

TIP OF THE WEEK: COUNTING WINNERS AND LOSERS

- 1) After the lead comes down in a **suit** contract, **count your losers** in the **Master** hand. The Master hand is usually the one with the longer trump.
- 2) Devise a **plan** to eliminate some losers.
- 3) Decide whether to **draw trump or not**.

Suit Contract Losers come in two forms:

- . **Immediate/Quick Losers** → Losers that your opponents can take when they win the lead.

Dummy: KQ4
J65

- . **Eventual/Slow Losers** → Losers that the opponents can't immediately win, because they're protected by a winning card.

Dummy: AK3
876

“Counting the losers in your hand can help you focus on exactly what needs to be done,” according to Pat Harrington. Below, is a link to her article, “Those Pesky Losers.”

<http://www.path2bridge.com/resources/2011+August+Why+Count+Losers.pdf>

Counting winners and losers looks easy after watching Peter Hollands from BridgeVid.



<https://youtu.be/5dw4Qy3fuJw>

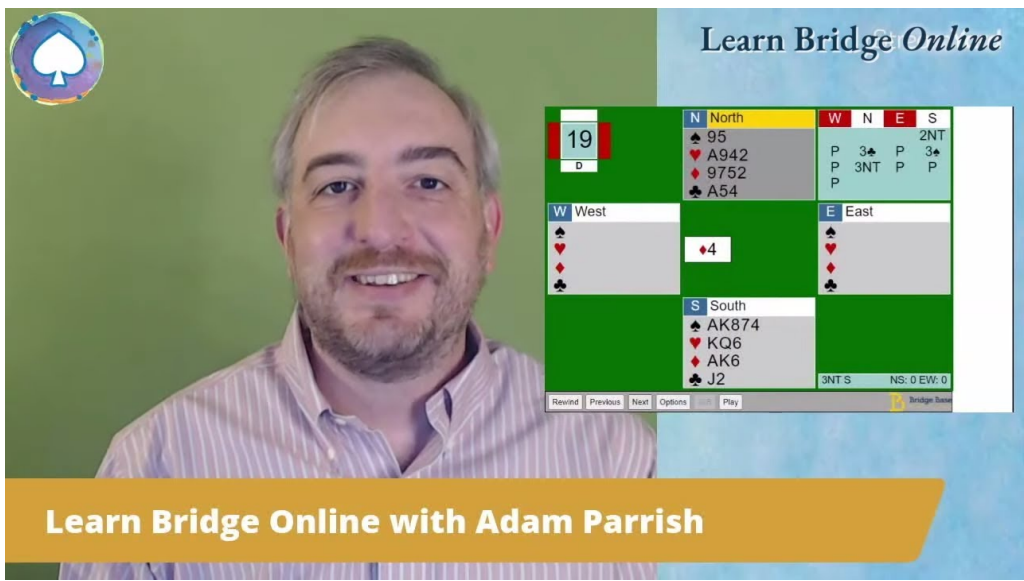
A “Loser on Loser” is a play technique, usually in trump contracts, where the declarer discards a loser card on an opponent’s winner, instead of ruffing. Why might you make a loser on loser play?

- . you suspect RHO will overtrump dummy
- . to maintain trump control of the hand
- . you can gain a future ruff
- . to avoid a dangerous opponent gaining the lead
- . to promote a side suit

Eli Jolley and Adam Parrish demonstrate loser on loser plays, below.



<https://youtu.be/LT1WaPqGVwA>



<https://youtu.be/V3-5cr4R4P8>

Gavin Wolpert closes this topic with another interesting hand.

The screenshot shows a Bridge game interface. At the top left is a bidding table:

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| PASS | PASS | PASS | 1♣ |
| PASS | 1NT | PASS | 2♣ |
| PASS | 2♣ | PASS | PASS |
| PASS | | | |

The North hand (Robot (Dummy)) is: 8♠, 6♠, A♥, 10♥, 8♥, 6♥, J♣, 8♣, 8♦.

The South hand (Wolpert Bridge (Table 1)) is: K♠, Q♠, J♠, 10♠, J♥, 4♥, A♣, 5♣, 2♣.

The dummy's hand is: 5♦, 6♦, 7♣, 10♦.

The interface also shows a video feed of Gavin Wolpert in the top right corner, a chat box at the bottom left, and a score display at the bottom right: NS: 1 / 8 EW: 2, S: 2♣.

<https://youtu.be/zyCWs9UOGKQ>