

Hold up - twice

East. Contract: 3NT by South.

♠ K 8 4 3
 ♥ A K 10 6
 ♦ Q 4 2
 ♣ 7 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 7
 ♥ J 7
 ♦ A 10 7
 ♣ K Q 9 6 5 3

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

to the opening club lead in order to preserve
 When South plays a small diamond to the
 disinterestedly follow with the seven.
 continue diamonds and when East follows
 trick in hand, hoping that West has the bare
 West wins the second round of diamonds and
 East can now clear the club suit and must
 lead to cash his winners. The defence make
 see clubs.

principle involved on this hand. 1 In order to
 positions intact, it is often correct to allow
 up trick on the first round of the suit. If
 and he can continue and clear the suit. 2 By
 ding your ace in the suit declarer attacks (in
 nds), you may persuade him that his best
 partner for Ax. This enables you to retain
 e partner's entry helps to clear your suit.

47 Game all; dealer South. Contract: 4H by South.

♠ 5
 ♥ J 9 5
 ♦ 10 9 6 4
 ♣ Q 7 5 4 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 10 7 6 4
 ♥ Q 10 8
 ♦ A 8
 ♣ A 6 3

The bidding

S	N
2♠	2NT
3♥	4♥
No	

West leads the knave of clubs, dummy plays low, East puts on the
 ace and South follows with the king. East now cashes the ace of
 diamonds, South following with the queen and West the two.
 How should East plan the defence?

47 Game all; dealer South. Contract: 4H by South.

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

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

N	E
W	S

♠ 8 2
♥ K Q 10 9
♦ Q J 6 3
♣ J 9 3

The bidding

S
1♠
4♠

West leads the king of
partner encourages with
draws two rounds of tr
another diamond. Every
now on lead; how should

The defence

Although West obviously didn't appreciate it when he was on lead, it is clear that the right defensive game is to play trumps (East only cashed the ♦A in case a losing diamond was discarded on the ♣Q): but a low trump is not good enough. East must play the ♥Q at trick three. Note the difference: when a low trump is played, declarer wins with dummy's nine and has no trouble in trumping two spades. The ♠9 is discarded on the ♣Q. Subsequently trumps are drawn and he concedes just one more trick – the ♠J. When the queen of trumps is returned, declarer has to win in his own hand and use the ♥J9 for ruffing the spades. That leaves him with the same losing spade *plus* a losing trump.

The principle

When it is right to attack trumps it sometimes pays to play an honour rather than a small one. When this play forces declarer to win with a high honour in his own hand and ruff with high intermediates in dummy the gambit may be especially potent. As in the above hand, the trick often returns with a dividend.