

Takeout Doubles by Ed L'Heureux (25Feb2025)

1	♠ KJ975	Dir: N																																	
	♥ KJ4	Vul: None																																	
	♦ AQ4																																		
	♣ 98																																		
♠ 10863	♠ A4																																		
♥ A1062	♥ Q953																																		
♦ 92	♦ KJ103																																		
♣ QJ6	♣ A74																																		
	♠ Q2																																		
14	♥ 87																																		
7 14	♦ 8765																																		
5	♣ K10532																																		
		<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>					♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	1	-	S	-	-	-	1	-	E	1	1	2	-	-	W	1	1	2	-	-
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<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
1S	X	P	2H
P	P	P	

Bidding: N opens 1S. E makes T/O Double. S is too weak to bid. W must bid, bids 2H. The end.

Lead: Leads from KJ & AQ are very bad. 9C looks like least damaging lead.

Play: North opened the bidding. S was too weak to respond. Play N for all the high cards. Lead low H towards Q to lose only 1H. Lead low D towards KJ to lose only 1D. Can get to W hand only twice (with AH & QC), so can take only 2 finesses.

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2		♠ QT54 ♥ K863 ♦ AT2 ♣ 76	Dlr: E Vul: N-S																															
♠ 732 ♥ Q9 ♦ KJ75 ♣ JT82			♠ K9 ♥ AT742 ♦ 943 ♣ KQ5																															
9 7 12 12	♠ AJ86 ♥ J5 ♦ Q86 ♣ A943	<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>				♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	1	1	1	3	1	S	1	1	1	3	1	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-
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S	1	1	1	3	1																													
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W	-	-	-	-	-																													

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
	1H	X	P
2S	P	P	P

Bidding: E opens 1H. S makes T/O Double. W is too weak to bid. N makes 9-11 bid, jumping to 2S, showing full value of hand on 1st bid. S: doesn't bid again, combined total known to be less than 25.

Lead: KC, top of touching honours, is great lead.

Play: Play the opener E for missing high cards. Lead low S towards AJ to lose no S. With E opening 1H, hearts rate to be 5-4-2-2. If you try to ruff hearts in S hand, W will overruff. You can ruff 1 heart after pulling trump. Looks like you will lose only 3H, 1D, 1C ... making 2.

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3		Dlr: S Vul: E-W	
♠ 72 ♥ 983 ♦ A8753 ♣ 1082		♠ K10543 ♥ KQ5 ♦ Q102 ♣ 76	
♠ AJ86 ♥ J6 ♦ KJ6 ♣ A943		♠ Q9 ♥ A10742 ♦ 94 ♣ KQJ5	
4		♣♦♥♠NT N - - 1 - - S - - 1 - - E 1 1 - 4 2 W 1 1 - 4 2	
14	10		
12			

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
		1H	X
P	2S	P	3S
P	4S	& 3 passes	

Bidding: After T/O Double, East makes a 9-11 bid, jumping to 2S, showing full value of their hand. West can “see” possibly 25, makes a 3S invitation. East has 10 HCP + 1 length point, bids game.

Lead: KC, top of touching honours is great lead.

Play: Should lose only 1H, 1D, 1C, making 4. With 9 trump, odds favour playing off A & K hoping to drop the Q. If you want to finesse, the opener South is more likely to have the face cards.

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4		Dlr: W Vul: Both	
♠ Q842 ♥ AKJ8 ♦ K106 ♣ 107		♠ 107 ♥ 9754 ♦ J832 ♣ Q93	
♠ J93 ♥ 63 ♦ A74 ♣ AK865		♠ AK65 ♥ Q102 ♦ Q95 ♣ J42	
13		♣♦♥♠NT N - 1 3 4 1 S - 1 3 4 1 E - - - - W - - - -	
12	3		
12			

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
			1C
X	P	2C	P
2H	P	2S	P
4S	P	P	P

Bidding: After a T/O Double, bid the opponent suit to show a game forcing hand. Do not jump to game; you might need room for exploration. North has both majors, bids the lower one. South has only 3 hearts, so bids 2S. With a fit now found, North bids the 4S game.

Lead: AC, top of AK, is great lead.

Play: Hand plays itself. Lose only AC, KC, AD. Pitch losing D on JH if necessary.

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5		♠ J4 ♥ KQJ97 ♦ AJ85 ♣ Q9		Dlr: N Vul: N-S																										
♠ 763 ♥ A864 ♦ Q74 ♣ A85		♠ AKQ2 ♥ 52 ♦ K103 ♣ 10642																												
14 10 12 4		♠ 10985 ♥ 103 ♦ 962 ♣ KJ73		<table><tr><td>♣♦♥♠NT</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr></table>		♣♦♥♠NT					N	-	1	-	-	S	-	1	-	-	E	2	-	-	1	W	2	-	-	1
♣♦♥♠NT																														
N	-	1	-	-																										
S	-	1	-	-																										
E	2	-	-	1																										
W	2	-	-	1																										

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
1H	X	P	1NT
P	P	P	

Bidding: The normal response to a T/O Double is to bid your longest suit. But W has only 3 card suits except for the opponent suit. You can bid 1NT in such cases with 8+ points. Bid a 3 card major with fewer points.

Lead: KH. K from KQJ in a long suit is a great lead against NT. Sets up 4 tricks in this case.

Play: Even with 10HCP this will be hard to make. West can take 3 spades, 2 Aces and a trick in diamonds. There is no obvious 7th trick. Play North for both A & J of diamonds. Lead low to the Ten.

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6		<p>♠ 974 ♥ T84 ♦ T9653 ♣ AJ</p>		<p><i>Dlr: E</i> <i>Vul: E-W</i></p>																															
<p>♠ AJ62 ♥ KJ95 ♦ 84 ♣ T72</p>		<p>♠ Q5 ♥ Q6 ♦ KQJ72 ♣ K864</p>																																	
<p>5 9 13 13</p>		<p>♠ KT83 ♥ A732 ♦ A ♣ Q953</p>		<table><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	1	-	S	-	-	-	1	-	E	2	2	-	-	2	W	2	2	-	-	2
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N	-	-	-	1	-																														
S	-	-	-	1	-																														
E	2	2	-	-	2																														
W	2	2	-	-	2																														

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
	1D	X	1NT
P	P	P	

Bidding: West has enough to bid, but is reluctant to bid hearts or spades since South has shown these with the T/O X. West bids 1NT. When West bids, North is no longer obliged to bid in response to the T/O Double. With a weak hand, North should pass.

Lead: 9S or TH, top of nothing in the suits that South has shown with the T/O X. Avoid leading the weak diamond suit that East has bid.

Play: Only 1 immediate trick, AS. But can set up 2 D tricks, 2 H tricks, 1 C trick and 1 more S trick (in that order) to make 7 total tricks (2S+2H+2D+1C).

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7	♠ 62	Dlr: S	
	♥ KJ84	Vul: Both	
	♦ 108762		
	♣ KJ		
♠ AJ84	♠ K1093		
♥ A753	♥ 92		
♦ Q93	♦ K54		
♣ Q4	♣ 10753		
8	♠ Q75		
13	♥ Q106		
6	♦ AJ		
13	♣ A9862		
</			

N E S W
 1C X

1D 1S and 3 passes

Bidding: West makes T/O Double. Should have 4 of each major. North might like to bid 1H, but West has shown hearts with the T/O double. North can bid the 5 card D suit. East is no longer forced to bid, but with 6+ points can bid 1 of a suit. E/W find their spade fit. S might “stretch” to 2C or 2D. West or East would then compete to 2S. (about half the points & 8 combined spades).

Lead: AD & then JD is OK. (Partner bid the suit.)

Play: West losers: 1S, 3H, 2D, 2C = 8 total. Ruff 2 hearts in East hand before pulling trump. Finesse South (opener) for QS. Difficult, but can make 2S.

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8		♠ K642 ♥ 6 ♦ KQ32 ♣ QT74		<i>Dlr: W</i> <i>Vul: None</i>																															
♠ A9 ♥ AQT82 ♦ 974 ♣ K85		♠ 875 ♥ KJ7 ♦ 865 ♣ A632																																	
10		♠ QJT3 ♥ 9543 ♦ AJT ♣ J9																																	
13	8																																		
9																																			
		<table><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	1	-	3	-	S	-	1	-	3	-	E	-	-	2	-	2	W	-	-	2	-	2		
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N	-	1	-	3	-																														
S	-	1	-	3	-																														
E	-	-	2	-	2																														
W	-	-	2	-	2																														

N E S W
 1H

X 2H 2S P?/3H?

Bidding: N has only 10 HCP, but with 4-card support in every other suit, N can count 3 shortness points for the singleton. S has enough to bid 2S over the 2H bid. West might pass or might compete to 3H. Both OK.

Lead: Against 2S, top of nothing 9D looks best. Against 3H, Top to touching honours KD looks best.

Play: In 2S, N/S lose only 1S, 1H & 2C, making 3S. North's shortness in H makes the extra trick possible. E/W are down 1 in 3H. But down 1 (lose 50 points) is better than letting N/S make 2S or 3S (lose 110 or 140 points).

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9		Dlr: N Vul: E-W	
♠ 98 ♥ A10876 ♦ 97 ♣ AKJ5		♠ KQ5 ♥ K43 ♦ KQ3 ♣ 10843	
♠ J643 ♥ 95 ♦ AJ42 ♣ 976		♠ A1072 ♥ QJ2 ♦ 10865 ♣ Q2	
12		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N 1 - 3 - 1 S 1 - 3 - 1 E - 1 - 1 - W - 1 - 1 -	
6	13		
9			

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
1H	P	2H	P
P	P		

Bidding: E has a full opening hand but cannot overcall (no 5 card suit), cannot make a T/O Double (too many hearts, not 4 spades) and too weak for 1N. Sometimes you must pass with a good hand. W too weak to make T/O Double.

Lead: KS or KD, top of touching honours.

Play: N losers = 1S, 1H, 2D, 0C = 4 total.
Makes 3H.

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10		Dlr: E Vul: Both	
♠ 43 ♥ AKJ743 ♦ AQ ♣ AJ3		♠ AQJ2 ♥ T9 ♦ KJ953 ♣ Q5	
♠ K85 ♥ 652 ♦ T76 ♣ 8764		♠ T976 ♥ Q8 ♦ 842 ♣ KT92	
19		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N 5 - 5 1 3 S 5 - 5 1 3 E - 2 - - - W - 2 - - -	
3	13		
5			

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
	1D	P	P
X	P	1S	P
2H	P	3H	P
4H			and 3 passes

Bidding: North makes a T/O DbL, then bids a new suit. This shows 17+ points & excellent suit. South is “almost forced” to bid. With 0-3 points and 0-1 hearts, South could pass. With 5 points and 2 hearts, South should bump to 3H, with North raises to 4H.

Lead: If North has a solid suit, TH is a safe neutral lead. Other leads look like they might cost a trick.

Play: Potential losers = 2S, 1D, 1C = 4 total. When QC falls, JC & TC become good, making 5H.

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11		♠ J3 ♥ Q108 ♦ 9752 ♣ J1096	<i>Dlr: S</i> <i>Vul: None</i>																															
♠ A652 ♥ J5 ♦ KQ83 ♣ AK4			♠ Q1094 ♥ 632 ♦ AJ4 ♣ 873																															
4 17 7 12		♠ K87 ♥ AK974 ♦ 106 ♣ Q52	<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>1</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	1	-	-	S	-	-	1	-	-	E	1	3	-	4	1	W	1	3	-	4	1
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<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
		1H	X
P	1S	P	2S
P	4S	and 3 passes	

Bidding: W makes T/O Double. E 1S bid shows 0-8 points (no jump). W raise to 2S shows 17+ & asks partner to bid game with 7-8. East obliges.

Lead: AH. A from AK is great lead at a suit contract.

Play: From W viewpoint, lose 1-2S, 2H, 1C = 4-5 total. Pull trump first. Best play of trump suit: play A then low to Q. This captures the J, so lose only 1 spade. Now run the diamonds, pitching a low club from E hand on QD. (Lose only 1 spade. Pitch losing club on long diamond.) Makes 4S.

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12		♠ A102 ♥ AQ6 ♦ A742 ♣ KQ7	Dlr: W Vul: N-S																														
♠ KQ973 ♥ 42 ♦ K65 ♣ A109		♠ 54 ♥ 9853 ♦ Q98 ♣ 6543																															
19 12 2 7	♠ J86 ♥ KJ107 ♦ J103 ♣ J82		<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	3	3	1	3	S	2	3	3	1	3	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-
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W	-	-	-	-	-																												

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
			1S
X	P	2H	P
2NT	P	3NT	and all pass

Bidding: N makes a T/O double and then bids NT. This shows a balanced 19+. North would bid 1NT immediately with 15-18. South can see 26 combined points (7 & 19+), so raises to 3NT game.

Lead: 5S. Lead partner's suit.

Play: At NT, count fast winners. After the spade lead, you have 2S, 4H, 1D = 7 total. Play on clubs before attacking other suits to set up 2 C winners, bringing total to 9.