

Deal 1	♠ A 10 2		
South Deals	♥ AJ 7		
None Vul	♦ J 8 6 2		
	♣ K 6 5		
♠ 8 7 5 4 3	♠ J 6		
♥ Q 10 3	♥ 9 8 5 2		
♦ A 4	♦ 9 7 5		
♣ J 10 3	♣ A Q 9 8		
	♠ K Q 9		
13 7 7 13	♥ K 6 4		
	♦ K Q 10 3		
	♣ 7 4 2		
West	North	East	South
			1♦
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
3 NT by North			
Lead: ♥ 9			

suit when he gets the lead. Note that although this lead finesses partner's ♥ Q, it didn't do anything that declarer wouldn't have done on his own.

Declarer must play ♦s to get some winners, and when West takes the ♦ A he will surely switch to the ♣ J. Down goes declarer.

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 3 NT and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

Your ♣s are so good that all your instincts tell you to lead the ♣ 8, and perhaps set up 3 winners.

If you had one more small ♣s your instincts would be right, but with only a 4-card suit you should think a little longer. Three tricks won't set this contract, so you must depend on partner winning something. And if partner is going to win something perhaps he will lead a ♣ and you might make FOUR tricks in the suit.

So lead the ♥ 9. You lead a high card so partner won't be tempted to return the

Deal 2

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K 10 8
♥ 7
♦ A 7 5 3 2
♣ 8 5 3 2

♠ 5
♥ K Q 9 6 3
♦ K 6
♣ K Q 10 9 6

W N E S
 ♠ A 4 3
♥ J 10 2
♦ Q J 10 9 8
♣ A J

♠ Q J 9 7 6 2
♥ A 8 5 4
♦ 4
♣ 7 4

13
7 7
13

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♥	2 ♠	3 ♦
3 ♠	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	4 ♠	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠×× by East
Lead: ♠ A

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 4 ♠ doubled and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

East's 2 ♠ bid is a Weak-jump Overcall, based on a 6-card ♠ suit and a weak hand.

Either the ♦ Q or ♥ J would normally be good leads.

But on this deal West/East have clearly sacrificed against your almost certain ♥ game. Since they don't have enough high-card strength to make this contract declarer is hoping to get some ruffs.

The way to cut down the number of ruffs he can make is to lead a trump at every opportunity.

So take the ♠ A and then play another ♠.

Declarer will still be able to ruff one ♥ in dummy, but will be left with two losing ♥s and will be down 2. Without the two trump plays he could have ruffed all three of his ♥ losers and actually made the contract.

Deal 3
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ K 8 7 3
 ♥ Q 10 7 3
 ♦ 7 5
 ♣ 6 3 2

11
5 9
15

West North East South
 Pass 3 NT Pass Pass
 Pass
 3 NT by South
 Lead: ♥ 3

♠ 10 6 4
 ♥ 6 4 2
 ♦ K 9 4 2
 ♣ A K J

♠ Q 9 2
 ♥ K 8 5
 ♦ A 8 6
 ♣ 10 9 7 5

♠ A J 5
 ♥ A J 9
 ♦ Q J 10 3
 ♣ Q 8 4

N
W E
S

the ♠ winner.

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 3 NT and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

Sometimes it comes down to just this kind of choice. Do you lead fourth down from ♠ K 8 7 3 or from ♥ Q T 7 3.

The presence of the ♥T bolsters the ♥ suit enough to give it the edge.

The suits could be arranged something like shown at left. With a ♠ lead the presence of the ♠T in dummy allows declarer to make a second ♠ trick, which happens to be declarer's ninth trick.

But when you lead the ♥ 3 it does not promote a ♥ winner for declarer, and left to his own devices, he cannot establish

Deal 4

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q J 9 5 4	♦ A J 10	♥ 6	♣ A 5 2
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♦ A 7 4	♦ 6	♦ K Q J 9 8 3	♦ K Q J
♣ 10 9 8 7 4			
		♦ 9 4	
		♦ K Q J 9 8 3	
		♣ K Q J	

W	N
S	E

7	8 7 2
15 16	♦ Q 8 7 5 2
2	♦ 10 5 2
	♣ 6 3

West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

6 ♠ by West

Lead: ♥ 3

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 6 ♠ and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

The ♣T would probably be a very safe lead. But you don't want "safe", you want "attack".

Dummy has advertised a long, strong ♦ suit which declarer will no doubt establish for discards.

It is important for your side to create a winner before your ♦A is forced out. The most likely looking winner is your ♥K. So lead the small ♥ and hope partner has the Queen.

Deal 5
South Deals
None Vul

	♠ 5 3		
	♥ K Q J		
	♦ Q J 10 9 7		
	♣ A 10 4		
♠ K Q J 10 8		♠ 4	
♥ 7 5 2		♥ 10 9 8 4	
♦ A 5		♦ 8 6 3 2	
♣ 9 6 3		♣ K 8 7 2	
	♠ A 9 7 6 2		
10 13 3	♥ A 6 3		
14	♦ K 4		
	♣ Q J 5		
West	North	East	South
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass
3 NT× by North			
Lead: ♠ 4			

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 3 NT and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

If partner had not doubled the contract you would probably have started with the ♥T, or possibly the ♣ 2.

But partner DID double, and most good players play that doubling 3 NT is lead-directing as follows: If you have bid a suit, lead it. If doubler has bid a suit, lead it. If neither of you has bid, lead dummy's first bid suit.

So lead a ♠, certainly not a lead you would have made without the double. Partner immediately establishes 4 ♠ winners and he has the ♦ A for an entry.

With any other lead declarer will make the contract.

Deal 6East Deals
None Vul

♠ A 8 6 4
 ♥ A J 6 5
 ♦ Q 7
 ♣ J 6 3

¹¹
¹² ¹⁵
₂

West North East South
 2♣ Dbl 2♥ Pass
 4♥ Pass Pass Pass
 4♥ by East
 Lead: ♣ 8

♠ 5 2
 ♥ Q 7 3
 ♦ 8 4 2
 ♣ A K Q 7 4



♠ K Q 7
 ♥ K 10 9 8
 ♦ A K 5
 ♣ 10 9 2

♠ J 10 9 3
 ♥ 4 2
 ♦ J 10 9 6 3
 ♣ 8 5

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 4♥ and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

If partner had not doubled West's Stayman 2♣ bid you would probably have started with one of your Jacks.

But partner DID double, and the double of a conventional bid clearly means that the doubler would like you to lead that suit.

So lead a ♣, and partner will take three ♣ tricks. With any other lead declarer would quickly discard a ♣ from dummy on a high ♦, easily making the contract.

Declarer may still make the contract if he guesses the ♥ Q correctly, but maybe not.

Deal 7

South Deals

Both Vul

♠ A 10 2

♥ AJ 7

♦ J 8 6 2

♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 7 5 4 3

♥ Q 10 3

♦ A 4

♣ J 10 3



♠ J 6

♥ 9 8 5 2

♦ 9 7 5

♣ A Q 9 8

♠ K Q 9

♥ K 6 4

♦ K Q 10 3

♣ 7 4 2

13
7 7
13

Deal 8

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 5

♥ K Q 9 6 3

♦ K 6

♣ K Q 10 9 6

♠ K 10 8

♥ 7

♦ A 7 5 3 2

♣ 8 5 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q J 9 7 6 2

♥ A 8 5 4

♦ 4

♣ 7 4

♠ A 4 3

♥ J 10 2

♦ Q J 10 9 8

♣ A J

13
7 7
13

Deal 9

North Deals ♠ 10 6 4
E-W Vul ♥ 6 4 2
 ♦ K 9 4 2
 ♣ A K J

♠ K 8 7 3
♥ Q 10 7 3
♦ 7 5
♣ 6 3 2

11
5 9
15

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 2
♥ K 8 5
♦ A 8 6
♣ 10 9 7 5

♠ A J 5
♥ A J 9
♦ Q J 10 3
♣ Q 8 4

Deal 10

East Deals ♠ 6 3
Both Vul ♥ K 6 3
 ♦ A 7 4
 ♣ 10 9 8 7 4

♠ K Q J 9 5 4
♥ A J 10
♦ 6
♣ A 5 2



♠ A 10
♥ 9 4
♦ K Q J 9 8 3
♣ K Q J

7
15 16
2
♠ 8 7 2
♥ Q 8 7 5 2
♦ 10 5 2
♣ 6 3

Deal 11

South Deals	♠ 5 3
None Vul	♥ K Q J
	♦ Q J 10 9 7
	♣ A 10 4
♠ K Q J 10 8	♠ 4
♥ 7 5 2	♥ 10 9 8 4
♦ A 5	♦ 8 6 3 2
♣ 9 6 3	♣ K 8 7 2
10 13	♠ A 9 7 6 2
10 3	♥ A 6 3
14	♦ K 4
	♣ Q J 5

N
W E
S

Deal 12

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 5 2
♥ Q 7 3
♦ 8 4 2
♣ A K Q 7 4

♠ A 8 6 4
♥ A J 6 5
♦ Q 7
♣ J 6 3

11
12 **15**
2

N
W E
S

♠ K Q 7
♥ K 10 9 8
♦ A K 5
♣ 10 9 2

♠ J 10 9 3
♥ 4 2
♦ J 10 9 6 3
♣ 8 5

Deal 13

North Deals ♠ A 10 2
Both Vul ♥ AJ 7
 ♦ J 8 6 2
 ♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 7 5 4 3 ♠ J 6
♥ Q 10 3 ♥ 9 8 5 2
♦ A 4 ♦ 9 7 5
♣ J 10 3 ♣ A Q 9 8



13
7 7
13
 ♣ 7 4 2

Deal 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K 10 8

♥ 7

♦ A 7 5 3 2

♣ 8 5 3 2

♠ 5

♥ K Q 9 6 3

♦ K 6

♣ K Q 10 9 6

N
W E
S

♠ Q J 9 7 6 2

♥ A 8 5 4

♦ 4

♣ 7 4

♠ A 4 3

♥ J 10 2

♦ Q J 10 9 8

♣ A J

13
7 7
13

Deal 15 ♠ 10 6 4

South Deals ♥ 6 4 2

N-S Vul ♦ K 9 4 2

♣ A K J

♠ K 8 7 3

♥ Q 10 7 3

♦ 7 5

♣ 6 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 2

♥ K 8 5

♦ A 8 6

♣ 10 9 7 5

♠ A J 5

♥ A J 9

♦ Q J 10 3

♣ Q 8 4

11
5 9
15

Deal 16

	♠ 6 3
West Deals	♥ K 6 3
E-W Vul	♦ A 7 4
	♣ 10 9 8 7 4
♠ K Q J 9 5 4	♠ A 10
♥ A J 10	♥ 9 4
♦ 6	♦ K Q J 9 8 3
♣ A 5 2	♣ K Q J
	♠ 8 7 2
15 7 2 16	♥ Q 8 7 5 2
	♦ 10 5 2
	♣ 6 3



Deal 17

	♠ 5 3
North Deals	♥ K Q J
None Vul	♦ Q J 10 9 7
	♣ A 10 4
♠ K Q J 10 8	♠ 4
♥ 7 5 2	♥ 10 9 8 4
♦ A 5	♦ 8 6 3 2
♣ 9 6 3	♣ K 8 7 2
	♠ A 9 7 6 2
10 13 3	♥ A 6 3
14	♦ K 4
	♣ Q J 5



Deal 18

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A 8 6 4

♥ A J 6 5

♦ Q 7

♣ J 6 3

♠ 5 2

♥ Q 7 3

♦ 8 4 2

♣ A K Q 7 4



♠ K Q 7

♥ K 10 9 8

♦ A K 5

♣ 10 9 2

♠ J 10 9 3

♥ 4 2

♦ J 10 9 6 3

♣ 8 5

11
12 **15**
2

Deal 19

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A 10 2

♥ AJ 7

♦ J 8 6 2

♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 7 5 4 3

♥ Q 10 3

♦ A 4

♣ J 10 3



♠ J 6

♥ 9 8 5 2

♦ 9 7 5

♣ A Q 9 8

♠ K Q 9

♥ K 6 4

♦ K Q 10 3

♣ 7 4 2

13

7 7

13

Deal 20

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ 5

♥ K Q 9 6 3

♦ K 6

♣ K Q 10 9 6

♠ K 10 8

♥ 7

♦ A 7 5 3 2

♣ 8 5 3 2



♠ Q J 9 7 6 2

♥ A 8 5 4

♦ 4

♣ 7 4

♠ A 4 3

♥ J 10 2

♦ Q J 10 9 8

♣ A J

13

7 7

13

Deal 21 ♠ 10 6 4

North Deals ♥ 6 4 2

N-S Vul ♦ K 9 4 2

♣ A K J

♠ K 8 7 3

♥ Q 10 7 3

♦ 7 5

♣ 6 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 2

♥ K 8 5

♦ A 8 6

♣ 10 9 7 5

♠ A J 5

♥ A J 9

♦ Q J 10 3

♣ Q 8 4

11
5 9
15

Deal 22

East Deals	♠ 6 3
E-W Vul	♥ K 6 3
	♦ A 7 4
	♣ 10 9 8 7 4
♠ K Q J 9 5 4	♠ A 10
♥ A J 10	♥ 9 4
♦ 6	♦ K Q J 9 8 3
♣ A 5 2	♣ K Q J
	♠ 8 7 2
15 7 2 16	♥ Q 8 7 5 2
	♦ 10 5 2
	♣ 6 3

N
W E
S

Deal 23

South Deals	♠ 5 3
Both Vul	♥ K Q J
	♦ Q J 10 9 7
	♣ A 10 4
♠ K Q J 10 8	♠ 4
♥ 7 5 2	♥ 10 9 8 4
♦ A 5	♦ 8 6 3 2
♣ 9 6 3	♣ K 8 7 2
10 13 14 3	♠ A 9 7 6 2
	♥ A 6 3
	♦ K 4
	♣ Q J 5



Deal 24

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 5 2
♥ Q 7 3
♦ 8 4 2
♣ A K Q 7 4

♠ A 8 6 4
♥ A J 6 5
♦ Q 7
♣ J 6 3

11
12 **15**
2

N
W E
S

♠ K Q 7
♥ K 10 9 8
♦ A K 5
♣ 10 9 2

♠ J 10 9 3
♥ 4 2
♦ J 10 9 6 3
♣ 8 5

Deal 25

North Deals ♠ A 10 2
E-W Vul ♥ AJ 7
 ♦ J 8 6 2
 ♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 7 5 4 3
♥ Q 10 3
♦ A 4
♣ J 10 3

13
7 7
13

N
W E
S

♠ J 6
♥ 9 8 5 2
♦ 9 7 5
♣ A Q 9 8

♠ K Q 9
♥ K 6 4
♦ K Q 10 3
♣ 7 4 2

Deal 26

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ K 10 8

♥ 7

♦ A 7 5 3 2

♣ 8 5 3 2

♠ 5

♥ K Q 9 6 3

♦ K 6

♣ K Q 10 9 6

N
W E
S

♠ Q J 9 7 6 2

♥ A 8 5 4

♦ 4

♣ 7 4

13
7 7
13♠ A 4 3
♥ J 10 2
♦ Q J 10 9 8
♣ A J

Deal 27

South Deals
None Vul

♦ A K J

♠ K 8 7 3

♥ Q 10 7 3

♦ 7 5

♣ 6 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 2

♥ K 8 5

♦ A 8 6

♣ 10 9 7 5

♠ A J 5

♥ A J 9

♦ Q J 10 3

♣ Q 8 4

11
5 9
15

Deal 28

West Deals	♠ 6 3
N-S Vul	♥ K 6 3
	♦ A 7 4
	♣ 10 9 8 7 4
♠ K Q J 9 5 4	♠ A 10
♥ A J 10	♥ 9 4
♦ 6	♦ K Q J 9 8 3
♣ A 5 2	♣ K Q J
	♠ 8 7 2
15 7 2 16	♥ Q 8 7 5 2
	♦ 10 5 2
	♣ 6 3

N
W E
S

Deal 29

North Deals	♦ K Q J	♠ 5 3
Both Vul	♦ Q J 10 9 7	♦ A 10 4
♦ A 5	♣ 9 6 3	♣ A 10 8
♦ 7 5 2	♦ 9 6 3	♦ 7 5 2
♣ K 8 7 2	♣ K 8 7 2	♣ 9 6 3
10 13 14 3	♣ Q J 5	♠ A 9 7 6 2
		♦ A 6 3
		♦ K 4

N
W E
S

♠ 4
♦ 10 9 8 4
♦ 8 6 3 2
♣ K 8 7 2

♠ A 9 7 6 2
♦ A 6 3
♦ K 4
♣ Q J 5

Deal 30

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 8 6 4

♥ A J 6 5

♦ Q 7

♣ J 6 3

♠ 5 2

♥ Q 7 3

♦ 8 4 2

♣ A K Q 7 4

W N E S

♠ K Q 7

♥ K 10 9 8

♦ A K 5

♣ 10 9 2

♠ J 10 9 3

♥ 4 2

♦ J 10 9 6 3

♣ 8 5

11
12 **15**
2

Deal 31

South Deals
N-S Vul

♦ K 6 5

♠ 8 7 5 4 3
♥ Q 10 3
♦ A 4
♣ J 10 3

13
7 7
13

N
W E
S

♠ A 10 2
♥ A J 7
♦ J 8 6 2
♣ K 6 5

♠ J 6
♥ 9 8 5 2
♦ 9 7 5
♣ A Q 9 8

♠ K Q 9
♥ K 6 4
♦ K Q 10 3
♣ 7 4 2

Deal 32

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 5

♥ K Q 9 6 3

♦ K 6

♣ K Q 10 9 6

♠ K 10 8

♥ 7

♦ A 7 5 3 2

♣ 8 5 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q J 9 7 6 2

♥ A 8 5 4

♦ 4

♣ 7 4

13
7 7
13♠ A 4 3
♥ J 10 2
♦ Q J 10 9 8
♣ A J

Deal 33

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K 8 7 3
♥ Q 10 7 3
♦ 7 5
♣ 6 3 2



♠ 10 6 4
♥ 6 4 2
♦ K 9 4 2
♣ A K J

♠ Q 9 2
♥ K 8 5
♦ A 8 6
♣ 10 9 7 5

♠ A J 5
♥ A J 9
♦ Q J 10 3
♣ Q 8 4

11
5 9
15

Deal 34

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 6 3
♥ K 6 3
♦ A 7 4
♣ 10 9 8 7 4

♠ K Q J 9 5 4
♥ A J 10
♦ 6
♣ A 5 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 10
♥ 9 4
♦ K Q J 9 8 3
♣ K Q J

7
15 16
2

♠ 8 7 2
♥ Q 8 7 5 2
♦ 10 5 2
♣ 6 3

Deal 35

South Deals	♠ 5 3
E-W Vul	♥ K Q J
	♦ Q J 10 9 7
	♣ A 10 4
♠ K Q J 10 8	♠ 4
♥ 7 5 2	♥ 10 9 8 4
♦ A 5	♦ 8 6 3 2
♣ 9 6 3	♣ K 8 7 2
10 13 14 3	♠ A 9 7 6 2
	♥ A 6 3
	♦ K 4
	♣ Q J 5



Deal 36

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ 5 2
♥ Q 7 3
♦ 8 4 2
♣ A K Q 7 4

♠ A 8 6 4
♥ A J 6 5
♦ Q 7
♣ J 6 3

11
12 **15**
2

N
W E
S

♠ K Q 7
♥ K 10 9 8
♦ A K 5
♣ 10 9 2

♠ J 10 9 3
♥ 4 2
♦ J 10 9 6 3
♣ 8 5