

♠♥♦♣ Brds 1-4 Declarer Techniques, Brds

Brd 1 - Either ♣ finesse 50% or ♥ double finesse 75%

Board 6: (JB4) ♠K 7 3 Suits
Vul: All ♥A J T Double Fine
Dealer: West ♦K 7 4 3
♣A Q 5

♠J 9 4		♠Q T 8 6 2
♥K 9 6 5 3	N	♥Q 7
♦T 8 6	W E	♦9 2
♣9 4	S	♣K J T 8

	♠A 5	
	♥8 4 2	
	♦A Q J 5	
	♣7 6 3 2	

West	North	East	South
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

- East leads S6 (4th highest) from longest suit
- South has 8 sure winners - needs a finesse
- **South should lead hearts twice** (75% success)

Brd 2 - Ruff in Dummy; entries

Board: 2 ♠5
♥9854
♦KQT964
♣Q9

♠K94	♠AQJT7
♥K732	♥A6
♦3	♦A875
♣K8653	♣74

♠8632
♥QJT
♦J2
♣AJT2

W	N	E	S
--	--	1♠	P
3♠	P	4♠	P
P	P		

- South leads HQ
- Winners 8, Losers 4 or 5 (3D & 1-2C). Can ruff Ds &/or try C finesse
- Should East draw trumps? **NO! Need to ruff**
- **Where is it best to win 1st trick?** HK in West as need HA in East as an entry
- Lead ♦3 to ♦A, ruff ♦5 return; lead H2 to HA & ruff ♦7. Now draw trumps & try ♣ finesse

Brd 3 - keep plugging away with ♣s

Board 4: (JB2) ♠Q 5 4 2 NT Play
Vul: N/S ♥K 9 5 Length
Dealer: South ♦K Q 8
♣9 8 6

♠J T 8 7		♠9 6 3
♥Q 8 3	N	♥J 7 6 2
♦5 3 2	W E	♦T 9 7 6
♣A Q J	S	♣K T

	♠A K	
	♥A T 4	
	♦A J 4	
	♣7 5 4 3 2	

West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	All Pass	1NT

- West leads S7 (or SJ)
- 8 sure winners. **Only possible suit for extra tricks is clubs** - hope for 3:2 split
- South wins 1st trick in South & leads C2
- **Note we have 2 stoppers in other suits so, if split 3:2, can win the race**

Brd 4 - entries - keep HA

Board: 8 ♠J T 4 Focus on Pls
(3WillFoc3) ♥6 4 2 Care with Er
Vul: Nil ♦K Q J 2 Discard lose
Dealer: West ♣8 6 2

♠A 8 3		♠7 6
♥K Q J T 9 8	N	♥A 7 3
♦A 9 3	W E	♦7 6 4
♣3	S	♣K Q J T 9

	♠K Q 9 5 2	
	♥5	
	♦T 8 5	
	♣A 7 5 4	

West	North	East	South
1H	Pass	3H (limit raise)	Pass
4H	All Pass		

- North leads DK (top of seq), South discourages
- 8 sure winners & 5/6 losers (1 or 2 spades, 2Ds & 1C) - look to clubs for more
- **Should we draw trumps:** **Yes** won't lose lead
- Must play HK then HQ from West **leaving HA in East** as entry after lose to CA
- South should return D but can discard spades on winning clubs

Brd 5 - Lead partner's suit - top of seq

Dealer: North

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

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

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

Bidding: North East South West
1D 1S Pass 3S
(11HCP + 1sp) - invitational
Pass 4S (15tp) All Pass

- South **leads** ♦T (partner's suit top of sequence)
- Winners 10!, Losers 4 (1H & 3Ds) - look to discard H losers on clubs
- North will win first 3 ♦ tricks & then likely play ♥K to try and promote the ♥Q. East should win with ♥A & then draw trumps. The 2 losing ♥s can be thrown on the ♣s

Brd 6 - ruff high in Dummy

Dealer: East

♠K Q J 6 5		♠K Q J 6 5
♥J 4 3		♥J 4 3
♦K Q 6		♦K Q 6
♣5 3		♣5 3

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

♠A 10 7 3		♠A 10 7 3
♥7		♥7
♦A 7 5 3		♦A 7 5 3
♣K 8 4 2		♣K 8 4 2

Bidding: East South West North
1H X Pass 4S
(guaranteed fit & 13tp)
All Pass

Best to have 4 cards in other major if doing takeout X

- East leads ♥A (top of AK sequence), West discourages
- Winners 6, losers 3 (1♥, 2♣)
- **On 2nd trick East leads CQ** (top of sequence).
- E/W can ruff ♥s high in South

Brd 7 Discard a ♦ b4 drawing trumps

Dealer: South

♠ QJ54
♥ 72
♦ 86
♣ 97632

♠ 8
♥ KQ1098
♦ 753
♣ KQJ10

N
W E
S

♠ AK73
♥ J654
♦ A942
♣ 5

♠ 10962
♥ A3
♦ KQJ10
♣ A84

Bidding: South West North East
1D 1H Pass 4H

(12HCP & singleton & 9th trump)

All Pass

- North leads ♦8 (partner's suit - top of doubleton)
- Losers (1H, 2Ds & 1C) - look to discard ♦ loser on ♠
- If lose lead N/S will win 2 more D tricks
- So play SA & SK discarding a ♦ on the SK. Declarer can then draw trumps.

Brd 8 Jump response to X, discard

J 8 6 2 8 5 A Q J K Q J 3

7 5 4 2

A 5

K Q J 7 3

A 4

Q T 9 5 3 A T K 6 8 6 4 2

K 7

9 6 4 2

T 9 7

T 9 8 3

N E S W

1H

X Pass 2S (jump) Pass

3S Pass 4S (top of range) All Pass

- West leads ♥K & East discourages
- 2 ♠s, 1 ♥ & 1 ♦ to lose
- Should we draw trumps: **NO** - need to discard a H South on a club
- Win with ♥A, play 3 rounds of ♣s discarding ♥T
- Then play trumps.

Brd 9 discard after draw trumps

K T 8 J 5 2 J T 2 A K Q 4

K 7 6 4

K Q 7 5

T 6

7 6 5

A Q J 9 3 2 9 8 3 A 9 3 3

J 9 8 7 5 2

8 6 4

A Q T

Bidding: South West North East

1D Pass

1H Pass 1NT Pass

4H (11HCP + 3sp) All Pass

- West leads ♠K (top of seq.), East discourages
- Win with ♣A, draw trumps & discard clubs on North's ♦S

Brd 10 - Declarer has 2 options

Bidding Board 19

K10972 Q652 A1082

WEST NORTH EAST

Pass 2W Pass 2NT Pass 4A

Pass Pass Pass Pass

6

1097543

Q97

KJ7

W West Robot

E East Robot

QJ85 AKJ KJ10643

A43

82

A843

Q965

South West North East
1NT P 2H (transfer) P
2S P 2NT (8/9pts) P
4S (16pts & extra trump) All Pass

Lead: West leads H10 (top of seq)

Losers: 1S, 1D, 1 or 2 club tricks

Play: After winning first trick either

- draw trumps & risk losing 2 ♣ tricks if gets ♣ play wrong
- or look to discard a ♠ in North on 3rd round of ♥s (doesn't work here as East will ruff)

Drawing trumps is better here if South goes up with CK but it won't work everytime!

Brd 11 - Defence play

Board 11

♠ A J 7
♥ Q 10 5 4 2
♦ 8 6 2
♣ 10 6

None Vul

♠ K Q 10 6
♥ J 8
♦ K Q J 3
♣ K 9 4

N
W E
S

♠ 9 8 5 2
♥ A K 7
♦ 7 5
♣ Q 8 3 2

♠ 4 3
♥ 9 6 3
♦ A 10 9 4
♣ A J 7 5

3 ♠ West

S W N E
P 1NT P 2C
P 2S P 3S (fit & 8/9pts) All Pass

Lead: ♥4 low promises an honour

Play: Losers - 2S?, 1♦, 1/2 ♠s

Win ♥ lead in Dummy & try ♠K finesse (fails).

- North should then lead ♣T (top of d'ton) thru Dummy's "strength". South covers ♣Q if played or low if not.

West will lead to East's ♥A & try ♦ finesse (South play low 1st round). Tricky hand & good defence (2S, 1D & 2C) gets contract down.

Brd 12 - Takeout X

- Finesse SK & Q twice, need entries

Dealer: West

♠ KQ32
♥ 95
♦ KJ6
♣ AKQJ

♠ A108
♥ AKQ63
♦ 1098
♣ 63

N
W E
S

♠ J5
♥ 10872
♦ 7542
♣ 1095

♠ 9764
♥ J4
♦ AQ3
♣ 8742

West North East South

1H X P 1S (0-8pts so min)

Pass 3S (19+) P 4S (19+7=game)

All Pass

- West leads ♥A & ♥K then ♦T
- Have to finesse ♠KQ twice

Brd 13 2/1 bid to game, repeat ♥ finesse

N E S W

1S P 2H P - 2H shows 5+♥s & 13+pts

3C P 3H P - 3H shows 6+ hearts

4H All Pass - North knows fit in ♥s

Lead: West leads C♣

Losers: Maybe HQ, 2Ds

Play: Win club lead in North & lead H2 to HJ - it works! Back to Dummy with another club & repeat H finesse.

Brd 14 card reading

Lead: South leads ♠K (top of seq.)

Play: 8 winners (1 ♠, 4 ♥, 3 ♣s)

4 Losers (2 ♠, 1 ♥, 1-2 ♦)

- win 1st ♠ trick as know North has a singleton (count ♠s - 6 in South)

- Where is ♥Q? Maybe North (bidding suggests South has few ♥s)

- Play ♥A first & then low to ♥T

- Draw last trumps, play clubs discarding ♠4 on 3rd round

- South likely only to have pts in ♠s so try ♦T from East & let it run.

Brd 15 ruff in short hand

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
Double 3♠ Pass 2♠ Pass
Pass

Lead: Pick an unbid suit, try ♥A & follow up with small heart

Losers: 1S, 1H, 2D & 2C

Play: Potential to make 2♦ tricks & a ruff in Dummy. Win 2nd round of ♥s & lead low to ♦Q.

- Later it boils down to whether to try spade finesse or the 2:2 split. Either could be right on the day though West did X!?!

Brd 16 - which suit to promote?

Lead: North leads ♥7 (4th highest)

Losers: 1S, 4H danger!, 2D

Winners: 2H & 4C

- Promote spades as can only afford to lose the lead once