

## MrBRIDGE LIBRARY

### TEST YOUR DEFENCE - January 2014-Deals 1 & 2

By JULIAN POTTAGE > original - [Here](#)

Dealer : Vul :	NORTH ♠ KQ92 ♥ AKJ10 ♦ 954 ♣ K7	
WEST ♠ A7 ♥ 843 ♦ K1082 ♣ A985	Deal No 1	EAST ♠ 54 ♥ 962 ♦ QJ6 ♣ J10432
	SOUTH ♠ J10863 ♥ Q75 ♦ A73 ♣ Q6	

South	West	North	East
--		1 Heart	Pass
1 Spade	Pass	3 Spade	Pass
4 Spade	All Pass		

Partner leads the ♦2. What do you do?

In third seat, you usually play high - you want to do that here. When your highest cards are of equal rank, you should play the lower or lowest of them, here the ♦J. Once this forces out the ♦A, it will be obvious that you have the ♦Q as well since declarer would not waste the ♦A from A-Q.

If you played the ♦Q, partner would place declarer with the ♦J and might think that the best chance of defeating the contract is to underlead the ♣A when in with the ♠A, hoping for the ♣Q in your hand and a misguess by declarer.

Dealer : Vul :	NORTH ♠ AKQ92 ♥ KQ7 ♦ 54 ♣ 973	
WEST ♠ 76 ♥ A4 ♦ 109832 ♣ AQ52	Deal No 2	EAST ♠ 854 ♥ 632 ♦ KQ76 ♣ J84
	SOUTH ♠ J103 ♥ J10985 ♦ AJ ♣ K106	

South	West	North	East
--		1 Spade	Pass
2 Heart	Pass	4 Heart	All Pass

Partner leads the ♦10. What do you do?

The situation is similar and the solution the same.

You need to play an honour to stop South from scoring a cheap trick (here with the ♦J). You need to play the lower honour, the ♦Q rather than ♦K, to help partner judge the location of the diamond honours.

Partner will soon gain the lead with the ♥A and should work out to play you for the ♦K rather than the ♠K. This is because with the ♦A-K-J, declarer would probably play to get rid of one of dummy's clubs on a diamond.

MrBridge website - [Here](#)