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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

2nd Feb 2011 Both vulnerable. South deals.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | NORTH ♠A J 8 ♥8 7 5 4 ♦Q 8 5 3 ♣7 6 | |
| WEST ♠K Q 9 5 2 ♥2 ♦A J 9 6 ♣K 10 4 | | EAST ♠10 6 3 ♥J 6 ♦K 10 2 ♣Q J 8 5 2 |
| | SOUTH ♠7 4 ♥A K Q 10 9 3 ♦7 4 ♣A 9 3 | |

| North | East | South | West |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| -- | -- | 1 Heart | 1 Spade |
| 2 Heart | 2 Spade | 4 Heart | All Pass |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Opening lead: King of ♠

We continue with deals from the recent Fall North American Championships held in Orlando. This deal is from one of the secondary team events.

At both tables North-South stretched to four hearts, and at both tables the lead was a logical but unfortunate king of spades. At one table declarer won the ace, drew trumps and led a spade up to the jack. West rose with the queen and East, Sue Picus of New York, thoughtfully signaled suit-preference with the ten. West, Alex Ornstein, carefully shifted to the jack of diamonds and the defense collected two diamond tricks and a club to go with the spade trick – down one.

At the other table, defending the same contract, declarer allowed the king of spades to win the first trick as East gave count with the three. With nothing to guide her, West tried the ace of diamonds and another, but declarer could ruff out the king of diamonds and could discard two clubs on a good spade and the queen of diamonds.

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