

1.

	♠ K 7 2								
	♥ 5								
	♦ Q 10 9 5 2								
	♣ Q J 9 2								
♠ 10 6	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ 8 3	
N		E							
W		S							
♥ 10 8 2		♥ A K Q 9 4 3							
♦ K 8 6 3		♦ J 4							
♣ A K 8 5		♣ 10 6 3							
	♠ A Q J 9 5 4								
	♥ J 7 6								
	♦ A 7								
	♣ 7 4								

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	2♣	3♥	3♣
4♥	4♣	Pass	Pass
Obl	All Pass		

You lead the ♣A: ♣2, ♣3 and ♣4. How do you continue?

Since the ♣3 was the lowest outstanding club, partner cannot have a doubleton. You want to switch rather than set up dummy's clubs. If partner holds the ♦A, you can take two diamond tricks – but there is unlikely to be a rush to do so. If declarer holds the ♦A, you would like the first diamond lead to come from partner – and you want it to come before declarer plays clubs to set up dummy's clubs. You therefore switch to the ♥8

2.

	♠ K Q J 10 7 4 2								
	♥ 9 8 5 3								
	♦ A 10								
	♣ Void								
♠ 9 8	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td>N</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N		E	W		S	♠ A 6	
N		E							
W		S							
♥ A K		♥ 10 4 2							
♦ Q 8 4 2		♦ J 6 5 3							
♣ 10 8 7 5 4		♣ Q J 6 3							
	♠ 5 3								
	♥ Q J 7 6								
	♦ K 9 7								
	♣ A K 9 2								

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♣	All Pass	
Transfer to spades			

You lead the ♥K: ♥3, ♥2 and ♥6. How do you continue?

Despite the discouraging signal, you should continue hearts, hoping to score a ruff later. The real question is what to lead at trick three.

While you could switch to a diamond hoping to find partner with the ♦K, this will not give a quick entry. Declarer, if holding the ♠A, will simply take the ♦A and draw trumps. Since you really want to find partner with the ♠A, you should play a trump at trick three. This proves necessary as the cards lie because declarer would be able to win a diamond in hand and then throw dummy's two remaining hearts on the ♣A-K to avoid the ruff.