



AN UNLUCKY SOUTH!

FRIDAY JANUARY 20, EAST LINDFIELD

HAND 17 DEALER N NIL VUL

♠ J64 LEAD : JH
♥ 1043
♦ J9875
♣ 65

	N	E	S	W
P		1H	1NT	X
P		P	P	

♠ K53	♠ Q1092
♥ J9	♥ Q87652
♦ K32	♦ AQ
♣ A9832	♣ J

♠ A87
♥ AK
♦ 1064
♣ KQ1074

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N					
S					
E			3	1	2
W			3	1	2

THE BIDDING

One has to feel sorry for South. This is a sound overcall of 1NT. West's double is definitely for takeout, not penalties. East is beginning to dread having opened but trusts West and passes.

THE PLAY

South can make a maximum of 5 tricks for -300 and possibly make only 4 tricks. Even if South had run to 2C this would not have fared any better. East did well not to rebid 2H.

TIP : A double of a 1NT overcall is for penalties. Otherwise responder would raise partner or bid a new suit which is non-forcing.



A NIFTY DEFENCE

HAND 18 DEALER E N/S VUL

♠ KQ96
♥ A532
♦ 104
♣ KQ6

LEAD : 4S

E	S	W	N
P	1D	3C	X
P	4H	All Pass	

♠ A1085

♠ J732

♥ 7

♥ KJ94

♦ 62

♦ J975

♣ AJ10954

♣ 3

♠ 4

♥ Q1086

♦ AKQ83

♣ 872

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N		2	2		4
S		2	2		4
E					
W					

THE BIDDING

South opens light but once North shows majors with his negative double South's hand improves sufficiently to jump to 4H.

THE PLAY

West understandably leads a trump. South plays low from dummy and East wins the KH. East switches to a club which West wins with the Ace. West realises that East must have a singleton club to defend like this so continues a club which East ruffs. East plays a spade which is won by West's Ace. West plays another club for East to ruff. South claims the rest drawing trumps but is down 2 for -200. With this layout South had little chance of making 4H which was still a reasonable contract. With reasonable breaks South may only have lost a club, a spade & a heart.

TIP: When partner plays a suit in which dummy is strong the card played is most likely a singleton.

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