

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 6 3 2
 ♥ K 2
 ♦ Q J 8
 ♣ 8 7 6

♠ A Q

♥ J 10 4

♦ 10 7 4 3

♣ A K J 2



♠ K 8 7 4

♥ 6 3

♦ A K 9 6

♣ 9 5 3

♠ J 5

♥ A Q 9 8 7 5

♦ 5 2

♣ Q 10 4

15
 6 10
 9

West

North

East

South

1 NT

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

Lead: ♦ A

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. East 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 East 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.

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

Deal 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 6 5 2

♥ A Q 10 6

♦ 9 5 4 2

♣ —

8
7 8
17

West

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♠ 5

♠ 7

♥ 5 3 2

♦ 7 3

♣ A K J 9 6 4 2

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | N | |
| W | | E |
| | S | |

♠ A K Q 3

♥ K 9 8

♦ A J 10

♣ 10 8 5

North

3 NT

East

Pass

South

1 NT

Pass

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 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 4

♥ 9

♦ J 8 7 2

♣ A 9 8 6 5 3

18

5 9

8

West

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

Lead: ♠ A

♠ J 8 5

♥ A Q J 8 7 5 2

♦ A K

♣ K



♠ 9 6 2

♥ K 10 6 3

♦ Q 9 4

♣ Q J 4

North

1 ♥

4 ♥

East

1 ♠

Pass

South

2 ♥

Pass

♠ A K Q 7 3

♥ 4

♦ 10 6 5 3

♣ 10 7 2

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♠A, dummy played the ♠2 and you signal with your ♠T. East next plays the ♠Q and you drop the ♠4, completing your doubleton signal. East 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 East 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. North will discard his ♣K on South's extra ♦ winner.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 9 8 6 3

♥ Q 7 2

♦ Q 8 4

♣ J

♠ 10

♥ 9 6 4 3

♦ 9 7 5

♣ K Q 10 6 3



♠ 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

8

5 13

14

West

North

East

South

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by South

Lead: ♣ K

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

(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.

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 3

♥ J 10 6 2

♦ K J 9 5 4 2

♣ 3

6
5 11
18

West

Pass

4 ♠ by North

Lead: ♣ A

♠ K Q J 9 7 4 2

♥ 8 5

♦ 6

♣ 10 7 5

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | N | |
| W | | E |
| | S | |

♠ A 10 6

♥ A K Q 4

♦ Q 10 3

♣ Q J 2

North

3 ♠

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

4 ♠

You are West. 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 East 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 6

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 8 5
♥ K Q 8 5 3
♦ 9 6 2
♣ J 4

8
6 6
20

West

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♥ 5

♠ 6 4 2

♥ 9 6 4

♦ K Q 8 3

♣ K 7 3



♠ A K Q

♥ A 10

♦ A J 4

♣ Q 10 8 6 2

North

3 NT

East

Pass

♠ J 10 7 3

♥ J 7 2

♦ 10 7 5

♣ A 9 5

South

2 NT

Pass

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.