

## DEFENSE 2

When there is a short side suit in dummy and declarer draws all of the dummy's trumps, the inference is that declarer doesn't have any losers to ruff in that suit. Translation: It is safe to discard that suit.

When declarer ignores a strong suit in dummy lacking one honor – such as KQJ10 (x) or AQJ10 (x), - assume declarer has the honor: If he doesn't, why isn't he setting up that suit?

When dummy hits the table, add declarer's likely point count to dummy's known point count. Now add that total to your point count and subtract from 40 to determine how many points partner has. It works!

The best time to lead a short suit is with trump control. (Axx and Kxx) are great trump holdings to lead from shortness. However, if ruffing will cost you a trump trick, leads from shortness with trump holdings such as J10xx, QJ9x, or K10xx are counterproductive.

When signaling encouragement with equal spot cards, signal with the higher or highest equal. With A987, signal encouragement with the 9, denying the 10, if you play the 8, denies the 9.

Partner leads the A from AK. If you play the Q, you guarantee you can win the second trick. You have the J of the suit, or the Q's a singleton. You do not hi-low with Q doubleton.

---

		A94	DEALER – 1NT		
		64	2 HEARTS		
		AKQ64			
		Q86			
8753				J62	PASS
AKJ	PASS			983	PASS
873				95	
K73				A9542	
		KQ10			
		Q10752			
		J102	2 DIAMONDS (Transfer)		
		J10	3 NT		

Partner leads the 4 of clubs, dummy the 10, you win the K? what do you do at trick 2?

---

		K5	4 Spades		
		Q3			
		A72			
		AK9874			
1063				72	
KJ865				A974	Pass
K83	Pass			J1094	
102				QJ6	
		AQJ984			
		102	DEALER-2 Spades		
		Q65			
		53			

6 of hearts lead, you win the Ace. Now what? HINT: A common mistake is to win partner's opening lead and blindly return the same suit.

---

		973	3 Hearts		
		9753			
		AQ107			
		AJ			
KQJ8				A542	
2	Pass			A8	
865432				J	Pass
85				976432	
		106			
		KQJ1064			
		K9	DEALER – 1 Heart		
		KQ10	4 Hearts		

K of spades lead. Can you set this contract? Hint: You have the Ace of hearts (trump). East should be able to work out where the defensive tricks are coming from. West cannot.

---

		K105			
		J84	2 Spades		
		QJ1074			
		92			
96				72	3 Hearts
KQ1075				A962	
K9	2 Hearts			652	
A875				QJ63	
		AQJ843			
		3	DEALER 1 Spade		
		A83	4 Spades		
		K104			

K of hearts lead. Only 1 heart for the defense, where can you get your tricks? Think at Trick 1.