

**Squeeze Without the Count
Vulnerability Both, Dealer: S**

Written up by Don Heitler. Don says:

This was an interesting hand that occurred in an Albuquerque pairs game.

A squeeze generally is executed with the "count rectified" so declarer has all the winners except one. This one was unusual in that it was a squeeze executed without the count being rectified.

	<u>NORTH</u>	
	♠87532	
	♥J5	
	♦AQ76	
	♣J3	
WEST		EAST
♠AK964		♠QJ
♥AK6		♥Q10874
♦J10943		♦K
♣		♣KQ842
	<u>SOUTH</u>	
	♠10	
	♥932	
	♦852	
	♣A109765	

Bidding:

South	West	North	East
P	1S	P	2H
P	3D	P	4H
P	P	P	

Lead 10 of spades

East-West arrive at a normal spot of 4H. Looking at all four hands, can you see how to make six hearts?

Declarer suspects that the 10 of spades is a singleton. His first job is to play the king of clubs and take a ruffing finesse. Say it is covered. Declarer must trump with the ace of hearts and play hearts starting with the king and running four hearts and the queen of clubs. Before the last winner is played (six cards remaining), this is the position: (it could be the queen of clubs not the last heart)

	NORTH	
	♠8753	
	♥	
	♦AQ	
	♣	
WEST		EAST
♠AK96		♠J
♥		♥4
♦J10		♦K
♣		♣842
	SOUTH	
	♠	
	♥	
	♦852	
	♣1097	

Bidding:

South	West	North	East
P	1S	P	2H
P	3D	P	4H
P	P	P	

On the last winner (a heart), West pitches a diamond and North has two choices of losing actions. North can pitch a spade, in which case spades run, losing only one diamond, or pitch a diamond so East can play his jack of spades (not overtaking) and then lead the king of diamonds forcing North to let West run all of the spades.