

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

DEFENSE QUIZ - Feb 2016 - original - [Here](#)
By Julian Pottage

3.

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

West	North	East	South
1NT ¹	Pass	2♥ ²	3♥
3♣	4♥	4♣	5♥
Dbl	All Pass		

¹12-14 ²Transfer to spades

Partner leads the ♣K and switches to the ♦5. What do you do after your ♦K holds?

Someone must hold the ♦A. Either partner has underled it or declarer is holding up. While the latter seems more likely - partner could more naturally have switched to the ♦A than a low one - maybe you are not 100% sure. If you return a diamond and the ♦A goes up, a third round of diamonds may flush out partner's holding and set up a discard for the ♣Q. A spade switch involves the same risk. Declarer might ruff and then set up a diamond winner via a ruffing finesse. Reverting to clubs is best. You do expect the ♣A to stand up.

Even if partner has opened an offbeat 1NT with a 6-card club suit, neither the ♦A nor the ♣A can run away.

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4.

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

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

Partner leads the ♣3. You win with the ♣Q and cash the ♣A, on which go the ♣J, ♣4 and ♣9. What do you lead next?

If both opponents are out of clubs, you do not want to play a third round, thereby giving a ruff and discard. You need to switch. While dummy's spades are weaker than its diamonds, the point is that any diamond finesse is working anyway.

Leading a spade with the honours spread around the table is the Greater risk. The diamond switch is safer Both on the actual layout And if partner had the ♠10-x-x and ♦A-x-x.