

1

♠ 9
♥ KQ10976
♦ Q653
♣ 53

♠ Q8743
♥ 2
♦ A84
♣ KJ108

♠ AKJ6
♥ J
♦ KJ1072
♣ Q94

♠ 1052
♥ A8543
♦ 9
♣ A762

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	2♥	Dbl	4♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♥ K

Responding to a double.
Bidding: North opens a weak 2♥, and East should make a takeout double. South jumps to 4♥, to exert maximum pressure on West, who should still bid 4♠.
Play: The defence should take just 1 heart, 1 club and 1 diamond at the most.

<-Makeable contracts->

....C	D	H	S	NT
....=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	4	-
S	-	-	4	-
E	3	4	-	5
W	3	4	-	5

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 4H: Any Card
vs South 4H: Any Card

2

♠ QJ976
♥ AQ
♦ Q92
♣ J43

♠ A432
♥ 964
♦ 104
♣ A1095

♠ 5
♥ K10532
♦ AK853
♣ K8

♠ K108
♥ J87
♦ J76
♣ Q762

Dealer: East
N-S Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♣ 2

Bidding: Open the higher ranking suit - and EW may end in 2♥. If East is using the Losing trick count, he might invite game.
Play: With the favourable diamond division, you can establish the suit by ruffing once. You should aim to lead trumps from dummy and might lose just 2 trump tricks to make 11 tricks.

<-Makeable contracts->

....C	D	H	S	NT
....=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-
E	2	4	5	1
W	2	4	5	1

Best Opening Leads:

3

♠ K95
♥ AKQ85
♦ 1075
♣ 92

♠ 1087
♥ J102
♦ KQ842
♣ 65

♠ QJ3
♥ 7643
♦ 96
♣ QJ104

♠ A642
♥ 9
♦ AJ3
♣ AK873

Dealer: South
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♦ 4

Bidding: North bids the 4th suit, which allows South to jump to 3NT with 16 points and a diamond stopper.
Lead: ♦4. If dummy plays low, East should play ♦9 losing to ♦J.
Play: Declarer now has 9 top tricks, but if he pays attention when the hearts are played he can make 11 tricks 5♥, 2♠, 2♦ and 2♣.

<-Makeable contracts->

....C	D	H	S	NT
....=	=	=	=	==
N	5	-	-	5
S	5	-	-	5
E	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 5N: D-96
vs South 5N: D-KQ

4

♠ Q9876
♥ J6
♦ 87642
♣ A

♠ 52
♥ A1042
♦ A53
♣ 9532

♠ 104
♥ KQ753
♦ KQ
♣ J1076

♠ AKJ3
♥ 98
♦ J109
♣ KQ84

Dealer: West
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dbl
3♥	3♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ K

Bidding: If South makes a takeout double, West should bid 3♥, not the 2♥, he was planning. North might venture 3♠, but that should end the auction.
Play: After cashing 2 hearts, suppose East shifts to ♦K. Declarer is in danger of losing 3♦ and 2♥, unless EW mis-defend.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 2S: H-KQ753 D-KQ
vs South 2S: H-A1042 D-A53

5

♠ A875
♥ K5
♦ QJ103
♣ 1054

♠ Q10643
♥ AJ762
♦ 8
♣ 96

♠ 92
♥ Q84
♦ 764
♣ KQJ83

♠ KJ
♥ 1093
♦ AK952
♣ A72

Dealer: North
N-S Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♣ K

Bidding: The correct response with 5 card suits is to bid the spades first. South might be tempted to make a light overcall, otherwise West should rebid 1NT. The 2♥ rebid shows a weak hand.

Play: Declarer's only losers are 1♣, 1♠ and 1 or 2 hearts. Win ♣A and cash ♦AK right away, discarding a club loser. Now lead ♥10, covering if North plays ♥K. You should end up losing just 1♠, 1♥, though it seems unlikely you will bid game.

<-Makeable contracts->

....C	D	H	S	NT
....=	=	=	=	==
N	1	-	-	-
S	1	-	-	-
E	-	1	5	3
W	-	1	5	3

6

♠ QJ1086
♥ 2
♦ 843
♣ KQ84

♠ 94
♥ 1095
♦ J10952
♣ 753

♠ A7
♥ QJ76
♦ K76
♣ A1062

Dealer: East
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ 10

Bidding: After a penalty double of 1NT, North might well pass, expecting to make 1NT, but East pulls the double with such a weak hand. West knows partner is weak but bids his own good suit. Then North elects to play 2♠.

Play: Declarer should lose: 1♠, 1♥ and up to 3♦ - making 8 tricks.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 1N: H-1095

7

♠ QJ5
♥ 8432
♦ J43
♣ 864

♠ 876
♥ 76
♦ 1092
♣ KJ932

♠ 42
♥ A5
♦ AK765
♣ AQ105

♠ AK1093
♥ KQJ109
♦ Q8
♣ 7

Dealer: South
Both Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♦ 3

Bidding: West overcalls the higher-ranking suits. If North and East pass, West can show the second suit, and East can bid at the 2 level. If West had bid hearts first, and then spades, East would have to bid 3♥ to support partner's first suit. The final contract is likely to be 2♠ or 3♦.

Lead: A club or a diamond.

Play: Declarer should lose 1♠, 1♥, 2♦ and 1♣.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

8

♠ QJ5
♥ 4
♦ K105
♣ KQJ1052

♠ A982
♥ AK5
♦ QJ732
♣ 8

♠ 4
♥ J986
♦ A864
♣ 9643

Dealer: West
Neither Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♣ 6

Bidding: West is almost strong enough to open the bidding, but otherwise East should make a takeout double. West shows equal support for both majors by cuebidding 3♣, allowing a superior contract of 4♠ to be reached.

Play: You can ruff a club to lose just 1♦ and 1♠.

<-Makeable contracts->

....C	D	H	S	NT
....=	=	=	=	==
N	3	-	-	-
S	3	-	-	-
E	-	2	4	5
W	-	2	4	5

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 3C: Any Card
vs South 3C: Any Card

9

♠ KQ102
♥ A5
♦ KQJ87
♣ 85

♠ J93
♥ Q1073
♦ 32
♣ QJ72

♠ A854
♥ KJ86
♦ 104
♣ AK3

♠ 76
♥ 942
♦ A965
♣ 10964

Dealer: North
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ 6

Bidding: East can make a takeout double. Now when South bids, West is 'off the hook', but should bid with 6-9 points. North may end in 3♦, though maybe EW will play in 3♥. Play: Declarer should lose 1♠, 1♥ and 2♣.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:

vs North 3D: S-854 H-KJ86 D-104 C-AK3
vs South 3D: Any Card
vs East 2H: Any Card
vs West 2H: S-KQ H-A5 D-KQJ87 C-85

10

♠ J
♥ 962
♦ A9842
♣ Q985

♠ K109543
♥ 1053
♦ 10
♣ 1064

♠ 872
♥ AQJ
♦ Q653
♣ AJ3

♠ AQ6
♥ K874
♦ KJ7
♣ K72

Dealer: East
Both Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ 6

Bidding: South can double 1NT for penalties, West uses the Halmic defence to escape to 2♠, which South may pass - his ♠AQ don't look so good once West bids 2♠. Without the Halmic defence, just bid 2♠ directly. Lead: Perhaps MUD - a passive lead. Play: If South wins ♥K he does best to return a heart - a passive return. Now lead a spade from dummy, dropping ♠J. Against best defence, you will also lose 2 clubs. Unless the opponents lead clubs for you, try leading ♣10 - North should cover an honour with an honour, but if he does not, you can manage a 2nd club trick. Making 8 or 7 tricks if the defence are on their toes. If left to play in 1NT, East will probably go down 2 - as long as South hold up ♠A to stop the spades becoming established.

<-Makeable contracts->

11

♠ J643
♥ 653
♦ 1096
♣ 842

♠ AQ8
♥ KJ87
♦ 32
♣ K1096

♠ K1097
♥ Q1094
♦ A8
♣ A73

♠ 52
♥ A2
♦ KQJ754
♣ QJ5

Dealer: South
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		2 ♦	1 ♦
Dbl	Pass	4 ♥	3 ♦
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♦ 5

Bidding: West should make a takeout double of 1♦ and East can make a cuebid to show equal support for the majors. A 4♥ contract may be easier to make than 4♠, as you have better control of the trumps. Play: Looking at this from East's view, you should lose 1♣, 1♦ and 1♥. A spade loser could be ruffed if necessary.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:

vs North 1D: Any Card

12

♠ 8
♥ A1043
♦ KQ86
♣ AQ54

♠ AKJ974
♥ 6
♦ A5
♣ K1098

♠ 102
♥ K98
♦ 9432
♣ J762

♠ Q653
♥ QJ752
♦ J107
♣ 3

Dealer: West
N-S Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♠ A

Bidding: North has a perfect takeout double, and South shows 0-8 by bidding 2♥. North should bear in mind that partner has shown a minimum, though might bid 3♥ over 2♠. Play: In 3♥, South has the following losers: 1♦, 1♥ and a number of spades. You can try crossruffing spades and clubs and the computer finds that 10 tricks are possible.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:

vs North 4H: S-102 H-98 D-9432 C-J762

13

♠ 10654
♥ K32
♦ A7
♣ 6543

♠ KJ9
♥ 985
♦ J1084
♣ J109

♠ Q8732
♥ 76
♦ 96
♣ AK82

♠ A
♥ AQJ104
♦ KQ532
♣ Q7

Dealer: North
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♣ J

Play: After cashing 2 clubs, suppose South shifts to a spade. Declarer's only other possible loser is in diamonds. You should cater to a 4:2 or 3:3 division as follows: Cash ♠AK and the ruff a 3rd round with ♥K. Do not risk a low ruff.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 3N: S-Q8732 H-76 D-96 C-AK
vs South 3N: Any Card
vs North 5H: S-Q8732 H-76 D-96 C-AK
vs South 5H: Any Card

14

♠ A986
♥ AKQJ
♦ AJ1032
♣

♠ 10432
♥ 97
♦

♠ K5
♥ 862
♦ 9875
♣ AQ53

♠ QJ7
♥ 10543
♦ KQ64
♣ 42

Dealer: East
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
3 ♣	Dbl	5 ♣	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ A

Bidding: West has only 5-6 tricks, but at non-vulnerable a pre-empt works well, especially if East extends the preempt as high as he dares by bidding 5♣. This makes it hard for NS to compete. North must double again, and South is likely to pass, unsure if they can make a 5 level contract.

Play: The opponents can take 2 hearts and 1 spade - down 1 is an excellent sacrifice.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 4S: D-9875 C-AQ53

15

♠ A874
♥ 543
♦ 104
♣ 10985

♠ K1032
♥ QJ76
♦ AK83
♣ 7

♠ 6
♥ AK102
♦ J9752
♣ K64

♠ QJ95
♥ 98
♦ Q6
♣ AQJ32

Dealer: South
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♣
Dbl	2 ♣	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♠ Q

Bidding: West can double 1♣ and now North should bid more aggressively. East should bid a good major rather than the longer minor.

Play: After a spade lead, you could try to ruff 3 spades in your hand, or 2 clubs in dummy to make at least 11 tricks.

<-Makeable contracts->

....C	D	H	S	NT
....=	=	=	=	==
N	2	-	-	1
S	2	-	-	1
E	-	5	5	-
W	-	5	5	-

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 1S: H-AK102 D-J9752 C-K64
vs South 1S: H-QJ76 D-AK C-7
vs North 2C: Any Card

16

♠ 64
♥ 10852
♦ 10
♣ QJ9653

♠ QJ7
♥ A76
♦ K943
♣ K108

♠ 9852
♥ Q43
♦ J875
♣ A2

♠ AK103
♥ KJ9
♦ AQ62
♣ 74

Dealer: West
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♦ 5

Bidding: With 17 points, South makes a penalty double, but North is right to 'pull' it - bidding shows a weak hand that might not defeat 1NT.

Play: Declarer should not lose more than: 1-2 hearts, and 2-3 clubs. The clubs should be led twice from dummy. Do not lead the ♠QJ. You can finesse in hearts to make 10 tricks.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:
vs North 2H: S-9852 D-J C-A2

17

♠ Q86
♥ QJ10954
♦ 98
♣ J10

♠ AK32
♥ 7
♦ J1064
♣ KQ52

♠ J94
♥ K6
♦ K7532
♣ 987

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

Bidding: If North opens a weak 2♥, East should double (for takeout) and West should bid 3NT (though pass is also possible). I don't suppose anyone will end up in a club grand slam!

Play: After a heart lead, South should unblock ♥K, but if he does not, declarer should win ♥A to block the suit! Declarer has 8 top tricks: 2♠, 1♥, 4♣ and 1♦. His best chance is to finesse in diamonds. In 2♥ doubled, declarer might lose 2♠, 1♥, 2♦ and 2♣ - down 2.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
....	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	7	3	1	5	4
W	7	3	1	5	4

18

♠ K76
♥ A10
♦ QJ1054
♣ 543

♠ J1043
♥ KQ6
♦ A72
♣ J109

♠ AQ8
♥ 754
♦ K93
♣ AK86

Dealer: East
N-S Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ 3

Bidding: South shows a balanced 15-16pts. Lead: 4th highest heart - a low card promises at least 1 honour. Play: If declarer plays low from dummy, win with ♥Q and return ♥K to unblock! If declarer plays ♥A at trick 1, you should throw ♥K, which promises ♥Q, and also prevents the suit from blocking. Unless you unblock, you will only make 3 tricks: 2 hearts and 1 diamond.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

19

♠ K10
♥ Q532
♦ AKQ
♣ AKJ9

♠ J72
♥ A986
♦ J96
♣ 843

♠ AQ6
♥ 104
♦ 87432
♣ 1072

Dealer: South
E-W Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ 6

Bidding: 2NT should be raised to game. Lead: Nothing stands out. Suppose you lead your 4th highest heart.

Play: With no queen in dummy, West should play 3rd hand high ♥K and then ♥J, so the suit does not block. Whatever declarer does, the defence should take the first 4 tricks. Otherwise, declarer can make at least 10 tricks: 3♠, 5♦ and at least 2♣ - more if you risk the finesse.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
....	=	=	=	=	==
N	5	5	3	2	3
S	5	5	3	2	3
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

20

♠ 974
♥ A3
♦ A82
♣ QJ1084

♠ J2
♥ KQ9876
♦ Q65
♣ 53

♠ KQ10
♥ J5
♦ KJ1074
♣ AK2

♠ A8653
♥ 1042
♦ 93
♣ 976

Dealer: West
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
2♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♣ Q

Bidding: West opens a weak 2♥, and East jumps to game. Note that 3NT is a hopeless contract as there should be no entries to West's hand.

Lead: ♣Q is normal. As it turns out ♦A and another diamond will defeat the contract, as partner can ruff.

Play: Without a ruff the contract will make - losing a spade, a heart and a diamond.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:

21

♠ K109
♥ A32
♦ K6
♣ QJ432

♠ J87
♥ 75
♦ Q10843
♣ A97

♠ AQ32
♥ QJ864
♦ 72
♣ K6

♠ 654
♥ K109
♦ AJ95
♣ 1085

Dealer: North
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ 6

Bidding: North's hand qualifies for 1NT, and East's heart suit is just a bit weak for a 2 level overcall.

Play: After a heart lead, declarer should win ♥9 and switch to a club. North may manage up to 9 tricks: 3♣, 2♦, 3♥ and maybe a spade.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:

vs North 2N: Any Card
vs South 1N: H-75

22

♠ 43
♥ 107
♦ K632
♣ Q10942

♠ KQ5
♥ 654
♦ Q1087
♣ AK8

♠ A72
♥ AKJ3
♦ J95
♣ 653

♠ J10986
♥ Q982
♦ A4
♣ J7

Dealer: East
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♠ J

Bidding: West raises 1NT to 3NT.

Play: Declarer has 7 top tricks: 2 clubs, 2 hearts, 3 spades. Diamonds will provide 2 more tricks, by forcing out ♦AK. This a better line than playing hearts, which are unlikely to provide 2 more tricks.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:

vs East 3N: S-J10986 D-A4 C-J7
vs West 3N: Any Card
vs East 2S: S-J10986 D-A4 C-J7

23

♠ 82
♥ K1043
♦ 1095
♣ AJ103

♠ AJ43
♥ AJ86
♦ 76
♣ KQ5

♠ K975
♥ 92
♦ AK842
♣ 87

♠ Q106
♥ Q75
♦ QJ3
♣ 9642

Dealer: South
Both Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♦ Q

Bidding: West is worth jumping with 15 points and a doubleton.

Lead: Top of a 2-card sequence perhaps?

Play: With the spade finesse working, declarer might lose just 1♥ and 1♣. She can establish the diamonds by ruffing once.

<-Makeable contracts->

	C	D	H	S	NT
....	=	=	=	=	==
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	1	4	3	5	3
W	1	4	3	5	3

Best Opening Leads:

vs East 3N: S-Q106 H-Q75 D-QJ C-9642
vs West 3N: S-82 H-43 D-1095 C-J103
vs East 5S: Any Card

24

♠ 1042
♥ AQ6
♦ KJ9
♣ AK103

♠ K87
♥ K943
♦ A76
♣ QJ7

♠ AJ
♥ J1085
♦ Q43
♣ 9852

♠ Q9653
♥ 72
♦ 10852
♣ 64

Dealer: West
Neither Vulnerable

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

Opening Lead: ♥ 3

Bidding: With 17 points, North makes a penalty double, but South is right to 'pull' it - bidding shows a weak hand that might not defeat 1NT.

Lead: Nothing stands out.

Play: Declarer may lose 2♠ and 2♦ while EW might manage 1NT-X.

<-Makeable contracts->

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

Best Opening Leads:

vs North 1N: S-AJ H-J1085 D-43 C-9852
vs South 1N: S-87 H-K943 D-A76 C-QJ7