

North

♠AKQ10842

♥AK2

♦AQ

♣6

South

♠7653

♥6543

♦KJ4

♣AJ

If you examine these two hands, you see that a grand slam in either spades or NT is cold. Construct a bidding sequence, using cue bids rather than Blackwood, that will get you to the grand slam.

Send your answers to me at billpuzzles@bridgesights.com

The Answer

Here is a reasonable sequence:

<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
2C	P	2D	P
2S	P	3S	P
4D	P	5C	P
5H	P	6D	P
7S			

There are a number of ways to play cue bids, but a common way is to bid your cheapest first round control (A or void) the first time you bid the suit. Once a suit has been bid, if it is bid again, it shows second round control (K or singleton).

The first few bids are standard. When South bids 3S, that is stronger than 4S, since 2C is a game force once a suit is agreed upon.

North now cue bids the cheapest first round control, diamonds (denying first round control of clubs). South shows first round control in clubs (and also denies first round control in hearts). North then shows first round control in hearts (and denies second round control in diamonds). South now shows second round control in diamonds (and denies a second round control in clubs).

North can now count 13 tricks, 7 spades, 2 hearts, 3 diamonds, and a club. Or, looking at it another way, South can pitch his losing heart on the K of diamonds.