

DEFENSIVE THINKING

“Not my fault. I didn’t do it. Blame the cat.”

Listen for Declarer's points.

Listen for Dummy's points.

Make or see Partner’s opening lead.

See dummy. Start counting!

Count Dummy's points. Estimate their HCP.

Estimate Partner's high-card points.

What sort of Dummy is it? Three “Kantar” types

- 🔔 Long side Suit - attack; take a prudent risk
- ☹️ Short Suit - if suit contract, maybe draw trump
- 😊 Dead (flat) - defend passively; wait for tricks

Count Declarer’s shape.

Count your side’s tricks.

Count Declarer’s tricks.

Where might Partner’s points lie?

How might you beat the contract?

Deal 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ K
♥ A Q 10 3 2
♦ K 10 9 5
♣ K J 8

♠ A J 9 2
♥ J 7 6
♦ 8 7
♣ A 9 5 3



♠ Q 8 5
♥ 9 8 4
♦ 6 4 2
♣ Q 10 4 2

16
10 4
10

♠ 10 7 6 4 3
♥ K 5
♦ A Q J 3
♣ 7 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 NT	All pass	

3 NT by North
Lead: ♣ 2

Estimate their high-card points. 25-28
Estimate East's high-card points. 2-5
Count Declarer's shape. 1=5=4=3
Where might Partner's points lie? ♠

Deal 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ K 9 8
♥ 7 5
♦ 9 2
♣ A Q J 7 4 2

♠ Q J 10 6
♥ K Q J 8
♦ Q J
♣ 10 8 5



♠ A 5 4 3
♥ A 10 9
♦ A K 8
♣ 9 6 3

10
12 15
3

♠ 7 2
♥ 6 4 3 2
♦ 10 7 6 5 4 3
♣ K

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 NT	Pass
2 ♣	Dbf	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

4 ♠ by East
Lead: ♣ K

Estimate their high-card points. 27-29
Estimate South's high-card points. 1-3
Count Declarer's tricks. 10
How might you beat the contract? ♠ trick

Deal 3
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ A K 10 7
♥ 7
♦ J 7 6
♣ K Q J 9 8

♠ 6 5
♥ J 8 4 3
♦ 8 5 3
♣ A 6 4 2



♠ 3 2
♥ A K 9 6 5
♦ A Q 10
♣ 7 5 3

14
5 13
8

♠ Q J 9 8 4
♥ Q 10 2
♦ K 9 4 2
♣ 10

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			Pass
Pass	1 ♣	1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♥	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by South
Lead: ♥ 3

Estimate West's high-card points. 4-5
Count your side's tricks. 3 ♦ or 2 ♦ + 1 ♣

SWISS TEAMS - IMP SCORING

Deal 4
West Deals
Both Vul

♠ Q J 10 9 8
♥ J 8 4
♦ A J 9 2
♣ A

♠ A K 6 5
♥ Q 10 9
♦ Q 8 7 6
♣ 4 3



♠ 4 3
♥ A K 2
♦ 5 4
♣ K Q J 10 9 7

13
11 13
3

♠ 7 2
♥ 7 6 5 3
♦ K 10 3
♣ 8 6 5 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♠	2 ♣	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

3 NT by West
Lead: ♠ Q

Estimate South's high-card points. 3-4
Count Declarer's tricks. 2 ♠ + 2 ♥ + 5 ♣ = 9
Count your side's tricks. maybe 4 ♦