

SWEDEN won the Lederer Invitation Teams with England second. The following hand occurred in the Sweden v England match. I was watching Per-Olaf Sundelin and Hans Gothe (S/N) play Tony Forrester and Brian Senior (W/E). Dealer E, game all (the hand rotated for convenience), the bidding went:

W	N	E	S
Forrester	Göthe	Senior	Sundelin
—	—	P	1C
X	P	1S	X
2S	3C	P	3NT

The bidding requires some explanation: 1C was a strong club. X showed the majors, P-O's double of 1S showed spade shortage and was for take-out. W led HQ (K's and 10's strong). How would you play the contract?

	S:K105
	H:10
N	D:K943
	C:108732
	S:Q4
	H:A953
S	D:AJ76
	C:AK6

First of all, evaluate the lead. W certainly has not led from HK.Q.J.x(x) but he might have led from either HK.Q . . . or HQ.J . . . Either way, you want



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to protect your H9, so, to keep E off the lead, you duck the first trick which has been HQ,10,2,3. E/W are playing reverse signals, so H2 says E likes the suit. W follows with H6 to C2.HJ and your ace. It's bit odd that W has led hearts which have not been supported by his partner rather than spades which have. Furthermore, E can at most have three hearts since, with four, he would have called hearts. This gives W a 5-card heart suit — consistent with his choosing hearts rather than spades for a lead. Well, now, if you can pick up the DQ, you have seven tricks on top with a certain spade trick for the eighth. There are various possibilities for the ninth, but first, clear the diamonds to find out the minor suit positions. D6 goes to D5.K.2. D3 to D10.J.8 and DA crashes E's DQ. W discarding S6. On the fourth round of diamonds, W discards H4 and E, the S9

(doesn't want the suit led). Can you see now how to make the contract?

Sundelin did not hesitate. He played CA.K, to which E/W both followed low, then low spade to the SK which held. Now a spade to the SQ puts W on the spot, the E/W hands being:

S:AJ76			S:9832
H:KQ864			H:J72
D:85	W	E	D:Q102
C:J5			C:Q94

It was a beautiful bit of card reading. Once W followed to two rounds of diamonds, S knew W had 4-5-2-2 distribution. If E were able to gain the lead, he could set the contract with a heart lead through S's H9,5 to W's HK,8, so S had to play W to hold the SJ. If he held it, S could finesse the S10, but if E held the SJ, S would then be two off. Playing for the throw-in, S would make the contract if W held SJ and be only one off if E held it.

At the other table, S was in 2NT after E had opened 1C (playing a strong pass system). A low heart was led and S (Steve Lodge) let E's HJ hold — eight tricks.

At the Petersfield Swiss Teams Congress, the winners were: Mrs. M. Mathé, D Shearer, G. Neal, C. McClellan.