

Jim's Lessons - Week 5 - Postpone drawing trump - Finesse a singleton?

Board 6

East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 9 4
♥ J 10 8
♦ J 8 6
♣ A Q 10 8 3

♠ 10 5 2
♥ Q 7 2
♦ Q 5 4 2
♣ K 7 2



♠ K J 8 3
♥ 6 3
♦ K 9 3
♣ J 9 6 5

8
7 8
17

♠ A Q 7 6
♥ A K 9 5 4
♦ A 10 7
♣ 4

NS 5♥; NS 4N; NS 3♠; S 4♦; NS 4♣;
N 3♦; Par +450

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
All pass			
4 ♥ by South			

Contract: 4 ♥/S

Lead: 2 ♠

Guideline ___ **Delay Pulling Trump To Ruff Losers**

Guideline ___ **Card Combinations** (Should I finesse a singleton?)

West led the 2 of spades, which gave declarer an easy finesse against the king of spades.

With 2 entries to dummy, declarer now has 2 different ways to try and make 11 tricks.

After winning the queen and ace of spades, dummy was entered by ruffing a spade. The jack of diamonds was led, covered by the king. Declarer won the ace of diamonds and ruffed another spade West discarding a diamond. Another diamond lead from dummy and declarer played the ten, losing to West's queen. West then led another diamond which was won by East's 9. Do you see how declarer could have lost only 1 diamond?

With the poor spots that declarer has in diamonds, it might be a better play to finesse the club and try to get a diamond pitch rather than playing diamonds. The

finesse has to be taken early as declarer still needs an entry to dummy to be sure and get the club discard.

Point To Make #1 - Unless you have other options always try to ruff losers (ruff 2 spades)

Point To Make #2 - If you have a singleton opposite a finessing option the finesse can be taken as long as there is a productive pitch even if the finesse loses.

Previous

Results at game 1- 4 5 1- 1- 1-
420 450 480 420 420 420