

MEMORIAL DAY CLASS – MORE DEFENSE

Defense is tough. So tough that some people just seem to keep on bidding so they won't have to defend. But on average, one defends twice as often as one declares.

1. COUNT. Count whenever you can: declarer's distribution and high-card points will usually reveal the number of tricks declarer has available.
2. Note the bidding. As each opponent describes his hand for partner, he'll do it for you.
3. Make sure you know your opponents' conventions.
4. Note the opening lead.
5. Add your high-card points to dummy. Do it as soon as dummy comes down.
6. Pay attention to partner's count signals. Note partner's discards.
7. Take note when someone shows out, or partner follows with the highest missing card.

	642	1 HEART	
	AKQ94	3 HEARTS	
	65		
	732		
953			J1087
J2	PASS		10765
KJ942	PASS		Q83
Q104			K8

	AKQ	
	83	DEALER – 1 CLUB
	A107	2 NT
	AJ965	3 NT

4 of Diamonds led, duck the first 2, win the Ace of diamonds. Declarer leads a low heart. How do you defend?

	A9842	DEALER – 1 SPADE	
	Q653	4 SPADES	
	AQ		
	76		
QJ10			7
102	PASS		PASS
J987			AKJ7
QJ94			106432
			1083
	K653		
	984	2 NT (Jacoby)	
	K5		
	AK52		

A of hearts lead. Dummy plays the 4, How do you defend?

		QJ	DEALER – 1 HEART	
		AK1075	3 CLUBS (Shortness)	
		QJ975		
		9		
A543				K872
942				3 PASS
102	PASS			AK43 PASS
10842				7653
		1096		
		QJ86		
		86	2 NT (Jacoby)	
		AKQJ	4 HEARTS	

A of diamonds led, dummy plays the 6. Why you don't high-low?

		KQ6	DEALER – 1 HEART	
		A10962	3 CLUBS	
		QJ87		
		6		
10953				A82
K54	PASS			3 PASS
102				AK643 PASS
10842				9753
		J74		
		QJ87		
		95	2 NT (Jacoby)	
		AKQJ	4 HEARTS	

A of diamonds led, why high-low?

COMMON MISTAKES IN DEFENSE

Leading Aces

Jumping up with aces

Looking for ruffs with a good trump holding

Failing to lead trump

Always returning partner's opening lead

Failing to use suit preference.