38.2024 – Big Mis-Fits

1. Dealer South Nil Vul

Last week I wrote about the disruptive effect of pre-empts – the opponents settled in 4S when they can make Slam (even Grand Slam due to the lei of the cards)

You are East. How do you plan to bid?

NORTH
Q85
9752
7
J9742

WEST	EAST
KJ9732	4
AQJ85	-
Α	KQ1097432
10	K863

SOUTH A106 K1043 J86 AQ5

The Bidding was:

South	West	North	East
1C	1S (1)	Р	3D (2)
P	3H (3)	Р	4D (4)
Р	4S (5)	Р	P (6)

- (1) Perhaps better to Double, indicating Majors
- (2) Heaps of Diamonds
- (3) Second Suit, possibly 6-5 in Spades and Hearts
- (4) Rejects both Majors, insists on Diamonds
- (5) Perhaps better to Pass
- (6) Should bid 5D (an 8-card suit should always be Trumps)

The Lead

North led D5, and West ended up down 4 for -200, for a top to NS

MORAL OF THE STORY

East must out-bid Partner with no support in Partners 2 Major suits. As the cards lie, 5D will go down 1, but that is superior to down 4

Equally, after the 4D bid, West should Pass

Out-bidding Partner in mis-fits seldom is rewarding

Maybe, East's first bid should have been 4D? But the problem is that crowds the East-West bidding (even the possibility of 3NT)

Ian Morison

Friday 4 October 2024

Go Penrith (I flopped with the Swans last week)!