

**COUNT! COUNT! COUNT!**

	Q10	DEALER – 1 Diamond
	Q102	3 NT
	KQJ109	
	AKQ	
98765		J42
A87	Pass	KJ93
85	Pass	A72
762		953
	AK3	
	654	1 NT
	643	Pass
	J1084	

West leads the 9 of spades. Declarer wins the Q and leads the K of diamonds.  
 East ducks and wins the 2<sup>nd</sup> diamond. How should east plan the defense?

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	QJ102	2 Clubs (Stayman)
	KQJ10	4 Spades
	54	
	J109	
8		K765
87632	Pass	9
87632	Pass	J109
82		AKQ54
	A943	
	A54	
	AKQ	Dealer – 1 NT
	763	2 Spades

West leads the 8 of clubs. East wins and cashes 2 more clubs, with West discarding the 2 of hearts. What next? East's natural inclination is to shift to the singleton heart, but check the points. Dummy has 10 and East has 13. Given that South has 15-17, that leaves at most 2 for West. The heart switch is pointless.

Whenever you have taken all possible side-suit tricks, concede a ruff-and-sluff. Lead a 4<sup>th</sup> club. If partner has either the 8 or 9 of spades, his ruff will effect an upcut. Dummy overruffs, and you will now collect a trump trick by covering either honor when it's led from the dummy. Also, note that it doesn't help declarer to ruff with the 9. You still score a trump trick.

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962 2 Diamonds  
 K7 3 NT  
 AQ9852  
 K7

Q8754		A3	Pass
A10	Pass	J843	Pass
74	Pass	K63	
9652	Pass	J843	

KJ10  
 Q9652 Dealer – 1 Heart  
 J10 2 NT  
 AQ10 Pass

West leads the 5 of spades. East wins the A, returns the 3, Declarer plays the 10, you win the Q. What card do you return? West can play any of the spot cards without altering the number of tricks he might win in the suit. Send a signal, play the 8, asks for a heart.

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102 Double (Negative)  
 6 4 Spades  
 AQ8753  
 J543

Q74		85	
KQJ109	2 Hearts	A753	3 Hearts
102	Pass	KJ94	Pass
Q109	Pass	876	

AKJ963 Dealer – 1 Spade  
 842 3 Spades  
 6 Pass  
 AK2

**WHEN TO SHIFT TO A TRUMP.**

West leads the K of hearts. East should overtake and switch to a trump. Dummy's diamonds are worthless. If East doesn't switch, declarer can ruff 2 hearts in dummy.

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