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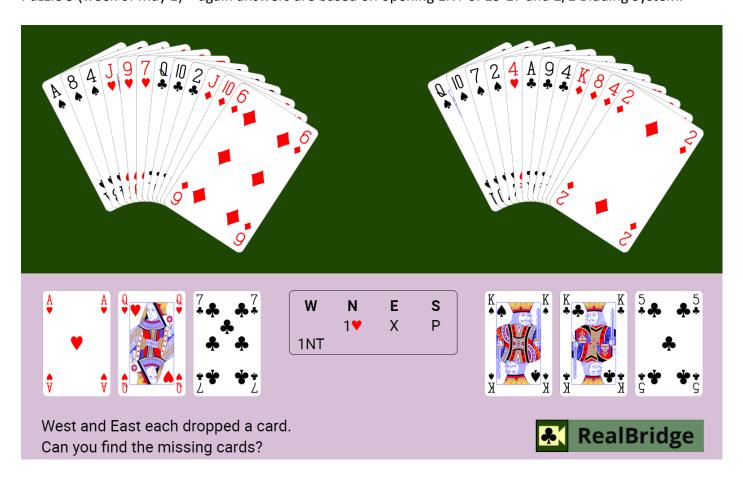
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Puzzle 5 (week of May 1) – again answers are based on opening 1NT of 15-17 and 2/1 Bidding System.



Extra Credit-What is East's next call (assuming N passes) and why?

Don't read on to page 2 if you don't know the answer yet!

Answer to Real Bridge Puzzle 5:

E's choices of dropped cards: ♠K,♣K, ♣5

The dropped card must be a King as without it they would not have enough to make a takeout double. It must be the ♣K, as with the ♠K they would have overcalled 1♠ instead of doubling.

W's choices: ♥A, ♥Q ♣7

To make the 1NT bid they must have at least 4 hearts or at least a sure heart trick. Therefore, it has to be a heart. One could also argue that W would have bid 2C holding 4 clubs and 8 HCP, thus the dropped card cannot be the ♣7). So which Heart? 1NT also promises 6 to 10 points (unless you have another partnership agreement). For West to have that the **dropped card must be the ♥Q.** (The ♥A would put too many points in their hand for that bid.)

Extra credit answer to the question, "What is East's next call?":

The answer I think most of us would arrive at is Pass. They have no 8 card fit to play in and partner has promised only 6 to 10 points but they do have a heart trick. Trust partner and pass. If they are lucky with the lay of the cards they might make it!