

# DEFENSE - Intermediate

## • LEADS & DISCARDS - ATTITUDE, Attitude, Attitude Signals

When Partner Leads a suit as Defender, we give Attitude. \_

When Declarer Leads a suit & we have to Discard, we give Attitude to Partner.

High spot-card says we Like it. Low spot-card says we do Not Like it. Second highest, if

affordable.

Q752, play 7 not 5. Make it easy on Partner. If touching honors, then play highest (KJ109x). Play of 10 denies J.

When Declarer Leads a suit, we give Count (hi-low with 2 or 4, up-the-line with 3 or 5), unless there's a reason not to do so.

### When Partner Leads & has Touching Honors, he should LEAD HIGH:

Ace from AKx(x). K from KQx(x). Q from QJx(x). J from J10x(x). J from KJ10x(x).

10 from K109x(x) or Q109x(x). But, fourth best from K98x(x) or Q98x(x). We signal Attitude.

Do Not Lead Empty Aces (Axxx) unless at 5-7 Level. They are meant to capture K's & Q's, Not 2's & 3's.

### When Partner Leads a Low card (denying touching honors):

If Dummy Wins A, K, or Q, we can still signal Attitude. If Dummy wins J or Lower, give count.

If Dummy has only low cards, as Third Hand we play our highest card, unless we have a sequence. If we have KQx, QJx, J10x, KQJx, QJ10x, J109x, play the lowest of two or more Touching Equals, or SPLIT LOW.

If dummy has 1 or 2 Honors & declarer plays low, we try to keep our Honor over Dummy's Honor & play next highest. If Dummy has AJ8(x) and we as third hand have K9x or Q9x, play the 9.

When Declarer leads Towards Dummy's Honors, as Second Hand - SPLIT LOW. KQx. QJ10x. J109x.

## • SUIT CONTRACTS - OPENING LEADS

### A from AKx(x) on OPENING LEAD ONLY! Notice Exceptions!

Partner. K from AKx(x) after Trick One - in Middle of the hand – by either Partner. It's more helpful to

K from AK Doubleton on Opening lead – to show a Doubleton & maybe get a Ruff.

Cash. K from AKx(x) at the Five-level or Higher – Partner gives Count for you to learn what can

the Q. Q from AKQx(x) on Opening Lead – Doing this, then says that A from AKx(x) always Denies

## • NOTRUMP CONTRACTS - OPENING LEADS

Lead your Longest Suit – Fourth Best: K963. Q8642. KJ642. If an opponent bid your suit, lead a 3-card suit.

Q & J: Q from QJ9x(x). J from J108x(x). But Fourth Best from QJ8x(x) & J107x(x). KJ1053. Q10953.

Otherwise Count. Ace asks Dump an Honor or Give Count: AKJ10(x). AKQ10(x). KQ109(x) Dump the honor.

Otherwise Low. King asks Attitude (highest spot-card): AKJx(x). AKQx(x). KQ10x(x). Attitude with an honor.

## • CURRENT COUNT (Assuming Fourth Best Leads)

cards: A from Axx(xx) - lead or 3<sup>rd</sup> hand win: If you continue,, do so with Current Count of the Remaining

75: Hi-low with two remaining cards – A75. Tells partner you had a 3-card suit originally.

752: Low with three remaining cards – A752. Tells partner you had a 4-card suit originally. (play 4<sup>th</sup> best).

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- *COVER an Opponent's HONOR with an HONOR – In General.*
- *Second Hand Low. Third Hand High.*
- *PARITY: Keep Same Length as Dummy's or Declarer's Suits. If suit = AQ92, keep 10653.*
- *DISCARDS: If you are Unsure as to what to Discard, Dump what Declarer is Dumping.*  
*Also, Don't Discard what Partner is Discarding. Save the Opposite Suits.*
- *DO the OPPOSITE: If Declarer is Not leading Trumps, you should lead Trumps, etc.*