

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

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

By Julian Pottage

1.

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

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

Partner leads the ♦5: ♦7, ♦Q and ♦A. Declarer leads the ♣3 to the ♣A and calls for a low trump. What do you discard?

A discard allows you to signal what suit you want partner to lead. With standard discards, a high card encourages and low discourages.

Since you do not hold the ♦K, which from partner's viewpoint you might have, but you do have good clubs, you discard the ♣8. A club switch from partner, ideally the bold ♣K to ensure you cannot misjudge which minor-suit king partner holds, saves two possible overtricks.

These are vital tricks at match points.

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

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

By Julian Pottage

2.

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

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

Partner leads the ♦5: ♦7, ♦Q and ♦A. Declarer leads the ♣3 to the ♣A and calls for a low trump. What do you discard?

The bidding, the lead and the dummy are the same as on the previous example. This time you have help in diamonds, the ♦K that partner might not know about - your ♦Q was consistent with holding the ♦K but did not promise it - and nothing in clubs.

Since the only diamond you have apart from the winning ♦K is the lowly ♦2, you cannot easily ask for diamonds directly. The best you can do is discard a clearly discouraging ♣2.

Given the strong heart holding in dummy, partner should work out that if you do not want a club then you do want a diamond.