

Deal 1	♠ Q 7 4		
North Deals	♥ A K 4		
None Vul	♦ J 6		
	♣ A K Q 10 4		
♠ A 10 5 2	♠ K 9 6 3		
♥ 8 5 3	♥ Q J 10 7		
♦ A 7 3	♦ 8 5 2		
♣ J 6 2	♣ 8 3		
	♠ J 8		
19 9 6 6	♥ 9 6 2		
	♦ K Q 10 9 4		
	♣ 9 7 5		
West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	3 NT
3 NT by North			
Lead: ♥ Q			

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 2East 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

N
 W E
 S

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

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

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**Deal 3**  
South Deals  
None Vul

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

13  
4 8  
15

West      North      East      South  
Pass      3 NT      Pass      Pass  
Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♥ 5

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

N  
W E  
S

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

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

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	♠ 6 5 3		
None Vul	♥ 4		
	♦ J 8 6 4 2		
	♣ J 9 4 3		
♠ A Q 10 9 4 2	♠ K J 7		
♥ K 8 5	♥ Q J 2		
♦ A K	♦ Q 10 3		
♣ Q 8	♣ K 10 7 5		
	♠ 8		
18 2 12 8	♥ A 10 9 7 6 3		
	♦ 9 7 5		
	♣ A 6 2		
West	North	East	South
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	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

<sup>13</sup>  
9 8  
<sub>10</sub>

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

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

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

Pass

2 ♥ by North

Lead: ♦ A

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

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

**Deal 6**East Deals  
None Vul

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

6  
 10 13  
 11

West

3 ♠  
 Pass

4 ♠ by East  
 Lead: ♥ A

♠ 8  
 ♥ Q J 8 4 3  
 ♦ Q J 10 4  
 ♣ 8 7 6

N  
 W E  
 S

♠ 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

North      East      South

1 ♠

Pass

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.