

WHEN YOU OR YOUR PARTNER DOUBLES THEIR 3NT GAME

- 1) If **no suits have been bid by either side**, partner almost always has a running suit & hopes you can figure out which suit it is. Lead the suit in which you have NO honors. If there are two suits to choose from, tend to pick your shortest suit. Favor a major over a minor.
- 2) If **neither defender has bid a suit and dummy has bid one or two suits**, the double asks you to lead the first-bid suit of dummy.
- 3) If **one defender opens or overcalls at the one level in a minor suit**, Kantar says the double asks partner to lead your minor anyway. You are promising a good suit despite the no trump overcall.
- 4) If **one defender opens or overcalls at the one level in a major suit**, Kantar says that partner would be expected to lead your suit. Therefore, a double should suggest something different. Kantar believes it should show a powerful, hidden, lower-ranking suit OR desire for you to lead dummy's 1st bid suit. You want partner to figure out what it is and lead it! Example: 1H-1S (by partner)-2NT-P-3NT. Partner doubles. With (a) 95 Q10765 J543 106, partner cannot want a heart, so lead 10 of clubs. With (b): 5 104 QJ432 J8754, partner cannot want a minor, so lead 10 of hearts.
- 5) If you **open or overcall at the 2 or 3 level**, a double *demand*s that partner lead your suit.
- 6) If **partner bids a suit and you double 3NT**, if you had a chance to support your partner's suit at the 2 level and did NOT, the double asks partner to lead the first-bid suit of dummy.
- 7) If **partner bids a suit and you double 3NT**, if you did NOT have a chance to support your partner's suit at the 2 level, the double asks partner to lead his/her suit.
- 8) If **you and your partner have both bid a suit at the one level and dummy has bid a suit**, Kantar feels that partner would normally lead your suit, so the double should ask partner to lead his/her suit.
- 9) If **you and your partner have both bid a suit at the one level and dummy has bid a suit, and you play Snapdragon doubles**, then the double of 3NT cannot be for partner's suit. In that case, Kantar says double should ask for lead of dummy's suit. Both #8 and #9 are vital to discuss with your partner(s)!!
- 10) If **you and your partner each overcall and dummy is silent**, the "expected lead" is that partner will lead your suit. Therefore, a double asks partner to lead his/her suit.

A **Snapdragon Double** occurs when your partner overcalls and RHO bids a new suit. (Thus, 3 suits have been bid.) Your Snapdragon double shows 5 decent cards in the unbid suit and a doubleton (tolerance) in your partner's suit. Lawrence suggests playing Snapdragon Doubles only through the one level, e.g., 1C-1H-1S-* (You have 5 good diamonds & 2 hearts.)

- 11) When both you, partner, and dummy have all bid different suits, lead dummy's suit if it was bid at the ONE level; your suit if dummy's first bid suit was at the two level. If partner wants his/her suit lead, should pass as that is the expected lead.