DEFENSE

ATTITUDE SIGNALS The 1st Priority



with the Mouroes

STANDARD DEFENSE SIGNALS

The purpose of defensive signals is to win the trick-taking race by identifying and making the best use of available tricks — and avoid helping Declarer to establish and take tricks in the process.

- The primary signaling message to communicate with Partner is the "Attitude" signal.
- The first opportunity for an attitude signal is on the opening lead.

Partner will be watching for you to give some attitude - if you're not trying to win the trick!

Winning tricks is the #1 priority • Don't signal with a card that may be a winning trick !

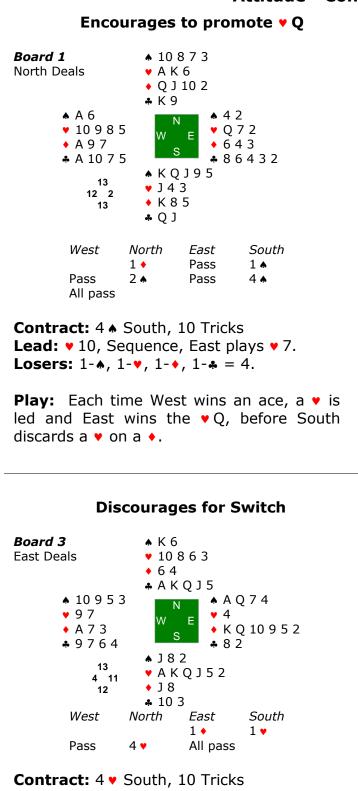
ATTITUDE SIGNAL (Standard Agreement) A card played in a suit to encourage or discourage interest in the suit.	
PARTNER LEADS A SUIT	 Give a signal about your attitude towards the suit led by Partner. When following to the suit led, and ONLY when you have a choice of cards to play and are not involved in trying to win the trick Continue. A high card in the suit led encourages continuation of the suit. Switch. A low card in the suit led discourages continuation of the suit.
DISCARDING	 When you are unable to follow to the suit led, give an attitude signal to show or deny interest in the discarded suit. A high card in the suit discarded shows interest. A low card in the suit discarded shows no interest.
HOW HIGH IS HIGH? If you can't tell whether partner's signal is high or low, watch again. The second card partner plays in the suit will clarify.	

Keep in mind....

- **Strong Defense** looks for clues to help make a defensive plan.
 - Visualize the cards Partner likely holds in the suit led and watch for signals.
 - Look at the cards you see in Dummy and watch the cards Declarer plays.
 - Consider what you know from the auction.
- Are you watching? One partner gives the signal and the other partner must be watching.
- Signals are not a command. A discouraging signal conveys no particular interest or help in the suit, and preference for a switch to another suit. Information and suggestion.
- Signals aren't perfect. We don't always hold the right cards to send a clear message.
- **Consider the entire hand** before deciding whether to encourage or discourage. You may choose to make a discouraging signal simply to suggest Partner switch to a different suit.

Bridge With The Mouroes

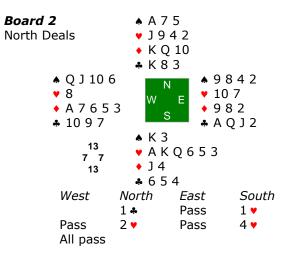
Attitude - Continue or Switch



Contract: 4 ♥ South, 10 Tricks **Lead:** ♦ A, Ace, partner's suit, East= ♦ 2. **Losers:** 3-♠, 2-♦ = 5.

Play: East discourages by playing the \diamond 2 (ATTITUDE). West switches to the \diamond 10. East wins the \diamond Q, the \diamond A and the \diamond K to set the contract. Spades can't be discarded on \diamond s.

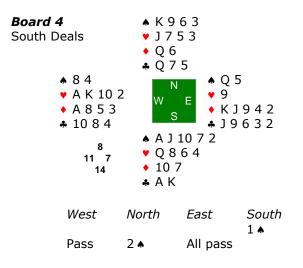
Discourage - No Help in *s



Contract: 4 ♥ South, 10 Tricks **Lead:** ♠ Q, Top sequence. West plays ♥ 2. **Losers:** 1-♦, 3-♣ = 4.

Play: South wins the \bigstar A, draws trump, and promotes \blacklozenge s. West wins the \blacklozenge A. Since East played the \bigstar 2 (ATTITUDE) on the first trick, West does not lead \bigstar s, switches to \clubsuit 10 before South discards a \clubsuit .

Discarding Attitude



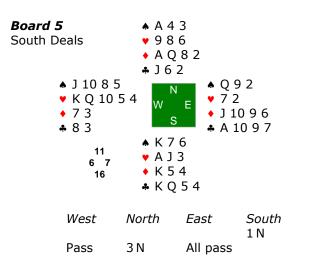
Contract: $2 \triangleq$ South, 8 Tricks. **Lead:** \checkmark A, From \checkmark AK. **Losers:** $1 \triangleq 4, 4 = 1 \equiv 7$.

Play: West wins ♥ AK and East discards ● 9 (likes ● s). West leads the ♥ 10 (suit preference for ● s). East ruffs and leads the ● 2 to West's ● A. East ruffs another ♥, and wins the ● K.

Bridge With The Monroes - 7/25/2020

Attitude - Continue or Switch

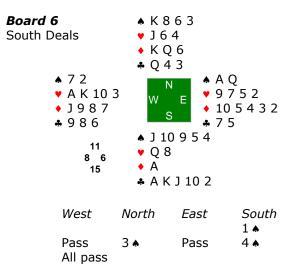
Discourages with Doubleton



Contract: 3NT South, 9 Tricks **Lead:** ♥ K, Sequence, East plays ♥ 2. **Sure Tricks:** 2-▲, 1-♥, 3-♦ = 6.

Play: South holds up the • K hoping West leads into the • AJ. Two *s are promoted but neither *s nor •s split 3-3. If West switches on the second trick, the contract may fail.

Encourages To Win Trick



Contract: 4 ▲ South, 10 Tricks **Lead:** ♥ A, From ♥ AK, East plays ♥ 9. **Losers:** 2-♠, 2-♥ = 4.

Play: South plans to discard two ♥s on the
KQ. South finesses ▲s, hoping to trap the
AQ, sorry. East encourages ♥ continuation
because of the two ▲ tricks, ▲AQ.