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

By David Huggett

4.

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

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

How incredibly annoying. All those winners in dummy and no way to get there, but even if you could, you would have to find the correct way of playing the club suit. As it is, your options are very limited and it seems you have to find a singleton honour in the trump suit in one of the defender's hands, but the singleton ace is only good if it is West who holds it. Even then, you would have to guess how many diamonds to cash first as well as the other top spade before exiting with a low club to make West put you back in dummy with his enforced major suit return. Then, of course, you could

4.

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

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

Again, this contract looks to be fairly secure, although I suppose you might run into some bad luck in the red suits. However, it looks as though East can be endplayed easily, so simply cash all the black suit winners and play a diamond to the nine – or the queen if West plays either the jack or ten. If East wins, he might have a couple of black tricks to cash, but then he will have to lead up to one of the red suit tenaces in dummy.