

## Twoonie Talk #4

### No Trump Play

Warren Watson

Last Revised March 7, 2015

#### KJBC & KDBC

All Contracts are 3NT with a spade opening lead.

1. South is playing a 3NT contract at matchpoints and West makes an opening lead of the Spade Jack. East plays small. What is played at Trick One from Declarer's Hand, South?

1a.

♠765    ♥KQ    ♦AJ1093    ♣KQJ  
  
♠KQ2    ♥AJ10    ♦K854    ♣A32

1b.

♠765    ♥KQ    ♦AJ1093    ♣KQJ  
  
♠KQ2    ♥AJ10    ♦Q854    ♣A32

2. ♠6 is led against 3NT by South and the diamonds are 3-0. Make your contract plus two.

♠32    ♥AK2    ♦AK87    ♣AK54  
  
♠A87    ♥654    ♦Q65432    ♣J

3. ♠8 is led against 3NT. Make your contract. Could an eight be fourth best? Can a 9 be fourth best without a better honour lead?

♠6    ♥K3    ♦AQJ1098    ♣QJ109  
  
♠AQ    ♥10987    ♦K76    ♣8765

4. 6♠ led against 3NT at imps. How do you play? Is the play different at matchpoints? Do you always risk the contract to make as many tricks as possible? If a switch can kill the contract, do you hope the opponents do not find it or do you just don't give them a chance?

♠AQ    ♥10754    ♦AQJ1098    ♣Q  
  
♠542    ♥K3    ♦K765    ♣AK42

5. ♦5 was led against 3NT and East plays the ♦2. How do you play the hand?

♠654    ♥AK6    ♦Q    ♣AKxxxx  


♠A32    ♥532    ♦AJ1098    ♣xx

(4C-3)

♠5 ♦AKQJ ♣6543 ♣QJ65



♠A432    ♥32    ♦AK2    ♣A432

7.      ♠ led, how do you play the following?      (2D-7)

♠A65    ♥A6    ♠5432    ♣Q432



♠J432 ♦Q2 ♦KQJ10 ♣AKJ

8.                    ♠AQ    ♥5432    ♦5432    ♣J103    2A-34 Spade led, plan the play.

♠ J432 ♦ A Q ~~S~~ ♣ A K ♣ A Q 9 8 7

9.                    ♠543    ♥AJ10/J    ♦432    ♣K765    2B-3    Spade 6 led, plan the play.

W E  
S

10. ♠K     ♥Q4     ♦8765     ♣KQ9876     2B-6 K♣ wins opening lead. Plan the play.

♠ Q32    ♥ AK32    ♦ A432    ♣ A10

11.                    ♠K3    ♥A432    ♦32    ♣AK654            2B-13 Spade lead.

♠ AJ2    ♥ 765    ♦ KQJ109    ♣ 32

12. ♠543 ♥J4/N♦AQ2 ♣AK432 2C-24 Small ♠ led and East Q.

♠ AJ2    ♥ KQ32    ♦ KJ10    ♣ 765

13.                    ♠543    ♥A4    ♦AQ2    ♣KQJ43                    K♣ led against 3NT

♠ AJ2      ♥ KQ32      ♦ KJ10      ♣ 765

## Twoonie Talk #4 Answers

### No Trump Play

Warren Watson

Last Revised March 7, 2015

KJBC & KDBC

1. South is playing a 3NT contract and West makes an opening lead of the Spade Jack. East plays small. What is played at Trick One from Declarer's Hand, South?

1a. Win King and run ♦ J into West.

1b. Duck the opening lead with the 2 so it is

♦KQ2 ♦AJ10 ♦Q854 ♦A32 safe to finesse Diamonds.

2. ♠6 is led against 3NT by South and the diamonds are 3-0. Make 5NT.

♦32 ♦AK2 ♦AK87 ♦AK54

Discard Blocking Card.  
Duck ♠'s twice and pitch ♦7 on ♠Ace

3. ♠8 is led against 3NT. Make your contract.

Could an eight be fourth best? (yes, KJ98)

Can a 9 be fourth best without a better honour lead? No, ♠AKJ9 or AQ109

Need 3 ♠ stoppers to set up ♠'s. Play 10♥ to the King.

4. 6♠ led against 3NT at imps. How do you play? Win Ace. Is the play different at matchpoints? No, only if you not having a good game and a top will bring your game on track. Do you always risk the contract to make as many tricks as possible? It is risk reward. Would you take a finesse to gain one trick if you risk losing one trick or would you take a finesse to gain one trick at the risk of losing 3 or 4 tricks and the contract? At matchpoints there is a tendency to do this. If it is a contract you do not think many people will find then play it like imps. If a switch can kill the contract, do you hope the opponents do not find it or do you just don't give them a chance? It is debatable. I bet poker players love these type of situations. Always play slams like imps especially in a field that rarely finds them.

♦AQ ♦10754 ♦AQJ1098 ♦Q

Win ♠Ace and take your top 10 tricks.  
If ♠King is offside, a heart switch sets the contract

5. ♦5 was led against 3NT and East plays the ♦2. How do you play the hand?

♦654 ♦AK6 ♦Q ♦AKxxxx

Win ♦Ace and play ♦Jack.

6.   
 ♠5 ♥AKQJ ♦6543 ♣QJ65  
 ♠A432 ♥32 ♦AK2 ♣A432

4C-3 ♠ led Hold up three times to find out how ♥'s are split. If West has 5 ♠'s, cash A♠. If West has 3 ♠'s or fewer, finesse ♣ into him. If 4-4, just play A♣ and small to the Queen-Jack.

7.   
 ♠A65 ♥A6 ♦5432 ♣Q432  
 ♠J432 ♥Q2 ♦KQJ10 ♣AKJ

2D-7 Win Ace♠, cash AKJ♣ and drive out ♦ace. Need A♥ for Q♦-a heart switch kills the contract

8.   
 ♠AQ ♥5432 ♦5432 ♣J103  
 ♠J432 ♥AQ ♦AK ♣AQ987

2A-34 Win Ace to avoid a heart switch.

9.   
 ♠543 ♥AJ10 ♦432 ♣K765  
 ♠A2 ♥432 ♦AKQJ ♣A432

2B-3 6♠ is opening lead so spades are 4-4  
3-2 break is 68%. Getting one heart trick=76%  
Cannot hurt holding up. Take Heart hook twice.

10.   
 ♠K ♥Q4 ♦8765 ♣KQ9876  
 ♠Q32 ♥AK32 ♦A432 ♣A10

2B-6 K♠ wins. Finesse clubs into West to

protect Qx of spades.

11.   
 ♠K3 ♥A432 ♦32 ♣AK654  
 ♠AJ2 ♥765 ♦KQJ109 ♣32

2B-13 Win King keeping Ace as entry to

the diamonds

12.   
 ♠543 ♥J4 ♦AQ2 ♣AK432  
 ♠AJ2 ♥KQ32 ♦KJ10 ♣765

2C-24 win honour from East with Ace and

Bath Coup-Duck Smoothly and hope RHO does not signal properly and you win the Ace-Jack. If West switches then you have two effective stoppers, either way.