

1

♠ KQ952
♥ 953
♦ 854
♣ Q6

♠ 6
♥ K1082
♦ QJ103
♣ KJ42

♠ A3
♥ J764
♦ 976
♣ 10985

♠ J10874
♥ AQ
♦ AK2
♣ A73

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♦ Q

Bidding: NS should reach 4♠. West might venture a double of 1♠.
Lead: Top of a sequence is much better than leading another suit.
Play: Declarer has the following possible losers: 1 spade, 1 heart, 1 diamond and 1 club. There are 2 finesses possible: low to the ♥Q, and low to ♠Q. If you play low to the ♠Q, and West plays his King, you can later play the ♠Q, and discard a diamond loser on ♣A. However, you must do this before drawing trumps, or the opponents will cash a club when ♠K wins.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
E	-	5	-	6	6
W	-	5	-	6	6

2

♠ 6
♥ QJ1086
♦ J1083
♣ K105

♠ AQJ109
♥ K7
♦ A92
♣ AQ7

♠ K832
♥ A5
♦ KQ74
♣ 632

♠ 754
♥ 9432
♦ 65
♣ J984

Dealer: East
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 NT	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

Bidding: West has 20 points, opposite 12-14, and should bid 6♠ after finding a spade fit. with no aces missing.
Play: Declarer has 2 possible club losers. Win the lead and draw trumps. North must keep length with dummy and keep all 4 diamonds! Next West plays diamonds, and discovers the 4:2 break. The contract can still be made without finessing in clubs. Strip the hand of hearts and throw North in with your last diamond, discarding a club from West. North will lead a club into your ♠AQ, or a heart, allowing you to ruff in dummy, and discard ♠Q.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
E	-	5	-	6	6
W	-	5	-	6	6

3

♠ AK10
♥ 9654
♦ AJ8
♣ Q102

♠ 743
♥ Q10
♦ Q10765
♣ 754

♠ Q62
♥ AK83
♦ 942
♣ KJ6

♠ J985
♥ J72
♦ K3
♣ A983

Dealer: South
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ 3

Bidding: No one can really enter the auction after North opens 1NT.
Lead: 4th highest from a suit with no 3 card sequence.
Play: If declarer plays low at trick 1, West should win 2 tricks in hearts, and then will try to return to partner. With the diamond finesse on, North can make: 2 top spades, 3 diamonds and a club. Another trick in spades or clubs is likely.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	2	-	2	2	2
S	2	-	1	2	2
E	-	1	-	-	-
W	-	1	-	-	-

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 2N: H-83 D-942 C-K6

4

♠ KQ742
♥ 109
♦ A109
♣ Q74

♠ 9
♥ K6
♦ J843
♣ AKJ832

♠ A10653
♥ AJ75
♦ 62
♣ 96

♠ J8
♥ Q8432
♦ KQ75
♣ 105

Dealer: West
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	1 ♠	Dbl	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♠ K

Bidding: Over a 1♠ overcall, East might bid 1NT or make a negative double to show 4 hearts.
Lead: ♠K, unless East bid 1NT over 1♠.
Play: A good plan is to try to ruff some diamonds in dummy before drawing trumps. The defence should foil this plan by leading trumps when they get in. Declarer may now lose 1 club (taking the losing finesse) and 3 diamonds.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	2	-	-	-	-
W	3	-	-	-	-

5

♠ 10
♥ K109754
♦ KQ752
♣ 4

♠ A98432
♥ J32
♦ A10
♣ 75

♠ J76
♥ A8
♦ 8
♣ AKJ10986

♠ KQ5
♥ Q6
♦ J9643
♣ Q32

Dealer: North
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠	2 ♣
2 ♠	Pass	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♣ A

Bidding: As with many competitive auctions, it is hard to tell where this one will end. South might well compete to 3♣, and East might bid 3♠.

Play: When North plays ♣4 on ♠A, South must deduce that this is a singleton. North would have signalled high->low with a doubleton, and there is just one club missing. Therefore South can cash ♠K, and another club 'kills' ♠Q. Declarer should therefore lose 2♥, 1♦ and 2♣ - down 1.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	2	-	3	-	-
S	2	-	3	-	-
E	-	-	-	2	2

6

♠ A9
♥ 94
♦ AKJ42
♣ 10963

♠ J1076
♥ Q986
♦ Q8752
♣ Q853

♠ K42
♥ KQJ63
♦ 1075
♣ KJ

♠ Q853
♥ A108752
♦ 3
♣ A4

Dealer: East
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1 ♥	2 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♣ 5

Bidding: If North overcalls 2♦, East and South really have nothing to bid, so maybe that will end the auction. South hates to pass 2♦ but has nothing else to bid

Lead: Perhaps a club?

Play: If declarer ducks ♠A and West wins ♠K, West should lead a trump, to stop declarer ruffing a club. Now declarer could lose 7 tricks: 3♣, 2♦, 1♥ and 1♠ - down 2.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	3	-	1
S	-	-	3	-	1
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

7

♠ J
♥ J1082
♦ 9832
♣ Q1054

♠ Q10863
♥ AQ
♦ AQ105
♣ K6

♠ AK95
♥ 643
♦ J7
♣ 9872

♠ 742
♥ K975
♦ K64
♣ AJ3

Dealer: South
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♠ 2

Bidding: East has enough to invite game. Lead: The bidding, and South's holding, calls for a passive lead, one least likely to give away a trick - in this case a trump lead.

Play: After a trump lead, declarer has the following 4 possible losers: a heart, a diamond and 2 clubs. One heart loser can be avoided by discarding two hearts in dummy on diamonds, and ruffing ♥Q, so the contract can still be made, but a lead other than a trump makes it much easier.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	1	-	3	-	-
S	1	-	3	-	-

8

♠ 98
♥ 9742
♦ QJ2
♣ K653

♠ KQ5
♥ KQJ10
♦ A64
♣ AJ9

♠ J10642
♥ A63
♦ 109
♣ Q108

♠ A73
♥ 85
♦ K8753
♣ 742

Dealer: West
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♦ Q

Bidding: Over 2NT, West shows a 5 card spade suit, and East bids game in their 8 card major.

Lead: ♦Q is not without risk

Play: Declarer should lose just 1 spade and 1 diamond. The club finesse is on to make 11 tricks. Note that 3NT should go down on a diamond lead.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	-	-	4	5	2
W	-	-	4	5	2

Best Opening Leads:

vs East 5S: D-K8753
vs West 5S: D-QJ2

9

♠ A2
♥ AKJ432
♦ 4
♣ J1095

♠ Q10
♥ 8
♦ AQ8765
♣ K762

♠ J974
♥ Q95
♦ J1092
♣ Q4

♠ K8653
♥ 1076
♦ K3
♣ A83

Dealer: North
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♦	2 ♥	3 ♦	3 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♦ J

Bidding: East can overcall diamonds with a 6 card suit, which should lead to a competitive auction.
Play: With 9 trumps, missing the queen, play AK. You now have 1 heart and 1 diamond loser. You might lose 2 clubs, but can avoid one by finessing.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	2	-	4	2	-
S	2	-	4	2	1
E	-	3	-	-	-
W	-	3	-	-	-

Best Opening Leads:
vs South 1N: Any Card
vs North 2S: S-J974 D-J1092 C-Q4

10

♠ 1042
♥ Q1075
♦ 106
♣ Q743

♠ 765
♥ 863
♦ QJ932
♣ 82

♠ QJ83
♥ A42
♦ K75
♣ KJ10

♠ AK9
♥ KJ9
♦ A84
♣ A965

Dealer: East
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 NT	Dbl
2 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♦ 10

Bidding: South should double 1NT, and may well also double 2D, also for penalty.
Lead: Perhaps a trump.
Play: Declarer could lose 1 trump, 1-2 clubs, 2 hearts and 2-3 spades. It's probably best for South to lead back trumps, as any suit he plays can help declarer. Down 2 is possible, but the defence might slip up.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	3	-	3	-	2
S	3	-	3	-	2
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 2N: S-QJ83 H-A42 D-K75

11

♠ 72
♥ 93
♦ KJ97
♣ KQ1093

♠ 5
♥ Q105
♦ A86542
♣ 752

♠ KJ963
♥ KJ764
♦ Q
♣ AJ

♠ AQ1084
♥ A82
♦ 103
♣ 864

Dealer: South
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
1 NT	2 ♣	2 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ A

Bidding: This auction suggests that declarer has a 2-suited hand, and West prefers hearts. South can tell that declarer's spades are not going to run, and he will almost certainly want to ruff some spades in dummy. So what should South lead? Normally you should lead your partners suit, unless you have something clearly better to do - and this is such a case: lead a trump!
Either ♥A and another heart, or a low heart.
Play: When South gets in with ♠A he will draw the last trump, and declarer will be unable to ruff any spades in dummy. Best defence will take 1♣, 1♥ and 4♠.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	3	-	-	1	1

12

♠ KQ9832
♥
♦ K9843
♣ 62

♠ 5
♥ AJ109874
♦ QJ10
♣ 43

♠ A64
♥ K652
♦ A6
♣ AKQJ

♠ J107
♥ Q3
♦ 752
♣ 109875

Dealer: West
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
3 ♥	3 ♠	4 NT	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	7 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♠ J

Bidding: East should count 6 tricks and open 3♥ non-vulnerable. With a heart fit, and no missing aces, East can count 7 hearts, and 6 top tricks, and should bid a grand slam.
Play: You can cash 13 top tricks.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	-	-	7	-	7
W	-	-	7	-	7

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==

13

♠ Q9
♥ K97
♦ QJ653
♣ AK10

♠ 1075
♥ AJ6542
♦ 87
♣ 82

♠ K2
♥ Q103
♦ K9
♣ QJ9764

♠ AJ8643
♥ 8
♦ A1042
♣ 53

Dealer: North
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	2 ♣	2 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♣ 8

Bidding: North's 2♠ should show 10+ points, and South's 2NT shows 15-16 balanced with a club stopper.

Lead: Partner's suit.

Play: Declarer has the following losers: 1 spade (possible), 1 heart, 1 diamond (possible). Do not risk the club finesse - win ♣A, and lead ♠Q, letting it run if West (mistakenly) plays low. You will lose at most 1 heart and 1 trump, as the diamond finesse is on.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	6	-	5	4
S	-	6	-	5	4
E	-	-	-	-	-

14

♠ J52
♥ A64
♦ K10642
♣ 105

♠ 108
♥ 1032
♦ AQJ85
♣ 973

♠ AKQ63
♥ KJ5
♦ 3
♣ KQJ4

♠ 974
♥ Q987
♦ 97
♣ A862

Dealer: East
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ 4

Bidding: East must jump to 3♣ to show a maximum and force West to bid again.

Lead; The auction would seem to suggest a heart lead.

Play: The opponents will win ♥Q, ♥A and play a 3rd heart. Cash 3 rounds of spades to see how the suit divides. You cannot make the contract without playing clubs, so South gets in and cashes a heart, but you now have 5♠, 1♥, 1♦, 2♣ - just making.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	3	-	-	4	3
W	3	-	-	4	3

15

♠ 76
♥ K643
♦ J1074
♣ 875

♠ 95
♥ AQ85
♦ K83
♣ A963

♠ KJ102
♥ J10
♦ Q652
♣ J42

♠ AQ843
♥ 972
♦ A9
♣ KQ10

Dealer: South
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Dbl	Pass	1 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♣ K

Bidding: West makes a normal takeout double, and East should bid 1NT - showing 6-9 points with a good spade stopper. This is better than bidding 2♦.

Lead: The quality of South's spade suit is poor, so best to stay away from that suit.

Play: If East ducks the first club, South must shift to another suit, else East can make all the remaining clubs. A heart switch allows North to win, and return a spade. Good defence should hold declarer to 7 tricks.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	1	-	-
S	-	-	1	-	-
E	-	-	-	-	1
W	-	-	-	-	1

16

♠ AKJ10
♥ A105
♦ J95
♣ AK2

♠ 97
♥ Q98432
♦ K632
♣ 3

♠ Q832
♥ J7
♦ A4
♣ J10986

♠ 654
♥ K6
♦ Q1087
♣ Q754

Dealer: West
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♣ J

Bidding: North shows a balanced 20-22pts, and South raises to 3NT.

Play: Declarer has 7 top tricks: 3 clubs, 2 hearts, 2 spades. Diamonds will provide 2 more tricks. Do not try the spade finesse which will only provide 2 tricks if the finesse works.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
	=	=	=	=	==
N	3	3	-	3	4
S	2	3	-	3	4
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

Best Opening Leads:

vs North 4N: D-A4 C-J10986
vs South 4N: S-97 H-98432 D-K632 C-3