

28- 2024 – Competitive Bidding

Dealer North, Nil Vul

NORTH

64
AQJ54
AKQ97
10

WEST

AKQ
K87
J6
KJ543

EAST

J9732
6
42
AQ982

SOUTH

1085
10932
10853
76

THE BIDDING

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

- (1) I would have bid 1S, given the shapely Hand
- (2) Correct bid, don't even think about a raise of 1H with this rubbish!
- (3) West's Hand is awkward to bid. The Double implies he has four Spades, but 2C is too weak with 17 Points, and 1NT should have better Heart and Diamond cover. At least the 3 Spades he has are as good as they can get, so Double it is
- (4) Telling South he has a strong 2-suit Hand, and he sits over West's good Hand
- (5) South revalues his Hand from pure Rubbish, to.....pure Rubbish plus some support for Partner's 2 suits
- (6) What can West do? Should he bid 5S or Double? I would Double and hope it goes down 3 for 500. 5S is too risky

THE PLAY

NS lose 2 Spades, 1 Club and HK, for 2 down, - 300

5S by EW loses 3 obvious Tricks, down 1, so the Double is better

MORAL OF THE STORY

It is important to compete in the bidding. Sometimes passing seems easier (saying to oneself – I did nothing wrong). But you must compete

And knowing when it is time to stop and Double is just as important

Ian Morison

19 July 2024

From the fiords of Norway