

Thanks to STL.com and Goren bridge

Read original >

http://www.stltoday.com/entertainment/bridge-column-for-dec/article_8f8d0718-98e7-53b7-8838-1167daee334a.html

Bridge column by Tanna Hirsch

28th December 2011

Dealer : West Vul : None	NORTH ♠ 9 8 ♥ A K J 5 ♦ 8 5 3 ♣ K 10 7 2	
WEST ♠ A J 6 5 3 2 ♥ 6 4 3 ♦ K 4 ♣ 9 5		EAST ♠ 10 7 4 ♥ Q 10 8 ♦ J 9 7 6 ♣ J 6 4
	SOUTH ♠ K Q ♥ 9 7 2 ♦ A Q 10 2 ♣ A Q 8 3	

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

Opening lead: Five of ♠

Here's another deal from a recent European Championship. Study the bidding and play and decide: Who, if anyone, made an error in the bidding or play?

First, we endorse South's decision to make a takeout double in the balancing seat rather than unilaterally commit the hand to three no trump — with support for all unbid suits a bid of two no trump would be too unilateral. North's spade cue-bid was an attempt to locate a heart fit, and three no trump became the final contract.

West led a fourth-best spade and declarer captured East's ten in hand with the queen. It seemed that the contract would hinge on the diamond finesse (a heart finesse was less likely to succeed), but declarer was in no hurry to rely on a 50 percent shot for the contract. First, four rounds of clubs were cashed, West discarding two hearts and East parting with a spade. Next the ace and king of hearts were cashed, West discarding a spade. Now West was thrown in with a spade and, at the end, the defender was forced to lead way from the king of diamonds for the ninth trick.

What is your verdict?

West's spade discard was unnecessary and catastrophic. He might have thrown a diamond, forcing declarer to guess the diamond position. Declarer would have needed glass cards to avoid taking the diamond finesse

Read more: http://www.stltoday.com/entertainment/bridge-column-for-dec/article_8f8d0718-98e7-53b7-8838-1167daee334a.html#ixzz1hoX7tkwO

gorenbridge@aol.com