

Planning the Play-Practice Set 2

<p style="text-align: center;">♠-Ax ♥-10xx ♦-KQxxx ♣-xxx</p> <p>♠-QJ109x ♠-xxxx ♥-Kxx ♥-Qxx ♦-xx ♦-Axx ♣-xxx ♣-QJx</p> <p style="text-align: center;">♠-Kx ♥-AJxx ♦-J10x ♣-AKxx</p>	<p>1. South is declarer at 3NT. West leads the ♠Q. South should count winners. There are 2 in spades, 1 in hearts, and 2 in clubs. There are 4 potential diamond winners after the ace is knocked out. South should win the first trick with the king, keeping the ace in dummy as an entry to the diamonds. If declarer wins the first spade in dummy and East ducks the first two diamonds, South will only be able to win two diamond tricks.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">♠-QJxx ♥-xxx ♦-AQx ♣-AQx</p> <p>♠-Ax ♠-xxx ♥-KQJx ♥-10xxx ♦-xxxx ♦-xxxx ♣-xxx ♣-xx</p> <p style="text-align: center;">♠-K10xx ♥-Ax ♦-Kx ♣-KJxxx</p>	<p>2. South is declarer in 6 spades. West leads the heart king. South must take 12 tricks. South should count losers. There's one in spades and one in hearts. The spade loser is unavoidable. Can the heart loser be eliminated? Yes, it can be discarded on the third round of diamonds. South must do this immediately. If South leads spades first, West will win and cash a heart winner.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">♠-xx ♥-AKx ♦-KQJxx ♣-Kxx</p> <p>♠-KQJ10x ♠-xxx ♥-xxx ♥-Jxxx ♦-xx ♦-Axx ♣-Jxx ♣-Q10x</p>	<p>3. South is declarer in 3NT. West leads the spade King. South counts winners: one in spades, 3 in hearts, 2 in clubs. There are 4 potential winners in diamonds after the ace is knocked out. Is there a risk that the defense can cash their winners before South can cash his 10 winners? Yes, the defense can cash spade winners when they get in</p>
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<p>♠-Axx ♥-Qxx ♦-109x ♣-Axxx</p>	<p>with the diamond ace. If the defender with spade length also has the diamond ace, there is nothing that can be done. However, suppose West has 5 spades and East has the diamond ace. If South ducks the first two spades and wins the third spade, East will be unable to lead a spade to his partner. This is called a hold-up play.</p>
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