

# 199. Sending different messages

*By Ron Klinger*

Dealer South : East-West vulnerable

North  
♠ KJ4  
♥ A754  
♦ A  
♣ AK863

East  
♠ 953  
♥ KQ102  
♦ KQJ932  
♣ --

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1♦	Pass
3♦	Dble	3♥	3♠
4♦	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads the ♥J: ♥4 from dummy . . . Which heart do you play as East?

The second semi-final of the Yeh Cup Online Open Teams, organized by the Taiwan Contract Bridge League, was between Dhampur Sugar Mills (India) and Hong Kong Open. Dhampur Sugar Mills won by 29 Imps to 15.

Board 3: Dealer South : East-West vulnerable

North  
♠ KJ4  
♥ A754  
♦ A  
♣ AK863

West  
♠ A10  
♥ J8  
♦ 108764  
♣ Q1092

East  
♠ 953  
♥ KQ102  
♦ KQJ932  
♣ --

South  
♠ Q8762  
♥ 963  
♦ 5  
♣ J754

The auctions at both tables were approximately the same. Both Wests led the ♥J, low from dummy. With Dhampur Sugar Mills North-South, the auction was as at the top of the column. East overtook the ♥J lead with the ♥Q and returned the ♥10, taken by the ♥A. Declarer played the ♠J. West won and shifted to ♦6, ace. Declarer drew trumps with ♠K and ♠Q. Then came the ♣J, queen, king, and the ♣3 to the ♣7 and the ♣9. West returned the ♦7: ♥5 – ♦J – ♠7. Declarer played the ♠5, two, six, and cashed the ♠K and ♠8, discarding the ♥9 for ten tricks and +590.

Apart from the fact that East's ♥10 at trick 2 clarified the heart position for South, who now knew West had started with a doubleton heart, where else did the defence stumble?

Board 3: Dealer South : East-West vulnerable

	North	
	♠ KJ4	
	♥ A754	
	♦ A	
	♣ AK863	
West		East
♠ A10		♠ 953
♥ J8		♥ KQ102
♦ 108764		♦ KQJ932
♣ Q1092		♣ --
	South	
	♠ Q8762	
	♥ 963	
	♦ 5	
	♣ J754	

Hong Kong Open North-South:

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1♦	Pass
3♦	Dble	3♥	3♠
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♥J: four – two! – three. If the ♥J happened to be singleton, the ♥2 was suit-preference for a club switch. Then it would have gone club, ruffed, and another club ruff when West came in with the ♠A.

As it was, West knew East had powerful hearts when the ♥J held. West continued with the ♥8, taken by the ace, East played the ♥Q, concealing the ♥10. This left it open that East's 3♥ bid was a stopper bid with K-Q-2 and West had started with J-10-8.

At trick 3, South played the ♠K: three (also suit-preference for clubs) – two – ace. West switched to the ♣2: ace – ♠5 – ♣4. East returned the ♥10. Even though the ♥10 was winning the trick, West ruffed with the ♠10 and brought back the ♣9, ruffed by East. These cards remained:

	North	
	♠ J4	
	♥ 7	
	♦ A	
	♣ K86	
West		East
♠		♠
♥		♥ K
♦ 108764		♦ KQJ932
♣ Q10		♣ --
	South	
	♠ Q876	
	♥	
	♦ 5	
	♣ J7	

The defence had taken five tricks so far (a heart, a spade, a club ruff, a heart ruff and another club ruff). East played the ♥K. South ruffed, but still had to lose a club trick. That was three down, East-West +500 and 14 Imps to Dhampur Sugar Mills. There we have it, 4♠ doubled making and 4♠ doubled three down and the difference attributable to accurate signaling.

## Problem for Tomorrow:

Dealer West : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♠ <sup>(1)</sup>	2♥
Pass	3♦ <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass	?

(1) 5+ spades, standard methods

(2) Good heart raise

What would you do as South with:

♠ 8  
♥ KQ1093  
♦ QJ63  
♣ KQ8

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

*No one has more driving ambition than the teenage boy who wants to buy a car.*

New book: *The Power of Pass* (by Harold Schogger and Ron Klinger). \$A25.00 Available from Suzie Klinger, post free until 2021: email [suzie@ronklingerbridge.com](mailto:suzie@ronklingerbridge.com) or telephone 0411 229 705.