

**Re: we could not find our hearts with this interference**

Jeff Kroll <texas.blue.hen@gmail.com>

Wed 10/26/2022 5:52 PM

To: Cindy Skeels <skeelscindy@gmail.com>; Ron Francey <revronfrancey@hotmail.com>

Hi Cindy,

Interesting hand.

You have too weak a hand to compete at the 3 level vulnerable vs non vulnerable. The 2S bid was very effective. Many North's would have doubled to show equal value to West's notrump. That is part of Cappelletti.

You should have a good 8 points, close to 9 to look for your game. Course the E/W hands fit perfectly, so all N/S get are 2 spades and a heart.

Because your hands fit so well, you can make 4D or 4H. But without the great fit, you would have gone for a big penalty.

I recommend what Michael Berkowitz wrote on page 48 of the February 2021 Bulletin. So, in your case if you wanted to compete you would make a takeout double. Then partner would have bid 3H and if you wanted to risk it (hoping your diamond suit would run) you would bid 4H.

A popular and sophisticated treatment of dealing with the opponents interfering with your strong Notrump is the Lebensohl convention. The basic Lebensohl convention is written up on Page 65 in Dr. James Marsh Sternberg's column in the October 2022 Bulletin. That's a personal choice if you're willing to give up a natural 2NT response, and are willing to learn and remember the bids. It also is worth making sure that partner plays it the same way you do, as it can be modified.

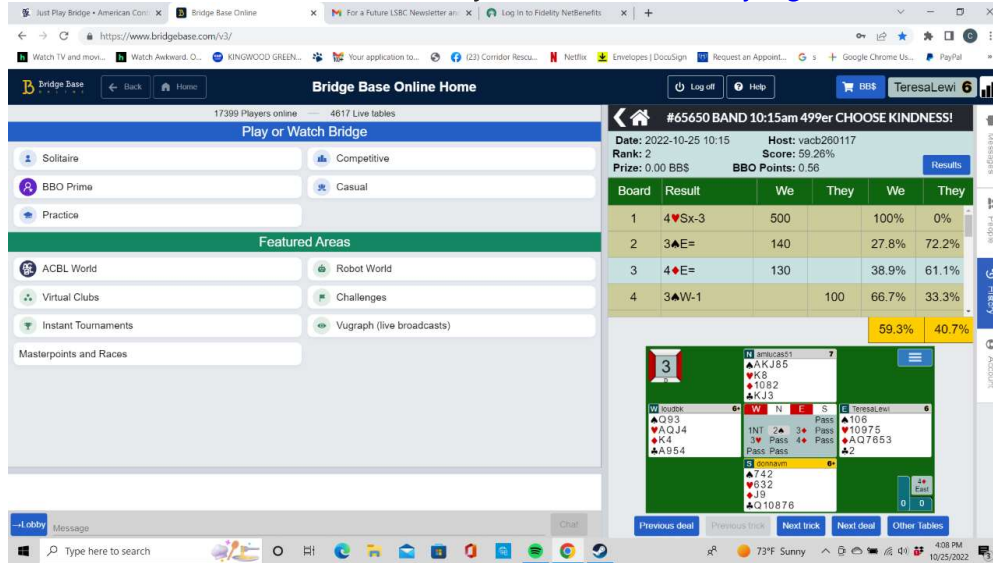
If you are playing basic Lebensohl, you would bid 2NT over North's 2S bid. As part of the Lebensohl convention, this forces partner to bid 3C. Then you would bid 3D to play. Course you never find the heart game, but it is likely to be your best auction most of the time.

If North had passed or doubled, I like to bid 3D (same idea with clubs) if I have a weak hand with a 6 card diamond suit headed by the AQ or KQ. So, if partner thinks he can make 3NT by running my suit she should bid it, otherwise she should pass. So, I would bid 3D with this hand over a pass or double.

If I had 6 diamonds to the AK, I would bid 3NT myself. If needed partner could duck a diamond before running the suit.

Hope this helps.

On Tue, Oct 25, 2022 at 4:12 PM Cindy Skeels <[skeelscindy@gmail.com](mailto:skeelscindy@gmail.com)> wrote:



Jeff,

This was the saddest auction. After RHO bid 2s over P's 1 nt, I was not sure what to do. We play systems on, but I bid 3 diamonds accidentally and had to correct to 4 diamonds. We did not go down but missed our heart fit.

Is there anything we could have done differently?

Thanks

Cindy