

# THINKING BRIDGE

By Eddie Kantar

(From - NABC - SUMMER 2014 -LAS VEGAS 10 )

Dir: East Vul: Both	NORTH ♠ 6 ♥ J953 ♦ Q87532 ♣ A5		West	North	East	South
			--	--	1 Heart	4 Spade
			X	All Pass		
WEST ♠ Q932 ♥ 3 ♦ AJ106 ♣ 9862		EAST ♠ 4 ♥ AKQ1087 ♦ K84 ♣ 743	Opening Lead = ♥4			
	SOUTH ♠ AKJ10875 ♥ 62 ♦ Void ♣ KQJ10					

**Bidding commentary:** Looks normal. 4♣ is certainly reasonable with the South hand. West's double, for penalty, also looks reasonable with two-plus defensive tricks facing an opening bidder.

**Play commentary:** After East takes the first two heart tricks and plays a third high heart, ruff with the ♠J, the higher equal to induce an overruff if West has a likely ♠Q 9 x x.

**Defensive commentary:** If South ruffs the third heart with the ♠J, discard! You now have two spade winners. Your ♠9 is a big card. If you decline to overruff the ♠J, your ♠9 will eventually become a trick.

As West, you must be very careful about overruffing an honor with another honor when you have length in the suit and a high spot card like the 8 or 9. Those cards are frequently promoted to tricks.

## The important points:

- 1: When ruffing with an honor in a situation where you are likely to be overruffed, ruff with the highest equal honor, the one most likely to induce an overruff.
- 2: When given a chance to overruff an honor with an honor, be sure you wouldn't have a second trump trick if you didn't overruff!