

♠ 54
♥ A109
♦ AQ754
♣ J63

CONTRACT: 3NT

♠ QJ82
♥ K654
♦ J8
♣ 1087



♠ K1063
♥ Q873
♦ K109
♣ 42

♠ A97
♥ J2
♦ 632
♣ AKQ95

LEAD: ♠ 2

Counting our tricks after the lead of the ♠ 2 indicates that we have 8 top tricks.

We must find or develop a ninth trick.

The lead of the ♠ 2 tells us that the opponents have 3 more spade tricks due them. (4th best)

Finessing the ♦ Q will work 50% of the time. If it fails, than we are down 1 as there will not be enough timing to develop that 9th trick before the opponents take their 5 tricks to set us.

The heart suit gives us an additional 25% chance of making our contract. If we take the heart finesse and it losses to the ♥ Q or ♥ K , than we still have the opportunity to finesse for the other honor a second time giving us a 75% chance of success. Looking at the possible distribution of the ♥ K and ♥ Q shows us that east will have both only 25% of the time. This means that your opponent (or partner) who take the diamond finesse will **FAIL** twice as often as you.