



Dealer: S		♠	J542	Vul: none	
		♥	QJ5		
		♦	T4		
		♣	KQ53		
♠	AT97	↑ ₉ ← ₉ 10→ ↓ ₁₂		♠	K83
♥	T32			♥	AK76
♦	873			♦	965
♣	AJ2			♣	T84
		♠	Q6		
		♥	984		
		♦	AKQJ3		
		♣	976		

PLAY THIS HAND WITH JERRY	Bidding	1♦ - P
	Sequence →	1♠ - P - 1N - P P --- P

One of the most fun parts of playing a hand is executing a squeeze. A squeeze occurs when one or both defenders cannot guard more than one suit. It normally happens at the end of play where a trick just seems to disappear.

I don't write about them very often because they can be difficult to plan and understand.

Recently my partner were defenders, and the declarer allowed us to squeeze his dummy and, if I were physically at the table, it would have been very hard to keep a straight face. In all my years it has only happened at my table twice, whereas being a declarer, it has happened thousands of times.

The bidding went as shown and my partner led the 7♠ to my K which held and I returned the 8♠ to her A and she led the T♠, declarer winning the J in dummy. At this point the defense can take 3 ♠s, 2 hearts and 1 ♣ for 6 tricks but the declarer decided to run his 5 ♦s discarding 2 ♣s and a ♠ from dummy.

To understand what happened next, you should print out this deal and scratch out the cards as they are played. Dummy now has QJ5 of ♥s and KQ of ♣, declarer has nothing important, West has 9♠, T3 of ♥s and AJ of ♣s, while East has AK76 of ♥s and the T♣.

Declarer now leads a ♣ and West wins the A♣ then cashes the 9♠. If dummy discards a ♣, West can cash the J♣ and if dummy discards a ♥, then West lead their ♥ and my hand is good for down one. Dummy was squeezed out of the seventh trick at this point.

You readers can see that after winning the J♠, the declarer should see that since the defense can only take a total of 6 tricks (3 ♠s, 2 ♥s and 1 ♣) he should just lead the K♣ and then would score 1 ♠, 5 ♦s and 1 ♣ for making +90 and getting 60% verses getting 10 % for -50.

I do hope you learned about a simple squeeze.

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