TIP OF THE WEEK: COUNTERING THE DANGEROUS OPPONENT

During the play of a contract, Declarer sometimes discovers that there is a particular threat from the Opposition that may endanger his contract. One of the two opponents are 'dangerous' so declarer must avoid giving him the lead.

Common Threats ...

- an unprotected King
- opponents hold a long suit in your NT contract
- one opponent appears to be holding a void, singleton, or doubleton and can ruff in your trump contract

The decision to hold up or not depends on your whole hand ...

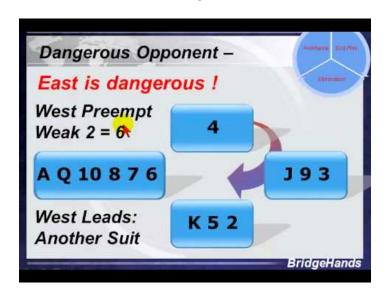
- . How many sure tricks do you hold?
- . How many tricks do you need?
- . Which suit may provide additional tricks?
- . What could happen while trying to establish additional trick

Don't hold up when...

- the first trick is your only chance to stop the suit
- another suit is more dangerous
- you can promote a 2nd stopper by taking the trick
- you can make all of the tricks required
- both opponents have more cards in the suit than you do

If you have to lose the lead twice, lose it to the dangerous hand, first.

Bridgehands



https://youtu.be/x-W0BBof9ol

Click on the following links, to see articles and examples ...

http://www.guelphbridgeclub.org/Tue1711.pdf

Morrinsville Bridge Club CARD PLAY 101 The Dangerous Opponent

Hand by Phillip Alder. Commentary by Barbara Seagrams

AKQJT9 T9 87 QJ7

3 2

AQ32 J8765 KT932 Q654 K65 432

87654 K4 AJ AT98

East leads the 4 of Diamonds

Plan: Declarer must stop and think, "What could go wrong"? The King of Hearts is vulnerable, because the Ace of Hearts has not been played.

Tip: Whenever you have a 'vulnerable King," don't allow the player to the Right of that card to get on lead as they are dangerous. In the above hand, East is the 'dangerous' opponent.

At trick 1, duck the A of Diamonds.

After pulling trump, lead the Q of Clubs from your hand so East doesn't get on lead.



https://youtu.be/kaS1LCNg 9s



https://youtu.be/YFFNpjfyHME