

ACBL – BRIDGE HAND OF THE WEEK

Contingency by Tim Bourke - Apr 4 2011

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

North	East	South	West
--	--	2 Club	Pass
2 Diamond	Pass	2 Heart	Pass
4 Club	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 Diamond	Pass	7 Heart	All Pass

West leads the ♣Q to your ace. Trumps are 2-1. How do you plan to make all the tricks?

Solution

The slam will be easy if diamonds play for four tricks. The type of layout you need to cope with is one along these lines:

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

At trick two you should play a spade to the ace and ruff a spade with the ace of trumps. You then lead the ♥10 to dummy's jack and ruff a second spade with the king of trumps. Now lead the ♥5 to dummy's 8 and ruff a third spade with the queen of trumps. As the ♠10 will be high at that point, you lead the ♥3 to dummy's 4 and throw the ♦10 on it.

If spades had not been 4-3, you would have played the ♦A and ♦K and hoped that they behaved well enough for you to make four tricks in the suit.