

Deal 1
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 2

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

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



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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	3 NT	Pass	2 NT
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 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

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 4East Deals
None Vul

♠ 6 5 3
 ♥ 4
 ♦ J 8 6 4 2
 ♣ J 9 4 3

¹²
² 8
¹⁸

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 5
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ J 8 6 3 ♥ 10 6 ♦ A K 8 4 ♣ 8 7 2 10 8 9 13	♠ K Q 7 5 2 ♥ Q 4 ♦ 9 6 3 ♣ K 9 6 N W E S	♠ 10 9 4 ♥ 9 5 3 ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ A Q J 4 ♠ A ♥ A K J 8 7 2 ♦ J 10 5 ♣ 10 5 3
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<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	2 ♥

2 ♥ by South
 Lead: ♦ A

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

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

Deal 6
 South Deals
 None Vul

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

N
W E
S

♠ 8
 ♥ Q J 8 4 3
 ♦ Q J 10 4
 ♣ 8 7 6

♠ K Q J 7 5 2
 ♥ 9 5
 ♦ K 5
 ♣ A 10 4

West	North	East	South
			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.