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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch 22nd March 2010

Q. 1 – Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠A 10 7 3 ♥J 9 5 4 2 ♦A ♣8 7 3

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♣ Dbl Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A – You could hardly have a better hand for partner – your three low clubs are, in fact, an asset since that increases the value of your high cards. However, don't you choose a suit. Cue-bid two clubs and let partner select.

Q. 2 – Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠A 9 6 5 3 2 ♥8 ♦K 7 6 5 ♣9 5

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♣ Dbl Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A – Your hand is limited, but it should offer good play for game opposite even a dead minimum takeout double. Don't take any action that might make partner have to do your work for you – bid four spades.

Q. 3 – Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠10 7 3 2 ♥7 ♦A 8 2 ♣K Q 8 6 2

The bidding has proceeded:

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

Pass 3♦ Dbl Pass

?

What do you bid now?

A – Four spades could easily be your best game, but you have no room to investigate. Nine tricks look more likely than 10, so we would take our chances and bid three no trump.

Q. 4 – NorthSouth vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K 9 8 4 ♥Q 10 6 3 ♦9 5 ♣Q 10 5

The bidding has proceeded:

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

Pass 3♦ Dbl Pass

?

What do you bid now?

A – To make a vulnerable three-level takeout double opposite a partner who has passed, North must have a very good hand. You should have play for game, so don't guess which suit to play by choosing one at the three-level. Cue-bid four diamonds and have partner select.

Q. 5 – Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠A J 9 5 4 ♥Q 7 6 ♦9 5 4 ♣8 2

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♦ 1♥ Pass ?

What do you bid?

A – Chances of partner having no more than three spades are great because he did not make a takeout double. He is surely more interested in the fact that you have good support in his suit than some number of spades. Raise to two hearts.

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