

WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?

	J83 3 NT	
	A4	
	J64	
	AJ1083	
K104 Pass		9652
J10987		Q52 Pass
Q32		K985
75		K2
	AQ7	
	K63 DEALER – 1NT	
	A107 Pass	
	Q964	

Opening lead: J of hearts, what's your plan? If either black suit finesse works, you have 9 tricks regardless of which one you take first. How to plan the play assuming neither finesse works. The opponents keep plugging away at hearts. If hearts are 4-4, You will lose four tricks, 2 kings and 2 hearts – even if both finesses lose. If hearts are 5-3 with the opening leader having 5 hearts (the long hand), you have to knock out the entry to the long hand first. Duck the opening lead, win the 2nd heart and take the spade finesse into West which loses. He drives out your last heart stopper and remains with 2 winning hearts, but East, the short hand, has no more hearts, Now you take the club finesse into the short hand. If you take the club finesse into the short hand, you go down.

	965 2 Spades	
	932	
	K105	
	AQ103	
J42		87 DEALER – 1 Heart
KQ8 2 Hearts		AJ754
972 Pass		AQJ3 PASS
K865		72
	AKQ103	
	106 1 Spade	
	864 Pass	
	J94	

K of hearts lead, dummy plays the 2, what heart do you play and why?
Hint – You can't tell 2 things with 1 card.

Q76 Pass
A9 4 Spades
KJ1076
984

1043 DEALER – 2 Hearts
KQJ764 Pass
A5
107

85 Pass
83 Pass
9432
KQJ32

AKJ92
1052 2 Spades
Q8 Pass
A65

Opening lead, heart K. Win the Ace. Must play on diamonds before drawing trump. Lead a diamond from dummy, East echoes (showing an even number), West ducks and takes the 2nd diamond. Leads out his 2 top hearts, what do you do on the 3rd round of hearts? The natural play seems to be ruff high in dummy, but now it's impossible to draw trumps and reach the diamonds. If you try to cash diamonds before drawing trump, West will ruff and dummy's dead. Maybe you want to ruff the 3rd hearts low, East will overruff and return King of clubs. Again, you can't draw all the trumps and cash the diamonds. After drawing r rounds and ending in dummy, West still has a 3rd trump. What's the winning play on the 3rd round of hearts?

Have a wonderful holiday, no class on Monday, Dec. 26th.
Happy New Year's to all of you, no class on Monday, Jan. 2nd.

Class resumes/returns Monday, Jan. 9th.

Send me any problem hands or questions you have.
I enjoy doing Zoom class and look forward to a fun and safe 2023.

Irene