

Opening Leads Against Suit Contracts ... More Examples

<div><div>♠AKJ65</div><div>♥Q</div><div>♦1053</div><div>♣AK83</div><div>♠Q97</div><div>♥743</div><div>♦KQJ9</div><div>♣762</div><div>♠10843</div><div>♥10982</div><div>♦A76</div><div>♣54</div><div>♠2</div><div>♥AKJ65</div><div>♦842</div><div>♣QJ109</div></div>	<div>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>5♣</td><td>All pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <div>3♦ is fourth suit forcing (to game as bid at three level). South's 3♦ could be looking for a diamond stopper. North doesn't have one (else 3NT). When opponents look at 3NT but then reject it in favour of 5♣ or 5♦ it usually pays to lead the fourth suit, whatever your holding in it. It is unwise to underlead a side suit ace at trick one against a suit contract so East should start with ♦A. Bingo! West can reinforce encouragement for the led suit by playing ♦K at trick one.</div>	West	North	East	South		1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣	All pass	
West	North	East	South																		
	1♠	Pass	2♥																		
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦																		
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣																		
Pass	5♣	All pass																			
<div><div>♠A63</div><div>♥653</div><div>♦762</div><div>♣10842</div><div>♠K4</div><div>♥KQJ108</div><div>♦J3</div><div>♣QJ96</div><div>♠85</div><div>♥9742</div><div>♦AKQ105</div><div>♣K3</div><div>♠QJ10972</div><div>♥A</div><div>♦984</div><div>♣A75</div></div>	<div>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1♦</td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4♥</td><td>All pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>North won't lead away from ♠A but should think twice before cashing ♠A, even though South overcalled 1♠ - aces are meant to beat opponents' honours, not small cards (there's no guarantee partner has "perfect" cards for the overcall). North could try leading a passive club (♣8 – second from a bad holding). South wins ♣A and switches to ♠Q. The contract fails.</div>	West	North	East	South			1♦	1♠	2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	All pass						
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		1♦	1♠																		
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass																		
4♥	All pass																				
<div><div>♠K7 65</div><div>♥A 7 65</div><div>♦K8</div><div>♣653</div><div>♠QJ109</div><div>♥2</div><div>♦754</div><div>♣A9872</div><div>♠-</div><div>♥J1043</div><div>♦QJ10962</div><div>♣J104</div><div>♠A8432</div><div>♥KQ98</div><div>♦A3</div><div>♣KQ</div></div>	<div>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td></tr><tr><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>If West leads the singleton ♥2 it is likely to destroy the defensive heart trick. After ♥2 lead declarer takes ♥10 with ♥K and later crosses to ♥A and takes the marked heart finesse against ♥J. Importantly <i>West doesn't want a ruff</i> - his trumps are too good (two winners there whatever the defence). West can lead ♠Q and declarer is unlikely to divine the heart position.</div>	West	North	East	South				1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass							
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