

118. One out, one in

By Ron Klinger

With both sides vulnerable. partner opens with a weak 2♠ (6-10 points), Pass on your right. What would you do with:

♠ 73
♥ AKJ108
♦ 94
♣ AQ64

Today's deals come from the semi-finals of the 2015 Bermuda Bowl (World Open Teams). Only one pair stopped out of game on this deal:

Board 4: Dealer South : Both vulnerable

	North	
	♠ 73	
	♥ AKJ108	
	♦ 94	
	♣ AQ64	
West		East
♠ 8		♠ KJ42
♥ Q63		♥ 975
♦ A10532		♦ K87
♣ K973		♣ J105
	South	
	♠ AQ10965	
	♥ 42	
	♦ QJ6	
	♣ 82	

SWEDEN vs USA2, USA2 North-South:

West	North	East	South
<i>Warne</i>	<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Bergdahl</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
			2♠
Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

(1) Asking

Whatever 3♣ showed, it was enough for North to bid game. John Kranyak received the ♥3 lead and dummy's jack won. The ♠3 went to the queen and the ♠A revealed the bad break. South finessed ♥10 and cashed the ♥A, pitching a diamond. Another diamond went on the ♥K, as East ruffed with the ♠J. East cashed ♠K and played ♦K, queen, ace. West switched to ♣7. Declarer took the ace and ditched a club on the fifth heart, N-S +620.

SWEDEN North-South:

West	North	East	South
<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Wrang</i>	<i>Fireman</i>	<i>Sylvan</i>
			2♦ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2♠ ⁽²⁾	All Pass	

(1) Multi, weak two in hearts or in spades
(2) Pass or correct

Frederic Wrang was the only one not to see game prospects with the North cards. To rub salt into the wound he made one trick more than everyone else. East led the ♥5 to the queen and ace. North finessed the ♠Q, cashed the ♠A and played the ♥K, ♥10 and ♥J, discarding two diamonds. East ruffed the fourth heart and could have made an extra trick and an extra Imp with a diamond, but he switched to the ♣J: two – king – ace. Dummy's last diamond went away on North's fifth heart, eleven tricks, North-South +200, but 9 Imps to USA2.

Dealer South : Both vulnerable

	North	
	♠ 73	
	♥ AKJ108	
	♦ 94	
	♣ AQ64	
West		East
♠ 8		♠ KJ42
♥ Q63		♥ 975
♦ A10532		♦ K87
♣ K973		♣ J105
	South	
	♠ AQ10965	
	♥ 42	
	♦ QJ6	
	♣ 82	

ENGLAND vs POLAND, ENGLAND North-South:

West	North	East	South
<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Justin H.</i>	<i>Maz'wicz</i>	<i>Jason H.</i>
Pass	2NT ⁽¹⁾	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(1) Strong hand, includes spade support / tolerance

Krzysztof Jassem led ♥6 against 4♠. Declarer took ♥A, finessed ♠Q and cashed ♠A. He continued with ♥2 to the jack, ♥K and ♥10, ditching two diamonds. East ruffed and played a diamond. South made 10 tricks, +620.

POLAND North-South:

West	North	East	South
<i>Gold</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
Pass	2NT ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♦ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♥ ⁽³⁾

(1) Multi , weak two in hearts or in spades

(2) Inquiry (3) Maximum with spades

Piotr Gawrys received the ♣J lead, won by the queen. He played the ♠3 to the ten, ♥2 to the king, ♠7 to the nine. He lost one spade and two diamonds, North-South +620, no swing.

Dealer West : East-West vulnerable

North
 ♠ 9872
 ♥ Q95
 ♦ 763
 ♣ A102

South
 ♠ AK43
 ♥ J3
 ♦ AK98
 ♣ KQ6

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	1♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♥ ⁽³⁾
Pass	2♠ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

(1) Artificial, strong

(2) Artificial, negative

(3) Artificial, hearts or big balanced

(4) Forced

West leads the ♥6: five – eight – jack. How would you play as South?

On the next deal, John Kranyak produced one of the nicest pieces of subterfuge you are likely to see:

Board 5: Dealer West : East-West vulnerable

	North	
	♠ 9872	
	♥ Q95	
	♦ 763	
	♣ A102	
West		East
♠ 1065		♠ QJ
♥ K64		♥ A10872
♦ 1054		♦ QJ2
♣ 9875		♣ J43
	South	
	♠ AK43	
	♥ J3	
	♦ AK98	
	♣ KQ6	

Against South's 3NT after the auction on the previous page, West led ♥6. East did well to insert the ♥8 to retain communication with West. Kranyak won with the ♥J and returned . . . the ♥3! West took the king and East played the two. To West it seemed as though South had five hearts. As he had played the ♥8 at trick 1, perhaps East should have followed with the ♥7 at trick 2 as an alarm bell by playing the hearts out of natural order.

West switched to the ♣7 to the jack and king. Should East have played a low club? South continued with the ♠A, ♠K and a third spade. East discarded the ♣4. Something more flamboyant was needed, perhaps the diamond queen? Maybe East thought West had led the ♥6 from K-6 doubleton?

In any event South's deception worked. West switched to the ♦4 and South had three spades, one heart, two diamonds and three clubs, North-South +400.

At the other table, Paul Fireman, East, opened 1♥ in third seat. North-South found their spade fit and ended in 4♠ by North. East led the ♥A and a heart to the king. Declarer could not avoid a spade and a diamond loser, East-West +50, ten Imps to USA2.

The contracts were replicated in the other match. Poland's Marcin Mazurkiewicz, East, opened 1♥, South doubled and North ended in 4♠. The defence took two hearts at once and a spade and a diamond later, E-W +50.

ENGLAND North-South:

West	North	East	South
<i>Gold</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Here, too, West led the ♥6: nine – ten – jack. South played the ♠A: five – two – jack and the ♠4: six – seven – queen. This did not fool anyone. East returned the ♥2 to the king. Back came the ♥4 and East took three more tricks for +50, no swing.

South would have been fine if hearts were 4-4 and spades 3-2, but he might have done better to play ♠A, ♠K and a low spade. That might have left West wondering whether South had started with A-J-x in hearts.

Problems for Tomorrow:

1. Dealer North : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	2♣ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	2♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass	2♠ ⁽³⁾
Pass	3♠ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	3NT ⁽⁵⁾
Pass	4♦ ⁽⁶⁾	Pass	4♥ ⁽⁶⁾
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦ ⁽⁷⁾
Pass	7♠	?	

- (1) Very strong
- (2) Negative or waiting
- (3) 5+ spades
- (4) Stronger than 4♠
- (5) Please start cue-bidding.
- (6) Cue bid
- (7) 1 or 4 key cards for spades

What would you do as East with:

♠ 853
♥ --
♦ QJ9642
♣ 8653

2. Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	2♥ ⁽¹⁾
?			

- (1) 7-10 points, 5 hearts and a 4+ minor

What would you do as West with:

♠ KQJ62
♥ A4
♦ KJ852
♣ 4

Why not phone or email your bridge partners and compare your answers and your reasoning?

A bartender is just a pharmacist with a limited inventory.