

Lindsay's Challenge - May 2019 newsletter:

An Uppercut K.O.

Sometimes it is up to the defenders to serve declarer with an uppercut knockout play that makes achieving the contract impossible.

North

♠ 9 8 5 4

♥ 7 6 5

♦ K Q 3

♣ A Q 7

West

♠ A K Q J 2

♥ K 9 2

♦ J 7 6

♣ 10 2

East

♠ 10 3

♥ 10

♦ 10 9 8 4 2

♣ 9 8 6 5 3

South

♠ 7 6

♥ A Q J 8 4 3

♦ A 5

♣ K J 4

South dealt and opened one Heart and West interposed one Spade. With no further interventions, North/South then proceeded smoothly to 4 Hearts.

How can the East/West partnership prevent South making 4 Hearts after leading the Ace, King and Queen of spades from West?