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DECLARER PLAY QUIZ - May 2017 - original - [Here](#)

By David Huggett

3.

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

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

The contract is sound enough and is assured if the club finesse is right, but in fact things are much better than that. It is laydown as long as trumps are 2-2. Win the lead in dummy and ruff a heart high. Play a trump to dummy and ruff another heart and then draw trumps. If the trumps break evenly, you will have one remaining in hand and two in dummy. All you have to do now is play the top three diamonds and then lead a low club, covering whatever card West happens to play. If East wins, he will be endplayed to either give a ruff and discard or concede

4.

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

You are declarer in 3NT and West leads the ♠Q. How do you plan the play?

If you give this contract insufficient thought, then you will be defeated even though the cards are not lying in a particularly unfriendly way. Suppose you think, 'I have one spade, one heart, two diamonds and five clubs,' and win the first trick in dummy, then you will be disappointed to find that the club suit is blocked. To make the contract, you have to engineer to throw a club from hand on the ace of spades, so you need to hold up spades twice. If West changes suit (he won't), you will have to engineer the spade play yourself. ■