

LC91- Doubles Overview

1

♠ 962
♥ KQ
♦ 654
♣ KQ987

♠ J105
♥ 1094
♦ J72
♣ J643

♠ AQ3
♥ J865
♦ AQ1083
♣ 2

♠ K874
♥ A732
♦ K9
♣ A105

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1 ♦	Dbl
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♦ 2

South makes a takeout double and chooses to try the NT game after North's invitational jump. Declarer has 9 tricks (3 hearts, 1 diamond and 5 clubs), but has to be careful with entries. Most notably, he should unblock his ♣10 when the suit is played.

2

♠ KQJ75
♥ 5
♦ Q1062
♣ A105

♠ 6
♥ AQJ9
♦ AKJ85
♣ 432

♠ A1032
♥ K1042
♦ 74
♣ Q86

♠ 984
♥ 8763
♦ 93
♣ KJ97

Dealer: East
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1 ♦	1 ♠	Dbl	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♠ K

West has too much for only 2♥ so jumps invitationally to 3♥. East accepts. After the ♠K lead, declarer wins and plays the top diamonds. He trumps a diamond high, crosses in trump and ruffs another diamond high. His diamonds are good--so he draws trump and takes the first 10 tricks.

3

♠ AQ4
♥ AK85
♦ AQ
♣ 10852

♠ KJ1095
♥ J64
♦ J
♣ AK64

♠ 876
♥ 10972
♦ 105432
♣ Q

♠ 32
♥ Q3
♦ K9876
♣ J973

Dealer: South
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1 ♠	Dbl	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♠ 8

North's auction shows more than a 1NT overall, so South raises to 3NT. After the spade lead, declarer plays the ♠A and then overtakes the ♦Q and knocks out the 10 to set up 9 tricks.

4

♠ J9862
♥ 8753
♦ Q7
♣ 103

♠ Q543
♥ AQJ4
♦ 1054
♣ Q4

♠ AK
♥ 102
♦ K92
♣ A98765

♠ 107
♥ K96
♦ AJ863
♣ KJ2

Dealer: West
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	1 ♦
Dbl	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♦ 6

West's negative double shows 4-4 in the majors. East repeats the clubs and West can invite with 3♣ or "punt" with a 2♦ cuebid. Either way, East bids notrump, leading to 3NT. After a diamond lead, declarer plays the ♥10. South must cover. Declarer unblocks the ♠AK and takes his major suit winners. Eventually, he exits in diamonds and South must lead from his ♠K for the 9th trick.

1

♠ Q2
♥ A9765
♦ KQ6
♣ Q76

♠ J9863
♥ 8
♦ J72
♣ J1092

♠ A107
♥ K43
♦ 10984
♣ A43

♠ K54
♥ QJ102
♦ A53
♣ K85

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♦ 10

After a Jacoby 2NT auction, East leads the ♦10 against 4♥. Declarer takes a losing finesse and East exits safely in a red suit. When the black suits are played, second hand low allows the defense to get 4 tricks for down 1. (experts note: Double dummy there is a strip/squeeze against East to make 4♥).

2

♠ 1065
♥ J9765
♦ Q98
♣ Q9

♠ A874
♥ AQ4
♦ A32
♣ A106

♠ QJ9
♥ 32
♦ J7654
♣ K43

♠ K32
♥ K108
♦ K10
♣ J8752

Dealer: East
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ 6

East should respond 1♦ not 1NT. West should rebid 2NT not showing spades. North leads a 4th best heart. Declarer can hold up, but best defense sets it. Heart continuations, second hand low in diamond and not covering the first spade are all needed defensive issues.

3

♠ A853
♥ QJ103
♦ Q105
♣ KQ

♠ J109
♥ A42
♦ 983
♣ 10975

♠ 762
♥ 7
♦ AKJ2
♣ 86432

♠ KQ4
♥ K9865
♦ 764
♣ AJ

Dealer: South
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♠ J

After a routine Jacoby 2NT auction, West leads a normal ♠J against 4♥. East discourages. Declarer wins and plays trumps. West ducks the first one so he can get a signal. East throws a low club to discourage. When West takes his ♥A he knows to switch to diamonds.

4

♠ Q7
♥ 943
♦ AJ8
♣ K9862

♠ AJ98
♥ Q85
♦ Q32
♣ A73

♠ 1063
♥ AKJ1072
♦ 105
♣ QJ

♠ K542
♥ 6
♦ K9764
♣ 1054

Dealer: West
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead: ♦ 6

West should show his spades and then East invites with 3♥. West raises and the unbid suit is led. North wins the ♦J and underleads his ace. South knows there are no more diamonds to cash, and worries about spades, switches to clubs for down 1.

1

♠ KJ10976
 ♥ 6532
 ♦ A2
 ♣ A

♠ A54 ♠ 32
 ♥ 9874 ♥ KQJ
 ♦ J10 ♦ Q765
 ♣ K1094 ♣ J832

♠ Q8
 ♥ A10
 ♦ K9843
 ♣ Q765

Dealer: North
 Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♥ K

Declarer should duck the opening lead. Even with a trump shift (best) and another trump, declarer can draw trump and play ♦A, ♦K and throw a heart on the ♦9.

2

♠ Q7
 ♥ 82
 ♦ J10752
 ♣ QJ65

♠ 984 ♠ AK653
 ♥ A43 ♥ K765
 ♦ K864 ♦ A
 ♣ 872 ♣ A43

♠ J102
 ♥ QJ109
 ♦ Q93
 ♣ K109

Dealer: East
 N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ Q

Declarer should duck the opening lead. Then he can win any return, cashing 2 top spades then unblocking the ♦A and trumping the 4th heart in dummy.

3

♠ K83
 ♥ 96
 ♦ A7652
 ♣ 632

♠ J74 ♠ Q1065
 ♥ 72 ♥ 543
 ♦ Q1083 ♦ K4
 ♣ A875 ♣ KJ109

♠ A92
 ♥ AKQJ108
 ♦ J9
 ♣ Q4

Dealer: South
 E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead: ♦ 3

West's diamond lead is the only one to allow the contract to make. Declarer must duck in dummy and then use the major-suit entries to set up the long diamond.

4

♠ KQJ1097
 ♥ 63
 ♦ Q86
 ♣ 73

♠ A5 ♠ 642
 ♥ KQJ1097 ♥ A8
 ♦ AJ5 ♦ 1092
 ♣ K2 ♣ J9654

♠ 83
 ♥ 542
 ♦ K743
 ♣ AQ108

Dealer: West
 Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Dbf	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♠ K

Declarer must use one heart entry to lead a LOW diamond to the jack. After it loses, he uses the other heart entry to run the ♦10. When that holds, he can lead to the ♣K.

1

♠ A93		Dealer: North			
♥ Q10		Neither Vulnerable			
♦ AK43		West	North	East	South
♣ AQ86					
♠ 86	♠ K10752		1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
♥ A754	♥ 82	Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
♦ QJ109	♦ 752	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣ J53	♣ K107				
	♠ QJ4				
	♥ KJ963				
	♦ 86				
	♣ 942				

Opening Lead: ♠ 5

Declarer must keep a spade entry to dummy's hearts. He wins trick one with the ♠A and knocks out the ♥A (West wins the second round). Declarer takes 4 hearts, 2 spades and AK-A for 9 tricks.

2

♠ J1098		Dealer: East			
♥ QJ8		N-S Vulnerable			
♦ 432		West	North	East	South
♣ 1082					
♠ Q542	♠ AK6			1 NT	Pass
♥ A32	♥ K764	6 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
♦ AK7	♦ Q85				
♣ AJ7	♣ K43				
	♠ 73				
	♥ 1095				
	♦ J1096				
	♣ Q965				

Opening Lead: ♦ J

West knows there are 33-35 HCP, so he should go directly to 6NT (no need for Gerber). Declarer wants to try both majors, so starts by ducking a heart. He then can try both majors and fall back on the club finesse if needed.

3

♠ AK32		Dealer: South			
♥ AK6		E-W Vulnerable			
♦ AJ95		West	North	East	South
♣ 43					Pass
♠ 10986	♠ J7	Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 NT
♥ J874	♥ Q103	Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
♦ K43	♦ Q1087	Pass			
♣ 106	♣ KJ95				
	♠ Q54				
	♥ 952				
	♦ 62				
	♣ AQ872				

Opening Lead: ♠ 10

Declarer wins the spade in dummy and plays a club to his 7. This allows him to later set up the 5th club.

4

♠ Q6		Dealer: West			
♥ 10985		Both Vulnerable			
♦ J975		West	North	East	South
♣ 942					
♠ AJ102	♠ 743	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
♥ AQ	♥ K73	3 NT	Pass	6 NT	Pass
♦ AKQ4	♦ 832	Pass	Pass		
♣ KQ5	♣ AJ107				
	♠ K985				
	♥ J642				
	♦ 106				
	♣ 863				

Opening Lead: ♥ 10

Declarer has 11 top tricks. Instead of relying on 3-3 diamonds, declarer should first take a spade finesse. Then, when diamonds don't split, take another spade finesse.