

TEAMS V PAIRS

HANDS

Plan your play & bidding for Teams

Exp 1

Contract 3NT West

North leads ♥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	North	East	South
	1NT	P	3NT	All Pass

North leads ♥9

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

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

Exp 3

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

North leads 6♥

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

Plan your play.

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

Full Deal

		North		
		♠ T762		
		♥ 6		
		♦ J8543		
		♣ 852		
West	♠ AK953		East	♠ QJ4
	♥ J8			♥ AQ42
	♦ AKQ6			♦ 7
	♣ J7			♣ KT943
		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 9th 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		East ♠ 765
♥ Q64		♥ AK5
♦ AKJ3		♦ T542
♣ 632		♣ AK7
	South ♠ 84	
	♥ JT97	
	♦ 986	
	♣ T954	