

Review of bids and plays March 2010

1) " eight ever ..... nine never "

i) A76 432  
543 AK2  
AKQ 432  
AKJ3 7654

ii) A7 432  
543 AK2  
AKQ 432  
AKJ73 7654

With 8 cards missing the Q then always finesse.

With 9 cards missing the Q then never finesse.

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2) A 3-3 break is a 36% chance whereas a finesse is 50%.

iii) 876 A32  
AKQ 872  
AQ7 5432  
AKQ3 654

In 3NT on the lead of a spade you have 8 tricks on top. The 9th can come from a 3-3 break in clubs or a simple finesse in diamonds. There is no time to try both. The finesse is the best chance.

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3) Leading singletons against suit contracts.

iv) A65 The lead of a singleton often doesn't work as partner doesn't hold the Ace of  
K32 the led suit. Nevertheless if you have *trump control* {the Ace of trumps} you  
2 have an extra chance. When trumps are drawn jump up with the Ace and find  
K98765 a lead to put partner in. Hopefully partner will work out we led a singleton.

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4) Third player plays -defensive play

v) (partner) (dummy) (you )  
3 Q92 K105

If partner leads and dummy plays the Q then beat that card with your King.  
If partner leads and dummy plays the 9 , then retain your King and try to win with the 10.

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5) weak take out calls.

vi) with a five card suit and a very weak hand { 0-4 pts} always bid a weak takeout.  
1NT ----- 32  
Q9876 Bid 2H. You may go down but not as many as partner will in 1NT.  
654  
432

vii) with a five card suit and a moderate hand { 5-10 pts} don't usually bid a weak take out.  
1NT ----- A2  
Q9876 Bid Pass.  
J54 Partner is just as likely to make 1NT as you are to make 2H.  
Q32