

HOW THE EXPERTS VOTED ON THE MARCII PROBLEMS

Problem:	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Phillip Alder, Hobe Sound, FL	3♥	2♣	1♥	a 4NT	4♥	Y 4◇	3♣	♠6
Michael Becker, Florida	5◇	2◇	1♠	a P	4♥	Y 3NT	2NT	♥4
David Berkowitz, New Jersey	4♣	2♣	2♣	b 5◇	3♣	Y 4◇	3♠	◇2
Larry Cohen, Boca Raton, FL	3♠	2♣	1♥	b 4NT	2NT	Y 3♥	2NT	♠6
Richard Colker, Maryland	3♥	D	1NT	b 5◇	4♥	Y 4◇	3♣	♣A
Billy Eisenberg, Perris, CA	3♥	2♣	1♥	b P	3♣	Y 3♥	3♠	♥4
Russ Ekeblad, Providence	3♥	A	1NT	b 4NT	4♥	Y 3♥	3♣	◇2
Robert Friend, Irvine, CA	P	2♣	1NT	b 5◇	2NT	Y 4◇	3♣	♥4
Barbara Haberman, New Jersey	3♥	2♣	1NT	b 5◇	4♥	Y 4◇	3♠	♥4
Carl Hudecek, Perrysburg, OH	5◇	P	D	a 4NT	3♣	N 3♥	5◇	♥4
Eddie Kantar, California	3♥	2♣	1NT	b 5◇	3♣	Y 4◇	3◇	♥4
Sami Kehela, Toronto	5◇	2♣	1NT	b P	3♣	Y 4◇	3♠	♠6
Danny Kleinman, Los Angeles	5◇	2◇	2♣	b P	3♣	N 4◇	3◇	◇2
Eric Kokish, Toronto	4♣	2◇	2♣	c	3◇	Y 4◇	3♠	◇2
Michael Lawrence, Tennessee	5◇	2◇	2♣	a P	4♥	Y 4◇	3♠	♥4
Robert Lipsitz, Palm Harbor, FL	3NT	D	2♣	5♥	3♣	Y 3♥	3♠	♣A
Patrick Long, Austin	3NT	2♣	1NT	c	4♥	N 3NT	3♣	♥6
Jeff Meckstroth, Tampa	5◇	2♣	1NT	b 5◇	2NT	N 3NT	3♠	♣A
Marshall Miles, California	3♥	2♣	1NT	a P	3♣	Y 4◇	3NT	♣A
Erik Paulsen, Upland, CA	3♥	2◇	1NT	b 5◇	3♣	N 4◇	3♣	◇2
Barry Rigal, New York City	5◇	2♣	1NT	a P	3♣	Y 4◇	2NT	♠6
Arthur Robinson, Pennsylvania	4♣	D	1NT	b P	4♥	Y 3♥	3♣	♥4
Andrew Robson, England	3♥	2♣	2NT	b P	3♣	Y 4◇	2NT	♥4
Beverly Rosenberg, California	4♣	D	1NT	b 4NT	2NT	N 4◇	2NT	♥4
Al Roth, Boca Raton, FL	P	2◇	1NT	5♥	4♥	N 4◇	3◇	◇2
Jeff Rubens, Scarsdale, NY	3♥	2◇	2♣	b P	3◇	Y 3♥	3♠	◇2
Ira Rubin, Elmwood Park, NJ	3♥	2◇	1♥	b P	2NT	Y 4◇	3◇	A
Joey Silver, Montreal	3♥	D	3NT	b 5◇	2NT	Y 4◇	2NT	◇2
Anders Wirgren, Sweden	3♥	D	1NT	a P	3♣	N 3NT	2NT	♥4
Robert Wolff, Dallas	3♥	D	1NT	a P	4♥	Y 3NT	4◇	◇2
Kit Woolsey, Kensington, CA	3♥	2◇	1NT	b 4NT	3♣	Y 3♥	4♣	♣A
Zia, New York City	4♣	2◇	2NT	b 5◇	2NT	Y 3NT	2NT	◇2



BRIDGEWORKS

CLASSIC REVIEW

PRESERVING PARTNER'S ENTRIES

BY MARSHALL MILES

Preserving partner's entries, although it is a fundamental technique with frequent opportunities for its exercise, is one of the most difficult defensive skills to master. The need to visualize partner's values is often combined with the requirement of making what seems to be an unnatural play. It is particularly important to be aware of this tactic when defending against notrump.

Sometimes, entry-preservation is available in the form of unblocking. These cases are not the most challenging, largely because the technique does not differ much from declarer's unblocking. For example, when partner leads the top of a sequence you overtake with a doubleton honor to prevent a blockage; playing your second highest card when partner leads a suit at notrump serves the double purposes of signaling and unblocking. Occasionally, you must refuse to return your original fourth-highest of partner's suit when your spot cards are high enough to threaten to block the suit.

In this article, we are concerned with preserving partner's entries through maneuvers that are either *outside* the suit the defense is trying to establish or "internal" moves other than unblocks.

NORTH (dummy)
 ♠ J6
 ♥ KQ73
 ♦ 8764
 ♣ A108

EAST (you)
 ♠ 542
 ♥ 96
 ♦ A92
 ♣ J9732

SOUTH WEST
 1 NT Pass 3 NT (All Pass)

West leads the ten of spades, and dummy wins with the jack. When declarer leads a low diamond from the board, East should play the ace in order to continue spades.

In this case, there is a double purpose in hopping up: For one thing, if West's spades are, say, king-ten-high, he will not be able to lead a spade without losing a trick in the suit. For another, even if the question of which defender led the next round of spades were unimportant, East would want to rush in and use his own entry to lead a spade before West's presumptive entry was knocked out. West's in-card will be needed *after* the suit is established.

Here are three possible full-deal layouts that show typical examples of why it pays East to rush in:

and there will be no late entry to the spades. An East who ducks in (B) may feel vindicated when he sees (C). "You see," he says. "If I hop up with the ace of diamonds, I give them an over-trick." But as South, would you always play for the queen to drop when your RHO goes up with the ace? In rubber bridge, you should hold up until the third round of spades, then play the king of diamonds, because you don't mind losing a second diamond trick to East but can't risk losing one to West. In matchpoints, declarer would face a difficult problem.

Anyway, a doubleton queen with partner is only one possibility out of many. If, in (B), East had the diamond king and West the ace, it would be vital for East to play the king on the first diamond lead. This is a much tougher play to make, but it is still the correct move. Here is an even scarier example:

(A)

NORTH	♠ J 6	♥ K Q 7 3	♦ 8 7 6 4	♣ A 10 8
WEST	♠ K 10 9 7 3	♥ A 8 5 4	♦ J 3	♣ 5 4
EAST	♠ 5 4 2	♥ 9 6	♦ A 9 2	♣ J 9 7 3 2
SOUTH	♠ A Q 8	♥ J 10 2	♦ K Q 10 5	♣ K Q 6

(B)

NORTH	♠ J 6	♥ K Q 7 3	♦ 8 7 6 4	♣ A 10 8
WEST	♠ K 10 9 7 3	♥ 10 8 5 4	♦ K 3	♣ Q 5
EAST	♠ 5 4 2	♥ 9 6	♦ A 9 2	♣ J 9 7 3 2
SOUTH	♠ A Q 8	♥ A J 2	♦ Q J 10 5	♣ K 6 4

(C)

NORTH	♠ J 6	♥ K Q 7 3	♦ 8 7 6 4	♣ A 10 8
WEST	♠ K 10 9 7 3	♥ J 10 5 4	♦ Q 3	♣ Q 5
EAST	♠ 5 4 2	♥ 9 6	♦ A 9 2	♣ J 9 7 3 2
SOUTH	♠ A Q 8	♥ A 8 2	♦ K J 10 5	♣ K 6 4

In (A), if East ducks, declarer can shift to hearts effectively. In (B), if East plays a low diamond, his partner's king of diamonds will be forced out

West leads a spade. South wins the second round of spades, crosses to dummy in diamonds, and calls for a low club. The key play is for East to

rise with the club king. If West has a singleton honor, it is just too bad.

When partner may have no outside entry, deception is sometimes the court of last resort. [See top of next column.]

This deal illustrates a sneaky way of preserving partner's entry. West leads a low spade, and East plays the jack. Declarer cannot afford to hold up and thus risk losing the entire spade suit, especially when all he needs is a diamond break for nine tricks. When third hand has ace-queen-low of his partner's suit, the play of the queen at trick one is standard. Jack from ace-jack-low is riskier, as it may give declarer an undeserved trick with the queen, but in a situation like this, where partner is

NORTH	♠ 7 3	♥ A J 10 6 5	♦ K 9 7	♣ A Q 4
WEST	♠ Q 9 6 5 2	♥ K 3	♦ J 6 4 3	♣ 9 6
EAST	♠ A J 4	♥ Q 9 2	♦ 10 5	♣ 10 7 5 3 2
SOUTH	♠ K 10 8	♥ 8 7 4	♦ A Q 8 2	♣ K J 8
SOUTH	♠ 1 ♠	♥ 3 NT	♦ 3 NT	♣ (All Pass)

almost bound to be entryless, the play of the jack is a form of insurance.

IMPROVE YOUR PLAY

Problem A

Rubber bridge; North dealer; none vul.

NORTH	♠ A K 8 7 5	♥ A K Q 7	♦ A K	♣ A K
SOUTH	♠ 10 3	♥ 6 5 4	♦ Q J 10 6 2	♣ 8 5 3

Problem B

Rubber bridge; South dealer; none vul.

NORTH	♠ 8 6 3	♥ 5 4 3 2	♦ 9 4	♣ A 10 5 4
SOUTH	♠ A K 2	♥ A K Q J 10	♦ A 5	♣ J 6 3

Problem C

Rubber bridge; North dealer; none vul.

NORTH	♠ 8 2	♥ A 10 4	♦ K Q 7	♣ J 10 7 4 3
SOUTH	♠ A K 3	♥ J 7 3	♦ A J 5 4	♣ Q 9 6

West leads a spade. South wins the second round of spades, crosses to dummy in diamonds, and calls for a low club. The key play is for East to

Diamond five, ace, three, deuce.
Diamond king, four, six, seven.
Plan the play.

Plan the play.

(Solutions on page 75.)

HIGH-LEVEL ENCOUNTER

from a report of the 1937 World Championship final

Test your defense on this deal from an early international match. (The bidding has been modernized.)

NORTH ♠ A 7 4 ♥ 10 9 5 4 ♦ K Q 9 6 ♣ 8 7		WEST ♠ 7 2 ♥ J 9 5 3 ♦ A 9 4 ♣ 8 7 6 4		EAST ♠ Q 10 8 2 ♥ 8 2 ♦ A 8 4 ♣ Q J 6 4		SOUTH ♠ K 9 ♥ A Q J 6 ♦ J 10 7 2 ♣ A 5 3	
NORTH ♠ Q 5 3 ♥ 10 7 6 ♦ K Q 8 7 3 ♣ 9 5		WEST ♠ 7 2 ♥ J 9 5 3 ♦ A 9 4 ♣ 8 7 6 4		EAST ♠ K J 9 6 4 ♥ K 8 4 ♦ 5 ♣ A 10 3 2		SOUTH ♠ A 10 8 ♥ A Q 2 ♦ J 10 6 2 ♣ K Q J	
SOUTH 1 NT 2 ♠ Pass		WEST Pass Pass Pass		EAST Pass (All Pass)		NORTH 2 ♣ 4 ♠ Pass	

West leads the five of diamonds; East should play the eight. The diamond lead is not likely to be a singleton, even if South might open one notrump with 2-4=5=2 distribution (which not everyone would). Assuming that the diamond lead is from a doubleton, East must save his only entry until his partner is ready to ruff.

Often, you must duck an ace for a round or two, saving it as an entry after the suit has been set up. Ducks with a king-queen or a king-jack, as in this deal, are less frequently required. Here, the opening lead is a spade, which East must duck whether or not dummy plays the queen. (Should East play an honor, declarer could duck effectively.)

After declarer wins the first trick, he must guess which minor-suit ace to knock out. If South leads the jack or ten of diamonds, West must exercise his judgment. Conceivably, it could be best to hold off until the third round, to prevent the run of the diamond suit. Of course, that would not work in the diagram shown: Declarer would discover who has the ace of diamonds and rethink the matter of which minor-suit ace to dislodge first. West's percentage play is to go in with the ace of diamonds immediately. He can assume that East has one entry and that if the spades are continued before that entry is knocked out, the contract can be set whether diamonds are run or not.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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SOUTH 4 ♠ Pass Pass		WEST 4 ♠ Pass Pass		NORTH Pass Pass 5 ♣ Double	
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NORTH (dummy)

♠ K 9	♠ Q 10 7 4
♥ 10 3	♥ 9 8 5
♦ A K 10 8 4	♦ Q 5
♣ Q 6 5 3	♣ A 10 9 2

West leads two top hearts. Declarer ruffs the second, leads a spade to the king and the spade nine-ten-jack; West discards two hearts. Next, declarer leads the king of clubs: seven, three, ?

Plan your defense.
(Solution overleaf.)

IMPROVE YOUR BIDDING

65. USING STRONG-SUIT POSITIVE RESPONSES TO TWO CLUBS

BY BEVERLY KRAFT

Matchpoints, neither side vulnerable, the bidding has gone:

SOUTH		WEST		NORTH		EAST	
—		—		2 ♣		Pass	
?		?		?		?	

A two-diamond response to two clubs denies the ability to offer a Bridge World Standard positive: at least the equivalent of 7-8 HCP in a hand with either a strong suit or spread values suitable for two notrump. A suit response from two hearts to three diamonds shows either at least six-card length or five cards headed by at least two honors. A suit response from three hearts to four diamonds indicates a one-loser suit.

As South, what call do you make with each of the following?

- (a) ♠ 7 6 ♥ Q 8 7 5 ♦ K J 6 2 ♣ Q J 8
- (b) ♠ K 7 ♥ Q 8 7 5 ♦ J 6 4 2 ♣ Q 8 6
- (c) ♠ Q 8 7 6 5 ♥ A K ♦ 10 4 2 ♣ 9 8 6
- (d) ♠ K Q 10 6 5 ♥ K 8 ♦ 10 4 2 ♣ 9 8 6
- (e) ♠ 3 ♥ A K 10 9 7 4 ♦ Q 8 2 ♣ J 4 3
- (f) ♠ 3 ♥ A K J 10 7 4 ♦ 10 8 3 ♣ 9 4 3

(Answers on page 74.)