



Lesson 53 Teacher's Notes

Defence: Second Hand Play

Aims

- To emphasise the importance of Second hand Low for both declarer and defence
- To look at the situations where it is right to play Second hand High

Content

- 1) Look at some situations where declarer must play second hand low from dummy so as not to waste the power of the honours in his own hand.
- 2) Look at Second Hand Low in defence, where you cannot see partner's hand but must hope he has a useful card. Point out that there is no need to play a high card to 'force out' a big card – declarer almost certainly intends to play Third hand High – he cannot see your hand!
- 3) Examine the deceptive implications of Second Hand Low when declarer has Q10 in dummy.
(Explain how declarer would finesse if he had the jack: leading towards Q10 usually marks partner with the jack if you do not have it)
- 4) Explain that Second Hand Low is the right play 9 times out of 10. If you are in any doubt – play low. But there are **exceptions**.
Eg When a defender leads and you have an **unsupported doubleton** honour in dummy so that your only chance of taking a trick is to play the card now.