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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011 North-South vulnerable. East deals.

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠ 5 3 ♥ K 9 2 ♦ A Q 10 6 ♣ J 9 8 6	
<b>WEST</b> ♠ 8 ♥ Q J 10 ♦ K 9 4 ♣ A Q 7 4 3 2		<b>EAST</b> ♠ J 6 4 2 ♥ A 6 4 ♦ 8 5 2 ♣ K 10 5
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠ A K Q 10 9 7 ♥ 8 7 5 3 ♦ J 7 3 ♣ Void	

North	East	South	West
--	Pass	1 Spade	2 Club
Pass	Pass	2 Spade	Pass
3 Club	Pass	3 Heart	Pass
3 Spade	Pass	4 Spade	All Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♥

Here's another deal from the recent ACBL Fall North American Championships. Sitting South was Jeff Aker from New York.

We are not enamored of North's three-club bid. If North does bid we prefer three spades (it is dollars to donuts that South has six-card suit on this auction) to three clubs. At least that would have offered South the chance to play in the partscore.

Against four spades West led the queen of hearts, and the defense started with three rounds of the suit, then shifted to a club. Declarer ruffed, cashed the ace and king of spades to learn of the bad break, then led a diamond to the ten and ruffed a club to shorten his trumps. He returned to dummy with the queen of diamonds, bringing about this position:

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠ ♥ ♦ A 6 ♣ J 9	
<b>WEST</b> ♠ - ♥ ♦ K ♣ A Q 7		<b>EAST</b> ♠ J 6 ♥ -- ♦ 8 ♣ K
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠ Q 10 ♥ 8 ♦ J ♣ Void	

Declarer cashed the ace of diamonds and continued with the six. It made no difference to him which defender won – his Q 10 of trumps poised over East's J 6 guaranteed the last two tricks and the contract.

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