

Declarer Play. Establishing Entries. More Finesses. Foundation

(DLM ref : HBSET51)

<p style="margin: 0;">♠ AKQ ♥ K65 ♦ 642 ♣ 8543</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 72 ♠ J10983 ♥ J874 ♥ 1093 ♦ J10953 ♦ Q87 ♣ KQ ♣ AJ</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 654 ♥ AQ2 ♦ AK ♣ 109762</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3NT</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">All Pass</p> <p style="margin: 0;">East leads ♠J. North wins and needs at least one extra trick from clubs. At trick 2 he leads a low club. The defenders win and persevere with spades, but North persists with clubs and makes 11 tricks when the suit breaks 2-2.</p>	West	North	East	South		1NT	Pass	3NT
West	North	East	South						
	1NT	Pass	3NT						
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 432 ♥ J1084 ♦ Q108 ♣ 843</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AK ♠ 8765 ♥ Q32 ♥ AK7 ♦ A742 ♦ K65 ♣ 10965 ♣ QJ7</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ QJ109 ♥ 965 ♦ J93 ♣ AK2</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">3NT All Pass</p> <p style="margin: 0;">South leads ♠Q. Declarer requires two extra tricks from clubs, so he plays ♣Q at trick 2, won by South's ♣A. South persists with ♠J. Declarer plays back another club. At this stage it is perfectly possible that South could win ♣K and cash three more spades, but declarer is relieved when spades break 4-3.</p>	West	North	East	South			1NT	Pass
West	North	East	South						
		1NT	Pass						
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ AK ♥ 932 ♦ AQJ2 ♣ 10965</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ QJ1062 ♠ 43 ♥ Q65 ♥ J1084 ♦ 94 ♦ 10873 ♣ AK2 ♣ 843</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 9875 ♥ AK7 ♦ K65 ♣ QJ7</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">Pass 3NT All Pass</p> <p style="margin: 0;">West leads ♠Q. Declarer requires an extra trick from clubs, so he plays ♣Q at trick 2, won by West's ♣A. West persists with ♠6. Declarer has no option but to keep going with clubs. He is out of luck when West wins ♣K and cashes three spade tricks for one off.</p>	West	North	East	South				1NT
West	North	East	South						
			1NT						
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q10753 ♥ K2 ♦ 107 ♣ Q987</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ K86 ♠ A42 ♥ A863 ♥ J4 ♦ 64 ♦ AKQ32 ♣ AK32 ♣ 654</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J9 ♥ Q10975 ♦ J985 ♣ J10</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">1NT Pass 3NT All Pass</p> <p style="margin: 0;">North leads ♠3. The easiest way to make this contract is to win the trick with ♠K in hand and turn to diamonds for the ninth trick. Declarer cashes ♦A K Q and concedes a diamond when the suit fails to break 3-3. ♦3 is now a winner, and declarer has an entry to it with ♠A.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	3NT	All Pass
West	North	East	South						
	Pass	3NT	All Pass						

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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ K86 ♥ A863 ♦ 64 ♣ AK32</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ J9 ♠ Q10753 ♥ Q10975 ♥ K2 ♦ 85 ♦ Q1097 ♣ J1087 ♣ Q9</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A42 ♥ J4 ♦ AKJ32 ♣ 654</p>	<p>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>East leads ♠5. Declarer should hope for four tricks from diamonds. At trick 2 he successfully finesesses ♦J. Now he cashes ♦A K and concedes a diamond when the suit fails to break 3-3. ♦3 is now a winner, and declarer has an entry to it with ♠A.</p>	West	North	East	South		1NT	Pass	3NT
West	North	East	South						
	1NT	Pass	3NT						
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J9 ♥ QJ1093 ♦ 98 ♣ J1087</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ A42 ♠ K86 ♥ 74 ♥ A86 ♦ AQJ32 ♦ 654 ♣ 654 ♣ AK32</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q10753 ♥ K52 ♦ K107 ♣ Q9</p>	<p>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT 3NT</td> <td>Pass All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>South leads ♠5 to North's ♠J and East's ♠K. Declarer needs four diamond tricks. He successfully finesesses ♦J at trick 2. He next returns to his hand with ♣A and finesesses ♦Q. With diamonds breaking 3-2 declarer can make five diamond tricks, and ten tricks in all.</p>	West	North	East	South	2NT	Pass	1NT 3NT	Pass All Pass
West	North	East	South						
2NT	Pass	1NT 3NT	Pass All Pass						
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 843 ♥ A7 ♦ 7632 ♣ K432</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 975 ♠ QJ102 ♥ K8 ♥ QJ1054 ♦ Q10854 ♦ J9 ♣ AJ9 ♣ Q10</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AK6 ♥ 9632 ♦ AK ♣ 8765</p>	<p>Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>West leads ♦5. Declarer will need quite a bit of luck: he requires two club tricks. At trick 2 he leads ♣5, dummy's ♣K winning the trick when West (rightly) plays low. Next declarer plays a low club from each hand. Whatever the defenders return, declarer wins and drives out the last club, making ♣8 when the suit breaks 3-2.</p>	West	North	East	South				1NT
West	North	East	South						
			1NT						
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 53 ♥ J8742 ♦ J85 ♣ K65</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 876 ♠ AQ4 ♥ AQ3 ♥ K65 ♦ AK2 ♦ 763 ♣ J1097 ♣ 8432</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KJ1092 ♥ 109 ♦ Q1094 ♣ AQ</p>	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>North leads ♥4. Declarer has six obvious tricks: ♠A, ♥A K Q and ♦A K. There are two possible sources of a seventh trick: a successful spade finesse or patiently playing on clubs. A finesse is a 50% shot: the clubs offer a 100% chance provided the defenders cannot cash too many winners first. With good stoppers in the other tricks declarer should attack clubs whenever he gets the lead.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT	All Pass		
West	North	East	South						
1NT	All Pass								

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<p>♠ AK ♥ AQ7 ♦ 9432 ♣ 5432</p> <p>♠ 9765 ♠ Q10843 ♥ K1084 ♥ J92 ♦ AK75 ♦ 86 ♣ 9 ♣ 1076</p> <p>♠ J2 ♥ 653 ♦ QJ10 ♣ AKQJ8</p>	<p>Board 9 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>East leads ♠4. Declarer has eight obvious tricks. There are two possible sources of a ninth trick: a successful heart finesse or patiently playing on diamonds. A finesse is a 50% shot: the diamonds offer a 100% chance provided the defenders cannot cash too many winners first. Unfortunately the opening lead has found the spade weakness: declarer has only one spade stopper left and if he relied on diamonds he would have to drive out ♦A and ♦K. If declarer relies on diamonds he will lose three spade tricks and ♦A K. Therefore he will have to rely on the heart finesse.</p>	West	North	East	South		1NT	Pass	3NT				
West	North	East	South										
	1NT	Pass	3NT										
<p>♠ 9765 ♥ J1084 ♦ A1075 ♣ 9</p> <p>♠ J2 ♠ AK ♥ 653 ♥ AQ7 ♦ KQJ ♦ 9432 ♣ AKQJ8 ♣ 5432</p> <p>♠ Q10843 ♥ K92 ♦ 86 ♣ 1076</p>	<p>Board 10 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>3NT All Pass</p> <p>South leads ♠4. Declarer has eight obvious tricks. There are two possible sources of a ninth trick: a successful heart finesse or patiently playing on diamonds. A finesse is a 50% shot: the diamonds offer a 100% chance provided the defenders cannot cash too many winners first. The spade lead has found declarer's weakness, but he still has a spade stopper so he can afford to drive out ♦A, making ten tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South			1NT	Pass				
West	North	East	South										
		1NT	Pass										
<p>♠ QJ5 ♥ 84 ♦ K65 ♣ 97652</p> <p>♠ A98 ♠ K104 ♥ KQJ1093 ♥ 2 ♦ 32 ♦ QJ10987 ♣ 104 ♣ J83</p> <p>♠ 7632 ♥ A765 ♦ A4 ♣ AKQ</p>	<p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> </table> <p>Pass 1NT Pass 2NT</p> <p>All Pass</p> <p>East leads ♦Q. Declarer needs five club tricks. He must win trick 1 with ♦A, preserving his ♦K as an entry to the clubs. Now he cashes ♣A K Q. When clubs break 3-2 his ♣9 7 are winners because there are no clubs left.</p>	West	North	East	South				1♥				
West	North	East	South										
			1♥										
<p>♠ KQ104 ♥ 72 ♦ QJ10987 ♣ 2</p> <p>♠ A763 ♠ J52 ♥ A865 ♥ K4 ♦ AK4 ♦ 652 ♣ Q5 ♣ KJ1076</p> <p>♠ 98 ♥ QJ1093 ♦ 3 ♣ A9843</p>	<p>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>South leads ♥Q. Declarer needs four tricks from clubs. He wins trick 1 with ♥A, preserving his ♦K as an entry to the clubs. Now he starts with ♣Q, the high card from the shorter holding. If South allows ♣Q to win, declarer continues with ♣5 to dummy's ♣K. All he needs is a 4-2 break, but this time good play is not rewarded because the missing clubs break 5-1. Hard luck: one down.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
West	North	East	South										
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass										
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass										

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<p style="margin: 0;">♠ 732 ♥ A54 ♦ AQ3 ♣ KQ43</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ QJ10 ♠ 984 ♥ 873 ♥ KQJ109 ♦ 109754 ♦ J8 ♣ A9 ♣ 876</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AK65 ♥ 62 ♦ K62 ♣ J1052</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 5px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">East leads ♥K. Declarer should withhold his ♥A for the first two rounds on the suit. He wins ♥A at trick 3 and plays a club. West wins but has no heart to return, so declarer makes nine tricks. Declarer would also have succeeded if hearts had broken 4-4.</p>	West	North	East	South		1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass			
West	North	East	South														
	1♣	Pass	1♠														
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT														
All Pass																	
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ QJ10 ♥ 873 ♦ 109754 ♣ 98</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ AK65 ♠ 732 ♥ 62 ♥ A54 ♦ K62 ♦ AQ3 ♣ J1052 ♣ KQ43</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 984 ♥ KQJ109 ♦ J8 ♣ A76</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 5px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">South leads ♥K. Declarer should withhold his ♥A for the first two rounds on the suit. He wins ♥A at trick 3 and plays a club. Unfortunately South wins ♣A and cashes two more heart tricks to defeat the contract. Unlucky.</p>	West	North	East	South			1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass		
West	North	East	South														
		1♣	Pass														
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass														
3NT	All Pass																
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ A ♥ 864 ♦ AK8432 ♣ 765</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ Q10542 ♠ J983 ♥ 75 ♥ Q10932 ♦ QJ5 ♦ 109 ♣ KQJ ♣ 109</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ K76 ♥ AKJ ♦ 76 ♣ A8432</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 5px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">West leads ♠4, won by dummy's ♠A. Declarer needs at least four diamond tricks: the suit will have to break 3-2. However if he cashes ♦A K and then concedes a diamond there is no entry to dummy so he can never cash his diamonds. Correct play is to duck a diamond at trick 2, He then regains the lead and cashes five diamond tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South				1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
West	North	East	South														
			1♣														
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT														
Pass	3NT	All Pass															
<p style="margin: 0;">♠ J9542 ♥ Q107 ♦ QJ10 ♣ KJ</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ KQ6 ♠ A ♥ AKJ ♥ 8642 ♦ 765 ♦ A8432 ♣ A843 ♣ 765</p> <p style="margin: 0;">♠ 10873 ♥ 953 ♦ K9 ♣ Q1092</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 5px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="margin: 0;">North leads ♠4, won by dummy's ♠A. Declarer should aim for three diamond tricks: the suit will have to break 3-2. However if he cashes ♦A and then concedes a diamond there is no entry to dummy so he can never cash his diamonds. Correct play is to duck a diamond at trick 2, The defenders continue with spades: declarer wins and ducks another diamond. He finally regains the lead with his third spade stopper and cashes three diamond tricks. How about the heart finesse? It is a bit of a red herring. Declarer doesn't need it to make nine tricks and if he greedily takes it he should be defeated.</p>	West	North	East	South	1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass				
West	North	East	South														
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass														
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass														