



Establishing and Cashing Tricks

Equal cards

When your side holds all the high cards in a suit you can cash them in any order

When your side holds all the high cards but one you can **establish** winners by forcing out the card held by opponents

Similarly, when your side holds all the high cards but two you can force out two high cards to **establish** your suit

♥ QJ3

N		
W	E	
S		

♥ AK1042

♥ J10876

N		
W	E	
S		

♥ KQ4

♥ J103

N		
W	E	
S		

♥ Q9842

You have 5 heart tricks:

Cash ♥Q, and ♥J then cross to hand

That way you do not **block the suit**

Force out ♥A to **establish** 4 heart tricks

Start with ♥K and ♥Q

Keep the little card to cross to dummy

Force out ♥A and ♥K

Start with ♥J and ♥10

What happens if you start with ♥Q?

When establishing or cashing tricks – ***Start with the High Cards from the Shorter Hand.***

Beware Blockage!

Length tricks

♦ 732

N		
W	E	
S		

♦ AK654

♦ AK6432

N		
W	E	
S		

♦ J95

♦ 10982

N		
W	E	
S		

♦ A6543

How many diamond tricks can you make with these holdings if the suits are divided as evenly as possible between the East West hands? How many tricks must you lose?

What if the suits are less evenly divided – they **break badly**?

Note that all the little cards will be winners once East and West have no cards left. They will be **equals**

Still play high cards from the shorter hand first. Small cards can block suits too!

We call a suit where you can establish tricks a **Work Suit**

Aces and Kings will not run away - ***Play the Work Suit First***

In a Trump Contract you cannot cash an established side suit till you have drawn trump

Draw Trump to Stop Defenders Trumping your Winners