

Well I Do Declare! 96: Quiz

Board 1 ♠ J 10 9 5 4 2

East Deals ♥ Q 10 3

None Vul ♦ 8 3 2

♣ 8



♠ A 8 7 6 3

♥ 5 4 2

♦ 6

♣ 9 7 3 2

West	North	East	South
		1 ♥ ¹	1 ♠
2 ♦	4 ♠	Dbl	All pass

1. 4+

Your partnership have been on the bidding juice and arrived at a 4 level contract, doubled, with only 7 HCP between you, albeit holding great distributional values.

Q1: Do you agree with the NS bidding decisions?

West cashes the A♣, then on seeing dummy switches to the K♦, which wins, followed by another diamond which you ruff.

Trick 1 - West leads A♣: A-8-4-2

Trick 2 - West leads K♦: K-2-5-6

Trick 3 - West leads Q♦: Q♦-3♦-J♦-3♠

You are going to table the A♠, hoping for a 1-1 split, but before this must ruff a club in dummy.

Trick 4: you lead 3♣: 3♣-5♣-J♠-6♣

Trick 5 - dummy leads 2♠: 2♠-Q♠-A♠-4♦

Q2a: At this vulnerability, how many tricks do you need to make for your sacrifice to be cheaper than their making game contract?

Q2b: If you lose three heart tricks, what will the upshot be?

Q3: If you choose to play on hearts, what is your best chance to hold your losers to 2 tricks, and do you consider this a likely outcome?

Q4: What is your far better chance to come out for only 5 losers in total (ie Two Down), and how specifically do you continue now?

Q5: Why did you need to ruff a club at Trick 4?

Post Mortem

Q5: How was the opposition's defence?

Q6: Do you agree with the opposition's bidding decisions?

Q7: What is their highest scoring contract?

Board 2 ♠ Q J 5
 North Deals ♥ Q 10
 N-S Vul ♦ A K
 ♣ A 10 9 8 7 6

N		
W		E
S		

 ♠ 10
 ♥ K 3 2
 ♦ J 10 9 8 6 3 2
 ♣ Q 4

West	North	East	South
	1NT ¹	Pass	2♠ ²
Pass	3♣ ³	Pass	3♦

All pass

1. 15-17
2. McKendrick
3. max

Explanatory bidding note: if playing major suit transfers, then one question a partnership must determine is how to use 2 Spades in response to 1 NT. One good option is 'McKendrick' which you can either use with an invitational hand without a four card major, or with a weak hand with a 6+ card minor. The way it works is that partner continues 2 NT with a minimum, or 3♣ with a maximum. Responder then places the final contract (either in 2 NT, 3 NT or 3-of-a-minor).

Q1: Given the above, do you agree with the NS bidding sequence (playing a strong NT)?

At Trick 1, West leads 4♠: 4-5-A-10

At Trick 2, East leads 2♠: 2-?

Q2: What are your thoughts about the spade position?

Q3: How many losers / potential losers are there in each suit, and can you afford to ruff the 3rd heart round in dummy?

Q4: What is your cunning play to collapse 2 losers into just 1 and give yourself the best chance of making the contract?

Post Mortem

Q5: How was the defence?

Q6: Would you have got into the auction as EW?

Q7: How would they have fared in a spade contract?

Board 3 ♠ A 3
 South Deals ♥ A Q J 5
 E-W Vul ♦ A K J 9
 ♣ A K 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 10 9 7 6 4 2
 ♥ 7 6
 ♦ 8 6 2
 ♣ 6

West	North	East	South
			3 ♠

Pass	6 ♠	All pass
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Q1: What are your thoughts about the NS bidding sequence?

West leads 10♦ which you win with dummy's Ace, trick 1 going 10♦: 10-A-7-2

Q2: What are your thoughts about the diamond position?

Q3: Clearly you need to broach the trump suit: on what layout will it be possible to play the spades for no loser, and how likely is this? On what layouts will you be able to play the spades for just 1 loser and how likely is this?

You start with A♠ and another, and are relieved to find they broke 2-2, so just one loser

Trick 2: dummy leads A♠: A-5-2-8

Trick 3: dummy leads 3♠: 3-K-4-J

Now East leads a club which you win in dummy

Trick 4: East leads 7♣: 7-6-J-A

Q4: You still have the risk of one loser in a side suit: there are *four* possibilities to avoid this - what are they and is there any information to help guide you as to the most likely path to success?

Q5: How specifically do you continue the play?

Post Mortem

Q6: How was the defence?