

MINI UNIT 5 High from the Short Side ♠♥♦♣

Play as declarer: High from the shorter holding

West (Declarer)

♦AQJT6

East (Dummy)

♦K4

It appears that you have five easy tricks in the suit, but it is just as easy to get in a tangle. Say you were to win the first diamond trick with the ace. Now you have created a blockage in the suit! The second diamond trick must be won with the king, after which you have no more diamonds left in dummy to lead a third round to make the ♦Q-J-10 which are lying stranded in the West hand.

Let's look at the correct procedure. When playing your winners in a suit, best is to start "high from shortage". In this example, the shorter holding in diamonds is in dummy, so on the first trick play The ♦K (high from shortage), contributing the ♦6 from the other hand. On the next round, lead the ♦4 over to the winners in the other hand, the ♦A-Q-J-10.

Again play the high cards from your **short** hand (the hand in which you hold the fewer number of cards) first and then go to the hand in which you have a greater number of cards (the **long** hand).

West	East	
♠ Q J T 7	♠ A K 3 2	With these holdings the order in which you cash your winners does not matter
♠ A Q J T 5 4	♠ K 8	Cash the ♠K first, then ♠8 to the West hand.
♠ Q J T 7 6 3	♠ A K 2	Cash ♠A and K then play ♠2 to get to the hand in which you have the remaining high cards.

In both the second and third cases, if you cash cards in the wrong order you will be stuck in the wrong hand.

Quizzes ♠♥♦♣

1)	How should you play the following suits?	♥K4	♥QJT93	Lead ♥3 to the ♥K
		♣A9	♣KQJ83	Lead ♣3 to the ♣A
		♠AQJ7	♠K3	Lead ♠7 to the ♠K

SET BOARDS

<p>Board 4 ♠ 8 5 3 West Deals ♥ Q J 10 None Vul ♦ 6 4 3 ♣ 5 4 3 2</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">♠ A 4 2</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="width: 30%;">♠ K 7 6</td> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥ 8 4 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">W</td> <td>♥ A K 9 3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ J 10 9 8 5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">E</td> <td>♦ Q 2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣ J 8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">S</td> <td>♣ K Q 10 9</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 100px;">♠ Q J 10 9 ♥ 7 6 5 ♦ A K 7 ♣ A 7 6</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1 NT</td> <td>All pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>Lead: ♠ Q</p>	♠ A 4 2	N	♠ K 7 6		♥ 8 4 2	W	♥ A K 9 3		♦ J 10 9 8 5	E	♦ Q 2		♣ J 8	S	♣ K Q 10 9		West	North	East	South	Pass	Pass	1 NT	All pass	<p>East opens 1NT (17 HCP & balanced), West passes as no chance of game</p> <p>Theme: High from short side</p> <p>Lead: ♠Q - top of 3 card sequence</p> <p>Winners: 2♠ 2♥</p> <p>Play: Win lead in West & then play ♣J - East can make 3 ♣ tricks once ♣A is forced out.</p>
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