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♠ K 5

♥ A J 4 3

♦ A J 10 3

♣ 8 4 3



♠ A J 4 2

♥ 8 7 6 5

♦ Q 9

♣ K 9 7

♠ Q 8 3

♥ Q 2

♦ K 7 6 2

♣ A Q J 5

If you haven't already, I would encourage you to check out Intobridge.com a bridge site that has much to offer. My morning routine expanded to include playing the daily celebrity challenge. Experts contribute their time to play 5 hands every day then make a video to share their thoughts. It is an incredible opportunity to learn how they think and watch how they play. One expert, Danny Miles said he was told by an expert that every player should have three regular partners, one who is better to learn from one who is equal and one you can help improve. One of my partners who falls into the category of much better demonstrated his technique today at the local duplicate club.

With both the heart and club kings onside 9 tricks, 2 hearts, 1 spade on the opening lead, 2 diamonds and four clubs can be won. In order to finesse the clubs multiple times Ray needed dummy entries. He also needed to figure out how to play the diamonds for more than 2 or 3 tricks which he can do as long as he finds the queen. Yes, we all know now that the only way he could lose to the queen was if he lead a small diamond from dummy to the jack. His solution to the entries needed in dummy to take club finesses was lead the 7D starting to unblock to the ace. Then he lead the JD intending to run it, but the bridge gods were favorably impressed so he found the queen doubleton winning the king in his hand. Now he lead the 6D to the 10 and repeated the club finesse. Finally, he lead the carefully preserved 2D to his 3D for a third club finesse catering to the possibility of 4 clubs in the east hand.

Today The Common Game had 708 North South pairs from 98 clubs. Ray's play matchpointed across that field was worth 86% of the matchpoints.