



The Smith Echo

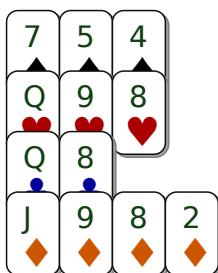
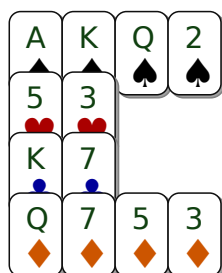
The Smith Echo is a signal given on the 2nd round of a NT contract.

The signal can be given by the player on lead or his Partner.

The Smith Echo by the player on lead. is used when his lead is perhaps ambiguous. Ex. On the lead of a 6 or 7, P still doesn't know if he should play the suit his Partner led.

- If the lead card is 4th best, then the Leader plays a low card on the next round (on the suit being played) ; therefore, Partner knows that when he is in hand he should play the lead suit again.
- On the contrary, if the Leader plays a high card, then he is not interested.(ex. 7) denies any interest in the lead suit.

S	W	N	E
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			



QCM 9506

In South you have led the 7 ♥, your 4th best ... ambiguous. Your Partner doesn't know this is your 4th best. The Declarer takes the 1st trick and plays K ♦. Play the 2 ♦. This is the Smith Echo : a low card shows your P that your lead with the 7 ♥ was indeed your 4th best.



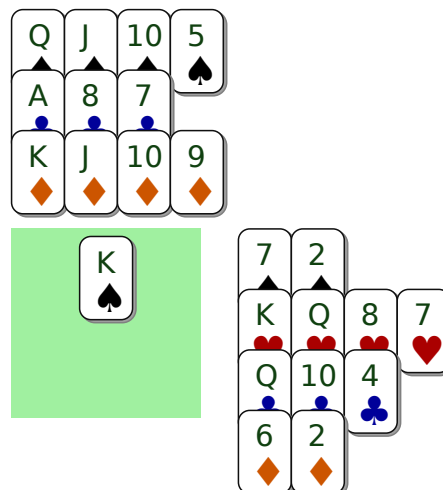
The Smith Echo

The Smith Echo given by the Partner of the player on lead. (in this case it's E)

East's Smith Echo is used by the Partner of the player on lead to signal that he is interested in the lead suit. This often happens when player on lead has played the highest of 3 low cards.

- If East is interested in the lead suit, he plays a high card which isn't useful on the next round ; Partner knows what he should play when he is in hand.
- On the contrary, if East plays a useless low card not at all interested in his lead suit.

S	W	N	E
		1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass



[OCM 9908](#)

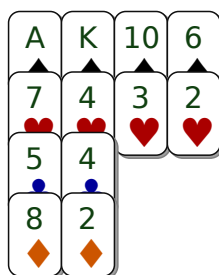
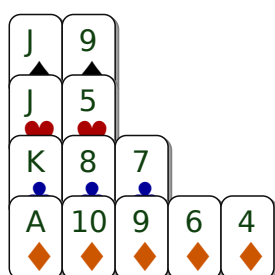
In West, your Partner had led with the 9 ♥, the highest of 3 small cards. The Declarer takes the trick at the dummy (Ace) and plays King ♠. Playing the 7 ♠ "a high card" shows your Partner that you are interested in his lead suit - ♥



The Smith Echo

Another example of The Smith Echo

S	W	N	E
			1 NT
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass			



[QCM 9908](#)

As West, you have led 7♠. The Declarer takes the trick with the Jack. Now he plays the Q♦. Play the 2♦ : this is The Smith Echo. A low card shows your P that indeed it was your 4th best. So as he is a good P he will play ♠ as soon as he is in hand.