



Combining your chances

Combining chances in a NT contract

After a lead in your weaker suit, you sometimes cannot afford to let the opps back in hand, as they would be able to bring your contract down.

The technique centers on hoping an opps' honor in your long suit will fall when you draw your leading ones upfront.

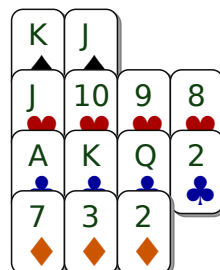
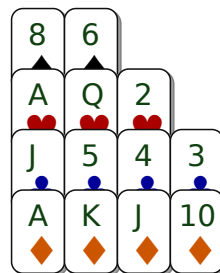
Only try the direct finesse using a tenace, if that maneuver has failed.

Example

Donne 7022 As South you are playing 3N. The LHO leads the 5 ♠. you have 8 sure tricks but cannot afford to let the opps back in hand or you will go down....

How do you go about trying to find the 9th trick?

S	W	N	E
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		



Board 7022 You must start by trying to find the Queen ♦ doubleton ; Draw the Ace then King, If the queen comes you have 9 easy tricks (and even 10). If it does not come, as a last resort , try the direct ♥ finesse ... and pray!



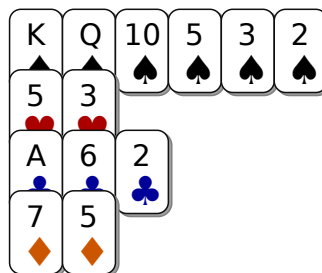
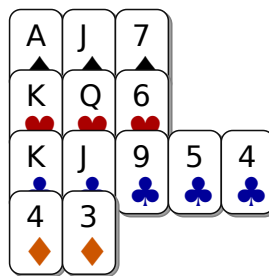
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If you can't afford to let the opps back in hand, start with an indirect finesse and, if it fails, fall back on the direct finesse. This maneuver is also valid for trump contracts. Example :

You are in South as declarer of a 4♠ contract. The LHO leads the Jack ♦. You have 8 sure tricks

S	W	N	E
			Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♠	



Combine your chances : Play ♥ twice towards King Queen. If the ace is placed, the finesse to the Queen ♣ is not necessary. Remember, when the opportunity exists, always start with the indirect finesse and only try the direct finesse as a last resort.... If you do it the other way round, with the cards to put the contract down, West will not hesitate to play his ♥ Ace ..