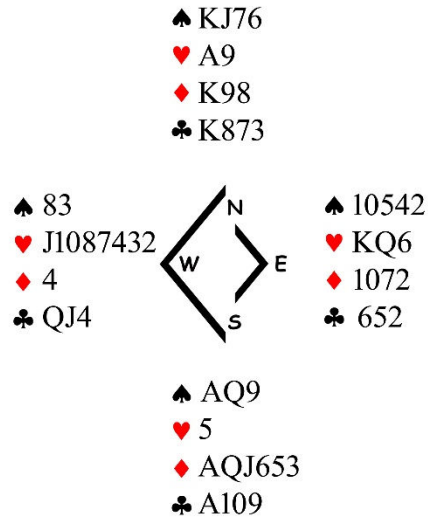


334. Ain't It Grand

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N	E	S	W
1 ♣	P	1 ♦	P
1NT	P	2 ♠	P
3 ♠	P	4NT	P
5 ♥	P	5NT	P
6 ♣	P	6 ♦	P
6NT	P	7 ♠	All Pass

--North South Vulnerable--

This is a very interesting hand that occurred at the Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club. We play bridge every Monday at noon at the Warfield Hall. A lesson starts half an hour before game time.

The bidding:

North, with 14 HCP's, opens One Club and South responds One Diamond. This denies a four-card major unless South is a full opener. Therefore, North responds One No Trump allowing any major opening lead to come up to his hand. However, South shows a full opener by bidding Two Spades. It should be four cards, but South is stuck for a forcing bid.

North raises Spades, guaranteeing four Spades and South asks for keycards. North has two keycards and South shows the possession of all of the keycards by asking for specific Kings. North shows the Club King, and then South asks for second round control in Diamonds. North bids 6NT which shows the King. Seven Spades would show a singleton. South bids the Moysian Grand. 7NT would be a better bid in case of a bad Spade split, but a Heart short-hand ruff may be a necessary trick.

Opening Lead: Heart Jack. One does not lead a singleton against a grand because if partner gets in to give a ruff, the contract is already defeated. Furthermore, a Diamond lead may help declarer bring home the suit.

The Play:

Declarer holds his breath and claims when Spades are split four-two.

The Result:

Declarer makes 13 tricks for +2210.