

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

DECLARER PLAY QUIZ - Decemberr 2015 - original - [Here](#)

By David Huggett

3.

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

You are declarer in 4♥ and West leads the ♦6. How do you plan the play?

I hope you weren't tempted to play low from dummy at trick one in the hope that West has led away from the king, because, if you did, then I'm afraid you will be defeated in what is essentially a cast iron contract. The lead cannot possibly be Fourth highest because the Rule of Eleven would indicate that West had started with K-J-10-6-(x.), when he would never lead The six. However, it might be a singleton, in which case, if you duck, East will win, return a diamond for West to ruff and then, if East has both the ace and queen

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4.

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

You are declarer in 6NT and West leads the ♠Q. How do you plan the play?

With eight tricks and no more coming from the top three suits, you have to address the question of how to play the club suit to the best advantage. Superficially, it might look right to play low to the king and Then hope to finesse against the queen, but that plan would fail. Actually, you have a safety play that guarantees four tricks on any 4-1 break: playing the ace first and then leading low towards dummy, intending to play the nine if West follows low. You are fine whether it loses or not: if East wins the suit has broken, while if West shows out on the second club, you win in dummy and lead low towards the jack.

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