

## Daily Bridge Club

# When did he learn?

By **FRANK STEWART**

*Tribune Content Agency*

When I watched today's deal in a penny game, East was Grapefruit, our club member who can't weigh anyone's faults without putting a finger on the scales. He berates his partners without mercy.

Against 2NT, West led a heart. South won in dummy and let the eight of diamonds ride, and West took the queen and shifted to the deuce of spades: four, queen, ace. South lost a diamond to the ace, and after West took three spades, South claimed, making two.

"I've never lost like this before," West sighed.

"You've played before?" Grapefruit sneered. "A 5-year-old child beats that contract."

### SIX TRICKS

West needs six tricks. If East has the ace of spades, West can get four spades and two diamonds, but he will have a chance for a spade shift when he takes the ace of diamonds. At Trick Three, West should lead a club honor, hoping East has Q-x-x-x-x.

"You should bid two clubs over the redouble to help me," West said.

"Exactly what time today did you learn to play?" Grapefruit roared.

### DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K J 8 2 ♥ 10 8 7 3  
♦ A Q ♣ K J 5. Your partner opens one heart, and you respond 2NT, an

artificial forcing raise. He next bids three clubs. What do you say?

**ANSWER:** In conjunction with your 2NT, partner's three clubs shows a singleton there. The idea is to let you judge whether you have useful cards. If your clubs were A-8-5, you would be encouraged, but the K-J are "wasted" opposite his singleton. Sign off at four hearts.

South dealer  
N-S vulnerable

#### NORTH

♠ 9 6 4  
♥ K Q J 5  
♦ J 8 5 2  
♣ A 10

#### WEST

♠ K J 8 2  
♥ 10 8 7 3  
♦ A Q  
♣ K J 5

#### EAST

♠ Q 10 7  
♥ 9 6 2  
♦ 7 4  
♣ Q 9 7 3 2

#### SOUTH

♠ A 5 3  
♥ A 4  
♦ K 10 9 6 3  
♣ 8 6 4

South	West	North	East
1♦(!)	Dbl	Redbl	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	All Pass

**Opening lead — ♥ 3**