

**Deal 1**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

19  
9 6  
6

West

Pass

3 NT by North

Lead: ♥ Q

♠ Q 7 4

♥ A K 4

♦ J 6

♣ A K Q 10 4



♠ J 8

♥ 9 6 2

♦ K Q 10 9 4

♣ 9 7 5

North

2 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

3 NT

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

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

When you have made your choice

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

Only by watching what East plays. On the ♦ J East 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 North started with the doubleton Jack, so you want to win the second ♦ trick.

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

**Deal 2**

East Deals  
None Vul

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

5  
7 19  
9

West

1 ♠  
3 NT  
3 NT by East  
Lead: ♥ 4

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



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

North

Pass  
Pass

East

1 ♣  
2 NT  
Pass

South

Pass  
Pass  
Pass

♠ J 10 4  
♥ A K  
♦ J 10 9 5  
♣ A K Q J

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

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

When you have made your choice

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

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

**Deal 3**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 8 4  
♥ A 8 7 5 2  
♦ 7 5 2  
♣ 6 4 2

13  
4 8  
15

West

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♥ 5

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



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

North

3 NT

East

Pass

South

1 NT

Pass

♠ 9 7 3 2  
♥ —  
♦ 10 9 8 4 3  
♣ A K J 9

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

When you have made your choice

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

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

South is one trick short and he sees he can easily get that trick in ♥s. So he plays a second ♥ from dummy and you now discard the ♠ 2. West takes the ♥ A and he can see that you don't want him to lead a

♠ or a ♦. He deduces that you might like a ♣ so he plays his ♣ 2 and you win 4 tricks.

**Deal 4**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 6 5 3

♥ 4

♦ J 8 6 4 2

♣ J 9 4 3

♠ A Q 10 9 4 2

♥ K 8 5

♦ A K

♣ Q 8



♠ 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

$$\begin{array}{cc} & 2 \\ 18 & 12 \\ & 8 \end{array}$$

West

North

East

South

2 ♠

Pass

3 ♠

2 ♥

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by West

Lead: ♥ 4

You are North. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♥ 4, South 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 5**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

13  
9 8  
10

West

Pass

Pass

2 ♥ by North

Lead: ♦ A

♠ A

♥ A K J 8 7 2

♦ J 10 5

♣ 10 5 3



♠ K Q 7 5 2

♥ Q 4

♦ 9 6 3

♣ K 9 6

North

1 ♥

2 ♥

East

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♠

Pass

♠ J 8 6 3

♥ 10 6

♦ A K 8 4

♣ 8 7 2

You are West. 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 ♦.

East 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. North plays a low ♣ from dummy, you win the ♣ J. Next you play a low ♦, taken by East with his ♦ K. East leads a ♣. Dummy plays the ♣ K, you win that, cash another

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

**Deal 6**

East Deals  
None Vul

♠ 8

♥ Q J 8 4 3

♦ Q J 10 4

♣ 8 7 6

♠ A 10 3

♥ 10 6

♦ 9 7 2

♣ K Q J 3 2



♠ K Q J 7 5 2

♥ 9 5

♦ K 5

♣ A 10 4

♠ 9 6 4

♥ A K 7 2

♦ A 8 6 3

♣ 9 5

6

10 13

11

*West**North**East**South*

3 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by East

Lead: ♥ A

Pass

Pass

1 ♠

4 ♠

Pass

Pass

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

When you have made your choice

North'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 North 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 North with the ♥ J.

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