

TIP OF THE WEEK: Staying Alive by Combining your Chances

Combining chances means timing the play in a certain order that the failure of any chance to materialize still allows you to take the next chance.

<p>Combining Chances in One Suit</p> <p>AK9 752</p> <p>Finesse the 9, then return to your hand and finesse the Queen</p>
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Odds of Multiple Finesses

- . One Finesse -----> 50%
- . One of two fineses ---> 75%

Go through each suit to identify all possibilities to generate an extra trick.

- . Choose the plan with the best probability.

Odd Suits split evenly, and even suits split oddly.

<p>Blending two Chances in a 3NT Contract</p> <p>432 AK AQJT3 KJ10 A6 JT75 9865 AQ5</p> <p>1) Finesse in Diamonds (Probability of success 50%) 2) Cash the A and K of Hearts and hope the Q falls.</p> <p>[Work on Hearts, first]</p>
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Tips for Combining Chances...

- Lead the suit in which you do not hold the ace, first.
- If you can't try both fineses, first cash the top cards in the suit in which the outstanding honor is more likely to drop.
- If you could lose the lead in 2 suits, consider which suit might permit an avoidance play and when that play would be useful.

- If a defender leads through your A-Q holding, you may be able to preserve all your chances if you win the ace or duck the trick.

Examples for each tip above can be found in the following link...

www.rpbridge.net › 4q00
Combining Your Chances - Richard Pavlicek

‘Staying Alive’ with Marjorie Michelin

N	North
♠	K643
♥	5432
♦	KJ5
♣	J4
♣A	
S	South
♠	A108752
♥	AKJ
♦	A42
♣	9

W	N	E	S
			1♠
P	2♣	P	3♦
P	4♣	P	P
P			



Auction: South makes a **help suit game try** and arrives in 4♠. West leads the ♣A then the K♣ which you, as South ruff.

What is your line of play?

<https://youtu.be/BrUYRGiGJNs>

Advanced Learners

Check out Robert Todd’s article

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5127d3d2e4b0b304f0b6db24/t/5b40eb7a575d1f7f8971c201/1530981243200/3+%28241%29+Combine+your+chances.pdf>

A few more tips by Eddie Kantar ...

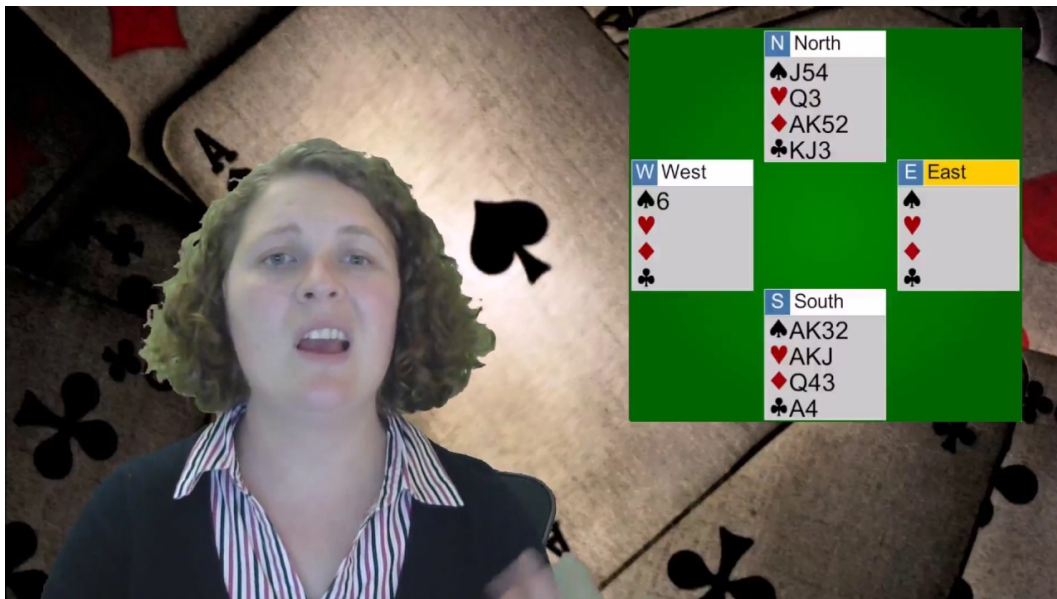
With a choice of 2 side-suit finesses for a King, first attack the suit that has a singleton and try to ruff out the king in that suit. If that doesn't succeed, take the finesse in the other suit.

AQJ7	AQ54
42	7

When you decide to play the Ace-King of a suit that contains both the ten and the Jack, a suit you have no intention of finessing, at some point lead the Jack. You'll be surprised how often the jack is covered.

When either of 2 finesses will give you your contract, one suit missing a Queen, the other a Jack, play the Ace and King of the suit missing the Queen. If the Queen doesn't appear, take a finesse in the suit missing the Jack.

Last, but not least...



The image shows a woman with curly hair speaking. To her right is a green screen overlay displaying a card game hand. The hand is as follows:

	N North	
	♠ J54	
	♥ Q3	
	♦ AK52	
	♣ KJ3	
W West		E East
♠ 6		♠
♥		♥
♦		♦
♣		♣
	S South	
	♠ AK32	
	♥ AKJ	
	♦ Q43	
	♣ A4	

<https://youtu.be/voO7PICP4H0>

