

THINKING BRIDGE by EDDIE KANTAR 6

Dir: South Vul: E-W	♠ A K Q ♥ 10 8 7 ♦ A K J 5 3 ♣ A 4																					
♠ 6 3 ♥ A K Q J 5 ♦ Q 9 4 ♣ J 10 9	♠ 10 9 8 7 5 ♥ 6 4 2 ♦ 7 6 ♣ K Q 8	♠ J 4 2 ♥ 9 3 ♦ 10 8 2 ♣ 7 6 5 3 2																				
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;"><i>West</i></th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;"><i>North</i></th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;"><i>East</i></th> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;"><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1♥</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Dbl</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">2♥</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">3♣</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">4♣</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♥	Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass	1♣	Pass	3♣	Pass	2♣	All Pass			4♣		
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	Opening lead: ♥A.																					

Bidding commentary: As North, the 2♥ cuebid after the takeout double shows three-card support for partner's suit, presumably with 18+ to 19 HCP. The 3♣ bid is invitational and shows 20-21 HCP. Partner could have nothing! As South, you have enough to accept partner's invitation.

Defensive commentary: As East, start a high-low in hearts. On the third heart, discard the ♣2. You need partner to play a fourth heart to promote your ♠J, so make a negative discard (♣2) in a suit partner is likely to lead (clubs).

Defensive commentary #2: As West, honor partner's discard of the ♣2, telling you nothing doing there. If there is nothing doing in clubs, the only hope is that partner has the ♠J, in which case you must lead a fourth round of hearts for a trump promotion. When making a discard in a situation where you need a trump promotion and want partner to give declarer a ruff and sluff, discard negatively in a suit partner is likely to want to lead (clubs in this case). Don't waste a discard in a suit (diamonds) partner is unlikely to want to lead in any case