

**BID AND PLAY ANALYSIS**  
**Finding Nine Tricks**

**Hand 3 Dealer East**

**NORTH**

♠ 754  
♥ A62  
♦ 973  
♣ AK64

**EAST**

♠ T6  
♥ 9874  
♦ JT52  
♣ 952

**WEST**

♠ KQJ93  
♥ QT4  
♦ K4  
♣ T73

**SOUTH**

♠ A82  
♥ KJ3  
♦ AQ86  
♣ QJ8

**Bidding:** South will open one NT and north can bid three NT on his eleven count.

**Play:** West leads the spade king and south can see an easy eight tricks, but must find a ninth. If west has long spades finessing in the red suits toward west may be a disaster. South holds up on the first spade and west continues with the queen. South now knows, with east following to this trick, that west had no more than five spades. South can see any red suit lead from west gives him a ninth trick. He must first strip west of all black cards. He cashes his clubs and throw west in with a spade. West can cash his two remaining spades, but is now helpless and must lead a red card to south, giving south his ninth trick. Note that without the end play the fifty-fifty red finesses both lose.