## Card reading from the bidding and play

A64
Q105
985
A1082

K3
AJ98643
Q62
7

Dealer East

E/W vulnerable

| West | North | East | South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
| 2S | 3 H | Pass | 4 H |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

The 2 H overcall is standard. It would be wrong to make a take out double followed by bidding hearts as this would show a suit at least as strong as that shown with $15+$ points. North with good support and two aces invites to game rather than bidding game directly as the overcall strength can be wide ranging. South, with only 6 losers, bids game without hesitation.

West leads the 10D to the A and then K and a third diamond which is ruffed followed by the 10S from West. What next?

The diamond position was a bit of a surprise, with East proving to have five in that suit. They must also have precisely 5 spades (if East had 6, West could not raise to $2 S$ with only a doubleton) If East is void in hearts there is no way to avoid a further loser but you should be able to pick up the trumps without loss when East has one or two trumps.

Since East must have at least one club (five spades, five diamonds and two hearts at most) a simple discovery play will be all revealing. Winning the spade with KS at trick 4 play AC and another. If East follows to both clubs they can have no more than one trump, so you can ruff and lay down the AH.

If East shows out on the second round of clubs you will know with certainty that they hold the guarded KH . In that case return to dummy with AS and finesse the trumps.

The full hand

|  | A64 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Q105 |  |
|  | 985 |  |
|  | A1082 |  |
| 1097 |  | QJ852 |
| K2 |  | 7 |
| 103 |  | AKJ74 |
| KJ9632 | K3 | Q4 |
|  | AJ98643 |  |
|  | Q62 |  |
|  | 7 |  |

