

The opening leader works in the dark, the declarer in the sunshine. Third hand, East, gets to see the dummy before his key play, so his information base is as large, if not as useful, as declarer's. Third hand must direct the defence, and his wrong views are usually blameworthy — he is in the hot seat. In each of the following deals you are East, sitting in the hot seat playing match-pointed pairs. (Solutions overleaf)

1 North/South Game.

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

* 17-18

- ♠ KQ964
- ♥ 104
- ♦ A109
- ♣ J63

	N	♠ A853
W	E	♥ J32
	S	♦ 876
		♣ Q97

Partner leads the two of clubs (4th best). Declarer plays the three from dummy. What would you play?

HOT SEAT QUIZ

2 Love All.

West	North	East	South
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
1♠	Pass	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

- ♠ Q53
- ♥ AJ6
- ♦ AQJ96
- ♣ 74

	N	♠ 109
W	E	♥ 10632
	S	♦ K7
		♣ KJ1062

Partner's lead of the spade six is taken by dummy's queen as declarer contributes the four. Declarer crosses to his king of hearts and plays the ten of diamonds which runs to your king — how do you proceed?

3 Love All.

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1NT*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

* 12-14

- ♠ QJ3
- ♥ A5
- ♦ AK107
- ♣ QJ9

	N	♠ A92
W	E	♥ J63
	S	♦ 985
		♣ K742

West leads the six of spades and the queen is played from dummy. What do you play? If you decide to win with the ace, what should you play next?

