



A Comprehensive Guide to Declarer Play

For the Exciting Game of Bridge

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Preface

The title of this book has nothing to do with a court jester pleasing a royal audience. This book is just about declarer play for the exciting game of bridge and will please a general bridge audience.

Being a good declarer is a must, even though sometimes a declarer is just at the mercy of the bidding, the opening lead, and the defensive footprint. Unless the defenders can find exit cards (safe implied), they may help the declarer by breaking open new suits.

However, all the various techniques must be archived in the brain until they are needed. A player can go sessions without seeing a squeeze, a trump coup or an endplay, but he still knows them.

All advancing players should master this book on declarer play. This will make their games of bridge more rewarding and the demand of their partnerships greater.





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Example E.4: Pseudo and Real Squeezes

N-S vul.

♠92	♥75	♦KQJ1095	♣Q53						
♠1084	♥ <u>A</u> J10964	♦3	♣K108	<div style="display: inline-block; border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 1em; height: 1em; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">WE</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">NS</div> </div>	♠J653	♥Q832	♦42	♣AJ9	
♠AKQ7	♥K	♦A876	♣7642						

W	N	E	S
		P	1♦
2♥	3♦	4♥	5♦
all pass			

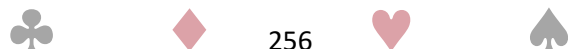
This was played on BBO during a Kootenay Jewel bridge club game. West leads the ♥Ace, and East plays the ♥2 hoping for a club shift. It has to be suit preference because East knows there is no chance of a second heart trick. West also knows this but loses his nerve. He picks a safe heart exit.

The declarer ruffs. The solution to the hand is to get that short-hand heart ruff and then cash every single diamond. East must discard the ♣Ace or the declarer makes +600. No declarer in the six-table open field ran his diamonds before cashing the spades in the hidden hand.

This hand is a pseudo squeeze with a very good chance of success. The following is a real squeeze with 100 per cent chance of success. This hand occurred during a Spokane Duplicate bridge club on BBO.

Neither vul.

♠1083	♥J4	♦KQ10	♣AQ985						
♠KQ2	♥Q73 <u>2</u>	♦2	♣J7432	<div style="display: inline-block; border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 1em; height: 1em; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">WE</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;">NS</div> </div>	♠J6	♥AK96	♦J9853	♣K10	
♠A9754	♥1085	♦A764	♣6						





Trail, BC, Pencil on Paper, 24.5cm x 17.5cm, 2016

Warren Watson is a former Aerospace Engineer and is currently an artist, with a diploma in Fine Arts from Okanagan University College in Kelowna, BC, and an avid bridge player. He is an ACBL Diamond Life Master, an ACBL accredited bridge teacher, a writer of 347 columns in the Trail Times, a published author, an ACBL director, an accredited ACBL tournament assistant and the Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club manager (10 years). He currently resides in Trail, BC, and in winter, likes to ski Grey Mountain of Red Mountain Resort.



Self Portrait, Pencil on Paper
20cm x 24.9cm, 2015

