

## IT PAYS TO KEEP BIDDING

North, your partner, passes and your RHO opens 2♥. Only the opponents are vulnerable. You hold:

South  
 ♠ KJ74  
 ♥ 82  
 ♦ A106  
 ♣ A985

With tolerance for the other suits, a double is the best option. West redoubles to show 10+ points and your partner makes a minimum bid of 2♠. This is passed out around to West who raises his partner's hearts. Your partner and RHO both pass and it's again up to you. Should you quit and hope to defeat 3♥ or push on? The vulnerability is good and your spade suit is fairly robust. Even going down 1 or 2 tricks might be better than them making 3♥ - assuming they can make it. You bid 3♠ which is passed out.

West	North	East	South
	Pass	2♥	Dbl
Redbl	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

Take the North hand and see if you can figure out a way to take 9 tricks:

North ♠ Q862 ♥ Q106 ♦ Q753 ♣ K2	East ♠10
South ♠ KJ74 ♥ 82 ♦ A106 ♣ A985	

You have a spade loser, 2 heart losers and at least 1 diamond loser. You need spades to be 3-2 and the ♦K to be in West.

Let the spade come around to your ♠Q and play another spade. Both opponents follow suit and West wins the ♠A. He switches to the ♥K and another heart. West wins the second heart and switches to a diamond. You let the diamond run to your hand and West wins the ♦K and leads another diamond. Now you have all the rest of the tricks. A club is discarded on the good ♦Q in your hand and you use the remaining trumps in your hand and in dummy's hand

to ruff a diamond and a club for the needed tricks. You take 2 spades, 2 spade ruffs, 3 diamonds and 2 clubs; 9 tricks♥♥ in totoal.

By the way, East can make 3♥ with careful play.

Here is the entire hand:

D 9	N North ♠ Q862 ♥ Q106 ♦ Q753 ♣ K2	W N E S P 2♥ X XX 2♣ P P 3♥ P P 3♣ P P P
W West ♠ A5 ♥ K9 ♦ KJ82 ♣ J7643	E East ♠ 1093 ♥ AJ7543 ♦ 94 ♣ Q10	
	S South ♠ KJ74 ♥ 82 ♦ A106 ♣ A985	
		3♠ N NS: 0 EW: 0

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

<http://tinyurl.com/h4gh357> , copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the “Next” button on the bottom to advance through each trick. Alternatively, by clicking on “Play” you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own.