

Deal 1

North Deals	♠ A Q 8 3
None Vul	♥ 10 6
	♦ 7 5 2
	♣ A K Q 5

♠ K 5	♠ 7 4
♥ Q J 9 7 2	♥ A K 4
♦ A Q 6	♦ 10 9 8 4
♣ 9 7 3	♣ 10 8 4 2

N
W E S

♠ J 10 9 6 2
♥ 8 5 3
♦ K J 3
♣ J 6

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♣
2 ♥	3 ♠	Pass	Pass

Pass
3 ♠ by South
Lead: ♥ Q

with your 2 ♥s.

The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥ Q, dummy played the ♥ 6 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

Your side needs to take 5 tricks to defeat this contract. Two of them will be ♥s, but it doesn't look like you can win any ♣s or ♠s.

That means you need to win 3 ♦s tricks and the only way that can happen is if you play ♦s from your side.

So win the first ♥ K (so partner will know you also have the ♥ A), and play the ♦ T. Presumably South will play an honor, but West will take the trick and put you back on lead with your ♥ A. You play the ♦ 9 and your side will collect 3 ♦s tricks to go

Deal 2

North Deals	♠ J 3		
None Vul	♥ K Q J 6		
	♦ A K Q 10 5		
	♣ 6 2		
♠ A K Q 8 6 4	♠ 10		
♥ 8	♥ 7 3 2		
♦ 7 4 2	♦ 9 8 6 3		
♣ A J 9	♣ Q 7 5 4 3		
	♠ 9 7 5 2		
16	♥ A 10 9 5 4		
14 2	♦ J		
8	♣ K 10 8		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
1 ♠	4 ♥	Pass	Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

Lead: ♠ A



The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♠ A, then the ♠ K. Dummy follows suit and it is your play to the second trick.

When you have made your choice

It is obvious that your side can only get 2 ♠ tricks. And assuming that South has the Ace of trumps you will not make a single trick in the red suits. So you need to make 2 ♣ tricks.

If partner has the ♠ A K then he will take them, but if he has the ♠ A J he cannot win 2 ♠ tricks from his side.

To allow for this situation it will be better to play ♣s from your side of the table, and the way to make that happen is for you to ruff partner's ♠ K with an otherwise useless trump. You still get

your two ♠ winners (sort of) but now you get to play a ♣ through South's ♠ K at trick 3.

Deal 3

North Deals	♠ A 10 4
None Vul	♥ J 6 3
	♦ A K 8 2
	♣ Q 10 5

♠ 9 7 5 2
♥ 8 2
♦ 10 7 6 4 3
♣ K 7

14	♠ K Q 6
3 10	♥ Q 10 4
13	♦ J
	♣ A J 9 8 4 2

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	1 ♥	2 ♣
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
3 NT by South			
Lead: ♥ 8			

N		E
W		S
♠ J 8 3	♥ A K 9 7 5	♦ Q 9 5
	♣ 6 3	

The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥ 8, dummy played the ♥ J and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

South played dummy's ♥ J to tempt you to cover. Don't fall for it.

Partner's lead of a high spot card shows no honors in the suit. That added to the fact that South bid Notrump after you had mentioned ♥s is pretty good evidence that South holds at least ♥ Q x x.

To maintain communication with partner your best hope is to duck the first ♥, but to signal encouragement with the ♥ 9.

South wins the first trick easily, but must try to establish ♣s. He will enter dummy

with the ♠ A, then try to run the ♣ Q.

Not today. Partner takes the ♣ K and returns his ♥ 2 to your four winners.

Deal 4	♠ Q J 9 3		
South Deals	♥ K Q J 5		
None Vul	♦ 9 3		
	♣ Q J 10		
♠ K 6 2	♠ 8 4		
♥ 10 6 4	♥ 9 7 3		
♦ A J 6 5 4	♦ 10 8 7 2		
♣ 9 2	♣ A 6 5 3		
	♠ A 10 7 5		
12 8 4 16	♥ A 8 2 ♦ K Q ♣ K 8 7 4		
West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♣ by South			
Lead: ♣ 9			

distribution.

So partner's ♣ 9 is not a singleton, and you should wait. Declarer then runs dummy's ♠ Q. Partner wins the ♠ K, returns his OTHER ♠ to your ♠ A, and NOW you give him the ruff. He takes the ♦ A for down 1.

The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣ 9, dummy played the ♣ T and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

Partner's ♣ 9 is likely from a short suit. If it is a singleton, you should take the ♣ A immediately and return the suit for a ruff. If it is a doubleton, you should NOT take your ♣ A now, but should hope partner can get the lead and play his second ♣ to your Ace so you can give him the ruff.

You can figure out which it is.

If it is a singleton, then South must hold 5 ♣s. But you know South has 4 ♠s, so if he also has 5 ♣s then he only has 4 red cards, and he would not have opened 1 NT with either 5-4-2-2 or 5-4-3-1

Deal 5
East Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 8 3
♥ 10 2
♦ Q J 8 6 4 2
♣ 8 3

5
3 12
20

N
W E
S

♠ A K 4
♥ A 7 4
♦ A K 7 3
♣ Q 5 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♥	Dbl
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 NT by South			
Lead: ♥ 10			

♠ 6 5 2
♥ J 9 8
♦ 9 5
♣ K J 10 9 7

♠ Q J 9 7
♥ K Q 6 5 3
♦ 10
♣ A 6 4

The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥T, dummy played the ♥J and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

Declarer gets two ♥ winners whether you play one of your honors on this trick or not. So why does it matter what you do?

Suppose you cover with your ♥Q. South will win his ♥A, then play ♣s until your ♣A is forced out on the third round. He can then force an entry to dummy in the ♥ suit to reach the two ♣ winners.

Now suppose you duck the ♥J. Again South will push ♣s, and again you hold up until the third round. Ahh, what a difference. Now declarer cannot use the ♥s to enter dummy and he will never get to enjoy those two ♣ winners.