

Ultimate Defence 32

Counsel for The Defence 02

The story so far left us with this picture. Against West's 3NT Bob as North led the five of hearts. Low in dummy and I followed with the eight, nine from declarer. Then, declarer led a spade to the queen and followed with the six of hearts, to his queen and Bob's king. Bob persisted with hearts, leading the two and thereby clearing the suit. I discarded the nine of clubs, annoyed that Bob couldn't work out that I must have the three top clubs.

Dealer South EW Vul

Dummy (East)

♠ Q 6 4

♥ J 6 3

♦ A Q 9 7 5

♣ 8 2

Me (South)

♠ 7 5 3

♥ 8 4

♦ K 6 4

♣ A K Q 10 9

This is what happened next. Declarer played the ace, king and jack of spades, Bob discarding the three of clubs on the third round. Declarer had started with FIVE spades and I knew I was about to feel the pinch if declarer knew what he was doing. On the fourth spade Bob let go a low diamond and I also shed a diamond. But on the fifth spade I was fixed, or was I? Declarer was a mere fresh faced youth so I hoped he wasn't going to read the situation correctly. I discarded the ten of clubs, still expecting him to take the diamond finesse. But FFY (fresh faced youth for short), exited with the seven of clubs and I had to concede two tricks to dummy's AQ of diamonds at the end. You may like to think about what was going on and why before I continue with the Post Mortem next time. Fortunately, it was the last board of the session, so we had a bit of time for a PM.

