

Board 1

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 6 4

♥ 9 7 6

♦ A Q 8 7 2

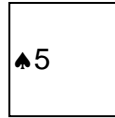
♣ K J 10

♠ K J 9 5 3

♥ A Q 2

♦ 4 3

♣ 5 4 3

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

3 N

Pass

1 N

Pass

Pass

*Trick**Lead**2nd**3rd**4th*

1. W

♠ 5

?

Won NS=0 EW=0

Stop and count. We have 10 HCP. Dummy has 10 HCP. Declarer has 15-17 HCP. Therefore partner has $40-10-10-(15-17) = 3-5$ HCP.

Board 1

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 6 4
♥ 9 7 6
♦ A Q 8 7 2
♣ K J 10

♠ K J 9 5 3
♥ A Q 2
♦ 4 3
♣ 5 4 3

♠ 4
♠ 5 ♠ A
♠ 7

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♠ 5	4	<u>A</u>	7
Won NS=0 EW=1				

We've seen 4 of them. So partner has at most 1 more HCP. It's not a black jack, so partner has the ♦ J, the ♥ J or no more points.

Board 1

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 6 4
♥ 9 7 6
♦ A Q 8 7 2
♣ K J 10

♠ K J 9 5 3
♥ A Q 2
♦ 4 3
♣ 5 4 3

♠ 6
♠ J ♠ 2
♠ 10

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♠ 5	4	<u>A</u>	7
2. E	♠ 2	10	<u>J</u>	6

Won NS=0 EW=2

Since partner returned the ♠ 2, they have no more spades.

Partner's broke, should we cash our tricks?

Board 1
 South Deals
 E-W Vul

<div><div><div>♠ 6 4</div><div>♥ 9 7 6</div><div>♦ A Q 8 7 2</div><div>♣ K J 10</div></div><div><div>♠ K J 9 5 3</div><div>♥ A Q 2</div><div>♦ 4 3</div><div>♣ 5 4 3</div></div><div><div>♠ A 2</div><div>♥ 8 5 4 3</div><div>♦ J 9 6</div><div>♣ 9 8 7 6</div></div></div>				
<div><div><div>♠ Q 10 8 7</div><div>♥ K J 10</div><div>♦ K 10 5</div><div>♣ A Q 2</div></div><div><div>W</div><div>N</div><div>E</div><div>S</div></div></div>				
West	North	East	South	
Pass	3 N	All pass	1 N	
Trick	Lead	2nd	3rd	4th
1. W	♠ 5	4	<u>A</u>	7
2. E	♠ 2	10	<u>J</u>	6

If we do we'll give them an extra one.

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

		♠ K J 9 8 7		
		♥ A K J		
		♦ 9 8		
		♣ Q 10 9		
♠ A 10 5				
♥ Q 9 8				
♦ J 10 7 6 5				
♣ K 5				
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
			Pass	
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 N	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ J	?		
Won NS=0 EW=0				

Step One - Do the Math!

Your 10 HCP + Dummy's 14 HCP + Declarer's minimum 6 HCP = 30 HCP

Partner holds a maximum of 10 HCP

Your 10 HCP + Dummy's 14 HCP + Declarer's maximum 10 HCP = 34 HCP

Partner holds a minimum of 6 HCP

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K J 9 8 7

♥ A K J

♦ 9 8

♣ Q 10 9

♠ A 10 5

♥ Q 9 8

♦ J 10 7 6 5

♣ K 5

♦ 8
♦ J ♦ K
♦ A

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
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1. W	♦ J	8	K	<u>A</u>
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Won NS=1 EW=0

Step Two – Keep track of the points in declarer's hand as the play progresses

Partner played the ♦ K and declarer won the ♦ A. This implies that declarer has the ♦ AQ.

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K J 9 8 7

♥ A K J

♦ 9 8

♣ Q 10 9

♠ A 10 5

♥ Q 9 8

♦ J 10 7 6 5

♣ K 5

♠ 7	
♠ 5	♠ 6
♠ Q	

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
--------------	-------------	------------	------------	------------

1. W	♦ J	8	K	<u>A</u>
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2. S	<u>♠ Q</u>	5	7	6
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Won NS=2 EW=0

Trick one ♦ AQ

Declarer now has the ♠ Q as well.

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K J 9 8 7

♥ A K J

♦ 9 8

♣ Q 10 9

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

♠ 8
 ♠ A ♠ 2
 ♠ 3

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ J	8	K	<u>A</u>
2. S	<u>♠ Q</u>	5	7	6
3. S	♠ 3	<u>A</u>	8	2
Won NS=2 EW=1				

Step Three – Stop to count the HCP declarer has shown. If you don't, you probably won't find the right play.

The obvious play is to cover the ♦ 9 with your ♦ 10 and wait for your ♣ K entry to cash them. However,

You have seen declarer's ♦ A and ♠ Q

You know declarer also has the ♦ Q from partner's play of the ♦ K.

That is 8 HCP - already more than he promised in the auction.

Could declarer also have the ♣ A? No. With that card, South would have 12 HCP and would have opened.

Partner must have the ♣ A and, if you are lucky, the ♣ J as well.

Declarer has 4 spade tricks, 2 diamond tricks and 2 heart tricks. (3 if they try the finesse)

Bang down the ♣ K and see if you can get an encouraging signal from partner. If they have the ♣ J as well they will and you might well take a lot of club tricks.

Board 2
 South Deals
 None Vul

	♠ K J 9 8 7	
	♥ A K J	
	♦ 9 8	
	♣ Q 10 9	
♠ A 10 5	<div> <div>W</div> <div>N</div> <div>E</div> <div>S</div> </div>	♠ 6 4 2
♥ Q 9 8		♥ 7 5 4
♦ J 10 7 6 5		♦ K 4
♣ K 5		♣ A J 8 4 2
	♠ Q 3	
	♥ 10 6 3 2	
	♦ A Q 3 2	
	♣ 7 6 3	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
All pass			1 N

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ J	8	K	<u>A</u>
2. S	♠ <u>Q</u>	5	7	6
3. S	♠ 3	<u>A</u>	8	2

Board 3

South Deals

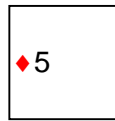
None Vul

♠ K J 10 9

♥ K J 4 3

♦ J 8

♣ Q 6 4



♠ A 5 4 3

♥ 10 5

♦ 10 9 3 2

♣ K J 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
			1 ♥	
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 5	?		
Won NS=0 EW=0				

Declarer has something like 11-13 HCP.

Dummy has 11 HCP.

You have 8 HCP.

So partner has 8-10 HCP.

Board 3

South Deals

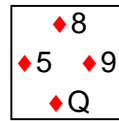
None Vul

♠ K J 10 9

♥ K J 4 3

♦ J 8

♣ Q 6 4



♠ A 5 4 3

♥ 10 5

♦ 10 9 3 2

♣ K J 5

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 5	8	9	Q

Won NS=1 EW=0

Declarer wins the opening lead with the ♦ Q. That's odd that they didn't play the ♦ J from dummy. Partner doesn't have the ♦ A, so declarer might have the ♦ AKQ? At least the ♦ AQ.

Trick 1: Declarer wins partner's ♦ 5 opening lead with the queen. Where is the ♦ A? Partner (

Board 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K J 10 9

♥ K J 4 3

♦ J 8

♣ Q 6 4

♥ 4
♥ 9 ♥ 10
♥ Q

♠ A 5 4 3

♥ 10 5

♦ 10 9 3 2

♣ K J 5

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 5	8	9	<u>Q</u>
2. S	<u>♥ A</u>	8	3	5
3. S	<u>♥ Q</u>	9	4	10

Won NS=3 EW=0

Well declarer just showed up with the ♥ AQ so they surely cannot have the ♦ AKQ. They must have the ♦ AQ and partner the ♦ K.

Board 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K J 10 9

♥ K J 4 3

♦ J 8

♣ Q 6 4

♠ 10
♠ 8 ♠ A
♠ 7

♠ A 5 4 3
♥ 10 5
♦ 10 9 3 2
♣ K J 5

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 5	8	9	<u>Q</u>
2. S	♥ <u>A</u>	8	3	5
3. S	♥ <u>Q</u>	9	4	10
4. S	♠ 7	8	10	<u>A</u>

Won NS=3 EW=1

Time to put all the pieces together.

Partner must have every other HCP in the deck. Ordinarily leading from the ♣ KJ5 looks crazy, and you should just return partner's opening lead of a ♦.

But you "know" that partner has the ♣ A. So lead the ♣ 5!

Board 3

South Deals

None Vul

		♠ K J 10 9		
		♥ K J 4 3		
		♦ J 8		
		♣ Q 6 4		
♠ Q 8 2				♠ A 5 4 3
♥ 9 8				♥ 10 5
♦ K 7 6 5				♦ 10 9 3 2
♣ A 9 7 3				♣ K J 5
		♠ 7 6		
		♥ A Q 7 6 2		
		♦ A Q 4		
		♣ 10 8 2		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
Pass	3 ♥	All pass	1 ♥	
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 5	8	9	<u>Q</u>
2. S	♥ <u>A</u>	8	3	5
3. S	♥ <u>Q</u>	9	4	10
4. S	♠ 7	8	10	<u>A</u>

After partner wins the ace, she will lead back another club and you will take three club tricks!
 Had you thoughtlessly led back a diamond, two of those three clubs tricks would have disappeared on the spades.

Board 4

South Deals

N-S Vul

		♠ 10 6 5 3		
		♥ K J 4		
		♦ Q 4		
		♣ A 9 6 5		
♠ A Q 9				<div>♦ 10</div>
♥ 10 6				
♦ K 10 9 7 5				
♣ Q 4 3				
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
			1 N	
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	
Pass	3 N	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 10	?		
Won NS=0 EW=0				

Having really good diamonds and entries you lead the ♦ 10. Dummy hits with the expected four spades and 10 HCP. You have 11 and declarer 15-17. That gives partner 2-4. Perhaps a passive lead would've been better?

Board 4

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 10 6 5 3

♥ K J 4

♦ Q 4

♣ A 9 6 5

♠ A Q 9

♥ 10 6

♦ K 10 9 7 5

♣ Q 4 3

♣5
♣4 ♣7
♣K

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 10	<u>Q</u>	8	3
2. N	♣ 5	7	<u>K</u>	4

Won NS=2 EW=0

Declarer won the ♦ Q at trick one and partner discouraged. Declarer then played a club to the king. They hesitated before playing the king as if they were thinking about finessing. When they decide not to your heart sinks a little.

Board 4

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 10 6 5 3

♥ K J 4

♦ Q 4

♣ A 9 6 5

♠ A Q 9

♥ 10 6

♦ K 10 9 7 5

♣ Q 4 3

♣6
♦7 ♥8
♥A

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 10	<u>Q</u>	8	3
2. N	♣ 5	7	<u>K</u>	4
3. S	♥ 7	6	<u>K</u>	2
4. N	<u>♥ J</u>	3	9	10
5. N	♥ 4	5	<u>Q</u>	♦ 5
6. S	<u>♥ A</u>	♦ 7	♣ 6	8

Won NS=6 EW=0

What's this? declarer abandoned clubs and cashed four hearts? That's really weird. But kind of them!

Board 4

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 10 6 5 3

♥ K J 4

♦ Q 4

♣ A 9 6 5

♠	A Q 9
♥	10 6
♦	K 10 9 7 5
♣	Q 4 3

♦	4		
♦	K	♦	2
♦	J		

Trick	Lead	2nd	3rd	4th
1. W	♦ 10	<u>Q</u>	8	3
2. N	♣ 5	7	<u>K</u>	4
3. S	♥ 7	6	<u>K</u>	2
4. N	♥ J	3	9	10
5. N	♥ 4	5	<u>Q</u>	♦ 5
6. S	♥ A	♦ 7	♣ 6	8
7. S	♣ J	<u>Q</u>	<u>A</u>	2
8. N	♦ 4	2	J	<u>K</u>

Won NS=7 EW=1

Hmm. WE covered an honor with an honor in second position now what?

We know declarer has the ♦ AJ the ♥ AQ and the ♣ KJ. They cannot have the ♠ K as well!

Cash the ♠ AQ and see what happens.

Board 4
South Deals
N-S Vul

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



<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
			1 N	
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	
Pass	3 N	All pass		
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♦ 10	<u>Q</u>	8	3
2. N	♣ 5	7	<u>K</u>	4
3. S	♥ 7	6	<u>K</u>	2
4. N	♥ <u>J</u>	3	9	10
5. N	♥ 4	5	<u>Q</u>	♦ 5
6. S	♥ <u>A</u>	♦ 7	♣ 6	8
7. S	♣ J	<u>Q</u>	<u>A</u>	2
8. N	♦ 4	2	J	<u>K</u>
9. W	♠ <u>A</u>	3	4	2
10. W	♠ <u>Q</u>	5	7	J
11. W	♠ 9	6	8	♣ 8
12. W	♣ 3	9	<u>10</u>	♦ 6
13. E	♠ <u>K</u>	♦ A	♦ 9	10

What happens is you take the rest of the tricks and set it 2 tricks taking 4 spades, 1 diamond and 1 club. Well done!