Leading 3rd and 5th

"He thinks he's so cool, ever since he got that new tablet."

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Time for a Joke

My wife is strongly against our next-door neighbor, who sunbathes nude in her yard. As for me, I'm on the fence.
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Husband on the phone to his wife: "Honey, I had a terrible accident at work. Sabrina had to take me to the hospital. I have multiple broken bones and they may have to amputate my leg."

Wife: "Who's Sabrina?"

3rd and 5th Leads

AND

But then how can partner tell the difference between a 3-card suit and a 4-card one?

Warning: Sometimes the new leads are too costly – i.e. leading the 9 from KJ92.

METHOD

4th Best:	Opener leads the fourth highest card if he can, otherwise, he leads low from 3 or high from a doubleton.
Old 3rd & 5th:	Opener leads the fifth highest card if he can, otherwise, the third highest.
New 3rd & 5th:	Opener leads the *third* highest card when holding an *even* number of cards, and the *lowest* from an *odd* number.

The solution: The lowest card of the suit = 3-card, second lowest = 4-card.

With the New Solution, it's easier to tell a 6-card suit from a 7-card one.
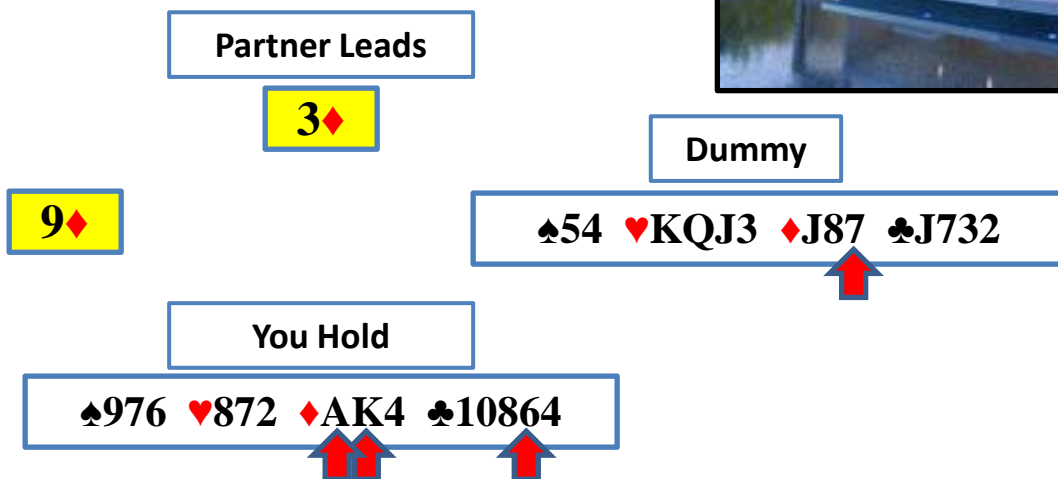
4th Best:	K975432	K75432	K5432	K432	K32	K2
Old 3rd & 5th:	K975432	K75432	K5432	K432	K32	K2
New 3rd & 5th:	K975432	K75432	K5432	K432	K32	K2
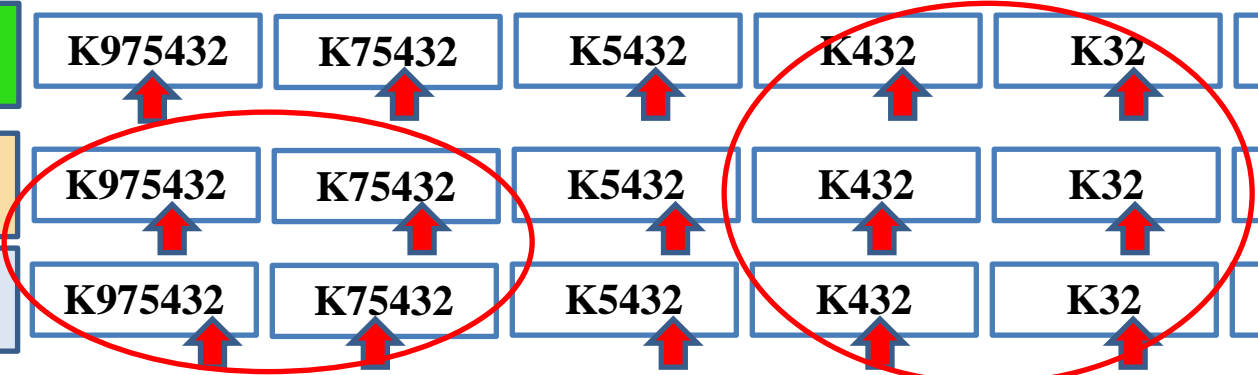
New 3ʳᵈ and 5ᵗʰ Leads Vs. the Old

North	East	South	West
			1S
Pass	1NT	Pass	3H
Pass	4H	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Partner Leads

3♦

9♦

Dummy

♠54 ♥KQJ3 ♦J87 ♣J732

You Hold

♠976 ♥872 ♦AK4 ♣10864

The **New 3ʳᵈ and 5ᵗʰ Leads** evolved from situations like this one. Playing the **Old Way**, partner could have started with ♦Q10653 or ♦Q106532. Does declarer have ♦9 or ♦92? Will the A♦ cash?

With the **New Way**, you **know** the A♦ will cash. Partner would lead the 3♦ from ♦Q10653 and the 6♦ from ♦Q106532.

After the you play the K♦ at trick #1, you should cash the A♦ (declarer can't have the Q♦) and play the 6♣ (3ʳᵈ and 5ᵗʰ Leads can **also** be played in the middle of the hand). Declarer's ♣'s in dummy might go away on his long ♠'s.

More Jokes

"Nothing looks good on me anymore," wailed a customer modeling an outfit in front of the department store's mirror.

"Nonsense, ma'am," soothed the salesclerk. "That dress says it all."

"That's the problem," the woman replied. "I need a dress that keeps its mouth shut."
****

Q: How many telemarketers does it take to change a light bulb?
A: Only one, but he has to do it while you are eating dinner.
****

"We used to play spin the bottle when I was a kid. A girl would spin the bottle, and if the bottle pointed to you when it stopped, the girl could either kiss you or give you a nickel. By the time I was fourteen, I owned my own house."

Using 4th and 5th Best Leads

North	East	South	West
			1D
Pass	1H	Pass	2C
Pass	2D	Pass	3D
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Partner Leads

2♥

9♥

Dummy

♠987 ♥AJ43 ♦Q32 ♣1062

You Hold

♠A632 ♥K107 ♦A54 ♣873
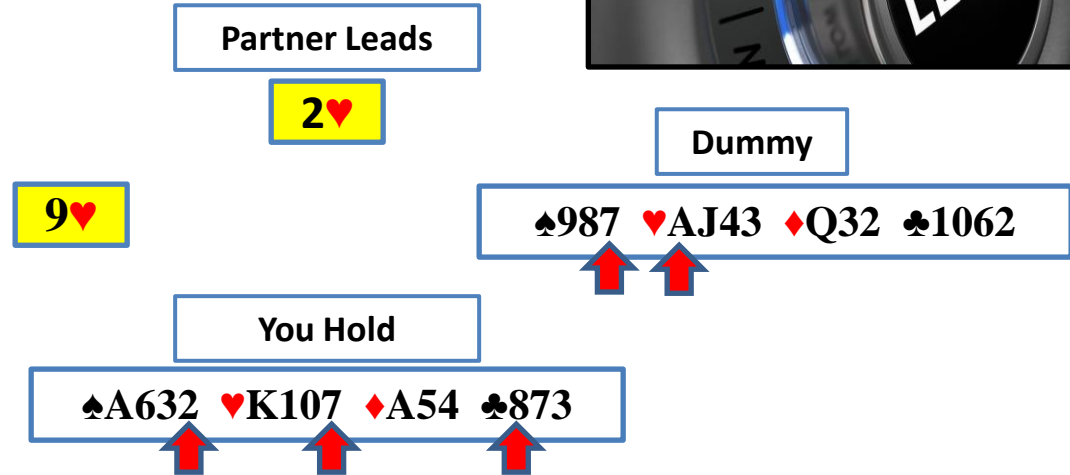
Partner's lead shows 3 or 5 ♥'s. Declarer probably started with only 1 ♥, since he didn't preference back to 2H over his partner's 2D bid.

This means declarer started with at least 2 ♠'s in his hand. When he eventually plays a ♠ from dummy, you can duck smoothly (get ready for it). It would be very rare for declarer to have only 1 ♥ <u>and</u> a singleton K♠.

When you get in later with either ace, lead the 8♣ to show partner no important honor (A,K or Q) in that suit (not necessarily a doubleton).
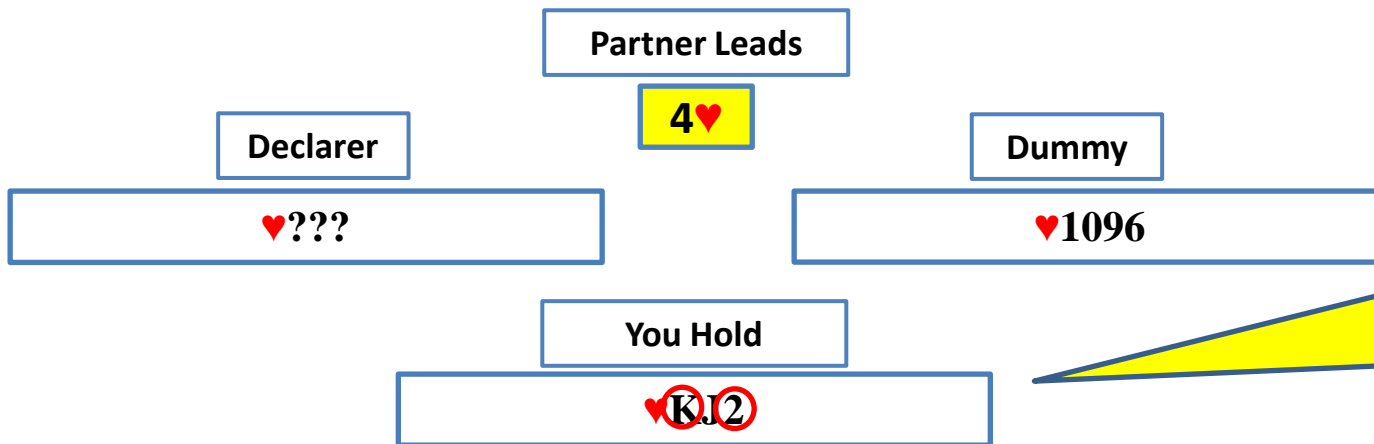
The Rules of 10 and 12

RULE OF 10:

When Partner leads low from 5th best:

1) Subtract the opening lead spot card from 10.

$$10 - 4 = 6$$

2) Then subtract the number of cards in dummy higher than the card led.

$$6 - 3 = 3$$

3) Finally, subtract the number of cards in your hand that are higher than the card led.

$$3 - 2 = 1$$

The answer (1) equals how many cards declarer holds higher than the lead.

Partner Leads

4♥

Declarer

♥???

Dummy

♥1096

You Hold

♥K J 2

Declarer may have ♥Qx or ♥Ax. Play your K♥, then 2♥, so you don't set up dummy's 10♥.

The Rule of 12

RULE OF 12:

When Partner leads 3rd best (assuming from an even number):

1) Subtract the opening lead spot card from 12.

$$12 - 5 = 7$$

$$7 - 3 = 4$$

2) Then subtract the number of cards in dummy higher than the card led.

3) Finally, subtract the number of cards in your hand that are higher than the card led.

$$4 - 2 = 2$$

The answer (2) equals how many cards declarer holds higher than the lead.

Partner Leads

5♥

Declarer

♥???

Dummy

♥1096

You Hold

♥K̶J̶2̶
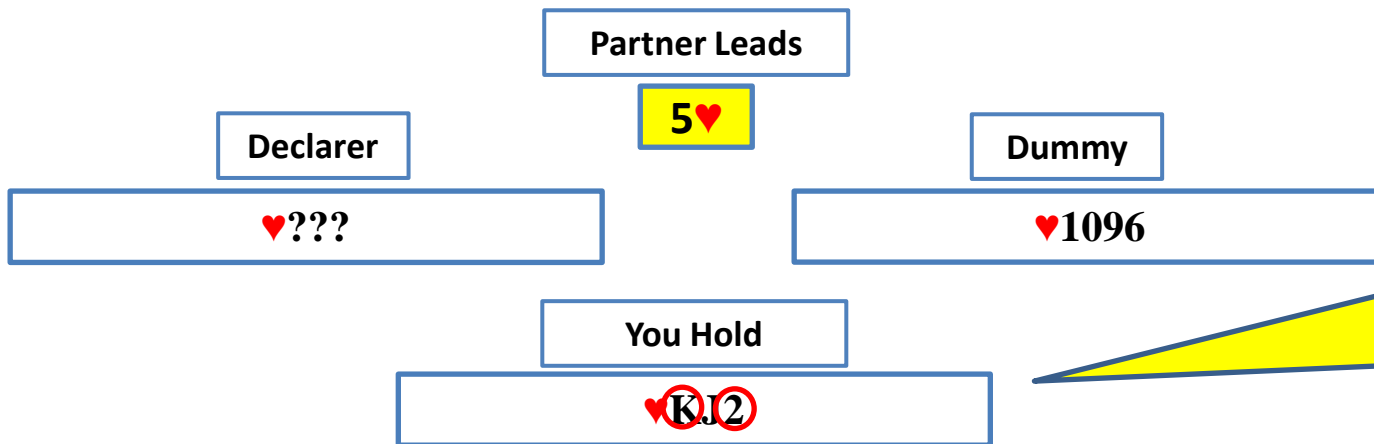
Declarer has two ♥'s higher than the 5♥, so partner led from a 4-card suit.

Playtime