

Bridge hand

Flawless execution

By TONY FORRESTER

Dealer West
Vulnerability Game all

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| <p>♠ 5 ♥ K J 7 5 ♦ A 6 5 4 ♣ A K 10 8</p> <p>♠ A Q J 8 7 ♥ 9 4 ♦ Q 10 8 ♣ Q 3</p> | <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td><td style="padding: 2px;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W</td><td style="padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;"> </td><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table> | N | | W | E | | S | <p>♠ 6 3 ♥ 10 6 2 ♦ K 9 3 2 ♣ J 9 7 6</p> <p>♠ K 10 9 4 ♥ A Q 8 3 ♦ J 7 ♣ 5 4 2</p> | |
| N | | | | | | | | | |
| W | E | | | | | | | | |
| | S | | | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| 1♠ | dbld | pass | 3♥(1) |
| pass | 4♥ | pass | pass |
| pass | | | |

(1) better than 2NT

Contract 4♥
Declarer South
Opening Lead ♥4

THE Lederer Memorial Trophy stands alone in the UK as a top invitational teams event. As usual, a strong field had gathered, though, with a smaller international entry, the competition was not as demanding as in some previous years.

Quality was still abundant though, and as evidence of that, witness the skill of Norman Selway, South on the deal above. He was representing the "home" side (Young Chelsea Bridge Club, London) and gave a virtuoso display.

The auction was non-contentious. Selway was worth an invitational

response to his partner's take-out double and rightly preferred 3♥ to 2NT, as a route to notrumps was easily available via a 3♣ cue-bid from North, should he have a decent hand without four hearts.

West started accurately with a trump, leaving declarer with little flexibility. He needed to score some ruffs and fast. With that in mind, he won ♥10 with the Ace and advanced ♦J, tempting West into covering. East was reluctant to overtake and fire a spade through (best defence) so he allowed West to have the trick. The inevitable trump continuation handily cleared up any worries about the location of ♥9, so Selway could ruff diamonds in comfort.

He took ♥K in dummy, cashed ♦A, ruffed a diamond and returned to dummy via a club to ♠A. South repeated the process, diamond then club before drawing the remaining trump.

We were down to four cards and declarer was pretty confident that West's were all spades. So, he called for ♠5 and carefully inserted the nine. West seemed happy enough to collect the Knave and equally cheerfully pressed on with ♠A. However when Selway discarded a club rather than ruff, West's mood changed. Suddenly, South's cunning plan had been revealed.

Another spade appeared perforce, which allowed dummy's ♠10 to be excused.

Not surprisingly, Selway was the only player to land his game and also picked up the award for "Best Played Hand".

Final result: 4♥, N/S + 620

Par result: same

Daily Telegraph
Tues Feb 5th/08