

June 26 2011

**1**

♠ 86  
 ♥ J1095  
 ♦ QJ10  
 ♣ A982  
 ♠ AQ95  
 ♥ A8  
 ♦ 763  
 ♣ KQJ10  
 ♠ KJ107432  
 ♥ 2  
 ♦ K542  
 ♣ 7  
 ♠  
 ♥ KQ7643  
 ♦ A98  
 ♣ 6543

Dealer: East  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
4 ♠	Pass	3 ♠ Pass	Pass Pass

Opening Lead: ♥ K

For declarer East, North is the danger hand. As long as North is not on lead, East's diamond king is safe from attack.

East should PLAY LOW on the king of hearts lead, giving up a heart trick. If South continues hearts, East pitches a club on the heart ace, pulls trumps ending in dummy and leads the king of clubs for a "ruffing finesse." If North covers, East trumps and the clubs are good for diamond discards. If North ducks, East discards diamonds. Contract made.

The defense can prevail if South switches to a club at trick two, but this switch could be fatal if East had the club ace instead of the diamond king. East gives himself the best chance by ducking at trick one.

**2**

♠ KQ94  
 ♥ K3  
 ♦ Q104  
 ♣ 5432  
 ♠ 765  
 ♥ QJ1085  
 ♦ A63  
 ♣ 107  
 ♠ 832  
 ♥ 9764  
 ♦ K82  
 ♣ QJ8  
 ♠ AJ10  
 ♥ A2  
 ♦ J975  
 ♣ AK96

Dealer: South  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	1 NT 2 ♦
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

South has 8 tricks off the top and needs one more. If South attacks diamonds, he must lose two tricks before getting one. The defense will pursue hearts, and the defense will get three hearts to go along with the two diamonds. Down one.

But if clubs split 3-2 (68 percent chance), South can establish a club trick. Simply duck a club at trick two, win the heart return and play A - K of clubs. The fourth club is now good. 9 tricks.