

Declarer Play (2)

17 August

1.

♠ A J 6 5
♥ Q 6
♦ A 9 6 5
♣ 6 3 2

♠ K Q 9 8 7
♥ K 8
♦ Q 10 7 3
♣ A Q

After the auction 1♠-3♠;4♠, the lead is the ♦4.

2.

Preemptors tend to have shape. They tend to have a good suit to lead from, especially vulnerable. They tend to lead their suit. When they don't, warning bells should go off.

♠ 5
♥ A Q J 6
♦ A 9 6 5
♣ K Q 3 2

♠ A 4 3
♥ K 10 8 3
♦ Q 10 7 3
♣ J 10

Both vulnerable. After 3♠-Dbl-Pass-4♥, you get the lead of the ♦4.

3.

Dummy

♠ 7 6
♥ 8 5
♦ A K 9 6 5 4 3
♣ 9 3

You

♠ A K 4 3
♥ K Q J
♦ J 10 2
♣ A K J

After South opened 2NT, North bids 6NT then leaves to catch his bus.

West leads the SQ, Play please.

SOLUTIONS

1.

<p>♠ 10 2 ♥ J 9 7 5 3 2 ♦ 4 ♣ K 10 5 4</p>	<p>N W † E S</p>	<p>♠ 4 3 ♥ A 10 4 ♦ K J 8 2 ♣ J 9 8 7</p>
<p>♠ K Q 9 8 7 ♥ K 8 ♦ Q 10 7 3 ♣ A Q</p>		

If you ducked the D4 lead in dummy, have I got news for you! East will win the king, play back the knave for West to ruff (lavinthal), wins the H9 return (confirming a D wanted) and West will ruff another diamond. Lo and behold...that's not it yet... you still lose a club! -2.

If they lead a side suit where you have an eight-card (or longer) fit, it's usually a singleton.

2.

<p>♠ K Q 10 9 8 6 2 ♥ 5 2 ♦ 4 ♣ 9 6 4</p>	<p>N W † E S</p>	<p>♠ J 7 ♥ 9 7 4 ♦ K J 8 2 ♣ A 8 7 5</p>
<p>♠ A 4 3 ♥ K 10 8 3 ♦ Q 10 7 3 ♣ J 10</p>		

Contract = 4♥ Lead: 4♦

What will happen if you duck the lead of the D4?

East will win the king, play back the D2 (Lavinthal for a club) for West to ruff, club to the ace, and another diamond ruff!

What should have happened? Win DA, draw three rounds of trumps then play the club knave. Win the SA, unblock the C10 then ruff a spade and enjoy 2 good clubs then a diamond to complete your chores.

If an opponent preempts and leads another suit, it's usually a singleton.

3.

The full deal:

<p>♠ Q J 10 9 ♥ 7 4 3 ♦ Q 8 ♣ Q 10 8 2</p>	<p>N W † E S</p>	<p>♠ 7 6 ♥ 8 5 ♦ A K 9 6 5 4 3 ♣ 9 3</p>
<p>♠ 8 5 2 ♥ A 10 9 6 2 ♦ 7 ♣ 7 6 5 4</p>		
<p>♠ A K 4 3 ♥ K Q J ♦ J 10 2 ♣ A K J</p>		

Look before you leap!

Declarer got flustered at North's untimely departure that he misplayed this hand!

He won the SA, played the D2 to the ace and claimed 12 tricks (conceding the HA).

Opponents rightly contested the claim.

The third diamond gets blocked in South's hand, they shouted. The director adjusted to 9 tricks.

Correct play? Tr 2: Start with the DJ to the ace!!