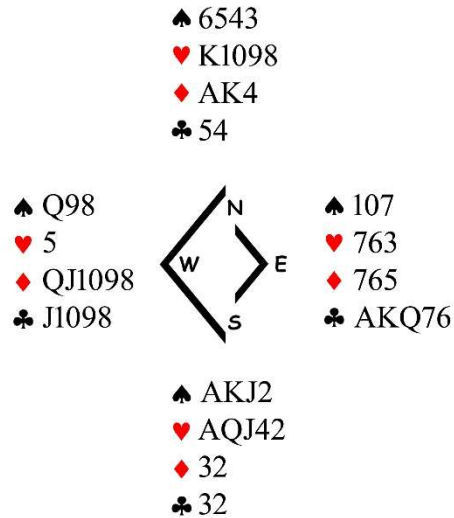


# 316. Five Card Majors

*Published on page 9 of the Trail Times, Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016*



E	S	W	N
P	1♥	P	3♥
P	4♥	All Pass	

--None Vulnerable--

## The bidding:

South picks up his hand to count a balanced 15 points. However, he cannot open 1NT because he has two unstopped doubletons. Furthermore, he is 5-4 in the majors. Therefore, South opens One heart. North has 11 points in support of Hearts and jumps to Three Hearts showing 10 to 12 points and four-card support. This is called a limit raise. South accepts the invitation and bids game.

South does not have a full opener so he cannot show his Spade suit because he has Heart support, especially four-card support. A four-four Spade fit is often better than a five-three fit but not a five-four fit.

South has 14 points or better and accepts the invitation to game and bids Four Hearts.

**Opening Lead:**

West leads the Diamond Queen, the top of a touching honour sequence. The Club Jack also qualifies, but the Diamond Queen is better because a fourth round Club winner is unlikely in a trump contract.

**The Play:**

Declarer wins the Diamond Ace, draws trump, cashes the Spade Ace then takes the Spade finesse by playing small to the Jack. This loses to the Queen.

**The Result:**

Declarer has three losers and makes Four Hearts for +420.