



BEST DEFENDED HAND

Joe Fawcett and Ian Payn, London

Colin Simpson and Robert Sheehan, All Stars

HAND: 26 MATCH NO: 7 VUL: Both DEALER: E

♠ A K 8 7 4 3 2
♥ None
♦ A 7 4
♣ K 10 7

♠ Q J 6 5
♥ Q 10 4
♦ J 5
♣ Q J 9 5

N
W E
S

♠ 10
♥ A J 8 3 2
♦ K Q 9 8 6
♣ A 4

♠ 9
♥ K 9 7 6 5
♦ 10 3 2
♣ 8 6 3 2

BIDDING:	Payn		Fawcett		(North v London)
	West	North	East	South	
	1♠	2♠	1♥	Pass	
	Double	All Pass	Pass	Pass	

North's 2♠ overall was natural – and he seemed to have values to spare. But Joe Fawcett did well to leave any further competitive move to his partner, and Ian Payn doubled for penalties.

PLAY:

East led ♦K, which declarer allowed to hold. A second diamond went to the jack and ace, and North exited with a third round of the suit. Rejecting the tempting defence of ace and another club, trying for a ruff, Fawcett led ♠10 to North's ace. Declarer led the seven of spades to West's jack, and Ian Payn played ♣Q. Declarer could have saved a trick had he ducked this, but when he covered, Fawcett won with the ace. A reflex club continuation would have established a winner for North's ten, but Fawcett avoided this final trap by exiting with a diamond. Locked in hand forever, declarer had to lose a spade and two further club tricks for a penalty of 500 points. This careful defence was duplicated card for card by Robert Sheehan and Colin Simpson for the All Stars team