## Trump Squeeze
by Richard Pavlicek

A trump squeeze (as used here) is a generic description for any squeeze in which the trump suit plays a significant role. In fact, almost every no-trump-feasible squeeze has a counterpart with ruffing involved. Note that techniques described here win all the remaining tricks, else they would be a trump strip squeeze, covered in the final category.

### 1. Ruff-delivered squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ 4!</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**South leads auto bi Trick Lead 2nd 3rd 4th**

1. S 4! A A

**Bi case trivial.**

### 2. Threat isolation ruff before squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ J!</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>Q</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. N</td>
<td>♠ 4</td>
<td>♠ A</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠ J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. S</td>
<td>♠ A!</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**South leads ♠ 5 4 leads**

### 3. Ruff-or-establishment squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ 4!</td>
<td>♠ A</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**South leads ♠ 5 4 leads**

### 4. Ruff-triggered reciprocal squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ 4!</td>
<td>♠ A</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Best sequence shown, but ♠ A could be led first.**

### 5. Ruff reentry triple squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ A!</td>
<td>♠</td>
<td>♠ A</td>
<td>♠</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**South leads ♠ 5 4 leads**
6. Ruffout squeeze

Trick Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S ♠ A!

♠ A ♠
♥ J 4 ♦ win 4
♦ 2 ♣ 2

♥ A K ♦ K Q
♣ —

♠ —
♥ Q 4 ♦ A South
♣ A leads

7. Dual ruffout squeeze

Trick Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S ♠ A! ♦ Q 2

♠ 3 2 ♠
♥ A 8 5 ♠ win 5
♦ — ♦ auto bi
♣ —

♠ —
♥ K Q J ♦ A K
♣ —

♠ Q 4 ♦ 4 ♦ A 4
♣ Q 4 ♦ South
♣ — leads

8. Ruffout squeeze (or threat isolation before)

Trick Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S ♠ A ♦ 3 ♦ 2

♠ —
♥ A J 6 ♦ win 6
♦ A 4 2 ♦ auto bi
♣ —

♠ K 8 ♦ 8 7 6 3 ♣ —
♥ Q 10 9 ♦ Q J 10
♣ —

♠ A K ♦ 4 ♦ K 9 5
♣ — South
♣ — leads

Note alternative to ruff heart first.

9. Ruff-delivered ruffout squeeze

Trick Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S ♠ 4! ♦ K ♦ K

♠ K ♠
♥ Q 4 ♦ win 4
♦ A ♦ auto
♣ —

♠ —
♥ 3 2 ♦ 3 2
♣ A K ♦ K Q
♣ —

♠ —
♥ J 4 ♦ South
♣ 4 ♦ leads

10. Trump-length adjusted ruffout squeeze

Trick Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S ♥ 4! ♦ Q ♦ A ♦ 2

♠ A 3 2 ♠ win 5
♦ J 4 ♦ auto
♣ —

♠ —
♥ A K ♦ K Q
♣ —

♠ —
♥ J 5 4 ♦ A ♦ South
♣ — leads

11. Establishment ruffout squeeze

Trick Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S ♠ A! ♦ 7 ♦ 2

♠ —
♥ 3 2 ♦ 3 2
♣ J 10 9 8 7 ♣ —
♥ J 10 9 8 7 ♦ K 6
♣ —

♠ —
♥ A K ♦ 4 ♦ Q 5 4 3
♣ — South
♣ — leads

Guess-free since ♥ A-K-Q will reveal break.
12. Double ruffout squeeze

**Trump Squeeze**

**Trick** Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S A!

```
| S | A | K9 | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

South leads A. !

```
| S | A | K9 | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

13. Clash ruffout squeeze

**Trump Squeeze**

**Trick** Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S A!

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

South leads A.

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

14. Double clash ruffout squeeze

**Trump Squeeze**

**Trick** Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S A! 10 Q J
2. S 4! J A Q
3. N 4 A K

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

South leads A.

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

15. Ruff-assisted pure squeeze

**Trump Squeeze**

**Trick** Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S A! 9 2 2
2. S 4! 10 A J
3. N 4 A Q K
4. S K!

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

Ruff provides reentry unavailable in notrump.

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

16. Compound ruffout squeeze

**Trump Squeeze**

**Trick** Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S A! 9 2 2
2. S 4! QA8
3. N 69 QK
4. S K!

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

17. Twin-entry compound ruffout squeeze

**Trump Squeeze**

**Trick** Lead 2nd 3rd 4th
1. S A! 9 2 2
2. S 4! QA8
3. N 69 QK
4. S K!

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

```
| S | A | K  | J10 |
| W | N | Q  | A   |
```

Trump Squeeze 6 by Richard Pavlick
18. Compound dual ruffout squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ A!</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>♦ 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. S</td>
<td>♦ K</td>
<td>♦ J</td>
<td>♦ 6</td>
<td>♦ 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. N</td>
<td>♠ 4</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. N</td>
<td>♥ 6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>♠ J</td>
<td>Q</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. S</td>
<td>♠ Q!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ♠ 2
- ♥ A 7 6  win 7
- ♦ A 7 6  bi
- ♣ —

- ♣ A K Q J
- ♥ 4
- ♦ 4  South
- ♠ K  leads

19. Alternate threat compound ruffout squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ A!</td>
<td>♥ 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. S</td>
<td>♦ 4</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. N</td>
<td>♥ A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>♦ 4</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. N</td>
<td>♥ 9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>♠ Q</td>
<td>Q</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. S</td>
<td>♠ K!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ♠ —
- ♥ A 10 9  win 7
- ♦ A 9
- ♣ —

- ♣ A K Q J
- ♥ 4
- ♦ 4  South
- ♠ K  leads

20. Knockout squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♥ 4!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ♠ A K
- ♥ —
- ♦ Q 4  win 4
- ♣ —

- ♣ A K Q J
- ♥ A
- ♦ 3  South
- ♠ K  leads

21. Backwash squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ A!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ♠ A K
- ♥ —
- ♦ Q 4  auto bi
- ♣ —

- ♣ A K Q J
- ♥ A
- ♦ 3  South
- ♠ A 4  leads

22. Bare backwash squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ 4!</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>♠ A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ♠ A
- ♥ K
- ♦ —
- ♣ Q

- ♣ A 5 3 2
- ♥ 4
- ♦ —
- ♠ A

- ♠ A
- ♥ 4
- ♦ —
- ♠ A 4  leads

23. Backwash squeeze trump coup

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ 4!</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>♠ A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ♠ A
- ♥ K 2
- ♦ —
- ♣ Q 10

- ♣ K J
- ♥ —
- ♦ —
- ♠ A 4  leads
24. Trump coup or squeeze

Trick  Lead  2nd  3rd  4th
1. S  ♠ A!  ♠ 6  ♠ 4  ♠ J
2. S  ♠ 10  ♠ 7  ♠ 2  ♠ Q
3. N  ♥ Q  K  A  8

♠ A Q 2  ♠ Q 4  win 5
♥ —
♦ —
♣ —
♠ —
♥ A 5 2
♦ A 10
♣ —
♠ —
South leads

25. Seesaw ruffout squeeze

Trick  Lead  2nd  3rd  4th
1. S  ♠ K!  ♠ K  A!  ♠ Q
2. N  ♦ 4

♠ A 3  ♠ —  win 4
♥ —
♦ Q 4
♣ —
♠ —
♥ A K
♦ A K
♣ —
♠ —
♥ —
♠ —
South leads

26. Extended threat seesaw ruffout squeeze

Trick  Lead  2nd  3rd  4th
1. S  ♠ K!  ♥ 10 3!  ♥ Q
2. S  ♥ K!

♠ A 3  ♠ —  win 5
♥ —
♦ Q J 4
♣ —
♠ —
♥ —
♠ —
♥ A J 10
♦ A K
♣ —
♠ —
♥ —
♠ —
 ♥ —
♣ —
♠ —
South leads

27. Trump extended seesaw ruffout squeeze

Trick  Lead  2nd  3rd  4th
1. S  ♠ K!  ♠ Q  A!  ♠ Q
2. N  ♦ 4

♠ A 5 4  ♠ —  win 6
♥ —
♦ —
♣ —
♠ —
♥ Q
♦ A K Q
♣ —
♠ —
♥ —
♠ —
South

28. Guard seesaw ruffout squeeze

Trick  Lead  2nd  3rd  4th
1. S  ♠ K!  ♥ 9 3!  ♥ Q
2. S  ♥ K!

♠ A 3  ♠ —  win 6
♥ —
♦ A 10 2
♣ —
♠ —
♥ A K Q 9
♦ Q J
♣ —
♠ —
♥ —
♠ —
South

29. Ruffout triple squeeze

Trick  Lead  2nd  3rd  4th
1. S  ♠ A!

♠ Q J 10  ♠ —  win 5
♥ —
♦ J 4  auto bi
♣ —
♠ —
♥ K
♦ A K
♣ —
♠ —
♥ —
♠ —
South

Rare; usually ♠ K ruff ♠ A = plain ruffout squeeze.
30. Trump triple squeeze

Pick an ace, any ace!

31. Crossruff or trump triple squeeze

Auto case trivial (just don’t lead diamond).

32. Threat erasure anti squeeze

Auto/bi cases trivial (N-S win 2 tricks).

33. Trump holdup anti threat unblock squeeze

34. Anti threat isolation anti squeeze

35. Underruff anti squeeze
36. Entry attack anti ruffout squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. S</td>
<td>♠ Q</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. E</td>
<td>♦ J</td>
<td>Q</td>
<td>♠ 10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**South leads**

Bi case trivial.

37. Tempo duck anti squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. W</td>
<td>♠ 8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>J?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**West leads**

Bi case trivial.

38. Non-ruff stopper retention anti squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. W</td>
<td>♦ 4</td>
<td>♠ K</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. E</td>
<td>♠ 10</td>
<td>♠ 2</td>
<td>♠ 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**West leads**

Bi case less demanding.

39. Lone stopper release anti seesaw squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. W</td>
<td>♠ K</td>
<td>♦ A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**West leads**

Bi case trivial.

40. Overruff delay anti seesaw squeeze

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trick</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. W</td>
<td>♠ 4</td>
<td>♠ 10</td>
<td>♠ Q</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. E</td>
<td>♤ 4</td>
<td>♠ K</td>
<td>♠ 6</td>
<td>♠ K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. W</td>
<td>♠ 5</td>
<td>♠ K</td>
<td>♠ 8</td>
<td>♠ Q</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. S</td>
<td>♠ A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**West leads**