

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 7 4 3
♥ 6
♦ Q 10 9 2
♣ Q 8 7 3

22
5 4
9

West

Pass

Pass

6 NT by North

Lead: ♠ 10

♠ A K

♥ K 10 3

♦ A K 8 6

♣ A J 10 9

W N
S E

♠ Q 6

♥ A Q J 8 4

♦ 7 5 3

♣ 6 4 2

North

2 ♣

2 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♥

6 NT

♠ 10 9 8 5 2
♥ 9 7 5 2
♦ J 4
♣ K 5

North is to play 6 NT. East leads the ♠T.

Winners: ♠ = 2 ♥ = 5 ♦ = 2 ♣ = 1
Total = T

You need two more winners and the best bet is to try to pick up three ♣ tricks. You will need the ♣K and ♣Q to lie in different hands, or both of them to be with West. That is about a 75% chance.

But you may need to make 3 finesses, so that means 3 entries to dummy, all of which must be in the ♥ suit. Can it be done?

Of course it can. Win the ♠ lead in your hand and play the ♥K, overtaking with dummy's ♥A. Now play a ♣ to your ♣9, which loses to East's ♣K. East plays another ♠.

Now play the ♥T, and when East follows you are safe to overtake with dummy's ♥J since you can tell that West did not start with 4 ♥s. In fact, West shows out so it is East who started with 4 ♥s but that won't be a problem for you. Play another ♣ from dummy, finessing the ♣T which wins.

Now play your ♥3 toward dummy, finessing the ♥8 when East follows with a low card. Play dummy's two ♥ winners, discarding ♦s, then the low ♣ to your ♣J. Wow.

And as you have figured by now, assessing how many entries you are going to need is big part of that plan. Like here, if you had won a single ♥ trick in your hand then you wouldn't have had the three entries to dummy.

Deal 2

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 8
 ♥ A K 8 6 5 4 3
 ♦ 8 5 4
 ♣ Q 3

5
 9 22
 4

♠ 6 5 3 2
 ♥ Q 10 7
 ♦ 9 7
 ♣ K 9 7 4

N
 W E
 S

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

♠ A K Q J 9 7
 ♥ —
 ♦ A K 6 2
 ♣ A J 5

West	North	East	South
		2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

6 ♠ by East

Lead: ♦ Q

Pretty bold bidding by East, but partner DID make a positive response. East is to play 6 ♠. South leads the ♦ Q.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=0 ♦=2 ♣=1 Total = 3

OK, the plan is to get over to dummy for those two ♥ winners.

If you just play a small ♣ toward the ♣ Q that will work whenever South holds the ♣ K.

How about playing ♣ A and a small ♣, planning on ruffing your third ♣ to get to dummy? Naaah. They will win the second ♣ and play a trump.

There is actually a play that is 100% certain, no matter who holds the ♣ K.

Win the opening lead and lay down your

♣ J. The defense is helpless. If they take the ♣ J with the ♣ K, then you have a dummy entry in the form of the ♣ Q. If they refuse to take the trick you will counter by next laying down the ♣ A, then ruffing a third ♣ to get to dummy and the two golden eggs.

My dream is that someday I will get a chance to use it at the table. If you ever do be sure and email me.