

For a Future LSBC Newsletter and Corner

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If they don't cover they don't got it - Zia.

Give the defense a chance to cover an honor and if they don't finesse the other way.

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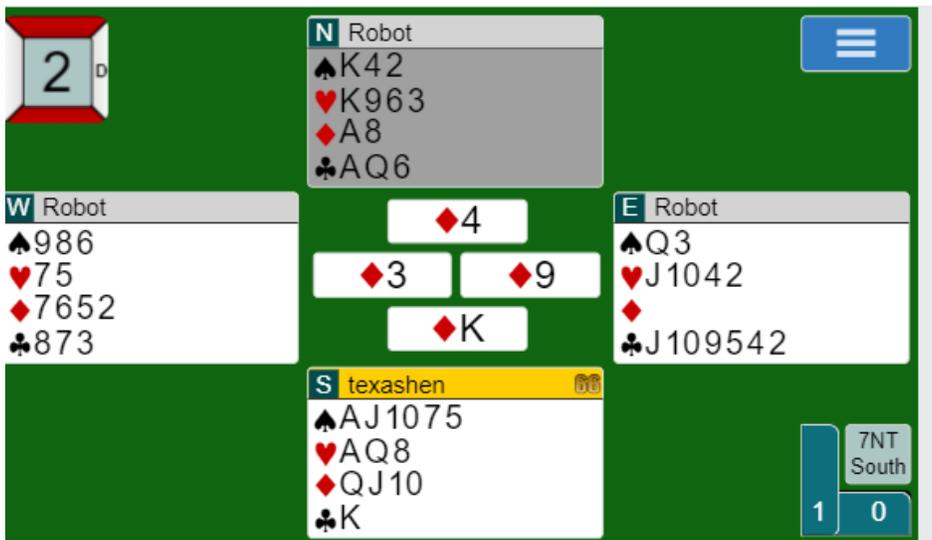
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<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 24px;">2</div> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>N Robot</p> <p>♠K42 ♥K963 ♦A84 ♣AQ6</p> </div>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>W Robot</p> <p>♠986 ♥75 ♦76532 ♣873</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>W N E S</p> <p>Pass 2NT Pass 7NT Pass Pass Pass</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>E Robot</p> <p>♠Q3 ♥J1042 ♦9 ♣J109542</p> </div>
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>S texashen</p> <p>♠AJ1075 ♥AQ8 ♦KQJ10 ♣K</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>7NT South</p> <p>0 0</p> </div>

S 2NT (20-21 hcp and flat. Opening notrump with a singleton king is not as dangerous as it looks. If lefty should lead the suit, it's unlikely lefty will lead out an unsupported ace. If lefty leads clubs, it's likely my King will win the trick {as long as I hold my hand back}. If partner should insist on clubs, the stiff King is as good as 2 small).

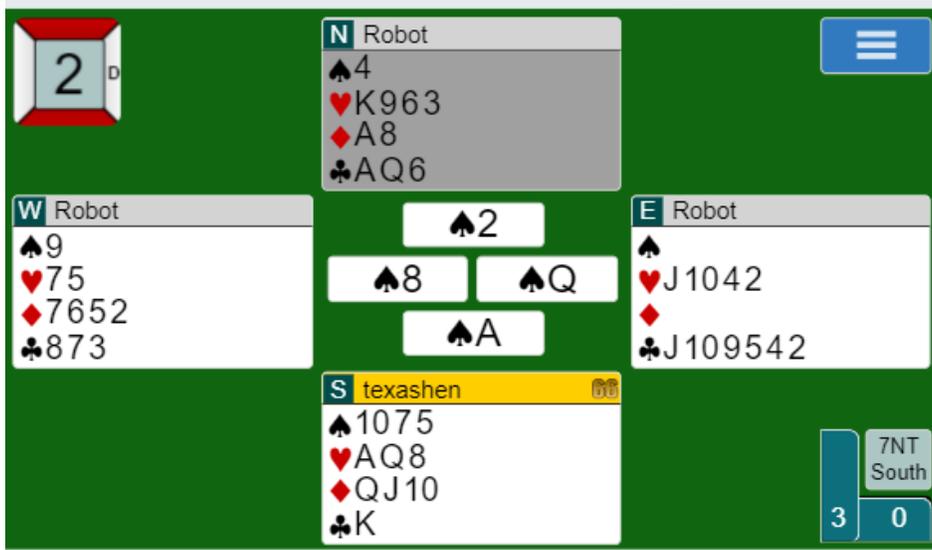
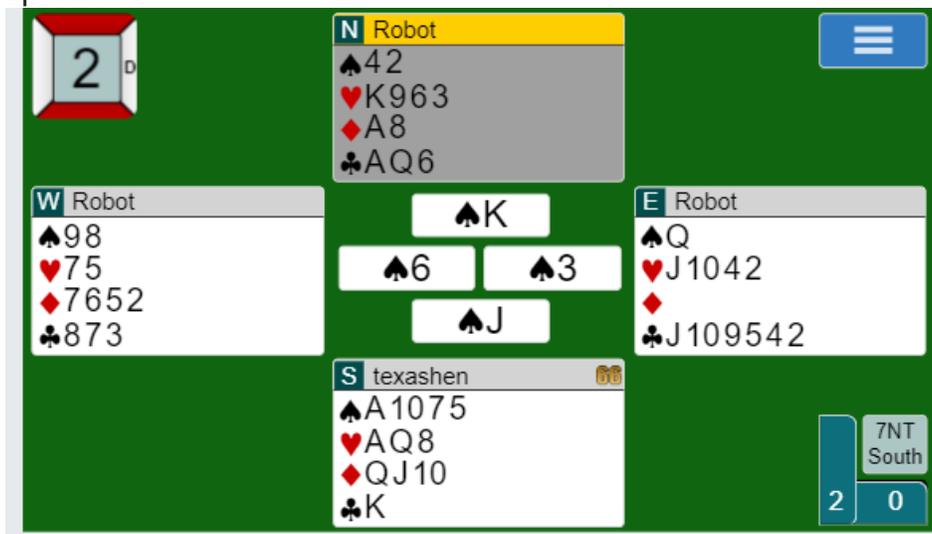
N 7NT (It takes about 37 hcp to make 7NT on pure high cards. North has 16, but aces are worth more than 4. I add 1/2 a point for 2 aces. AQ combinations are worth at least 6 1/2 points. I would evaluate the North hand as 17 points and strong enough for 7NT. However, it is smarter to ask for aces to make sure that we're not missing one as we could have 36 hcp. Guess North was in a hurry).

Lefty leads the 3 of diamonds.



It's clear the hand makes if and only if I find the Queen of spades. So, I win the King of diamonds in my hand so I can play the Jack of spades. Since West doesn't know I have 5 spades to the A J 10, I expect West to cover if West has the Queen.

When West fails to cover. I go up with the King to finesse East for the Queen of spades.



Making 7.