

## Signals and Discards

### Different Types of Discards and Signals

In general,

- use an attitude signal for your first discard
- make your signals as clear as possible; don't be stingy with 982 – play the 9 if you want to play a high card.

### Discards

When you are forced to discard you should aim to keep the same length as dummy's longest suit, particularly if it is a 4-card suit or longer. Similarly, if you have length in a suit that declarer has shown, make every attempt to preserve your cards in that suit. This prevents declarer making tricks with low cards in their long suit.

♠ 10 9										
♥ K J 6										
♦ A K Q 4 3										
♣ Q 8 5										
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	N									
W		E								
	S									
	♥ 9 8 7									
	♦ J 10 9 8 7									
	♣ 3 2									

You are East, defending 3NT. Partner leads a spade. Declarer wins and cashes three club tricks. You should not discard a diamond. If you do then dummy can eventually make a trick with one of their low diamonds.

3 NT by South

### Discarding - Suit Preference

		♠ A J 9 8										
		♥ 6 5 4 3										
		♦ Q J 8										
		♣ Q 7										
♠ 10 6 4	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 7 5 3	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ A K Q 10		♥ 8 7 2										
♦ 10 9 5		♦ A 7 3 2										
♣ 10 9 5		♣ 4 3 2										
		♠ K Q 2										
		♥ J 9										
		♦ K 6 4										
		♣ A K J 8 6										

Partner leads their top hearts. Since you want partner to switch to diamonds after cashing their hearts you should discard your lowest diamond on the fourth heart.

South will make 3NT unless partner switches to diamonds.

3 NT by South