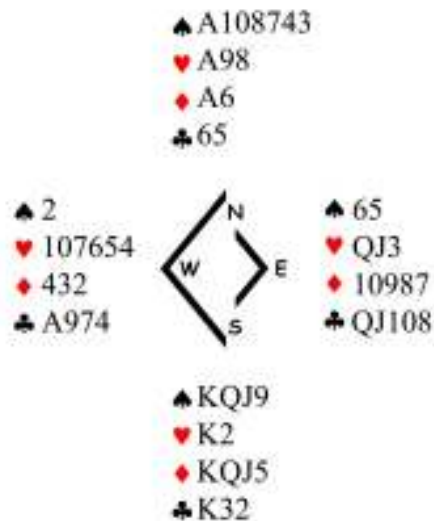


175. Mexican Two Diamond Opening Once Again

Published on page 2 of the Trail Times, Wednesday February 12th, 2014



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

--Both Vulnerable--

The bidding:

South, with a balanced 18 points, opens a Mexican two diamonds. This is the last of the three columns dealing with this bid. One may look up Mexican in my bridge index on my website to see more on the bid.

North with six spades, bids two hearts transferring South to two spades. North makes a three diamond call which is forcing to game. It is either a second suit asking South to pick between four spades and three notrump or it is a cuebid. South will find out later. South picks spades by bidding three spades which is forcing to game. North makes a heart cuebid and now South knows that three diamonds must have also been a cuebid. South cuebids his king of clubs because he suspects partner is wanting to hear something about clubs. That is the bid North was wanting to hear and places the contract in six spades.

The contract will not make if North is the declarer because East has a natural lead of the queen of clubs.

North knows they are in the slam ball park. 30 points and a six card suit are usually sufficient for six. He cannot ask for keycards because one cannot use Blackwood with either a void or a worthless doubleton. What if North finds out they are missing a keycard which they are. North could have two quick club losers until a cuebidding sequence tells him otherwise.

The Lead: spade

North and South went slowly to slam and West seems to be sitting otop of South's King which he cuebid so West makes a passive trump lead.

The play:

South draws trump, ruffs a heart in his hand and pitches two clubs on his diamonds.

Result:

6S+1 for +1460 (Spade lead)

6S= for +1430 (Ace of club lead)

Do You Have The Basics?

Q5: Partner leads the ace of clubs and you have KQJ95, what card (all standard signals for now) do you play? See column 175 at watsongallery.ca for the answer.

Answer: The King of Clubs is the best answer although I once did this with an expert online and I got a spade shift. The 9 may be the safest.

Q5b: Partner leads the ace of clubs and you have KQJ32, what card (all standard signals for now) do you play?

Answer: The King and hopefully partner does not shift to a spade.

You lead, discard and signal top of a sequence, yet you win the trick as cheaply as possible.