

24 - 2023 – The Impossible can Happen

Often your Contract looks hopeless, but you should always play for a lucky outcome. Here is a good example

Dealer S, Nil Vul

NORTH

82
1086532
1076
76

SOUTH

-
K7
AKQ4
AQJ10832

The Bidding:

N	E	S	W
-	-	2C (1)	2S (2)
P (3)	P (4)	5C (5)	P
P	P		

- (1) Strong 20+ Points, or 3 or less losers
- (2) Spades, disruptive bid
- (3) 0 - 3 Points
- (4) Weak
- (5) Only bid you can make with this powerhouse – you can't let this go below game level. Partner must have something (or it is time to feed partner to the lions...)

The Lead:

West leads SA, you ruff in hand

The Play:

You take stock. Getting to Dummy does not seem possible for a Club or Heart finesse. Given West bid, it looks like HA and CK will be with West, so you will go down

But a Declarer's duty is never to surrender without trying

You lead CA, hoping CK falls singleton (about a 10% chance). It does not

Things now look desperate....

You Play on:

Your only hope is to find DJ doubleton or singleton, allowing you to enter Dummy with D10 and finesse East for HA

So, you play another Trump, West wins with CK and returns another Spade. You ruff, draw the last Trump

Then the moment of truth.....

The Full Hands:

	82	
	1086532	
	1076	
	76	
AKJ65		Q109743
Q94		AJ
8543		J9
4		K95
	-	
	K7	
	AKQ4	
	AQJ10832	

You play DA, DK and DJ falls! You enter Dummy with D10 and lead a small Heart

Then the second moment of truth.....

East goes up with HA!

You make 5C, which appeared grim

MORAL OF THE STORY

Even when it looks hopeless, there may be a chance to make. So, look for it and take it. Here it worked

[I think East should have bid 5S over 5C, with 6 Card support and 11 Points, but maybe East thought 5C looked unlikely to make]

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Bridge lover

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