


## Mr Bridge Magazine

### Play Quiz by Davis Haggett – Sept 2016 – 1

1.

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

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

You need to make club tricks to ensure your contract, while at the same time blocking out the potentially dangerous spade suit, but if you win the first trick and take a losing club finesse, you will fail if West has five spades and the ace of clubs. Although it is perhaps not so easy to see, you must duck the opening lead so that if the club finesse fails East has no more spades. And if he started with three spades, then you will lose at most two tricks in both black suits.

### Play Quiz – 2

2.

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

You are declarer in 6♦ after West opens a weak 2♠. West leads the ♠K and switches to the ♦7. How do you plan the play?

It looks as though you have overreached yourself here – and perhaps you have – but there is still a chance. With the spade ruff in dummy, the total number of tricks available is eleven and the twelfth can only possibly come from either hearts or clubs. Now just imagine that the hand with long hearts – presumably East on the bidding – also has at least four clubs. After declarer ruffs a spade and runs all his trumps (discarding a club from dummy), East will find it impossible to guard both suits. In short, he is squeezed but it comes about automatically and all you have to do is keep a watchful eye on what is being discarded.