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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

18<sup>th</sup> May 2010 Both vulnerable. South deals.

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠ K 8 4 ♥ J 9 6 ♦ 7 6 4 3 ♣ A Q 3	
<b>WEST</b> ♠ Q 10 6 ♥ K 8 5 ♦ Q J 9 5 ♣ 7 6 4		<b>EAST</b> ♠ J 3 ♥ A 7 4 2 ♦ K 10 8 2 ♣ 10 9 5
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠ A 9 7 5 2 ♥ Q 10 3 ♦ A ♣ K J 8 2	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1 Spade
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 Club
Pass	3 Spade	Pass	4 Spade
All Pass			

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

This week we will focus on trump control. This deal is a typical example of how careful one must be.

North's jump in spades following a one-no-trump response shows a limit raise in spades with specifically three-card support. South has an easy raise to game.

West leads the queen of diamonds, and when dummy appears it seems the hand is unbeatable provided the outstanding trumps break 3-2. After winning the ace of diamonds declarer cashes the two high trumps and the suit breaks normally. It might now seem that declarer can surrender a trump trick and then go about his business. Not so.

On winning the trump West can force South to ruff a diamond. Then, on winning the first heart, the defenders remove declarer's last trump with another diamond lead. Now, when they win the second heart, they can score at least one diamond trick.

Correct is to cash the two high spades and then, leaving the defenders with the master trump, start establishing a heart trick immediately. The defenders can win and force South with a diamond, but he plays a second heart, establishing a winner while he still has two trumps in hand. After ruffing the next diamond, declarer simply cashes his side-suit winners, and he still has a trump to guard against another diamond lead. Try it.

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