Leading Top of 3 cards and Touching High cards

Dummy

K 8 3

J T 2 **A Q 7 6 5**

9 4

Declarer

Leading Top of 3 cards and Touching High cards

Dummy

8 3

J T 2 **A Q 7 6 5**

K 9 4

Declarer

Leading from 3 cards with one honour

Dummy

5 3

K 8 4 **A J T 7 2**

Q 9 6

Declarer

Leading top of an Interior Sequence

Dummy

Q 6 4

A J T 9 **K 7 2**

8 5 3

Declarer

Leading top of an Interior Sequence

Dummy

8 6 4

A J T 9 **K 7 2**

Q 5 3

Declarer

Is this top of an Interior Sequence!?

Dummy

8 6 4

J T 9 3 **K 7 2**

A Q 5

Declarer

Leading the 4th from two non touching high cards

Dummy

9 7

K J 6 5 2 **A 8 3**

Q T 4

Declarer

Leading the 4th from two non touching high cards

Dummy

9 7

K J 6 5 2 **T 8 3**

A Q 4

Declarer

Leading 4th from two touching high cards

Dummy

T 7 2

A K 8 6 3 **Q 5**

J 9 4

Declarer

Leading 4th from two touching high cards

Dummy

T 7 2

A K 8 6 3 **5 4**

Q J 9

Declarer

Leading Partner's suit

North
♠ A K 4
♥ 9 4
♦ A K J
♣ Q J T 9 3

Contract 3NT
Partner bids ♥

♠ Q T 9 3 2
♥ 8 2
♦ T 9 6 4
♣ 7 2

♠ J 7
♥ K J T 7 6 5
♦ 8 7
♣ A K 5

♠ 8 6 5
♥ A Q 3
♦ Q 5 3 2
♣ 8 6 4

South (Dealer)

Opening Leads

What card should I lead against a No Trump contract?

- Top from “perfect sequence” of 3 or more honors: ace from **A**-K-Q, king from **K**-Q-J
- Top from “broken sequence” of 3 or more honors: ace from **A**-K-J, queen from **Q**-J-9
- Top of touching honors from an interior sequence: jack from K-**J**-T, ten from Q-**T**-9
- From a holding of 4 or more cards with at least 1 honor card, lead 4th best: 2 from K-8-7-**2**, 4 from Q-J-6-**4**-3
- Bottom card from holding of 3 cards with 1 or 2 non touching honors: 5 from Q-8-**5**, 3 from K-J-**3**
- Top from 3 card holdings with two touching honors: king from **K**-Q-4, jack from **J**-T-5
- Top from a doubleton: jack from **J**-3, 9 from **9**-6
- Top of nothing from 3 cards: 8 from **8**-5-2
- Second best from 4 cards: 7 from 9-**7**-6-2

Opening Leads

What card should I lead against a Suit contract?

Most of the time you choose the same card from a given combination, **except:**

- Don't under-lead an ace: ace from **A**-T-8-6-3
- Don't under-lead an unsupported king if you have other choices
- Lead higher of touching honors: king from **K**-Q-8-5-2 (in NT contract 5 is a good lead)

What suit to chose to lead against NT?

- When choosing a lead against NT, we compare chances of setting up tricks in a suit and risk of giving away tricks
- Leading from a sequence such as Q J T 5 is good and less risky
- Leading from a strong 4 card suit such as K J 7 2 and Q J 8 5 is a fair prospect
- Leading from a 4 card suit when your second best is low such as K 7 6 2 and Q 8 6 2 is less attractive. Try to select a safer lead
- It is usually wrong to lead your strongest suit when it has been bid by opponents
- If partner bid a suit, lead it. Unless you have an excellent suit of your own
- Be passive against 6NT contract and don't lead away from your honor

What suit to lead in a suit contract?

- A singleton particularly spot card in an unbid suit is usually promising
- Leading a doubleton is less likely to result in a ruff. Be reluctant to lead a doubleton with an honor
- When suspecting a healthy side suit in the dummy, make an attacking lead in an unbid suit
- It is rarely a good idea to lead from A x x x or A x x. If you decide to lead from such suit, lead the ace.
- Lead a trump because bidding tells that such lead is beneficial and not because you are nervous making an attacking lead!!
- Usually make an attacking lead against a small slam in a suit. This is to try to set up a second trick for defense before declarer can establish any discards