

Here is an interesting Hand

**Dealer South, Nil Vul**

**QJ104**  
**AJ9**  
**Q8643**  
**3**

**AK97**  
**10**  
**A95**  
**AK1076**

**THE BIDDING**

North – South have bid to 6S, and West leads HK. Plan the play

First, count your winners – there are only 8 (4S, 1H, 1D and 2C), so you have some work to do to make 4 extra Tricks

1 Trick will come by ruffing a Club in the North Hand

So, you will need 3 more. Diamonds is the only realistic chance (not Clubs, unless you are really lucky and one hand has CQ and CJ bare, very unlikely – about 5%)

You draw Trumps, they break 3-2 (phew!)

Then you visualise how the Diamonds may break. You are missing KJ1072

You will succeed if Diamonds break as follows:

K	J1072	(K with West)
Kx	xxx	(Kx with West)
Kxx	J10	(Either way)

**What should you do?**

After Trumps are drawn, play DA, then lead low towards DQ. You will succeed if any of the above occur (which is about 65%)

This was the full Hand

	QJ104	
	AJ9	
	Q8643	
	3	
652		83
KQ842		7653
K72		J10
85		QJ942
	AK97	
	10	
	A95	
	AK1076	

You make as the cards lie favourably, by 'reversing the finesse' up to DQ

### **MORAL OF THE STORY**

Count your winners, then find a way to make your contract

Visualise where the missing cards may be, in the necessary suit (Diamonds)

Then play DA and lead up to DQ. You make your contract

**Ian Morison**

Bridge lover

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