**Accounting For Shortages When A Trump Fit Emerges**

When you know there is an 8-card fit you can add points for shortages.

You must not account for shortages until you know there is a fit.

When there is a fit, side suit losers in the long trump hand can be ruffed in dummy.

This disposes of losers for declarer.

**When Supporting Partner’s Suit**

To your high card points add:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| For a void | 5 points |
| For a singleton | 3 points |
| For a doubleton | 1 point |

Having done this arithmetic raise partner’s suit according to the appropriate Strength Scale.

Opener Scale or Responder Scale

**When Your Suit Has Been Supported**

Revalue your hand

To your high card points add

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| For a void | 3 points |
| For a singleton | 2 points |
| For a doubleton | 1 point |

Ruffing in the long trump hand does not dispose of losers so shortages do not assume as much value as when supporting partner’s suit.

It’s questionable whether doubletons assume any value so take a cautious view.