

THINKING BRIDGE - - By Eddie Kantar

(From - NABC -SPRING - 2014 - DALLAS - TEXAS - 3)

Dir: South Vul: Both	NORTH ♠ QJ76 ♥ 3 ♦ 107643 ♣ AK10		West	North	East	South
			--	--	--	1 Diamond
			Pass	1 Spade	Pass	2 Club
			3 Diamond	Pass	3 NT	All Pass
WEST ♠ 9853 ♥ A862 ♦ K2 ♣ 943		EAST ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	Opening Lead = ♥2			
	SOUTH ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣					

Opening lead: ♥2. Partner plays the ♥Q, declarer wins the king and leads the ♦Q at trick two. Which diamond do you play?

I hope you didn't fall for this one! Partner must have the ♦A. Why in the world would declarer be leading the ♦Q, holding the A-Q, unless you flashed your hand? Furthermore, there is a very good chance partner has the singleton ace. Play low!

The full deal

Dir: South Vul: Both	NORTH ♠ QJ76 ♥ 3 ♦ 107643 ♣ AK10	
WEST ♠ 9853 ♥ A862 ♦ K2 ♣ 943		EAST ♠ K1042 ♥ Q9754 ♦ A ♣ 852
	SOUTH ♠ A ♥ KJ10 ♦ QJ985 ♣ QJ76	

If you play low, partner wins the ace and your side clears hearts. When you get in with the ♦K you can take the setting tricks in hearts - providing you haven't blocked the suit! You must get that ♥8 out of your hand. Finally, if you played the ♦K at trick two, don't ask!