

West leads a spade against the slam and clubs break 2-2- with no losers in trumps or the majors, the contract will be decided by how the diamond suit is played- what are the options?

- 1-Lead low towards A♦, then back towards the Q♦?
- 2-Lead low towards the Q♦?
- 3- Lead Q♦ from table?

Which play has the best chance of working? Make a decision before turning the page!

Plays 1&2 both work if the K♦ is with E

Play 1 works if the K♦ is with E, and where W holds a singleton K♦ or J♦ doubleton- total 69%

Play 2 works if the K♦ is with E, if W holds J♦, or if J♦ is singleton with E- overall 77%

Play 3 picks up any hands where W holds J♦, or E holds a singleton honour- total 60%

Did you get it right? I am not sure that is the intuitive play- on the night I cashed the A♦ first and went 1 off. Note the slam is always off on a heart lead but West will not underlead a KJ

Tricks list

North

S	W	N	E
2♣	PASS	4♣	PASS
5♣	PASS	6♣	PASS
PASS	PASS		PASS

South