## ♦ ♥ ♦ ₱ BIDDING TWO SUITED HANDS ♠ ♥ ♦ ₱

West deals and it's three passes to you. This is your hand:



Wow! A 5-5-2-1 with 17 HCP's. There are several ways this hand can be opened. You are strong enough to reverse by opening 1 - and reversing into Spades. But a reverse promises that the first suit is longer than the second.

A more honest opening is  $1 \diamondsuit$ , the higher ranking of the two 5-card suits. You can show the strength with a jump shift on your next bid.

Over  $1 \clubsuit$ , West overcalls  $2 \blacklozenge$  and partner makes a Negative Double. This promises exactly four Hearts. East passes and it's back to you.

You had planned to make a jump shift to  $3\clubsuit$ , but the interference bid by West requires you to jump shift to  $4\clubsuit$ . North's double promises at least 8 points. But your unusual shape provides you with a Losing Trick Count of only 4. It's reasonable to expect your partner to cover two of those losers, justifying the  $4\clubsuit$  rebid.

North raises your Clubs to  $5 \clubsuit$ . You might be able to make  $6 \clubsuit$ , but there is no way to find out if partner has the  $\clubsuit A$  and  $\clubsuit K$ . You pass  $5 \clubsuit$ .

West leads the  $\blacktriangle$  3 and you see this dummy. What is your plan?

Ν	undefined
	AJ
•	K643
•	J107
	J932

West Leads:  $\blacktriangle3$ 



The lead looks like a singleton, so you will have to draw trump before you can run the Spades. You have to hope for a 2-2 or 3-1 break of the Club suit.

You win the A and unblock the A. Then lay down the A and another Club. They both follow, West winning the A. You can win whatever he returns and take the rest of the tricks, scoring +620.

This is the entire deal:

• 4	N North ▲AJ ♥K643 ◆J107 ♣J932		
₩ West \$3 \$QJ109 \$K98543 \$KQ	W N E S Pass Pass Pass 1 2 Dbl Pass 4 Pass 5 Pass Pass Pass	E East ♦98754 ♥8752 ♦Q6 ♣76	
	S South ♦KQ1062 ♥A ♦A2 ♣A10854		5♣ Soutt 0 0

You can see how this hand should be played by clicking on this link:

<u>http://tinyurl.com/yrkkd8wp</u>, or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick. If you don't want to see the opponents hands, click on the white area in the South hand before you start.

Alternatively, by clicking on "Play" you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own.

© David Germaine 2024