

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

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

By Julian Pottage

1.

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

West	North	East	South
			1NT ¹
Pass	2NT ²	Pass	3♣
All Pass			
¹ 2-14		² Transfer to a minor	

Partner leads the ♦7, won by your ♦Q. How do you continue?

A count of points puts partner in the range of 7-9, room for an ace or king in each black suit; the ♥K will be of little use. If you cash two diamonds, you will surely need to cash the ♥A as well to stop dummy's heart from going on the diamonds. If you do cash the ♥A too, you may find declarer has so many red winners that the ♠K is no longer useful.

The best strategy is to switch to a spade at trick two. The nine is probably the best card because you do not want partner, if holding A-J-x, to think you have K-10-9.

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2.

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

West	North	East	South
		1♦	1♥
Dbl	1NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Partner leads the ♦3. Declarer ruffs and leads the ♥K. Partner wins and leads the ♦10. Declarer ruffs and cashes the ♥Q-J, throwing a spade and a club from dummy. Partner follows and discards the ♦7. Next comes the ♣2 to the ♠Q and ♠A. What do you do?

As partner followed to two rounds of trumps, declarer started with six. Having ruffed twice, you and declarer now have equal length. You can defeat the contract by cashing the ♥10 and then the ♦A. While one or two down might give you a fair score, some pairs might have made a contract your way or collected a larger penalty. You hardly expect partner to have doubled 1♥ with the ♥A and nothing else, which makes it safe to delay taking the ♦A. Having cashed the ♥10 to draw declarer's last trump, you lead a club. If declarer finesses in clubs, you defeat the contract by four. If not, it is still down three.