

## Twoonie Talk #5

### Take All Your Chances

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Last Revised March 7, 2015

KJBC & KDBC

The following examples have been taken from:

Eddie Kantar's (EK) Take All Your Chances At Bridge Book One and Book Two

#### Some Numbers:

##### Breaks:

3-2 break	68%
3-3 break	36%
4-2 break	48%

##### Finesse:

xx	Kxxx	50% for one trick
xx	AQxx	50% for two tricks
xxx	AJ10	around 75% for two tricks

#### Problem 1 (EK-1-001)

♠K842    ♥K75    ♦AQJ102    ♣A

♠3    ♥AQJ109643    ♦98    ♣104

K ♣ was led against 6♥.

Plan Your play. What is the percentage of a successful slam?

#### Problem 2 (EK-1-002)

♠QJ    ♥7    ♦7542    ♣AK7542

♠A76    ♥A10852    ♦AK3    ♣Q6

4♠ is led against 3NT and the J♠ wins. Plan your play.

What is the percentage of a successful contract?

Problem 3 (EK2-064)

♠43    ♥KQ10983    ♦J    ♣KJ84

♠AKJ1092    ♥AJ    ♦A8543



South kept his diamond suit a secret in the bidding. The K♦ is led against 6♠. Make your contract. If South had bid diamonds showing his second suit before ending in 6♠, would you still lead the K♦?

Problem 4

♠Axx    ♥xx    ♦AK10987    ♣Qx

♠QJxx    ♥AK    ♦xx    ♣AKxxx



You are in 4NT with a heart lead, (what else?), make your contract.

Problem 5

♠753    ♥9x    ♦AKJ103    ♣KQJ

♠A8    ♥AKJ102    ♦765    ♣Axx



You are in 3NT, make your contract. West leads the ♠4. You duck once and then West plays the 2♠ when East continues the suit. What does the 2♠ show? Is it normally suit preference at this point when the last stopper of declarer is being cleared?

Problem 6 (EK-1-020)

♠x    ♥8    ♦AKJ10xxx    ♣AQ954

♠AKJxx    ♥QJx    ♦xx    ♣J107



A small heart is led against 3NT and east plays the ten. Plan your play. Do you take the spade finesse?

# Twoonie Talk #5 Answers

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Look for short-hand not long-hand ruffs, though here long hand ruffs will never hurt you but avoiding long hand ruffs is good practice. Win Ace♦ and use trump as transportation to ruff a club with the K♥. Draw Trump. Play small to K♠.

It wins or Ace is in West 50%

It loses (Ace in East) 50%

Need Diamond Finesse 50%

Chances of slam = 50% + 50%(0.50) = 75%

Problem 2 (EK-1-002) ♠QJ ♥7 ♦7542 ♣AK7542  
                          ♠A76 ♥A10852 ♦AK3 ♣Q6

Lose a diamond. Check diamond split (diamonds 3-3 is 36%) before cashing clubs (3-2 club split is 68%).

$$36\% + 64\%(0.68) = 79.52\% \text{ contract}$$

### Problem 3 (EK2-064)

♠43 ♥KQ10983 ♦J ♣KJ84

♠AKJ1092    ♥AJ    ♦A8543

If South has bid diamonds before ending in 6♦, would you still lead the K♦? No, absolutely not. The ace will take the king and there could likely be a ruffing finesse against the queen. Tricks come to you in a side suit bid by the opponents by you letting them come to you not by your going after them typically. Setting up declarer's side suit is a task for the declarer not the defense.

The first time, trump is led by you, play the J♠ to drive out the Queen leaving a spade in dummy to ruff a diamond. Draw trump and put the losing diamonds on the hearts.

#### Problem 4

Win heart.

Check to see if the diamonds are splitting 3-2 by cashing the ace and king. Lead up to the Queen of spades. If it loses, you have to rely on a 3-3 club fit. If the Queen wins, play small to the ♠ Ace and lead a spade to the Jack.

♠Axx    ♥xx    ♦AK10987    ♣Qx  
♠QJxx    ♥AK    ♦xx    ♣AKxxx

#### Problem 5

♠753    ♥9x    ♦AKJ103    ♣KQJ  
♠A8    ♥AKJ102    ♦765    ♣Axx

You are in 3NT, make your contract. West leads the ♠4. You duck once and then West plays the 2♠ when East continues the suit. What does the 2♠ show? A five Card Suit. Is it normally suit preference at this point when the last stopper of declarer is being cleared? Yes, but East still has a spade left so he does not need a side entry.

When missing the Queen in two suits and one cannot lose the lead, cash the Ace and King of the Longer holding to see if the Queen falls (♦ here) and then take the finesse in the other (♥) if the ♦ Queen does not fall.

#### Problem 6 (EK-1-020)

♠x    ♥8    ♦AKJ10xx    ♣AQ954  
  
♠AKJxx    ♥QJx    ♦xx    ♣J107

Do you take the spade finesse? No because you still need the club finesse to make your contract. If the club finesse works you have enough tricks without the spade finesse at all.

When you cannot lose the lead and you have a finesse for a king and a queen in different suits. Play for the drop of the Queen by cashing the ace and king and if the queen does not fall then finesse for the king.