

Declarer 4324

hand Axxx Qxx xxx Axx

If the NT bidder has AQ of Club the chances of beating the contract are remote.

Dummy has forced to game and shown short C.

A stiff Q is a possibility

The best chance to beat the contract is to lead the Club King and catch the lone Queen.

What to lead? Club K

Squaring the hand in the middle of the auction

North 4th seat you have 15 points.

Your hand is AQ53 Q2 KJT742 K

The bidding goes,

N	E	S	W
	1D	1H	X
XX	1NT	P	2C
?			

What do you Bid? NO! Do not bid. First ask what is going on?

Who has what? What is going on? Who is the most suspect?

Visualize the Hands

Consider the Spade suit first: Spades are 4 4 3 2
Diamonds are 6 4 2 1
Hearts are 5 2 4 2
Clubs are 6 1 2 4

Let's start with Opener

Opener has 2+ Spades, 4+ Diamonds 3+ Hearts to the King and 13-14 HCP to bid 1NT.

Opener is 3442 Kxx K98x AQxx xx

Righty is 4 1 2 6 Jxxx xx x AQxxxx

Partner's hand is xx AJxxx xx Jxxx

Can partner have 6 hearts - not likely as she did not bid 2 H.

Count losers

S 1 H 1-2 D 2 C 1

Your hand got worse and worse as the auction progressed.

Maybe you can hold 2c to 90.

Count winners against 2 C

S 1-2 H 1-2 D 0 C1-2.

With this hand Pass.

Squaring the hand as declarer

This occurs after the opening lead. Look at dummy count the missing points.

If no one has bid likely the points are split and the other suits are splitting.

NORTH	SOUTH
Q973	AT83
962	AKx
QT82	A4
Q4	KJT8

Opening lead is the J of Hearts

The auction

N	E	S	W
	1D	X	P
1S	P	4S	P
P	P		

Who has what points?

You 6

Dummy 19

Opener 13

Right and opponent 2

First things first

Create a pitch for the Heart loser

Lead the Club K

Place the Spade King with opener

Win the Heart return and pitch a Heart on the 3rd C

If the third Club is not ruffed, ruff a Heart to your hand

Lead the Spade Queen and finesse if not covered.

Knock out the Spade Jack if the Spade K covers the Spade Q

If the third round of Club is ruffed by opener play her of an original holding of Kx of Spades and lead a low trump to the A. Finesse the J when the K appears.

If the 3rd round of Club is ruffed by declarer's partner then over ruff and lead the SQ finessing if it is not covered and then another trump.

Pitch the H loser on the 4th Club