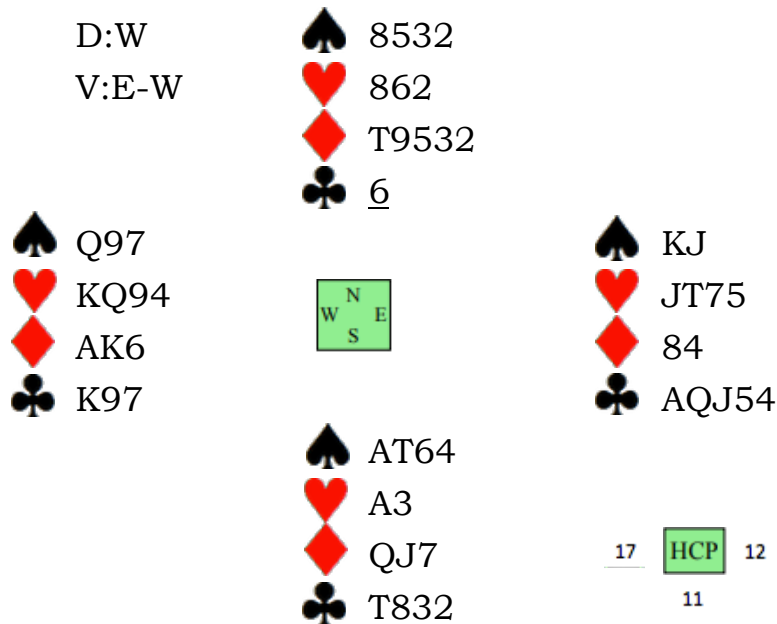


THE POWER OF COMMUNICATION



W	N	E	S
1NT	P	2C	P
2H	P	4H	P

Here is a great example of the power of communication. North leads the 6 of Clubs which West takes with the Queen of Clubs in Dummy. What do we know? Let's look at the Clubs - 5 in Dummy, 4 in South, at least 2 in the West hand. Could North have lead a singleton? How can you defeat this contract?

As we can see, the 6C is a singleton. North does not have HCPs, but does have ruffing power. How can South play so that North gets his/her ruffs in. At the first round, South must play a club that will signal a *suit preference* to his/her partner. A high Club would signal a preference for Spades, would it not? So South plays the Ten of Clubs. Now West plays the Jack of Hearts. South must now take the trick with the Ace of Hearts before West pulls North's trump. South plays the Ace of Hearts and returns a Club which North ruffs. North dutifully returns a Spade and South takes the trick with the Ace. Then South returns a Club for the final ruff and the fourth trick for North-South.