ADORING ACES

BRIDGE CLASS

Adoring Aces

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q
♥ A K 10 2
♦ J 4 3 2
♣ K 8 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Dbl	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	All pass	

What's your lead?

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♠ Q
♥ A K 10 2
♦ J 4 3 2
♣ K 8 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Dbl	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	All pass	

What's your lead? ♥ A

If you're lucky enough to be dealt an outside suit headed by the AK that the opponents have not bid, the Ace is the "conventional" lead.

When your opening lead is the Ace,
your partner assumes you have the King.

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♠ Q
♥ A K 10 9 2
♦ J 4 2
♣ K 8 4 3

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♥	3 ♦	Pass	3 NT
All pass			

What's your lead?

Adoring Aces

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♠ Q
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West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♥	3 ♦	Pass	3 NT
All pass			

What's your lead? ♥ 9

Versus a NT contract, Ace and King ask Partner to take immediate action when they are made for the opening lead.

Versus NT contracts:
Lead 4th best holding AKxxx.
With greater length, lead the King.

Adoring Aces

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ A K 10 9
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 9 4 2
♣ Q 4 3

♠ Q 7 4
♥ 10 9
♦ K 5
♣ A J 10 9 7 6

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
All pass			

Partner leads the ♥ 2, 9, 6, K.
Declarer cashes the ♣ K and finesses the 9 into
your ♣ Q.

What's your plan and return?

Adoring Aces

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

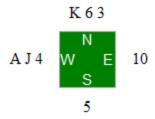```
        ♠ A K 10 9
        ♥ 6 4 3   N
        ♦ 9 4 2   W   E
        ♣ Q 4 3   S

                ♠ Q 7 4
                ♥ 10 9
                ♦ K 5
                ♣ A J 10 9 7 6
```

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1 ♦   | Pass | 2 ♣   |
| Pass | 2 NT  | Pass | 3 NT  |
| All pass |    |      |       |

Partner leads the ♥ 2, 9, 6, K.
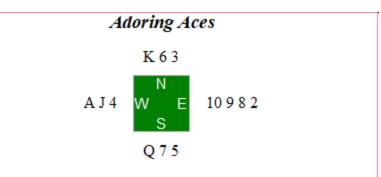Declarer cashes the ♣ K and finesses the 9 into your ♣ Q.

Hope that Partner has the ♥ A as an entry. Lead the ♠ K communicating you have the Ace and want the suit returned. Now lead the ♥ 4.

*After the opening lead when leading from AKx(x), lead the King.*

## Adoring Aces

```
              K 6 3
              ┌───────┐
              │   N   │
      A J 4   │ W   E │   10
              │   S   │
              └───────┘
                5
```

Partner leads the 10 and Declarer plays the 5.

What do you play?

Adoring Aces

K 6 3

```
        N
A J 4  W   E   10 9 8 2
        S
```
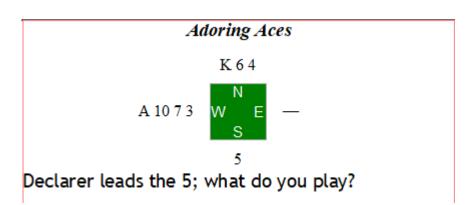
Q 7 5

Here's the full layout. If you jump up with the Ace, you give away a trick.

Aces are meant to take Kings or Queens.
Don't waste them on pips.

Adoring Aces

K 6 4

A 10 7 3 | W N E | —
| S |

5

Declarer leads the 5; what do you play?

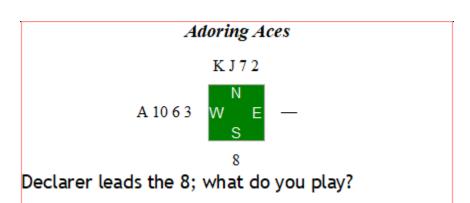## *Adoring Aces*

```
              K 6 4
                N
A 10 7 3    W     E    J 9 2
                S
              Q 8 5
```

Here's the full layout. If you jump up with the Ace, you give away a trick.

Aces are meant to take Kings or Queens.
Don't waste them on pips.

Adoring Aces

K J 7 2

A 10 6 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

—

8

Declarer leads the 8; what do you play?

Adoring Aces

```
                K J 7 2
                  N
  A 10 6 3    W      E    Q 9
                  S
                8 5 4
```

You smoothly follow with the 3. If you jump up with the Ace, you have solved Declarer's problem in this suit.

Make Declarer guess!