

Answers ruffing finesses.

1) we need South to hold the Ace diamonds

I would be happy to not draw trumps first BUT as you do reader probably prefer to draw trumps first I will take that route.

Trick 1) Ace Hrts

Trick 2) K sp

Trick 3 Q sp (which completes the trump drawing)

Trick 4) K diamonds.....

Now if the K diamonds is covered by the Ace with South we ruff [with the 10sp]

Then return to dummy's 9 sp and play Trick 5) Q diamonds Trick 6) J diamonds

Trick 7) 10 diamonds + Trick 8) 9 diamonds

If at trick 4) ...the K diamonds is not covered by the Ace then I will NOT trump it in hand instead I will discard a club. Then I will lead the Q diamonds taking the same approach.

2) I win with Ace hrts .Suppose I better draw trumps –lets say it takes 2 rounds. So I played Ace sp then K sp. Now I want South to have K diamonds. I lead the Ace diamonds and lead the Q diamonds.

(if the Q diamonds isnt covered I discard a club NB NOT a heart- this guarantees 10 tricks). [If the Q diamonds is covered I trump and return to dummy with K hrts and play established J diamonds and discard a club or heart). Again 10 tricks Are safe.

3) We need North to have K diamonds (wait and see why if you haven't worked it out yet)

win with Ace hrts. Draw trumps. Play 4 diamonds to the Q.[it wins !] Now play Ace diamonds and discard a heart or club. Makes 10 tricks.

If South had had the K diamonds then a ruffing finesse would seem to work ...except that you could never enter the dummy to enjoy the J diamonds. There were no entries to dummy even in the shape of trumps.

4)(i) Double for penalties (ii) 3NT

Take a minus mark if u had a third variation.

(Double looks best to me but I suppose in a duplicate if u were vuln and the opps not vuln u might make a case for 3NT ie 3NT making =600 and 2Hrt dbled minus 3 = 500. Course looks likely they will go more than 3 off. My online partner and I doubled an opponent in 2H for plus 1700 the other day tho admittedly they were vuln)

5) 3NT. Anything else is %!***!"^%!

6)(i) the Ace (ii) the 8 (iii) the 10

((you are hoping of course that partner has the Q or J or Q J)

7) (i) well you should play diamonds and then play diamonds and then play diamonds. Taking the club finesse is a last resort.

(ii) Win spades and finesse 10 hearts. If it loses (it will) next time u have the lead finesse the Q Hrts. Taking 2 finesses in the same suit (must be the 10 first) improves your chances up to a whopping 75%