

Advanced Declarer Play

The Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club
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<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/aaDeclarerPlay/DeclarerPlay-Advanced2.pdf>

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What is the key play to each of the following?

Board 1 Cross Ruff

- Do not touch trump
- Cash all necessary side-suit winners

North Dealer None Vulnerable

♠AQ109 ♥A ♦A9876 ♣Q109
♠654 ♥KQJ ♦32 ♣J8743 
♠KJ87 ♥98765 ♦4 ♣AK2

W	N	E	S
P	1♦	P	1♥
P	1♠	P	4♠
P	4NT	P	5♣
P	5NT	P	6♣
P	6♠	all pass	

Count the Tricks.

- Eight ruffs
- Two red Aces
- Three ♣'s

Because declarer is only in six, only two ♣'s must be cashed. If three clubs are cashed, East will ruff and lead trump and declarer will be down one. The clubs must be cashed before carrying out the cross-ruff because when the defenders cannot overruff, they will pitch clubs.

Board 2 End Play

- Eliminate all the defender's safe exit cards
- Throw a defender in.
- They will lead a suit that helps declarer.

East Dealer North South Vulnerable

♠76	♥QJ65	♦109	♣A9876
♠QJ1098	♥4	♦KJ87	♣Q54
♠5432	♥32	♦65432	♣32
♠AK	♥AK10987	♦AQ	♣KJ10

W	N	E	S
		P	1♥
P	3♥	P	4NT
P	5♣	P	5♦
P	6♥	all pass	

Declarer must draw trump, cash spades, cash the ♦A and throw the opponents in with the ♦Q. West will either play a club or give a sluff and a ruff. If declarer

takes the diamond finesse. They have a 50% chance of finding the ♣Q and making the slam. Using the end play gives the slam a 100% chance.

Board 3 Trump End Play

- Eliminate all the defender's safe exit cards.
- Shorten the long-hand trump to the same length as the defender's trump.
- Throw a defender in.

South Dealer East West Vulnerable

♠8654 ♥A987 ♦A98 ♣A6
 ♠Q1092 ♥QJ ♦543 ♣J1095
 ♠AKJ73 ♥6 ♦KQ6 ♣KQ87

W	N	E	S
			1♠
P	2NT	P	3♥
P	4♣	P	4NT
P	5♦	P	5♥
P	5♠	P	6♠
all pass			

Declarer wins the ♣A and plays a trump to the ♠A. He then ruffs a heart to shorten his trump to the same length of West's trump, cashes his diamonds and ruffs a club. He then plays the ♠8 and West is endplayed in trump.

Board 4 Squeeze

- Rectify the count by losing every single loser he can lose to make the contract.
- Declarer runs long suit and watches the discards.
- A defender must be guarding two suits and must surrender one guard.

West Dealer Both Vulnerable

♠Q4 ♥AJ109865 ♦QJ ♣AQ
 ♠J10 ♥43 ♦1098765 ♣987  ♠32 ♥K2 ♦432 ♣K65432
 ♠AK98765 ♥Q7 ♦AK ♣J10

W	N	E	S
P	1♥	P	1♠
P	2♥	P	3♦
P	3NT	P	6NT
P	7NT	dbl	all pass

Declarer cashes his top diamonds and the ♥A and then runs his spades. The hands look like the following.

♠--- ♥J ♦--- ♣AQ
 irrelevant  ♠ ♥K ♦--- ♣K6
 ♠5 ♥Q ♦--- ♣10

Declarer cashes the ♠5 and pitches the ♥Jack. East must let go a card and declarer makes 7NT doubled.

Board 5 Trump Squeeze

- Run trump, watch discards and ruff a suit good.
- The defender ahead of dummy must be protecting the suits.

North Dealer NS Vulnerable

♠654 ♥765 ♦A109 ♣A874
 ♠32 ♥3 ♦KQJ76 ♣QJ965  ♠J ♥QJ10984 ♦5432 ♣32
 ♠AKQ10987 ♥AK2 ♦8 ♣K10

W	N	E	S
P	P	1♠	
2NT	3♠	P	4NT
P	5♥	P	6♠
all pass			

Declarer wins the ♥Ace, draws trump and cashes his other top heart and runs his spades. The hands look like the following.

♠--- ♥--- ♦A109 ♣A87
 ♠--- ♥--- ♦KQJ ♣QJ9  Irrelevant
 ♠987 ♥2 ♦8 ♣10

Declarer cashes the ♠9 and pitches the suit that West keeps. Declarer cashes the Ace and ruffs a card in the suit West discards. Let's say West discards the ♦King. Declarer discards a club and ruffs a diamond good. He makes +1460.

Board 6 Trump Coup

- The finesse works but dummy does not have enough cards to take the finesse enough in the trump suit.
- The long-trump hand must be shortened to the same length as the player with the long trump.

East Dealer East West Vulnerable

♠87 ♥K54 ♦A987 ♣9876
 ♠6 ♥7632 ♦J1042 ♣QJ105

 ♠K432 ♥QJ10 ♦Q3 ♣AK32
 ♠AQJ1095 ♥A98 ♦K65 ♣4

W	N	E	S
P		1♠	
P	1NT	P	4♠
all pass			

Declarer ruffs the second club continuation of the opening lead with the ♠10. He then plays a heart to the ♥K. He runs the ♠8 through and then the ♠7 to the ♠9. He gets the bad news and goes to the ♦Ace to ruff another club. Now his trump are the same length as East's.

The hands look like the following.

♠ ♥54 ♦987 ♣9
 irrelevant

 ♠K4 ♥J10 ♦Q ♣A
 ♠AQ ♥A9 ♦K6 ♣---
 ♠AQ ♥A9 ♦K6 ♣---

Declarer cashes the ♦King and the ♥Ace and loses the lead. The opponents will give declarer his last spade finesse. Declarer makes +420.