

TIP OF THE WEEK: Avoid Discarding in the Dark!

When you can't follow suit, your play in a non-trump suit is a "discard". Choosing the correct discard isn't always easy, but often crucial.

. Standard Discards:

- A **High Card** asks partner to **lead** the **suit** if he wins a trick
- A **Low Card** tells partner you have **no interest** in the suit
- . If you **can't afford** an encouraging discard, discourage in a different suit.
- . A **defender** with a **worthless hand**, needs to realize that his **discards** can be very helpful **to partner**. Every discard tells a story.

Tips

**Sources: Susan Johnston
Donna and Chris Compton**

Discard With a Plan Before Declarer or Partner Start Running a Long Suit

- How many discards must you make?
- Identify the cards you must keep.
- Determine the order in which you will play your discards.

Usually keep one card in partner's source of tricks
Keep length parity with dummy if your highest card is higher than dummy's lowest card.
Discard from length rather than shortness. Try to save at least two cards in every suit so you don't expose your partner's holding.
Retain enough cards to guard your important honor(s) .
When you make two discards from the same suit, the first discard is Attitude and the second discard is Count.
If you have a choice of negative discards in two suits, make a discouraging discard in the tempting suit partner might lead .
Discard the highest in an Honor sequence , the one you would have led. (K from KQJT)

Your first discard in the suit after you have already played once to the suit

Remember: HELO --> High = even Low = odd

- If you remain w/an **odd number** --> Discard your lowest remaining card.
- If you remain with an **even number** of cards (4,6) --> Discard your highest intermediate card you can safely afford.

Discard to help partner

7NT Contract

KJ T6 743 AKJT43

7643 J82 QJT9 72


Partner's 9 of spades lead is won by the Declarer. Declarer then starts running the club suit. You have no discarding issues, but your partner might have. You discard the Queen of Diamonds on the third club. This tells partner that you have control of the suit from the Queen down.

If you'd like to read more on Discarding by Robert Todd, click on the following links.

<https://bridge-tips.co.il/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Defensive-Agreements-Discards.pdf>

<https://www.advinbridge.com/this-week-in-bridge/277>


In the following video, Patty Tucker demonstrates how to stop declarer from taking tricks with small cards.



Bridge with Patty!

Bridge - Defense
Maintaining Parity
with Dummy

Patty Tucker
ABTA Master Bridge Teacher
Grand Life Master
www.bridgewithpatty.com


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<https://youtu.be/joE8vlwCPs4>

IMPROVING LEARNERS

How do you know when to discard cards in Declarer's long suit? Chris and Donna Compton focus on how Declarer is playing the hand.

“When declarer fails to play on dummy's short suit and pulls all of dummy's trumps, it is safe to discard from dummy's short suit because declarer does not have any losers. If declarer had any losers in dummy's short suit, then they would have trumped the losers before pulling all of dummy's trumps.”

“When declarer trumps a loser or two in dummy and then pulls all of dummy's trumps, declarer no longer has a loser in that suit and it is safe to discard from that suit. If declarer has losers in the suit, they would have trumped those losers before pulling all of dummy's trumps.”

“CHOOSE YOUR DISCARDS” WITH PETER HOLLANDS

Bridge Vid

Choosing Your Discards! Check out our website: www.bridgevid.com ! Fee

Teaching Board 12

1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass
3♣ Pass 6NT Pass
Pass Pass

N sliynk

E sliynk

W sliynk

S sliynk

6NT E NS 0 EW 2

Undo accepted

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<https://youtu.be/o-2N-9XXdSg>

"KEEPING PARITY ON DEFENSE" WITH DONNA COMPTON



<https://youtu.be/yz0LzGRioN8>

"DISCARDING CORRECTLY WITH GAVIN WOLPERT

D 13	N Warren ♠ A85 ♥ K9652 ♦ KQ9 ♣ 102	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>4♠</td> <td>1♥ P</td> <td>P P</td> <td>3♥ P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	4♠	1♥ P	P P	3♥ P
	W	N	E	S						
4♠	1♥ P	P P	3♥ P							
W Declarer ♠ KQJ942 ♥ 10752 ♦ AK6	♦ K ♦ 7 ♥ 10	E Dummy ♠ 1076 ♥ Q1084 ♦ A8 ♣ Q987								
	S Gavin ♠ 3 ♥ AJ73 ♦ J643 ♣ J543	Wolpert  bridge.com Select cards to play for all 4 players 4♠ W NS: 2 EW: 5								

When not to discard from your longest suit



<https://youtu.be/H3VgJCvOfI>

<https://youtu.be/wOYrhkPLbnQ>

Knowing which cards are safe to discard



<https://youtu.be/uWmK8yTULCI>