

Deal 1North Deals
None Vul

♠ 2
♥ A K J
♦ J 10 6 3 2
♣ A 9 7 2

♠ A K 7 5 4

♥ 10 8 5

♦ A K

♣ 8 5 4

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

♠ Q J 9 8 6 3
♥ Q 7 2
♦ Q 8 4
♣ J

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
4 ♠ by North			
Lead: ♣ K			

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣ K, dummy's singleton was played and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

East will look at your ♣ 9 and perhaps think for an instant that you want him to play another ♣.

But it will be a short instant because a look at dummy makes in absolutely clear to everybody that playing another ♣ could not help your side. Dummy has so many trumps that repeated ♣ leads would do nothing.

OK. If it's not an encouraging Attitude signal, what is it? Suit preference of course. Since it is a high spot card you are asking East to switch to the higher suit (choosing between ♦s and ♥s).

East dutifully plays a ♥ and you take the next three tricks. Had he switched to a ♦ instead, North would have been able to discard one of his ♥ losers on South's ♦ Q.

Deal 2East Deals
None Vul

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

18 5
 11 6

West 4 ♠
 4 ♠ by East
 Lead: ♣ A

♠ 8 3
 ♥ J 10 6 2
 ♦ K J 9 5 4 2
 ♣ 3

♠ K Q J 9 7 4 2
 ♥ 8 5
 ♦ 6
 ♣ 10 7 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 5
 ♥ 9 7 3
 ♦ A 8 7
 ♣ A K 9 8 6 4

North East South
 3 ♠ Pass
 Pass Pass

You are North. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣ A. Seeing your ♣ 3 he next played the ♦ A. What will you play on this trick?

When you have made your choice

Normally with this holding you would play the ♦ 9 to encourage South to play a second ♦ through dummy's ♦ Q T.

But this time you really want him to take his ♣ K. So play the discouraging ♦ 2 and hope he gets the message to go back to ♣ s. If he does play the ♣ K next it will win and he can then give you a ♣ ruff.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 8 5**♥ K Q 8 5 3****♦ 9 6 2****♣ J 4****8
6 6
20****West**

♠ 6 4 2
♥ 9 6 4
♦ K Q 8 3
♣ K 7 3



♠ J 10 7 3
♥ J 7 2
♦ 10 7 5
♣ A 9 5

♠ A K Q**♥ A 10****♦ A J 4****♣ Q 10 8 6 2****North****East****South**

2 NT

Pass

3 NT

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: **♥ 5**

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the **♥ 5**, you put on the **♥ J**, South won with the **♥ A**. The second trick was **♦ A**, **♦ 2**, **♦ 3**, **♦ 5**. The third trick was **♦ J**, **♦ 6**, **♦ 8**, **♦ 7**. South then put the **♣ Q** on the table.

When you have made your choice

Does it look to you like South is trying to create an entry to dummy so he can cash the 2 ♦ winners? That's what he wants it to look like, hoping someone holds up their **♣ A**.

But don't believe Declarer, believe your partner. On the first ♦ West played the ♦ 2. On the second ♦ he played the ♦ 6. He has an odd number of ♦s, obviously 3. And South must also have a third one, so he is up to some trickery with that **♣ Q**.

So grab your **♣ A** and return partner's **♥** suit.

Deal 4West Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q J 2
 ♥ J 10 3
 ♦ A K 10
 ♣ J 10 3

o
16 **17**
 7

♠ 10 3
 ♥ K Q 8 5
 ♦ 9 7 5 4
 ♣ Q 8 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	5 NT	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
6 ♠ by West			
Lead: ♠ 5			

♠ 7 5
 ♥ 9 7 4 2
 ♦ 8 6 2
 ♣ 7 6 5 2

♠ K 9 8 6 4
 ♥ A 6
 ♦ Q J 3
 ♣ A K 9

N
W E
S

You are South. The bidding has been as shown. The 2 ♥ bid was a transfer. The 5 NT bid meant to choose either 6 ♠ or 6 NT. West liked the suit. Partner led the ♠ 5, won by West's ♠ Q. West pulls one more trump with his ♠ A, then wins three high ♦s. Next comes dummy's ♥ A on which he plays the ♥ 3 and North plays the ♥ 9. Then he leads dummy's ♥ 6 which you win with the ♥ Q. On this trick West drops the ♥ J and North the ♥ 2. It is your play.

When you have made your choice

If you believe West is now out of ♥s then you shoud not play your ♥ K because it would give him a ruff-sluff.

But you shouldn't believe West when your partner has sent you a clear signal

that he holds an EVEN number of ♥s. In this case an even number must be 4 which means that West has one more ♥. So you play your ♥ K. He ruffs in dummy of course, but then has no way to get rid of that ♣ loser when the finesse fails.

If you had not been paying attention to North's signal you might have decided to risk a ♣ lead - with a disastrous result.

Deal 5

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 8 7 5 2
 ♥ 10 5
 ♦ 9 7 4 3
 ♣ Q 2

13
2 **13**
12

West	North	East	South
		1♣	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4♥ by North			
Lead: ♣ A			

♠ K J 3
 ♥ K Q 7 6 4 3
 ♦ K 10
 ♣ J 9



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

♠ 6 4
 ♥ A J 8
 ♦ A Q J 6
 ♣ 8 7 5 4

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♣ A, West played the ♣ 2 and North the ♣ 9. What should you play to the second trick?

When you have made your choice

On first thought West's ♣ 2 seems to be a discouraging signal. Think again.

After the first trick you know the location of every ♣ except the ♣ Q and ♣ J. If West started with ♣ J 2 he would have signaled with the ♣ J. If West started with ♣ Q J 2 he would have signaled with the ♣ Q. Since he did neither he started either with singleton ♣ 2 or with ♣ Q 2. In either case you should play a low ♣ now which he will either win with his ♣ Q or he will ruff.

It turns out that he wins with the ♣ Q,

then leads a ♣ back to your ♣ A Q.