

Twoonie Talk #13

Leading An Art

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If Bidding Is A Science Then Leading is An Art.

This week, it is simply one question.

This example was hand 31 Friday Evening in the Cranbrook Sectional. Your LHO in second seat, North South vulnerable, opens 1♥, and your RHO bids 3NT. Before the opening lead is tabled face down against a 3NT contract, 3NT is explained as 13-15 HCP's and two ♥'s.

I have the following, and I lead the ♣Ten. It wins the trick. What is happening, and did I make the correct lead?

♠A75 ♥953 ♦K865 ♣1094

Dummy is:

♠Q82 ♥KQJ1064 ♦QJ4 ♣5

What do I play at trick two?

Twoonie Talk #13-Solution

Leading An Art

The four hands were:

Board 31

South Dealer North South Vulnerable

♠J94	
♥72	
♦972	
♣KQJ63	
♠Q82	♠K1063
♥KQJ1064	♥A8
♦QJ4	♦A103
♣5	♣A872
♠A75	
♥953	
♦K865	
♣1094	

N	E	S	W
	P	1♥	
P	3NT	All Pass	

Analysis:

One does not lead from strength in broken or empty four-card suits into the strong RHO. Give me a fifth diamond and I will lead a diamond.

When declarer ducks the first club it shows Ace empty or AKx or AKxx and he is attempting to sever communication between the defender's hands. If declarer is trying to sever communications, it means that I found partner's suit. Defender must continue with the ♣ 9 and then the ♣ 4 which declarer wins.

Declarer ducks the Club lead twice, and during the run of Hearts, declarer pitches a Club. When partner sees this discard, he pitches two clubs. What does that say about his hand? When partner discards his long suit, it usually means attack something else partner.

When declarer shows the possession of a fourth club, it means I can never get to his hand which I could if I had a fourth club.

Is it apparent that West should correct to 4♥? It should be.