

Ultimate Defence 38

Counsel for The Defence 08

This was the setup some boards later: Bob was trying to stay cool and I was determined to do better when this little number came up.

Dealer West EW Vul

Bob (North)

Dummy (West)

♠ A Q 5

♥ 9 8

♦ 6 3 2

♣ A K Q 10 8

Me (South)

♠ K 10 8 4 2

♥ J 7 4 2

♦ A 5 4

♣ 2

This was the bidding:

W	N	E	S
1C	NB	1H	1S
1NT	NB	4H	NB
NB	NB		

What would YOU have led? Nothing looks attractive does it? Leading a spade could give a trick away, a trump is out of the question, so is a diamond, and leading a singleton when you expect to make a trump trick by natural means is also usually not a good idea. However, you decide that the TWO OF CLUBS is the least of all evils, and lead that.

Declarer calls for the ace from dummy, Bob follows with the seven and declarer with the three. Declarer then plays trumps from the top. On the second trump, Bob follows with the nine of spades, and on the third trump he plays the seven of diamonds. Declarer next plays another trump, which I win perforce. Bob discards the three of spades. How would you continue?