

## Teaser No. 59

### North

♠ 10 6 2  
♥ Q 7  
♦ 9 2  
♣ Q J 10 9 5 2

### West

♠ Q 8 3  
♥ K J 9 4 2  
♦ A Q 3  
♣ 7 3

Love all, Dealer: South

Contract: 3NT by South

Lead: 4♥

South opened 2NT (21-22) and North raised to game.

The queen wins the first trick, partner playing the three and declarer the five. A low spade is played from the table, partner plays the 4 and declarer the jack.

You are sitting West - Plan the defence –it's a teams' match.

## Solution Teaser No. 59

Play a LOW spade and let declarer win the trick.

The opening bid of 2NT (21-22) marks declarer with all the unseen honour cards except the jack of diamonds. It looks as if there are at least ten easy tricks whatever you do! Did you spot the one realistic chance for the defence?

If declarer was dealt AK doubleton in clubs the suit is blocked and there is no outside entry to dummy.....unless you create one by winning the second trick with your queen of spades. Declarer was desperately hoping the finesse would lose and that the ten of spades would be established as an entry. If you duck, declarer scores a windfall trick in spades and will make four tricks in the suit without loss. However, they make just two club tricks instead of six and can only come to eight tricks in total.

A blocked club suit really is your only hope: ducking at trick two defeats the contract unless declarer has a five-card spade suit, in which case nothing works. Declarer will continue with a top spade, hoping that East was dealt QX, and then another top spade, no doubt surprised to see that you have the queen! They will now attempt to end-play you by cashing the long spade, the AK of clubs and the

ace of hearts before exiting with their last heart. Hopefully that last heart is not the ten. You play low to let partner win the trick and play a diamond. The defence scores three heart tricks and two diamond tricks.

South held: ♠ AKJ5, ♥ A85, ♦ K864, ♣ AK