

PLAY MAXIMS

1. Honor from the short side first.
2. Establish your Potential tricks before taking your Sure tricks.
3. Potential tricks may be established by:
Promotion,
Length, and/or
Finessing.
4. When in a Notrump contract, count your winners (Sure Tricks). Then count your Potential Tricks.
5. When in a Trump contract, tend to count your losers.
6. When in a Trump contract, pull the opponents' trumps as soon as possible, BUT play only as many rounds as necessary to pull the opponents' trumps. Save the rest of your trumps for later in the hand
7. Opening Leads:
 - a. 99% of the time, lead a suit that partner has bid.
 - b. 95% of the time, do not lead the opponents' suit(s).
 - c. Lead your own suit-- Top of an Honor Sequence is best--**KQJ**..., **QJ10**..., **J109**...
Otherwise, fourth down from your longest and strongest **K974(3)**
 - d. Do Not lead away from an Ace against a Trump contract.