

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

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

By Julian Pottage

3.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

You lead the ♥4: ♥6, ♥A and ♥3. East returns the ♥5, covered by the ♥9. What should you do?

Again, you start by taking a careful look at the heart suit. The play to the first trick tells you that declarer still has the king. With the ace and king, partner would have played the king, the lower of touching honours. Who do you think holds the other outstanding heart, the ♥8?

With three hearts to start with, partner would return the higher of the two remaining cards. Since the eight is higher than the five, partner cannot have started with three hearts. This tells you that declarer still has the ♥K-8. You cannot set up the suit by continuing hearts. You need to win the heart and switch. Since any spade honours in partner's hand will not help much under declarer's strong holding, you should try the ♦J. You will be able to continue diamonds after you score your ♣K.

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4.

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

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

You lead the ♦2, East's ♦J losing to the ♦A. Declarer leads up to the ♠A, taking low cards, and plays a second round, on which go the ♠J, ♠Q and ♠K. What is your plan?

Since the ♦J drove out the ♦A, you place partner with the ♦Q. You hope that the missing hands started with three diamonds each, in which case two rounds still stand up. For the setting trick, you hope partner holds the ♣Q, in which case South will hold the ♥Q (to be maximum for 5-9). After you cash the diamonds, you will want to be on lead, not your partner. You thus continue with a low diamond. You can lead any black card later.

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