

WORDS OF WISDOM

... by Bill Wisdom

The following wild hand occurred during the recent Durham tournament.

	North	
	♠ K 9 3	
	♥ A K J 7 6 3	
	♦ 10	
	♣ A J 3	
West		East (Dealer)
♠ 10 2		♠ 7 6 4
♥ Q 10 9 8 5 4 2		♥ VOID
♦ 8 6		♦ A K J 9 4 2
♣ 10 8		♣ Q 9 5 4
	South	
	♠ A Q J 8 5	
	♥ VOID	
	♦ Q 7 5 3	
	♣ K 7 6 2	

Only one declarer made 6♠. Five others were in 6♣. Three were doubled and two were not.

My partner received the 8♦ lead. East showed his displeasure as he had doubled for a heart lead. Inexplicably, he won the A♦ and now led the K♦!! This should have allowed us to make 6 doubled for a top board. It is simple to ruff the diamond in dummy, lead a small heart, and ruff it. Then, ruff the small diamond with the 9♠ and cash the K♠. Next, lead a club to the king and draw trumps. You take 7 spade tricks (5 in hand and two on the board), the Q♦, two hearts, and two clubs.

Something got lost in the translation. It always pays to count your tricks rather than play impulsively.