

Lesson 15 Examples

Establishing and Cashing the Work Suit



How many tricks can we make in these spade suits?



How many tricks can we make?



How many tricks?



How many tricks can we make from this suit? How many need we lose? Does the order in which we play the cards matter?



Does it matter in which order we play the cards?

What happens if we start with the ace?

$$\bigstar QJ2$$

$$\bigstar A7$$

$$W E$$

$$\checkmark K54$$

$$\bigstar 109863$$

How should we tackle these suits?

$$\bigstar 74 \qquad \qquad \textcircled{\begin{tabular}{c} \mathsf{A}\mathsf{K}852 \\ \mathsf{W} & \mathsf{E} \\ \mathsf{S} \\ \$ & 963 \\ \end{array} \bigstar QJ10$$

And from this one? How many need we lose? If we **must** lose one – *lose it early*



Lesson 15 Examples



How many tricks can we make from this suit? How many need we lose?



And from this one? How many need we lose? Even with small cards play **high** from the short hand first – *beware blockages*

Examples of Establishing and Cashing the Work Suit



West leads $\mathbf{v}Q$. Win $\mathbf{v}A$ in dummy (or $\mathbf{v}K$ in hand.) Start on the <u>Work Suit</u>: drive out $\mathbf{*}A$ (<u>short hand first</u>) defender who wins will probably play another heart. You have <u>established</u> 3 club tricks to go with the aces and kings in the other 3 suits. 9 tricks for 3NT

If you start by playing out aces and kings in the other suits you *establish* winners for the defence. Now when you play clubs the *defenders* have tricks to cash and you may not make any club tricks.



West leads **&**Q, top of a sequence South might win **&**A and cash honours for 9 The tricks.

A better declarer thinks "aces and kings will not run away" and sets about the work suit, diamonds At least 1 trick must be lost, so he <u>ducks</u> one round. A defender wins and returns a club to dummy's ♣K. South takes ♦A, ♦K and finds the suit <u>divided 3-2.</u>Now declarer has two length tricks in diamonds to add to his top tricks and makes 11 tricks altogether



Lesson 15 Examples The Work Suit in a Trump Contract: Establishing Length Tricks by Ruffing



South plays in 4♥

West leads $\bigstar K$, <u>top of a sequence</u>. South wins $\bigstar A$ and <u>draws trump</u>, cashing $\checkmark K$ then low to $\checkmark A$. East and West both <u>follow suit</u>, so the trump are all drawn Diamonds are the <u>Work Suit</u>, so South plays to $\blacklozenge K$ (**high card in the short hand**), back to $\blacklozenge A$ and trumps a diamond. When everybody <u>follows</u> dummy's last two diamonds are winners. Declarer crosses to $\bigstar A$ and cashes them, discarding 2 spades (or 2 clubs). One last loser can be ruffed in dummy for 12 tricks Should declarer have bid slam, since he made 12 tricks?



South plays in $4 \bigstar$.

West leads AQ. South wins with K to keep A as an <u>entry to dummy</u> later. He <u>draws 2 rounds of trump</u>, leaving the defence

with one trump winner. Now he tackles the Work Suit, diamonds, leading $\diamond Q$ from the short hand. West takes $\diamond A$ and plays $\diamond J$ (drawing two for one),then a club to $\diamond A$. Declarer <u>cashes</u> $\diamond KJ$, then ruffs the fourth diamond in hand to establish 1 length trick. Now $\checkmark A$ and a heart ruffed in dummy lets him cash the long diamond for 10 tricks.