



BEST PLAYED HAND
Ben Handley-Pritchard, Juniors

HAND: 9 MATCH NO: 1 VUL: East-West DEALER: W

	♠ 10 9 3	
	♥ K 9 7 5 3	
	♦ Q 3	
	♣ K 6 4	
♠ A Q 5	N	♠ J 8 4
♥ A 6 4	W E	♥ 10
♦ A 9 6 5	S	♦ K 10 2
♣ A 9 2		♣ Q J 10 8 5 3
	♠ K 7 6 2	
	♥ Q J 8 2	
	♦ J 8 7 4	
	♣ 7	

BIDDING:	Probst	Fawcett	Handley-Pritchard	Liggins	(London v Juniors)
	West	North	East	South	
		2♦	Pass	4♦	
	Double	4♥	Pass	Pass	
	Double	Pass	5♣	Pass	
	Pass	Pass	Pass		

North's 2♦ opening showed a weak hand with either long diamonds or long hearts. South's pre-emptive 4♦ was to play in his partner's suit. West's double showed a good hand, as did his double of North's conversion to 4♥. The effect of North-South's gadgetry was to keep East-West out of the normal, but doomed, 3NT, which was the contract at most other tables. Instead, Ben Handley-Pritchard bid 5♣, which would require careful play.

PLAY:

Winning the opening heart lead with dummy's ace, Ben ruffed a heart and ran the queen of clubs. North took the king and played a second round of the suit. Declarer drew the last trump and led the ten of diamonds from his hand, running it when South played low. Winning with the queen, North exited with a heart, but declarer could see his way home. He ruffed the heart, led a spade to dummy's queen, cashed ♠A, led a diamond to his king, and ran the rest of his trumps. Squeezed in the three-card ending between ♦J8 and ♠K, South folded his cards.