

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

DEFENCE QUIZ - December 2015 - original - [Here](#)

By Julian Pottage

3.

♠ AKQ4		
♥ QJ62		
♦ 98		
♣ 1075		
♠ 6		♠ 102
♥ 1074	♠ N	♥ 953
♦ AK1063	W	♦ QJ42
♣ AQ63	E	♣ J842
	S	
		♠ J98753
		♥ AK8
		♦ 75
		♣ K9

West	North	East	South
1♦	Dbl	2♦	4♠

All Pass

Partner leads the ♦A. What is your plan?

Looking at dummy's club weakness, you want to gain the lead. The way to achieve this is to drop the ♦Q under the ♦A. Dropping the ♦Q must signal possession of the ♦J (or a singleton - but that is impossible on the bidding). After partner leads a low diamond at trick two, you know what to do. Win with the ♦J and switch to a club.

As the cards lie, this enables your side to take the first four tricks. If partner held the ♣K and one of the top two hearts, the same plays to the first three tricks would also beat the contract.

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4.

♠ 10964		
♥ K762		
♦ A7		
♣ K65		
♠ K72		♠ Void
♥ Q3	♠ N	♥ J854
♦ 9653	W	♦ QJ842
♣ J1087	E	♣ Q942
	S	
		♠ AQJ853
		♥ A109
		♦ K10
		♣ A3

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♠	Pass	1♠

All Pass

Partner leads the ♣J. Declarer wins in dummy and runs the ♠10 to the ♠K. Back comes a trump. If declarer now runs them all (six rounds in total), what is your strategy?

If declarer runs the trumps, this tells you the diamond distribution. Partner must have four or dummy would be ruffing one. You can thus part with your diamonds. For as long as you can, you keep as many clubs as dummy - it is just possible that partner began with J-10 alone. Much more likely is that partner can keep the clubs covered. In this case your job is to guard the hearts. You can part with one after dummy does, but you save your other three hearts until the bitter end.