

3.

	♠ AKQ5		
	♥ Q752		
	♦ 843		
	♣ AK		
♠ 1043		♠ J862	
♥ K106		♥ A84	
♦ J962		♦ K7	
♣ 962		♣ Q1075	
	♠ 97		
	♥ J93		
	♦ A Q105		
	♣ J843		

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

4.

	♠ AJ1065		
	♥ Q752		
	♦ 8		
	♣ 943		
♠ K43		♠ Q82	
♥ J106		♥ AK9843	
♦ 962		♦ 73	
♣ J1062		♣ 75	
	♠ 97		
	♥ Void		
	♦ AKQJ1054		
	♣ AKQ8		

West	North	East	South
All Pass	Pass	2♥	6♦
'Weak			

You lead the ♦2, headed by the ♦K and ♦A. Declarer now leads the ♥3. What is your plan?

In a no-trump contract, you need not fear losing your ♥K. This is especially so as the bidding and play to date tells you who has the ♥A. South, who can have at most nine points, has already shown up with the ♦A-Q. You want to keep the ♥K-10 as a tenace over the jack and so follow with the ♥6.

You might also need to take care later not to concede a trick to the ♦10.

You lead the ♥J. Declarer ruffs and cashes three top trumps, dummy discarding one card in each major, partner a heart. Now comes the ♠7. What do you do?

You should think what is going to happen if you play 'second hand low'. Declarer, if not holding a singleton, will finesse the ♠10 or ♠J. After partner wins, the whole suit will be ready to run via a second finesse.

You thwart this by inserting the ♠K – it is a dead duck anyway if declarer holds the ♠Q.

You do not need to worry about crashing partner's singleton ♠Q as this is an unlikely holding given the bidding. On a good day for you, declarer will duck the ♠K and later finesse the ♠J to go two down.