

Mountnessing Bridge Club

Optimism is NOT recommended at Match-Pointed Pairs!

Hand played on 22nd April 2010
Board number 17 – Red Section
Dealer North
Vulnerability Love all
Submitted by Paul Mollison/Simon Moorman

North ♠ AJ543 ♥ J643 ♦ A ♣ 652					
West ♠ 876 ♥ K2 ♦ QJT62 ♣ QJ4	East ♠ KQT92 ♥ A95 ♦ 864 ♣ A8	Bidding:			
		North	East	South	West
South ♠ void ♥ QT87 ♦ K973 ♣ KT973		1♠	No	1NT	No
		2♥	No	3♥	No
		No	No	End	

What should South bid after North shows his 2nd suit? Paul writes:

In my opinion, South should pass with his Ace-less 8 count (even with 4 trump support and a void). This still only gives him a poor 11 count at most and it pays to be cautious at pairs.

Some might criticise my 10 point 1S opener but I have shape and (crucially) two quick tricks, so I am unrepentant.

The best line is to win the K spades lead in hand and proceed to cross-ruff. This fails because East can overruff the 4th round of Diamonds. The defence always comes to 5 tricks on best defence (and that is Deep Finesse talking, not me!).