

45.2024 – Slam Decision

Dealer N Nil Vul

Here is a tough call in bidding the right slam:

	NORTH	
	J1072	
	107	
	QJ1063	
	74	
WEST		EAST
AK54		-
AJ8		KQ643
K95		A742
K95		QJ63
	SOUTH	
	Q9863	
	952	
	8	
	A1082	

Bidding

North	East	South	West
P	1H	P	2NT (1)
P	3S (2)	P	4NT (3)
P	5S (4)	P	??? (5)

- (1) Bergen strong Heart raise
- (2) Singleton or Void in Spades, extra values
- (3) RCKB
- (4) 2 Key Cards plus HQ
- (5) What do you bid? 6H will fail if South leads through one of your Kings and North has AQ in that suit. 6NT looks tempting as any minor suit lead will come from North up to your DK or CK

You bid 6NT

Lead: DQ

Dummy goes down

You see at once that 6H makes easily

What about 6NT?

You look at Dummy. It will all turn on the Clubs breaking 3-3 or C10 falling Singleton or Doubleton (all up, about 50%). Or you could finesse C10 through your Hand, hoping South has it (about 50%)

Another line is to run all your Hearts first, hoping NS throw enough Clubs (take care with entries whilst doing this)

MORAL OF THE STORY

Getting the right Contract is often a guess. Probably, bidding 6H here is correct

But 6NT also has its merits

That's Bridge!

Ian Morison

Friday 22 November 2024