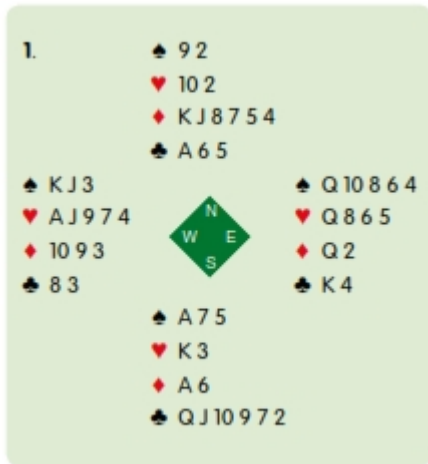


Mr Bridge magazine

Play quiz by David Huggett

May 2016 original-[Here](#)



You are declarer in 3NT and West leads the ♥7. East plays the ♥Q. How do you plan the play?

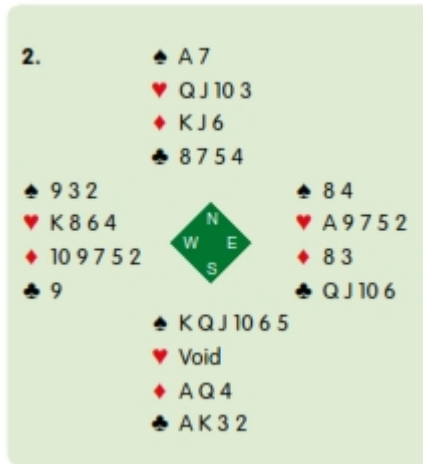
You need to bring one of the minor suits in for no loss but which one? In cases like this, it is best if you aim to combine your chances and you can do that easily enough here.

So, win the opening lead and play a diamond to the king followed by a diamond to the ace. If the queen falls doubleton you are home, but if not play the ♣Q and run it if West plays low.

Even if West holds three clubs to the king, you still have a spade entry to hand to enjoy the rest of the suit and this is why it was necessary to play the ♦K before the ♦A. Playing those cards the other way round might well lead to tangled entries.

Play quiz by David Huggett

Board No 2



You are declarer in 6♣ and West leads the ♣9. East plays the ♣6. How do you plan the play?

With eleven top tricks, any hope of establishing that extra trick in clubs is nonexistent, because the play to the first trick surely marks West with a singleton.

In any event, there is a much better line that is highly likely to succeed.

Win the lead and play two rounds of trumps ending in dummy, then lead the ♥Q, discarding a club if East plays low. Suppose West wins and returns a diamond. Win in hand with the ace and draw any outstanding trumps and then play a diamond to the jack.

Now lead the ♥J and throw your last small club if East plays low. If East covers the heart, then trump and re-enter dummy with a diamond to pitch your club loser on the now master heart. If East plays a top heart initially, then declarer just ruffs and later sets up a heart winner by force.