

This is a fine example of when to re-value your hand when holding a void.

Bidding:

I cannot support West's 1D opener. While playing 5-card Majors, you get so much doubt out of the way by just opening 1H. East temporizes with 2C, and West now bids 3D (15-16). With this information, East jumps to 4 Hearts. Now West's Club void has added hugely to the value of the hand, which now looks like a solid 9 or 10 tricks between Hearts & Diamonds alone. However, without Roman Key-Card Blackwood, you cannot ascertain which Ace East has, so any Slam is a guess. With RKCB indicating the Spade Ace, the chances of 6 Hearts making are improved.

The screenshot shows the Easy Bridge software interface. The main window displays a bridge hand with the following cards:

- South: 9♠, 8♠, 2♠, A♥, Q♥, 10♥, 5♥, 3♥, A♦, K♦, Q♦, 7♦, 4♦
- North: Q♠, 6♠, 8♥, 6♥, A♣, 10♣, 7♣, 4♣, 3♣, 2♣, 10♦, 5♦, 3♦
- East: A♠, J♠, 4♠, K♥, 9♥, 7♥, 2♥, K♣, Q♣, 6♣, 5♣, J♦, 9♦, 6♦
- West: K♠, 10♠, 7♠, 5♠, 3♠, J♥, 4♥, J♣, 9♣, 8♣, 8♦, 6♦, 2♦

The Bidding History window shows:

South	West	North	East
Pass	1D	Pass	2NT
Pass	3H	Pass	4H
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The Play History window shows:

Trk	North	East	South	West
1:	(CA)	C5	C8	*H3*
2:	H6	H2	H4	*HA*
3:	H8	H7	HJ	*H0*
4:	S6	*SA*	S3 (S2)	
5:	C2	*CQ*	C9	S8
6:	C3	*CK*	CJ	S9
7:	D3	*DJ*	D2	D4
8:	D5 (D9)	D6	*DA*	
9:	DT	S4	D8	*DK*
10:	SQ	C6	S5	*DQ*
11:	C4	SJ	S7	*D7*
12:	C7	*HK*	ST (H5)	
13:	CT	(H9)	SK	*HT*

The 'Hand Finished' dialog box displays: "East/West made 3 overtricks." with buttons for OK, Cancel, Replay, Rebid, More >>, Computer Replay, and Computer Replay (Express).

Play:

The contract is cold on the lay of the cards, but the play after a Spade lead – but why would he? – is tricky. If North leads the Q, you let it hold! He will now almost certainly switch to the Club Ace – thus resolving all your problems. If you have the misfortune to come up against a Zia who doesn't switch to a Club – tough!!! A Spade continuation forces out the Ace, and you're only remaining chance is for the Club A to be with South - tough!!! Another Zia-style lead of the small Spade also brings it down – try it yourself.

Any other lead gives you the time to establish a Club as your 12th trick.

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