

Margaret River Bridge #5 071128

Bridge bidding is about trying to tell your partner as much about your hand as you can without actually showing them your hand. A good competitive bidding sequence is like reading a story.

Dlr - South	♠9 8 6 4 3		
Vul - EW	♥K Q 3		
	♦A J		
	♣A J 6		
		N	
♠KQ10 7 5			♠A J 2
♥A 2	W	E	♥10 9 7 5 4
♦KQ7 6 4 3			♦10
♣ -		S	♣10 5 3 2
			♠ -
			♥J 8 6
			♦9 8 5 2
			♣KQ9 8 7 4

Bidding

N	E	S	W
		P	1D
1S	P	2C	2S
3C	P	P	3S
P	P	4C	P
P	P		

Even though West has 5 spades, they should still open their six card diamond suit. South is in a dilemma since they have points to respond, but no support for partner. A no trump bid implies a balanced hand, which this certainly isn't. A change of suit implies more points than they actually have. South decides to bid 2C, but in doing so must be prepared to pass the next time around.

The rest of the bidding is quite interesting. West's 2S tells their partner they have a two suited hand and they have more diamonds than spades. 3C by North shows 3 card support in clubs and implies that they only have 5 spades. Pass by South implies a weak hand. 3S by West now tells partner that they most probably have 5 spades and hence 6 diamonds. When North doesn't double, South decides to push on to 4C (this couldn't be seen as Ace asking in such competitive bidding). This is a good competitive bid since if you go off 1 or two then you only lose 100 points, compared to the 110 that EW would make. EW decide to pass since they know spades are split badly and East is weak. They are also vulnerable meaning they could give away more points than NS will get if they make.

The king of diamonds is lead, can you see how you will make 4C?

Making 4C is tricky since although you only have two losers, you can only count 9 tricks so you need to find at least one more trick. This can be achieved by attacking the diamonds early and then trumping the third diamond lead with the Jack of Clubs, giving you the 10th trick.

Deep finesse reckons you can make 11 tricks, even with best defence, but I haven't worked this out yet. If you can, please email me at bridge@holidaymargaretriver.com.au. (Deep Finesse also says that EW can be kept to only 3S, which again is interesting to try to work out.)

Winners over the last couple of weeks were Monday (12/11) Diane Bishop and Alistair Campbell, Handicap winner was David Leggott (a new member, well done!). On Monday, 19/11 Michael O'Hara and Steven Forward continued their good form, with Mavis Greig and Jan James winning on handicap. To find out more about local bridge, go to our website at <http://www.holidaymargaretriver.com.au/bridge>