

**When playing winners in trump contracts, discard to make different shortages in the declarer's and dummy's hands.**

When the declarer or the dummy has strength in a suit opposite a shortage, the declarer may be able to play the strength and discard losing cards in another suit. When discarding on strength, look to make a shortage in another suit.

14 D	<b>N North</b>	W	N	E	S
	♠ 762 ♥ 1087632 ♦ Q84 ♣ A	2♠ 4♠	P P	1♦ 3♠ P	2♣ P P
<b>W West</b>		<b>E East</b>			
♠ AQ1085 ♥ AQ5 ♦ J9 ♣ 975		♠ KJ94 ♥ K9 ♦ A763 ♣ Q86			
	<b>S South</b>	4♠ W NS: 0 EW:			
	♠ 3 ♥ J4 ♦ K1052 ♣ KJ10432				

Partner east opens 1♦, south overcalls 2♣ and you are west with ♠AQ1085 ♥AQ5 ♦J9 ♣975. After you respond 2♠, north passes, partner west raises to 3♠ and with game strength, you go on to 4♠.

North leads ♣A and the dummy east reveals ♠KJ94 ♥K9 ♦A763 ♣Q86.

After winning ♣A, north switches to ♥6. North looks to have no clubs left as north would have continued the suit south bid if north could. You win ♥K (unblocking with a doubleton) and draw trumps in three rounds. You now lead west's ♥A and ♥Q. On ♥Q, discard east's ♣8, making a shortage in clubs in east's hand. You have a shortage in diamonds in west's hand so make sure you have a different shortage in each hand. You can now lead a club for south to win ♣K but can trump the third round of clubs to make ten tricks.

Quite a few players discarded ♦3 from east's hand and left themselves open to later losing two clubs to south. Some of these players were saved later when south won ♦K and led ♠K to set up east's ♣Q as a winner. Our games are full of generous opponents always looking to help the declarers who go off the track!