

Thinking Bridge – NABC – FALL 2008 (6) By Eddie Kantar

Rebids by the takeout doubler

Dlr: South Vul: E-W	♠ AK Q ♥ 10 8 7 ♦ A K J 5 3 ♣ A 4		West	North	East	South
			1 Club	X	Pass	Pass
			Pass	2 Club	Pass	1 Spade
			Pass	3 Spade	Pass	2 Spade
			All Pass			4 Spade
♠ 6 3 ♥ A K Q J ♦ Q 9 4 ♣ J 10 9		♠ J 4 2 ♥ 9 3 ♦ 10 8 2 ♣ 7 6 5 3 2	Opening lead: ♣A.			
	♠ 10 9 8 7 5 ♥ 6 4 2 ♦ 7 6 ♣ K Q 8					

Bidding commentary: As North, the 2♣ cuebid after the takeout double shows three-card support for your partner's suit, presumably with 18-19 high-card points. Your 3♣ bid is invitational and shows 20-21 HCP. Partner could have nothing! As South, you have enough to accept partner's invitation.

Defensive commentary: As East, start a high-low in hearts. On the third heart, discard the ♣ 2. You need partner to play a fourth heart to promote your ♠J, so make a negative discard in clubs, the suit partner is likely to lead.

Defensive commentary #2: As West, honor partner's discard of the ♣2, telling you nothing doing there. If there is nothing doing in clubs, the only hope is that partner has the ♠J, in which case you must lead a fourth round of hearts for a trump promotion.

When making a discard in a situation where you need a trump promotion and want partner to give declarer a ruff and sluff, discard negatively in a suit partner is likely to want to lead (clubs). Don't waste a discard in a suit (diamonds) partner is unlikely to want to lead in any case