



## Lavinthal Signals

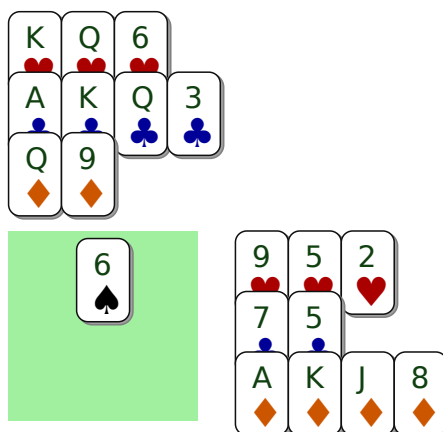
### Lavinthal Discard.

Lavinthal discard is used in NT contracts. It is perhaps just a little easier than Italian discard. When you have to discard

- play **the suit that you're not interested in.**
- The strength of the card play **shows preference** for the suit you want : a high card is preference for the highest of the remaining suits.

You won't always have the appropriate card to play to signal your preference : but P can interpret your signal with regard to what's already been played, bidding sequence and cards at the dummy.

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



Exercise 2817 You're East, playing defence. Declarer plays ♠ for the 4th round and you have to discard. You don't want ♣ or ♥. Discard a high card so that your P when in hand will play the strongest of the remaining suits. Here it's ♦. So discard the 9 ♥

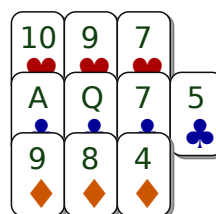
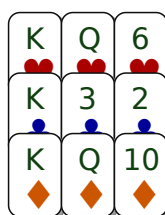


## Lavinthal Signals

### Lavinthal Discard : signalling for a lower suit

In the example below, clubs interests you! You don't have a low ♥ card, so discard a low ♦ card.

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



Exercise 2818 You're East, playing defence. Declarer plays ♠ for the 4th round and you have to discard. You don't want ♦ or ♥.. Discard the 4♦ When your P sees this low card, he'll understand your suit preference is ♣.



## Lavinthal Signals

## You don't have the right card?

This can happen very often!

- Use the bidding sequence or the cards at dummy to signal your suit preference to your P.
- In the example below, you're East playing against a 3NT contract declared by South. South plays ♠ for the 4th round and you have to discard. You don't have a low card to signal ♣. What card do you play?

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

The diagram shows a 3x3 grid of empty cells. To its right is a 4x3 grid of cards. The cards are arranged as follows:

K (red hearts)	Q (red hearts)	6 (red hearts)
K (blue spades)	3 (blue spades)	2 (blue spades)
A (orange diamonds)	K (orange diamonds)	10 (orange diamonds)
6 (black spades)	10 (red hearts)	9 (red hearts)
	A (blue spades)	Q (blue spades)
	9 (orange diamonds)	8 (orange diamonds)
	7 (orange diamonds)	7 (orange diamonds)
		5 (blue clubs)

Exercise 2819 Discard the  $7\heartsuit$  : your P has the choice between  $\clubsuit$  and  $\diamondsuit$ . When he sees dummy, he will hopefully play TR!