

## Homework answers –probabilities

- 1) no finesses needed ! We have 9 tricks on top.  
You don't need to even w.w.w. (but can if you want ).  
Easiest is to win the Ace sp and take your 9 tricks.  
Now if you *didn't* see that go back and make sure you find the right sequence of Plays to take 9.
  - 2) We have 8 tricks. The 9<sup>th</sup> can come in 3 ways :-  
(i) Clubs breaking ( 2-3 ) ; (ii) Hrts breaking (3-3) ; Diamond finesse.  
And that's the order to try things.  
Try each one to see it " works " – as soon as a suit breaks take your 9
  - 3) 8 tricks. The 9th will be got by repeated finesses in diamonds
  - 4) 8 again, Best is to take diamond finesses.  
(ok if you really want to know the very best it is take a diamond finesse ( which will lose); win the spade return and now cash 3 rounds of hearts. If the Hrts break you have the 9<sup>th</sup> trick –if it doesn't fall back on the 2<sup>nd</sup> diamond finesse )
  - 5) 8 tricks; we are only in declarers hand once so have to choose between the diamonds breaking 3-3 or taking the hrt finesse.  
The Hrt finesse is better odds
  - 6) 8 tricks; Ace sp –then small to Ace hrts; then diamond finesse; win K sp return-play K + Q Hrts to see if that suit produces a 9<sup>th</sup> trick –if it doesn't fall back on the 2<sup>nd</sup> diamond finesse (same answer to 4 above )
  - 7) 8 tricks – Hrt finesse or diamond break ? Hrt finesse definitely
  - 8) 8 tricks – take two finesses in diamonds
  - 9) 4Sp –coz partner has bid a strong shapely double ( showing 16+ and 5+ spades )
  - 10) You need to know which heart played on your Q Hrts lead.
- In fact if you were able to answer this question without that information then you are not going through the right processes to make leads. Or to put it another way you are just guessing.
- 11) We don't know what will work but this approach will beat the contract if partner has 1 specific card. So it's a good plan.  
1) Win Ace sp.    2) Play Ace diamonds    3) Play 2 diamonds.

And we are hoping that partner has the K diamonds and on winning our diamond lead sends one back to us for a ruff.

(anything else worth trying ? well ...on winning Ace spades we could lead a club and if partner had good clubs e.g A+J a club would work. Even if partner had K+J or K+10 Clubs we might still beat it. Trouble is this lead requires more than 1 specific card in partners hand and is less likely *therefore* to work than the diamond lead.)

Theres a 3<sup>rd</sup> answer too –if you think you know it email your version and I will comment