

# 132. Jump or not jump? If yes, how high?

*By Ron Klinger*

Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

North  
♠ A8743  
♥ AJ5  
♦ 1084  
♣ Q4

South  
♠ --  
♥ K943  
♦ AK5  
♣ AKJ1082

West	North	East	South
			1♣
3♠	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥ <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(1) Cue-bid

West leads the ♠K. Plan the play.

After five on-line Alt-Invitational Open Tournaments and two Alt-Invitational Mixed, bid72, bridge 24 and netbridgeonline, together with BBO (Bridge Base Online) held Alt-Invitational VI in the first half of June. The structure was the same with eight invited teams playing a round-robin of 24-board matches, followed by semi-finals and a final.

After Round 7, the leaders were 1. **BLASS** (Josef Blass, Jacek Kalita, Michal Nowosadzki, Jacek Pszczola, Fredrik Nystrom, Johan Upmark, Marcin Lesniewski 101.21 Victory Points), 2. **STREET** (Paul Street, Kamel Fergani, Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Ron Pachtman, Fred Pollack, Piotr Zatorski, 86.41), 3. **TULIN** (Stan Tulin, David Bakhshi, Alon Birman, Dror Padon, Ricco Van Prooijen, Louk Verhees , 77.95) and **DONNER** (Gary Donner, Per Ola Cullin, Joe Grue, Marion Michielsen, Brad Moss, Cecilia Rimstedt, Sandra Rimstedt, 65.81).

For the semi-finals, **BLASS** chose **DONNER**.

This was yesterday's first problem:

Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♣
?			

What would you do as West with:

♠ KQJ1092  
♥ 87  
♦ Q7  
♣ 653

The choices include 1♠, a weak jump-overcall of 2♠ and a pre-emptive 3♠. The jump to 3♠, inspired by the vulnerability was chosen twice, the others once each.

This was the full deal:

Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

	North	
	♠ A8743	
	♥ AJ5	
	♦ 1084	
	♣ Q4	
West		East
♠ KQJ1092		♠ 65
♥ 87		♥ Q1062
♦ Q7		♦ J9632
♣ 653		♣ 97
	South	
	♠ --	
	♥ K943	
	♦ AK5	
	♣ AKJ1082	

**STREET** North-South:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♣
3♠	Pass	Pass	Dble <sup>(1)</sup>
Pass	Pass <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass	

(1) For takeout

(2) For pleasure

North led ♣Q, followed by ♣4. South won cheaply and continued with ♣J: six – ♠7 – ♦2. North switched to ♦8. South won with the ♦K and played ♦A, North following with ♦10. South switched to the ♥3. North won and returned the ♥5, ten, king. Declarer still had the ♠A to lose, but had five tricks for four light, North-South +800.

**TULIN** North-South:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♣
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble <sup>(1)</sup>
Pass	Pass <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass	

(1) As above

(2) As above

North led the ♣Q, followed by the ♠8: five – ♣J – ♠J. West played the ♥8. North grabbed the ♥A and continued with the ♠7: six – ♥4 – ♠9. West reverted to the ♥7: five – ten – king. South shifted to the ♣10, followed by the ♠8: six – ♥J – ♦2. Then came the ♣K: ♦Q – ♦10 – ♦3 and the ♦A: seven – eight – six. These cards remained:

	North	
	♠ A43	
	♥	
	♦ 4	
	♣	
West		East
♠ KQ102		♠
♥		♥ Q6
♦		♦ J9
♣		♣
	South	
	♠ --	
	♥ 9	
	♦ K5	
	♣ A	

South now played the ♣A and West had to lose two more tricks. When he ruffed with the ♠K, North pitched the ♦4. A very impressive defence by Birman (N) – Padon (S). West made 4 tricks, North-South +800, no swing.

Dealer East : North-South vulnerable

	North	
	♠ A8743	
	♥ AJ5	
	♦ 1084	
	♣ Q4	
West		East
♠ KQJ1092		♠ 65
♥ 87		♥ Q1062
♦ Q7		♦ J9632
♣ 653		♣ 97
	South	
	♠ --	
	♥ K943	
	♦ AK5	
	♣ AKJ1082	

**DONNER** North-South:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♣
3♠	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥ <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(1) Cue-bid

This was the auction at the top of page 1. West led the ♠K. South took the ♠A and pitched the ♦5. Then came the ♣Q, ♣A, ♣K, dummy and East both shedding a spade. South continued with the ♥3: eight – ace – two and the ♥J: queen – king – seven. South was stuck in hand with ♥9-4 and East had ♥10-6. There was nothing that South could now do to escape losing two hearts, one light, East-West +100.

This was very weak play by South. As is often the case, one can solve these problems by counting. Here it is quite easy. For the 3♠ bid, you can expect West to have seven spades, perhaps six, given the vulnerability. A good plan would be to take ♠A at trick 1 and ruff a spade at trick 2. That clarifies the spade position. As it happened, East was kind enough to pitch a spade on the third club and so South should know the spade layout. West followed to three clubs. Give West six spades and the known three clubs and you know West has only four red cards. Cash ♦A, ♦K and you know West has two hearts at most. Now you can finesse the ♥J. East wins and returns a diamond. South ruffs, crosses to the ♥A and returns the ♥5: six from East and ♥9 from South.

**BLASS**, with Nowosadzki North and Kalita South:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♣
1♠	Pass	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠ <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	3♦
Pass	6♣!	All Pass	

(1) Strong hand, was looking to penalize 1♠

North's pass over 1♠ was angling for penalties, although the texture of North's spades looks underweight for a penalty proposition at the 1-level. With a spade void, South was not prepared to make a takeout double and have North pass it and so he showed a strong hand with the 2♥ reverse. When South rebid 3♦ over 2♠, North could picture South with a 0-4-3-6 pattern from South's bids and the failure to make a takeout double. Nice 6♣ bid!

West led the ♠Q: three – five – ♣2. South played ♣A and the ♣8 to the ♣Q. Then came the ♠A, pitching the ♦5, and the ♠4! (note how South is extracting information to count the hand): ♦3 – ♣K – ♠10. The ♣J drew West's third trump and South cashed ♦A, ♦K. The count was complete: West had six spades (proven) three clubs (proven) and at least two diamonds. West therefore had two hearts at most. After ♥3 to the jack and queen, East returned the ♥6: four – eight – ace. South finessed the ♥9 and had 12 tricks, +1370 and +16 Imps. What an excellent example of discovery play and a textbook hand on counting.

Incidentally, put me down for 1♠ as West. West is not shapely enough for 3♠ and weak jumps are not for me.

This was yesterday's second question:

Dealer South : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
?			1♠

What would you do as West with:

- ♠ 9842
- ♥ J1098652
- ♦ 3
- ♣ 8

West has eight losers, so five playing tricks. You can hope partner is short in spades and consequently some support for hearts, but that does not come with guarantees. Three Wests passed and one bid 3♥. Who do you think had the better result?

	North		East
	♠ KQ5		♠ 10
	♥ 43		♥ AQ7
	♦ AQJ92		♦ K1065
	♣ 932		♣ KQJ107
West			
♠ 9842			
♥ J1098652			
♦ 3			
♣ 8			
	South		
	♠ AJ763		
	♥ K		
	♦ 874		
	♣ A654		

**BLASS** North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West led the ♥10. East took the ♥A and switched to the ♣Q: four (not a good idea) – eight – two, followed by the ♣K, ace, ♠2. West switched to the ♦3: queen – king – four. East cashed the ♣J and brought back the ♦5. West ruffed and that was three down, East-West +300.

**DONNER** North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West led the ♣8: two -seven – four (definitely not a good idea). The ♣7 by East gives the game away as to the club layout. From what combination in the club suit would West lead the ♣8 if East's ♣7 is the right move without the rest of the club suit? Playing the ♣J as East would leave more doubt.

Left on lead, West switched to the ♥J at trick 2. East took the ♥A and played the ♣K, ace, ♠2. After ♦3, queen, king, East cashed the ♣Q. West discarded the ♥10, suit-preference for diamonds. East continued with the ♦5. West ruffed and that was three down, too, East-West +300, no swing.

Dealer South : Both vulnerable

	North	
	♠ KQ5	
	♥ 43	
	♦ AQJ92	
	♣ 932	
West		East
♠ 9842		♠ 10
♥ J1098652		♥ AQ7
♦ 3		♦ K1065
♣ 8		♣ KQJ107
	South	
	♠ AJ763	
	♥ K	
	♦ 874	
	♣ A654	

TULIN North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West led ♣8: two – ten – ace. At last, here was someone who did not have the ♣A ruffed. Dror Padon, South, finessed the ♦Q. East won, cashed ♣K, ♣Q, ♥A and gave West a diamond ruff. That was two down, East-West +200.

On the ♣K, ♣Q, West discarded ♥8 and ♥6. Given South had taken the diamond finesse and that West did not discard diamonds on the ♣K, ♣Q, East could have deduced that West had no diamonds left. After the ♣Q, East could play the ♦10 (suit preference) to give West a diamond ruff, win the heart return and give West another diamond ruff. That would have given East-West the usual +300.

STREET North-South:

West	North	East	South
			1♠
3♥	4♠	5♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

It is all very well bidding 3♥, but one of the problems is that partner takes your bid at face value. If you could pre-empt and simultaneously prohibit partner from bidding, you might have a winning method. When partner thinks you actually have a useful hand, partner competes at too high a level. Mind you, East did not have to bid 5♥, but give West seven hearts headed by the ♥K and a minor suit ace and 5♥ might be a good save. Still, the deal will not win a place in *Great Results from Weak Jump-Overcalls*.

North led the ♠K and cashed the ♦A. The ♣3 went to the king and ace and West ruffed the club return. After ♥10: three – seven – king, West was two down, –500 and –12 Imps. My view on the efficacy of weak jump-overcalls has not changed.

BLASS defeated DONNER by 94.1-44 and STREET beat TULIN by 56.1-11.

As in ALT-INVITATION IV, the final would be BLASS vs STREET

## Problems for Tomorrow:

1. Dealer West : North-South vulnerable

West	North	East	South
3♣	Pass	5♣	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	?

What would you do as South with:

♠ KJ10765  
♥ 104  
♦ AK1092  
♣ --

2. Dealer East : Both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	?		

What would you do as North with:

♠ AJ10842  
♥ 1064  
♦ Q53  
♣ 8

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

*Advice for Seniors #6: 'On time' is when you get there.*