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21<sup>st</sup> June 2010

Q. 1 — Both vulnerable, a South you hold:

A K 10 6 K 8 6 A 9 Q 10 9 6

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1 Pass 1 ?

What do you bid?

A — Pass, and hope the opponents go overboard.

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

Q 8 Q 9 5 K 10 9 5 4 A 9 4

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1 Dbl Pass ?

What do you bid?

A — Not an easy hand to bid. However, the auction suggests that your right-hand opponent is broke and partner's takeout double more than likely means that he has fillers for your diamonds. So with your queen of hearts safe from a lead through and with a source of tricks, two no trump stands out.

Q. 3 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q 6 A Q J 8 Q J 6 K J 9 8

The bidding has proceeded:

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1 Dbl Pass 2

Pass ?

What action do you take?

A — First, you must discount your queen of spades, since it is insufficiently guarded. That brings your hand into the minimum range for a takeout double, and since partner has not shown any particular strength for his two-heart response, there is nothing more you can do. Pass.

Q. 4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

K 7 10 7 6 9 6 5 A 10 7 6 2

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1 Dbl Pass 2

Pass 2 Pass ?

What action do you take?

A — At the very least, with your three-card support, an ace, a king and a ruffing value, you should raise to three hearts. Four hearts is a close second.

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

8 7 3 9 6 5 2 A J 5 3 9 2

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1 Dbl 3 ?

What action do you take?

A — First, don't think of doubling three diamonds — that will only make sure that your jack of diamonds will get picked off. For the moment, consider partner has a minimum double. If not, he will act again and you might get a chance to show your hearts. Pass.

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