

I love the quiz format and one thing I promise you: *spend time on the quizzes and you will see your bridge improve.*

Here's an example (hand 23 from Thursday past)

You are dealt the following hand, with both sides vulnerable.

| | |
|---|----------|
| S | 7 5 4 |
| H | K Q 4 |
| D | A 6 3 |
| C | J 10 8 3 |

Partner is the dealer

| | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| S | W | N |
| 1D | 1NT | Your bid? |

Here is hand 14 (from Thursday past)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 14 | ♠ AJ9 ♥ AQ6 ♦ A742 ♣ 864 | Dir: E Vul: None | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ 654 ♥ T3 ♦ J953 ♣ KJ73 | ♠ T8732 ♥ J987 ♦ KT ♣ AT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 5 8 12 | ♠ KQ ♥ K542 ♦ Q86 ♣ Q952 | <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">♣</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♦</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♥</td> <td style="text-align: center;">♠</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> </table> | | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | | N | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 2 | S | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 2 | E | - | - | - | - | - | W | - | - | - | - | - |
| | ♣ | ♦ | ♥ | ♠ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | - | - | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

As N/S you get to the usual 3NT contract, looking at points and shape only.

East lead the S3. This contract is just about impossible. Where do you look for extra tricks? Your plan?

Solutions

After 1D - 1NT your bid of a suit will be "weak, to play" and you may have QJxxxx, xxx, xx, xx when you will bid 2S.

So what do we do with 9+ points and you are sure that they have no chance to make? YOU DOUBLE.

With top-notch defense you will collect +500 at 2 down, vul, for a top.

Most gratifying.

In board 14 see if this little ruse helps:

Win the SQ dropping the 9 on it. Now a heart to hand and plonk down the D2. When the king makes his appearance, you are halfway there.

It all depends on what your opponents do now.... If they broach the clubs, hope that a promotion materializes making your C9 your 9th trick.

Or... someone will discard a heart....

Or the hearts were 3-3!

We got lucky when the DQ and C9 became tricks! Making 9.

Each question received will be answered,
Contact Sid Ismail on elsid@elsid.co.za

Happy bridging!