

35- 2024 – Toss a Loser & Set up a Winner

1. Dealer North Nil Vul

Declarer missed an easy way to secure the Contract here:

NORTH	
43	
A874	
Q864	
1084	
WEST	EAST
A10965	Q82
Q3	J109652
KJ10	-
A63	KQJ9
SOUTH	
KJ7	
K	
A97532	
752	

The Bidding was:

North	East	South	West
P	2D (1)	3D	3H (2)
P	4H (3)	P	

- (1) Multi - Weak 2 in Hearts or Spades, or 21+ Points Balanced
- (2) Good Hand, Pass or correct
- (3) Extra Values, Hearts Trumps

West is playing 4H

North led D4

West trumped straight away in Dummy, drew Trumps, led SA and another Spade. South beat SQ with SK, cashed SJ and Declarer went 1 down

Unlucky?

As is so often the case, Declarer's mistake occurred at Trick 1. Instead of Trumping, Declarer should have thrown a Spade in Dummy. South wins with DA, and no return matters

Declarer has the DK to discard the losing Spade at any time

NS will only win 2 Hearts and DA

MORAL OF THE STORY

Take stock at Trick 1, before playing any card. The temptation to Ruff should be eschewed here. Throw a Spade, creating a winner to discard a loser later (a Spade)

Game made

Ian Morison

Friday 13th September 2024

Horror movie, right there on my TV, shocking me right out of my mind (Skyhooks)