

For a Future Newsletter and Corner

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Letting the opponents play in a known 8+ card heart fit at the 2 level is almost always wrong. Zia the famous Pakistani bridge champ said that the most important concept in matchpoint bridge is knowing when to push the opponents to the 3 level. At IMPS it's also important but less so, as part scores are less important.

3	3♥E-2	200	4.9
4	3♥E-1	100	8.9
5	6♥N=	1430	11
6	4♠N=	420	0.3
7	2♠S-1	100	0.6

40.4	15.4
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The screenshot shows a bridge hand interface with the following details:

- North (Robot):** ♠53, ♥874, ♦9765, ♣Q1054
- West (Robot):** ♠96, ♥J10652, ♦Q8, ♣J876
- East (Robot):** ♠A1074, ♥AKQ, ♦K103, ♣932
- South (texashen):** ♠KQJ82, ♥93, ♦AJ42, ♣AK

Bidding sequence:

- West: Pass
- North: Pass
- East: 1NT
- South: Pass
- West: 2♦
- North: Pass
- East: 2♥
- South: Pass
- West: Pass
- North: Pass
- East: 3♥
- South: Pass
- West: Pass
- North: Pass

E 1NT

S Pass (I could show a 1 suited hand with my strong hand and nice spade suit, but I make the tactical decision to hope they end up in notrump and I can hopefully run my spades. I don't know East has spades double stopped. They're vul and I don't think we can make game, so I'm hoping to set them for a good score,)

W 2D (Transfer to hearts)

N P

E 2H

S 2S (I am relatively sure that East has 3+ hearts since I only have 2, and West definitely has 5+ hearts. I'm not defending 2H when I have this spade suit)

W P

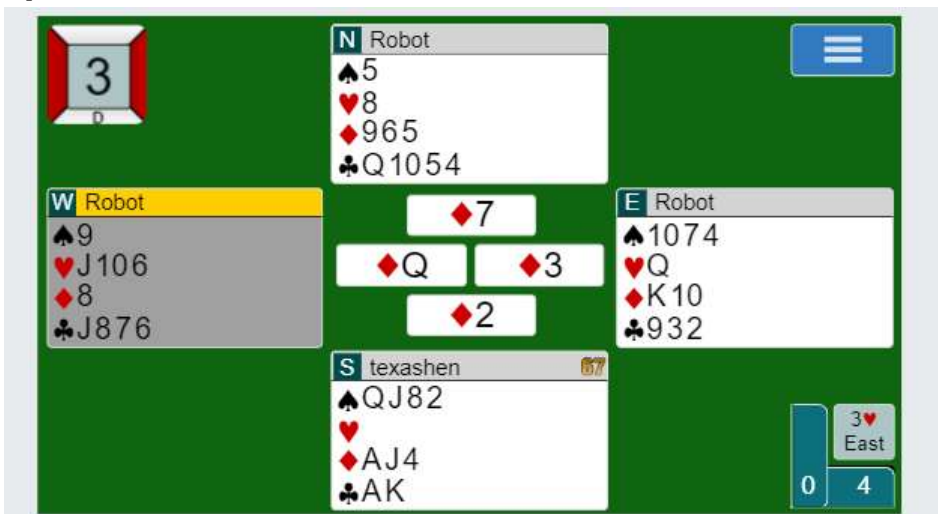
N P

E 3H (With the AKQ of hearts in partner's suit, it's natural to support)

Passed out.

Down 2 for 4.9 IMPS.

There's is one lesson from the play. When declarer leads low towards the Q of diamonds, it's important to duck the ace, otherwise declarer will make both the K and Q of diamonds.



Here's the play: <https://tinyurl.com/2hq5cpxp>