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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

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Q. 1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

Q J 10 8 5 A K 6 A A Q 10 6

The bidding has proceeded:

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1 Pass 2NT* 5

6 Pass Pass 7

?

***forcing spade raise**

What action do you take?

A — Your failure to double marks you with no losers in that suit and partner should realize that the A K of trumps and an outside king is enough to go on to the grand slam. Pass.

Q. 2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

10 K 8 7 4 A 7 6 3 A 10 7 3

The bidding has proceeded:

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1 2 ?

What action do you take?

A — Obviously, you have more than enough in high cards to venture game, but your heart holding is not encouraging. However, it will do admirably defending against a heart contract. Besides your high cards, you should be able to pick up a couple of spade ruffs. Double.

The bidding has proceeded:

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1 2 ?

What action do you take?

A You would certainly like to defend two diamonds, but experience shows that is not likely to happen either partner will pull a double or the opponents will run to a better spot. If you feel you must say something, bid two hearts. However, we prefer a pass.

Q. 4 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

9 5 A J 7 K 7 6 3 10 5 4 2

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1 1 Pass ?

What action do you take?

A — Give yourself another low spade instead of a minor-suit card and you have just enough to raise to two spades. As it is, you have no good action available. Pass.

Q. 5 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

A Q 5 A 10 6 J 7 6 2 Q 10 5

The bidding has proceeded:

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1 Pass Pass 2

Pass ?

What action do you take?

A — Bear in mind that, not vulnerable, partner has simply refused to sell out to the opponents at the one-level — he can have as few as 7-8 points. With a good hand, he would have reopened with a double. Don't punish partner for acting — pass.

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