

## ♠♥♦♣ MANUFACTURING ENTRIES ♠♥♦♣

You have dealt yourself a very nice hand:

<b>S</b>	South
♠	AK10976
♥	AQJ
♦	743
♣	A

You open 1♠ and partner responds 1NT. It's back to you.

Almost any good cards in partner's hand will assure a game. You were very close to opening 2♣ anyway. You rebid 4 spades and hope for the best.

West leads the ♦Q and you see this dummy. How can you make your contract? What is your plan?

<b>N</b>	North
♠	Q8
♥	432
♦	K65
♣	86543

West leads ♦Q

<b>S</b>	South
♠	AK10976
♥	AQJ
♦	743
♣	A

Many Norths would have passed with 5 HCP. But, the ♠Q in his partner's 5-card suit is worth an extra point. He was wise to seek out a 1NT response.

When your LHO leads a queen in a suit contract, you can rest assured that the ace is in his partner's hand. There is no hope in putting up the ♦K in this hand. You should play low and hope that East started with a singleton or even a doubleton ♦A. Unfortunately, he has neither and you lose the first three tricks. East takes the 3<sup>rd</sup> trick with his ♦A and leads a low club for his 4<sup>th</sup> trick.

Now you must take all the rest of the tricks, which means that you need the ♥K to be in East. But, even if it is, you have to get to the dummy two times to finesse both the ♥J and ♥Q.

Your only hope for two entries is that the ♠J is in West. After winning the ♣A, lead the ♠6 up to the ♠8. Here it works and you can lead a heart to your hand. East plays low and the ♥J wins. Go back to the dummy's ♠Q and repeat the finesse. Now you draw and last trump and claim.

It is true that if this plan failed, you would have gone down an extra trick, but it is worth the risk to make the contract. As Eddie Kantar always says: "Play to Make."

Look at the entire deal:

11 D	N North	W N E S
	♠ Q8 ♥ 432 ♦ K65 ♣ 86543	P 1NT P 1♠ P P P 4♠
W West		E East
♠ J42 ♥ 987 ♦ QJ102 ♣ KQ7		♠ 53 ♥ K1065 ♦ A98 ♣ J1092
	S South	
	♠ AK10976 ♥ AQJ ♦ 743 ♣ A	4♠ S NS: 0 EW: 0

You can see how this hand should be played by clicking on this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/y6gsyd5w> or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick. Alternatively, by clicking on "Play" you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own.