

**Deal 1**

South Deals	♠ 6 3
None Vul	♥ AJ 3
	♦ K 5 2
	♣ K Q J 6 2

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



14	♠ A J 5
9 4	♥ K Q
13	♦ Q J 8
	♣ 10 9 8 5 3

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	3 ♣	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	3 NT

3 NT by South

Lead: ♠ K

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ K, East played the ♠ 7 and South 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 East's lowest ♠, he is doing his best to discourage you from leading the suit again.

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

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

**Deal 2**

South Deals	♠ 6 3
None Vul	♥ AJ 3
	♦ K 5 2
	♣ K Q J 6 2

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

W	N	E	S
14	A 9 8	10 7 6 4 2	A 6 4 3
9 5	K Q	♦ Q J 8	7
12	♣ 10 9 8 5 3		

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	3 ♣	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	3 NT
3 NT by South			
Lead: ♠ K			

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ K, East played the ♠ 7 and South 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 East 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 South's ♠ A. When you get the lead with your ♣ A you will cash your ♠ winners and East will still have the ♦ A for some icing on the cake.

There IS another possibility if South is a better than average Declarer. East just might hold ♠ 9 7, giving South ♠ A J 8 5. South 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 South 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**  
South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 7 3  
♥ J 8 4 3  
♦ K J 9 5 2  
♣ 8 2

5  
5 8  
22

♠ 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

♠ A K 5  
♥ A K Q 5  
♦ A 10 6  
♣ Q 10 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 NT by South			
Lead: ♦ 5			

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♦ 5, East wins the ♦ Q and returns the ♦ 7. South 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 East 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 East is paying attention he will know to win the THIRD ♣. This will kill dummy's ♣ suit, and with it South's chance of making 9 tricks.

**Deal 5**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

<sup>14</sup>  
8 8  
10

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♥ by South  
Lead: ♣ A

♠ A

♥ K 10 8 2  
♦ A Q 7 3  
♣ J 8 6 2



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

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

You are East. 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 West 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 North's ♣ J to be established as a winner that South can later discard a ♦ on.

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

**Deal 6**

South Deals	♠ J 6 4 2
None Vul	♥ J 6 3
	♦ AJ 6
	♣ 10 7 3

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

W	N	E	S
7	8 5	5 4	Q 10 8 3
12 3	A K Q 8 7 2	K 5 4	J 9 6 5 2
18	A Q		

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	4 ♥

4 ♥ by South  
Lead: ♠ A

see, South would have been able to discard a loser on that ♠ J if you hadn't played this way.

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ A, East plays the ♠ 9, South the ♠ 5. You assume East has signaled you to continue ♠ s, so you play the ♠ Q. On this trick East plays the ♠ 3 and South 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, East won't bother ruffing, South WILL ruff and dummy's ♠ J will be established as a winner.

The best procedure is to lead a low ♠. East will ruff and South will over-ruff but by playing this way you stop the establishment of North's ♠ J. As you can

**Deal 7**  
South Deals  
None Vul

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

6  
6 9  
19

West      North      East      South  
Pass      3 NT      Pass      Pass  
Pass  
3 NT by South  
Lead: ♥ Q

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

N  
W   E  
S

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

♠ Q 7 4  
♥ A K 4  
♦ J 6  
♣ A K Q 10 4

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥ Q, you played low and South won the ♥ A.

South now plays the ♦ J on which West plays the ♦ 2. What do you play now, and what is your plan.

When you have made your choice

North hoped his ♦ suit would provide enough tricks to make the game. You can see that there is no entry to the North hand EXCEPT in ♦s, so you want to win your ♦ A on the trick that South plays his last ♦. How can you tell which trick that is?

Only by watching what West plays. On the ♦ J West played the ♦ 2, a low card signaling that he held an ODD number of ♦s.

ODD must be either one or three so when he followed to the next ♦ you know he started with three. A little bit of counting tells you that South started with the doubleton Jack, so you want to win the second ♦ trick.

This defense holds South to one ♦ tricks, if you had let him win the second one he would have had 9 tricks.

**Deal 8**South Deals  
None Vul

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

N	W	E	S
♠ K Q 9 3	♦ Q 6	♥ 8 7 3	♣ 9 7 6 4
♠ 8 7 2	♦ A 8 4 3	♥ J 9 5 2	♣ 8 3

♣ A K Q J
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West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass

Pass  
3 NT by South  
Lead: ♥ 4

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♥ 4, East plays the ♥ J, won by South with ♥ A.

South plays the ♠ J, you follow with ♠ 5, dummy ♠ 3 and East plays the ♠ 2. South continues with the ♠ T and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

East's ♠ 2 tells you he had an ODD number of ♠s, obviously 3. Since South also must have 3, you must take your ♠ A on the third round, depriving dummy of the extra ♠ trick.

South may now turn to the ♦ suit, but your side can win the first ♦ and drive out South's ♥ K. You will win 2 ♥s, 2 ♦s and the ♠ A, down 1

**Deal 9**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul

$\spadesuit$ 8 4 $\heartsuit$ A 8 7 5 2 $\diamond$ 7 5 2 $\clubsuit$ 6 4 2  $\begin{matrix} 13 \\ 4 \quad 8 \\ 15 \end{matrix}$	$\spadesuit$ K J 6 $\heartsuit$ J 10 6 3 $\diamond$ A Q 6 $\clubsuit$ Q 10 5  $\spadesuit$ A Q 10 5 $\heartsuit$ K Q 9 4 $\diamond$ K J $\clubsuit$ 8 7 3
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<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass

3 NT by South

Lead:  $\heartsuit$  5

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the  $\heartsuit$  5, dummy played the  $\heartsuit$  T and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

You really want West to lead a  $\clubsuit$  if he gets into the lead. If you discard the  $\clubsuit$  9 West will surely get the message and will lead a  $\clubsuit$ . BUT - you will only win 3  $\clubsuit$  tricks. The  $\clubsuit$  9 would have been the fourth winner.

So instead, play a low card in one of the other suits, say the  $\diamond$  3.

South is one trick short and he sees he can easily get that trick in  $\heartsuit$ s. So he plays a second  $\heartsuit$  from dummy and you now discard the  $\spadesuit$  2. West takes the  $\heartsuit$  A and he can see that you don't want him to lead a  $\spadesuit$  or a  $\diamond$ . He deduces that you might like a  $\clubsuit$  so he plays his  $\clubsuit$  2 and you win 4 tricks.

**Deal 10**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 6 5 3  
♥ 4  
♦ J 8 6 4 2  
♣ J 9 4 3

<sup>12</sup>  
<sup>2</sup> 8  
<sup>18</sup>

West

♠ K J 7  
♥ Q J 2  
♦ Q 10 3  
♣ K 10 7 5



♠ 8  
♥ A 10 9 7 6 3  
♦ 9 7 5  
♣ A 6 2

♠ A Q 10 9 4 2  
♥ K 8 5  
♦ A K  
♣ Q 8

North      East      South

2 ♥      2 ♠

Pass      3 ♠  
Pass      Pass

4 ♠ by South

Lead: ♥ 4

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♥ 4, East takes the ♥ A and returns the ♥ 3. You ruff and then play what???

When you have made your choice

Partner played the ♥ 3, a low card, for you to ruff. That means his re-entry, if he has one, is in the lower-ranking suit.

Partner takes the ♣ A and gives you a second ♥ ruff.

**Deal 11**

South Deals	♠ K Q 7 5 2
None Vul	♥ Q 4
	♦ 9 6 3
	♣ K 9 6

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







2 ♥ by South

Lead: ♦ A

♣, then cash your ♦ Q. That first signal led to your side winning the first 6 tricks. Wow.

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♦ A, dummy played the ♦ 3 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

You know partner also has the ♦ K, and normally you would give an encouraging signal when you hold the Queen. But with this hand you want partner to switch to ♣s as soon as possible. So you play a low ♦.

West looks at your signal, then looks at dummy, then looks at your signal. He knows you want a switch and it looks like a switch to ♣s might work the best. South plays a low ♣ from dummy, you win the ♣ J. Next you play a low ♦, taken by West with his ♦ K. West leads a ♣. Dummy plays the ♣ K, you win that, cash another

**Deal 12**

South Deals	♠ A 10 3
None Vul	♥ 10 6
	♦ 9 7 2
	♣ K Q J 3 2

♠ 9 6 4	♠ 8
♥ A K 7 2	♥ Q J 8 4 3
♦ A 8 6 3	♦ Q J 10 4
♣ 9 5	♣ 8 7 6
10	♠ K Q J 7 5 2
11 6	♥ 9 5
13	♦ K 5
	♣ A 10 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by South

Lead: ♥ A

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♥ A, East puts on the ♥ Q. It's your play.

When you have made your choice

East's ♥ Q is either a singleton, (practically impossible), or a signal showing that he also holds the ♥ J. In either case you can reach the East hand on the second trick by playing a low ♥. Since you don't particularly want to start playing ♦s from your side, you go ahead and play a small ♥, won by East with the ♥ J.

East next plays the ♦ Q and however South tries it your side will take the next two ♦ tricks and set the contract.

**Deal 13**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul

♠ K 8 7 4  
 ♥ 6 3  
 ♦ A K 9 6  
 ♣ 9 5 3

10 9  
 15 6  
 ♣ A K J 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

4 ♥ by South  
 Lead: ♦ A



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

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

When you have made your choice

As soon as dummy appears you can see 3 tricks for your side. Partner surely has the ♦ K to go with his Ace and you have a certain trump trick. However, that's all you can see.

Your best hope is that West may be able to win a ♠ trick, and it may be important for the first ♠ lead to come from your side of the table.

Your ♦ Q play informs partner that you also have the ♦ J, giving him the option of underleading his ♦ K to get to your hand.

West next plays a small ♦ which you win with your ♦ J. You return the ♠ T. This establishes West's ♠ K before South can pull trumps and discard one of dummy's ♠s on his fourth ♣.

**Deal 14**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 6 5 2

♥ A Q 10 6

♦ 9 5 4 2

♣ —

♠ 7

♥ 5 3 2

♦ 7 3

♣ A K J 9 6 4 2



♠ 10 8 4

♥ J 7 4

♦ K Q 8 6

♣ Q 7 3

♠ A K Q 3

♥ K 9 8

♦ A J 10

♣ 10 8 5

8  
7 8  
17

West      North      East      South

1 NT

Pass      3 NT      Pass      Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♠ 5

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ 5, East plays the ♠ T and South wins the ♠ K. To the second trick South plays the ♣ T and you must discard something.

When you have made your choice

You know that East has no high ♠ honor or he would have played it to the first trick. So South has the ♠ A Q left, plus all those ♣ tricks. You need to have West switch to a ♥ if possible.

East must be expecting to lead a ♠ back when he wins the ♣ Q which you hope he holds. Your ♠ J discard may make him rethink. If your ♠s were any good why would you be discarding a winner when all you had to do was toss a small red card?

Hopefully East will come to the conclusion that this is Suit Preference for a ♥ return and will play his ♥ J. Hopefully.

**Deal 15**

South Deals	♠ 9 6 2
None Vul	♥ K 10 6 3
	♦ Q 9 4
	♣ Q J 4
♠ A K Q 7 3	♠ 10 4
♥ 4	♥ 9
♦ 10 6 5 3	♦ J 8 7 2
♣ 10 7 2	♣ A 9 8 6 5 3



♠ J 8 5
♥ A Q J 8 7 5 2
♦ A K
♣ K

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♥	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 ♠ 2 and you signal with your ♠ T. West next plays the ♠ Q and you drop the ♠ 4, completing your doubleton signal. West then plays the ♠ K and it turns out you don't have to ruff after all. So what are you going to play?

When you have made your choice

This should be a clear enough signal for West to play a ♣ to your ♣ A next.

An alternate play, just as good, would be for you to ruff the good ♠ Q and play the ♠ A yourself.

If you don't get your ♣ trick at trick 4 you will never get it. South will discard his ♣ K on North's extra ♦ winner.

**Deal 16**

South Deals	♠ Q J 9 8 6 3
None Vul	♥ Q 7 2
	♦ Q 8 4
	♣ J

♠ 10	♠ 2		
♥ 9 6 4 3	♥ A K J		
♦ 9 7 5	♦ J 10 6 3 2		
♣ K Q 10 6 3	♣ A 9 7 2		
	♠ A K 7 5 4		
	♥ 10 8 5		
	♦ A K		
	♣ 8 5 4		
West	North	East	South
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
1 ♠			
4 ♠ by South			
Lead: ♣ K			

(choosing between ♦s and ♥s).

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

You are East. 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

West 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 West to switch to the higher suit

**Deal 17**

South Deals

None Vul

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

18	11	5	6
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West

North

East

South

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by South

Lead: ♣ A



♠ K Q J 9 7 4 2

♦ 8 5

♦ 6

♣ 10 7 5

♠ 8 3

♦ J 10 6 2

♦ K J 9 5 4 2

♣ 3

You are East. 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 West 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 18**

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 19**

South Deals	♠ K 9 8 6 4
None Vul	♥ A 6
	♦ Q J 3
	♣ A K 9

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

W	N	E	S
17			
o 7			
16			
♠ A Q J 2			
♥ J 10 3			
♦ A K 10			
♣ J 10 3			

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	5 NT	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♠ by South  
Lead: ♠ 5

this case an even number must be 4 which means that South 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 West's signal you might have decided to risk a ♣ lead - with a disastrous result.

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

When you have made your choice

If you believe South 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 South when your partner has sent you a clear signal that he holds an EVEN number of ♥s. In

**Deal 20**

West Deals

None Vul

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

<table border="0"> <tr><td>♠ A Q 10</td><td>♦ 6 4</td></tr> <tr><td>♥ 9 2</td><td>♦ A J 8</td></tr> <tr><td>♦ 8 5 2</td><td>♦ A Q J 6</td></tr> <tr><td>♣ A K 10 6 3</td><td>♣ 8 7 5 4</td></tr> </table> <table border="0"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">♠ K J 3</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13 2</td><td style="text-align: center;">♦ K Q 7 6 4 3</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">♦ K 10</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">♣ J 9</td></tr> </table>	♠ A Q 10	♦ 6 4	♥ 9 2	♦ A J 8	♦ 8 5 2	♦ A Q J 6	♣ A K 10 6 3	♣ 8 7 5 4	12	♠ K J 3	13 2	♦ K Q 7 6 4 3	13	♦ K 10		♣ J 9	<table border="0"> <tr><td>♠ 9 8 7 5 2</td><td>♦ 10 5</td></tr> <tr><td>W      N</td><td>♦ 9 7 4 3</td></tr> <tr><td>S      E</td><td>♣ Q 2</td></tr> </table>	♠ 9 8 7 5 2	♦ 10 5	W      N	♦ 9 7 4 3	S      E	♣ Q 2
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13	♦ K 10																						
	♣ J 9																						
♠ 9 8 7 5 2	♦ 10 5																						
W      N	♦ 9 7 4 3																						
S      E	♣ Q 2																						

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♥ by South

Lead: ♣ A

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

When you have made your choice

On first thought East'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 East started with ♣ J 2 he would have signaled with the ♣ J. If East 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.