

# 04. 2025 – A Simple Safety Play

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## Dealer W all Vul

Declarer missed a simple Safety Play and went down. Here's why:

	<b>NORTH</b>	
	K7	
	32	
	843	
	AKJ1065	
<b>WEST</b>		<b>EAST</b>
Q432		J1096
Q5		J10964
A65		972
9743		Q
	<b>SOUTH</b>	
	A85	
	AK87	
	KQJ10	
	82	

## Bidding

East	South	West	North
P	1NT (1)	P	2S (2)
P	3C	P	4NT (3)
P	5H (4)	P	6C (6)

- (1) 15-17
- (2) Transfer to Clubs
- (3) RKCB
- (4) 2 Key cards, no CQ
- (5) Knows South has at least 2 Clubs for the 1NT bid; therefore bids Clubs strongly

## Contract

6C by South

## The Play

West led DA, then D6, around to DJ

Declarer sees that 5 Clubs are missing, and plays C2, finessing. Disaster - CQ singleton makes, down 1

Declarer missed the simple Safety Play – play CA first, then cross to Hand via S7 to SK to take the Finesse

Here the Contract makes without the Finesse, as CQ is Singleton. Declarer then Draws Trumps and cashes winning Diamonds, Hearts and Spades for 12 Tricks

### **MORAL OF THE STORY**

The finesse looks 50:50, but the simple safety Play of playing CA in case CQ is Singleton with East increases the odds to about 55%

Safety Plays are a big part of winning at bridge

[Note 6NT also makes, but is riskier if a Ruff is needed]

**Ian Morison**

Friday 31 January 2025