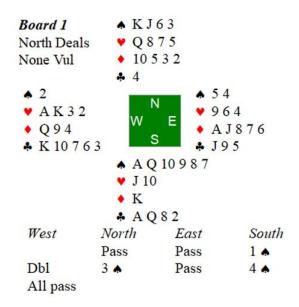
# Planning the Play in a Suit Contract

## **Prepared hands for RealBridge Practice Session**



South is declarer in 4♠ Lead ♥A by West (top of AK)

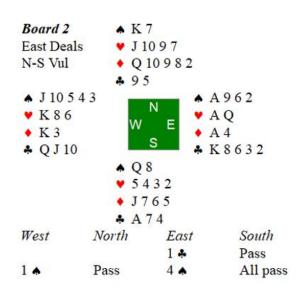
**7 top tricks**: **♠**6, ♥0, ♦0, ♣1.

Extra tricks: 1 heart trick by force, 2 club ruffs.

Discard opportunities for losers? None

Plan: When you win the lead, draw trumps. Force out the ♥K (if it has not already been played) to establish a heart honour. Cross to the ♣A and ruff clubs twice, remembering to cash the ♥Q when in dummy.

https://tinyurl.com/y9ulmnx5



West is declarer in 4♠

Lead ♥J by North (top of a 2+ card honour sequence)

6 top tricks:  $\spadesuit 1$ ,  $\heartsuit 3$ ,  $\spadesuit 2$ ,  $\clubsuit 0$ 

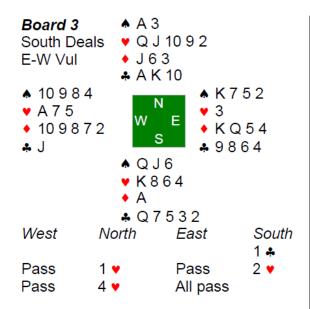
**Extra tricks**: 3 clubs by force, 2 or 3 tricks by

length

**Discard opportunities for losers?** None

**Plan**: Draw trumps in two or three rounds. When next in, force out the \*A, then cash your remaining club winners.

https://tinyurl.com/yclyj2up



North is Declarer in 4♥

Lead ◆ K by East (top of a 2+ card honour sequence)

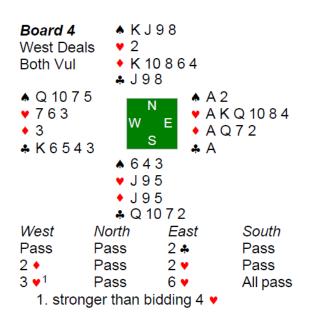
5 top tricks:  $\spadesuit 1$ ,  $\heartsuit 0$ ,  $\spadesuit 1$ ,  $\clubsuit 3$ .

Extra tricks: 4 heart tricks by length; 2 more length tricks in clubs, 2 diamond ruffs, 1 spade (Q or J) by force. 1 spade by finesse or ruff (see below)

Discard opportunities for losers? None

Plan: When first in dummy with the ◆A, lead to the ♣A and ruff a diamond. Cross to the ♣A (pleased to see the ♣J fall – your ♣10 is now a winner) to ruff a second diamond. Start drawing trumps. You will lose to the ♥A but will win any return and will win all the remaining tricks bar the ♠K

https://tinyurl.com/y892cjee



East is Declarer in 6♥

Lead ♣2 by South ("4th highest to an honour")

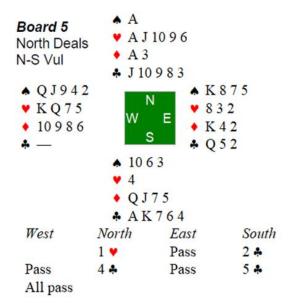
**10** top tricks:  $\triangle 1$ ,  $\forall 3$ ,  $\Diamond 1$ ,  $\triangle 2$ .

**Extra tricks**: A least 2 extra heart length tricks, probably 3 extra; 2 diamond ruffs (ruffing clubs in your hand will not produce extra tricks).

**Discard opportunities for losers?** Dump the ♠2 loser on dummy's ♣K.

Plan: You win the lead and delay drawing trumps to take your diamond ruffs. Win ♦ A and ruff a diamond. Discard ♠2 on ♣ K, return to hand with the ♥ A and ruff a second diamond. Now return to hand with a spade to draw trumps.

https://tinyurl.com/ydg4nr7k



South is Declarer in 5 ♣

Lead ♠Q by West (top of a 2+ card honour sequence)

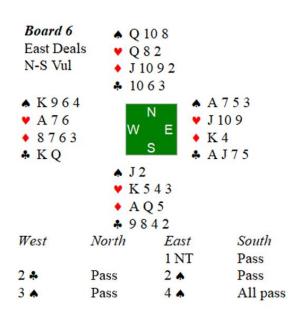
5 top tricks:  $\spadesuit 1$ ,  $\heartsuit 1$ ,  $\spadesuit 1$ ,  $\clubsuit 2$ 

Extra tricks: 2 or 3 club length tricks depending on the split (3-0 or 2-1). 2 spade ruffs, 1 more diamond trick by force but possibly a second by finessing against the ◆K to promote both declarer's diamonds provided East holds the ◆K (50% probability)

#### Discard opportunities for losers? None

Plan: Draw trumps. On discovering the bad break, ruff a spade to get to dummy and run the ♣J, a marked finesse. Draw the last trump and play ◆A and a second diamond to the ◆QJ, a finesse which loses to East's ◆K but now your ◆QJ are promoted.

https://tinyurl.com/y7qxpet9



East is Declarer in 4♠

Lead ♥3 by South (4th highest to an honour )

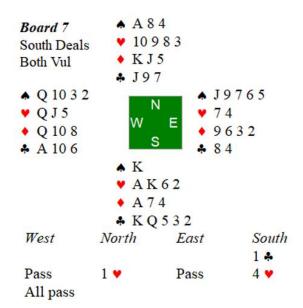
7 top tricks:  $\spadesuit 2$ ,  $\forall 1$ ,  $\spadesuit 0$ ,  $\clubsuit 4$ .

**Extra tricks**: One more spade by length if spades break 3-2. Two diamond ruffs.

**Discard opportunities for losers?** Two of your heart losers can be discarded on dummy's clubs

Plan: Win the lead with the ♥A and immediately unblock clubs by playing ♣KQ. Cash the ♠K and cross to dummy with your ♠A and discard your ♥7 and ♥6 losers on your clubs. Now cross ruff diamonds and hearts, losing only the ♠AQ and the ♠Q.

https://tinyurl.com/y9ccbjjs



North is Declarer in 4 ♥

Lead ♠6 by East ("4<sup>th</sup> highest to an honour")

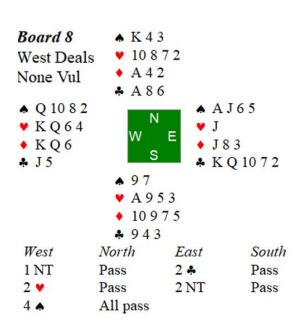
**6 top tricks**: **♠**2, **♥**2, **♦**0.

**Extra tricks**: 2 club tricks by force and two more by length if clubs split 3-2 (68% probability).

**Discard opportunities for losers?** A diamond loser can be discarded on declarer's ♠A.

Plan: Draw two rounds of trumps, leaving the master trump out (Rule of 1). Now play on clubs, leading the ♣2, 'low from the long hand'. At some point the defence will win their master trump but then you can clean up.

https://tinyurl.com/yd6hjpl9



#### West is Declarer in 4♠

Lead ♥2 by North ("4th highest to an honour\*" (not wanting to lead away from aces and king)

\* The 10 is classified as an honour

Top tricks:  $\spadesuit 1$ ,  $\heartsuit 0$ ,  $\spadesuit 0$ ,  $\clubsuit 0$ . (Just one top trick!!)

**Extra tricks**: You have an abundance of potential winners by force, but you are missing three aces so to make your contract you must avoid losing to the ♠K.

### Discard opportunities for losers? None

Plan: Once you win the lead, cross to dummy (if necessary) to run the ♠Q, playing low from dummy unless North plays the ♠K. If the ♠Q wins the trick, repeat the finesse by running ♠10 (and ♠8), to capture the ♠K.

https://tinyurl.com/y9om5b6y