

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

DEFENSE QUIZ - June 2016 - original - [Here](#)

By Julian Pottage

3.

♠ 10 8 5 4		
♥ K 9 5 4		
♦ J 7		
♣ Q 10 7		
♠ A 9 2	♠ J 7 3	
♥ J 8 6 2	♥ 7 3	
♦ K 10 8 5 2	♦ Q 9 6 3	
♣ 6	♣ K 9 4 3	
	♠ K Q 6	
	♥ A Q 10	
	♦ A 4	
	♣ A J 8 5 2	

West	North	East	South
			2NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♦ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

- 1 20-22
- 2 Stayman
- 3 No 4-card major

Partner leads the ♦5: ♦J, ♦Q and ♦4. What is your plan (including in the suit that you expect declarer to attack) from here?

Since the ♦2 is missing, it looks as if the lead is from a five-card suit and you should indeed return it: the ♦3 is the normal card.

With no four-card major and only two diamonds, you expect declarer to hold a five-card club suit and (after crossing to the ♥K) to attack it. If you cover the ♣Q on the first round, declarer can cross back to the ♣10 and take a marked finesse against your ♣9 on the next round. Ducking both the ♣Q and the ♣10 also fails because the lead stays in dummy. Instead you must duck the ♣Q but cover the ♣10 on the second round.

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4.

♠ Q 5 4		
♥ Q 8 5 3		
♦ A 7		
♣ A K Q 7		
♠ J 10 9 2	♠ A K 3	
♥ Void	♥ K 7	
♦ K 8 6 5 2	♦ Q 10 9 3	
♣ J 6 5 2	♣ 10 9 4 3	
	♠ 8 7 6	
	♥ A J 10 9 6 4 2	
	♦ J 4	
	♣ 8	

West	North	East	South
			3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Partner leads the ♠J. What is your plan?

You begin by letting the ♠J hold; you do not need to worry about being unable to signal. Partner will work out your holding when the ♠J wins.

You will then cash or at least try to cash two more spades. With dummy's clubs poised to deal with any side-suit losers, any further trick must come from trumps...

Knowing that partner will be very short in hearts, quite possibly void, you cannot gain by covering the ♥Q with the ♥K. If you are ready to duck smoothly, declarer will surely overtake the ♥Q with the ♥A - going for the drop is normal with 11 trumps missing the king. |