

TIP OF THE WEEK: Are You Missing an Inference?

Good bridge players are constantly drawing inferences that can assist in defending or playing a hand. Where can you find the best clues?

Analyze and Review the Bidding

The bidding can point to who has the points and the stronger suits.

1C - 1S 2S - 3NT P ----->	Inference: Responder probably holds four spades. If he had more than four spades, spades would be trump.
1NT - 2C 2S - 4C 4S ----->	Inference: The 2S response to Stayman, denies four hearts.
1S - 2C 3C - 4S ----->	Inference: East did not bid Jacoby 2NT showing four card support and opening values He probably holds four or five clubs and three spades.
1S - 1NT 2S - P ----->	Inference: Declarer has six spades and less than four hearts. With 5,3,3,2, North would have passed 1NT. Declarer has no four-card suit and dummy has 3 or less spades.
1S - 2D 2H - 2NT 3D - 3NT ----->	Inference: North has a singleton club. Responder insists on NT, so they must have clubs.

Interpret Partner's Bid or Lack of Bidding and what they Lead

- . Partner bids hearts, but leads a club ----->
Inference: Partner might hold AQxxx and is reluctant to lead it, or he wants you to lead hearts through declarer.
- . Partner leads a high spot ----->
Inference: He is short in this suit, or lacks a high honor in the suit.
- . You lead the king of hearts and partner overtakes ----->
Inference: Partner most likely is void in clubs, or she wouldn't overtake.

- Partner leads a trump after declarer discloses a side suit — — — —>
Inference: The side suit is not going to break well; otherwise an attacking lead would have been made.

Figure out Declarer's and Partner's Play Strategy

- If a capable player adopts an unusual line of defense, or fails to adopt an obvious line, you should at once be on the alert.
- If the defenders play a forcing game, you should **not** be surprised to find that the trumps break badly.
- If a good defender gives you an entry to dummy where none existed, he is probably trying to get you to take a losing defense.
- When the dummy comes down with a long threatening side suit and the defenders are making an active defense assume the suit is breaking normally.

<p>AQ6 KT853 — — — — —></p>	<p>Partner leads the 5 of spades, and declarer plays the queen from the dummy — — — — —></p> <p>inference: Partner holds the Jack. If declarer has the jack, they would play low from the dummy.</p>
<p>842 3 is led</p> <p>A75</p>	<p>Partner plays the king — — — — —></p> <p>Inference: East wouldn't play the king if he held the QJ.</p>
<p>Q76 J5 — — — — —></p>	<p>Diamonds are trumps and you lead the jack of spades which declarer wins with the Ace of diamonds — — — — —></p> <p>Inference: Declarer must hold the king of spades. If declarer didn't have the king of spades, he would've covered the jack of spades with the queen of spades.</p>
<p>In the middle of the hand declarer begins to play trump</p> <p>KJ6 — — — — —> Declarer plays the K. Who has the Q?</p> <p>AT53 x</p>	<p>Inference: Without the Q, declarer would lead up to KJx, not away from it. Declarer holds the Q.</p>

Check out, "The Dog that Didn't Bark" for more examples

<https://www.bridgewebs.com> > baystate > The Do...

PETER HOLLANDS

Bridge Vid

Check out our website: www.bridgevid.com | Feel free to chat! | Log into twi

Bidding Board 7

WEST NORTH EAST sliynk

Pass Pass 1NT Pass

Pass

9 3 2 A K 9 7 A J 6 8 7 3

S sliynk

www.bridgevid.com

@bridgevid

bridge vid

Peter Hollands

<https://youtu.be/3JVR4GMz1qg>

Bridge Vid

Weeks featured lesson: Walsh Style Bidding! | Check out our website: www.bridgevid.com

Bidding Board 5

WEST NORTH EAST sliynk

1♣ Pass Pass

2♦ Pass

Q J 4 3 J 9 7 2 10 7 6 4 3

S sliynk

Pass

2 3 4 5 6 7

www.bridgevid.com

@bridgevid

bridge vid

Peter Hollands

<https://youtu.be/YyeEZV0odNQ>

Bridge Vid

[out our website: www.bridgevid.com](http://www.bridgevid.com) |
 [Feel free to chat!](#) |
 [Log into twitch to chat!](#)

The screenshot shows a bridge bidding interface. At the top, it says 'WEST NORTH EAST MyW'. The bidding sequence is: Pass 2♣, Pass 2NT, Pass 3♣, Pass. Below this, there are four 'Robot Remove' buttons. At the bottom, a hand layout is shown: ♠ QJ971063, ♥ Q1096K3, ♦ 2A8K10, ♣ 3. There are also icons for 'Robot Remove' and 'MyW'.

www.bridgevid.com

[@bridgevid](#)

[bridgevid](#)

<https://youtu.be/eWZx0s-SUyE>