

Teaser No. 58

North

♠ 6 5 3
♥ A K
♦ A K J 9 4 2
♣ Q 5

West

♠ A J
♥ 9 8 7 4
♦ Q
♣ A K 10 7 3 2

E/W Game, Dealer: North

Contract: 4♠ by South

Lead: K♣

North opened 1♦, South bid 1♠ and you 2♣. North jumped to 3♦, South bid 3♠ and this was raised to game.

All follow to the first trick and you play the A♣ next. Partner playing the four at trick one and the six at trick two, playing 'upwards' to show that they were dealt three clubs. You are sitting West - Plan the defence –it is duplicate pairs.

Solution Teaser No. 58

Play a third round of clubs. Win the first round of trumps and play another club.

The sight of dummy makes it clear that the defence will not take a trick in either red suit. The only chance of defeating the contract is to take two trump tricks. If declarer's trumps are not headed by KQ then you will always take two tricks, but if they are your main chance is that partner was dealt the ten. The bidding suggests that declarer has a six-card suit. Left to their own devices they will draw trumps in two rounds, only losing one trick to your ace.

The reason for the third round of clubs is to make partner void in the suit. It doesn't matter that this allows declarer a ruff and discard as the card discarded will not be a loser! Then you take first round of trumps and play a further club for partner to ruff with the ten of trumps. Declarer can over-ruff, but this promotes your jack.

This type of trump promotion is known as an 'uppercut' and occurs when both third hand and fourth hand are void in the side suit led.

The previous Teaser (no. 57) was an example of a 'simple' trump promotion. These occur when both second hand and third hand are void in the side suit led.

South held: ♠ KQ9872, ♥ 1065, ♦ 103, ♣ J8