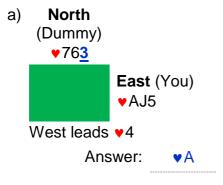


2nd and 3rd Hand Defensive Play

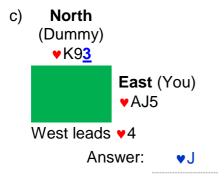
1. 3rd Hand Defensive Play

In the following eight examples below, your hearts and North's hearts are displayed. In each case the contract is 4♠ by NS and partner makes the opening lead. The card played from dummy at trick one is in <u>underlined in blue</u>. Which Heart card do you play?

What do you play on the lead?



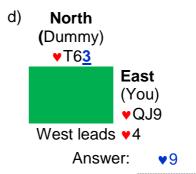
Third hand plays high



Partner's lead must be from the Queen, so the Jack should hold. Retain your ace to beat the king

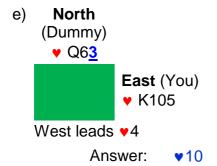


Partner's lead must be a singleton (next lowest card to yours and North), so play low as South must have A10

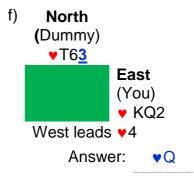


You can see the ♥10 in Dummy, so your ♠9 will push out the Ace. Your partner will now know you have the Queen and Jack. Had you played the Queen, you would have denied holding the nine or the Jack.

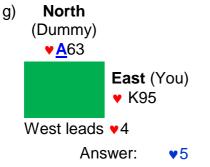




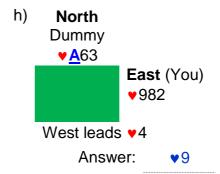
Partner will not have the Ace and probably has the Jack, so your 10 will push out the Ace in South's hand



Lower of touching honours



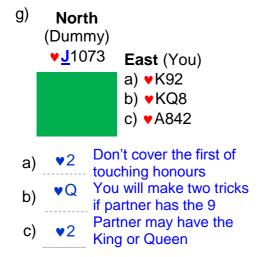
A low card to encourage partner to play hearts again if they get in

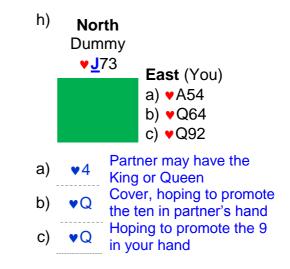


Play a high card to discourage hearts

2. 2nd Hand Defensive Play

The contract is 3NT for all these examples and declarer is leading from Dummy and the card is **Underlined in blue**. Which heart do you play in each example?

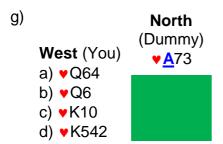






3. 2nd Hand Defensive Play

The contract is 4♥ and in each case, South (Declarer) leads J♥ from their hand. Which heart do you play in each example?



- a) ♥4 Don't cover, hoping to make the queen do so smoothly!
- b) •6 Don't tell them where the queen is!
- c) •K Cover with the King, hoping to make the ten
- d) v2 You will definitely make the King if you don't cover. You have greater length than dummy