

For a Future LSBC Newsletter and Corner

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Don't let opponents steal the contract from you - especially when they're vulnerable and you're not.

6	3♥Wx-3	800	10.3
Refresh		24.9	0.0

N Robot
 ♠ J103
 ♥ J73
 ♦ 102
 ♣ KJ1052

W Robot
 ♠ A952
 ♥ AK65
 ♦ J84
 ♣ 98

E Robot
 ♠ Q76
 ♥ Q1098
 ♦ 9763
 ♣ 74

S texashen
 ♠ K84
 ♥ 42
 ♦ AKQ5
 ♣ AQ63

Bidding: W Pass, N Pass, E Pass, S Pass
 Action: Dbl

3♥x West
 0 0

E P

S 1D

W 1H (Many would pass the West hand at West can only double if E/W have agreed to play ELC {Equal Level Conversion - where the double of a diamond only promises Spades and Hearts and not clubs.}. So many West's could not double. However, it is often correct to make a frisky overcall when partner is a passed hand. West has a heart suit that it wants led and does not expect a passed hand East to get too excited. The down side of the 2H bid is that E/W are vulnerable. So, it's a close call. At matchpoints it's probably worth taking a shot, at IMPS it's not. This is IMPS.)

N P

E 3H (Preemptive, 4+ hearts, 5-7 points)

S DBL (This shows a good hand: 16+ points and heart shortness. At least 3 cards in the unbid suits. It promises 3+ spades but not 4. It's take out oriented)

Passed out. North knows N/S has over half the points in the deck and probably can't make game, the 3 hearts should be a nuisance for declarer, and penalty doubles should work 2/3 of the time.

North leads the 10 of diamonds, my suit, looking for a ruff. I take the AK of diamonds.

Hand 1: Lead 6♦

Player	Spades	Hearts	Diamonds	Clubs
N Robot	J 10 3	J 7 3	K J 10 5 2	
W Robot	A 9 5 2	A K 6 5	J	9 8
E Robot	Q 7 6	Q 10 9 8	7 6	7 4
S texashen	K 8 4	4 2	Q 5	A Q 6 3

Trick 1: 2♦

Score: 2 - 0 (3♥x West)

I cash the Queen of diamonds and then play the 5 of diamonds.

West pitches a losing club and North ruffs. I would have done better cashing the 2 high clubs first, but defense it hard.

Hand 2: Lead 6♦

Player	Spades	Hearts	Diamonds	Clubs
N Robot	J 10 3	J 7	K J 10 5	
W Robot	A 9 5 2	A K 6 5	8	8
E Robot	Q 7 6	Q 10 9 8	7 4	7 4
S texashen	K 8 4	4 2	Q 5	A Q 6 3

Trick 2: 3♥

Score: 4 - 0 (3♥x West)

We now have 4 tricks. The defense still has 2 spades and a club coming for down 3 and 10.3 IMPS. Without the double, it yields just .7 IMPS. N/S does not have a game.