

♠♥♦♣ WHERE ARE THOSE EXTRA TRICKS? ♠♥♦♣

This is the hand you dealt yourself:

S	South
♠	A93
♥	A4
♦	AK83
♣	AJ104

You open 2NT and partner raises you to 3NT. West leads the ♠6. What is your plan?

N	North
♠	1074
♥	K762
♦	J4
♣	Q932

West leads ♠6

S	South
♠	A93
♥	A4
♦	AK83
♣	AJ104

You start by counting your top tricks. You have 1 spade, 2 hearts 2 diamonds and a club. You need 3 more tricks. Where will they come from? How will you get them?

The only hope with this deal is that you can successfully finesse against the ♣K and take all four club tricks. You will have to get to the North hand and there is only one opportunity to get there and that is via the ♥K. But once you get there, you have to repeat the finesse without leaving the dummy. Consider how you will accomplish this.

Don't bother to duck the first trick. If the finesse loses, it will lose to the dangerous West hand who has plenty of spades to set the contract. Win the first spade with the ♠A and go to the dummy by leading up to the ♥K. Then lead the ♠9! Don't make the mistake of leading the ♣Q. If you do, East will

duck and play the ♣K on the second club. You'll have to win in your hand, but there will be no way you can get back to the dummy.

You play the ♣9 and that holds. The funesse is successful and then you can lead the ♣Q. If East covers, you will win your ♣A, and your J10 will take the remaining club tricks. By leading the ♣9, there is nothing East can do to stop you from taking 4 club tricks and making your contract. You can try this out on the link below.

Look at the entire deal:

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">11</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">D</div>	N North ♠ 1074 ♥ K762 ♦ J4 ♣ Q932	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>2NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	3NT	P	2NT	P			P
	W	N	E	S										
	P	3NT	P	2NT										
	P			P										
W West ♠ KJ862 ♥ Q1095 ♦ Q95 ♣ 6	E East ♠ Q5 ♥ J83 ♦ 10762 ♣ K875													
S South ♠ A93 ♥ A4 ♦ AK83 ♣ AJ104														
		3NT S NS: 0 EW: 0												

You can see how this hand should be played by clicking on this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/yyn88ha2> or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick. Alternatively, by clicking on "Play" you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own.