

Signals and Communication

Duplicate Lite

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Guidelines for playing cards of equal value:

From Q J 10

When **leading** a suit, always play the highest of equals:

lead the Q

When **responding** to a lead, play the 10

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Signals and Communication

If you pay attention to your partners' signals, you will definitely have better results!

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Which card should you play?

1.	North (Dummy)		
	West	9 6 <u>3</u>	East (You)
	2		J 10 7
			10
2.	North (Dummy)		
	West	9 6 <u>3</u>	East (You)
	<u>2</u>		J 10 8
			8
3.	North (Dummy)		
	West	Q 10 8 <u>5</u>	East (You)
	<u>2</u>		K J 9 6
			9
4.	North (Dummy)		
	West	Q 6 <u>4</u>	East (You)
	<u>2</u>		K 10 9 7
			9

- **Think about it: You are going to be on defense 50% of the time. (66% if you exclude being dummy) Why not get better at this aspect of the game.**
- **The key to good defense is watching your partners signals!**

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The benefit of upside-down attitude signals

Preserving suit strength.

A defender might like to show count or attitude in a suit like KT82, but a standard count or attitude signal here would require the 8. This could be a valuable card.

Theoretically, it's more practical to discard a high spot card from a lousy holding like 872.

Upside Down Signals

- Give **Attitude** when partner leads
 - a **LOW** card is encouraging
 - a **HIGH** card is discouraging

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First Discard

A high card: I do **not** want this suit

A low card: I do want this suit

You have no diamonds and you want to signal a spade.
What would you play from your spades?

♠ K Q 8 5 2 2

What would you play from your hearts to indicate you do not want a heart?

♥ 10 7 5 2 7

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Attitude

(when your partner leads)

Partner leads an ACE and you do not like the suit, what should you play from 8 5 2?

- The 8 implies **DO NOT CONTINUE**
- The 2 implies **PLEASE CONTINUE**

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A Club is led and your partner wins the trick, now you have the opportunity to signal to your partner the suit you prefer.

♠	8 3
♥	A K 9
♦	9 7 2
♣	

How would you signal a heart?

a) Spades are trump D9

b) Diamonds are trump S8

West leads the **Q** against a suit contract.

North (Dummy)
10 4 3

West (Partner)
Q J 5

East (You)
K 8 6 2

South (Declarer)
A 9 7

Shout with the 2!

Make your signals as clear as possible and bring a smile to partner's face.

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FIRST DISCARD

A Club is lead and you are void in clubs. Your partner takes the trick and you would like to signal attitude for the suit you would like. Spades are trump.

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

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Suit Preference

When you need to tell your partner what suit to lead, you show suit preference when these opportunities arise:

1. Dummy is showing a void or singleton
2. An opportunity for two ruffs

Standard Suit Preference Signals

- High card = Please lead a higher suit
- Low card = Please lead a lower suit

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Declarer: South 4S contract

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♠ J10964
♥ KJ10
♦ AJ52
♣ Q

♠ Q3
♥ 98
♦ 10643
♣ AK763

♠ 5
♥ AQ6542
♦ 98
♣ 9542

♠ AK872
♥ 73
♦ KQ7
♣ J108

Lead: Club Ace

Signal from West:
Club 9 clear signal
for a Heart switch

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Singleton or Void in Dummy Suit Preference

CONTRACT 4S

♠ 10 8 6 4 2
♥ K 6 5 2
♦ 3
♣ K J 2

Diamond 9
indicates a
Heart

♠ 5 3
♥ 8 4
♦ A K 7 6 2
♣ 8 6 4 3

♠ 9
♥ A Q 7 3
♦ 9 5 4
♣ 10 9 7 5

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DEALER:
East

♠ 7 3
♥ 10 3
♦ 9 8 7 5 4
♣ Q 10 9 3

HCP 2

♠ A 9 2
♥ Q 7 6
♦ A K Q 10 3
♣ 6 4

HCP 15

♠ K Q J 10 4
♥ 8 5 4
♦ J 6 2
♣ A K

HCP 14

1S P 2D P
2NT P 4S P
P P

♠ 8 6 5
♥ A K J 9 2
♦ J 8 7 5 2
♣ J 8 7 5 2

HCP 8

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♠ 6 5
♥ A K 9 2
♦ A 7 5 3
♣ 8 7 3

The contract is 4 Spades

- You lead the A of hearts and partner plays the 6
- You play the K of hearts and partner plays the 8
- What should you play next?

9H to
indicate a
Diamond

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Summary

1. **Tip:**
Respond with the lowest equal card:
Lead with the highest equal card.
2. Give Upside down **attitude:**
(Low – Like High- Do not Like)
Partner leads
First Discard
3. **Suit Preference Opportunities**
 - Singleton or void in Dummy
 - Ruffing opportunity

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Most Important

1. Establish a plan for defense with your partner
2. Watch your partner's signals!!!!

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Tip: How to tell partner that you have the **J** when partner has lead from **AK**

North (Dummy)
10 7 6

West (Partner)
A K 4 2

East (You)
Q J 8 3

South (Declarer)
9 5

If you wish partner to cross to your hand at trick 2, you can signal if you have the **Q** **J** holding.

Play the **Q**. The **Q** says I have the **J** or I have a singleton! Always!!!! At least in a
quit contract

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