

STAMFORD BRIDGE CLUB

11th MAY 2016

MAKE THAT CONTRACT
Giving Yourself the Best
Chance

Let's play Board 1

Rule 1:

In a suit contract **ALWAYS**
draw trumps first; **UNLESS**
there is a good reason not
to.

In this case the defence takes a ♦ and a ♦ ruff and sets up a ♣ trick. If you try to draw trumps they will win the A♠ and take the winning ♣

You must get rid of the losing ♣ FIRST.

Board 2 is similar but different:

Rule 2: ALWAYS plan the play at trick ONE.

How can this contract be made?

The contract is 4♥, J♦ lead.

The finesse fails and a second ♦ is returned. How do you play? What are the issues?

You must ruff a losing ♠
BEFORE drawing trumps.

Rule 3: If the only way to make a contract requires a particular lie of the cards, play for that position.

Board 3 is, again, similar but different.

Plan the play from trick one.

How can the contract (4♠) be made?

West leads A♥, K♥ then 5♥

NB suit pref. signal to suggest a ♣

In this case, you need to
ESTABLISH a side suit,
using trumps as entries to
the ♦s.

(so trumps are drawn at the
same time as establishing
the suit).

Board 4

As in hand 2 it is important to avoid a fourth loser.

Discard the diamond loser on a club **BEFORE** drawing trumps.

Rule 4: identify your losers and work out how to discard them.

Try Board 5

There are 9 top tricks (the ♦ finesse loses). Where is the 10th coming from?

This time you need a 'long' ruff. Play on (losing) spades to ruff a 3rd spade in dummy.

Board 6

South leads three top hearts and switches to J♣.

What is the way forward?

Again, as hand 3, you need to establish a side suit to discard losers.

Play Board 7

East leads 3 top Hearts and switches to a Club. How is the contract to be made?

A careful look shows that all trumps are top trumps.

The answer is

to CROSS RUFF, making 2 Aces and 8 top trumps.

Finally, Board 8

Here there are 2 options:
Cross ruff, or establish the
Heart suit.