

**Deal 1**

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

West	North	East	South
			2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

3 NT by South  
Lead: ♠ Q

those wonderful ♥s. But if he cleverly refuses to win the ♦ Q, then it will fall under your ♦ A K and you will get all 6 ♦ tricks.

Maybe after the hand is over he will appreciate it more and congratulate you.

South is to play 3 NT. West leads the ♠ Q.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=1 ♦=2 ♣=0 Total = 5

There they are, four perfectly good ♥ tricks and no straightforward way to reach them. On the other hand, (I should say "In the other hand"), you have the possibility of 6 ♦ tricks, if the ♦ Q drops, in which case you won't need the ♥ tricks at all. Can you work those two possibilities into a strategy?

Sure. The ♦ problem is that the outstanding ♦s may split 3-1 with one defender holding ♦ Q x x. So it would appear you could only get 5 ♦ winners. But you can thwart him like this.

Win the ♠. Unblock the ♥ A. Now play the ♦ J. If Mr. ♦ Q x x takes this trick dummy's ♦ T will become an entry to

**Deal 2**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

**22**  
**3 7**  
**8**

West      North      East      South  
Pass      2 ♣      Pass      2 ♠  
Pass      3 ♥      Pass      3 NT

3 NT by South  
Lead: ♦ 2

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

N  
W   E  
S

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

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

South is to play 3 NT. West leads the ♦ 2.

Winners: ♠=1 ♥=2 ♦=3 ♣=2 Total = 8

The reason the Winners list shows 1 ♠ is that the defenders are going to have to let you win dummy's ♠ K. If they take that then you'll have 4 ♠ winners in your hand!

So you only need one more winner really, and if you guess the ♣ finesse right you will have it. Which way will you finesse, and why?

You will finesse through East. If he has the ♣ Q you will win all 3 ♣ tricks, but if West has the ♣ Q you may win even more. Just watch.

Win the opening ♦ lead in dummy. Play the ♠ K which the defenders are not about to take while you have a ♣ entry to your hand. Now play the ♣ T and pass it to West. If West takes the ♣ Q then you will have TWO entries to your hand, one to get there for a ♠ lead, and the other to reach the ♠ winners after you have driven out the ♠ A. But if West DOESN'T take the ♣ Q, or if East actually has it, then you will have 3 ♣ tricks and your contract.

**Deal 3**

South Deals

None Vul

**Deal 4**  
South Deals  
None Vul

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

9  
4 5  
22

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

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

♠ A K Q J 9 7

♥ —  
♦ A K 6 2  
♣ A J 5

West	North	East	South
			2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♠ by South  
Lead: ♦ Q

Pretty bold bidding by South, but partner DID make a positive response. South is to play 6 ♠. West leads the ♦ Q.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=0 ♦=2 ♣=1 Total = 3

OK, the plan is to get over to dummy for those two ♥ winners.

If you just play a small ♣ toward the ♣ Q that will work whenever West holds the ♣ K.

How about playing ♣ A and a small ♣, planning on ruffing your third ♣ to get to dummy? Naaah. They will win the second ♣ and play a trump.

There is actually a play that is 100% certain, no matter who holds the ♣ K.

Win the opening lead and lay down your ♣ J. The defense is helpless. If they take the ♣ J with the ♣ K, then you have a dummy entry in the form of the ♣ Q. If they refuse to take the trick you will counter by next laying down the ♣ A, then ruffing a third ♣ to get to dummy and the two golden eggs.

My dream is that someday I will get a chance to use it at the table. If you ever do be sure and email me.