

8. Third hand play - Answers

1. Partner has the Queen, declarer has the 10
2. Play the 9, the lowest equal, since dummy has the 10
3. Declarer has AQ10. You, West, should wait for partner to lead the suit
4. Play the 10. Keep the Ace sitting over declarer's Queen
5. Play the 7. You are preserving a link with partner. Hopefully, partner can get the lead later, and lead another spade allowing you to take four spade tricks.
6. Play partner for a doubleton, leaving declarer with a 3-card suit. Encourage with the Jack and hope that partner has an early trump entry, can lead another heart and so get a 3rd round heart ruff.
7. Play the Ace. Partner has led the top of his 5-card suit. Declarer has singleton King!
8. Play the Ace, unblocking the suit. Then lead a spade back. Partner probably has KQ10(x).
9. Play the Queen to discourage declarer from holding up with the King. If the Queen wins, continue with a low spade.
10. Play the 10, forcing declarer to win with the Jack. Hopefully partner can get in again and lead another spade while you still have an entry in a side suit.
11. Partner led high, denying the King. Play the 10, keeping your Ace over declarer's King.
12. Partner has led low, suggesting he has an honor, the King. Take your Ace and return the Jack.
13. Partner's Jack is likely a singleton. Your hearts are strong enough to overtake, so do it. Keep leading hearts whenever you get the lead. You hope to make four heart tricks plus two outside Aces.