

Jim's Lessons Week 5 #2 Defense (leads against NT)

Board 1

North Deals ♠ A K 8
 None Vul ♥ A 10 9 6 4
 ♦ 7 3 2
 ♣ K J

♠ 9 6 5
 ♥ 7 2
 ♦ A K J 10 6
 ♣ 8 6 3



♠ 4 3 2
 ♥ Q 5 3
 ♦ 9 8 4
 ♣ 10 9 4 2

♠ Q J 10 7
 ♥ K J 8
 ♦ Q 5
 ♣ A Q 7 5

EW 3♠; EW 4♦; EW 2N; EW 2♣; EW 1♥;
 Par -140

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♥	1NT	Pass
3NT	All pass		

Leads of Partner's Suit Against No Trump

Contract: 3NT by East

Lead: _____

Do you know what card to lead when you are leading a suit your partner has opened or overcalled in?

From 3 or 4 to an honor it is usually better to lead low. This hand demonstrates the kind of different results you might get if you lead the high card. From a doubleton honor you might even consider leading a different suit. Depends on whether you think the opponents have only one stopper no matter what.

If you do decide to lead a doubleton in partner's suit then it is proper to lead the high card.

Discussion on This Hand: If you lead the Q♥ into the NT bidder the declarer will have 2 heart tricks, 5 diamond tricks and 2 club tricks. Making 3 NT. If you lead a low heart declarer will only have 8 tricks. The defenders will probably get just the 3 heart tricks and 2 spade tricks or some other combination of tricks.