

# Unusual Results in a Rare Bridge Deal

Events in this unusual deal will surprise you. This was a table at a team match reported in The New York Times in 2012. (*Don't tell Donald Trump we think there is something worthwhile in The NYT!!*).

N/S: Vul

	♠ AK42		
	♥ 9		
	♦ A653		
	♣ Q1086		
♠ QJ98		♠ 753	
♥ -----		♥ J75432	
♦ KQ1094		♦ 8	
♣ 9732		♣ A54	
	♠ 106		
	♥ AKQ1086		
	♦ J72		
	♣ KJ		

## Bidding

W	N	E	S
p	1♦	2♥	p
p	X	p	p
XX	p	2♠	4♥

After West passed and North opened one diamond, East made a crazy weak jump overcall. South, wanted to double for penalty, but knew partner would presume it would have been a take-out double. After passing, North balanced with a takeout double, which South passed, converting it into a penalty double.

Many a West would have passed North's double, letting his partner stew. And stew he would have, going down six against best defence (-1400pts). But West made an S O S redouble (for the less experienced, insisting partner bid something else)

Two spades could have been beaten by only two tricks (-300pts) if East overtook his ♦8 with dummy's ♦9 when in his hand with the ♣A. But South, with two eyes on the vulnerability, jumped to 4♥.

West led the ♦K. Declarer won with dummy's ♦A, ran the ♥9, then played ♣2. East won with his ♣A and shifted to ♠5. South took this in the dummy, led ♣6 to his ♣K, returned to dummy with a ♠10, discarded ♦2 on the ♣Q, and continued with the ♣10. When East ruffed, declarer over-ruffed and exited with his ♦6 to West's ♦Q.

Each player had four cards left. East held the ♥J-7-5-4 of hearts and South, sitting over him, had the ♥A-K-Q-10. Whatever West led, declarer had to win the remainder and collect an overtrick for **+650pts**.

What was strange?

- The contract was game in a suit in which an opponent had shown six cards.
- The end play against East. Referred to as a *suicide coup en passant* in bridge
- Almost weirdest of all, East never took a trump trick despite having six. Yes, all right, he could have discarded his spade on the ♣10 and won the last trick with his ♥J, but he didn't!
- *Weirdest of all South was the ex-wife of North. Better bridge partners than life partners?*