

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

DEFENSE QUIZ - July 2016 Board 1 - original - [Here](#)

By Julian Pottage

1.

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

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

You lead the ♠K: ♠6, ♠8 and ♠A. Are you ready when declarer leads a low heart?

Since you hold the ♥A as well as the ♥10, you know declarer has no guess and so you can, in fact, take your time.

Can you see the advantage in taking the ♥A at once? Partner's ♠8 looks like the top of a doubleton (or possibly a singleton). You want to play the ♠Q and a third round of spades round while partner has a trump left. Declarer now has to over ruff rather than discard a loser. This might beat the contract (as here) or save an overtrick, depending upon the precise layout.

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

DEFENSE QUIZ - July 2016 Board 2- original - [Here](#)

By Julian Pottage

2.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣ ¹	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

¹Fourth-suit forcing

You lead the ♠J: ♠5, ♠K and ♠9. Partner returns the ♠A, felling the ♠Q, and then the ♠2, which declarer ruffs. What is your plan?

Following suit to the third round of clubs is easy. The main thing you need to be thinking about is when to play your ace of spades.

Apart from the ♠A-K, partner can have very little. The diamonds you can see are worrying because you expect the suit to run for five tricks. You can also count declarer for five trumps on the bidding, surely playing without loss. This totals ten tricks, so you aim to stop the overtrick. This means you plan to go in with the ♠A on the first round of the suit.