

Hand 48

**BOTH VULNERABLE
SOUTH DEALS**

South

- ♠ A 6 3
- ♥ Q J 9 7 3
- ♦ K 9 2
- ♣ A 4

I open ONE HEART and Alex bids ONE NOTRUMP. Since this is forcing in our system, I must rebid something. TWO DIAMONDS is mandatory so I bid it and I buy it.

West leads the three of diamonds.

**BOTH VULNERABLE
SOUTH DEALS**

- ♠ J 9 4
- ♥ 5 2
- ♦ A 7 6 5 4
- ♣ J 10 7



- ♠ A 6 3
- ♥ Q J 9 7 3
- ♦ K 9 2
- ♣ A 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1♥
Pass	1NT (a)	Pass	2♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(a) Forcing
LEAD: ♦3

nyway, if I have done the wrong
one no matter what I do. Down
we can make three diamonds
st offers an annoyed ten spot.

ETE HAND

- ♠ 9 7
- ♥ K 8 7 5 2
- ♦ 3 2
- ♣ Q 7 6 4

R ANALYSIS

wasn't too unhappy at losing his
had held,

wo or three diamonds when three

If diamonds are three-two, I have six possible losers and that's assuming I don't lose two clubs. To avoid this I will have to ruff a club in my hand.

At trick one I win East's ten with the king and play ace and a club. West wins the king and leads the eight of diamonds. I take the ace, East playing the jack. When I ruff dummy's club, West discards the six of hearts.

It looks like down one, but strange things have happened before. Perhaps something will happen here. I exit with the queen of hearts to West's king. West cashes the queen of diamonds, showing he led from Q83 and leads the king of spades.

It's apparent that West has been endplayed somehow and I have to wonder if West just led an honest card or is he falsecarding me.

I have seen West holds three diamonds and two clubs. If he had five spades, he would have overcalled. Therefore he has at least four and possibly five hearts.

If he did not have the ace of hearts also, he would, or should, have ducked my queen.

Therefore I am inclined to place West with the spade king, heart ace and king, diamond queen, and the club king.

I win the king of spades and return a spade. The defenders may be able to avoid leading further spades so I have to return one now and try to guess if West has led from KQx or K10x if, indeed, he has led from either.

West plays low leaving me to guess. I guess the nine playing West for K10x. There are two good reasons for this.

1. If West had the queen, he would have 17 points according to my hypothesis and he might have overcalled one notrump.
2. With KQx of spades, he might have led the king instead of the three of diamonds.

When I p
some of my

♠ K
♥ A
♦ Q
♣ K

Whatev
ly effectiv
ing hearts

In the b
one notru
vocates cl
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can make
three spa
It might l

When I play dummy's spade nine, East wins the queen so some of my thoughts seem to have added up correctly.

COMPLETE HAND

<p>♠ J 9 4 ♥ 5 2 ♦ A 7 6 5 4 ♣ J 10 7</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ Q 8 7 2 ♥ 4 ♦ J 10 ♣ Q 9 6 5 3 2</p>	<p>♠ K 10 5 ♥ A K 10 8 6 ♦ Q 8 3 ♣ K 8</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>♠ A 6 3 ♥ Q J 9 7 3 ♦ K 9 2 ♣ A 4</p>												

FURTHER ANALYSIS

Whatever West's reasons for a trump lead, it was deservedly effective. With good hearts, West could envision my ruffing hearts in dummy. I like his lead.

In the bidding, West erred I think by not overcalling with one notrump. Trap passing doesn't work as often as its advocates claim. Much better to bid when you can rather than to wait for the rare penalty. Note that on this hand, East-West can make three clubs and with a few small changes could make three spades. The trap pass here only cost a partscore swing. It might have cost a game.