

THINKING BRIDGE - - By Eddie Kantar
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Dir: North Vul: Both	NORTH ♠ A J 3 2 ♥ K 5 4 ♦ Q J 10 9 ♣ 5 4		West	North	East	South
				Pass	Pass	1 NT
			Pass	2 Club	X	Pass
			Pass	3 NT	All Pass	
WEST ♠ 10 9 8 7 6 ♥ J 9 8 ♦ K 4 ♣ 8 7 3		EAST ♠ 4 ♥ Q 10 7 3 ♦ 8 5 2 ♣ A Q J 10 2	Opening Lead = ♣3			
	SOUTH ♠ K Q 5 ♥ A 6 2 ♦ A 7 6 3 ♣ K 9 6					

Bidding commentary: East's double of the artificial 2♣ (Stayman) shows five or six clubs, typically headed by three honor cards. It is a lead-directing double, not a takeout double. South's pass denies a four-card major, but shows a club stopper. With no fourcard fourcard major and no club stopper, East bids 2♦, a convenient agreement.

Lead commentary: As West, when partner makes a lead directing double, lead as if partner has bid a suit that you have not supported

Defensive commentary: As East, in order to keep communications open with partner's hand, play the ♣10 at trick one. If South wins and crosses to dummy to take the diamond finesse, West wins, returns a club, and the good guys get four clubs and a diamond.

Play commentary: As South, duck the first club if East plays the 10. If West has a doubleton club, your ducking play cuts communications between the two hands. If East plays the ♣A at trick one and returns the ♣Q, win the third club and take the diamond finesse.

Defensive commentary #2: As East, if South ducks the ♣10, continue with the ♣Q. You need to keep a third club in partner's hand in case partner can get the lead.