

Victorian Bridge Association Bulletin

October 2022

Editor: Dee Harley

MIXED SUCCESS IN POLAND

Jenny Thompson playing with Damon Flicker and Eva Caplan playing with Jamie Thompson made the 32 knockout round stage of the Mixed Teams. They were selected by the Knottenbelt Team, who were top qualifiers from the Round Robin Stages. Our Australian team ended up winning that match. In the round of 16 they lost to the Value Media Team but they were not disgraced as they only lost by 12 IMPs.

It was great experience for all the team. This is especially true of Damon who is quite new to this level. His first major international competition was the Youth Championships held in Italy a couple of weeks prior to the event.

The Knottenbelt Team was Michael Bell, Fiona Brown, Oliver Burgess, David Gold, Maggie Knottenbelt and Nevena Senior. If you refer to page 16 of the relevant bulletin the first session of the boards in the round 32 match have been written up by David Bird. It's a great read! Read it [here](#):

ONLINE BRIDGE IN AUSTRALIA

The ABF have set up a committee to discuss the future of online bridge in Australia. This is very relevant for all bridge playing communities, here and around the world.

The Online Bridge Committee's goal is to recommend to the Board of the ABF the long-term direction that meets the needs of the ABF, existing face-to-face clubs, existing and emerging online clubs, and the bridge-playing members represented by the ABF.

To achieve these goals, there will be major consultations with all stakeholders late in 2022 and early 2023.

Jenny Thompson, Vice President of the VBA, is Chair of this Committee and will be keeping

the bridge playing community up to date with what is happening in this space.

WORLD BRIDGE CHANGES

Jan Kamras is the new President of the World Bridge Federation. His term will begin in January 2023.

Jan will replace long serving President Gianarrigo Rona who was elected as President Emeritus of the WBF. Gianarrigo has been a member of the WBF Executive Council and Management Committee since 1999 and served as President from 2010-2022.

On behalf of the Australian Bridge Federation, I thank Gianarrigo for his dedication and service to world bridge.

Australian Ben Thompson, Zone 7 President was unanimously elected by the WBF Executive Council as the First Vice President.

Congratulations Ben.
Allison Stralow - ABF President

AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE HISTORY

The ABF Historian, Keith Ogborn, has written an extensive report on the history of bridge in Australia that may be of interest to you. The report can be found [here](#).

AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION BOARD MEETING

All sorts of exciting things happened at the ABF Board meeting on 7th September click [here](#) for details.

**PARTNERSHIP MISUNDERSTANDINGS
AND UNAUTHORISED INFORMATION
LAURIE KELSO**

I recently ran an introductory course for directors at the VBA. One area of the laws that we covered related to Law 16 (unauthorised and extraneous information). Here is a situation that arose in a club competition that serves to illustrate quite well many of the key issues that often need to be addressed.

Dir: South	♠ 4											
Vul: N/S	♥ K9											
	♦ AQ632											
	♣ Q8432											
♠ AJ8763		<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">W</td><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 109
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ J54			♥ 873									
♦ J5			♦ K94									
♣ J7			♣ AK965									
	♠ KQ52											
	♥ AQ1062											
	♦ 1087											
	♣ 10											

W	N	E	S
			Pass
2♠	2NT ¹	Pass	3♦ ²
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

¹ Explained by South as strong and balanced

² Intended as a transfer and alerted as such

At the end of the auction North called the Director in order to correct what he believed had been a mis-explanation by South of the 2NT bid. In the ensuing discussion it was determined that systemically 2NT was in fact natural and that the North player had simply forgotten the system and thus made the wrong bid. This meant that the explanation provided by South (and the subsequent alert of the 3♦ bid) were both systemically correct, even though the actual hand held by North did not correspond to the description given. As such everyone at the table quickly realised that there had been no mis-information and thus no infraction in respect to Law 21.

The Director instructed that the hand should be played out in 4♥. When 10 tricks were made, nobody thought there was a need to recall the director and they proceeded onto the next board.

What the players failed to realize was that although the explanations given were not an issue in regard to the laws relating to mis-information, there did appear to be a problem in respect to North's potential use of unauthorized information. This was because South's description of the 2NT bid, whilst systemically correct, had never-the-less alerted North to the fact that he and his partner were not on the same wavelength. This in turn meant that North was able to discern his partner's true intentions in regard to the 3♦ bid thereby assisting N/S in avoiding any sort of further misunderstanding.

Most players realise that the use of information arising from partner's grimaces, sighs and body language is illegal. The same is true of actions associated with a gratuitous comment made by partner, as well as things overhead from an adjacent table. Many are also aware that the Law prohibits the use of inferences drawn from partner's break-in-tempo (i.e., a hesitation). The laws relating to unauthorized information are however much broader in their application than just the examples already quoted. Law 16 says that a player may only use information in the auction or play if "it derives from the legal calls and plays of the current board" or if it is "information that the player possessed before he took his hand from the board". This means that nearly every other source of information is 'unauthorised' (and this is especially so if the source happens be your partner).

Law 16B actually provides a non-exhaustive list of these sources, amongst which can be found, "a remark, a question, a reply to a question, an unexpected alert or failure to alert", all of which pertain to the situation described above. The Laws also make it clear that it is illegal to use any form of unauthorized (or extraneous) information.

On the hand under discussion, the Director correctly adjusted the result back to 3♦S making 9 tricks. If North had not heard his partner's explanation, then he would have just

interpreted South's 3♦ bid as giving preference between the minors, which would then have undoubtedly been passed out. Since the laws prohibit North from using the information acquired from his partner's explanation of the auction, he should still have passed the 3♦ bid and because he did not, it then fell upon the Director to rectify the situation by returning the contract to where it would have rested without North's subsequent 3♥ and 4♥ actions.

As this example shows, the laws can be quite strict. Theoretically a player should never gain via the illegal use of unauthorized information. Had N/S failed in their precarious 4♥ contract, then the Director would not have adjusted the score. This is because the laws only require the Director to award an adjusted score if the result obtained due to an infraction is advantageous for the offending side. Conversely, the Law usually allows a non-offending side to keep any windfall they might receive following an opponent's infraction.

CONGRESS RESULTS

Ballarat Swiss Pairs

1. Maggie Callander, Jens Norlyng
2. Steven White, Chelliah Arul
3. Leo Saoud, Gordon McRobert

Ballarat Swiss Teams

1. Stephen Weisz, John Yang, Bob Geyer, George Lovrecz
2. Denny Newland, Doug Newlands, Stephen Lester, Arthur Robbins
3. Tom Hackett, Jan Hackett, Kae French, Penny Corrigan

Mornington Peninsula Swiss Pairs

1. Martin Willcox, Alan Race
2. Geoff Johnston, Kae French
3. Eva Samuel, Pete Hollands

STATE RESULTS

Victorian Masters Matchpoint Pairs

1. Phillip Fent, Dee Harley
2. Richard Greenfield, Michael Gurfinkiel
3. David Beckett - Michael Phillips

**HOW CRUEL IS THIS GAME?
GREG QUITTNER**

This deal occurred at the Bayside Bridge Club on a Friday afternoon.

Dlr: East ♠ 6
 Vul: N/S ♥ AQJ1096
 ♦ KQJ1084
 ♣ -

♠ KQ105432	<table style="margin: 0 auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 5px;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 5px;">W</td><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 5px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="padding: 2px 5px;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AJ98
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 2		♥ K5									
♦ A872		♦ 83									
♣ J		♣ 109863									

♠ 7
 ♥ 8743
 ♦ 9
 ♣ AKQ7542

Bidding:

W	N	E	S
		Pass	3NT
4♠	5♥	5♠	All Pass

POINTS TO REMEMBER:

South's 3NT is a long solid minor without any outside strength.

West is not going to stand for this. He has no hesitation in bidding 4♠.

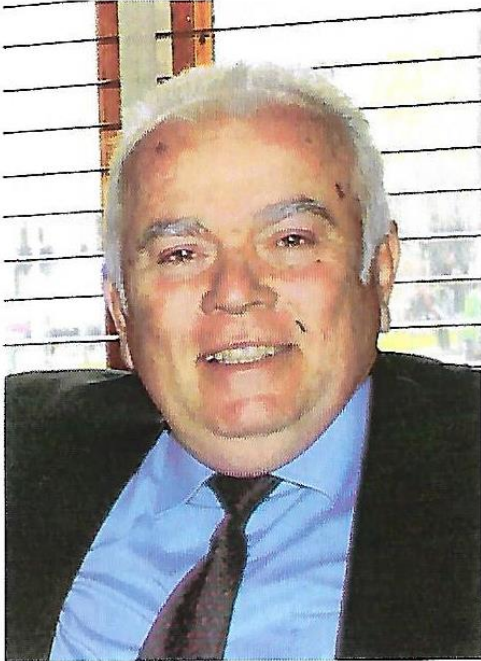
Both North and East don't wish to be bystanders. They bid 5♥ and 5♠

with great aplomb, South is waiting for the club lead which never comes. West wins the ♦K with the ♦A, draws trumps and leads a heart from hand. North takes the ♥A but now the club loser goes on dummy's ♥K for +450 for E/W.

POST MORTEM

N/S were last seen heading for the nearest pub. They ran a close second!

VALE STAN KLOFA



Stan Klofa - Bridge Player - He Died

Oh, come on I said, surely that's not how you want to be remembered, and he shrugged. There were other things better than bridge, he whispered. There was golf and food and... then he gave me that smile and we both laughed and just like that he fell asleep again.

I'd been at Stan's 80th birthday two days earlier. I'd bought him a T-shirt with the legend "Made in 1942, All Original Parts", which was a lie as he had two new hips and both knees replaced just in the time I'd known him.

I was at the party, others were there too, and I had brought along a towering chocolate creation of cake, Maltesers and candles which spelled out 80 but the guest of honour was MIA.

I dialled triple zero and the police called me back with news of the fall, the inability to move and the ambulance with its merrily flashing lights which took him on his last roller coaster ride to the hospital.

When Dee and I arrived in Australia ten years ago Stan was one of the bridge players who scooped us up and included us in congresses, club events and trips to far flung places that we couldn't pronounce, let alone find on a map.

The three of us with varying inclusions played each year in the GNOT up in Tweed Heads, a fun, pre-Christmas jolly that rounded off the year nicely. It was Stan and Janette who introduced us to rural Australia making our first trip to Yarrowonga where the culture shock of our first meat raffle nearly had us heading back to Scotland.

Stan was a player anyone would enjoy having on a team. He never got cross, always had a tale to tell and was a man who had lived life to the fullest.

He loved Australia and told me often how he had arrived here having escaped from Russian occupied Czechoslovakia via Sweden (too cold) and fallen into life in Australia with gratitude. It took me longer to appreciate all that this country has to offer but Stan was one of those who showed me its better side.

He called me Sveetniss. I'm not sure if this was out of gallantry or because he forgot my name, but I'd pick up the phone and the thick, heavy accent that he never lost would make me smile as he invariably asked; Sveetniss, why does that husband of yours never answer his phone?

He was angry that first day in the hospital and determined to go home. Okay I said, I'll take you, but first let them do their tests. There was an inevitability to the results, but Stan was stoic and accepting and instead of bemoaning his fate told me stories of his successes. The partner he had most admired as a player, Victor Muntz; the player with whom he had the most successes, Charlie Schwabegger and the time he had made seven no trumps doubled.

Two weeks earlier I had come out of semi-retirement and joined Stan and Lindsay in Morwell to play our last teams event. The bridge was grim but the company lovely and the food was great. None of us cared about the result, (I'm lying but not excessively), and all of us enjoyed the day.

I'll always be grateful to have had that last phone call from him, hearing his cajoling tones as he said Sveetniss I need you to make up a fourth....

Stan Klofa. Made in 1942. A few original parts. Enjoyed golf, loved food, played bridge, died.

I really miss him.

Anna St Clair

McMANAMNY CLUB TEAMS JENNIE CODOGNOTTO

Not long after I started playing bridge, I was asked to represent Waverley in the CROFTS Teams an event organised by the FABCV (Federation of Affiliated Bridge Clubs of Victoria) aimed at improving the growth and standard of bridge in Victoria.

Under the rules of the event at that time, clubs entered teams that typically consisted of a Grand Master paired with a player below state level (U50MP). Unfortunately the CROFTS and similar events have since been discontinued.

Kelso, managed to agree on the rules, a venue and the date of the first event.

Whilst we used CROFTS as a basis for the event, we tweaked the rules slightly to improve the chances of attracting as many teams from across Victoria as possible by ensuring players compete against players of a similar level rather having mixed experience levels competing against each other.

I suggested that we name the event after Nicole McManamny, a Waverley Club stalwart who passed away in March this year. Nicole played bridge whenever and wherever possible and was well known throughout Australia. MVBC and GBC were happy to commemorate her in this way and so the McManamny Club Teams was born.

The concept of the event is that each club selects between 3-5 teams to play in an all-day competition against other club teams for the CROFTS trophy (which we were kindly permitted to reuse). This will be awarded to the Club with the highest average VPs from all of the teams. Additionally, the Stokes trophy (another FABCV trophy) will be awarded to the best team of the day.

The inaugural McManamny Club Teams will be hosted by Waverley Bridge Club, on **Sunday 2nd October, at Waverley Clubhouse - 21A Electra Avenue, Ashwood, starting at 10:00 am.**

Participating teams must comply with the following:

- Teams may consist of 4-6 players
- For each Grand Master (1000+MP), there must be a corresponding player below State Level (<50MP)
- For each Life Master (300+MP), there must be a corresponding player below National level (<150MP)
- Teams of four players at National Master level are permitted to play together. (150-300MP)
- The experienced players must play as a pair against the experienced pair from the opposition team.
- If all the players in a team are of the same rank (i.e., National) they may choose who plays with whom.

We hope that this event will become well supported by the Victorian Bridge Community for many years to come.



The poster features logos for Waverley Bridge Club Melbourne, Mooney Valley Bridge Club, and Geelong Bridge Club at the top. The main title is 'McMANAMNY CLUB TEAMS' in large, bold letters. Below it, it says 'RED POINT EVENT' and 'Sunday 2nd October 2022'. The starting time is '10:00 AM'. The entry fee is '\$40 per team' for '3-5 teams'. The director is 'Laurie Kelso'. It also mentions 'BYO Lunch, light refreshments provided'. A section titled 'COMPETITION RULES' is present, with a QR code below it. At the bottom left, there is a photo of an elderly woman and the text 'Commemorating Nicole's team spirit and joy of bridge.'

Earlier this year Andrzej Krolikowski and I approached Mooney Valley Bridge Club (MVBC) and Geelong Bridge Club (GBC) about resurrecting the CROFTS competition.

Both MVBC and GBC were supportive of the idea based on their experience of that event. We set up a working party and over a number of meetings, and with the assistance of Laurie

COMING CONGRESSES

Warrnambool Congress

Saturday 8th Oct - Swiss Pairs 10 am
 Sunday 9th Oct - Swiss Teams 10 am

Venue: Wannan Function Centre,
 Warrnambool Greyhound Racing Track
 331 Koroit Street, Warrnambool
 Contact: Jan Cooke, 0438 724 609
 Email: cookej49@hotmail.com

Bairnsdale Congress

Saturday 15th Oct - Swiss Pairs 12 pm
 Sunday 16th Oct - Swiss Teams 10 am

Venue: St. Mary's Parish Centre (enter
 through McDonald's carpark)
 Contact: Alison Farthing, 0428729519
 Email: alisonfarthing45@gmail.com

Sunbury Congress

Sunday 23rd Oct - Swiss Pairs ? am

Venue: Sunbury Bowling Club 49 Riddell Rd
 Sunbury
 Contact: Michael Francis, 0400 737 005,
 Email: sunburybridge@hotmail.com

Waverley Congress

Friday 28th Oct - MP Swiss Pairs ? am
 Saturday 29th Oct - Swiss Pairs ? am
 Sunday 30th Oct - Swiss Teams ? am

Venue: 21A Electra Avenue, Ashwood
 Contact: Jennie Codognotto
 Email: office@waverleybridgeclub.com.au

South Gippsland Congress

Saturday 5th Nov - Swiss Pairs 11 am
 Sunday 6th Nov - Swiss Teams 10 am

Venue: Dakers Centre, 23 Smith St,
 Leongatha, VIC
 Contact: John Quayle
 Email: sgbridgeclub@hotmail.com

MASTER POINT PROMOTIONS

Grand	
Alison Talbot	Waverley
Gold Life	
Jillian Tuckey	Frankston
Life	
Geoffrey Temple	Geelong
Alison Feiner	Geelong
Bronze National	
Sally Marshall	Royal South Yarra
Robert Quirk	Waverley
Carmella Rauchberger	Theodor Herzl Social
Peter Martin	Dendy Park
National	
Jane Keyte	Torquay
Lorraine Dullard	Bendigo
Bronze State	
Dianne Keys	Waverley
Brian Hassett	MCC
State	
Jenny Sin	Waverley
Helen Williams	Bayside
Debbie Kras	Dendy Park
Bruce Greenland	Berwick
Caroline Marks	MCC
Bronze Regional	
Elly Papasavvas	Theodor Herzl Social
Annie Vaughan	Moonee Valley
Regional	
Marcus Brodmeyer	Kooyong
Leo Friedlaender	Dendy Park
Denise Gassenheimer	Dendy Park
Kim Model	Sunbury
Betty Ritchie	Bendigo
David Carpenter	Berwick
James Grapsas	Melbourne
Jill George	Waverley
Alan Kras	Dendy Park
Bruce Warlow	Moonee Valley
Susan Turner	Royal South Yarra
Lyn Wilkinson	Paynesville
Dot Wolke	Frankston

**A REAL DEAL WORKOUT
RON KLINGER**

Playing teams with N/S Vulnerable - what would you do as West after your right-hand opponent opens a strong NT? You hold:

♠ J 7 ♥ A K Q 8 6 4 3 2 ♦ K 8 6 ♣ -

The deal arose in the final of the World Seniors' Teams and the semi-finals of the World Mixed Teams in 2022.

Board 21:

Dlr: South ♠ Q1063
 Vul: N/S ♥ 95
 ♦ AQ
 ♣ J10753

♠ J7	N	♠ 9542
♥ AKQ86432	W E	♥ 10
♦ K86	S	♦ 10975
♣ -		♣ Q862

♠ AK8
 ♥ J7
 ♦ J432
 ♣ AK94

I would have expected that this was an easy decision for West. With ready-made defence against 1NT, you pass and hope that they stay in 1NT or even better, push on to 3NT. If North runs to Stayman or transfers to a suit, you introduce the hearts later.

As you can see, North-South have 25 HCP and are likely to reach 3NT via 1NT 2♣ 2♦ 3NT all pass. West cashes eight hearts for +400. Meanwhile East-West can make only 9 tricks in hearts for +140.

Suppose you swap the North and East hands. Now it is likely to go 1NT : Pass : Pass : Pass. With the DA-Q opposite, West can now make 11 tricks in hearts for +450. Good? Yes, but defending against 1NT is still better, with 8 hearts plus 2 diamonds, ten tricks, East-West +500.

If West doubles 1NT, North-South are likely to run to a safer spot. North-South can make 5♣ as the cards lie, but if West passes throughout, North-South figure to reach 3NT. North-South can make 4♠ if played by South. An unlikely club lead can defeat 4♠ if played by North.

When this deal arose only two East-West pairs produced a positive result. In the Seniors' final, at one table it went South 1NT, West 4♥, North Double, all pass. West made nine tricks

(playing low diamonds twice set up the ♦K), North-South +100. At the other table:

W	N	E	S
			1NT
4♥	Dbl	Pass	4NT ¹
5♥	Dbl	All Pass	

¹ Pick a minor

West made nine tricks, -300 and 5 Imps away. Still, that was better than if North-South had played and made 5♣ for +600. However, there was a better option for E/W.

In the Mixed Teams' semi-finals:

Table 1:

W	N	E	S
			1NT
4♥	Dbl	All Pass	

East-West -100.

Table 2, with East-West passing throughout:

W	N	E	S
			1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East-West +400 and +11 Imps.

Table 3:

W	N	E	S
			1NT
Dbl	Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass
2♥	Dbl ²	Pass	2♠
3♥	3♠	All Pass	

¹ Too weak to pass for penalties

² For takeout

West led the ♥A, followed by the ♥2 (suit-preference for clubs). East ruffed and returned the ♣6: ♣A - ♠7 - ♣3. Declarer had the rest, North-South +170.

Table 4, with East-West passing throughout:

W	N	E	S
			1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East-West +400 and +6 Imps.

The East-Wests who passed went plus. The East-Wests who bid went minus. Quod erat demonstrandum. Note the Power of Pass.

You can find more Real Deal Workouts - five per week - via the www.ronklingerbridge.com website

PLAY PROBLEM #33 SOLUTION

IMPs

Dlr: West ♠ KQ43
 Vul: N/S ♥ 763
 ♦ K432
 ♣ KQ

♠ 62	N W E S	♠ 75
♥ AKJ?		♥ 954?
♦ ?		♦ ?
♣ ?		♣ ?

♠ AJ1098
 ♥ Q2
 ♦ AJ9
 ♣ 543

Contract 4♠ Lead: ♥A

Bidding:

W	N	E	S
1NT ¹	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

1 15-17

East plays the ♥A, ♥K, and then the ♥J which you ruff. You draw two rounds of trumps (they break 2-2) and now you are left with the problem of how to make 10 tricks.

Did you notice that West opened 1NT showing 15-17 Points? I'm sure you would notice at the table! Counting all the points in the pack you see that West MUST have the ♦Q (unless he "upgraded" or psyched). If West has the ♦Q then your best play is to lead the ♦J. If West covers, you can now win the ♦K and then finesse for the ♦10 on the way back.

So you know how to play the diamonds... but there is no rush for that. Play on clubs first – you never know they may play diamonds for you or give you a ruff/sluff by leading a heart! When West wins the ♣A and returns a club – then you can return to hand with a trump and play the ♦J.

Good luck!

PLAY PROBLEM #34

IMPs

Dlr: West ♠ AQ
 Vul: N/S ♥ QJ973
 ♦ AQ3
 ♣ 1092

♠ ?	N W E S	♠ ?
♥ ?		♥ ?
♦ J?		♦ 4?
♣ ?		♣ ?

♠ 54
 ♥ AK865
 ♦ K82
 ♣ K53

Contract 4♥ Lead: ♦J

Bidding:

W	N	E	S
			1♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

2NT promised a 4-card heart raise and the 3♥ bid showed a minimal hand. North raised to game. West leads the ♦J and East will follow suit.

Can you see a way to make 10 tricks?

Send [me](#) your solution if you spotted it.

SUIT COMBINATION

You(South): AJ98753 Partner(North): K2.

You need 6 tricks from this suit (your trump suit)

How do you play? – estimate your chances of success

You have plenty of entries to both hands.

Decide how you would play before peeking at the [Solution](#) on [P9](#)

♣♣♣ **KNAVE OF CLUBS** ♣♣♣
WATCH YOUR BRIDGEMATE!

Wild hands can confront you with scary decisions involving lots of imps. At match points, it is a bottom at worst but in teams, it can be a match winning, or losing, decision. This hand occurred in the teams event at a large congress and scores varied from 7♦ by East to 6♥ by North. It was common to open the East hand 1♦ and for South to bid 2♦ showing both majors. West has a difficult decision since, playing better minor, 1♦ promises only three cards. The two aces offer defensive prospects and not just preemptive values. A bid of 3♦ is flawed because of the defensive values and 4♦ is too much for both that reason and that partner might have values for 3NT. The other option is to make a cue using one of the major suits shown by South. This might even be part of the useful convention known as 'unusual over unusual', often shown as u/u on convention cards. The problem is that the hand doesn't have invitational or better values.

Teams

Dealer: East ♠ 1052
 Vul: N/S ♥ KQJ84
 ♦ -
 ♣ A9654

♠ A74 ♥ 962 ♦ AJ8762 ♣ J	N W E S	♠ KJ ♥ - ♦ KQ109543 ♣ K832
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♠ Q9863
 ♥ A10753
 ♦ -
 ♣ Q107

Bidding:

W	N	E	S
		1♦	2♦
3♦	4♥	5♦	Pass
Pass	5♥	6♦	All Pass

It seems 3♦ was a popular choice over which North bid 4♥ and East, knowing he has four more diamonds than the 1♦ opening promised, has an easy 5♦ bid. Both North and

East might bid one more and nearly half the field played in 6♦ or 6♦X making 12 tricks.

At the knave's table, East was having nothing to do with a slow approach and opened 5♦ leading to this auction

W	N	E	S
		5♦	Dbl
6♦	6♥	All Pass	

After South's double of 5♦, it was not difficult to bid 6♥ over 6♦ and this went two down after the lead of the ♦K. The par contract is 6♥X but our opponents didn't find a double on their auction! At one table, the hand was passed out! I can explain that! At our partners' table, play was very slow and the board was cancelled. The score should have been entered as 'no play' but was entered as 'pass' by mistake and nobody noticed so we lost 5 imps instead of a good potential gain!

SOLUTION TO SUIT COMBINATION

You(South): AJ98753 Partner(North): K2.

Needing 6 tricks:

The solution here is to lead the Knave and run it if West follows with a low spade.

If West follows with the 10 or the Queen, you should play the King and finesse on the way back...(it would be interesting if West played the 10 from Q10 doubleton! He would still make a trick this way.

If West shows out on the Knave of course you pop up with the king then finesse for his Queen, giving East only the one trick.