**Margaret River Bridge #080130c05**

It is always good when you get a sequence of competitive bidding, which is often started off by an encouraging bid by your partner.

Dealer - East
Vul - NS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠A K J 5<br>♥7 6 5 3<br>♦Q 8<br>♣A 9 4 | |
| ♠T 4 2<br>♥A J 9<br>♦K J T 9 5 2<br>♣T | N<br>W E<br>S | ♠Q 9 7<br>♥T<br>♦A 7 6 4<br>♣Q J 8 7 3 |
| | ♠8 6 3<br>♥K Q 8 4 2<br>♦3<br>♣K 6 5 2 | |

**Bidding**

| N | E | S | W |
|---|---|---|---|
| | P | P | P |
| 1C | X | 1H | 2D |
| 2H | 3D | 3H | 4D |
| all pass | | | |

With an even spread of points, everyone passes until it gets around to North, who has an opening hand, but no five card major to bid, hence a bid of 1C. East now decides to double, saying that they have a few points and encouraging their partner to say something if they can. A good competitive bidding sequence now takes place, which can always lead to someone overbidding.

South responds 1H and West has now been encouraged to talk about their diamonds. North supports partner with 2H and East supports their partner with a 3D. South doesn't have much, but with only one diamond and support from partner they do a weak 3H bid. East is encouraged since they have support, a singleton club and are not vulnerable (double penalties) so they bid higher. North now has to stop since they are not strong and are vulnerable. North should also consider that a 4D bid is only worth 130 points, whereas going down two gives the opposition 200 points. (How much do you think NS will go down if they bid 4H?)

North will most probably lead the King of Spades to take a look at dummy. After this there is nothing obvious to lead and EW should make their contract easily. Can you see how the play could go?

Winners on Friday night were Dianne Last and Linda Andrews. On Monday night the winners were Glenda Barter and Dianne Bishop. Handicap winners were Bernadette Campbell and Marge Croxford. The overall winners of the Grand National Pairs Qualifying were Michael O'Hara and Steve Forward. They along with the three next best pairs will now compete in the regional qualifying series, with the possibility of going on to represent country Western Australia. To find out more about local bridge, including lessons for beginners, go to our website at http://www.holidaymargaretriver.com.au/bridge

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