

RECOVERY PLAY

Rena Kaplan played 6♥ from the South seat on the lead of ♦K. *Deep Finesse* claims 13 tricks a make, but then the program 'knows' about the bad breaks which lie ahead for declarer.

Board 27, South deals, nil vulnerable

♠ J 8 7	
♥ K Q 9 6	
♦ A 10 6 4	
♣ Q 7	
♠ 10 9 4 3	♠ K 6 2
♥ 8 4	♥ 10 3 2
♦ K Q J 9 5 2	♦ 8 3
♣ 10	♣ J 9 8 5 2
♠ A Q 5	
♥ A J 7 5	
♦ 7	
♣ A K 6 4 3	

The simple plan in 6♥ is to draw trumps, planning to set up South's club suit with a ruff for 12 tricks. That line works whenever clubs break no worse than 4-2. Oblivious to the problems ahead, Rena embarked on the simple line, but when clubs broke 5-1 declarer was in trouble.

Rena found a neat solution to her problem, which relied on East holding ♠K. After ruffing one club in dummy with the last trump, she ruffed a diamond to hand with her last trump, leaving this position:

♠ J 8 7	
♥ ---	
♦ 10	
♣ ---	
♠ 10 9 4	♠ K 6 2
♥ ---	♥ ---
♦ K	♦ ---
♣ ---	♣ J
♠ A Q 5	
♥ ---	
♦ ---	
♣ 6	



Rena Kaplan

TODAY'S TIMETABLE

Championship Event:

Open & Women's Butler Stage III
10am, 2.30pm
Senior's Butler Stage A
10am, 2.30pm
ANC Swiss Pairs
10am, 2.30pm

Congress Event:

One session Walk-In Pairs
10am or 2.30pm
SABA Teams 3 of 3
7.30pm

The club exit put East on play, and Rena was able to make three tricks in spades on the forced spade exit.

I received an anonymous bulletin article (thank you, though!) asking how the bidding should go to reach 7♥, and more importantly, how to play it.

The answer to the first question is, I don't believe we want to be in 7♥, but the next question is easy (especially after you run it through *Deep Finesse*).

The normal lead is ♦K. Win the ace and play a club to hand. Play one round of trumps ending in dummy. Ruff a diamond, and draw a second round of trumps. Play a club to dummy's queen and play a third diamond. This leads to this situation, with East still to follow to ♦6:

	♠ J 8 7	
	♥ K 9	
	♦ 10 6	
	♣ ---	
♠ 10 9 4 3		♠ K 6 2
♥ ---		♥ 10
♦ Q J 9		♦ ---
♣ ---		♣ J 9 8
	♠ A Q 5	
	♥ A	
	♦ ---	
	♣ A 6 4	

East is squeezed in spades and clubs, so the best play is ♥10. Declarer overruffs with ♥A and crosses to dummy with a club ruff. Dummy's last trump is now

FROM THE APPEALS ROOM II

A second major theme is the misexplanation:

Board 8, West deals, nil vulnerable

		♠ 6	
		♥ A 8 5 4	
		♦ J 9 6 2	
		♣ J 10 9 6	
♠ 8		♠ K J 10 7 5 4 3 2	
♥ K 10 7 3		♥ ---	
♦ K Q 10 8 7 3		♦ 4	
♣ A 2		♣ K 8 7 4	
		♠ A Q 9	
		♥ Q J 9 6 2	
		♦ A 5	
		♣ Q 5 3	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♦ ¹	Pass	1♥ ²	1NT ³
2♥	2NT ⁴	All Pass	

1. 12-17, natural
2. 7+, any shape
3. 15-18. Described as two-suiter
4. Forcing, asking for clarification

Committee: Chairman, Bruce Neill, with Eric Ramshaw, Ted Chadwick and Neville Francis.

Details: There was a misexplanation of the 1NT bid. It was described as a two-suiter. East asked the meaning of the 2NT bid and was told "asking for clarification". South passed, following East's questions. East maintained that given the correct explanation of the auction he would have bid 4♠.

Director's Ruling: The Director ruled that there had been damage, and the score was adjusted to EW +420.

Appellant's Submission: Over their relay of 1♥, 1NT was meant as a strong and balanced, but explained as a two-suiter. South passed 2NT knowing East wanted to take some action. The appellants maintained that keeping silent with an eight-card suit was the reason for the poor result in combination with the artificial methods.

Respondent's Submission: South's explanation of 2NT was "Asking", as I recall. I waited to double any bid by South or North thereafter. If South had explained North's bid to be non-forcing I would have immediately bid 4♠. I didn't bid 4♠ because I'm not allowed to by my partner.

The Committee's Decision: The committee felt that South's pass of 2NT could just as easily be attributed to North's misexplanation as to East's table mannerisms. The Director's ruling at the table was allowed to

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In the Women's event, one declarer was in 7♥, and one declarer went down in 6♥.

If you *really* still want an auction to 7♥, here is the one from the pair in the Women's event:

North	East	South	West
		1♣	(1♦)
1♥		4NT RKCB	
5♠ 2 KC + ♥Q		5NT All KC confirmed	

TRAVERSING THE STAGE II FIELD

I managed to watch three matches in Stage II on Monday afternoon. Who to watch is always a difficult decision, but eventually I chose Vincent Demuy - Jane Dawson who, as it happened, were having a bad run and in 14th position NS. (Using the internet I've been watching their rise through the ranks and note that they ultimately qualified for Stage III.)

How do you recover when you have missorted your hand? Nigel Rosendorff held:

♠A1092, ♥J743, ♦KQJ54, ♣---

and opened 1♦. Nigel Zeller responded with a natural and non-forcing 2NT, at which point Nigel noticed that his ♦K was actually ♥K. ♠A1092, ♥KJ743, ♦QJ54, ♣--- still looked appealing but it was now unbidable. Nigel took the most sensible course of action and passed. Vince (South) was on lead, expecting East to have clubs, so tried ♥A from ♥AQ2. The lead didn't do any damage but it was a surprise to have dummy table ♥KJ743!

Board 6, East deals, EW vulnerable

		♠ 8	
		♥ A 8 7 6 5	
		♦ Q 5	
		♣ 10 8 4 3 2	
♠ K J 7 4		♠ Q 10 3	
♥ Q 10 4		♥ 9 3	
♦ 9 2		♦ A K J 10 4 3	
♣ K 9 7 6		♣ J 5	
		♠ A 9 6 5 2	
		♥ K J 2	
		♦ 8 7 6	
		♣ A Q	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
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Chadwick Dawson Lowry Demuy

1♦ 1♠

1NT 2♥ Pass 3♥

All Pass

I admired Jane Dawson's line of play on the deal shown on the previous column. It comes from the match against Ted Chadwick - Helen Lowry:

Obviously I'm not as aggressive a bidder as Jane because I would have passed with her hand, but the play's the thing.

Helen Lowry led ♦A then switched to a small spade. Jane won this in dummy, then thought long and hard about the entry situation. She wisely rejected the (failing) club finesse, instead cashing ♣A and continuing ♣Q as Chadwick won ♣K and Lowry's ♣J fell. A diamond continuation to the queen and king was followed by ♦J, and Jane ruffed in hand. ♣2 was ruffed in dummy and then ♥K was followed by ♥J, covered by Chadwick's queen and won in hand with ♥A. Now declarer's hand was high, except for the trump trick.

I guess if you bid that way you have to be able to play your contract carefully. Jane attributes her aggressive bidding style to a previous partner (who shall remain nameless), and clearly Vince has learnt that she bids a lot (whilst bearing in mind the opponents' bidding).

This board was only a 5 IMP pick-up, but in 10-board matches every IMP is critical. Using the individual hand records available online (fantastic!)

I can report that, in the Open field, 3♥ (or 2♥) made nine tricks three times, 4♥ went down four once, 1NT was played by West five times making seven tricks three times, nine tricks and 10 tricks one apiece. 2♦ by

BIDDING FOR THE BRAVE

Stage III, Round 3

Board 12, West deals, NS vulnerable

♠ 10 7 6 3

♥ K 6 5

♦ Q

♣ Q 7 6 5 3

♠ J 5

♥ 9 8

♦ J 10 7 6 4 2

♣ J 4 2

♠ K 4

♥ A Q 3

♦ K 9 5

♣ A K 10 9 8

♠ A Q 9 8 2

♥ J 10 7 4 2

♦ A 8 3

♣ ---

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Weal	Bashar	Yule	Moses
3♦	Pass	3NT	4♦
Pass	4♠	Dbl	All Pass

North thought poor partner had gone insane at the vulnerability, after she was forced to choose a major at the four-level. East fully agreed with North's unkind sentiments, and doubled – what else do you do with a good 19-count? 11 tricks rolled home, however (Sue Weal asked her partner to play the Joker some time soon).

Weal's problem was that she was not aggressive enough in the bidding – 5♦ was on from the East hand, and a good sacrifice from the West hand. North by this stage was gibbering in a corner and was not advancing to 5♠. +990 NS.

Nazife Bashar



Nazife Bashar, Paula Schroor & Kinga Moses

Footnote: Sue and Kathy reported a fine example of active ethics from the same. Sue was in 4♥, and when a side-suit broke badly, she had to go one down. Three of the four at the table agreed "down one", but Kinga Moses piped up "No, the contract is making, I revoked." Kinga's actions in drawing attention to her revoke is to be applauded.



Stage III match: Paul Gosney, Vince Demuy, Peter Gill, Jane Dawson

OPEN BUTLER STAGE III AFTER 9 ROUNDS

		Total VPs	Total IMPs	Wins	Last VPs	Last IMPs
1	Gill & Gosney	163	77	6.0	16.0	4
2	Markey & Mill	161	84	7.5	16.0	3
3	Neill & Peake	157	54	6.0	16.0	5
4	Wiltshire & Dyke	146	32	6.5	10.0	19-
5	Rosendorff & Zeller	144	24	6.0	20.0	19
6	Reynolds & Appleton	141	22	4.0	15.0	1
7	Snashall & Nixon	137	10	2.5	14.0	4-
8	Adams & Beauchamp	135	10	5.0	14.0	2-
9	Zollo & Eddie	135	22-	2.5	15.0	1-
10	Moren & Francis	134	26-	3.0	15.0	0
11	Gold & Stark	133	14-	4.0	14.0	3-
12	Ewart & Howe	127	57-	4.0	14.0	5-
13	Dawson & Demuy	120	61-	3.5	15.0	0
14	Noble & Bilski	104	133-	2.5	16.0	2

WOMENS BUTLER STAGE III AFTER 9 ROUNDS

		Total VPs	Total IMPs	Wins	Last VPs	Last IMPs
1	Schroor & Kaplan	189	211	7.5	14.0	4-
2	Tully & Lusk	163	94	6.5	16.0	5
3	Bashar & Moses	156	78	7.0	16.0	4
4	Glanter & Scudder	153	35	5.0	12.0	12-
5	Weal & Yule	147	31	5.0	18.0	12
6	Driscoll & Greenfeld	142	21	4.0	18.0	10
7	Wilson & Wilson	137	1	5.0	21.0	24
8	Bird & Creet	135	13-	3.5	14.0	3-
9	Liepins & Chadwick	129	29-	3.0	14.0	5-
10	Chadwick & Sharp	122	49-	5.0	16.0	3
11	Kahler & Hopwood	120	62-	2.5	12.0	10-
12	Manford & Clements	120	65-	4.0	9.0	24-
13	Stephens & Pettigrew	112	87-	3.0	10.0	20-
14	Snashall & Murray-White	99	166-	2.0	20.0	20

SENIORS BUTLER STAGE B AFTER 9 ROUNDS

		Total VPs	Total IMPs	Wins	Last VPs	Last IMPs
1	Grant & Hancock	176	133	7.0	12.0	11-
2	Dilks & Gallus	156	64	4.5	22.0	28
3	Piper & Ashworth	149	46	5.0	10.0	19-
4	Clarke & Colmer	147	13	4.5	19.0	13
5	Bignall & Januszke	146	9	4.0	20.0	19
6	Klofa & Schwabegger	140	21	5.0	24.0	33
7	Berger & Berger	140	1-	5.5	6.0	33-
8	Marks & Rocks	138	15-	3.5	11.0	14-
9	Rutkowski & Tobin	136	7	5.5	25.0	44
10	Bourke & Ramshaw	135	10-	2.5	11.0	13-
11	Samuel & Samuel	132	20-	5.0	18.0	11
12	Kahler & Davis	127	47-	5.0	19.0	14
13	Hunt & Lachman	118	72-	4.0	8.0	28-
14	Watts & Yuill	96	158-	2.0	4.0	44-

Quotable Quips

Leigh Gold, after bidding 1♦ with a one-count in response to partner's natural 1♣ opening: "I wanted to use up bidding space" he replied, when partner asked him why he bid. -500 in 5♣ doubled was the result.



Regular Kiwi visitors Paula & David McLeish



John Hughes, Mike Prescott, George Bilski & Barry Noble