

Deal 1

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 6
♥ Q 10 7 2
♦ 9 4 3
♣ K Q 8

9
7 9
15

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

5 ♦ by South

Lead: ♠ 10

♠ Q J 8 2

♥ A 6 3

♦ Q 10 8

♣ 9 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ —

♥ K 8 4

♦ A K J 7 6 5 2

♣ A 6 5

North

2 NT

4 ♦

Pass

East

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

Dbl

3 ♦

5 ♦

3 NT would have been a lot easier, but you didn't get there. South is to play 5 ♦. West 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. West 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 East plays one of his honors ruff in your hand. Play a trump to the ♦T, East showing out. Lead the ♠Q. East 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. West drops the ♠ 9 on this trick.

Pull West'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 West if you were to make the contract so you played for just that holding.

Deal 2

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 5 3

♥ J 7 6 4

♦ K J 7 3 2

♣ 10 5

7
5 7
21

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♠ by South

Lead: ♠ 5

♠ K 6 4

♥ A 9 3

♦ 8 6

♣ 9 8 6 4 3



♠ A Q J 10 9 7

♥ K 10 5

♦ A 5

♣ A K

North

Pass

2 NT

4 ♠

5 ♦

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♣

3 ♠

4 NT

6 ♠

South is to play 6 ♠. West 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.