

Beginners' Lesson 9: Takeout Double

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ A K Q 10 7
♥ 10 5
♦ J 2
♣ A 8 5 3

♠ 8 6 4 2
♥ Q 9 7 6
♦ K 5 4
♣ Q 2

N	E
W	S

♠ 5
♥ A J 8 4
♦ A Q 10 7
♣ K 7 6 4

♠ J 9 3
♥ K 3 2
♦ 9 8 6 3
♣ J 10 9

East has a perfect takeout double - support for all unbid suits. West has a poor hand so bids hearts at the lowest possible level.

Lead is ♣ 4 against a spade contract and ♠ A against a heart contract.

West North East South
2♥ 1♠ Dbl Pass
All pass Play the hand twice: once in 2♥ by West then in 2♠ by North

Board 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ K 8
♥ K 8 5 4
♦ 5 4
♣ Q J 8 5 2

♠ 10 5 3 2
♥ J 7 2
♦ J 8 3 2
♣ A 6

N	E
W	S

♠ 9 6 4
♥ A Q 10 9 3
♦ A Q 10 9
♣ 3

♠ A Q J 7
♥ 6
♦ K 7 6
♣ K 10 9 7 4

South has an opening hand and tolerance for the unbid suits. North is strong enough to make a free bid, but not strong enough to bid game. North can bid 2♣ or 1NT to show they have values. EW can now bid diamonds to show at least 5 hearts and 4 diamonds.

Lead is ♦ A against clubs and ♣ 7 against a heart contract.

West North East South
1♠ 2♣ 1♥ Dbl
2♦ 3♣

Board 3
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 10 8 7 6
♥ 10 7 4
♦ 10 7 4
♣ K 5 2

♠ A K J 9
♥ Q 9 5 3
♦ Q 9 6 5 3
♣ —

N	E
W	S

♠ 5 2
♥ 8 6
♦ A K J 8
♣ A J 10 7 4

♠ Q 4 3
♥ A K J 2
♦ 2
♣ Q 9 8 6 3

East, knowing that West has an opening hand, can bid 3NT with an excellent club stop and enough HCP for game..

Lead is ♣ 3 and North plays the King.

Declarer should win ♣ A and play the ♣ J to set up the ♣ 10 for the 9th trick.

West North East South
Dbl Pass 3NT 1♣
All pass

Board 4
West Deals
Both Vul

♠ A 5 3
♥ K 9 7 5
♦ 10 5
♣ A J 6 3

♠ K 4
♥ A J
♦ K J 9 4 2
♣ Q 7 5 2

N	E
W	S

♠ 8 6
♥ Q 10 6 4 2
♦ A 8 6 3
♣ 8 4

♠ Q J 10 9 7 2
♥ 8 3
♦ Q 7
♣ K 10 9

With 6 spades and 8 HCP, South has enough to invite game, so bids 2♠. North is minimum and declines the invitation.

Lead is ♦ 2 from the longest and strongest suit.

Declarer draws trumps and plays West, the opener, for the ♣ Q.

Therefore play the ♣ K then ♣ 10 and let it run if West does not cover with the ♣ Q

West North East South
1♦ Dbl 1♥ 2♠
All pass

Board 5
North Deals
N-S Vul

♠ 10 8
♥ A 9 2
♦ A K J 7 4 2
♣ 8 2

♠ K 7 5 4
♥ K 4 3
♦ Q 8
♣ Q J 10 5

N	E
W	S

♠ Q J 9 3
♥ Q J 8 5
♦ 10 3
♣ A K 3

♠ A 6 2
♥ 10 7 6
♦ 9 6 5
♣ 9 7 6 4

West, with 10+ points, jumps to 2♠.

East passes.

Lead is ♦ A.

Declarer should draw trumps first They make 9 tricks by losing ♥ A, ♠ A, ♦ AK.

West North East South
2♠ 1♦ Dbl Pass
All pass

Board 6
East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ K Q 4 2
♥ 9 6 4
♦ A 3 2
♣ 7 5 4

♠ 6 5
♥ J 2
♦ Q J 10 9 5
♣ 9 8 6 2

N	E
W	S

♠ A 10 9 8 7
♥ K 10 7 5
♦ 8 6
♣ A Q

♠ J 3
♥ A Q 8 3
♦ K 7 4
♣ K J 10 3

North's best suit is the opponent's spade suit so should bid 1NT to show 6-9 HCP and a hold in spades.

Lead is ♠ 7.

Firstly, Declarer should play on clubs and later take a heart finesse.

West North East South
Pass 1NT 1♠ Dbl
All pass

Board 7
South Deals
Both Vul

♠ A Q 8 6
♥ 4
♦ 7 6 3 2
♣ 9 5 3 2

♠ 10 9
♥ K Q 10 9
♦ K Q 5
♣ Q J 7 6

N	E
W	S

♠ 7 4
♥ A 8 6 5 3
♦ J 10 9 4
♣ A 4

♠ K J 5 3 2
♥ J 7 2
♦ A 8
♣ K 10 8

This should be a competitive auction. NS bidding spades and EW bidding hearts.

Play the hand twice in spades and hearts. Both contracts should make 9 tricks.

Lead is ♥ K against spades and the a low spade against a heart contract.

West North East South
Dbl 2♠ 3♥ 1♠
All pass

Board 8
West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q J 10 7
♥ A K 9 7
♦ A 9 5 3
♣ 4

♠ A 9 5 2
♥ J 4
♦ K J
♣ K 10 9 7 6

N	E
W	S

♠ 8 6 4
♥ 6 5 3
♦ Q 10 8 2
♣ A Q 3

♠ K 3
♥ Q 10 8 2
♦ 7 6 4
♣ J 8 5 2

North's double promises support for all the unbid suits and an opening hand.

South, who would have bid 2♥ over partner's opening 1♥ bid, should therefore bid 2♥.

South should draw 3 rounds of trumps and set up spades remembering to play ♠ K first, to avoid being blocked.

West North East South
1♣ Dbl 1NT 2♥
All pass
Lead: ♣ 6