

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0165:  
"When Playing a NT Contract as Declarer  
'Protecting' Entries to the  
Hand Holding a 'Long' Suit"**

**Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen<sup>1</sup>**

To return to the "Esther Bridge Lessons," CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/index.html>

To return to the "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes", CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz.html>

Esther on her "**Esther Bridge Lessons**" website has previously recommended the "**BBO Bridge Master**" website:

<https://www.bridgebase.com/v3/anon/bridgemaster>

The "**BBO Bridge Master**" website allows you to declare your skill level, then shows a series of Hands and announces the final contract, each of which you then play as Declarer. At the end of play you can then request a solution in which the optimal "Line of Play" is discussed step by step. The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" question is drawn from "**BBO Bridge Master**" Level-2 **Lessons D-1** and **D-2**. Note that across repeated play "**BBO Bridge Master**" may change some Hands in given lessons. Esther may have altered some cards in some Hands.

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<sup>1</sup> As noted in an article in the Winter/Spring, 2024 article in The American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA) Journal, [https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA\\_1\\_24.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA_1_24.pdf), Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

Dealer: **NORTH**

**Board D-1, Level 2**

NORTH (19)

**S:** J 9 8 7 6

**H:** A J

**D:** A K Q

**C:** A 4 3

WEST (6)

**S:** Q 4 2

**H:** 8 7

**D:** J 9 8 7

**C:** K T 9 8

EAST (7)

**S:** A K 5

**H:** T 9 6 5

**D:** T 6 5

**C:** 7 6 5

SOUTH (8)

**S:** T 3

**H:** K Q 4 3 2

**D:** 4 3 2

**C:** Q J 2

**Bidding**

NORTH

EAST

SOUTH

WEST

1**S**

PASS

1**NT**

PASS

3**NT**

PASS

PASS

PASS

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Club Ten that "promises" the Club 9,8 and a "long" Club Suit.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy comes "down" what "winners" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What "pitfalls" can Declarer see that **must** be avoided to "make" his 3**NT** contract?
3. On Trick #1 what Club should Declarer play from the NORTH Dummy?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0165\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0165_a1.pdf)