

# TAKING THE BULL BY THE HORNS

You are sitting in the South with this hand:

<b>S</b>	South
♠	3
♥	AJ9754
♦	J954
♣	K9

Your partner is the dealer and he opens 1NT. You are getting ready to transfer him into hearts but your RHO overcalls 2♠. There are various ways to handle this interference, but you know you have a heart fit and you know you want to be in game because you have 9 HCP and a good six card trump suit for another 2 points. You should just bid it: 4♥. This becomes the final contract.

Here is how the bidding progressed:

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♠	4♥
All Pass			

West leads the ♠9 and you see your dummy:

This is the full deal:

<b>D</b>	<b>N</b> North	<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>
9	♠ Q1052		1NT	2♠	4♥
	♥ KQ		P	P	P
	♦ A107				
	♣ A862				
<b>W</b> West		<b>E</b> East			
♠ 974		♠ AKJ86			
♥ 1086		♥ 32			
♦ K632		♦ Q8			
♣ J103		♣ Q754			
	<b>S</b> South				
	♠ 3				
	♥ AJ9754				
	♦ J954				
	♣ K9				
			4♥ S		NS: 0 EW: 0

You want to count your losers in a suit contract. You have 1 spade loser and if trumps behave, you have no heart losers. Your clubs present no losers and therefore, you

must limit the diamond losers to only two. This might look difficult at first glance. But actually, there is no way you can lose more than 2 diamonds. You are only missing the ♦K and ♦Q; you have the ♦AJ109.

Start by winning the second spade with a heart ruff in your hand and lead up to the ♥KQ. Then come back to your ♣K to pull the last trump. Now you can finesse the ♦10. This loses to East's ♦J. Win the return and play the ♦A and another diamond. West will take his ♦K but the last diamond is yours.

You can see how this hand should be played by clicking on this link:

<http://tinyurl.com/zlrdh7c> or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick. Alternatively, by clicking on "Play" you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own

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