

**Board 2**

East Deals  
N-S Vul

		♠ J 9 3 2		
		♥ 4 2		
		♦ A K 6 5		
		♣ 6 3 2		
♠ 10 7 5			♠ A Q	
♥ A Q 10 7 3			♥ K J 9 5	
♦ Q 10 3			♦ 9 4	
♣ 9 4			♣ K Q J 10 7	
		♠ K 8 6 4		
		♥ 8 6		
		♦ J 8 7 2		
		♣ A 8 5		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
		1 ♣	Pass	
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass	
4 ♥	All pass			

1. East's jump rebid in partner's suit shows 16-18 points, and needs West to come up with just a little more than the 6 pts they promised to get to game.

2. The defense starts with the ♦ A on opening lead. Should North continue with the promised ♦ K next? Not seeing the ♦ Q in Dummy, North will need help from partner to know if it's safe to play the King. Playing it will set up the ♦ Q, and if South holds that card, it's okay to play the ♦ K. The defense has to speak to one another through the cards -- and here, south must DISCOURAGE the continuation of the ♦ suit, to prevent Declarer from being able to cash a winner later. Attitude -- play attitude signaling on partner's opening lead of an Ace. South should play the ♦ 2 to partner's ♦ A, and North needs to WATCH and LISTEN!

3. When North gets the message, he needs to shift to another suit, and this doesn't mean trumps. Looking at a very good solid ♣ suit - timing is everything. We need to create a trick in spades in case our partner has the ♣ A, controlling that suit. If not, the club suit will take care of all the losers. North should shift to a ♠.

4. Then when South gets in next, they need to play a ♦ back!

5. Defense will take 2 top ♦s, the ♠ K and the ♣ A. Down one!\*

\* If South doesn't tell partner to stop playing ♦s after the opening lead, or if North doesn't pay attention to partner's signal, then the ♦ Q sets up, and Declarer can pitch the ♠ Q on that good ♦. Then the contract makes.

6. When partner opens the play with an Ace, it's your job to let them know if they can continue the suit. ATTITUDE signaling is crucial to the defense.

**Board 4**

West Deals  
Both Vul

♠ 8 6		♠ J 9 3		♠ A K 10 7 5 4 2
♥ K 10 8 4 2		♥ Q 6 5		♥ —
♦ 8 7 3		♦ A 2		♦ 10 9 6 5
♣ K 5 2		♣ Q 9 7 4 3		♣ A J
	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">N W     E S</div>			
		♠ Q		
		♥ A J 9 7 3		
		♦ K Q J 4		
		♣ 10 8 6		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
Pass	Pass	4 ♠	All pass	

1. With West having passed, if East just opened 1♠, they risk an overcall by South, and West passing again. East has a great play for 4♠, holding 7/4 distribution, and just 5 losers.

2. The opening lead is the ♦ K, top of a sequence. North needs to recognize that their doubleton ♦ might be of help. So North should overtake the ♦ K with the Ace, and return the small ♦. South can play the ♦ Q, and then ♦ J (which holds), and then the small one to see if North can overruff the Dummy's ♠ 8 for the setting trick.

3. If North does not overtake the ♦ K, and South continues with the ♦ Q, then when East gets in on trick #3 (in whichever suit North next leads), they'll cash a high trump. Watching the ♠ Q drop from South. Declarer sees a possible way to make the contract. Heading over to ♣ K in Dummy, Declarer can finesse in trumps in order to make the contract. That chance doesn't happen if North doesn't overtake the ♦ K. ;)

4. Anytime partner leads a King- (in a suit or NT contract) - and you have a doubleton Ace, ALWAYS overtake to tell partner it is a doubleton.


**Board 9**

North Deals  
E-W Vul

	♠ K Q J 3		
	♥ A 9 3		
	♦ A 6 3		
	♣ Q 10 2		
♠ 10 9 8 7		♠ A 5 2	
♥ J 8		♥ 10 7 6 4 2	
♦ J 8 7 5		♦ 9 4 2	
♣ 7 6 4		♣ A K	
	♠ 6 4		
	♥ K Q 5		
	♦ K Q 10		
	♣ J 9 8 5 3		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	3 NT
All pass			

1. The opening lead on this hand is the ♥ 7. Defense talks through their carding, right? The lead of the second-highest shows no real strength in the suit, but it has length. It gives West the "lay of the land" in the ♥ suit!
2. Declarer counts winners in NT -- there are 3 top tricks in ♥s, and 3 in ♦s. There are 3 more needed. The club suit - promotion - is a guaranteed technique for those 3 extra tricks. We cannot rely on the ♠ A to be under the King and not over the King. Then it will only give us two tricks - still short of one for our contract. There are definitely 3 tricks in ♣s, so "dig up your treasures" by starting that suit ASAP.
3. Win the opening lead with the ♥ K in Dummy, and play a ♣ to the ♣ Q (which is the high card from the short side). They will return another ♥, but you'll win that and play another ♣ to force out the ♣ A. Defenders will ultimately take 2 ♣s, the ♠ A and a small ♥. NS will make their 9 tricks.

**Board 11**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul

♠ 9 3 ♥ Q J 9 ♦ 9 8 3 2 ♣ J 4 3 2		♠ A Q 2 ♥ K 6 5 2 ♦ 10 7 5 ♣ 10 9 8	♠ 7 6 5 ♥ A 10 8 7 ♦ K 6 4 ♣ Q 7 6
	♠ K J 10 8 4 ♥ 4 3 ♦ A Q J ♣ A K 5		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	2 ♠	Pass	1 ♠
Pass			4 ♠
All pass			

1. Hearing North has a fit for ♠s is all South needs to jump to game. The opening lead will be the ♥ Q, top of that sequence.
2. There is no reason to cover the ♥ Q, because it doesn't promote anything for you. *(And if East had only 3 ♥s, and the defense continued them, you could set up the ♥ K for a discard.)* Here you will ruff the 3rd ♥, then play a high trump from your hand, and then a small one to the Dummy. You only have 1 more entry to Dummy, so try the ♦ finesse NOW, and return to the Dummy with the last trump to repeat the finesse and make your contract.
3. If you draw all the trumps first, you're 1 entry short, and can't repeat the finesse. PLAN, PLAN, PLAN. Entries are everything!!