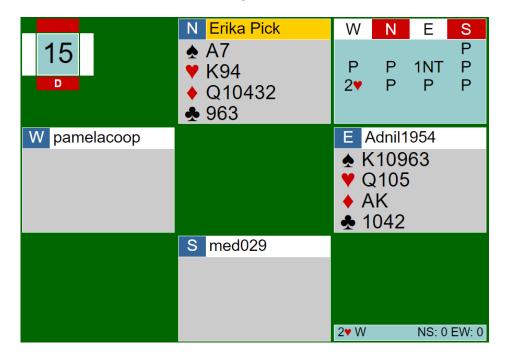
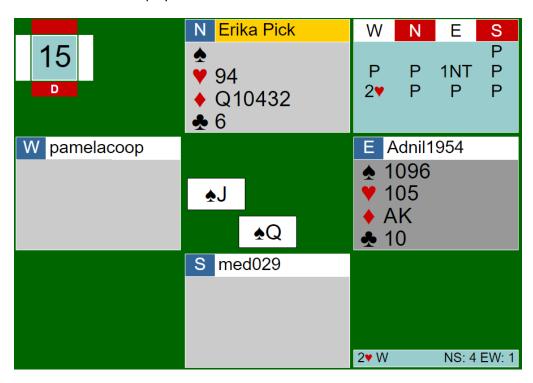
11/05/2021 Hand of the Week 63: Establishing a ruff in defence

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 •



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.

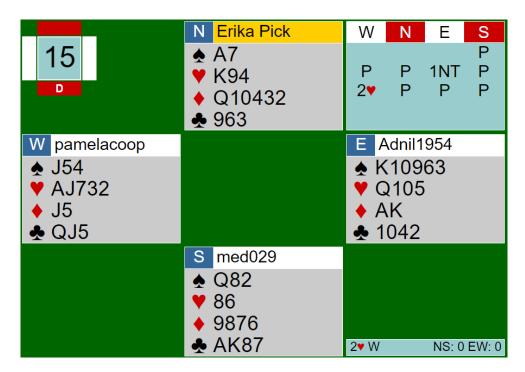
Partner cashes AK♣ and then played Q♠



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:



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.