

## **Leads Against No Trump**

As with leads against suit contracts, your opening lead is your most important weapon on defense. Your opening lead should be based on your hand and the bidding.

**AS A GENERAL RULE AGAINST A NO TRUMP CONTRACT YOU WANT TO ESTABLISH YOUR LONG SUITS**

When leading a long suit lead your 4<sup>th</sup> best card in the suit counting down from the top. With a sequence of three or more touching honors lead the top card. You may also lead the top card if the third card in the sequence is missing by one spot. Example: QJ94 lead the Q but with QJ74 lead the 4.

As with a suit contract you should consider the following:

- a) suit bid by partner
- b) any suit NOT bid by the opponents
- c) your longest and strongest suit
- d) unbid major suit
- e) suit bid once by dummy and not supported by declarer

The first decision should be which suit to lead. Once you decide that, then you must decide which card in the suit to lead. Sometimes you may have more than one choice.

What do you lead after 1H-2C-2NT-3NT-P?

- a) K763 Q7643 75 K8
- b) AJ7 876 K432 QJ8
- c) KQ74 87 KQJ2 876
- d) 8543 7 KQT95 762