

Deal 1

West Deals

None Vul

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

11
 9 3
 17

West

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

6 ♣ by North

Lead: ♠ 8

♠ 4 3

♥ A 7

♦ 7 5 3

♣ A Q J 9 6 3

N
 W E
 S

♠ A Q 5 2

♥ 6

♦ A K J 6

♣ K 10 8 7

North

3 ♣

5 ♥

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

4 NT

6 ♣

North plays 6 ♣. East leads the ♠ 8.

You have one ♠ loser and one ♦ loser. A successful finesse will take care of either one of them. Chance of the ♠ finesse working? Zero. Chance of the ♦ finesse working? Maybe 50%. Chance of an elimination play? Priceless.

Win the ♠ A and pull trumps with the ♣ A and ♣ Q. They split 2-1.

Play the ♦ A, just in case there is a singleton ♦ Q somewhere. There isn't. Then eliminate ♥s by playing ♥ A and ruff a ♥.

Now play a low ♠ from both hands. East doesn't follow suit as West wins with a small card.

West is end-played. He has no ♣s. If he plays a ♦ it will be into dummy's ♦ K J. If he plays a ♥ you will discard a ♦ from your hand and ruff in dummy. If he plays the ♠ K you will ruff, and dummy's ♠ Q will be promoted. If he plays a small ♠ you will let it ride to dummy's ♠ Q.

I hope you enjoyed them.