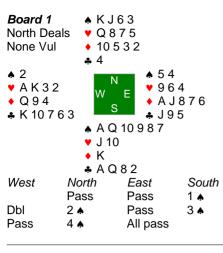
Improvers' Lesson 5: Declarer Play in Suit Contracts

NZBridge



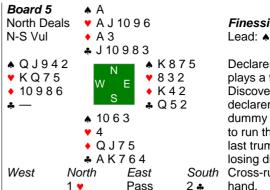
Drawing trumps & Promoting honours

Lead: V A Then West switches to a low diamond to show an honour. Declarer trumps the 2nd diamond and draws trumps in two rounds.

Declarer now plays the ♥ J which forces out the VK. Now they can ruff two small clubs and discard the & Q on the VQ for 10 tricks.

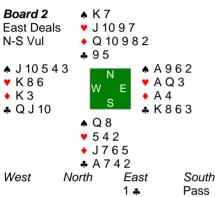
Pass

5 *



All pass

Finessing Lead: ♠ Q Declarer wins ♠ A and plays a trump to the ace. Discovering the void declarer now returns to dummy with a spade ruff to run the . J. Draw the last trump and take a losing diamond finesse. Cross-ruff the rest of the



3 🛦

Pass

Pass

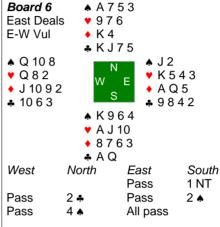
4

All pass

Drawing trumps & Promoting honours

Lead: V J

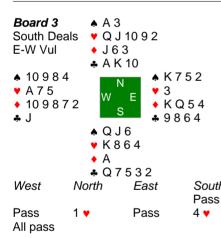
Declarer wins the heart lead with the • A and plays ace and another spade. The remaining two trumps fall together. Declarer now loses a trick to the A.



Unblocking

Lead: ♦ J East wins the first two diamonds, then switches to ▼ 3 showing an honour.

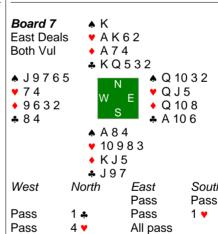
Declarer must win with the ▼ A, then unblocks ♣ A and ♣ Q. Now plays ♠ K then ♠ A (leaving last top trump out). Next the & K and & J discarding two losing hearts in South's hand. Cross ruff the rest losing only to A Q for 10 tricks



Establish long side suit

Lead: ♦ K

Declarer wins the diamond lead with the • A and draws trumps after forcing out the ace. Now three rounds of clubs, cross to dummy with a diamond ruff and discard the remaining small diamond and the \$\text{\alpha}\$ 3 on the South & Q and the & 7.



Establish long side suit

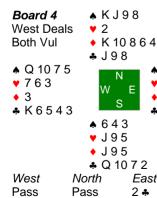
Lead: ♠ 5

Finessing

Lead: ◆ 10

Declarer wins ♠ K and plays ♥ A and ♥ K leaving the VQ out.

Now lead a small club towards dummy's * J97 and continue to play clubs until the suit is South set up.



2 •

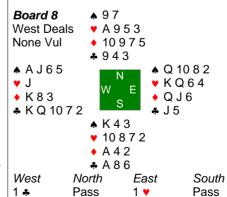
3 •1

Ruffing in Dummy

Lead: 4 2

Declarer wins A and sees that there are 4 potential losers. Before drawing trumps, declarer plays . A and ruffs a diamond.

Now declarer discards the ♠ 2 on the ♣ K and returns to their hand with the . A, ruffs another diamond then draws trumps.



3 ♠

Pass

Pass

All pass

Declarer plays . Q, South wins and plays back a ◆. Declarer wins ◆ J. Declarer has 3 aces to lose and can't afford to lose a spade as well.

Play ♠ Q. If not covered by AK, let it run. Repeat the finesse and draw the last trump. Lose only the ♣ A and ♥ A.

Pass

Pass

1. stronger than bidding 4 V

A 2

♣ A

East

2 🌲

2 🔻

6 🕶

AQ72

Ε

AKQ1084

South

Pass

Pass

All pass

1 🛦

4 🛦