

THINKING BRIDGE - - By Eddie Kantar

(From - NABC -Spring - 2016 - Reno - 2)

Dir: West Vul: N-S	NORTH ♠ 84 ♥ K8654 ♦ J5 ♣ AJ97	
WEST ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣		EAST ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣
	SOUTH ♠ KQJ10965 ♥ AQ ♦ Q1098 ♣ -	

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

Opening lead: ♥3 Plan the play. You are playing in a pairs game. Would you play differently at IMP scoring?

This one should be played the same at any scoring. The lead is obviously a singleton and East is a big favorite to have the ♠A and will surely give partner a heart ruff. Along with two diamond losers, you are looking at four losers . . . unless you win the ♥K and discard the ♥A on the ♠A! Now you can drive out the ♠A, ruff a heart return high, draw trumps and wind up losing two diamonds and the ♠A. Applause, please.

The idea is to use the bidding to realize the danger and figure out what you can do about it as early as trick one!

The full deal:

Dir: West Vul: N-S	NORTH ♠ 84 ♥ K8654 ♦ J5 ♣ AJ97	
WEST ♠ 732 ♥ 3 ♦ 7632 ♣ K10532		EAST ♠ A ♥ J10972 ♦ AK4 ♣ Q864
	SOUTH ♠ KQJ10965 ♥ AQ ♦ Q1098 ♣ -	