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### DECLARER PLAY QUIZ - Jan 2014 - original - Here By David Huggett

#### Deal 3

you are South as declarer playing teams or rubber bridge. In each case, what is your play strategy?

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠ K84 ♥ A764 ♦ K65 ♣ 764	
<b>WEST</b> ♠ Void ♥ KQJ109852 ♦ Q103 ♣ Q10	<b style="color: green;">Deal 3</b>	<b>EAST</b> ♠ 9653 ♥ Void ♦ J874 ♣ KJ982
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠ AQJ1072 ♥ 3 ♦ A92 ♣ A53	

You are declarer in 4♣ after West dealt and opened 4♥. West leads the ♥K. How do you plan the play?

With ten top tricks, there doesn't seem to be a problem and the reality is that there isn't - as long as you don't play the ace of hearts from dummy at trick one. West is likely to hold all the missing hearts for his four-level preempt, in which case the ace will be ruffed by East.

So, play low from dummy and do the same on the heart continuation, but ruff in hand instead. Now draw trumps, enter dummy with the king of diamonds and finally cash the ace of hearts throwing a minor suit loser from hand.

#### Deal 4

you are South as declarer playing teams or rubber bridge. In each case, what is your play strategy?

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠ 63 ♥ KQ54 ♦ J105 ♣ 8764	
<b>WEST</b> ♠ 875 ♥ J1032 ♦ 864 ♣ KQ10	<b style="color: green;">Deal 4</b>	<b>EAST</b> ♠ J10942 ♥ Void ♦ A73 ♣ J9532
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠ AKQ ♥ A9876 ♦ KQ92 ♣ A	

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

It looks as though there is only one loser - in diamonds - but it is at times like these that you have to be most vigilant. If East has all four missing trumps, you are bound to lose a trick in that suit, but if West holds them all, you are safe as long as you cash the ace from hand first. Now, you can pick up West's holding by taking two finesses against the jack, ten combination.

Somehow, our instincts tell us to play the top card from the shorter holding first and in this case it would prove fatal.

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