

♠♥♦♣ **SLAM ON A SQUEEZE** ♠♥♦♣

Your partner is the dealer and opens 1♦. East passes and this is your hand:

S	euvid
♠	KQ8
♥	A108
♦	J10
♣	AKQ73

You have 18 HCP and partner opened. You should be thinking about Slam! Your first response is 2♣. This is 2/1, forcing to at least 3NT. Partner rebids 2NT. You could easily bid 3NT and that would be where you'd play. But this hand is too strong. It's worth a slam investigation.

The bid of a suit at the 3-level, after a game force initial response, is a stopper showing bid. A rebid of 3♣ is suggesting 6 Clubs. You don't have six but a very strong 5-card Club suit.

Your partner now supports Clubs with a 4♣ rebid. Now that you know you have a Club fit, you can use Losing Trick Count. Your Losing Count is 5 and your partner has 7 since he opened and encouraged you to the 4-level. That is a total of 12. Subtracting 12 from 24 results is 12 tricks that you should be able to take in Clubs.

The only remaining information to glean is the presence of at least 1 Ace in partner's hand. Your 4NT elicits a 5♥ response, confirming both of the missing Aces. You end up in 6♣.

West leads the ♦6 and you see this dummy:

N	euvid
♠	A62
♥	Q43
♦	AK52
♣	1065

West lead: ♦6

S	euvid
♠	KQ8
♥	A108
♦	J10
♣	AKQ73

“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.

© David Germaine 2022