Board 1
Dealer N
None Vul

	♠AQJ108 ♥A1063 ♦84 ♣73	
♠962 ♥752 ♦107 ♣AQ842		♠K7543 ♥J8 ♦AJ653 ♣5
	♠– ♥KQ94 ♦KQ92 ♣KJ1096	

Par +420 4♥= NS

	NT	♠	♥	♦	♣
N	9	7	10	8	9
S	9	7	10	8	9
E	4	5	3	5	4
W	4	5	3	5	4

8 Tables played this hand in 4♥ from North on the lead of the 5♣.

Everybody played the 9♣, 10♣, or J♣ from dummy and West won the Q♣.

But what did North play from their own hand at Trick 1?

Unfortunately for 7 declarers out of 8 their tight-fisted instincts took over.

Why play the one that is worth 7 when you can just spend the 3 instead?

Only one declarer recognised that it was important to play the 7♣.

If you play the 3♣ West has no problem, East must have a singleton club.

They do not lead the 5♣ from 75 doubleton.

Well… unless they are a beginner who has forgotten lesson 2 or 3.

Or if they are experts playing extremely unusual carding methods.

In that case the unusual carding will have been announced in their greeting.

If West knows for sure that East has a singleton the defence is obvious.

Declarer faces a nasty problem when West plays Ace and another club.

If you play the 7♣ look at the problem West has.

The 3♣ is missing. Is declarer hiding it or does partner have 53 doubleton?

They have no option but to guess which it is.

If you make your opponent guess, then sometimes they will guess wrong.

If they don’t want to risk the A♣ being ruffed it is much easier to make 4♥.