

Deal 1
 North Deals
 None Vul

♠ A 9 2
 ♥ J 7 3
 ♦ A 9 2
 ♣ J 9 6 5

12
 10 9
 9

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass

4 ♥ by North

Lead: ♠ K

♠ 7 4
 ♥ A Q 8 6 2
 ♦ Q 6
 ♣ A 8 4 3

N ♠ K Q J 10
 W ♥ 10 9
 S ♦ 7 4 3
 E ♣ K 10 7 2

♠ 8 6 5 3
 ♥ K 5 4
 ♦ K J 10 8 5
 ♣ Q

Some pretty aggressive bidding gets you to a challenging game. North is to play 4 ♥. East leads the ♠ K, overtaken by West's ♠ A. West returns a ♠ to East's ♠ T, and he then plays the ♠ Q.

Losers: ♠=2 ♥=0 ♦=1 ♣=3 Total = 6

With 2 tricks already gone you still have 4 losers. You could consider ruffing the 3 ♣ losers in dummy but that would just create a trump loser even when trumps are splitting 3-2. So it looks like you will have to establish the ♦ suit for discards. You could pull trumps and then play your ♦ Q, hoping the defenders will grab their ♦ A immediately. But unless they are real novices they will hold it up one round and you'll no longer be able to reach dummy.

The solution is to establish the ♦s before you use up dummy's ♥ K.

Ruff the third ♠, then play ♦ Q, (which they will duck), and another ♦, (which they will probably take). Win whatever they return, pull trumps ending in dummy, and enjoy your 3 ♦ winners.

Deal 2

East Deals	♠ 4 3 2
None Vul	♥ A 8 2
	♦ K J 5
	♣ Q 10 7 4
♠ Q J 9	♠ A 7 5
♥ K Q 10 5 4	♥ J 7
♦ 9 4	♦ A 10 8 6 3
♣ 8 6 3	♣ A K 5
	♠ K 10 8 6
	♥ 9 6 3
	♦ Q 7 2
	♣ J 9 2



<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		
3 NT by East			
Lead: ♠ 6			

West's 3 ♦ bid was a transfer to ♥s, and his 2 NT bid showed exactly 5 ♥s with an invitational strength hand. East is to play 3 NT. South leads the ♠ 6, you play dummy's ♠ 9 and North contributes the ♠ 2.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=0 ♦=1 ♣=2 Total = 5

The math is easy - you need 4 ♥ tricks. And you should be able to manage that by driving out the ♥ A. But the defenders will probably hold up one or two rounds when you play on ♥s, so you must have an outside entry to dummy.

The ♠ Q J will provide that entry IF you make sure to win the first trick with your ♠ A as an unblocking move. If you don't do so then South will be able to keep you out of the dummy and away from those good ♥s.

But if you win the first trick with the ♠ A, then dummy's ♠ Q J will provide a guaranteed entry to the good ♥s.

Deal 3

West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 9 7 2
♥ K 6 4
♦ 10 8 2
♣ Q 6 3

7
7 8
18

♠ K J 4
♥ Q J 10 5 3
♦ 7 5 4
♣ 8 2

N
W E
S

♠ 8 6 3
♥ A 8 2
♦ Q J 9
♣ J 10 7 4

♠ A 10 5
♥ 9 7
♦ A K 6 3
♣ A K 9 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 NT by South			
Lead: ♠ 2			

South is to play 3 NT. West leads the ♠ 2, you play dummy's ♠ 4 and East plays the ♠ 8.

Winners: ♠=3 ♥=0 ♦=2 ♣=2 Total = 7

Needing just two more winners it looks straightforward to establish dummy's ♥ suit. Suppose you win the ♠T and play the ♥ 9. If the defenders win this trick you are home free. You win their ♠ return with your ♠A, then continue ♥s to drive out their last stopper while you still have the ♠K as a dummy entry.

This won't work against good defenders, who will hold up on the first ♥ trick and win the second. Then when they continue ♠s you won't have another ♥ to return to dummy, so while you can use the ♠K as an entry to establish the ♥s you will never get back to use the good ones.

Instead you should win the first trick with your ♠ A. Now when you attack ♥s a defensive holdup won't hurt you because you have TWO ♠ entries, the ♠ J by a finesse and the ♠ K.

So the ♠ finesse is an odds-on play to get a second dummy entry.

Deal 4
 South Deals
 None Vul

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

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

7 15 9 9	♠ A K 7 5 4 3 ♥ J 9 5 ♦ — ♣ J 10 7 2	West North East South
----------------	---	--------------------------------------

Dbl 3 ♦ 5 ♦	Pass Pass Pass	2 NT 4 ♦ Pass	Pass Pass Pass
-------------------	----------------------	---------------------	----------------------

5 ♦ by West
 Lead: ♠ 10

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

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

Deal 5

South Deals

None Vul

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

21	
7 5	
7	

N	
W	E
S	

♠ 5 3	
♥ J 7 6 4	
♦ K J 7 3 2	
♣ 10 5	

♠ K 6 4	
♥ A 9 3	
♦ 8 6	
♣ 9 8 6 4 3	

West	North	East	South
			Pass

Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♠ by North			
Lead: ♠ 5			

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.

North is to play 6 ♠. East 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

Deal 6East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ A 9 2
♥ J 7 3
♦ A 9 2
♣ J 9 6 5

12
10 **9**

♠ 7 4
♥ A Q 8 6 2
♦ Q 6
♣ A 8 4 3

♠ K Q J 10
♥ 10 9
♦ 7 4 3
♣ K 10 7 2

♠ 8 6 5 3
♥ K 5 4
♦ K J 10 8 5
♣ Q

N
W E
S

Deal 7 ♠ 4 3 2
South Deals ♥ A 8 2
Both Vul ♦ K J 5
 ♣ Q 10 7 4

♠ Q J 9 ♠ A 7 5
♥ K Q 10 5 4 N
♦ 9 4 W E
♣ 8 6 3 ♦ A 10 8 6 3
 ♣ A K 5

 ♠ K 10 8 6
 ¹⁰
 8 16 ♥ 9 6 3
 6 ♦ Q 7 2
 ♣ J 9 2



Deal 8

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ Q J 10 5 3

♦ 7 5 4

♣ 8 2

♠ Q 9 7 2

♥ K 6 4

♦ 10 8 2

♣ Q 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 6 3

♥ A 8 2

♦ Q J 9

♣ J 10 7 4

♠ A 10 5

♥ 9 7

♦ A K 6 3

♣ A K 9 5

7
7 8
18

Deal 9 ♠ 10 9 6
North Deals ♥ Q 10 7 2
E-W Vul ♦ 9 4 3
 ♣ K Q 8

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

7 ♠ A K 7 5 4 3
15 9 ♥ J 9 5
9 ♦ —
 ♣ J 10 7 2

Deal 10

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ A Q J 10 9 7

♥ K 10 5

♦ A 5

♣ A K

♠ 8 2

♥ Q 8 2

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ Q J 7 2

W N E S

♠ 5 3

♥ J 7 6 4

♦ K J 7 3 2

♣ 10 5

♠ K 6 4

♥ A 9 3

♦ 8 6

♣ 9 8 6 4 3

21
7 5
7

Deal 11

South Deals	♠ 7 4
None Vul	♥ A Q 8 6 2
	♦ Q 6
	♣ A 8 4 3
♠ A 9 2	♠ K Q J 10
♥ J 7 3	♥ 10 9
♦ A 9 2	♦ 7 4 3
♣ J 9 6 5	♣ K 10 7 2
	♠ 8 6 5 3
12 10 9	♥ K 5 4
	♦ K J 10 8 5
	♣ Q

N
W E
S

Deal 12

West Deals	♠ 4 3 2
N-S Vul	♥ A 8 2
	♦ K J 5
	♣ Q 10 7 4
♠ Q J 9	♠ A 7 5
♥ K Q 10 5 4	♥ J 7
♦ 9 4	♦ A 10 8 6 3
♣ 8 6 3	♣ A K 5
	♠ K 10 8 6
	♥ 9 6 3
	♦ Q 7 2
	♣ J 9 2

10
8 16
6



Deal 13

North Deals
Both Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ Q J 10 5 3

♦ 7 5 4

♣ 8 2

♠ Q 9 7 2

♥ K 6 4

♦ 10 8 2

♣ Q 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 6 3

♥ A 8 2

♦ Q J 9

♣ J 10 7 4

♠ A 10 5

♥ 9 7

♦ A K 6 3

♣ A K 9 5

7
7 8
18

Deal 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 6

♥ Q 10 7 2

♦ 9 4 3

♣ K Q 8

♠ —

♥ K 8 4

♦ A K J 7 6 5 2

♣ A 6 5



♠ Q J 8 2

♥ A 6 3

♦ Q 10 8

♣ 9 4 3

♠ A K 7 5 4 3

♥ J 9 5

♦ —

♣ J 10 7 2

7
15 9
9

Deal 15

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A Q J 10 9 7

♥ K 10 5

♦ A 5

♣ A K

♠ 8 2

♥ Q 8 2

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ Q J 7 2

W N E S

♠ 5 3

♥ J 7 6 4

♦ K J 7 3 2

♣ 10 5

♠ K 6 4

21

7 5

7

♥ A 9 3

♦ 8 6

♣ 9 8 6 4 3

Deal 16West Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 7 4
♥ A Q 8 6 2
♦ Q 6
♣ A 8 4 3

♠ A 9 2
♥ J 7 3
♦ A 9 2
♣ J 9 6 5

12
10 **9**

N
W E
S

♠ K Q J 10
♥ 10 9
♦ 7 4 3
♣ K 10 7 2

♠ 8 6 5 3
♥ K 5 4
♦ K J 10 8 5
♣ Q

Deal 17

North Deals	♠ 4 3 2
None Vul	♥ A 8 2
	♦ K J 5
	♣ Q 10 7 4
♠ Q J 9	♠ A 7 5
♥ K Q 10 5 4	♥ J 7
♦ 9 4	♦ A 10 8 6 3
♣ 8 6 3	♣ A K 5
10 8 16 6	♠ K 10 8 6
	♥ 9 6 3
	♦ Q 7 2
	♣ J 9 2



Deal 18

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ Q J 10 5 3

♦ 7 5 4

♣ 8 2

♠ Q 9 7 2

♥ K 6 4

♦ 10 8 2

♣ Q 6 3

W N E S

♠ 8 6 3

♥ A 8 2

♦ Q J 9

♣ J 10 7 4

♠ A 10 5

7 8
7 18

♥ 9 7

♦ A K 6 3

♣ A K 9 5

Deal 19 ♠ 10 9 6
South Deals ♥ Q 10 7 2
E-W Vul ♦ 9 4 3
 ♣ K Q 8

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

7 ♠ A K 7 5 4 3
15 9 ♥ J 9 5
9 ♦ —
♣ J 10 7 2

Deal 20

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ A Q J 10 9 7

♥ K 10 5

♦ A 5

♣ A K

♠ 8 2

♥ Q 8 2

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ Q J 7 2

W N E S

♠ 5 3

♥ J 7 6 4

♦ K J 7 3 2

♣ 10 5

♠ K 6 4

♥ A 9 3

♦ 8 6

♣ 9 8 6 4 3

21
7 5
7

Deal 21

North Deals	♠ 7 4
N-S Vul	♥ A Q 8 6 2
	♦ Q 6
	♣ A 8 4 3
♠ A 9 2	♠ K Q J 10
♥ J 7 3	♥ 10 9
♦ A 9 2	♦ 7 4 3
♣ J 9 6 5	♣ K 10 7 2
12 10 9	♠ 8 6 5 3
	♥ K 5 4
	♦ K J 10 8 5
	♣ Q

N
W E
S

Deal 22

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 4 3 2
♥ A 8 2
♦ K J 5
♣ Q 10 7 4

♠ Q J 9
♥ K Q 10 5 4
♦ 9 4
♣ 8 6 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 7 5
♥ J 7
♦ A 10 8 6 3
♣ A K 5

10
8 16
6

♠ K 10 8 6
♥ 9 6 3
♦ Q 7 2
♣ J 9 2

Deal 23

South Deals
Both Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ Q J 10 5 3

♦ 7 5 4

♣ 8 2

♠ Q 9 7 2

♥ K 6 4

♦ 10 8 2

♣ Q 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 6 3

♥ A 8 2

♦ Q J 9

♣ J 10 7 4

♠ A 10 5

♥ 9 7

♦ A K 6 3

♣ A K 9 5

7
7 8
18

Deal 24 ♠ 10 9 6
West Deals ♥ Q 10 7 2
None Vul ♦ 9 4 3
 ♣ K Q 8

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

N
W E
S

♠ A K 7 5 4 3
♥ J 9 5
♦ —
♣ J 10 7 2

7
15 9
9

Deal 25 ♠ A Q J 10 9 7

North Deals ♥ K 10 5

E-W Vul ♦ A 5

♣ A K

♠ 8 2

♥ Q 8 2

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ Q J 7 2

N
W S E

♠ 5 3

♥ J 7 6 4

♦ K J 7 3 2

♣ 10 5

♠ K 6 4

♥ A 9 3

♦ 8 6

♣ 9 8 6 4 3

21

7 5

7

Deal 26

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ 7 4
♥ A Q 8 6 2
♦ Q 6
♣ A 8 4 3

♠ A 9 2
♥ J 7 3
♦ A 9 2
♣ J 9 6 5

12
10 **9**

N
W E
S

♠ K Q J 10
♥ 10 9
♦ 7 4 3
♣ K 10 7 2

♠ 8 6 5 3
♥ K 5 4
♦ K J 10 8 5
♣ Q

Deal 27 ♠ 4 3 2
South Deals ♥ A 8 2
None Vul ♦ K J 5
 ♣ Q 10 7 4

♠ Q J 9 ♠ A 7 5
♥ K Q 10 5 4 N
♦ 9 4 W E
♣ 8 6 3 ♦ A 10 8 6 3
 ♣ A K 5

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

 10
 8 16
 6

Deal 28

West Deals
N-S Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ Q J 10 5 3

♦ 7 5 4

♣ 8 2

♠ Q 9 7 2

♥ K 6 4

♦ 10 8 2

♣ Q 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 6 3

♥ A 8 2

♦ Q J 9

♣ J 10 7 4

♠ A 10 5

♥ 9 7

♦ A K 6 3

♣ A K 9 5

7
7 8
18

Deal 29 ♠ 10 9 6
North Deals ♥ Q 10 7 2
Both Vul ♦ 9 4 3
 ♣ K Q 8

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

N
W E
S

♠ A K 7 5 4 3
♥ J 9 5
♦ —
♣ J 10 7 2

7
15 9

Deal 30

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q J 10 9 7

♥ K 10 5

♦ A 5

♣ A K

♠ 8 2

♥ Q 8 2

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ Q J 7 2

N
W E
S

♠ 5 3

♥ J 7 6 4

♦ K J 7 3 2

♣ 10 5

♠ K 6 4

21

7 5

7

♥ A 9 3

♦ 8 6

♣ 9 8 6 4 3

Deal 31

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 7 4
♥ A Q 8 6 2
♦ Q 6
♣ A 8 4 3

♠ A 9 2
♥ J 7 3
♦ A 9 2
♣ J 9 6 5

12
10 **9**

N
W E
S

♠ K Q J 10
♥ 10 9
♦ 7 4 3
♣ K 10 7 2

♠ 8 6 5 3
♥ K 5 4
♦ K J 10 8 5
♣ Q

Deal 32

West Deals	♠ 4 3 2
E-W Vul	♥ A 8 2
	♦ K J 5
	♣ Q 10 7 4
♠ Q J 9	♠ A 7 5
♥ K Q 10 5 4	♥ J 7
♦ 9 4	♦ A 10 8 6 3
♣ 8 6 3	♣ A K 5
10 8 16 6	♠ K 10 8 6
	♥ 9 6 3
	♦ Q 7 2
	♣ J 9 2



Deal 33

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ Q J 10 5 3

♦ 7 5 4

♣ 8 2

♠ Q 9 7 2
♥ K 6 4
♦ 10 8 2
♣ Q 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 6 3
♥ A 8 2
♦ Q J 9
♣ J 10 7 4

♠ A 10 5
7 9 7
7 18 8
♦ A K 6 3
♣ A K 9 5

Deal 34

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 10 9 6

♥ Q 10 7 2

♦ 9 4 3

♣ K Q 8

♠ —

♥ K 8 4

♦ A K J 7 6 5 2

♣ A 6 5



♠ Q J 8 2

♥ A 6 3

♦ Q 10 8

♣ 9 4 3

♠ A K 7 5 4 3

♥ J 9 5

♦ —

♣ J 10 7 2

7
15 9

Deal 35 ♠ A Q J 10 9 7

South Deals ♥ K 10 5

E-W Vul ♦ A 5

♣ A K

♠ 8 2

♥ Q 8 2

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ Q J 7 2

N
W E
S

♠ 5 3

♥ J 7 6 4

♦ K J 7 3 2

♣ 10 5

♠ K 6 4

♥ A 9 3

♦ 8 6

♣ 9 8 6 4 3

21

7 5

7