

Lesson – Logic and inference in Bridge II 4/25/2013

Concept - The goal of this lesson is to make you aware of valuable clues and information that can assist you in defending or playing a hand. There are many tools that each player should use as she plans her play. Four of my favorites are:

- Clues from partner
- Analysis and review of bidding
- Logic and inference, and
- Counting

In order to remember these tools, consider using the acronym, **CALC**, as you develop your strategy for each hand. This lesson continues the discussion of Logic and inference. Look at the clues, answer the questions, and determine the best strategy to make the contract! These examples were taken from **How to Read Your Opponents Cards** by Mike Lawrence.

Example 1

Bidding: North dealer; Neither non-vulnerable

N	E	S	W
1D	P	1S	P
2S	P	4S	P
P	P		

West leads the 2 of Hearts, taken by Ace in East!

	North	
	♠ AQ42	
	♥ 87	
	♦ KJ86	
	♣ QT4	
West		East
♠		♠
♥ 2		♥
♦		♦
♣		♣
	South	
	♠ KJT73	
	♥ T	
	♦ T4	
	♣ KJ983	

QUESTIONS

- 1 Who has the Ace of hearts?
- 2 What heart honors does East have?
- 3 How many hearts does East have?
- 4 Who has the Ace of Clubs?
- 5 Who has the Diamond Ace?
- 6 Who has the Queen of Hearts?
- 7 How should you play the Diamond suit?

After answering these questions, what strategy should be used to make contract?

Example 2

Bidding: West dealer; both vulnerable

N	E	S	W
			1S
P	1N	2H	P
P	P		

West leads the Jack of Diamonds!

	North	
	♠ Q7643	
	♥ K5	
	♦ 962	
	♣ Q65	
West		East
♠		♠
♥		♥
♦ J		♦
♣		♣
	South	
	♠ 9	
	♥ AJT964	
	♦ AK3	
	♣ 942	

- 1 Who has the Queen of Diamonds?
- 2 Who has the Ace of Spades & who has the King of Spades?
- 3 Who has the Ace of Clubs & who has the King of Clubs?
- 4 Who has the Queen of hearts?

With this information, what is the best possible way to make your contract?

Analysis of bidding , lead and related information

Example 1

- 1 East must have the Heart Ace, West would not underlead an Ace.
- 2 West would not lead low from KQ of Hearts or QJ. West must be leading from Kxxx, Qxxx or KJxx. East then must AKJ, AQJ, or AQ.
- 3 West's lead of the 2 of Hearts shows he has 4 of the suit, hence East has 6 Hearts.
- 4 By **not** bidding 2 Hearts over the 1 Diamond bid, East probably does not have the Ace of Clubs.
- 5 By the same logic, East probably does not have the Ace of Diamonds.
- 6 East most likely has the Queen of Hearts, since East's play of the Ace implies West has the King. West would lead the King if he held the KQ, hence East must have the Queen.
- 7 Given this information, play West for the Ace of Diamonds!

Strategy for making the contract would be to pull trump, and assume West has Ace of Diamonds and East has the Queen in Diamonds!

You make 5 Spades, 1 Diamond and 2 Clubs. Trump a Diamond and a Heart!
Without placing the **Queen of Diamonds**, you go down!

	North	
	♠ AQ42	
	♥ 87	
	♦ KJ86	
	♣ QT4	
West		East
♠ 85		♠ 96
♥ KJ92		♥ AQ6543
♦ A732		♦ Q95
♣ A72		♣ 65
	South	
	♠ KJT73	
	♥ T	
	♦ T4	
	♣ KJ983	

Example 2

	North	
	♠ Q7643	
	♥ K5	
	♦ 962	
	♣ Q65	
West		East
♠ AJT82		♠ K5
♥ Q87		♥ 32
♦ JT8		♦ Q754
♣ AJ		♣ KT873
	South	
	♠ 9	
	♥ AJT964	
	♦ AK3	
	♣ 942	

- 1 East has the Queen of Diamonds as the lead of the Jack denies the Queen.
- 2 West does not have the King and Ace of Spades. If he had them that would be a much better lead! East must have one or both of them.
- 3 East has one or both Club honors and at least an honor in Spades. West does not have the AK of Clubs or Spades.
- 4 West has the Queen of Hearts. East has the Queen of Diamonds and at least the King of Spades and at least the King or Ace of Clubs. With the Queen of Hearts, he would have 10 points and West would not have enough to open the bidding!

Strategy - Knowing that East probably has the Queen of Hearts, lead the Jack and finesse it to make all of the tricks in hearts and the contract!

You make 6 Hearts and 2 Diamonds! Without placing the **Queen of Hearts**, you go down!