

# Thinking Counting Defence



**COUNT EVERYTHING YOU CAN EVEN IF IT  
SEEMS HARD TO DO**



So a weak 2 spade opening by West and we hold.

So we start the thinking or hopefully started during the bidding.

How are the trumps ?

Maybe 6-3-3-1

So partner have 3 trumps

Declarer does not know about 3-3 trump break yet.

Remember dummies shape . You might need the info later.

West	North	East	South
			pass
2♠	pass	pass	pass

E			
	9		
	10	6	3
	A	10	8 6
	A	K	Q J 9

## Partner lead Heart King

S	You		
	Q	7	6
	Q	9	8 7
	K	Q	4
	8	5	2



So next is the Hearts

The King of Hearts is certainly a strange lead given we have the Queen.

Singleton ..hardly as that means 65 majors in declarers hand

And we don't lead King from Kxxx or Kxx

So maybe AK doubleton

West	North	East	South
			pass
2♠	pass	pass	pass

E			
9			
10 6 3			
A 10 8 6			
AKQJ9			

## Partner lead Heart King

S	You		
Q 7 6			
Q 9 8 7			
K Q 4			
8 5 2			



So we signal encouragement with the Heart 9 and partner continues the Heart Ace.

Everybody follows as we play Heart 7

Next partner plays the Diamond 3 and we like this development

So partner stopped playing hearts so maybe none left.

We are aware weak 2 openings don't normally have 4 card major on the side but who knows.

West	North	East	South
			pass
2♠	pass	pass	pass

E
9
10 6 3
A 10 8 6
A K Q J 9

## Partner lead Heart King and Ace

S	You
	Q 7 6
	Q 9 8 7
	K Q 4
	8 5 2



Trick 3 Declarer rises with Diamond Ace as we follow small. D3 DA D4 D4

So partner have AK hearts meaning Jx in declarers hand.

Trick 4 Declarer runs Spade 9

9 6 2 and King from partner.

Trick 5.

9 6 Q 7 diamonds

West	North	East	South
			pass
2♠	pass	pass	pass

E
9
10 6 3
A 10 8 6
AKQJ9

## Partner lead HK HA D3

S	You
Q 7 6	
Q 9 8 7	
K Q 4	
8 5 2	



So we stop for a count.

Declarer 64 and followed 2 diamonds so 6421 or 6430

Cannot be 6430 as then would have left the clubs behind in dummy so 6421

Looks like our declarer forgot to discard the hearts on AKQ of clubs and followed the teacher rule of drawing trumps as soon as possible.

He could have discarded some losing hearts on AKQ of clubs surely

West	North	East	South
			pass
2♠	pass	pass	pass

E
9
10 6 3
A 10 8 6
A K Q J 9

**Partner lead HK HA D3 win SK and exit D9**

S	You
Q 7 6	
Q 9 8 7	
K Q 4	
8 5 2	



We never ask “What should I lead ..we ask

“What is going on ? “

We will cash the master Heart and lead the last heart for partner to ruff.

Later on we surely collect spade queen of trumps for DOWN ONE.

West	North	East	South
			pass
2♠	pass	pass	pass

E
9
10 6 3
A 10 8 6
A K Q J 9

**Partner lead HK HA D3 win SK and exit D9**

S	You
Q 7 6	
Q 9 8 7	
K Q 4	
8 5 2	

# The End is here now

So we cash the winning Queen of Hearts and give partner the ruff in hearts

Eventually declarer has to give us the spade queen.

So that's KH AH DQ HQ heart ruff and trump queen for us

Example 1

D

W 6

A J 10 8 5  
J 5  
10

S You 9

Q 7  
Q 8  
K  
8 5 2

E 14

10  
10 8  
AKQJ9

2♠ pass pass pass

W You 4 EW 1





## Assign points and cards to players

So East has 4+ spades and 13+ points.

We will overcall 2D natural and

West bids 2S

West	North	East	South
		1♠	

S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	A K 8 7 3 2
	J 6



## Assign points and cards to players

So East has 4+ spades and 13+ points.

We will overcall 2D natural and

West bids 2S

Better give West 7 points and 4 spades

And we better give East more points like maybe 18

So we have partner with 2-3 trumps and about 4 points

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	A K 8 7 3 2
	J 6



## Assign points and cards to players

So we lead DK and see the dummy. 5 points so partner can be upgraded to 6 points

But only 2 trumps as opps told us *belatedly* that they are 5 card majors.

Of course if declarer got 6 card trumps then only 1 in partners hand.

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W
9 4 3 2
A 7 5 3 2
J 10 9
3

S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	A K 8 7 3 2
	J 6



# Assign points and cards to players

You memorized your own distribution 2362

Dummy 4531

Do this on every hand so it happens automatically.

We now ask our question ..The MANTRA

What is going on ??

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W
9 4 3 2
A 7 5 3 2
J 10 9
3

S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	AK 8 7 3 2
	J 6

# Assign points and cards to players

What is going on in diamonds ...note we already did the trumps automatically

We started with 6 and dummy has 3 so the others have 4 ..no big deal

However it should be

6331 6322 6340

This is why Dave Terry is good at bridge and Peter Wilson is (\*(^\*^%)

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W
9 4 3 2
A 7 5 3 2
J 10 9
3



S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	AK 8 7 3 2
	J 6



# Assign points and cards to players

Did you see those diamonds. Not dummies ones

The partner and declarers diamonds which are now turned over.

Which diamond did partner play

Which diamonds remain unseen

Or did you even look

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W
9 4 3 2
A 7 5 3 2
J 10 9
3

S	You
Q 5	
J 6 4	
A K 8 7 3 2	
J 6	



# Assign points and cards to players

Partner played the SIX and the Queen and FIVE are missing

The idea is not to MEMORIZE but make sure the cards are CLEARLY SEEN

Let go your card face up on the table and don't touch it until you have CLEARLY SEEN all played cards

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W
9 4 3 2
A 7 5 3 2
J 10 9
3

S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	A K 8 7 3 2
	J 6

# Assign points and cards to players

Ok I will show the cards again now that we are fully trained up

What does partner have or even before that what can partner have had.

These are type of thoughts you should have on every defence opening lead of you or partner

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W
9 4 3 2
A 7 5 3 2
J 10 9
3



S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	AK 8 7 3 2
	J 6



# Assign points and cards to players

Q65 or Q6 or 65 or 6

So continuing with King can only cost when partner got Q6 and we eat the Queen.

However even then partner can ruff the master Diamond Jack we created.

So we continue with the King

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W
9 4 3 2
A 7 5 3 2
J 10 9
3



S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	AK 8 7 3 2
	J 6

# Assign points and cards to players

What Now. We better ruff out that master diamond and hopefully partner has one trump

Imagine if we were real lucky and partner held the Spade Jack singleton or doubleton

That would work good



West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W					
	9	4	3	2	
	A	7	5	3	2
	J	10	9		
	3				



S	You
	Q 5
	J 6 4
	A K 8 7 3 2
	J 6


# Assign points and cards to players

Hmmm

Our spade queen just got promoted to the rank of Billy Ronan 2<sup>nd</sup> in command to Dave Terry

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

W	S
9 4 3 2 A 7 5 3 2 3	You Q 5 J 6 4 7 3 2 J 6



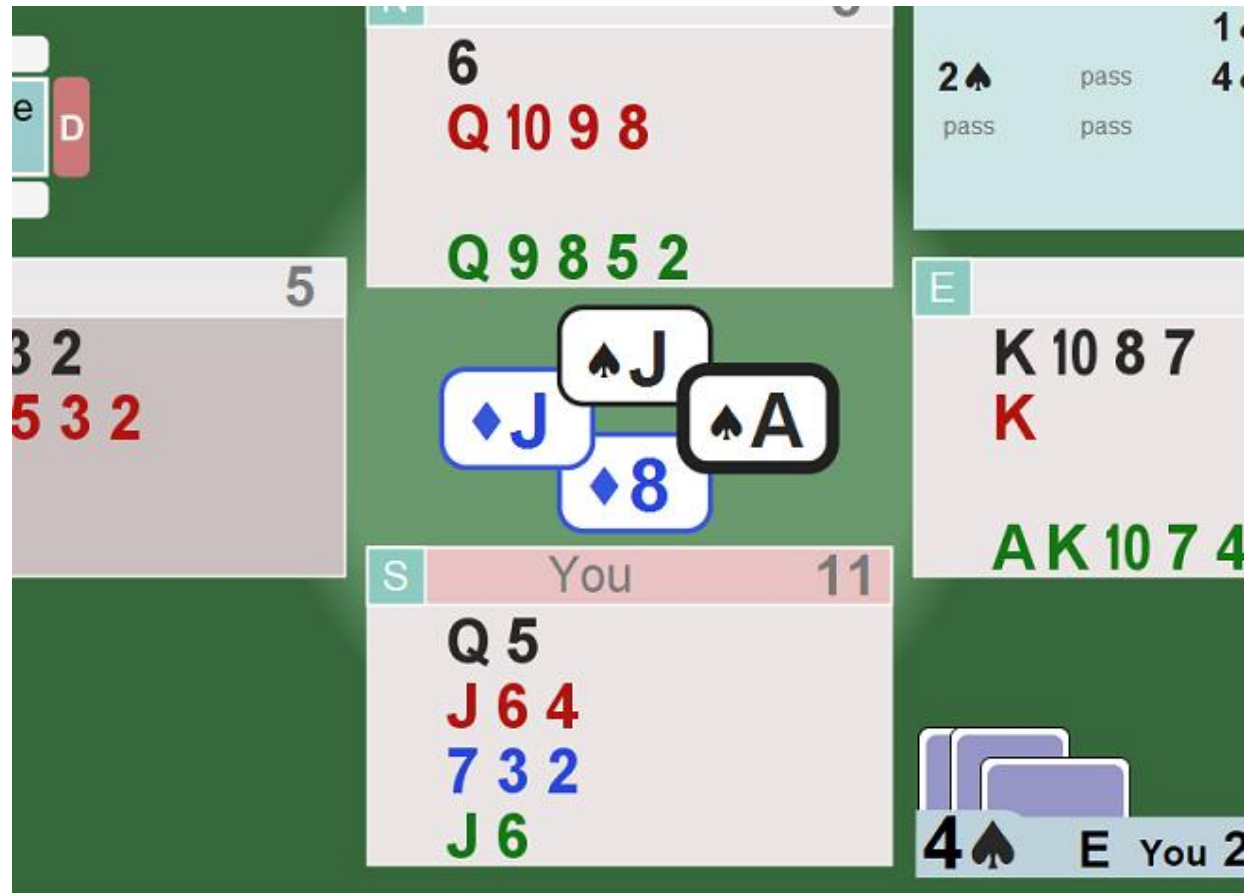


So we made our spade Queen into a trick as partner ruffed with spade Jack

Some partners would not bother ruffing with Jack as they figure will get over ruffed anyway.

However it is not all about you. Partner might have a card needing promotion.

Also works for partner with 10xx



Anyway ye get the gist. Got to figure out picture sizing to include dummy