

## Board 6 from September 2017 Challenge the Champs

Imagine Lou's emotions as his past hand partner drove to a grand slam opposite Lou's 14 count! Here is the bidding by both pairs and the expert commentary by Bridge World editors Eric Kokish and Beverly Kraft:

East dealer

East-West vulnerable (matchpoints)

WEST

♠ A J 9 3 2

♥ --

♦ A 7 5

♣ A J 8 4 3

EAST

♠ K Q 5 4

♥ 9 8 5 4 3

♦ K 3

♣ K Q

*Dhondy*

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1 ♠

3 ♣

4 ♥

5 ♣

Pass

*Senior*

1 ♣

2 ♠

3 ♦

4 NT

7 ♠

*Glasthal*

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1 ♠

4 ♣

5 ♦

6 ♥

7 ♠

*Massimilla*

Pass

2 NT

5 ♣

5 ♠

7 ♦

Pass

To avoid opening a very weak heart suit, Senior pretended to hold 4=4=2=3. Curiously, she later made hearts the suit undiscussed for notrump and was able to reevaluate spectacularly when Dhondy showed a heart void.

To avoid opening in the very weak heart suit (and then possibly needing to rebid after a forcing one-notrump response), Massimilla pretended to hold an ordinary 12 HCP (not much of a distortion). His response showed a hand that reevaluated to an opening bid in support; two clubs would have been natural. Glasthal showed a two-suiter with slam interest, and, at this table also, hearts was the undiscussed suit. Seven diamonds invited seven notrump if the heart control were the ace.

### Awards

7 ♠	10
6 ♠	6
7 ♣, 6 ♣	3
5 ♠	2