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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

5th Jan 2011 Both vulnerable. South deals.

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

North	East	South	West
--	--	1 Diamond	Pass
1 Spade	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	All Pass		

Opening lead King of ♥

Here's another deal played in a World Team Olympiad. South's two-notrump rebid showed a balanced 18-19 points and North's raise to game ended the auction.

West led the king of hearts, taken with dummy's ace, and the queen of diamonds was run successfully. A diamond to the nine took the next trick but the 4-1 split sank the contract. With no entry back to the table to repeat the finesse, declarer ended up losing a diamond and four heart tricks.

Declarer was careless in his play to the first diamond trick – he should have unblocked the nine of diamonds. Then, because the eight was singleton with West, the four of diamonds could have been played under the seven on the second round of the suit. Declarer would still have been on the table to repeat the finesse and bring in the suit without loss, enabling him to score five diamond tricks, two clubs and the two major-suit aces.

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