

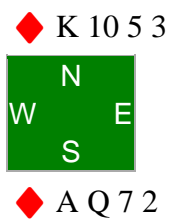
DECLARER PLAY – COPING WITH BAD BREAKS

Consider the three scenarios below:-

If you would like to discuss these and many other situations in which overcoming / coping with bad breaks will help your declarer play, please sign up to the seminar at the club-house being run by Tim Chanter at 2.00pm on Tuesday 13th June!

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1. In a NT contract you wish to maximise your chances of making 4 tricks in the diamond layout below. What is the optimal play? (tip: think about good and bad opposition breaks). For bonus points, what are the odds of scoring 4 tricks?



2. On the board below you arrive in 4 Hearts by South on the given auction. West leads Queen of Spades at Trick 1 which you win. You play a top heart, and West discards . . . What's your plan?



West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
2 ♠ ¹	Dbl	3 ♠	Pass
Pass	4 ♥	All pass	

1. WJO

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3. On the next board you are playing in 3NT as South after a Stayman sequence.

West, sadly for you, starts on hearts. You hold up a round taking your Ace on the second round.

If the diamonds break 3-2 then how many tricks will you make in total? You start on diamonds and discover they break 5-0

What is your plan now? (Important tip - remember that you are playing duplicate and it is reasonable to assume that nearly every other South will be in the same contract as you, and will also soon discover that the bridge gods have a warped sense of humour)

♠ K J 10 2

♥ 10 5 2

♦ K Q 7

♣ Q J 10



♠ A Q 7

♥ A 7

♦ A 5 4 3 2

♣ 9 8 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣ !	Pass	2 ♦ !
Pass	3 NT	All pass	