

## MADERIA (Portugal) TOURNEY 2010 – Hand 1

Rodrigo Martins Soares writes about a Hand in the bulletin 1, where 6 Hearts was not bid by any of the 39 pairs who played this hand. Some even did not reach game.

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠A Q 7 5 ♥A Q 8 4 ♦9 ♣A Q 8 6	
<b>WEST</b> ♠J 9 8 2 ♥2 ♦A K J 2 ♣K J 3 2		<b>EAST</b> ♠10 6 ♥J 10 3 ♦Q 8 6 5 3 ♣10 5 4
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠K 4 3 ♥K 9 7 6 5 ♦10 7 4 ♣9 7	

No one bid this slam but that's very understandable. Usually West got to open the bidding and a few pairs didn't even manage to get to game.

Making 6♥ here is a little trickier. The natural lead is a top diamond and it seems easy enough to ruff 2 diamonds on the North hand and claim 12 tricks, but it's not that simple. If you look carefully you have entry problems with not enough entries on the South hand to finesse the clubs, ruf two diamonds and take out the trumps.

Let's say West starts with the ♦A and switches to a spade. You will let it ride to your King to play a club to the Queen. Now you cash the ♣A and ruff a club. You ruff a diamond in dummy and a club back so you may ruff your last diamond. But now you're stuck in dummy. You may cash Ace and Queen of trumps but you have no way to get back to the South hand and cash the King so East will eventually ruff a Spade.

So the way to do it is to ruff just one club and one diamond and cash all your trumps reaching this end position:

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠A Q 7 ♥-- ♦-- ♣8	
<b>WEST</b> ♠J 9 8 ♥-- ♦-- ♣K		<b>EAST</b> ♠6 ♥-- ♦Q86 ♣--
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠4 3 ♥5 ♦10 ♣-	

With West squeezed in clubs and spades you have your twelfth trick.