Masters Solvers Panel

BY MARSHALL MILES
Santa Barbara, Calif.

This month features a special guest panel at large.

ZMUZDZINSKI of Katonne, N.Y., the current US Champion, and Adam is a many-time international champion, and most recently was a member of the winning team in the 2007 Taipei World. Conference panels are Wafaa Abdou and David Dames and Victor L. Hoersch and Bobby Wolff. District 17: Harvey Brody and Bob Eiter, District 21: District 23 guest panel is Ed Davis.

Problem 1.

Neither vulnerable, IMPs. You, South, hold:

A♠K73 A♥Q83 A♣K6 4♠
South  West
East
Pass
Pass

"Precise? **Natural, game force"

What call do you make?

ETTER: 4♣. Splitter. Since we are playing IMPs, there is very little advantage to look for a major fit when we have already found clubs. It is a good start to throw off the rivals if I bid 1♠. I think I am forcing to slam even if partner fails us. I hope partner will cuebid first and second round controls up the line, except for diamonds, of course.

WOLFF: 4♣. Having only three clubs, or more, South has only four, but for bidding panels we need to have problems, not "gimmies." ZMUZDZINSKI: Splitter. I am waiting to hear a 4♥ cuebid, in which case I expect partner can double my hearts. And if we actually belong in hearts, too bad, but at least is IMPs.

M.M.: And if partner just bids 5♣ over the spades, South then has a lot of wasted values in diamonds.

ZHOU: 3♣. showing my suit. If partner can raise spades I will bid Blackwood. But if partner bids 3♥ I bid 4♥. With one more club I would splinter right away with 4♥. And if we actually belong in hearts, too bad, but at least is IMPs.

DAVIS: 3♠. I don’t see any reason to abandon normal development of the auction. I think we have a hand that can make 60%, and for at least a small amount in clubs, 3♥ allows me to gauge whether we have duplicity of values in diamonds. We might have to be suggested if partner tries 3NT. Even if South should have only one club, I can control a heart in spades in the end (e.g. opposite 10♣ xK J♣ xKx 10♣x, which would be a nuisance bid in 4♣ over 1♣). I would like to see 3♠ and 3♥ in clubs, and would make 6♣. ABDOU: 3♣. If I parrel to 4♥, I will bid Blackwood, knowing partner has at most a doubleton spade. Over 3NT I bid 4♥ to set trump, then Blackwood.

DAVIS: 4♥. I can’t to cone my hand, but this want to be able to play in clubs if partner raises to 4♥.

M.M.: I like Ed, worry: if you bid 3♥ and partner raises to 4♥, would it be a cue bid (4♣KJxx xAQ x4), or show a doubleton? 3♥ over 2♥ shows a third singleton, but 3♥ over 1♣ would be keycard for clubs or spades?

Problem 2.

Both vulnerable, IMPs. You, South, hold:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>North</th>
<th>South</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>West</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1♥</td>
<td>1♦</td>
<td>1♣</td>
<td>1♠</td>
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"What call do you make?"

ETTER: 2♣. This should show 10+ points, 5 spades, and 4 diamonds, which is what I have. Perhaps I'm missing something. I can't to cone my hand, but I want to be able to reach 6♣ in spades if partner raises to 4♥.

DAVIS: 2♠. I can't to come my hand, and this want to be able to reach the same wave-length, (or which category

Masters Solvers Panel compiled by
Joel Hoersch

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