

	<i>North</i>													
Dealer: E	♠ T532													
Vul: NS	♥ 74													
	♦ T7													
	♣ J7543													
<i>West</i>		<i>East</i>												
♠ AQ74		♠ KJ96												
♥ 865		♥ AK2												
♦ KQJ4		♦ A62												
♣ K2		♣ T96												
	<i>South</i>													
	♠ 8													
	♥ QJT93													
	♦ 9853													
	♣ AQ8													
Bidding:	<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">E</td> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">S</td> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">W</td> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">N</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">1C</td> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">P</td> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">1D</td> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">1NT</td> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">P</td> <td style="padding: 0 5px;">3NT</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	E	S	W	N	1C	P	1D	P	1NT	P	3NT		HTML Bridge Hand Layout Creator
E	S	W	N											
1C	P	1D	P											
1NT	P	3NT												
	All pass.													

OK, I'm back. Well actually only for one day, as we are now in lock down. On Monday 10th August I bid this hand and it had a point to it that may be of interest to our more advanced readers.

Balanced hands with a 4333 distribution and 4 Spades and 15-19 points come up rarely, 3 times in 1000 hands. Playing a 5 card Spade suit means that you open 1 Club. The interesting point is whether your rebid is 1NT or 1 Spade. Obviously bidding 1 Spade finds the 4-4 fit. Bidding 1NT gives partner an immediate count.

Some advanced players play that if the Spade suit is weak, bid it, this stops an immediate Spade lead against NT. If the Spade suit is strong, bid NT, the opponents may think you don't have Spades, and lead one.

It was the latter case in this hand, and I played in 3NT instead of 4 Spades. If you look closely you can see that Double Dummy there is 6 Spades and only 5NT, but nobody made 6 Spades, and I made 5NT.

One other thing. See if you can guess what the inexperienced defender led. You can have 6 guesses.

The answer is that I wish I had played the highest Heart from Dummy, I would have made 12 tricks.