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|-----------|-------|---|----------|---------|
| Dealer: E | | ♠ JT92 | Vul: N/S | |
| | | ♥ QT42 | | |
| | | ♦ 9 | | |
| | | ♣ KQJ4 | | |
| ♠ | KQ3 | ↑ ₉ ← ₁₄ 0→ ↓ ₁₇ | | ♠ 854 |
| ♥ | AJ865 | | | ♥ 97 |
| ♦ | AT62 | | | ♦ 843 |
| ♣ | T | | | ♣ 87653 |
| | | ♠ A76 | | |
| | | ♥ K3 | | |
| | | ♦ KQJ75 | | |
| | | ♣ A92 | | |

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|----------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| PLAY THIS HAND WITH JERRY | Bidding | P – 1N -- 2♦ -- 3N |
| | Sequence → | P -- P -- P |

Here's another deal where you as declarer need to pay attention to the bidding and picture the cards in the defender's hands.

I was sitting North when my vulnerable vs. not vulnerable partner opened 1N and West said 2D which showed diamonds and a major. I wasn't worried about the majors, so I decided to bid 3N which in our system denies a diamond stopper and my partner had that suit well stopped. I could have tried for a penalty, but it is so hard to beat them 4 tricks which is what we would have to do because we have at least 9 tricks in NT.

The opening lead was the 6 of hearts and using the rule of 11 it tells him there are 5 higher cards in the other 3 hands. He can see 3 so he knows East has 2.

My partner chose to play the 10 of hearts from dummy and when it held, he led a diamond to the K and West's A. West then guessed to play the A hearts and another heart, partner winning the Q and he now knows West started with 5 hearts.

From trick 1, as declarer, you should count your winners and in this deal you have 1 spade, 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and 4 clubs so you know you are making this contract. As far as overtricks, you have possibilities in the spade suit and the diamond suit so at this point I am suggesting you run 4 clubs, discarding a spade from your hand, and watch what 3 cards West discards (he might discard a diamond and then you make 5. A good player would have discarded 1 spade and 2 hearts, but he cannot see declarer's hand.

What makes this hand so interesting is noting that the play of the 10 hearts at trick 1 was not the best. Go back and see what happens if you save that card, it gives you the threat of another trick if you saved it. You would most likely make 4 if you did that. Also for you squeeze experts if dummy had one more diamond and 1 less spade you would surely make 5.

As for the scores, making 5 was 90%, making 4 was 70%, making 3 was 44% and going down 1 was 6%.

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