Mr Bridge library

Defense quiz - September 2016

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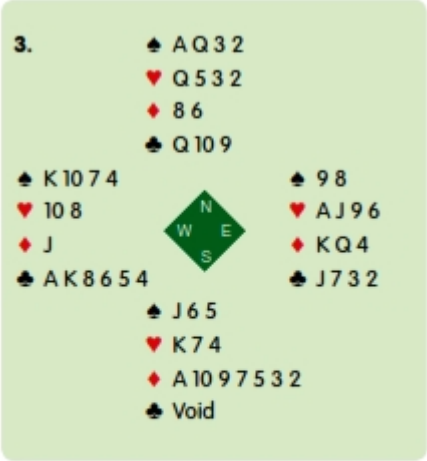
3.



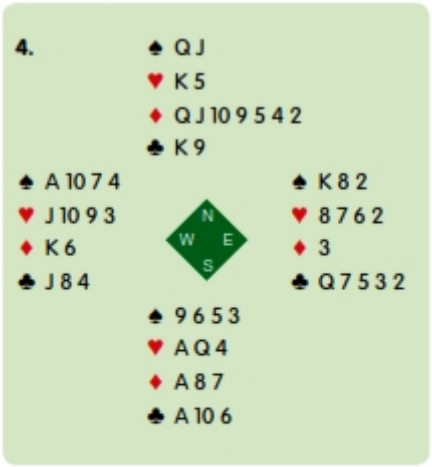
West	North	East	South
			3♦
All Pass			

You lead the ♣A, which declarer ruffs. Then comes the ♦A followed by a low diamond. What do you discard?

With four spades in dummy, you do not want to discard a spade. Nor do you want to part with a heart, partly because your ten might be useful and partly because your high spot cards might encourage a heart switch. You will discard a club – but which? Usually (unless you have agreed otherwise) high would encourage and low would discourage.

Here, partner already knows your club holding. This means that the size of the club you play should not say anything about clubs but rather which of the other suits you prefer. Knowing that dummy's ♠Q can score on a finesse and that any other lead by partner might set up another queen, you discard the high ♣8.

4.



West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

You lead the ♥J: ♥K, ♥2 and ♥4. Next comes the ♦Q: ♦3, ♦7 and ♦K. What is your plan?

You read partner's low ♥2 at trick one as discouraging hearts, hence denying the ♥Q. You read partner's low ♦3 at trick two as showing an odd number of diamonds, most likely one. This being the case, declarer has plenty of tricks ready to cash. How can you tell whether partner holds the ♣A (preferably the ♣Q as well) or the ♠K? You switch to the ♠A and watch to see whether partner encourages. When you see the high ♠8, you continue with the ♠4. This way you make four spade tricks.