

# To execute a squeeze

A useful technique for declarer



# Declarer's ABC

- Make a plan!
- Count sure tricks.
- How many tricks are missing?
- How can I establish the missing trick(s)?
- If possible try to combine possibilities.

# To promote tricks

- Long suit tricks
- Extra trump tricks
- Finesse.
- Special techniques:
  - **Squeeze**
  - Endplay

# What is a squeeze?

- When one of the defenders has to give up one or more of his stoppers.

## Four conditions for basic squeeze

- Only one of the defenders is guarding two suits
- You can win all the (remaining) tricks except one
  - Sometimes you have to give away trick(s) to create this position
- At least one of the threats (=potential extra trick) must be behind the defender you want to squeeze
- You need to have connection between your hands

# Examples

Only one of the defenders is guarding two suits

	♠ --	
	♥ K	
	♦ AJ	
	♣ --	
♠ --		♠
♥ A		♥
♦ KQ		♦
♣ --		♣
	♠ A	
	♥ 2	
	♦ 2	
	♣ --	

Only one of the defenders is guarding two suits

	♠ --	
	♥ 2	
	♦ AJ	
	♣ --	
♠		♠ --
♥		♥ A
♦		♦ KQ
♣		♣ --
	♠ A	
	♥ K	
	♦ 2	
	♣ --	



At least one of the threats (=potential extra trick) must be behind the defender you want to squeeze

	♠ --	
	♥ K	
	♦ AJ	
	♣ --	
♠ 9		♠ --
♥ 9		♥ A
♦ 9		♦ KQ
♣		♣ --
	♠ A	
	♥ 2	
	♦ 2	
	♣ --	

At least one of the threats (=potential extra trick)  
must be behind the defender you want to  
squeeze

	♠ --	
	♥ 2	
	♦ AJ	
	♣ --	
♠ 9		♠ --
♥ 9		♥ A
♦ 9		♦ KQ
♣		♣ --
	♠ A	
	♥ K	
	♦ 2	
	♣ --	

You can win all the (remaining) tricks except one

	♠ --	
	♥ K	
	♦ AJ	
	♣ 3	
♠ --		♠ 2
♥ A		♥ 2
♦ KQ		♦ 2
♣ 2		♣ J
	♠ A	
	♥ 2	
	♦ 2	
	♣ 10	

You need to have connection between your hands

	♠ --	
	♥ K	
	♦ J2	
	♣ --	
♠ --		♠
♥ A		♥
♦ KQ		♦
♣ --		♣
	♠ A	
	♥ 2	
	♦ A	
	♣ --	

## Four conditions for basic squeeze

- Only one of the defenders is guarding two suits
- You can win all the (remaining) tricks except one
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- You need to have connection between your hands

# EXAMPLES

#2



# Deal Example 1

	♠ AK84	
	♥ AKQ3	
	♦ J2	
	♣ K32	
♠		♠
♥		♥
♦		♦
♣		♣
	♠ 932	
	♥ 542	
	♦ AKQ	
	♣ AQJ4	

Contract: 7 NT south  
Opening lead: ♣ 10

## Playing plan

Sure tricks:

♠: 2

♥: 3

♦: 3

♣: 4

**Total: 12**

	♠ AK8	
	♥ 3	
	♦	
	♣	
♠ QJ5		♠ 107
♥ J		♥
♦		♦ J
♣		♣ 10
	♠ 932	
	♥	
	♦	
	♣ J	



	♠ AK8	
	♥ 3	
	♦	
	♣	
♠ 106		♠ QJ5
♥		♥ J
♦ J		♦
♣ 10		♣
	♠ 932	
	♥	
	♦	
	♣ J	

	♠ 8	
	♥ AKQ3	
	♦ --	
	♣	
♠ Q		♠
♥ J1098		♥ 76
♦		♦ J109
♣		♣
	♠ 9	
	♥ 542	
	♦	
	♣ <u>J</u>	

	♠ 8	
	♥ AKQ3	
	♦ --	
	♣	
♠		♠ Q
♥ 76		♥ J1098
♦ J109		♦
♣		♣
	♠ 9	
	♥ 542	
	♦	
	♣ <u>J</u>	

♠ AK84  
♥ AKQ3  
♦ 32  
♣ K32

♠  
♥  
♦  
♣

♠  
♥  
♦  
♣

♠ 932  
♥ 542  
♦ AKQ  
♣ AQJ4

## Deal Example 2

	♠ KQJ3	
	♥ 85	
	♦ 10852	
	♣ Q86	
♠		♠
♥		♥
♦		♦
♣		♣
	♠ 1052	
	♥ AKQ764	
	♦ Q9	
	♣ A7	

Contract: 3 NT north  
Opening lead: ♠ 8

N	E	S	W
		1♥	1♠
1 NT	pass	3 NT	pass
pass	pass		

## Deal Example 2

	♠ KQJ3	
	♥ 85	
	♦ 10852	
	♣ Q86	
♠		♠
♥		♥
♦		♦
♣		♣
	♠ 1052	
	♥ AKQ764	
	♦ Q9	
	♣ A7	

Contract: 3 NT north  
Opening lead: ♠ 8

N	E	S	W
		1♥	1♠
1 NT	pass	3 NT	pass
pass	pass		

## Deal Example 2

	♠ KQJ	
	♥ 85	
	♦ 10	
	♣ Q86	
♠		♠
♥		♥
♦		♦
♣		♣
	♠ 105	
	♥ AKQ76	
	♦	
	♣ A7	

Contract: 3 NT north  
Opening lead: 8 ♠

West wins A ♠

Then switches to ♦ to A

East continues with ♦

West cashes K♦ and J♦

## Deal Example 2

	♠	
	♥ 85	
	♦ 10	
	♣ Q8	
♠		♠
♥		♥ J1093
♦		♦
♣		♣ K
	♠	
	♥ AKQ7	
	♦	
	♣ 7	

Contract: 3 NT north  
Opening lead: 8 ♠



Now you can try. Good luck!

