

**Deal 1**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

17  
4 1  
18

West

Pass  
6 NT by North  
Lead: ♥ 10

♠ A J 2  
♥ K Q 4  
♦ K Q 7 5  
♣ Q 7 2



♠ K Q 5  
♥ A 6 3  
♦ A 8 2  
♣ A J 4 3

North

1 NT  
Pass

East

Pass  
Pass

South

6 NT

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♥T, won by dummy's ♥A. At trick 2 North calls for dummy's ♣3. Which card do you play?

When you have made your choice

You would not have been expecting North to play a small ♣ from dummy's holding. The only way it makes sense is if North holds the ♣Q.

If you play your ♣K you will win the trick, but in so doing you will set up 3 ♣ tricks for North, which is all he needs to make the slam.

Play low instead and North will win his ♣Q. But now your ♣K T sits behind dummy's ♣J 4 so he can get only one more trick in the suit, the ♣A.

**Deal 2**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K 7 2

♥ K J 10 9 3

♦ 7 2

♣ K J 10

5  
11 19  
5

West

3 ♥

5 ♣

Pass

6 ♥ by East

Lead: ♠ J

♠ 8 4 3

♥ 7 4

♦ Q J 9 5

♣ Q 9 7 5



♠ J 10 9 6

♥ —

♦ 10 8 6 4 3

♣ A 8 4 3

North

Pass

Pass

Pass

East

1 ♥

4 NT

6 ♥

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

You are South. The bidding has been as shown.

You lead the ♠ J, the ♠ K is played from dummy and holds the trick. Next come dummy's ♥ K, then another trump to East's ♥ A.

At trick 4 East plays the ♣ 2 from his hand and you must decide what to play.

When you have made your choice

East has 2 small ♣s and faces a choice of dummy plays in the suit. He must decide whether to play you for the ♣ A or the ♣ Q. If you play your ♣ A you make the decision very easy for him.

When you correctly play your small ♣ life becomes harder for East. Sometimes he will guess correctly and play dummy's

♣ K, but other times he will play dummy's ♣ J, hoping you have the ♣ Q.

**Deal 3**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 8 7 6 2

♥ 10 5 4

♦ K 6

♣ J 9 6

11  
4 10  
15

West

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♠ 6

♠ 5 4

♥ J 6 2

♦ J 8 5 2

♣ A K Q 2



♠ K Q J

♥ A K 7 3

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ 7 3

North

3 NT

East

Pass

South

1 NT

Pass

♠ A 9 3

♥ Q 9 8

♦ A 7 3

♣ 10 8 5 4

You are East. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♠ 6. You won the ♠ A and returned the ♠ 9, won by South's ♠ Q.

South next played to dummy's ♣ A and led the ♦ 2. What do you play?

When you have made your choice

Count the points. South's 15-17 plus North's 11 plus your T comes to 36-38. So West has room for an Ace or a King, but no more.

West's second ♠ play was the 2, so it looks like he started with 5 ♠s. And the fall of South's ♠s looks like he may have 1 ♠ left, very likely the ♠ K.

All this means that you should take your ♦ A now and return your last ♠ to establish West's suit. Now West's ♦ K will be an entry to the ♠s

If you play low, West will have to take the ♦ K now, and although he can play a ♠ to establish the suit, he will not have an entry to be able to cash them.

**Deal 4**

West Deals

None Vul

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

7  
 15 14  
 4

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
6 ♠ by West			
Lead: ♣ Q			

♠ 9 4

♥ A 2

♦ 10 6 4 3

♣ Q J 10 7 5



♠ K Q 8 6

♥ K 7 5 3

♦ A Q 5

♣ 8 4

♠ 5 2

♥ Q J 10

♦ J 9 8 2

♣ 9 6 3 2

You are North. The bidding has been as shown.

You lead the ♣ Q, South plays low and West wins the ♣ A.

West pulls trumps in 2 rounds. He then takes the ♦ K, ♦ Q, ♦ A, discarding a ♥ on the last one. Next he plays dummy's last ♣ to his ♣ K.

Having done all this, West now plays a low ♥ from his hand. What do you play?

When you have made your choice

If you followed what West was doing you will realize that he has eliminated both the ♦s and ♣s from both his hand and dummy. If it isn't clear that he is now out of ♣s, just remember the bidding - he

must have had 5 ♠s and 4 ♥s.

Suppose you play low on this ♥ (as West hopes you will). Dummy's ♥ K will take the trick, and when another ♥ is played you will have to win it with your now bare ♥ A. You will then have to play a ♦ or a ♣, giving West a ruff and sluff.

But if you take your ♥ A now, then exit with your ♥ 2, West can win the ♥ K but will still have to lose a ♥ to South.

**Deal 5**

North Deals  
None Vul

♠ 8 4 3  
♥ Q 10 4  
♦ 8 7 3  
♣ J 8 7 4

14  
3 6  
17

West

Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by North

Lead: ♠ K

♠ A 6

♥ A K 9 6 5

♦ J 10 5

♣ Q 10 2



♠ 10 7 2

♥ J 8 7 3 2

♦ A K Q

♣ A K

North

1 ♥

3 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

3 ♦

6 ♥

♠ K Q J 9 5

♥ —

♦ 9 6 4 2

♣ 9 6 5 3

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

East led the ♠ K, won by North's ♠ A. North played a small ♣ to dummy's ♣ A, then led dummy's ♥ J.

What do you play? ♥ Q or ♥ 4?

When you have made your choice

Remember that North opened 1 ♥, so he has 5 of them. With only 3 trumps out he has no intention of finessing. Perhaps he led the ♥ J just to tempt you to cover in this situation.

If you play low he will win with one of his high ♥s and then you will have a sure ♥ winner. Along with the ♠ winner East has you will defeat the slam.

If you cover the ♥ J with your ♥ Q North will again win with one of his high ones. But now the position will be clear to North and he will return to dummy and play another ♥, finessing your ♥ T. With no trump loser he will make the slam.

**Deal 6**

East Deals  
None Vul

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

12  
16 8  
4

West

4 ♥  
4 ♥ by East  
Lead: ♥ 2

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



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

North

Pass

East

2 ♥  
Pass

South

Pass  
Pass

You are South. The bidding has been as shown.

You decide a trump lead is called for and lead the ♥ 2. Your partner wins with the ♥ A and plays the ♦ J. East lets this go to dummy's ♦ K, (but you know he has ♦ Q), then plays a trump back to his ♥ K, pulling the 2 outstanding trumps from South and North.

East's next play is the ♠ 3 from his hand. Do you play your ♠ A or not?

When you have made your choice

Even if East doesn't have the ♠ K he can establish a ♠ winner just by leading twice toward the ♠ Q J. That winner will take care of whatever black-suit loser he may

have.

If North has a ♣ trick it is important to get it established soon. So go up with the ♠ A and play a ♣ through dummy's ♣ A Q. When East tries the ♠ suit again NORTH can win and cash his ♣ K for the setting trick.

If you play low on East's ♠ play North will be forced to win the trick and he cannot profitably attack the ♣ suit from his side.