

Deal 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 8 7
♥ 10 7 6 4 2
♦ A 6 4 3
♣ 7

♠ A J 5
♥ K Q
♦ Q J 8
♣ 10 9 8 5 3



♠ K Q 10 4 2
♥ 9 8 5
♦ 10 9 7
♣ A 4

♠ 6 3
♥ A J 3
♦ K 5 2
♣ K Q J 6 2

13
4 9
14

West North East South
Pass 3 NT Pass Pass

3 NT by North
Lead: ♠ K

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ K, West played the ♠ 7 and North the ♠ 5.

What do you play to the second trick?

When you have made your choice

You can see the ♠ 6, ♠ 5, ♠ 4, ♠ 3 and ♠ 2. So the ♠ 7 is West's lowest ♠, he is doing his best to discourage you from leading the suit again.

North held up with ♠ A J x, hoping you would play the suit again and give him two tricks.

If you play the ♦ T West will win the ♦ A and return a ♠, allowing you to drive out North's ♠ A while you still have the ♠ A for an entry.

Deal 2East Deals
None Vul

♠ 6 3
♥ A J 3
♦ K 5 2
♣ K Q J 6 2

14 5
9 12

West

3 ♣
Pass
3 NT by East
Lead: ♠ K

♠ J 7 5
♥ 10 7 6 4 2
♦ A 6 4 3
♣ 7

♠ A 9 8
♥ K Q
♦ Q J 8
♣ 10 9 8 5 3

♠ K Q 10 4 2
♥ 9 8 5
♦ 10 9 7
♣ A 4

North

Pass
Pass

N

W

E

S

East

1 ♣
3 NT

South

1 ♣
Pass

You are South. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ K, North played the ♠ 7 and East the ♠ 8.

What do you play to the second trick?

When you have made your choice

You cannot see the ♠ 5. The most likely reason is that North has it, and his ♠ 7 is an encouraging signal. The only reason he would encourage you is if he held either the ♠ A or ♠ J.

Together, you two continue to play ♠s to drive out East's ♠ A. When you get the lead with your ♣ A you will cash your ♠ winners and North will still have the ♦ A for some icing on the cake.

There IS another possibility if East is a better than average Declarer. North just might hold ♠ 9 7, giving East ♠ A J 8 5. East played the ♠ 8 as a falsecard to tempt you into playing the suit again. This isn't too likely, but if it happens just congratulate East for the fine play.

Deal 3
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ A 10 7 2	♦ K J 8 3
♥ 6 4	♦ Q 8 6
♦ J 7 3	♣ J 4
♣ A K Q 6 5 3	

♠ 5 4	♦ Q J 9
♥ 6 4	♦ A 9 7 5 2
♦ J 7 3	♦ A K
♣ A K Q 6 5 3	♣ 10 9 7

10
11
14



♠ K 8 6 3	♦ Q 10
♥ 10 9 5 4 2	♣ 8 2

West North East South

2 ♣	3 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	4 ♥

4 ♥ by South

Lead: ♣ A

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣ A, dummy played the ♣ 4 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

West will play the ♣ Q on which you will play the ♣ 2.

West now knows you started with a doubleton, and more importantly, he also knows you want him to play a third ♣.

When he next plays the ♣ K dummy will ruff, but whatever card he ruffs with you will have established a trump trick. When you later win your ♣ K that will be down 1.

Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 5
♥ A K Q 5
♦ A 10 6
♣ Q 10 3

5
22 5
8

West
2 ♣
2 NT
Pass
3 NT by West
Lead: ♦ 5

♠ 7 3
♥ J 8 4 3
♦ K J 9 5 2
♣ 8 2

N
W E
S

♠ J 8 4
♥ 7 6 2
♦ 8 4
♣ K J 9 6 5

♠ Q 10 9 6 2
♥ 10 9
♦ Q 7 3
♣ A 7 4

North East South
Pass 2 ♦ Pass
Pass 3 NT Pass

You are North. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♦ 5, South wins the ♦ Q and returns the ♦ 7. West holds up his ♦ A until the third round. He then plays the ♣ Q and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

You assume (hope) that South holds the ♣ A. If he does then he will need help from you to decide which trick he should win. You play the ♣ 8 first, and the ♣ 2 next to show an even number.

If South is paying attention he will know to win the THIRD ♣. This will kill dummy's ♣ suit, and with it West's chance of making 9 tricks.

Deal 5
South Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 10 8 4
♥ Q J 9
♦ K 9 5 2
♣ 9 3

10
8 8
14

♠ K 9 3
♥ A 7 6 5 4
♦ J 8
♣ Q 7 4

N
W E
S

♠ J 7 6 5 2
♥ 3
♦ 10 6 4
♣ A K 10 5

♠ A
♥ K 10 8 2
♦ A Q 7 3
♣ J 8 6 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by North			
Lead: ♣ A			

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣ A, dummy played the ♣ 2 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

If you signal with the ♣ 9 East will continue with the ♣ K and another which you will have to ruff. You will give up your NATURAL trump trick by doing so. Worse, you will allow South's ♣ J to be established as a winner that North can later discard a ♦ on.

Much better to play low. Partner will surely switch to a ♦, and North will probably finesse, though it doesn't matter whether he does or not. You will win the ♦ K, return the ♣ 9 back to East's ♣ K, and still have your trump trick for later.

Deal 6

East Deals

None Vul

♠ J 6 4 2

♥ J 6 3

♦ A J 6

♣ 10 7 3

3
7 18
12

West

2 ♥

Pass
4 ♥ by East
Lead: ♠ A

♠ 9 3
♥ 5 4
♦ Q 10 8 3
♣ J 9 6 5 2

	N	
W	E	
	S	

♠ 8 5
♥ A K Q 8 7 2
♦ K 5 4
♣ A Q

♠ A K Q 10 7
♥ 10 9
♦ 9 7 2
♣ K 8 4

North

Pass

Pass

East

1 ♥

4 ♥

South

1 ♠

Pass

You are South. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ A, North plays the ♠ 9, East the ♠ 5. You assume North has signaled you to continue ♠s, so you play the ♠ Q. On this trick North plays the ♠ 3 and East the ♠ 8. How will you continue?

When you have made your choice

You might just switch suits, but you have a better choice.

If you play your ♠ Q, North won't bother ruffing, East WILL ruff and dummy's ♠ J will be established as a winner.

The best procedure is to lead a low ♠. North will ruff and East will over-ruff but by playing this way you stop the establishment of West's ♠ J. As you can see, East would have been able to discard

a loser on that ♠ J if you hadn't played this way.