

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

DECLARER PLAY QUIZ - April 2016 - original - [Here](#)

By David Huggett

3.

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

You are declarer in 6♠ and West leads the ♦A, ♦K. How do you plan the play?

Clearly the slam depends on not losing a trump and the odds dictate taking the finesse rather than hoping for a singleton king offside. You have to be careful that East does not hold all three missing trumps, so the best line is to enter dummy and lead the queen of trumps. If East covers and West shows out, you must get back to dummy for a finesse against the ten. In case of a bad heart break, it was probably right to have entered dummy the first time with a club ruff rather than a heart and the second time you can choose between either suit. Trying to enter dummy twice with hearts would not have worked.

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4.

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

You are declarer in 4♠ and West leads the ♥K followed by the ♥4. East wins the ♥A and returns the ♥6. How do you plan the play?

You have a potential loser in both the minors and the contract might seem, superficially, to rely on some luck in not losing to both minor suit queens. In fact, as long as trumps are not 4-0, the contract is assured. Ruff the third heart high - why not? - and draw trumps.

Now, simply play three round of diamonds from the top. Whoever wins the queen will be forced to either open up the club suit or give you a Ruff and discard. The ♦J in dummy is a distraction, inviting you to Take a finesse. Without it the endplay looks more obvious some how.