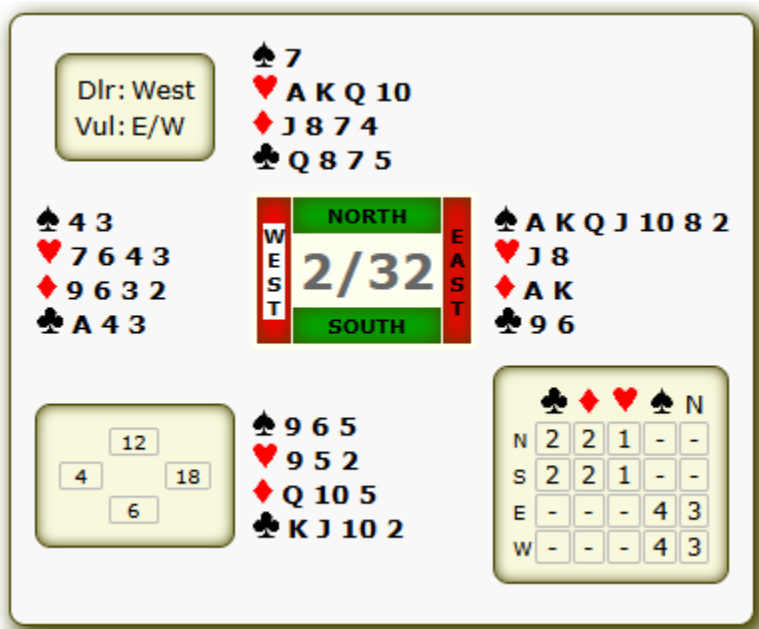




This was Hand 32 from the Sunday of the Swiss Pairs.

Auction probably pretty normal:

W	N	E	S
P	1D	4S	All Pass

We were at Table 2 on the last match of the weekend, playing a pair 9 points ahead of us. There are 10 top tricks and no real prospect of any more, and there is a temptation to claim 10 tricks and get on with the next hand. It would be interesting to know how many times East did that.

South led D5 and this went to J and Ace. Always worth playing the Ace here in the hope one or both of the defenders think I do not have the King. Playing K would pretty much confirm I have both cards. I now ran all 7 trumps discarding all my hearts from dummy and 1 diamond. Despite South's attempts to make it clear they had diamonds covered, North was in difficulty. They parted with a 3rd heart and I decided I had seen no evidence a diamond would be set up or a club could be developed. By now I was safe to exit a small heart, felling the last big heart from north's hand, and making J of hearts for my 11th trick. This was pretty much a top on a hand that did not look like it had much to it. We needed this when I stuffed up 2 hands later...

Dlr: South
 Vul: N/S

♠ J 4 3
 ♥ A J 6 2
 ♦ J 5
 ♣ A Q 3 2

♠ A K 10
 ♥ K
 ♦ K Q 9 8 7 6 4
 ♣ K 4

NORTH

WEST 2/31 **EAST**

SOUTH

♠ Q 8 7 5
 ♥ Q 10 7 5 4 3
 ♦ A
 ♣ 10 9

13
18 8
1

♠ 9 6 2
 ♥ 9 8
 ♦ 10 3 2
 ♣ J 8 7 6 5

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	-	4	3	4	1
W	1	5	4	5	5

My final bid for this hand cost us 99% of what we gained on the first hand.

S	W	N	E
P	1D	Dbl	1H
P	3D	P	3NT
P	P	P	

South found 6C lead and I was properly punished when they cashed 5 clubs and the Ace of Hearts. On the auction, I should know the main worry is clubs and that if partner has anything in them, he needs to play NT. Rob suggested 3H at the table, but I think 3S is probably the best bid on my hand. As the cards lie, West makes 11 or 12 tricks in NT when I as East only had 7!