

- a) play A + K diamonds; then play a 3rd diamond (which loses). That should produce the 9th trick in the long established diamond. ie the last diamond is now a winner
- b) there are 8 tricks on top –the 9th may come from diamonds or clubs.
Actually you have to decide now (!) which you are going to try.
That's not easy to decide in fact but I will give both approaches .Score 100% if you tried one of them:-
As the theme of the lesson was establishing by force lets try that first with the clubs

(i) playing on clubs - quite easy as you will see. Win the heart and play A + K of clubs; then play a 3rd club; if the suit “breaks” 3-3 the last club is a winner. This line is a straight 36% chance.

(ii) playing on diamonds -Important to lead weak to strong with such a holding of QJ54-----32; so win with K hrts and lead 2 diamonds to the Q (probably loses); hearts will be continued –you may decide to wait when weak ...when you do win Ace hrts return to dummy and play 3 diamonds to the J.
In a way the chances of this are quite good (there is a 75% likelihood that the opponents hons are split and therefore your Q or J will score....however if the hearts are 5-3 there may be troubles ahead.)

(c) these aren't easy ! I can see 2 approaches again; the legitimate chance is to establish the clubs ie win Ace hearts and play Ace clubs and another club. The opps will win and play a heart. By all means w.w.w. but then win and play a 3rd club. Hopefully the remaining club will now be a winner.
The other approach is quite attractive but fraught with danger win K hrts and lead the 9 sp and “pass it” –you are hoping that the 9 loses to the Q or K. Next time you have the lead lead the 8 sp and try the J as in a finesse.
This 2nd line shouldn't work anyway as the opps should cover the 9 spades with the 10 so perhaps we should discount it completely.

(d) Hmmm... win Ace hrts and lead a club (cf weak to strong). You are hoping (praying) that the K will win. When it does ... lead another club which will lose. Win the heart return and play another club. You should have 9 tricks by now.

By the way – you will have noticed that each of the preceding hands had 8 tricks or so on top –it was important NOT to play those 8 tricks out before trying for the 9th. There are multiple reasons for that. It is really the beginners error to take the easy tricks. Enough said.

(e) Win Ace hrts and play A + K clubs ; then play a 3rd club (which will lose); the remaining clubs will be winners

(f) 2 ways to try: (i)play on diamonds as follows :- win K hrts ; win ace diamonds; play a diamond that loses; win heart return; play a diamond that loses; the remaining diamonds are winners

(ii) play on clubs; win Ace hrts ...lead a club to the K.
Line (i) has better odds (about 65%) as against (ii) at 50%.
Line (ii) is easier of course....

(g) Win –draw trumps then play clubs; every time you take the lead ...play another club; eventually the last club becomes a winner.

(h) win –start drawing trumps –every time you regain the lead go back to drawing trumps –

(i) 1) west clottishly raised their partner's unusual 2NT call.
West correct call was to bid 3D

2) South should go back to opener's 1st suit. 2Sp was the call . False preference and all that.

3) North should rebid 3Sp. South would then chance a raise to 4Sp.
North was at fault in the auction as given NOT south.

4) Great. Now North passes a splinter response.4C is of course a singleton club and shows spade support and approx 10+ pts

“But I don't know what a splinter bid is ...I wasn't there for the lesson ...I have never read any of the notes you sent me on splinters” .

Ok we will have to accept that but NOW YOU KNOW WHAT A SPLINTER IS.? Yes ?

(J) play Ace diamonds on partner's K diamonds;
Play Ace hearts
Lead 2 diamonds to partner's Q diamonds
Partner leads a heart which we ruff.