



## Tuesday Night Tips

### The Sydney Bridge Centre mini lesson

The Tuesday Night at City has developed its own vibe – a group of bridge enthusiasts playing a friendly competitive game with Phil Halloran and Martin Clear as the hosts. Phil organises the session to make sure there is no sit-out, and Martin continues to lead the group for bridge discussion after the session. He will pick an interesting hand from the face-to-face session for the Tuesday Tips column.

### Tricks that won't go away

F2F at City – Tuesday Night 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023

<b>5</b>	♠ T972	Dlr: N
	♥ T963	Vul: N-S
	♦ 854	
	♣ 84	
♠ Q843	♠ K5	0
♥ AKJ7	♥ 42	12 11
♦ Q972	♦ AJ	17
♣ 7	♣ QJT9532	
	♠ AJ6	
	♥ Q85	
	♦ KT63	
	♣ AK6	

One thing I see defenders do too often - and often to their detriment - is trying to take tricks early that are always going to be available to take later. The risk with doing this is that you create tricks for the declarer that could be used to eliminate declarer's losers in other suits.

On Board 5 of the 22-August Tuesday night face-to-face game at the Sydney Bridge Centre, South was defending a badly-bid 2♥ contract by West. Some of the most difficult bidding situations occur when an opponent opens 1N and their partner passes. My advice on this is to only enter the bidding in the last seat when you have a solid suit of your own. If you have this agreement with your

partner, partner won't try to rescue you just because he has a singleton in your suit. Two Wests ended up in 2H on this hand, probably from South opening 1N, and after two passes East bid 2♣. West, who presumably was not aware of the "solid suit" idea, felt the need to rescue into something, and chose 2H. Thoughtful, but into a 4-2 fit, and East, who had no idea how many hearts partner had, decided to stop bidding, which is usually a good idea in a misfit.

♦5 was led, and the dummy came down as the horrible 7222 shape. The diamond ran to the King, and South looked at his AK in clubs and felt the urge to cash them. Declarer ruffed the second, lost a spade, won the heart return, cashed ♠Q, ruffed a spade, and led a good club to discard the last spade, which gained a trick as North could only ruff with a trump trick that would have been made anyway. This eventually led to declarer scraping home 8 tricks, which was also achieved at the other table to play the 2♥ contract.

While there are a number of factors to examine in this contract, the important one is that South should be able to see that his Ace and King of clubs, if good, are not going to go away. If declarer has two clubs, there is no suit in dummy that can provide a discard. It is much safer to lead something else. South should try leading a trump to prevent ruffs of declarer's possible losers in spades and diamonds. Sometimes you might need to knock out the ♦A as well, to prevent declarer having an entry to later winning clubs, but South can actually count that West will not have enough entries to get that task done.

Martin Clear (SBC Tuesday Night host)

### Upcoming Events (please check SBC website / What's on...)



Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Sept  
1.30pm – 4.30pm



Stroke Awareness Day (RED)  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
10.00am – 1.15pm

Fantastic Raffle Draw prizes and a delicious morning tea!



Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August, 10am – 1.15pm  
City and Canada Bay  
Results will be ranked nation-wide