

♠♥♦♣ **DEVELOP YOUR LONG SUIT** ♠♥♦♣

East is the dealer and passes to you:

<b>S</b>	euvid
♠	10
♥	AK1076
♦	A109852
♣	A

You have a very unbalanced hand; a 6-5. There is a bridge saying: "6-5; come alive". That means you should keep bidding at least to game.

If the two suits were both minors, you could open the lower ranking and reverse. You have 15 HCP; 3 extra points for length; and 1 or 2 extra points for all your prime honors and intermediates.

However, with one of your suits a major, is more important that you get it mentioned quickly. You open 1♥. West overcalls 1♠ and your partner passes. East advances with 2♣ and you bid your second suit – 2♦. West raises his partner to 3♣ and it comes around to you again. What is your bid?

You should bid your 6-card diamond suit again and give your partner a chance to show a preference.

West passes and your partner supports with 3♥. This shows at least 2 Hearts and a weak hand. Playing in a 5-2 fit is not so bad, considering that your losing count (LTC) is only 4. Since partner did finally bid, you can count on him to have at least 1 cover card to reduce your LTC to 3. You put yourself in 4♥.

West led the ♠A, and this dummy is revealed:

<b>N</b>	euvid
♠	QJ98642
♥	Q8
♦	763
♣	5

West's Lead: ♠A

<b>S</b>	euvid
♠	10
♥	AK1076
♦	A109852
♣	A

You have a Spade loser and a probable Heart loser. If you can hold your Diamonds to 1 loser, you can make your contract.

West obviously holds the ♠K. But, not want to set up your dummy's Spades, switches to a trump. You win the ♥Q (your partner's 1 cover card) and take the next 3 Hearts, seeing the ♥J fall under your second Heart. This allows you to lose another Diamond.

You lay down the ♦A and follow with the ♦10. You see the Diamonds split 2-2. East wins the second Diamond and switches to a Club. You win your ♣A and take the remaining Diamonds, making an overtrick.

Usually, your dummy is the hand in which you need to develop a long suit. Here, you have the unusual case of having a longer suit than your trump suit. You still get extra tricks by developing the long suit.

This is the entire deal:

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">2</span> <span style="font-size: 0.8em;">D</span> </div>		<b>N euvid</b> ♠ QJ98642 ♥ Q8 ♦ 763 ♣ 5	<table border="1" style="font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>2♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>3♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S			P	1♥	1♠	P	2♣	2♦	3♣	P	P	3♦	P	3♥	P	4♥	P	P	P	
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<b>W euvid</b> ♠ AK753 ♥ J2 ♦ J4 ♣ KQ76			<b>E euvid</b> ♠ ♥ 9543 ♦ KQ ♣ J1098432																								
		<b>S euvid</b> ♠ 10 ♥ AK1076 ♦ A109852 ♣ A	4♥S      NS: 0 EW: 0																								

You can see how this hand should be played by clicking on this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y646rf7d>, or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick. If you don't want to see the opponents hands, click on the white area in the South hand before you start.

Alternatively, by clicking on "Play" you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own.