctly throws the 6♣, allowing partner to lead a third club for a ruff and 1 down.

The full hand:

<div>15</div> <div>D</div>		<div>N Erika Pick</div> <div>                     ♠ A7                      ♥ K94                      ♦ Q10432                      ♣ 963                 </div>	<div>W N E S</div> <div>                     P P 1NT P                      2♥ P P P                 </div>
<div>W pamelacoop</div> <div>                     ♠ J54                      ♥ AJ732                      ♦ J5                      ♣ QJ5                 </div>			<div>E Adnil1954</div> <div>                     ♠ K10963                      ♥ Q105                      ♦ AK                      ♣ 1042                 </div>
		<div>S med029</div> <div>                     ♠ Q82                      ♥ 86                      ♦ 9876                      ♣ AK87                 </div>	
		<div>2♥ W NS: 0 EW: 0</div>	

EW are slightly unlucky, in pairs who play transfer East is playing the hand and NS would then do well to find the correct defence.