

3.

	♠ 8 4		
	♥ Q J		
	♦ K Q 6 5		
	♣ A Q 9 6 5		
♠ Q 10		♠ A K 6 5 3 2	
♥ 10 7 6		♥ 4 2	
♦ A 10 9 7 3 2		♦ J 8	
♣ 10 2		♣ 8 4 3	
		♠ J 9 7	
		♥ A K 9 8 5 3	
		♦ 4	
		♣ K J 7	

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♥	2♠*	3♥
		All Pass	

\*Weak

4.

	♠ Q 10		
	♥ J 8 5 2		
	♦ K Q 10 5 3		
	♣ 8 6		
♠ K J 9 6		♠ 8 5 3	
♥ 7		♥ Q 10 6 4	
♦ 9 6		♦ J 8 7	
♣ A K J 5 4 3		♣ 10 9 7	
		♠ A 7 4 2	
		♥ A K 9 3	
		♦ A 4 2	
		♣ Q 2	

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

You lead the ♠Q, on which go the ♠4, ♠6 and ♠7. What is your plan?

Since the ♠2, ♠3 and ♠5 are missing, you read the ♠6 as encouraging. For sure, partner cannot want a club switch since it would be clear to discourage spades in that case.

You might switch to the ♦A in case partner is void and to save partner from guessing what to do at trick three. Suppose you switch to the ♦A and partner plays the ♦J. How do you know this is not a singleton?

The clue is that with a singleton partner would have overtaken the first spade and switched to a diamond.

If your side does not cash out correctly, the contract makes with an overtrick.

You lead the ♣A: ♣6, ♣7 and ♣2. You continue with the ♣K: ♣8, ♣9 and ♣Q. What do you do next?

Since partner has played upwards in clubs, you know a third club is opposite. You do not want to play a third round, giving a ruff and discard. Do you switch to a spade, hoping partner holds the ♠A, or do you play safe with a diamond switch?

The bidding makes the ♠A a firm favourite to be on your right. In any case, spade tricks will not run away if East has four trumps or three and ♦J-8-x-x. A further clue is that with the ♣10-9 left partner could have played the ♣10 as a suit-preference signal for spades – a helpful partner would have done that. So switch to the ♦9 and wait to score the ♠K.