SIGNALS, LEADS, PLAY

KJ973 DEALER - 1 Spade 2 Clubs 8

AJ5

QJ98

542 AQ108 Pass K753 QJ10 Pass **Pass** K83 Q1094 Pass

732

Α6

6

A9642 1 NT 762 Pass

K1054

North is declarer, playing 2 clubs. You're East. What do you lead and why?

QJ54 2 Spades

KQ3 **Pass**

654 654

2 2 Hearts 3 3 Hearts A98754 Pass J62 Pass A1087 KJ3 KJ3

Q9872

AK109876

10 DEALER - 1 Spade Q92 4 Spades A10

South's declarer in 4 spades. West leads the Ace of Hearts. Dummy plays the 3. East, what card do you play and why?

Bridge Tip: When you're declaring a NT contract, the first thing you should do is cash out a solid 4 card suit. AK5 opposite QJ87 unless entries back and forth rate to be a problem. Why? Because defenders actually discard wastefully. They pitch (discard) away tricks and potential tricks, sometimes to signal, sometimes from habit.

954 DEALER – 1 Club A74 1 NT 532 Pass AKQJ

 103
 Pass
 A8
 Pass

 KQJ10
 Pass
 982
 Pass

 A1094
 J876
 Pass

 984
 10732

KQJ762 1 Spade 653 4 Spades KQ 65

West leads the King of hearts, you win the Ace, Count your losers, 1 spade, 2 hearts, 1 diamond, down 1. Can you do something with one of your losers? Yes. Play on clubs. Cash 3 clubs, pitching a heart, now lead trump. If you draw trump at trick 2, you were going down 1. If the clubs behave, you get rid of 1 heart loser.

AQJ10 1 Spade 63 3 NT AQJ8 J109

 872
 Pass
 K953
 Pass

 K74
 Pass
 9852
 Pass

 62
 754

 AQ742
 86

64
AQJ10 DEALER – 1 Diamond
K1093 1 NT
K53 Pass

West leads the 4 of clubs, you play the 9, East plays the 8. Count your winners, 7 sure ones. You need 2 more tricks. Before you cash all 4 diamonds, ask yourself, do you need the diamonds in dummy as entries? If yes, don't cash all of them. How are you going to find 2 more tricks, from what suit, which one, and why?