

## Rule Of Eleven and 3<sup>rd</sup> Hand Play

<div>♠KJ8 ♥AQ5 ♦Q82 ♣Q762</div> <div>♠A4 ♥J1087432 ♦9 ♣953</div> <div>♠Q10632 ♥9 ♦107643 ♣A8</div> <div>♠975 ♥K6 ♦AKJ5 ♣KJ104</div>	<div>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1N</td><td>Pass</td><td>3N</td></tr></table> <div>All pass</div> <div>With two five card suits it is generally better to attack with the stronger one and East leads a fourth best ♠3. West wins and continues the suit, North putting in a hopeful ♠J. East knows that North holds ♠K (West would have won trick one with a lower of touching honours king). He gives declarer this trick, setting up three more spade winners. Now East must be alert when North plays a club at trick four. It would be easy for East to duck this as it looks as if declarer might be guessing whether to play ♣J or ♣K. If East ducks North can cash out and make the contract. East must hop up with the ace safe in the knowledge that he's already defeated the contract (with the spades in the bag).</div>	West	North	East	South		1N	Pass	3N				
West	North	East	South										
	1N	Pass	3N										
<div>♠10984 ♥32 ♦A65 ♣J852</div> <div>♠J62 ♥A109876 ♦Q72 ♣A</div> <div>♠A53 ♥KQJ ♦K84 ♣Q943</div> <div>♠KQ7 ♥54 ♦J1093 ♣K1076</div>	<div>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4♥</td><td>All pass</td><td>1N<sup>(1)</sup></td><td>Pass</td></tr></table> <div>(1)15-16</div> <div>North will lead ♠10 (top of a sequence) or ♠9 (second from a bad suit). Whatever is lead South knows that West holds ♠J. On winning ♠Q (lower of touching honours) South won't play back a second spade as that'll give declarer a second spade. South switches to a safe ♦J, a card that confirms West hold the queen of diamonds. North ducks as he knows that winning ♦A will promote a second diamond for declarer. Declarer should not prevail now as the defence will come to two spade and two diamond winners.</div>	West	North	East	South	1♥	Pass	1♣	Pass	4♥	All pass	1N <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass
West	North	East	South										
1♥	Pass	1♣	Pass										
4♥	All pass	1N <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass										

<p>♠Q5 ♥J109 ♦QJ652 ♣985</p> <p>♠J102 ♥87432 ♦108 ♣KQJ</p> <p>♠AK9874 ♥K65 ♦A93 ♣4</p> <p>♠63 ♥AQ ♦K74 ♣A107632</p>	<p>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♦</td><td>1♠</td><td>1♣</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♣</td><td>2♣</td></tr></table> <p>All pass</p> <p>East's blast of game is an overbid but such bids will continue to be made if defences are other than tip-top. South leads ♦4 and North makes the key play of putting in ♦J, won by declarer's ♦A. By playing this card South is aware that partner holds the queen of diamonds because, otherwise, East would have won a cheap trick with that card. East cashes two trumps, the suit luckily breaking, and plays a club. South wins and, because of the trick one play, is able to underlead his ♦K. North wins with ♦Q and fires back ♥J. In this way the contract fails by two tricks (three hearts, a diamond and a club). Without the diamond underlead North never gets in and declarer can make use of the two club winners to chalk up the game.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♦	1♠	1♣	2♠	Pass	4♣	2♣
West	North	East	South										
Pass	1♦	1♠	1♣										
2♠	Pass	4♣	2♣										
<p>♠AJ43 ♥AJ ♦KQJ108 ♣Q4</p> <p>♠82 ♥98643 ♦954 ♣A107</p> <p>♠106 ♥KQ7 ♦A2 ♣K98532</p> <p>♠KQ975 ♥1052 ♦763 ♣J6</p>	<p>Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♦</td><td>Pass<sup>(1)</sup></td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>4♠<sup>(2)</sup></td><td>All pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>(1) Suit not quite good enough, especially vulnerable, for 2♣ (2) Roughly 18-19, balanced</p> <p>West leads ♥8 (second from rubbish) or ♥9 (top of a sequence) and declarer wins in dummy. East will play ♥7, not an encouraging heart honour (it could just be possible for declarer to set up ♥10 as a winner were this to happen). Declarer cashes two rounds of trumps ending in hand and plays a diamond. East wins and cashes a top heart. That's two tricks in the bag but from where come the third and fourth defensive winners? With the diamond suit threatening to provide discards East has to hope that partner has ♣A. With that assumption East underleads his king of clubs, West wins with ♣A and the club return ensures the contract's defeat, ♠K being the setting trick.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♦	Pass <sup>(1)</sup>	1♠	Pass	4♠ <sup>(2)</sup>	All pass	
West	North	East	South										
Pass	1♦	Pass <sup>(1)</sup>	1♠										
Pass	4♠ <sup>(2)</sup>	All pass											

<p>♠J987 ♥AKJ4 ♦32 ♣765</p> <p>♠K43      ♠AQ65 ♥Q107      ♥963 ♦AQ54      ♦K76 ♣AJ8      ♣Q32</p> <p>♠102 ♥852 ♦J1098 ♣K1094</p>	<p>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1N<sup>(1)</sup></td><td>Pass</td><td>3N</td><td>All pass</td></tr></table> <p>(1)15-16</p> <p>North cashes ♥A at trick one on which South plays a discouraging ♥2 (or ♥8 if playing reverse ["high for hate"] methods). He knows that partner has denied ♥Q and switches at trick two to a club. Dummy plays low and the spotlight is on South. With dummy holding a promotable card (♣Q) he doesn't waste ♣K but puts in ♣9. West wins with ♣J and can count eight winners. He cashes the three top spades and the three top diamonds. Neither suit breaks 3-3 so the ninth trick is proving elusive. He cashes the top club and exits with a third round of the suit. He hopes North will win and will have to give him a trick by playing a heart. Unfortunately South wins and is able to push a heart through West's vulnerable holding.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass	1N <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	3N	All pass
West	North	East	South														
	Pass	Pass	Pass														
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass														
1N <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	3N	All pass														
<p>♠874 ♥J93 ♦AQJ62 ♣A4</p> <p>♠Q6532      ♠J109 ♥AQ5      ♥8764 ♦1094      ♦7 ♣J2      ♣KQ873</p> <p>♠AK ♥K102 ♦K853 ♣10965</p>	<p>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3N<sup>(1)</sup></td><td>Pass</td><td>1N</td></tr></table> <p>(1)Might bid 2N, invitational, but the good 5card diamond suit makes the game bid favourite</p> <p>West leads a fourth best ♠3 which goes to his partner's lowest-from-a-sequence ♠9 and declarer's ♠K. Can we divine the layout of the spade suit? Yes. If partner held a top spade honour he would have played it. If declarer held ♠J or ♠10 (or both) he would have won cheaply with one of those cards. Therefore partner is marked with ♠J109 (and declarer ♠AK doubleton). Declarer will play on hearts (he has eight winners and needs at least one heart trick) but West can win ♥Q and play back a second spade knowing that declarer's top honour will "beat the air". West will win the second heart and can cash three spades to defeat the contract.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	3N <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	1N								
West	North	East	South														
Pass	3N <sup>(1)</sup>	Pass	1N														

<p>♠A1082 ♥84 ♦A92 ♣K1084</p> <p>♠KQJ4      ♠65 ♥K753      ♥AQJ106 ♦84      ♦K65 ♣J53      ♣A92</p> <p>♠973 ♥92 ♦QJ1073 ♣Q76</p>	<p>Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td><td>All pass</td></tr></table> <p>[or 1N – 2♣; 2♥ – 3♥; 4♥ though there is a danger that 1N will be passed out]</p> <p>South leads ♦Q and this marks ♦K as being in East's hand. With East opening the bidding and likely to hold a five card heart suit, North makes an assumption that East holds the ace of trumps. What defensive tricks can come North South's way? One diamond, at most (given dummy's holding), one spade and, by assumption, no trumps (partner has at most two trumps). To defeat the contract North South need at least two clubs so North needs South to hold ♣Q or better. North wins trick one and switches dynamically to ♣4. East ducks, South wins and fires back a second club. Whether declarer calls for dummy's ♣J, or not, there are two club tricks and the contract is doomed. Had North not switched to an early club (or perhaps ducked the opening lead) East could have built a second spade winner to discard one of his two club losers.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	All pass
West	North	East	South										
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass										
3♥	Pass	4♥	All pass										
<p>♠AJ952 ♥K105 ♦J72 ♣A9</p> <p>♠8      ♠Q103 ♥Q9763      ♥J84 ♦Q95      ♦AK84 ♣J1063      ♣752</p> <p>♠K764 ♥A2 ♦1063 ♣KQ84</p>	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td></tr></table> <p>[or 1N – 2♣; 2♠ – 4♠]</p> <p>With the doubleton heart, South has just a little too much for a first round limit raise of 3♠. South instead follows a delayed-game-raise route (flattish hand, about 13-15, including the ruffing value). It is very easy to defeat this game by blindly, and unthinkingly, banging out three rounds of diamonds. Yes, that is the correct approach here but it becomes correct because of West's signal on the first round. West should play ♦9 (encouraging) [or ♦5 if playing "low likes"]. That should be the card to inform East to continue with two more rounds of diamonds. With East holding the guarded queen of trumps this simple defence ensures the contract's demise.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
West	North	East	South										
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣										
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠										