

Defence continued ----

Revision

- the standard leads are very important, they give a lot of information to your partner. It is your job as partner of the person on opening lead, to work out what is likely to be in the suit that he has led. You can only do this if you have agreed the lead style. The standard leads are the place to start. (You already have a handout on opening leads.)
- The leads in a suit contract are different from those in a no-trump contract.
- **Leads in Suit Contracts.**
 1. Top of a sequence of two or more headed by an honour (not giving anything away and hoping to establish lower honours).
 2. Singleton -- hope to get a ruff. (Make sure that you have trumps to ruff with.)
 3. Second from suit without an honour. EG Middle, Up, Down—MUD from a 3-card suit. Remember to play the top card when the suit is played a second time.

Some leads are not so good----- Poor- Leads.

An Ace not supported by the King. Aces are for capturing kings.

It is not good to lead an ace, when you might be sitting over declarer's king. By leading the ace you give him the king as a trick. Wait until he tries to make his king, then you can capture it. One less trick for the opposition.

A doubleton honour eg Kx, Qx best to hold on to these, hoping to make a trick with the honour.

From unsupported honour (3rd from three, 4th from four or more), eg Qxx, although often these are the least worst options. **It may** help declarer to set up a trick.

Leads in No-Trump Contracts

Choose your longest and strongest suit.

From this suit lead:

- 1) top of a sequence of at least three, headed by an honour,
- 2) otherwise the fourth highest.

However do not lead a suit bid by the opponents.

Against both suit and no-trump contracts, return your partner's lead unless there is a good reason not to.