

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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EASY ONE TURNS HARD

Both vulnerable, South deals

NORTH

♠ J 5 3
♥ 10 6 4 2
♦ J 9 5 3
♣ A 7

WEST

♠ Void
♥ K J 8 5
♦ Q 8 6 4
♣ K 10 5 3 2

EAST

♠ K Q 9 6 2
♥ Q 9 7 3
♦ 10
♣ J 8 6

SOUTH

♠ A 10 8 7 4
♥ A
♦ A K 7 2
♣ Q 9 4

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All pass		

Opening lead: Three of ♣

Today's deal is from a team competition some years ago. South was California expert Wafik Abdou.

West, with no good lead, tried a fourth-best club. This got Abdou off to a good start when his queen won the first trick. He crossed to dummy with the ace of clubs and led a low spade from dummy, inserting his eight when East played low! This might seem like a remarkable play, but Abdou was not trying to win this

trick. He was assuming a normal 3-2 split of the missing spades. He expected to lose this trick, ruff a club in dummy later, and then lead a spade to his ace. Had the spades split 3-2, Abdou would have played the ace, king, and another diamond, hoping for three tricks from that suit.

When the eight held the trick, Abdou cashed the ace of diamonds, ruffed a club in dummy, and led a diamond. East discarded, so Abdou won with his king, cashed the heart ace, and led a low spade to the jack and queen. This was the position:

NORTH

♠ Void
♥ 10 6 4
♦ J 9
♣ Void

WEST

♠ Void
♥ K J
♦ Q 8
♣ K

EAST

♠ K 9 6
♥ Q 9
♦ Void
♣ Void

SOUTH

♠ A 10 7
♥ Void
♦ 7 2
♣ Void

Abdou ruffed East's heart lead and exited with a diamond. The defense could not prevent him from scoring both his ace and 10 of trumps. Well done!