

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

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

By Julian Pottage

3.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	2♣	Dbl	Pass
3♥	3♣	All Pass	

Partner leads the ♣10. What is your plan?

Again, you can see the ♣9 and so know that the lead is from a shortage. This time, since partner would not lead the ♣10 from K-10, Q-10 or K-Q-10, you know it is a singleton. For sure, you want to take the ♣A and give partner a club ruff. After that, you are in no rush for a diamond switch. The ♦K should not run away. You would rather like to get in with the ♥K to play a third round of clubs. With the singleton heart in dummy, you need to get partner to underlead the ♥A. You should give a suit-preference signal with the club you return. You lead the highest club you can afford, the ♣8, to ask for the higher red suit. Let us hope partner trusts you.

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4.

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

West	North	East	South
		1♣	1♣
2♣	Dbl	3♣	3♣
Pass	4♣	Dbl	All Pass

Partner leads the ♣10. What is your plan?

Expecting partner not to have raised you with three clubs to the ten, you read the lead as from an interior sequence. You must put up the ♣A to stop the singleton ♣J from scoring. Should you switch to your singleton diamond?

If partner gains the lead, you will score 200 and a top (or near top) even without a ruff. With your four trumps, you do better to play a Forcing game. If you keep playing clubs each time you get in with an ace, you should end up with a long trump after declarer keeps ruffing. You just need to consider one more point. You want to ensure that declarer has to ruff in hand, so you should hold up the ♣A.