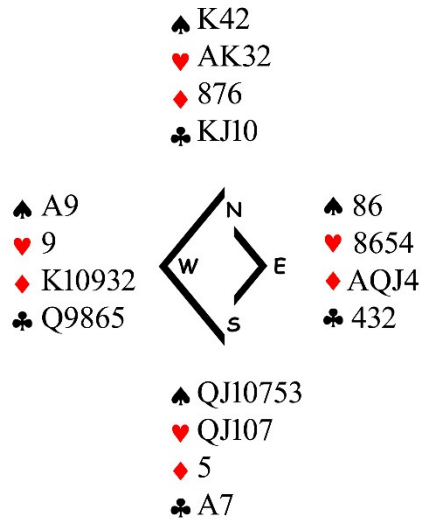


294. Invitational Reverse Flannery

Published on page 11 of the Trail Times, Thursday June 30th, 2016



W	N	E	S
	1 ♣	P	2 ♠
P	2NT	P	3 ♠
P	4 ♠	All Pass	

--None Vulnerable--

As we saw last column, if partner opens one of a minor a jump to Two Hearts shows six to nine points with a reverse Flannery hand which is five or more Spades with four or more Hearts. Today we see that a jump to Two Spades is an invitational reverse Flannery hand.

The bidding:

North, with his flat 14 HCP's, opens One Club. North and South are playing reverse Flannery so South jumps to Two Spades showing an invitational reverse Flannery hand.

North bids 2NT asking South to clarify his shape. With five Spades and four Hearts, the responses are Three Clubs, Three Diamonds or Three No Trump. With

five Spades and five Hearts, the response is Three Hearts and with six Spades and four Hearts, the response is Three Spades. Finally, with six Spades and five Hearts, the response is Four Hearts.

A response of Three Clubs shows three or more Clubs or two-two in the minors with a minimum. A response of Three Diamonds shows three or more Diamonds and a response of Three No Trump shows two-two in the minors with a maximum.

There is not a response for six-six in the majors, a rare occurrence, but it likely that such a holding will be a one that wants to be in game.

North would always choose a four-four or five-four fit over a five-three fit any day of the week. However, when North finds South's shape is six-four, he chooses a Four-Spade contract.

Opening Lead:

West has trump control and leads his singleton Heart.

The Play:

Declarer wins the Heart Queen and cashes the Ace then the King of Clubs. He plays the Club Jack and when East does not cover, he discards his Diamond. Now if West has the trump Ace, East will not get the lead to give West a ruff. If East covers, he must ruff and then play the Spade Jack as if he were intending to finesse the Queen which might make West duck with the Ace in case partner can win the Queen.

The Result:

Declarer will make +450 and if East had the Spade Ace, declarer would have made +420.

Note: July 1st to July 3rd is the Trail Bridge sectional tournament at the Trail Curling Rink. There will be a separate non life master section for both sessions on Saturday, July 2nd if there is sufficient interest.