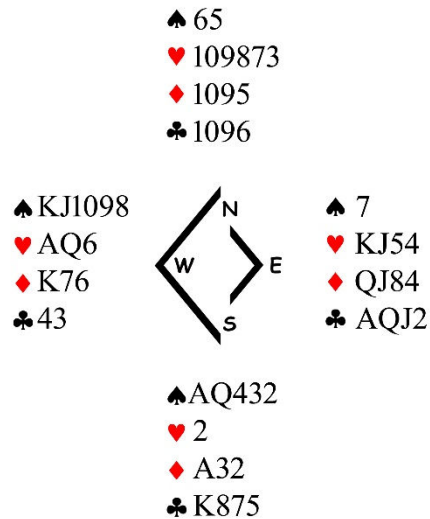


# 341 . Got Their Suit Means Trap Passing

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S	W	N	E
1 ♠	P	P	Dbl
All Pass			

--North South Vulnerable--

## The bidding:

South, with his 13 HCP's, clearly has a One Spade opening, but unfortunately for him so does West. Does West bid Spades as well and let the partners decide who declares a Spade contract? No, of course not. West does not enter any auction that starts with One Spade to his right. With 15 to 18, One No Trump Overcall becomes an option depending on the playability of the suit of course.

West does hope that East has the points and shape to double, and West will convert the takeout double to penalty by passing. This is what people refer to as trap passing. It is a sign of a good bridge player that can recognize when to pass with points.

**Opening Lead:** The Spade Jack

East's first lead when he has the chance is his singleton trump. However, West must lead any other suit as indicated by his partner's takeout double. Leading from something is usually best because then partner needs less in the suit. West could lead his lowest Diamond, suggesting he wants it back. However, his trump suit is so good that he should lead it twice and then draw declarer's trump so he cannot ruff a single Heart.

**The Play:**

Declarer wins the Spade Queen and exits a Heart. West wins the Heart Queen and exits the Spade King. Declarer wins and plays the Diamond Ace and a small Diamond. West will win the Diamond King and draw trump. West then plays the Heart Ace and a small Heart. East wins two Hearts, a Diamond and the Club Ace.

**The Result:**

The defense will win three Spades, four Hearts, two Diamonds and one Club for all but three tricks for down four and +1100.