

Dealer South

A Suit Preference Signal

NORTH

♠ 7

♥ 2

♦ AKQJ74

♣ JT642

WEST

♠ KQT864

♥ KT76

♦ 5

♣ A8

EAST

♠ J,9,6,3

♥ A843

♦ T962

♣ 3

SOUTH

♠ A2

♥ QJ95

♦ 83

♣ KQ975

Bidding: South opens a club followed by west's overcall of a spade. North will bid two diamonds and east based on four trump, an ace and a singleton will raise to two spades. (Some east players may even bid three based on Law of Total Tricks reasoning) Aggressive west players may try three spades and north being non vulnerable may preempt to five clubs with a defenseless hand.

Play: West opens the diamond five which looks like a shortness lead. East however must gain an entry before south pulls all the trump. East also reasons west must have a trump entry. East can tell west what suit to lead by using a suit preference indicator. Usually you give attitude on partner's leads, but with dummy's diamond holding attitude is already known. East should follow with a low diamond to indicate to west that he should lead the lower of the two remaining suits (hearts and spades) West when in with his trump ace, can lead a heart to east who dutifully returns a diamond for the ruff.