

Margaret River Bridge #080326c13

I often get into trouble when I try to tell my partner information, even though I don't have a very good hand. My thoughts are that you can miss out on a contract sometimes through lack of information and that it is more important to get into a good contract than it is to just make a contract. Today's bidding tries to justify my thoughts (though my partner wouldn't always agree with me).

Dealer - North	♠A K Q 6	
Vul - none	♥J 8	
	♦3	
	♣A K Q T 8 2	
	N	
♠T 8		♠9 7 3
♥A 9 2	W	♥K Q 7 5 4
♦K J T 7		♦A 6 2
♣9 7 6 4		♣J 3
	S	
	♠J 5 4 2	
	♥T 6 3	
	♦Q 9 8 5 4	
	♣5	

Bidding

N	E	S	W
			P
2C	P	2D	P
3C	P	3S	P
4S	all pass		

North opens 2C, which indicates more than 20 points or 9 playing tricks (in this case it is the latter). South does a very weak 2D response and North responds 3C to indicate where they would like the contract to finish.

South now overbids by going 3S, but they are trying to tell their partner that they have stoppers in spades and they don't really like clubs. South is also trying to end up in a game in No Trumps. North likes the spades and raises the contract to 4S.

As can be seen, this contract will make quite easily, with only two losers in hearts and one in diamonds. NS were able to find a game because South kept bidding trying to give partner as much information as they could.

Although this concept worked on this occasion, what would have happened if North did not like spades? 3NT should not be called and would go down, since there are no stoppers in hearts. If North bids 4C, it would be seen as Ace asking and eventually the contract would have ended up in 5C, which cannot make since you still have the three losers. Any NS pair who bid like I have today must be prepared for a few disasters, but would the rewards outweigh this?

A good partnership should always discuss these ideas so that you both understand what you are doing and are prepared to accept the consequences. You cannot vary your bidding depending on the previous result, you must be consistent at all times.

I made an error in the bidding sequence last week and, as most people would have guessed, the contract would have been played by NS.

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