

Responder

♠K1054

♥K742

♦J1032

♣J

Opener

♠AQ

♥AQ86

♦AK

♣AQ743

Opener Responder

2C      2D

2N      3C

3H      4H

4N      5C

6H

This is the second part of a two part puzzle.

In the first part, the partnership got to a good 6H contract on the auction shown. In this second part, you are asked to plan the play.

Send your answers to me: [billpuzzles@bridgesights.com](mailto:billpuzzles@bridgesights.com)

## The Answer

### Responder

♠K1054

♥K742

♦10432

♣J

### Opener

♠AQ

♥AQ86

♦AK

♣AQ743

There are several different ways to play the hand. The important thing is to come up with a plan before playing to trick one. I will recommend what is probably the easiest line to visualize, and simply depends on a 3-2 trump split (68%).

There are no apparent losers on the hand. However, you also need to count your winners. You can count 3 spades, 5 hearts (4 trumps in one hand, plus one ruff in the other hand), 2 diamonds, and 1 club, for a total of 11 tricks. So, you need to come up with one more trick. One way is to try and get an extra heart, by ruffing clubs twice in dummy (this increases your heart trick total from 5 to 6). Another way is to simply duck a club right away, setting up the Q of clubs in your hand. That is what I recommend.

So, after winning the opening lead, draw 3 rounds of trumps, ending in dummy and lead the J of clubs. Whether it wins or not, you have 12 sure tricks. And if the finesse happens to win, there is a small chance that you can set up an extra club for a 13<sup>th</sup> trick.