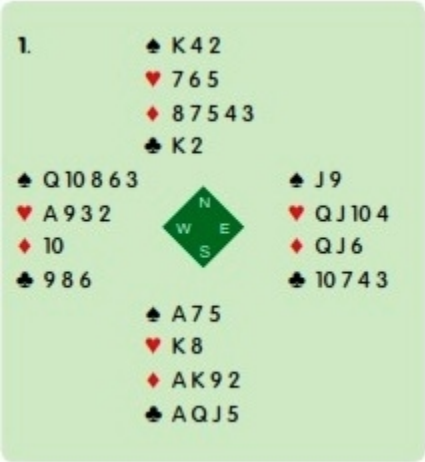
BRIDGE MAGAZINE

DECLARER PLAY QUIZ – September 2015 – original - Here

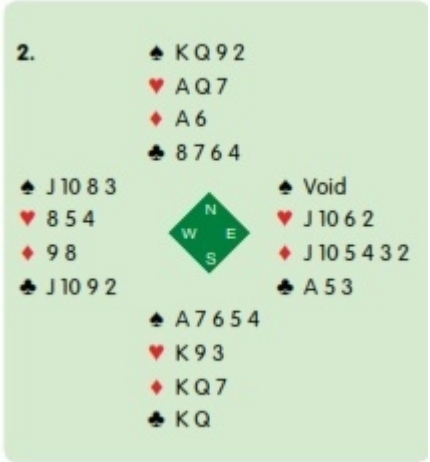
By David Huggett



You are declarer in 3NT and West leads the ♠6. How do you plan the play?

With eight immediate tricks available, the contract looks pretty secure but you still have to be careful and think ahead. The iamond suit will surely furnish more than enough tricks for the contract, but if you cash the ace and the king and find that East holds the third – and winning – diamond, then a heart switch might prove fatal. Instead, win the lead in dummy and play a diamond to the nine.

You do not care that it may lose because West can do you no harm. Of course, if East plays a high diamond, you win, return to dummy with a club and repeat the process. You will fail only if East has a sure diamond trick and West has the ace of hearts.



You are declarer in 6♠ and West leads the ♣J. East wins with the ace and returns the ♣5 with West following. How do you plan the play?

This looks easy and it certainly is if trumps are no worse than 3-1 because all you have to do is draw trumps, when there are twelve easy tricks. What if trumps are 4-0? There is nothing you can do if East has all four, but you can overcome a trump loser if West has all four by simply playing the ace first and then leading towards the table. If West splits his honours, then you return to hand with a heart and repeat the process.