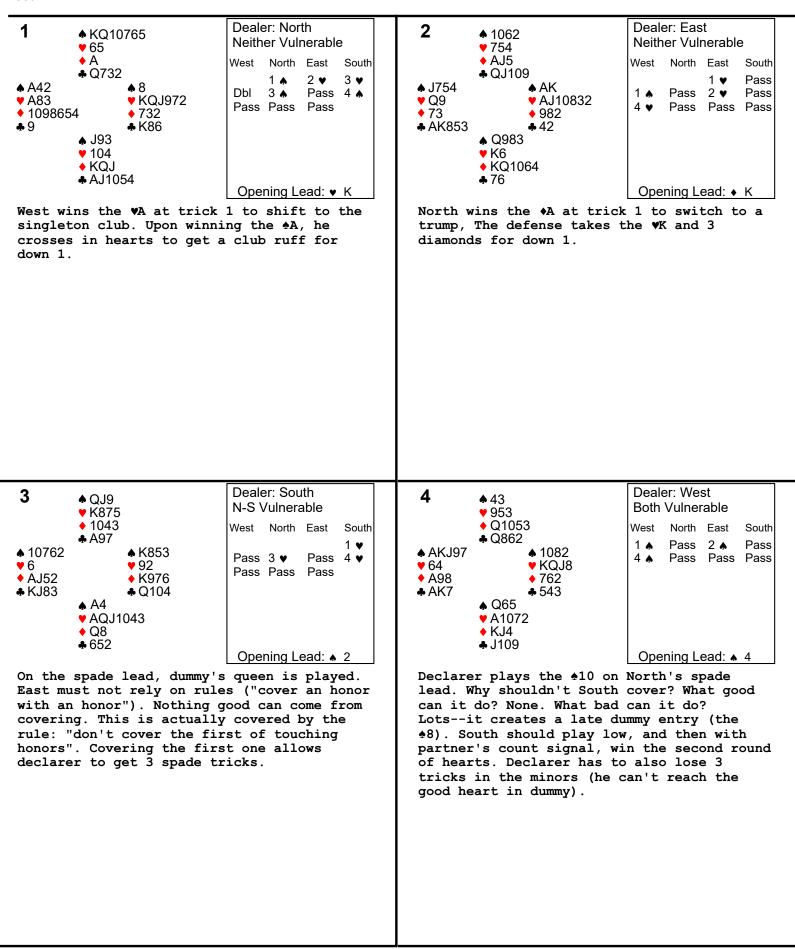
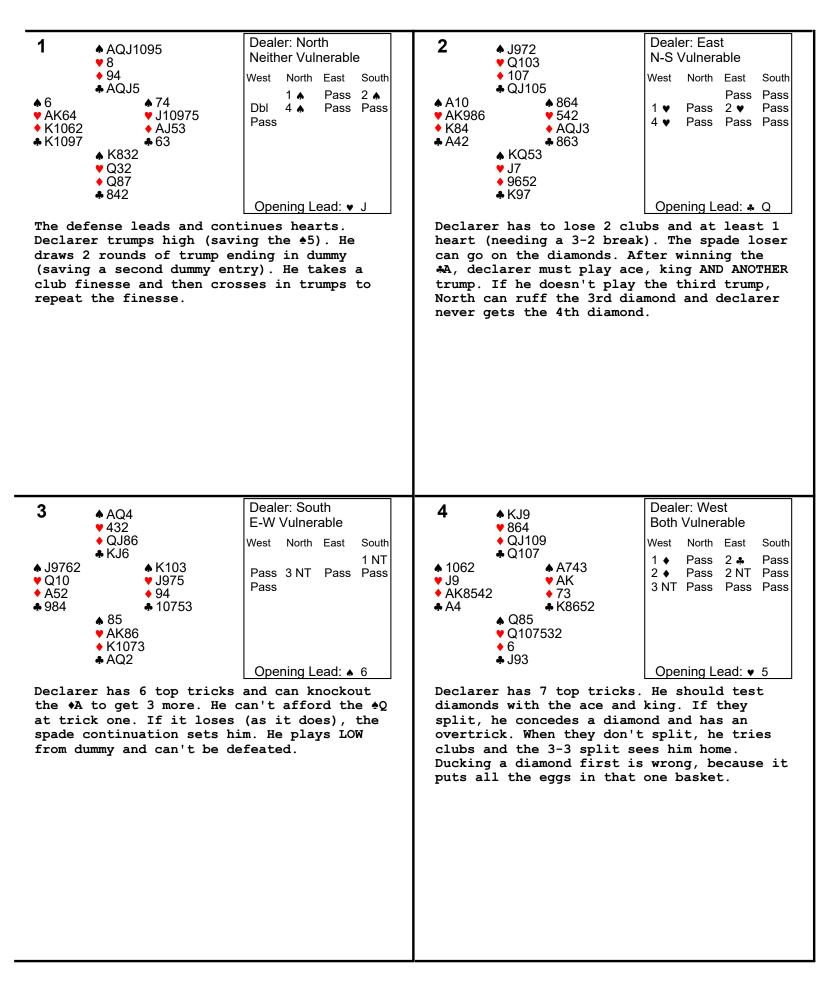
Lc89 Trick 1-2 Defense Suits

Larry Cohen

LC89



Larry Cohen



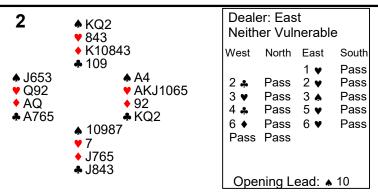
LC97--Combine

Chances

Larry Cohen

1	▲ 3 ♥ Q4		Dealer: North E-W Vulnerable				
Q852 AK86 74 1083	 A1098 AK42 AK42 AKJ 95 KQJ6 J765 	 ▲ 109764 ♥ J10732 ♦ 2 ♣ Q9 	Pass Pass Pass Pass	1 ◆ 2 ◆ 3 ♣ 5 ◆	East Pass Pass Pass Pass	2 ▲ 3 ◆ Pass	
			1 Ope	ining Le	∃au. ♥	J	

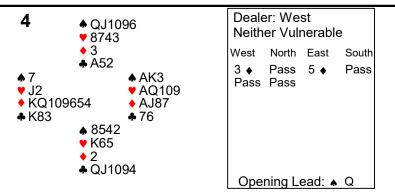
East leads a heart and West takes the first two tricks and exits with a trump. Declaer could take a spade finesse; if it wins, he can get rid of both small clubs. However, before putting all eggs into that basket, declarer should draw trump and lay down the *AK. If the queen falls singleton or doubleton (as here), the deal is over--declarer has the rest without needing to take the 50-50 spade finesse. What if the *Q didn't fall? Then, declarer could resort to the spade finesse.



East's 5♥ is looking for diamond control. East should draw trump and test clubs. When they fail, he ruffs the 4th club and takes a second chance by giving up a spade. North is endplayed. The last resort is the diamond finesse.

	 ▲ J6543 ♥ Q94 	Dealer: South N-S Vulnerable			
 ♦ 97 ♥ 652 ♦ KJ106 ♣ J1098 	 42 A43 KQ108 7 98753 762 A2 AKJ1083 AQ KQ5 	West North East South Pass 2 Pass 2 Pass 3 Pass 3 Pass 3 Pass 4 Pass 5 Pass 5 Pass 6 Pass Pass Pass 7 7 7			

On a similar layout to Deal 2, declarer receives the *J lead. Here, dummy's 5-card spade suit should definitely have his attention. He should do everything possible to avoid taking a diamond finesse. Win the club in hand (saving a dummy entry). Play the *A and another spade at tricks 2 and 3. Whatever East plays, win in hand, cross to the *9 to trump a spade high and then cross to the *Q to trump a spade high. Now draw trump and use dummy's *A to reach the 5th spade for a diamond discard.



North leads the Delta Q and declarer should draw trump and throw a heart on a spade. Why? Dummy's heart spots give him a sure thing. He can take the ΨA and then lead the ΨQ for a "ruffing finesse" through South. If South puts on the king, declarer trumps and enters dummy in diamonds to throw 2 clubs on the good hearts. If South doesn't produce the ΨK , declarer simply throws a club loser. Even if North (the "safe hand") held the ΨK , North would be unable to do more than take the A and ΨK . This is much better than leading up to the A K and then relying on the heart finesse.

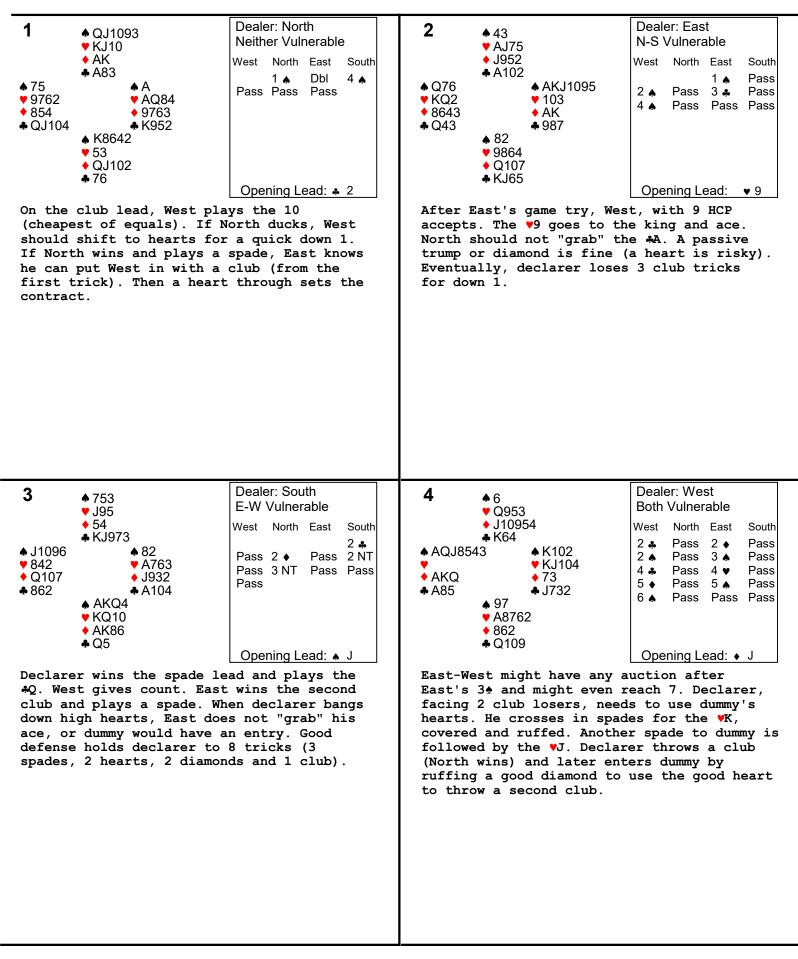
East has no killing spade to play.

Lc98 Danger-Safe Hand C98	Larry Cohen		
in a reasonable cont goes to the jack and only 6 top tricks or diamonds split, more clubs is the best so caveat. The clubs mu allowing West on lea diamonds and play th it. If it loses to B North's spades. Late high club and if new	Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass Opening Lead: • 7 I hand to bid, but landed tract. The spade lead I king and North counts the side. Even if tricks are needed and purce. There is one to played without d. Best is to cross in the *9, intending to run tast, he can't attack er, North can lay down a to the side, finesse again in ring down the high clubs	<pre>2</pre>	e spade lead went to time, declarer counts only 2 extra tricks care which opponent s best play is to lay lay a club towards h started with is assured. If clubs ere, the 9 loses to arer later has a
3	Opening Lead: • 4	4 ▲ A10542 ♥ J53 ● K76 ● 103 ▲ KJ3 ▲ 876 ♥ Q76 ♥ AK2 ● AQ1092 ↓ J83 ♣ A2 ▲ K765 ▲ Q9 ♥ 10984 ● 54 ♣ QJ984	Dealer: West Neither Vulnerable West North East Sout 1 NT Pass 3 NT Pas Pass Pass Opening Lead: • 4
in the auctionhe a so just bids it. A s queen and the key mo declarer know what t	North to show diamonds lways wants to be in 3NT pade is led to East's ment is here. How should to do? If he wins the diamond finesse would	This situation is the previous deal. This tin win the $ alpha Q$ with the kin Because even if the di North, declarer will re declarer lets the $ alpha Q$ w (spades continued and declarer lets the $ alpha Q$ w	opposite of the me, declarer should ng at trick one. Why? amond finesse loses to emain with &Jx. If

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LC99--Don't Grab

Lc99



Lc100 LC100 -- After Stayman

break he can handle is if there is a

safety play.

singleton Q, J or 10 -- but only with EAST. Accordingly, the correct way to play trump is to start with the ace. When an honor falls, low to the 9 (unles West splits) is the

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Dealer: North Dealer: East 1 2 A92 1086 Neither Vulnerable N-S Vulnerable **V**Q542 **V**Q96 KJ10 AK3 West North East South West North East South ♣Q42 KQ83 1 NT Pass 2 🖡 1 NT Pass ♠ QJ9 ♠ K3 ▲ Q876 ♦ 5432 Pass 2 V Pass 4 NT Pass 2 🔶 Pass 2 🛻 **v** 1093 ♥ 5432 🛡 KJ10 **V** J876 Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass **•**876 ♦ J1094 65432 A7 K10985 **4**3 A10954 ÷ ▲ J1054 ▲ AK7 ♥ AK **V**A87 • Q52 Q98 AJ76 J762 Opening Lead: • Opening Lead: A A J North rejects South's 4NT invitation. I couldn't resist giving West that hand, Declarer should work on spades by playing though it is not the lowest possible pip total (432 432 432 5432). Declarer should low to the 9 and then low again to wind up with 3 spades, 3 hearts, 3 diamonds and 2 draw trump and hope for a favorable layout clubs for an overtrick. Leading a spade in the majors. He likely makes 8 tricks honor costs a trick. losing only 2 spades, 1 heart and 2 diamonds (best defense can set it). Dealer: West Dealer: South 3 4 K932 932 E-W Vulnerable Both Vulnerable ♥K2 ♥5 ♦ A432 KJ52 West North East South West North East South KQ3 J10985 1 NT 1 NT Pass 2 . Pass Q1087 **♦** K8 AJ65 🛦 J 2 🛦 Pass 2 🌲 Pass 2 🗸 Pass 4 🛻 Pass **•** A653 K10872 ♥ AQJ94 10987 5 🛦 Pass 3 V Pass 4 🏔 4 NT Pass Pass 987 643 ♦ 65 ◆ AQ10 5 NT Pass Pass 4 NT Pass 5 ¥ 6 🛻 Pass ♣765 J10984 ♣ A43 **₽**2 Pass 5 🛦 Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass 6 • ▲ A654 ▲ Q1074 Pass VQJ4 ♥ 63 987 KQJ10 ♣A2 KQ76 Opening Lead: • 10 Opening Lead: . J Peculiarly, this deal would have the exact After the Splinter Bid, West uses RKC. If same auction if the North-South hands were East had a king (presumably in diamonds), reversed! 3V sets trumps and after a control-West would bid 7. After the club lead, bid and RKC, the brakes are applied (missing declarer draws trump and strips the hand a keycard and the trump queen). Declarer will ending in dummy. A diamond to the 10 make with any 3-2 spade break. The only 4-1 endplays North.