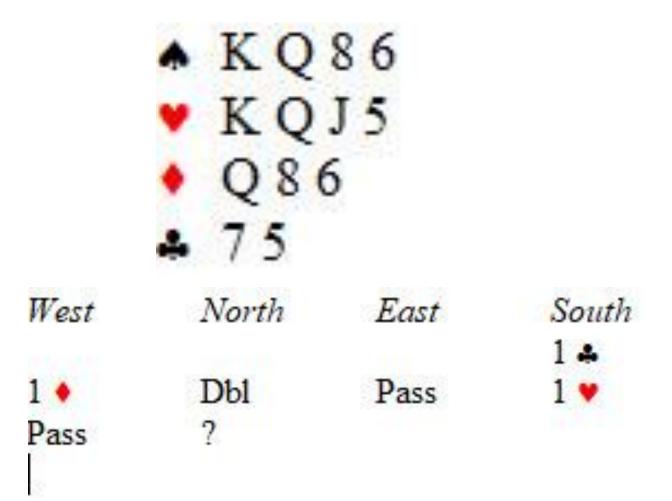
Negative Double Trouble

By Henry Jackson

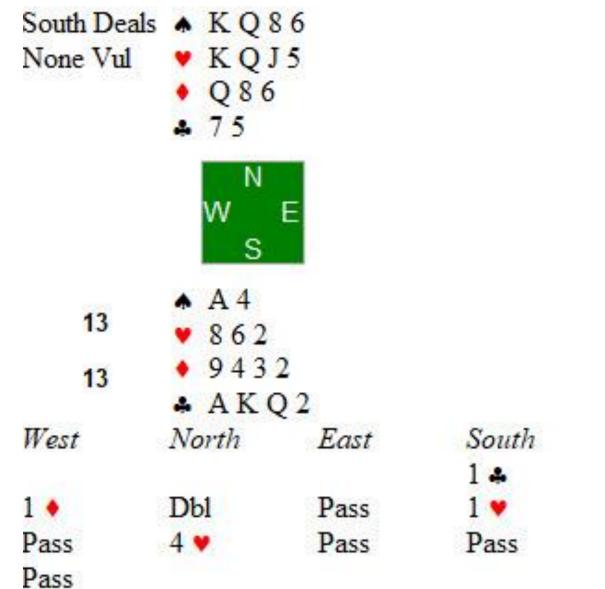
Negative Double Quiz

- 1C 1H X How many spades does Responder promise?
- 1D 1H 1S How many spades does
 Responder promise?
- 1C 1D X How many spades does
 Responder promise? Hearts?
- 1C 1D 1H How may spades does Responder promise?

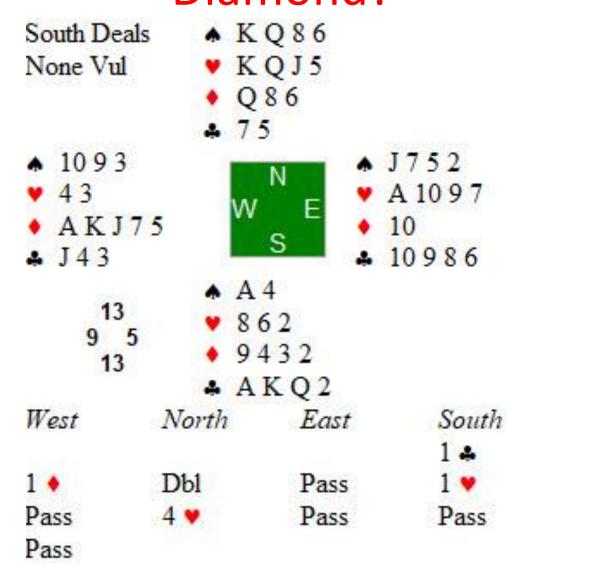
What Should North Bid?



What Are South's Chances?



After West Leads A, K and 3rd Diamond?



What Went Wrong?

- Despite holding an opening hand and four trumps in support, Responder must consider the possibility of Opener having to bid with only three trumps.
- If Opener has four cards in Overcaller's suit without a real stopper, he may be unable to bid 1NT or rebid his minor.

A Tip From Yauheni Siutsau

After 1C - 1D - X or 1minor - 1H - X, Opener may be forced to bid a three card major.

Opener (conventionally) can bid 1 of major to show only three cards and bid 2 of major to show four cards. The jump does not imply greater strength.

Discuss this treatment with Partner before using it.

A Tip From Peg Ammon

When Opener rebids 1H or 1S after a negative double, and Responder wants to show more than a minimum, Responder should bid 1NT instead of raising the major.

If Opener has bid a 4-card major and trusts Responder to have 4 in that major (negative double), Opener should rebid his 4-card major.

If instead, he has bid a 3-card major because of weak length in Overcaller's suit, NT should be a safer contract.