

Improve Your Play



Know When to Stop

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We all enjoy holding strong hands, but it's important to know when to stop bidding. After giving partner a good description of your hand, it's up to him. That is, if you trust your partner.

	North	
	♠AK1087	
	♥KJ3	
	♦KQ	
	♣KQ6	
West		East
♠Q93		♠J52
♥AQ8		♥9642
♦A85		♦104
♣J732		♣A1054
	South	
	♠64	
	♥1075	
	♦J97632	
	♣98	

South	West	North	East
Pass	1♣	Dbl	Pass
1♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Contract: 3♦

Opening Lead: ♣2

The jump rebid by North of 2NT showed 21-22 high card points. South rebid his long diamonds to show a very weak hand and North reluctantly passed.

Play

The lead by West of the ♣2 went to dummy's king and East's ace. East returned a trump to the West's ♦A and West led a second round of clubs to dummy's ♣Q. Next, declarer cashed the ♦Q followed by three rounds of spades, ruffing in his hand with the nine. Then he drew the last trump followed by a low heart. West won the ♥A and declarer claimed the remaining tricks. Declarer lost only three aces for a score of +130.

Most of the North/South pairs were going down in spade or notrump contracts.

It was difficult to stop short of game with the North cards, but it was time to trust partner.