

Answers singletons

1) a) Ace Hrts Certainly leading a singleton when you have a side suit A + K is poor. There is a clever trick you can try however – instead of leading the Ace Hrts you lead the K Hrts. Then you either play the Ace hrts and next your singleton OR at trick 2 lead your singleton.

Partner is sposed to think Hmm that's odd – we always lead the Ace from A + K – wonder why partner led the K first. I wonder if they were trying to tell me something ... (And the something is of course that you have a singleton). Nice idea but this "lead inversion"(K from A + K) is open to other interpretations.

b)K clubs c)5 diamonds BECAUSE you have the Ace trumps

d)5 diamonds BECAUSE all leads are bad and the singleton is the best of the lot

2)Win with the Ace hrts and lead the Q clubs.

What ?! your 9 hrts was a singleton ? Sorry partner I couldn't tell.

(Someone once told me that you should lead a singleton with your left hand). Moving on.

3) Win the Ace sp. Play the ACe hrts and look for a signal from partner ie a HIGH heart. If theres no encouraging card from partner I lead a club.

4) On the 1st spade lead I don't play my Ace. On the 2nd spade I do take the Ace and will be looking keenly to see which card partner discards to signal with ie if they throw a high heart I lead a heart if they throw a high club I lead a club.

You might say but partner may not see the need to discard high signals atthis point (feeling they may be assisting declarer). And that is part of the problem with leading singletons –they require lots of luck and good play from partners !

5)South has 5spades and 4 hearts

North has 2 spades 3 hearts –

Its no good me keep telling you that South is showing whatever (and then you forget it) –you need to think about it for yourself .One attraction of transfers is at least that they are logical .

6) Double(penalty) or 2NT. Nothing else.

7)Switch (as declarer still has the A+ Q spades). Lead the J clubs

8) (i) play the 2. If the J diamonds is led at trick 2 , play the 4.

(ii)play the 3. If the J diamonds is led at trick 2 , play the 4.Finally win the 3rd diamond with the Ace (cf w.w.w.) . Now and the lesson that you should have had (and I have written , called Danger hand bridge) but I have got in the wrong order so you will have to wait a little longerwould have taught you how to solve this ! So extra marks for working out that at trick 4 you should lead the 3 Hrts to the 10 hearts in dummy.

Did that did you ? (or led the J hrts towards the dummy which is the same thing) Good. Who needs lessons anyway.

7) Ace spades. Declarer has AKQJ10xx in a minor suit (the gambling 3NT)

You need to look at dummy to decide what to lead next (and get a signal from partner)

