

Deal 1

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 7 5 4 3	♦ —	♥ K 8 4	◆ A K J 7 6 5 2
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♦ —	♣ A 6 5
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♥ J 9 5	♦ —	♣ J 10 7 2
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15	9 7	9
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<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♠	Dbl	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

5 ♦ by North

Lead: ♠ 10

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

♠ 10 9 6 ♥ Q 10 7 2 ♦ 9 4 3 ♣ K Q 8
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3 NT would have been a lot easier, but you didn't get there. North is to play 5 ♦. East leads the ♠T.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=1 ♦=0 ♣=2 Total = 3

The good news is that you only have one loser to get rid of. The bad news is that there doesn't seem to be a good place to put it.

Unlikely as it seems, your best candidate for establishment is dummy's ♠ 8. East is marked with 3 ♠s, and having led the ♠T there is a good chance that he also has the ♠ 9. If so you can ruff it out.

Cover the ♠T with dummy's ♠ J, and when West plays one of his honors ruff in your hand. Play a trump to the ♦T, West showing out. Lead the ♠Q. West will be forced to play his other high honor, (if he

doesn't you would discard a loser), and you ruff again.

Back to dummy with the ♦ Q and ruff the ♠ 2 with a high trump just to be safe. East drops the ♠ 9 on this trick.

Pull East's last trump and enter dummy with the ♥ A and FINALLY discard a loser on the now established ♠ 8.

Here you needed ♠ T 9 x to be with East if you were to make the contract so you played for just that holding.

Deal 2

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K 6 4
♥ A 9 3
♦ 8 6
♣ 9 8 6 4 3

7
7 21
5



♠ 8 2
♥ Q 8 2
♦ Q 10 9 4
♣ Q J 7 2

♠ A Q J 10 9 7
♥ K 10 5
♦ A 5
♣ A K

West
Pass
2 NT
4 ♠
5 ♦
Pass
6 ♠ by East
Lead: ♠ 5

North
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass

East
2 ♣
3 ♠
4 NT
6 ♠

South
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass

East is to play 6 ♠. South leads the ♠ 5.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=1 ♦=1 ♣=0 Total = 2

First pull trumps with the ♠ A and ♠ Q, both defenders following. Next you must establish dummy's ♣ suit to get rid of one of your losers. If the suit splits 3-3 that will be easy since you have two dummy entries, one to get there to ruff the third ♣ and the other to get there to enjoy playing the winners. But ♣s will probably split 4-2 so the two entries won't be enough. Here's how to make the defenders help you establish the suit.

After pulling trumps, play the ♣ A K, then ♦ A. Next exit with a small ♦.

to see the position.

The defender who won the ♦ trick has a problem. If he plays another ♦ you will get a ruff-sluff, and if he plays a ♥ you will play for the ♥ Q and ♥ J to be in different hands. So he will probably play a ♣.

You ruff in your hand, play a trump to dummy's ♠ K and ruff the ♣ 8, establishing the ♣ 9 while you still have the ♥ entry.

This was a combination of Suit Establishment and End-play. The lesson on Eliminations contains a lot more of this type of hand.