

**Deal 1**

North Deals	♠ A J 10 8 3
None Vul	♥ A 3
	♦ A J 7
	♣ A Q 5

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

<b>20</b>	♠ K 9 7 6 4
7 4	♥ 6 4
9	♦ K 10 3
	♣ K 8 2

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass

6 ♠ by North

Lead: ♥ Q

end-played.

The defender who won the last trick cannot lead a trump because he has none. If he leads a ♥ or a ♣ you will get a ruff-sluff, ruffing in one hand while discarding a ♦ loser from the other. If he leads a ♦ you will get the free finesse you were hoping for all along.

With an elimination play you make it no matter who holds the Queen.

South's 3 ♠ bid is a limit raise showing T-12 points and good trump support. North is to play 6 ♠. East leads the ♥ Q.

With one certain ♥ loser you cannot afford to lose a ♦ also. You could guess which way to finesse and be correct half of the time. But an elimination play will work ALL of the time.

Win the first trick and play ♠ A, ♠ K. Trumps split 2-1.

Next play three rounds of ♣s to eliminate that suit from both your and dummy's hand.

With all the eliminations completed you are ready for the throw-in. Lead a ♥ from either hand. One of the defenders will win, (you don't care which), and will be

**Deal 2**

East Deals

None Vul

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

6 7  
9 18

West

4 ♠  
4 ♠ by East  
Lead: ♥ Q

♠ 5  
♥ K 9 8 5 2  
♦ A 10 8  
♣ 10 9 6 3



♠ A J 10 8 3  
♥ A 3  
♦ Q 5 2  
♣ A K 5

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

North

Pass  
1 ♠

South  
Pass  
Pass

East is to play 4 ♠. South leads the ♥ Q.

This should remind you a lot of Deal 1. This time you have 1 ♥ loser and 3 ♦ losers. If you can force the opponents to lead ♦s you can make a trick with the ♦ Q or ♦ J, avoiding one of those losers.

Win the first trick and play ♠ A, ♠ K. Trumps split 2-1.

Next play three rounds of ♣s to eliminate that suit from you and dummy.

The eliminations are complete and it is time for the throw-in. Play the small ♥ from whichever hand you are in. This will be taken by one of the defenders.

No matter which defender wins the ♥ he is end-played. A ♥ or a ♣ will give you a ruff-sluff, but if he leads a ♦ you cannot be prevented from establishing either your ♦ Q or ♦ J as a winner.

Only by forcing them to start the ♦s can you take a trick in the suit.

**Deal 3**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul

<b>♠ Q 2</b> <b>♥ Q J 10 7</b> <b>♦ Q 8 6 4</b> <b>♣ J 7 4</b>	<b>♠ K 9 7 6 4</b> <b>♥ 6 4</b> <b>♦ K 10 3</b> <b>♣ K 8 2</b>
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	<b>♠ 5</b> <b>♥ K 9 8 5 2</b> <b>♦ J 5 2</b> <b>♣ 10 9 6 3</b>
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<b>9</b> <b>8 4</b> <b>19</b>	<b>♠ A J 10 8 3</b> <b>♥ A 3</b> <b>♦ A 9 7</b> <b>♣ A Q 5</b>	<i>West</i> <i>North</i> <i>East</i> <i>South</i>	<b>1 ♠</b> <b>6 ♠</b>
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Pass      3 ♠  
 Pass      Pass

6 ♠ by South  
 Lead: ♥ Q

South is to play 6 ♠. West leads the ♥ Q.

This is another follow-up to Deal 1. But this time you are missing both the ♦ Q and ♦ J. In this case an Elimination play doesn't give you a guarantee, it just improves your odds.

Win the first trick and play ♠ A, ♠ K. Trumps split 2-1.

Play three rounds of ♣s to eliminate the suit from you and dummy.

Now execute the throw-in by leading a ♥ from either hand.

The defender who gets thrown in cannot play a ♥ or a ♣ without handing you the contract by way of a ruff-and-sluff. So he must lead a ♦. Suppose it is West who

leads the ♦. You play low in dummy and East must play either the ♦ Q or ♦ J to keep you from getting a cheap trick with your ♦ 9. So you take East's honor with your ♦ A and then finesse West for the other honor. As long as the ♦ Q and ♦ J are in different hands the elimination play will succeed.

By forcing them to start the ♦s you make three tricks when the two outstanding honors are divided.

**Deal 4**

West Deals

None Vul

♦ J 10 9 3 2

♣ Q 7 4

♠ 8 6 5

♥ A Q 9 7 3

♦ K 6

♣ A J 5

7  
14 11  
8♠ 9 7 3  
♥ K J 8 2  
♦ A 8 4  
♣ K 10 3♠ A Q 10 2  
♥ 6 4  
♦ Q 7 5  
♣ 9 8 6 2

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

4 ♥ by West

Lead: ♦ J

your luck with guessing who had the ♣ Q.

West is to play 4 ♥. North leads the ♦ J.

Win the ♦ K, then pull trumps, it takes two rounds.

Next you eliminate the ♦s by playing ♦ A then ruffing the ♦ 8.

Execute the throw-in by leading a ♠.

The defense is in with a ♠ and they are welcome to take two more ♠s. But then they will have to play a ♠ or a ♦, giving you a ruff-sluff, or else lead a ♣ which finds the ♣ Q for you.

Here you were lucky the defense didn't start by taking their three ♠s. If they had, you would not have been able to pull off the throw-in, and would have had to try

**Deal 5**South Deals  
None Vul

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

**10**  
**8 8**  
**14**



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

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

West	North	East	South
			1 ♣
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

4 ♠ by North  
Lead: ♦ J

North is to play 4 ♠. East leads the ♦ J, covered by the ♦ Q and ♦ A. West returns a ♦ to the ♦ K.

You still have two losers in the ♥ suit, so the question is which way you plan to finesse the ♣s. And of course the answer is that you don't plan to finesse them at all!

Pull trumps with the ♠ A, then ♠ K. Next ruff dummy's last ♦.

Now exit with a ♥. The defenders win this and take another ♥ trick, leaving this position.

They must now break the ♣ suit for you or give you a ruff-sluff. Of course you would ruff in dummy and discard a ♣ from the 3-card holding in your hand.

If East is the one who has to play a ♣ you need to insert the ♣ T or ♣ J from dummy.

In either case you will no longer have a ♣ loser.

**Deal 6**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 6 4 3 2

♥ K 5 2

♦ K 8

♣ K 10 2

♠ Q J 9

♥ Q 10 7 6

♦ 10 5 2

♣ 9 6 4



♠ A K 8 7 5

♥ A 4

♦ A 6 3

♣ A J 7

♠ —

♥ J 9 8 3

♦ Q J 9 7 4

♣ Q 8 5 3

West

North

East

South

5  
9 20  
6

3 ♠

Pass

Pass

6 ♠ by East

Lead: ♦ Q

1 ♠

Pass

Pass

West decides a limit raise is better than just jumping to game. East has heard enough and bids the slam.

East is to play 6 ♠. South leads the ♦ Q.

So you win the ♦ K and play a ♠ to your ♠ K. When South discards a ♦ your second thought is probably that you MUST guess the ♣ Q just to make twelve tricks.

Hopefully your third thought is that if you use an elimination play you won't have to guess.

Play your ♠ A, leaving North with the master ♠ Q. Then eliminate ♦ s by playing ♦ A and ruffing a ♦ in dummy.

and ruffing a ♥.

Now eliminate ♥ s by playing ♥ A, ♥ K,

You are ready for the throw-in. Play a ♠ to North's ♠ Q.

North has just taken the defender's first trick. First and only. Because if he now plays a red card you will ruff in one hand and discard a losing ♣ from the other. And if he plays a ♣ you will no longer have a ♣ loser.

Here it took two ruffs, one in each hand.

**Deal 7**      ♠ A J 10 8 3

South Deals      ♥ A 3

Both Vul      ♦ A J 7

♣ A Q 5

♠ Q 2

♥ K 9 5 2

♦ Q 8 5 4

♣ 10 6 4

N  
W    E  
S

♠ 5

♥ Q J 10 8 7

♦ 9 6 2

♣ J 9 7 3

♠ K 9 7 6 4

♥ 6 4

♦ K 10 3

♣ K 8 2

**20**  
**7 4**  
**9**

**Deal 8**

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



    ♠ Q 2  
6 7 18      ♥ Q J 10 7  
9      ♦ K 9 6 4  
    ♣ J 7 4

**Deal 9**

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

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

N  
W E  
S

♠ A J 10 8 3  
♥ A 3  
♦ A 9 7  
♣ A Q 5

9  
8 4  
19

**Deal 10**

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ 10 5

♦ J 10 9 3 2

♣ Q 7 4

♠ 8 6 5

♥ A Q 9 7 3

♦ K 6

♣ A J 5

W N E S

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

♠ A Q 10 2

♥ 6 4

♦ Q 7 5

♣ 9 8 6 2

7  
**14** **11**  
8

**Deal 11**

♠ A Q 8 7 5 2

South Deals ♥ 10 4

None Vul ♦ 9 3

♣ A 6 2

♠ 10

♥ K J 8 3 2

♦ A 5 4 2

♣ 9 7 4

W N E S

♠ J 3

♥ A 9 6 5

♦ J 10 8 7

♣ Q 8 5

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

**Deal 12**

West Deals  
N-S Vul  
**♠ 10 6 4 3 2**  
**♥ K 5 2**  
**♦ K 8**  
**♣ K 10 2**



**♠ Q J 9**  
**♥ Q 10 7 6**  
**♦ 10 5 2**  
**♣ 9 6 4**

**♠ A K 8 7 5**  
**♥ A 4**  
**♦ A 6 3**  
**♣ A J 7**

**♠ —**  
**5**  
**9 20**  
**6**

**♥ J 9 8 3**  
**♦ Q J 9 7 4**  
**♣ Q 8 5 3**

**Deal 13**      ♠ A J 10 8 3

North Deals      ♥ A 3

Both Vul      ♦ A J 7

♣ A Q 5

♠ Q 2

♥ K 9 5 2

♦ Q 8 5 4

♣ 10 6 4

N  
W     E  
S

♠ 5

♥ Q J 10 8 7

♦ 9 6 2

♣ J 9 7 3

♠ K 9 7 6 4

♥ 6 4

♦ K 10 3

♣ K 8 2

**20**

7    4

9

**Deal 14**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 5  
♥ K 9 8 5 2  
♦ A 10 8  
♣ 10 9 6 3

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A J 10 8 3  
♥ A 3  
♦ Q 5 2  
♣ A K 5

6 7 18  
9  
♣ J 7 4

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

**Deal 15**      ♠ K 9 7 6 4  
South Deals      ♥ 6 4  
N-S Vul      ♦ K 10 3  
                    ♣ K 8 2

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

W N E  
     S

♠ A J 10 8 3  
♥ A 3  
♦ A 9 7  
♣ A Q 5

9  
8 4  
19

**Deal 16**      ♠ K J 4  
West Deals      ♥ 10 5  
E-W Vul      ♦ J 10 9 3 2  
                  ♣ Q 7 4  
  
♠ 8 6 5      ♠ 9 7 3  
♥ A Q 9 7 3      ♥ K J 8 2  
♦ K 6      ♦ A 8 4  
♣ A J 5      ♣ K 10 3  
  
                  ♠ A Q 10 2  
                  ♥ 6 4  
                  ♦ Q 7 5  
                  ♣ 9 8 6 2  
  
      7  
14    11  
      8

**Deal 17**

North Deals ♠ A Q 8 7 5 2

None Vul ♥ 10 4

♦ 9 3

♣ A 6 2

♠ 10

♥ K J 8 3 2

♦ A 5 4 2

♣ 9 7 4

W N E S

♠ J 3

♥ A 9 6 5

♦ J 10 8 7

♣ Q 8 5

10

8

14

♠ K 9 6 4

♥ Q 7

♦ K Q 6

♣ K J 10 3

**Deal 18**

East Deals  
N-S Vul

♠ Q J 9  
♥ Q 10 7 6  
♦ 10 5 2  
♣ 9 6 4

♠ 10 6 4 3 2  
♥ K 5 2  
♦ K 8  
♣ K 10 2



♠ A K 8 7 5  
♥ A 4  
♦ A 6 3  
♣ A J 7

♠ —  
5  
9 20  
6

♥ J 9 8 3  
♦ Q J 9 7 4  
♣ Q 8 5 3

**Deal 19**      ♠ A J 10 8 3

South Deals      ♥ A 3

E-W Vul      ♦ A J 7

♣ A Q 5

♠ Q 2

♥ K 9 5 2

♦ Q 8 5 4

♣ 10 6 4

N  
W     E  
S

♠ 5

♥ Q J 10 8 7

♦ 9 6 2

♣ J 9 7 3

♠ K 9 7 6 4

♥ 6 4

♦ K 10 3

♣ K 8 2

**20**  
7    4  
9

**Deal 20**

West Deals  
Both Vul

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

♠ 5  
♥ K 9 8 5 2  
♦ A 10 8  
♣ 10 9 6 3

♠ A J 10 8 3  
♥ A 3  
♦ Q 5 2  
♣ A K 5

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

**Deal 21**

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K 9 7 6 4

♥ 6 4

♦ K 10 3

♣ K 8 2

♠ Q 2

♥ Q J 10 7

♦ Q 8 6 4

♣ J 7 4

W N E S

♠ 5

♥ K 9 8 5 2

♦ J 5 2

♣ 10 9 6 3

♠ A J 10 8 3

♥ A 3

♦ A 9 7

♣ A Q 5

9  
8 4  
19

**Deal 22**

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ 10 5

♦ J 10 9 3 2

♣ Q 7 4

♠ 8 6 5

♥ A Q 9 7 3

♦ K 6

♣ A J 5

W N E  
S

♠ 9 7 3

♥ K J 8 2

♦ A 8 4

♣ K 10 3

♠ A Q 10 2

♥ 6 4

♦ Q 7 5

♣ 9 8 6 2

7  
14 11  
8

**Deal 23**

South Deals

Both Vul

♠ A Q 8 7 5 2

♥ 10 4

♦ 9 3

♣ A 6 2

♠ 10

♥ K J 8 3 2

♦ A 5 4 2

♣ 9 7 4

N  
W S E

♠ J 3

♥ A 9 6 5

♦ J 10 8 7

♣ Q 8 5

♠ K 9 6 4

♥ Q 7

♦ K Q 6

♣ K J 10 3

**10**

**8**

**14**

**Deal 24**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 9

♥ Q 10 7 6

♦ 10 5 2

♣ 9 6 4

♠ 10 6 4 3 2

♥ K 5 2

♦ K 8

♣ K 10 2



♠ A K 8 7 5

♥ A 4

♦ A 6 3

♣ A J 7

♠ —

♥ J 9 8 3

♦ Q J 9 7 4

♣ Q 8 5 3

5  
9 20  
6

**Deal 25**

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A J 10 8 3

♥ A 3

♦ A J 7

♣ A Q 5

♠ Q 2

♥ K 9 5 2

♦ Q 8 5 4

♣ 10 6 4



**20**

**7 4**

**9**

**Deal 26**

East Deals  
Both Vul  
**♠ K 9 7 6 4**  
**♥ 6 4**  
**♦ J 7 3**  
**♣ Q 8 2**

**♠ 5**  
**♥ K 9 8 5 2**  
**♦ A 10 8**  
**♣ 10 9 6 3**

	N	
W		E
	S	

**♠ A J 10 8 3**  
**♥ A 3**  
**♦ Q 5 2**  
**♣ A K 5**

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

**Deal 27**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 9 7 6 4

♥ 6 4

♦ K 10 3

♣ K 8 2

♠ Q 2

♥ Q J 10 7

♦ Q 8 6 4

♣ J 7 4

W N E S

♠ 5

♥ K 9 8 5 2

♦ J 5 2

♣ 10 9 6 3

♠ A J 10 8 3

♥ A 3

♦ A 9 7

♣ A Q 5

9  
8 4  
19

**Deal 28**

West Deals  
N-S Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ 10 5

♦ J 10 9 3 2

♣ Q 7 4

♠ 8 6 5  
♥ A Q 9 7 3  
♦ K 6  
♣ A J 5

14 7  
8 11

N  
W E  
S

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

♠ A Q 10 2  
♥ 6 4  
♦ Q 7 5  
♣ 9 8 6 2

**Deal 29**      ♠ A Q 8 7 5 2

North Deals      ♥ 10 4

Both Vul      ♦ 9 3

♣ A 6 2

♠ 10

♥ K J 8 3 2

♦ A 5 4 2

♣ 9 7 4

N  
W     E  
S

♠ J 3

♥ A 9 6 5

♦ J 10 8 7

♣ Q 8 5

**10**

**8**

**14**

♠ K 9 6 4

♥ Q 7

♦ K Q 6

♣ K J 10 3

**Deal 30**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 9

♥ Q 10 7 6

♦ 10 5 2

♣ 9 6 4

♠ 10 6 4 3 2

♥ K 5 2

♦ K 8

♣ K 10 2

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

♠ —

♥ J 9 8 3

♦ Q J 9 7 4

♣ Q 8 5 3

5  
9 20  
6

**Deal 31**

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A J 10 8 3

♥ A 3

♦ A J 7

♣ A Q 5

♠ Q 2

♥ K 9 5 2

♦ Q 8 5 4

♣ 10 6 4

♠ 5

♥ Q J 10 8 7

♦ 9 6 2

♣ J 9 7 3



♠ K 9 7 6 4

♥ 6 4

♦ K 10 3

♣ K 8 2

**20**

**7 4**

**9**

**Deal 32**

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 5  
♥ K 9 8 5 2  
♦ A 10 8  
♣ 10 9 6 3

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

N  
W E  
S

♠ A J 10 8 3  
♥ A 3  
♦ Q 5 2  
♣ A K 5

7  
6 9 18  
9  
♣ J 7 4

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

**Deal 33**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

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

♠ 5  
♥ K 9 8 5 2  
♦ J 5 2  
♣ 10 9 6 3

9  
8 4  
19

♠ A J 10 8 3  
♥ A 3  
♦ A 9 7  
♣ A Q 5

N  
W E  
S

**Deal 34**

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K J 4

♥ 10 5

♦ J 10 9 3 2

♣ Q 7 4

♠ 8 6 5

♥ A Q 9 7 3

♦ K 6

♣ A J 5

W N E S

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

♠ A Q 10 2

♥ 6 4

♦ Q 7 5

♣ 9 8 6 2

7  
**14** **11**  
8

**Deal 35** ♠ A Q 8 7 5 2

South Deals ♥ 10 4

E-W Vul ♦ 9 3

♣ A 6 2

♠ 10

♥ K J 8 3 2

♦ A 5 4 2

♣ 9 7 4

N  
W S E

♠ J 3

♥ A 9 6 5

♦ J 10 8 7

♣ Q 8 5

**10**

**8**

**14**

♠ K 9 6 4

♥ Q 7

♦ K Q 6

♣ K J 10 3

**Deal 36**

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ Q J 9  
♥ Q 10 7 6  
♦ 10 5 2  
♣ 9 6 4

♠ 10 6 4 3 2  
♥ K 5 2  
♦ K 8  
♣ K 10 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K 8 7 5  
♥ A 4  
♦ A 6 3  
♣ A J 7

♠ —  
5  
9 20  
6  
♦ Q J 9 7 4  
♣ Q 8 5 3