

Try these hands :-

d) KJ1065

765
A32
54

again we have the three non touching honours .The J is the highest honour of the touching honours and is the selected lead.

e) AQJ65

765
A32
54

Three non touching honours .The Q is the highest honour of the touching honours and is the card to lead.

f) AKJ52

76
Q32
542

Three non touching honours .The A* is the highest honour of the touching honours and is the card to lead. { *Fashions change and there will be those who say the K should be led. So be it. The important point is that the 4th highest card should not be led when a hand contains 3 honours }.

The next two holdings don't quite lend themselves to the rule we have been applying.

g) A1095

765
A32
542

Is the 9 an honour ? That is to say does A109x have three non touching honours {in which case the 10 is the correct lead} or should it be thought of as being really only A10xx { in which case the 4th card is the correct lead}?

For my money the 10 is the "right" lead.

h) AQ105

765
A32
542

Well there are three honours but none of them are touching !

What now? Just about any card could be right { including our old friend the 4th highest}.

I once led the Q from such a holding but as I seem to have blotted out what happened following the lead perhaps it wasn't such a success ! Maybe you will be luckier with your choice.

