

# TEAMS V PAIRS

HANDS

# Plan your play & bidding for Teams

## Exp 1

Contract 3NT West      North leads  $\heartsuit 5$       Plan your play

West

♠ 542  
♥ J8  
♦ 83  
♣ AKQ652

East

♠ AK76  
♥ AK  
♦ KT542  
♣ 73

Count off the top winners: 2♠, 2♥, 0♦, 2♣ = 6

You might get length winners in ♠s and ♦s but neither looks very good.

You will get length winners in ♣s

## Play

You win the opening lead and start playing on your longest suit ♣s. You have counted your ♣ holding ( 8 ) which give defence five. As long as the clubs break 3/2 you can take six ♣ tricks, but you must be careful. You are missing the ♣JT98, this means that if one defender is sitting with a four card suit you have a shortage of entries. How do you overcome this problem and the lack of entries into the West hand? You must **DUCK** the first round of ♣s and let the defence win.

By doing this when you get back on lead later on you can run the ♣s and make your contract.

This is called a safety play.

If playing Pairs you would play the ♣ off the top hoping for an overtrick.

North

♠ T83  
♥ QT753  
♦ Q976  
♣ J

West

♠ 542  
♥ J8  
♦ 83  
♣ AKQ652

East

♠ AK76  
♥ AK  
♦ KT542  
♣ 73

South

♠ QJ9  
♥ 9642  
♦ AJ  
♣ T984

## Exp 2

Auction	West 1NT	North P	East 3NT	South All Pass
---------	-------------	------------	-------------	-------------------

North leads ♥9

West	♠ KQ64 ♥ AT52 ♦ KT3 ♣ 64	East ♠ T9 ♥ Q64 ♦ J92 ♣ AKJT7
------	-----------------------------------	---

You bid a thin game in NT. Plan your Play.

Note: in pairs you would invite with 2NT (11-12) or 2♠ (11) depending on system.

You only have 3 top tricks. Your other tricks must come from ♣ finesse and leading up to KQ♠ and K♦

Full Deal	North ♠ J83 ♥ K9873 ♦ Q ♣ Q932	East ♠ T94 ♥ Q64 ♦ J92 ♣ AKJT7
West ♠ KQ6 ♥ AT52 ♦ KT3 ♣ 64	South ♠ A752 ♥ J ♦ A87654 ♣ 85	

### Exp 3

Auction	West	North	East	South
	1♠	P	2♣	P
	3♦	P	4♠	All Pass

North leads 6♥

West	♠ AK953 ♥ J8 ♦ AKQ6 ♣ J7	East	♠ QJ4 ♥ AQ42 ♦ 7 ♣ KT943
------	-----------------------------------	------	-----------------------------------

Plan your play.

Count your losers..... ♣=2      ♦=0      ♥=1      ♠=0

Full Deal	North	East
	♠ T762 ♥ 6 ♦ J8543 ♣ 852	♠ QJ4 ♥ AQ42 ♦ 7 ♣ KT943
West	♠ AK953 ♥ J8 ♦ AKQ6 ♣ J7	
	South	
	♠ 8 ♥ KT9753 ♦ T92 ♣ AQ6	

Did you spot the potential problem?

If you duck the opening lead of the ♥6 and it is a singleton your contract could go off. South would win with their ♥K, return a low ♥ which is trumped.

(Low ♥ shows wanting ♣ return)

Now a ♣ return from North and another ♥ contract is down.

#### Exp 4

West  
1NT

North  
P or (2♠)

East  
3NT

South  
ALL PASS

Contract 3NT West

Lead ♠K

Plan your play.

West ♠ A32  
♥ Q64  
♦ AKJ3  
♣ 632

East ♠ 765  
♥ AK5  
♦ T542  
♣ AK7

You are in a **NT** contract so the first thing you should do is count your **off the top winners**.

1 in ♠ A                    3 in ♥ AKQ                    2 in ♦ AK                    2 in ♣ AK                    8 in total

You need to **duck** the first two rounds of ♠s. When West shows out on trick 3 you know that **North started with 5♠s and is the danger hand**.

Your only chance of making your 9<sup>th</sup> trick is in ♦s but the finesse is into the danger hand North.

For this reason we must decline the finesse and play the ♦s from the top, just in case North started with a singleton or doubleton ♦Q. Remember we can lose 1♦ trick to South as they do not hold any more ♠s.

If North started with 3♦s to the Q there is nothing we can do and our contract would go down.

Contract makes 10 tricks if you hold up ♠s and play ♦s from the top. You will go 1 off if you try the ♦ finesse. If South had started with 3♦s to the ♦Q we would just make our 9 tricks.

North ♠ KQJT9  
♥ 832  
♦ Q7  
♣ QJ8

West ♠ A32  
♥ Q64  
♦ AKJ3  
♣ 632

East ♠ 765  
♥ AK5  
♦ T542  
♣ AK7

South ♠ 84  
♥ JT97  
♦ 986  
♣ T954