

Play Lesson 1: Making A Plan

Pause to Consider

Look at Winners & Losers

Analyze Techniques

Now Form A Plan

Consider:

1) Objective

2) Winners in NT / Losers in Trump

3) NT: Promote High Cards, Develop long suits, Finesse

4) TRUMP: All Above + Discard Losers, Ruff Losers (Short Hand)

5) Plan

Exercise One — The Objective

In a contract of 3NT, the objective is to take nine tricks. In a contract of 2♣, the objective is to lose no more than five tricks. Look at the following contracts and decide the objective, counting winners in notrump and losers in a trump contract.

1) 3♣ 2) 6NT 3) 4♠ 4) 1NT 5) 2♦

Exercise Two — Counting Winners

Count the number of sure winners in each suit — the tricks that can be taken without giving up the lead.

DUMMY: 1) A K Q 2) A J 3) Q J 7 5 4) A 8 3 2 5) K Q
DECLARER: 4 2 K Q A K 4 3 2 K 9 5 4 2

Exercise Three — Counting Losers

Count the number of losers that declarer has in each suit — the tricks that could be lost to the opponents. Are the losers quick or slow?

DUMMY: 1) K Q J 4 2) J 10 9 8 3) 9 8 6 2 4) A 5 5) K 6 4
DECLARER: 9 8 5 4 3 2 A 5 9 8 6 2 8 5

Losers: _____

Quick/Slow: _____

DUMMY: 6) Q 4 2 7) K 7 6 8) 7 4 3 2 9) K Q 5 10) A J 10
DECLARER: 9 8 3 J 10 9 3 A K J 7 4 2 8 4 2

Losers: _____

Quick/Slow: _____

Hand #8 (3-3):

South(D)

Bidding:

1NT-P-2NT-P-3NT-P-P-P

Dealer:	♠ 7 6 2	
South	♥ 8 7	
	♦ K J 10 6 3	
	♣ A 4 2	
♠ Q J 10 8		♠ 9 4
♥ K 10 3		♥ Q J 9 5
♦ A 2		♦ 9 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 5 3		♣ Q 9 7
	♠ A K 5 3	
	♥ A 6 4 2	
	♦ Q 5	
	♣ K J 6	

Count Winners, Set up ♦'s with an entry

Hand #7 (3-2):

East(D)

Bidding:

1NT-P-2♥-P-2♠-P-4♠-P-P-P

Dealer:	♠ K 2	
East	♥ A 7	
	♦ 9 8 6 4	
	♣ Q J 10 9 7	
♠ Q J 10 9 8 7		♠ 6 5 3
♥ 8 4 2		♥ K Q J
♦ A J		♦ K 7 5 2
♣ 5 4		♣ A K 6
	♠ A 4	
	♥ 10 9 6 5 3	
	♦ Q 10 3	
	♣ 8 3 2	

Count Losers

Play Hand #1 (1-1): North (D)

P-P-1N-P-3N-P-P-P

Dealer:	♠ 7 5		
North	♥ 7 3 2		
	♦ A Q 10 6 3		
	♣ A 9 2		
♠ K Q J 10 6		♠ 9 4 3	
♥ A 10 6	N	♥ Q J 9 8 4	
♦ 9 7	W	♦ 2	
♣ 10 6 5	E	♣ J 8 7 4	
	S		
	♠ A 8 2		
	♥ K 5		
	♦ K J 8 5 4		
	♣ K Q 3		

Play Hand #2 (1-3): South (D)

P-1N-P-2♦-P-2♥-P-3♥-P-4♥-P-P-P

Dealer:	♠ K 9 7 4 3		
South	♥ 7 5 4 2		
	♦ 10 6		
	♣ K 8		
♠ J 5 2		♠ 10 6	
♥ A Q 9	N	♥ K J 10 8 6 3	
♦ A Q 8	W	♦ K J 5	
♣ A 9 7 3	E	♣ 6 2	
	S		
	♠ A Q 8		
	♥ —		
	♦ 9 7 4 3 2		
	♣ Q J 10 5 4		

Play Hand #3 (1-4):

West (D)

P-1♠-P-2♠-P-P-P

Dealer:	♠ K Q J 10 3											
West	♥ A Q 5											
	♦ 9 4											
	♣ 8 6 3											
♠ A 7			♠ 9 5 2									
♥ 9 7 6 4 3 2	<table><tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr></table>		N		W		E		S			♥ J 8
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♦ A J 6			♦ K Q 10 2									
♣ 9 4			♣ K Q J 10									
	♠ 8 6 4											
	♥ K 10											
	♦ 8 7 5 3											
	♣ A 7 5 2											