

## Lindsay's Challenge - August 2018 newsletter:

### Control of the Four Suits

*North*

♠ A K 8 4

♥ K J

♦ 8 5 3

♣ Q 6 5 4

*West*

♠ J 10 9 2

♥ 7 6 5 4

♦ A 9 4

♣ A 7

*East*

♠ Q 6 3

♥ 8 2

♦ Q J 10

♣ 10 9 8 2

*South*

♠ 7 5

♥ A Q 10 9 3

♦ K 7 2

♣ K J 3

### How can South make 4 Hearts with J spades lead from West?

Dummy won the initial lead with the king of spades.

Acting on the sound advice of a long standing maxim, declarer made a move to set up the club side suit first by leading a club to the king in hand. West won with the ace and returned the suit. South's jack of clubs held this third trick.

With communications established, Declarer proceeded to draw trumps, overtaking the jack in hand on the second round. It took four rounds of hearts to remove the four trumps that West held. Dummy discarded two diamonds.

Knowing that a club break would produce the vital tenth trick, Declarer correctly deferred this play, which could be taken at any time, until after other alternatives had been tried.

At the eighth trick Dummy was entered with the ace of spades. A small spade was led from the table and ruffed with South's last heart. When East produced the queen of spades, South reasoned that 'West must hold the 10 of spades'. The initial lead confirmed this assumption.

Only at the tenth trick was the club position tested with a lead to North's queen. When West threw a diamond declarer knew that East had the suit guarded.

At this stage Declarer could have led a diamond up to the king but a count of West's hand showed a superior play. The last spade was led from dummy with South throwing a diamond.

Forced on lead with the ten, West could lead the ace of diamonds, but then had to concede the last trick to declarer's king of diamonds. This was South's tenth winner to make the game.