

PLAY

IBPA Bulletin
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Player

Journalist

663 P18

Hugh McGann

John Carruthers

Round 2. STREET v. UPMARK
Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ Q 9
 ♥ A K 5 2
 ♦ A Q 6
 ♣ J 8 5 2
 ♠ —
 ♥ Q J 8 3
 ♦ K 10 9 8 7 5 3
 ♣ Q 10
 ♠ J 7 6 4 2
 ♥ 10 7 6 4
 ♦ 2
 ♣ 9 4 3
 ♠ A K 10 8 5 3
 ♥ 9
 ♦ J 4
 ♣ A K 7 6

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Hanlon	Upmark	McGann
—	INT	Pass	2♥
3♦	Pass	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♣
Pass	7♣	Pass	Pass

1. 14-16

2. Transfer to spades

Tom Hanlon knew that his hand, with the queen of spades and red-suit honours, was pure gold for Hugh McGann and raised to the grand slam. Fredrik Nyström led the three of diamonds, lowest from odd. At first blush, it looked to McGann that he'd need five red-suit winners to take care of his two losing clubs, so he ducked in dummy, taking the chance that Johan Upmark's singleton was not the king, and won with the jack in hand. When he led a spade to the queen, it was a bit of a shock when West discarded a diamond. McGann won with dummy's queen led the nine of spades next, holding the trick, followed by the ace and king of clubs, getting that piece of welcome news. Declarer cashed the ace and king of hearts, discarding a club from hand, and ruffed a heart. He led a club to the jack and led the thirteenth club from the dummy, leaving East trump coupé: if he had ruffed, McGann would have over-ruffed and drawn trumps; if East had declined to ruff, declarer would have discarded his second diamond and made the last three tricks with his ace-king-ten of spades.

That brilliancy was worth 13 IMPs against the six-club contract reached in the other room.