

Notes for Euvid Lesson at the BIL

PAB 39

D		N North	WES NOR EAST SOU
1		♠ J109 ♥ AQ ♦ AQ1054 ♣ 762	P 1♦ 1♠ 3N P P P
W West	E East		
♠ 5 ♥ J109863 ♦ 732 ♣ K98	♠ A87642 ♥ K4 ♦ 86 ♣ 1053		
3NT South NS: 0 EW: 0	S South		
	♠ KQ3 ♥ 752 ♦ KJ9 ♣ AQJ4		

Board 1: Most West's would lead the singleton spade, but the ♥J is best here. Declarer has 7 top tricks and needs two more from clubs. If declarer puts up the ♥Q, East will win and return a heart, setting up West hearts. When declarer takes the club finesse it will lose to West, who will clear the heart suit and set the contract. If declarer knows East holds the ♥K, he does best by putting up the ♥A on the first trick, hoping the suit becomes blocked. He takes the club finesse but when East wins the heart continuation, he gets only the ♠A.

D		N North	WES NOR EAST SOU
2		♠ 8742 ♥ KQ965 ♦ 9 ♣ 985	1N P 2♣ P 2♦ P 3N P P P
W West	E East		
♠ AQ109 ♥ 43 ♦ KJ62 ♣ J103	♠ 653 ♥ A2 ♦ AQ4 ♣ AK742		
3NT East NS: 0 EW: 0	S South		
	♠ KJ ♥ J1087 ♦ 108753 ♣ Q6		

Board 2: East is in 3NT. When South leads the ♥J, declarer counts 8 top tricks. He can make his contract if either the club or spade finesse is successful. He can't afford to lose the first finesse though. The defenders will run the hearts to set the contract. With two suits, declarer should first take the top tricks in the suit that has the most top tricks. (If they are equal, he chooses the suit with the greater number of cards.) Then, if the key honor has not dropped, finesse in the other suit. Here, he cashes both top clubs. When the queen drops, he's home with overtricks. If the queen didn't appear, he plays a spade to dummy's queen.

3	D	N North	WES NOR EAS SOU
		♠AK5 ♥764 ♦KQJ109 ♣AJ	P 1♦ P 1♥ P 2N P 3N P P P
W West		E East	
♠J1064 ♥10 ♦A65 ♣Q10852		♠98 ♥Q9532 ♦742 ♣K63	
		S South	
		♠Q732 ♥AKJ8 ♦83 ♣974	
3NT North NS: 0 EW: 0			

Board 3: The natural lead for East in a low heart. However, hearts was bid by the dummy and declarer has at least two of them. The same is true of diamonds. Between the clubs and spades, clubs is the better choice. If partner had 5 spades, he could have overcalled the opening 1♦ bid. A low club works out well. The clubs will set up ready for West to get in later with the ♦A.

4	D	N North	WES NOR EAS SOU
		♠Q1065 ♥Q532 ♦J1097 ♣K	2♦ P 2N P 3N P P P
W West		E East	
♠74 ♥86 ♦AKQ532 ♣854		♠AK82 ♥AK ♦64 ♣Q10972	
		S South	
		♠J93 ♥J10974 ♦8 ♣AJ63	
3NT East NS: 0 EW: 0			

Board 4: West opens a weak 2!D. East makes a conventional bid of 2NT, asking partner for further description. West rebids 3NT, showing the ♦AKQ. South leads the ♥J and declarer has 7 top tricks. The way to take the diamonds depends on the type of scoring. In a team game where overtricks are unimportant, take the safety play of a low diamond, ducked in the dummy. In a pairs event where your score is compared to all the other Easts, play the diamonds from the top. Here that method loses.

5	D	N North	WES NOR EAS SOU
		♠10954 ♥KQ6 ♦A82 ♣AK6	1N P 3N P P P
W West		E East	
♠Q3 ♥10942 ♦QJ107 ♣1032		♠KJ872 ♥A73 ♦63 ♣854	
		S South	
		♠A6 ♥J85 ♦K954 ♣QJ97	
3NT North NS: 0 EW: 0			

Board 5: East leads a low spade. Declarer has 7 top tricks. He can get two more from hearts. The danger is that the defenders can run the setting spade tricks. Declarer can hold up the first trick and if West holds the ♥A, declarer is safe. Here that doesn't work and the contract is set. Can declarer do better? Yes, he uses the Rule of 11. $11 - 7 = 4$. There are 4 cards higher than the 7 in the South, West and North hands combined. He can see 3 of them. Therefore, West has the 4th card hand and it's an honor. (Otherwise, East would have ♠KQJ and would have led the ♠K. The

declarer takes the first spade and when East wins the A, his spades become blocked in West's hand with his ♠Q. If West ditches the ♠Q under dummy's ♠A, declarer ♠10 sets up.

6	D	N North	WES NOR EAS SOU
		♠AJ92 ♥J108 ♦A1063 ♣93	P 2♣ P 1N P 3N P 2♦ P P
W West		E East	
♠Q753 ♥AK9 ♦8752 ♣82		♠84 ♥Q6532 ♦J4 ♣KJ74	
		S South	
		♠K106 ♥74 ♦KQ9 ♣AQ1065	
3NT South NS: 0 EW: 0			

Board 6: West is on lead. What is the best lead? The normal lead is the ♠2. Here, the declarer cruises home. South wins the ♠10 and finesses against the known honor in the West hand, taking 4 spades, 4 diamonds and 1 club. A better lead is the ♥A. If the dummy shows that this isn't a good lead, there is time to switch. Here, however, East signals madly with the ♥6. The defenders take the first 5 heart tricks.

7	D	N North	WES NOR EAS SOU
		♠8632 ♥98542 ♦85 ♣63	1N P 3N 1♦ P P P
W West		E East	
♠954 ♥AQ7 ♦K92 ♣AQJ10		♠AQJ10 ♥KJ10 ♦643 ♣752	
		S South	
		♠K7 ♥63 ♦AQJ107 ♣K984	
3NT West NS: 0 EW: 0			

Board 7: Since South opened the bidding and declarer has 27 points, there is no room in North's hand for as much as a jack. Declarer must use the hearts in the dummy to take 3 club finesses through South. Those clubs, along with the diamond, 3 hearts and 1 spade allow the contract to make.

8	D	N North	WES NOR EAS SOU
		♠843 ♥842 ♦J1086 ♣KQ7	1♦ P 1♥ P 3♣ P 3N P P P
W West		E East	
♠A65 ♥7 ♦AKQ43 ♣AJ53		♠QJ109 ♥A653 ♦52 ♣1042	
		S South	
		♠K72 ♥KQJ109 ♦97 ♣986	
3NT East NS: 0 EW: 0			

Board 8: South leads the ♥K. Declarer has 6 top tricks. Three more can come from successful spade finesses. Two more might come from the diamonds, with a 3-3 break. Or he can get three more tricks from the spades. First, however, declarer must hold up until the 3rd heart. Now he doesn't care if the spade finesse works or not. North will be out of hearts if he wins the ♠K. Here, declarer takes two repeated spade finesses and switches to diamonds. North will win the 4th diamond but dummy's !SA allows declarer to take the last diamond, making the contract.