

PLAY & LEARN

A96 DEALER – 1 Diamond
 K3 1 NT
 KQJ4 Pass
 9853

QJ104	K83 Pass
105 Pass	942 Pass
1087 Pass	96532 Pass
AQ107	K4

752
 AQJ876 1 Heart
 A 4 Hearts
 J62

West leads the Q of spades. You're in a suit contract, so count losers from the long trump hand: 2 fast spades, and 3 clubs. Two losers must be eliminated. You win the Ace at trick 1. What is the needed entry? The K of hearts. Unblock the Ace of diamonds before drawing 2 rounds of trump ending in dummy. Play the remaining top of diamonds, discarding 3 losers, you make an overtrick.

KQ108 1 Spade
 Q2 3 NT
 QJ9
 QJ108

954 Pass	A762 Pass
K1053 Pass	A974 Pass
862	753
K62	54

J3 DEALER – 1 Diamond
 J86 1 NT
 AK104 Pass
 A973

West leads the 3 of hearts. You play the 2, East wins the A, returns the 4 and you win the 3rd heart. It's clear to go after spades provided you're not afraid of losing the lead. Are you? Not if you analyze the 3 of heart lead, Looks like 4th best. If it is, the defenders can take no more than 3 hearts tricks and the Ace of spades. If you finesse the club, you'll lose the K of clubs, 3 hearts tricks and the spade Ace, down 1.

KJ3
94 3 NT
AQJ6
K1064

A74 Pass
Q108632
5
982

10985
J75 Pass
K1082
53

Q62
AK DEALER – 1 NT
9743 Pass
AQJ7

West leads the 6 of hearts and you win the Ace. It's tempting to lead a diamond and finesse. If we do that, we'll go down. Count your tricks. We start with 7, 2 hearts, 1 diamond and 4 clubs. We need 2 more. If we finesse diamonds we go down. Play a spade at trick 2, this guarantees 9 tricks.

AQ104
Q73 2 Clubs (Stayman)
J2 3 NT
K853

85 Pass
J10982 Pass
AK8
942

KJ92
54 Pass
97653 Pass
107

763 DEALER – 1 NT
AK6 2 Diamonds
Q104 Pass
AQJ6

West leads the J of hearts. You have a sure spade trick, 3 hearts, and 4 clubs. You need one more. Tempting to finesse spades, but look at your diamonds. To guarantee the contract, lead a diamond after winning the first heart. The defenders can't get their hearts winners established before you have your ninth trick in diamonds.
