

ADVANCED TIPS

1	<p>In card play there is the rule "8 ever 9 never", whereby if you have only eight cards in suit and you are looking for the Queen it is best to finesse and if you have 9 then you play for drop. Larry Cohen has turned this rule on its head for COMPETITIVE BIDDING and the rule he has come up with is totally the opposite.</p> <p>In competitive bidding 8 never 9 ever- when you and your partner are known to hold only an eight card trump fit don't compete to 3 level when the opponents are pushing you up But with a 9 card fit then take the push to the 3 level- further examples of this can be found in his Bols tip</p>																
2	<p>If declarer or dummy has bid two suits and you are strong in one of the suits then lead a trump. The reason for this is that declarer could very easily try and ruff this suit out and by leading a trump you are removing two trumps.</p>																
3	<p>If you have made a limit bid, then be respectful and leave all decisions to partner - Don't bid again unless forced or invited</p>																
4	<p>If you think you are in a good contract don't now be silly and go for an overtrick when making your contract is going to produce all the Match points. The corollary applies that if you think you are in lousy contract, maybe 3NT and you think everybody else will be in 4S making an overtrick, Now you have to go for that overtrick in order to compete for some sort of reasonable score.</p>																
5	<p>1. If you have Axxx in dummy and KJT_x in the closed hand and you are looking for the Queen- try leading the Jack from the closed hand, and you will be surprised how many people will cover. If there isn't a cover come up with dummy's Ace and finesse on the way back</p>																
6	<p>If you are trying to place cards in a CRITICAL suit and one opponent is already known to be long in another suit that he may have bid or led then in the CRITICAL suit assume that the same opponent will be short in this critical suit, particularly helpful when looking for a Queen and you have a two way finesse available.</p>																
7	<p>Sitting over a KQT holding in dummy and you hold the Ace try ducking it more often and you will be pleasantly surprised when</p> <p>a) declarer uses up valuable entry to return to hand to finesse again</p> <p>b) he now finesses the Queen assuming the other defender had missing Ace and now you partner scores the Jack. if you go up with the Ace immediately declarer will have no choice but if you duck you give him losing option.</p> <p>in situations like this</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">dummy</td> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">KQT</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">J54</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">A82 (you)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">9763</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Now when the king holds declarer is bound to assume west has missing Ace. it is even more satisfying if you can do this with a doubleton Ace holding very SMOOTHLY</p>		dummy				KQT			J54		A82 (you)			9763		
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8	<p>If you have shaky trump holding with maybe only 7 trumps between hand and dummy, try ducking a round and you will be surprised how less often you will lose control of the suit e.g. with AK_{xx} opposite xxx you have loser anyway so ducking can't cost and it can only gain when the suit break 42</p>																
9	<p>Every time you make LIGHT OVERCALLS think of your bid as LEAD DIRECTING and then you will not overcall on trashy suits.eg Overcall on AQ_{xxx} or KQT_{xxx} or AJT9_{xx} but not on J_{xxxx} or Q_{xxxx} as its meaningless!!</p>																

10	<p>If the opponents bid and raise a suit and stop at the 2 level be quick to bid in the Pass out seat eg. if bidding goes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">N E S W 1♥ NO 2♥ NO NO ?</p> <p>as East holding ♠ 865432 ♥ T ♦ A72 ♣ K43 compete 2♠ or holding ♠ 85 ♥ T53 ♦ KJ62 ♣ AQ74 compete 2NT UNUSUAL (believe it or not !!)</p>																												
11	<p>With a 6-5 pattern in touching suits, bid the higher ranking suit first if the suits are weak and you are minimum in high card points, whether you are opener or responder eg ♠ AQ764 ♥ J87432 ♦ - ♣ KQ open 1♠ and then you will get the chance to show both suits</p>																												
12	<p>The 5 level Belongs to the Opponents. In a highly competitive auction when the opponents have ventured into the 5 level. - Let them be. You have probably pushed them to a level higher than they wanted to be and if you now bid on you run the risk of a penalty when their contract was going off.</p>																												
13	<p>Partner leads from his 4th highest and the bidding has suggested that declarer has a certain stopper in the suit, sometimes it is correct to withhold your Ace in third seat and play your Queen instead if you have it. If partner has led from an original King holding then your queen will hold and if not it will be much more difficult for declarer to now hold up. In fact it might be too dangerous to hold up. More details of this can be witnessed by reading Shmuel Lev's tip "WHEN YOU HAVE A HOLDING SUCH AS A-Q OR A-J IN THE SUIT LED BY PARTNER, DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY PLAY 'THIRD HAND HIGH.'"</p> <p>in situations like this</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="164 987 922 1189"> <tr> <td></td> <td>dummy</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>85</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>JT732</td> <td></td> <td>AQ9 (you)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>K64</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>play the Queen. There are very few declarers who will duck this. Now communications between you and your partner will be kept open. If you had merely contributed your Ace at trick one. Followed by your Queen declarer will have no problems in holding up will he ?</p>		dummy			85		JT732		AQ9 (you)		K64																	
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14	<p>Playing Splinters is all well and good and can get you to good slams. But, also try and understand the inferences when partner doesn't splinter. If partners don't splinter then you know their holding is probably 5422 or 4432 as they didn't try and Splinter. Now you know there is much more chance that an outside suit can have 2 losers off the top. e.g.</p> <table data-bbox="164 1429 1524 1653"> <tr> <td>♠ KQ98</td> <td>♠ AJ43</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥ AQJ52</td> <td>♥ K43</td> <td>4 is limit of the hand maybe 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ A2</td> <td>♦ K654</td> <td>LACK OF SPLINTER</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣ Q 4</td> <td>♣ 32</td> <td>should alert you to this fact.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>1♠</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♠</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>BUT with less points the splinter allows you to bid the cold small slam</p> <table data-bbox="164 1697 1524 1888"> <tr> <td>♠ KQ98</td> <td>♠ AJ43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥ AQJ52</td> <td>♥ K43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ A32</td> <td>♦ K654</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣ 4</td> <td>♣ 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>4♣</td> </tr> </table> <p>Now you are certainly interested!!!!</p>	♠ KQ98	♠ AJ43		♥ AQJ52	♥ K43	4 is limit of the hand maybe 5	♦ A2	♦ K654	LACK OF SPLINTER	♣ Q 4	♣ 32	should alert you to this fact.	1♥	1♠		4♠			♠ KQ98	♠ AJ43	♥ AQJ52	♥ K43	♦ A32	♦ K654	♣ 4	♣ 2	1♥	4♣
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15	<p>As declarer when an opponent has preempted assume that all the outstanding key cards such as any Queens and Jacks you have missing to be in the other player's hand, since the pre-emptor should really have nothing outside his long suit. Now a lot of your 2 way finesses will no longer be mere guesses.</p>																												

16	<p>Elimination Play can be very easy if you practice it even on the hands where an elimination play is not necessarily needed. In order to put an elimination play into play you must follow the following guidelines.</p> <p>a. draw trumps. b. Take out a complete suit. c. Take out another complete suit. d. Now let them in and watch as they hopefully open a the crucial suit or give you a ruff and discard. Maybe an elimination play is not necessary but by getting into good habits when it does come along and you pull it off you will have a rather wonderful feeling!!!</p>																									
17	<p>If you do not know what suit to play next try holding up so that partner can give you a signal on the following trick!!</p>																									
18	<p>If between the 2 hands you hold A J T and 2 low cards and the opponents lead this suit against your 3NT contract there is no need to hold up as you will get 2 tricks in this suit if you are patient. Some players hold up when they do not need to!!</p> <p>e.g.</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>J3</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>N</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Q9542</td><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td><td>K87</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>S</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>AT6</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>When the 4 is led and East contributes the king at trick one there is no need to duck. Try it and see!! If you duck you will only obtain 1 trick instead of your rightful 2!! T's and 9's are much more important than you generally think.</p>			J3					N			Q9542	W		E	K87			S					AT6		
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19	<p>Don't be lazy MAKE NO COST CUE BIDS when you can. eg</p> <p>♠ Q76 ♥ 76 ♦ AQ5 ♣ AQ32</p> <p>After opening 1NT partner replies 3♠ bid 4♣ Cue-bid agreeing the Spades and showing MAX If you take this on board then every time your partner doesn't cuebid you will know they won't have an ace on the way!!</p>																									
20	<p>a) If you partner opens and next hand overcalls 1NT if you have 8/9 points then make a PENALTY DOUBLE immediately to show that you have balance of power. b) If you bid on after partner opens and the opposition overcalls 1NT you are now showing less than 8 points and could compete on all sorts of rubbish, either supporting partner or freely bidding your own goodish 5 card suits or 6 six card suits</p>																									
21	<p>If partner leads an Ace and there is singleton in dummy, then there is little point in making an attitude signal so make a SUIT PREFERENCE Signal at trick 1. Playing a very high card would be asking for a switch to a higher suit and a particularly low card would be saying switch to lower ranking suit. Don't be a slave to signals as sometimes partner is known to hold nothing on the auction so he might not be able to signal anything!!!!</p>																									
22	<p>If there seems to be no way to generate an extra trick, then try a dummy reversal, whereby the short hand will eventually become the dominating trump drawing hand because you have done sufficient ruffing in the long hand that the short hand now has more trumps than the long hand originally started with.</p>																									
23	<p>Even if you are not going to try an endplay it is often good technique to get rid of as many suits as possible from both hands before letting the opposition in and then maybe you will get a pleasant surprise when one of the defenders might give away a trick when they get in</p>																									

24	Partner has led a suit in which you have a potentially blocking situation, so seriously consider unblocking at trick 1. Partner leads King promising Queen and Jack and you have A6, you need to play that Ace to avoid blockage or if partner leads the Queen and you have King doubleton again throw away that King on the King immediately.
25	Don't take your aces too quickly when you defend, especially in second seat even if there is a singleton in the dummy and you are afraid your Ace might disappear. Declarer will often go wrong when finessing if you are patient with those Aces you are not supposed to hold.
26	Covering Honours and not covering honours is not always easy. If you can see all the touching honours in dummy then don't bother to cover. If there are two touching honours you can cover the second one, but not the first.
27	In third seat try to hold back your honour to cover dummy's honour so in situations like this : Q64 T32 AJ9 K875 Partner leads the 2 and dummy plays low play your 9 and hope for the best. If declarer has all the remaining high cards it makes no difference BUT IF partner has the T you will now maintain two tricks for the defense rather than the tricks to declarer
28	Counting your losers as well as your winners sometimes pinpoints hidden dangers on the hand. Where you thought you had an easy ride suddenly you see that there could be a problem. Now you can act on it and maybe keep one of the opponents off lead.
29	A ruffing finesse is often better than a simple finesse, because even if it fails you have been able to chuck a loser whilst doing it!!
30	If you have to make a decision about whether to take ruffing finesse or simple finesse the decide which "nasty" opponent you don't want to get the lead and then take the appropriate finesse through them so, AQJT: a. If East is the safe hand and West the "nasty" opponent do the simple finesse . b. If West is the safe hand and East is now the nasty opponent does the ruffing finesse.
31	Playing Match Point Pairs, if partner offers two suits and the first suit is a Major promising five cards, prefer to give "False preference" to the first suit holding two cards in the first suit and three in the second. You want to be playing in the 5:2 Major fit rather than the 4:3 Minor fit.
32	If you think that there might be a chance that you will be over ruffed throw away a loser elsewhere instead- loser on loser. Now you retain all your trumps and the other loser disappears.
33	Before tackling trumps sometimes it is a good idea to try finesse elsewhere to decide how to actually play the trump suit. If your finesse outside has worked then you can take the safety play in trumps, if the finesse has failed then you might need to take a straight finesse in trumps too avoiding any possible safety play.
34	Don't double borderline part scores that might only go one off. If they make you have given away a certain bottom and if they go off you will still get a relatively good score.
35	If you drop high honour on partner's Ace lead it shows either a singleton, and, of course you could not help yourself or that you hold the honour below it. If partner leads Ace and you have QJ64 play the Queen and then partner knows you have Jack and if need be he could underlead his remaining King to get you in. (You are telling him you have an entry)
36	After the opposition makes an informative Double you as partner of the opener should now be prepared to make weak raises in openers' suit so now: 1♥ - Double 2♥ shows 4-5 points 1♥ - Double 3♥ shows 6-9 points 1♥ - Double 2NT should now show good raise in partner's suit

37	A direct raise of 1♠ to 4♠ or 1♥ to 4♥ should be done with WEAK DISTRIBUTIONAL hands two five card suits and no more than 6/7 points. The aim of the bid is two fold. Firstly, you might make the contract. Secondly, you might cut the opposition out if the contract might belong to them should they have the balance of points.
38	Don't finesse empty honours. If you have J65 opposite AQ42 lead the low one towards the Queen. Leading the unsupported Jack will just mean the opposition will cover to promote their T or 9.
39	If the opposition has found a fit at the 2 level make sure you balance as you cannot afford to let them make +110
40	Use Culbertson's Law of Distribution. If your hand and the dummy hand is very distributional with a singleton in either hand then expect the opponents' hands to be distributed strangely too. Expect your trump suit to break 3:1 and not 2:2.
41	Choice of ruffing finesse or simple finesse then it's probably best to go for the ruffing finesse because even if ruffing finesse fails you can still throw away a loser from the other hand while you are doing the ruffing finesse
42	If you have a vulnerable holding that you do not want the defenders to lead through eg K65 opposite 432 you do not want the defenders to be leading through your king (you want to be last person to play) so when playing other suits, try to lose the lead to the safe hand
43	When the defenders try to make you ruff in the long hand and seriously deplete your trump holding consider discarding instead and maintaining your trump length.
44	In order to keep communications open between your hand and dummy, when you have the Ace with two or three small cards facing a doubleton try ducking the first round of the suit.
45	Be prepared to hold up your Ace more often even if a singleton is showing in dummy. Declarer who might have KJ in the closed hand will very likely now finesse the Jack not expecting you to hold up. If declarer has all the winning cards (KQJ) by holding up the suit, it is not yet established. Going in with the Ace straight away just helps declarer out more.
46	Follow partner's defense especially if they make a strange switch. Continue their suit and get a pleasant surprise when they ruff because they switched to a less than obvious singleton.
47	If you do a direct cue-bid over their opener it is of course Michaels Cue Bid. However if you DOUBLE JUMP CUE BID then its saying please bid 3NT if you have stopper in opener's suit- I have good hand and good source of tricks. Maybe the bidding has gone 1♥ and you have ♠ K7 ♥ 54 ♦ AKQJ764 ♣ A5 You fancy your chances in 3NT as long as partner has a Heart stopper so jump to 3♥ now.
48	You have all winners left bar one try ending up in the closed hand at trick 12 and maybe the opponents will save the wrong card.
49	Dummy has a singleton and partner has led an Ace make sure you now give a SUIT PREFERENCE signal. No point in encouraging or discouraging or giving the count so best to say what suit you want your partner to switch to now ☺
50	Really stuck for a lead in No Trumps, and nothing appeals, then lead dummy's second suit and very often you will find a delighted partner sitting over dummy with a good holding in that suit.
51	Partner opens with weak 2♠ and next player says Double be prepared to rush the auction with jump to 4♠ and be disruptive further.
52	Fourth suit forcing says "TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR SHAPE" do you now have 5 or even 3 card support for one of my suits. Bid your shape out

68	<p>You can support opener's suit with three card support if you have ruffing values or partner is promising five card BUT to SUPPORT Opener's SECOND Suit you should now have 4 card support since Opener's suit might only be a four card suit</p>												
69	<p>Sometimes you will need to give FALSE PREFERENCE especially if you are playing Match Points so with:</p> <p>♠ K J 6 4 ♥ 4 2 ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ 7 6 5</p> <p>when partner opens 1♥ you reply 1♠ then partner rebids 2♦ you should put partner back to 2♥ because partner must have bid his longest suit and now you would prefer to play in the known 5-2 fit rather than the 4-3 fit as Hearts scores better than Diamonds +110 or +140 bids so much better than +90 or even +110</p>												
70	<p>1NT - 3♣ or 3♦ reply of course is very strong Game Forcing BUT SHOULD DENY Four or five cards Major otherwise responder could have gone the Stayman route or a transfer route first so when partner opens 1Nt and you have prefer to use Stayman to begin with</p> <p>♠ K 9 6 4 ♥ A 2 ♦ A K Q 7 5 2 ♣ 7</p>												
71	<p>Partner jumps to 3♠ after you open 1NT and you have</p> <p>♠ K 9 6 don't forget to make ADVANCED CUE BID and say 4♦ to show Diamond Ace and fit ♥ A 2 in spades. It would be very lazy just to go bidding 4 says you are very happy to have ♦ A K 5 2 a dialogue in possible slam ♣ 7 5 4 3</p>												
72	<p>If an opponent voluntarily drops an honour then the other defender is twice as likely to have the other missing honour and using restricted choice theory you should now finesse the other player in situations like this :-</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">A K 9 5</td> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">J 8 6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Q</td> <td style="text-align: center;">queen falls when you play the Ace- now disregard the</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">T 7 4 3 2</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">eight Ever nine never rule and come back to hand</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">and finesse West for missing Jack</td> </tr> </table>		A K 9 5		J 8 6	Q	queen falls when you play the Ace- now disregard the	T 7 4 3 2		eight Ever nine never rule and come back to hand			and finesse West for missing Jack
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73	<p>You and your partner bid a Minor and the opposition overcalls in a Major. You still fancy chances of 3NT. Use DAB Directional Asking Bid i.e. you bid the opposition's suit looking for a stopper in that suit - if partner has the necessary stopper than can now bid 3NT.</p>												
74	<p>If a Minor suit has been agreed such as 1♣ 3♣ then the introduction of new suit is looking for 3NT or possible slam. Partner with values in an unbid suit at three level to bid that suit so you can bid 3NT next. you have</p> <p>♠ 6 4 ♥ K 9 4 ♦ A K 2 ♣ A K 9 8 7</p> <p>you open 1♣ and partner goes 3♣ so now bid 3 looking to partner to bid 3♦ and then you can bid 3NT You do not really want to bid in 3NT with the opponents taking the first 5 tricks in Spades do you?</p>												

75	<p>If you have strong support for opener's second suit and not sure what to bid next use fourth suit forcing as a means to an end</p> <p>♠ A T 7 5 2 ♥ K J 9 4 ♦ A 4 ♣ 7 6 4</p> <p>You reply 1♠ to partner's opening bid of 1♦ and then of miracles they rebid 2♥ you should now rebid 3♣ to see what partner does next.</p>
76	<p>Play the Gambling 3NT opening bid which shows a solid seven card Minor with no outside defensive tricks so with</p> <p>♠ 5 2 ♥ 9 4 ♦ A K Q J 8 6 5 ♣ 7 6</p> <p>Open 3NT and be an unfriendly destructive opponent.</p>
77	<p>With 11 or 12 playing tricks needing partner to have specific Ace Open 4NT which says NAME THAT ACE. so with:</p> <p>♠ ♥ K Q J T ♦ A K Q J T 6 5 ♣ A K</p> <p>Open 4NT - if partner has Heart Ace and bids 5♥ you can bid 7♦ if they have no Ace (5♣) you can bid 6♦ and if they have two Aces (5NT reply) you can bid 7NT.</p>
78	<p>When declarer leads low towards dummy's KQT and you are sitting over dummy with A87 duck the first round when the King wins and declarer might very well finesse your partner again for the missing Ace and now you can put on the Ace and maybe partner's Jack will be promoted when the cards are around the table as follows :-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KQT J32 A87 9654</p>
79	<p>Looking for a queen and you have a two way finesse available, if one person has already shown considerable length in a different suit (maybe they pre-empted or bid a suit twice or partner showed out in that suit, then they are likely to be short in your crucial suit where the finesse needs to be taken and the longer hand is twice as likely to have the Queen, so, if in doubt and for no other reason, finesse that person for the missing Queen.</p>
80	<p>Before committing to a play in a suit test the waters elsewhere. If a finesse in another suit is working then you may be able to take a safety play in the first suit. If it doesn't work then you may have to take finesse in the first suit as well.</p>
81	<p>You have top cards in one suit opposite a singleton but need to establish the suit, try taking one top card then ruffing a small card. The other top cards can always be enjoyed later.</p>
82	<p>When the bidding goes 1♥ 2♣ NO NO then it is incumbent on Opener to reopen the bidding at all costs with a Double, especially if they have just one or two Hearts. Partner might just be waiting to say Double for Penalties and you will be doing it for him!!!!</p>
83	<p>When the bidding has gone 1♠ 2♣ NO NO it is incumbent on Opener to reopen the auction at all costs with a DOUBLE especially if they have 1 or less clubs. Partner could easily be waiting to CONVERT your reopening Double.</p>
84	<p>Try to RUFF with the WEAKER trumps and use the TOP TRUMPS for DRAWING TRUMPS</p>
85	<p>Defend Slams by attacking while Game contracts can be defended passively.</p>

86	Don't be a slave to Signals THINK FOR YOURSELF - don't stop thinking when partner signals see Barry Westra's Bols (53) tip (1) don't follow partner's signals blindly																							
87	Once the opponents have opened with a weak 2 or a weak 3 if you overcall then you cannot pre-empt too. All your bids should be up to scratch. You can't pre-empt a pre-emptor																							
88	If you have an overwhelming amount of trumps in one hand then look for a trump reduction play to generate an extra trick particularly if you are unable to finesse an opponent's trump Queen or King.																							
89	A defender with trumps (maybe 4 or more) should not attempt to shorten his trumps. In fact he should try and shorten declarer's trumps by leading and persevering with his long suit as much as he can.																							
90	Not sure what to discard throw away what you don't want and woe betide the partner who gets in and plays that suit back J.																							
91	After an Opening bid of 4♠ Double should be for penalties and 4NT should be Take-out but over other 4 Openers Double should be take-out - if agreed you and your partner might like to play it the other way around but you do need to agree it beforehand.																							
92	Doubles of freely bid slams and 3NT contracts should be LIGHTNER DOUBLES calling for an unusual lead- if you think you can defeat the contract by one trick any way and do not want an unusual lead then don't double otherwise partner will lead the wrong suit and the contract might still make. (No good being greedy for one trick)																							
93	If as a Passed hand you jump in a new suit this says I have a FIT in YOUR SUIT and a fairly reasonable hand that was almost an Opener in first place.																							
94	As partner of the overcaller (the advancer), adopt COMPETITIVE DOUBLES to show good values and interest in the remaining suits especially if responder has only just given a mediocre weak reply in Opener's suit in situations like this :- <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>N</td><td>E</td><td>S</td><td>W</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td><td>2♦</td><td>2♥</td><td>DBL</td> </tr> </table> Double will now show 8+ points and interest in Spades and clubs, the unbid suit	N	E	S	W	1♥	2♦	2♥	DBL															
N	E	S	W																					
1♥	2♦	2♥	DBL																					
95	As dealer try and Open the bidding especially if you want a suit led <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>♠</td><td>A T 6</td><td></td><td>♠</td><td>Q J T</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td><td>8</td><td></td><td>or</td><td>♥</td><td>K J 9 5 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td><td>K 9 3</td><td></td><td></td><td>♦</td><td>A 8 7 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td><td>K J 9 8 6 2</td><td></td><td></td><td>♣</td><td>T</td> </tr> </table> Do not hesitate. You should open as dealer on both hands.	♠	A T 6		♠	Q J T	♥	8		or	♥	K J 9 5 4	♦	K 9 3			♦	A 8 7 6	♣	K J 9 8 6 2			♣	T
♠	A T 6		♠	Q J T																				
♥	8		or	♥	K J 9 5 4																			
♦	K 9 3			♦	A 8 7 6																			
♣	K J 9 8 6 2			♣	T																			
96	Playing 5 card Majors even if you have a fit in the Major with 4333 hand you can still sometimes rebid 2NT or 3NT as there might be no advantage to being in No Trump																							
97	In desperate situations don't telegraph your problem to the opponents or they will punish you with a double or bid and find their best contract, If you are really courageous with <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>♠</td><td>J 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td><td>4 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td><td>Q 6 5 4 3 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td><td>8 7 2</td> </tr> </table> reply 3NT immediately to partner's 1NT (weak) Last person will find it hard to double or compete with 14 points 😊 see Jeremy Flint's Bols Tip Don't Cry Before you are hurt	♠	J 5	♥	4 3	♦	Q 6 5 4 3 2	♣	8 7 2															
♠	J 5																							
♥	4 3																							
♦	Q 6 5 4 3 2																							
♣	8 7 2																							
98	Instead of overruffing try discarding a loser elsewhere and then set up your ruff in a different suit later. a) you cut down the risk of a trump promotion b) you keep control of the trump suit																							

99	<p>Partner makes a trial bid of 2♠ over the sequence 1♥ 2♥ if you cannot help in the Trial Bid suit you should of course retreat to 3 of the agreed suit BUT IF you can show some other feature that is less than 3 of the agreed suit then attempt to show it so</p> <p>♠ T 5 or ♠ 9 4 ♥ Q 8 6 5 ♥ K J 9 5</p>								
100	<p>Avoid 2NT reply showing 11/12 points balanced as it's a horrid stifling reply. Adopt Jacoby 2NT reply which shows a good hand and a fit and asks partner to show shortage.</p>								
101	<p>In 4th seat with 17/18 points PASS when the bidding comes around to you 1♥ NO 2♣ ? as you know opener has 13 points and responder has good 8+ points so your partner has Zilch- can you remember to say No0 Bid under these circumstances</p>								
102	<p>If you can give declarer enough rope he might hang himself- so with J105 in dummy you see 962 drop the J10 and if declarer has AKQ2 in closed hand he might think the suit is breaking badly and play low to the 9 and waste an entry unnecessarily. For more details on this tip and the whole hand where declarer goes wrong see "Give Declarer Enough Rope by Tim Seres" (1)</p>								
103	<p>You are not sure what to bid after there has been intervention over your partner's Opener then NEGATIVE DOUBLE is probably the answer so if the bidding goes</p> <p>N E S W 1♣ 1♦ ?</p> <p>and you, North, have</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr><td>♠</td><td>Q 7 6 2</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>A K 6 5</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>5 4</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>A 8</td></tr> </table> <p>Bidding in a new suit is unlimited and forcing and so is a Negative Double.</p>	♠	Q 7 6 2	♥	A K 6 5	♦	5 4	♣	A 8
♠	Q 7 6 2								
♥	A K 6 5								
♦	5 4								
♣	A 8								
104	<p>If partner Overcalls and you have good fit and 10 or more points then use UCBS Unassuming Cue Bids so with</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr><td>♠</td><td>Q 7 6</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>8 2</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>A K 7 4 3</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>K 9 8</td></tr> </table> <p>Bid 2♥ when partner has overcalled their 1♥ bid with 1♠. The corollary of this is that if you actually raise partner's suit you will be weak - see Intermediate Tip 104 above</p>	♠	Q 7 6	♥	8 2	♦	A K 7 4 3	♣	K 9 8
♠	Q 7 6								
♥	8 2								
♦	A K 7 4 3								
♣	K 9 8								
105	<p>Choice between a ruffing finesse and a simple finesse most of the time its correct to go with ruffing finesse because even if its wrong you are ditching a loser from the other hand. Also when considering a ruffing finesse and simple finesse you should check who is the safe hand and who is the danger hand when doing so.</p>								
106	<p>If you have a good hand and partner has bid 2 suits do not just give support for the second suit create a forcing bid of some sort- best way to do this most of the time is to bid Fourth Suit Forcing.</p>								
107	<p>If you want to play simple two suited overcall over their 1♣ Opening bid then you could try Truscott defense to 1♣ where each suit bid shows that suit and the suit above it and it works like this 1♦ = Diamonds and Hearts</p>								
108	<p>With K54 opposite 632 or Q54 opposite 632</p> <p>Arrange to be last person to play and not the second with either your King or Queen. This is known as an avoidance play. You need to let the lead come all the way around to your king or Queen to give it some chance of making.</p>								

109	A Reverse is forcing for one round and cannot be Passed. However bad your hand is, you must either give preference to partner's first suit, raise partner's second suit, repeat your suit or bid NT with a sub minimum hand, but you cannot Pass.								
110	If the opponents come in on your auction, and you would still like to be in No Trumps and are worried about their suit use DAB (Directional Asking Bid) by bidding their suit asking partner to bid No Trumps with at least Qxx or Jxx in the opposition's suit as you have half a stopper yourself.								
111	When using the 4th suit forcing convention prefer to bid out your distribution rather than bidding NT, just because you have stopper in the 4th suit so with <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>A Q 6 4 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>Q 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td>K Q 9 4 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </table> <p>1♠ 2♣ 2♦ 2♥ after the bidding has gone: prefer to bid 3♦ showing 5-5 shape rather than 2NT just because you have ♥Q</p>	♠	A Q 6 4 2	♥	Q 2	♦	K Q 9 4 2	♣	2
♠	A Q 6 4 2								
♥	Q 2								
♦	K Q 9 4 2								
♣	2								
112	In 3rd and 4th seats after partner has Passed you can pre-empt 4 of a MAJOR suit with a good hand if you no longer think Slam is possible.								
113	If there is a choice between taking finesse (50% chance) or playing for a dummy reversal - needing their trumps to break 3-2 (68% chance) - then take the dummy reversal line for your extra trick.								
114	Once the auction is underway what suit do you bid next with these 4441 hands- bid the suits up the line.								
115	In a competitive auction whereby you have decided to take a sacrifice, if you want a different suit led to the one that you are both bidding then bit in on the way if you can bid 5♣ before going on to 5♥ (the agreed common suit) if Clubs is the suit you want led.								
116	When they Double you try and alternative another contract might be better. Don't lie Down and								
117	With two way finesse available with AT54 opposite KJ32 lead the Jack from the closed hand and see if you can tempt a cover from the opposition.								
118	If you have already made a limit bid DO NOT BID AGAIN - that's completely undisciplined- leave it up to partner								
119	Because so many players are now playing wide ranging 2NT rebids to show 17-19 points and they might have opened 2NT with 20 then a rebid of 3NT to show a traditionally Balanced 19 points is almost redundant therefore it is recommended that after a sequence 1♣ – 1♥ a rebid of 3NT should be on a hand with a long Minor and a great source of tricks such as: <p>♠ K J 5 ♥ 7 3 ♦ K 7 ♣ A K J 8 7 5</p>								
120	If you think partner has led from shortage, maybe a Doubleton don't rush to go in with your Ace. If you wait one round and partner plays the suit again now you can take the Ace and now give him his ruff.								
121	VERY occasionally you can overcall at the One Level with a four card suit if the suit is headed by AKQ or KQJ - it would meet the Suit Quality Test (honours plus cards in suit need to equal tricks required i.e. 4+3 =7) and would suggest a good lead to partner. What you lack in length you certainly make up for in quality,								
122	Don't be Afraid to respond Bid 1♠ with: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>Q J T 9 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>T 7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td>5 4 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>T 6 2</td> </tr> </table> <p>and watch how Stansby and Martel kept the opponents out of a cold 3NT contract.</p>	♠	Q J T 9 5	♥	T 7	♦	5 4 3	♣	T 6 2
♠	Q J T 9 5								
♥	T 7								
♦	5 4 3								
♣	T 6 2								

123	If you want to win the first trick and partner has bid and you have K62 in partner's suit lead the unsupported King and hope partner has the Ace
124	If in Doubt, at all costs, Try to re-open auctions with a Double just in case partner is lurking with a Penalty Double in situations like this ♠ A K 9 8 6 3 ♥ Q 9 8 ♦ K J 9 ♣ 5 3 N E S W 1 ♠ 2 ♣ NO NO DBL rather than just repeating 2 ♠
125	After a 2♣ Opener, if partner makes any sort of positive bid then slam is likely and thereafter you should BID SLOWLY to get the best out of your auction. You only bid quickly when you know where the hand is going
126	You are involved in a very competitive auction and are about to take a save in against their 4♠ contract but you want a Diamond led then bid 5♦ on the way, as a lead directing action, just in case the opposition do in fact take the push to 5♠
127	An essential key to competitive bidding is for the hand with shortness in the opponents suit to take action and either Double or bid a suit rather than passively Passing,
128	Playing MP Pairs, Partner offers you two suits, sometimes you will have to give false preference to the Major suit rather than playing in a possible 4-3 fit so with, especially as the Major suit scores better ♠ 9 5 after bidding has gone 1♠ NO 1NT NO ♥ 5 3 2 2♦ NO ? ♦ Q J 5 ♣ K J 7 5 4 you must now bid 2♠ just about preferring to play in 5-2 Spade fit
129	If you are playing transfers and a weak No Trump consider breaking transfers in the following manner after 2♦ and 2♥ transfer (with your regular partner after a full discussion) :- a) with a Fit and a minimum hand raise the agreed suit to the three level pre-emptively b) with a fit and a Maximum hand and 4333 bid 2NT c) with a fit and 4432 bid 3 of your Doubleton and partner can then judge where the best contract will be.
130	Don't give the correct count in a suit if you think it will be helping declarer more than it will help partner- weigh up you opponent. So with K762 play the 2 (normal count showing odd) if your method is count and you think declarer is watching hard.
131	Your partner makes a Lead of an Ace and in dummy there is a singleton, when you follow suit at trick one make sure you play a SUIT PREFERENCE SIGNAL on partner's lead. There is no point in encouraging or discouraging. There is no point in giving the count. BUT there is a lot of point in saying what suit your partner should switch to at trick 2. If you follow with a lowish card you want the lowest suit (excluding the trump) and if you follow with a highish card you want the higher suit again barring the trump suit
132	Looking for the opponents Queen and not sure which way to finesse in a situation like this :- (2 way finesse) ?????? AJT54 opposite K932 ???????? Where you can finesse either player for the missing Queen then try playing a Jack from the closed hand. Since so many people cover honours with honours even when they shouldn't if the Queen appears

	(great) and if it doesn't go up with the King and finesse on the way back the other opponent - More on this from Zia's Tip (2)
133	A short suit lead is a good lead if you have trump control such as A65 in the trump suit.
134	<p>If you make a Weak two in Spades against their 4♥ contract with the following hand and want to indicate what you want played next try making a suit Preference signal with your lead.</p> <p>♠ K J 8 6 4 2 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ 6 4 ♣ A Q 2</p> <p>lead ♠2 to ask for a Club Switch, if you had wanted Diamonds you would lead the ♠8</p>
135	Whenever declarer appears to have no more losers remaining in the side suits (suits other than trumps) then the defenders should try and create an extra trick from an UPPERCUT (trump promotion) if there is any chance of defeating the contract.
136	<p>Your partner leads an Ace and in dummy there is a singleton remember to give a suit preference signal at trick one on the first trick.</p> <p>So if partner leads the Heart Ace against 4♠ if you hold</p> <p>♠ 9 2 Play the 9 to say you want partner to switch to a Diamond ♥ 9 7 2 ♦ A K 9 4 ♣ 7 5 3 2</p>
137	<p>If you do an immediate DOUBLE JUMP CUE BID of the Opponents' Suit it is saying I have great source of tricks PLEASE BID 3NT if you have stopper in Opener's suit so with</p> <p>♠ 9 2 Overall 3♠ when the opposition Opens 1♠ ♥ A 6 ♦ A K Q J 9 6 5 ♣ K 4</p>
138	The only reason you should be repeating a five card suit is because you do not wish to bid beyond your barrier bid and you are not strong enough to Reverse. If this is not the case then you have made an incorrect bid from the off. You should have opened 1NT at your first opportunity and then you would not have this problem now.
139	If you are on the cusp of deciding whether or not to go onto a Slam, then as a secondary check, why not use the Losing Trick Option. Under these circumstances I find the Losing Trick Count comes into its own
140	Once either of you has made any sort of limit bid then after that. ALL DOUBLES should be deemed to be for PENALTIES. If you stick to this rule Two be tide any opponents coming in unwisely.
141	The reason you should count LOSERS as well as Winners is that sometimes this pinpoints where you need to be careful. Suddenly what looks like an easy hand could be problematic if the wrong defender got in and cashed a trick (loser to you) that you should have disposed of earlier in the hand.
142	If there is a chance that you will be overruffed, then don't ruff at all, but throw a loser instead. This is known as a LOSER ON LOSER PLAY and cannot cost. You are exchanging one loser for a different loser.
143	If you need an extra entry to dummy and there is not an obvious one then look to the trump suit itself so with AKQJT83 opposite 97 needing an entry to the right hand be aware of the power of that 9 and 7 and retain the 8 or 3 to get over to it.
144	Leave a high trump in the short hand, usually dummy as you might need it as an entry to get to dummy later.
145	Only make a JUMP SHIFT if a) you have 16+ points and a self supporting suit of your own or b) you have 16+ points and a FIT with partner.

146	<p>ACTIVE AUCTION - ACTIVE DEFENCE, PASSIVE AUCTION- PASSIVE DEFENCE.</p> <p>If the bidding has confidently gone 3♣ 3NT you know they have a good source of tricks so you should be doing ACTIVE DEFENCE and probably leading an Ace AND SEE WHAT IS GOING ON.</p> <p>If the bidding has hesitantly gone 1NT- 2NT 3NT and you know they barely have 25/26 points between them then PASSIVE DEFENCE is key trying not to give anything away and certainly not giving them a ninth trick on a plate.</p>
147	<p>Your partner leads an Ace and at trick one dummy has just a singleton, you, the other defender must make a suit preference signal at trick one. You follow suit with a high card you want the higher of the two remaining suits (exclude trumps) and if you play a low one you want the lower suit so with :-</p> <p>♠ 9 7 2 . ♥ 7 6 4 ♦ 9 6 5 2 ♣ A K 6</p> <p>Follow suit with the 2 when partner leads Spade Ace and there is a singleton Spade in dummy. The Spade Two asks for a Club switch</p>
148	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bid slowly when you don't know where the hand is going and you need to exchange information to get to the best possible fit. 2. Bid quickly when you know where the hand is going and you have found your fit. 3. Bid quickly with weak hands and a fit to take valuable bidding space away from the opposition.
149	<p>Play off that last trump and be pleasantly surprised when the next player is being squeezed at trick 10 or 11.</p>
150	<p>Never make the 2NT or 3NT direct replies to 1 of a suit as they stifle Opener and there is always something better. If need be with a 4333 hand just reply 2♣ after partner opens 1♠.</p> <p>Adopt a 2NT reply as Jacoby asking partner to further describe his hand showing singletons, extra strength and balanced hands.</p>
151	<p>Because a reply of 2♥ to a 1♠ Opener should promise a five card suit ,Opener must always be prepared to support as soon as possible with three card support. If you do not do so, partner is entitled to think</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) you don't have three cards support or b) you are getting to make a very strong reply in Hearts later.
152	<p>You have a really good hand and you initially bid in a new suit and then partner bids a new suit in which you have a fit if you are not sure what to bid next then USE 4TH SUIT FORCING and then come back to partner's second suit</p>
153	<p>Don't deny a four card Major at the 1 level however bad it is so with</p> <p>♠ 6 5 4 3 Reply 1♠ when partner opens 1♣ ♥ J 8 you can always come back to Clubs later if ♦ 4 3 needs be ♣ K Q 6 3 2</p>
154	<p>SHAPE is KING – don't worry about points when you have six and seven card suits or 65 shaped hands BID ON even if partner saying Nothing</p>

164	<p>When you have no trumps left in the dummy to finesse then you will have to resort to a trump coup - this is where you ruff enough times that you bring down your length to the same length as the opponent who has the missing card you are trying to finesse. and then you lead towards the honour you are trying to promote so with Spades as trumps these are the last four cards aim to end up in North</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North ♥ 9 5 3 2</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Mean Opponent ♠ J 9 8 5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">South ♠ A K Q T</p>
165	<p>If you bid a new suit when REPLYING, after intervention, you are showing a five or more card suit. If you only have four card suit then you should be employing a Negative Double instead.</p>
166	<p>With KQT5 opposite A632 play off the King first and then low towards to Ace and every time the suit breaks badly with the Jack under the QT you will still be able to finesse the QT that you carefully preserved.</p>
167	<p>You have an exceedingly good hand and partner has opened, just reply in a new suit and give your partner the platform to make his rebid and then you will be better placed where to go next. so with</p> <p>♠ A K 9 4 ♥ 6 ♦ A K J 5 4 ♣ K Q 6</p> <p>reply 2♦ and then you can bid another new suit next you need SPACE because at the moment you have no idea where the contract will end up</p>
168	<p>The opponents lead against your 3NT contract and between your hand and the dummy you have both the Ace and King in a situation like this</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A 5 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Queen led</p> <p style="text-align: center;">K 7</p> <p>if you need to give up the lead twice, to establish your suit, then hold up for one round, to cut communications between the two defenders.</p>
169	<p>The opponents lead against your 3NT and you are thinking of holding up DON'T if a switch to a different suit would be even more uncomfortable.</p>
170	<p>Make helpful lead directing bids especially in 3rd seat. If you stick your neck out (even a four card suit with top honours) with a bid in third seat and don't win the auction at least partner will know what suit to lead</p>
171	<p>Before making your lead, try and work out what declarer and dummy's' shape is - did they bid 2 suits ? Did they go into No Trump? If you work out the shape first, you might well lead a different suit.</p>
172	<p>Do not cover the honour (especially in trumps suit) if dummy has Ace Doubleton and you started with K54. All you have to do is play low for two rounds and your King will win.</p>
173	<p>If the opponents Double your transfer sequence if you complete the transfer, when you did not have to do so, you are now promising 3 cards or more in the transfer suit. If you Pass partner can still bid and will now know you only have two card support.</p>
174	<p>In connection with Intermediates Tip174 above, when you are the person not following suit make sure you discard a card of the same color the first time the suit is played because so many players are careless and will not notice that you did not follow suit.</p>

175	<p>If you have very good support for partner's second suit and a good hand use the 4th suit forcing bid to show the full value of your hand and then come back to partner's first next so with:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="164 309 1074 584"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>You</th> <th>Partner</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>A K 7 6</td> <td>1 ♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>A Q 6 5 3</td> <td>1 ♥ 1 ♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td>7 6</td> <td>2 ♣ and then come to Spades later</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>K 8</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		You	Partner	♠	A K 7 6	1 ♦	♥	A Q 6 5 3	1 ♥ 1 ♠	♦	7 6	2 ♣ and then come to Spades later	♣	K 8	
	You	Partner														
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♦	7 6	2 ♣ and then come to Spades later														
♣	K 8															
176	<p>Lead aggressively against a confidently bid contract. If they bid 4^a and have shown a source of tricks outside the trump suit, you need to find four tricks quickly, so lead from a KQ or even an unsupported Ace</p>															
177	<p>Can you work out if partner has a void without him cue bidding? If the opponents are bidding and supporting a suit and the bidding suggests they have at least 9 and you have four in this suit then you know partner "must have" a void. Use the opponents bidding to work out partner's distribution.</p>															
178	<p>Partner opens 1 of a Minor and you have fit and a good hand bid a new suit even if it's only three but prefer to make your manufactured bid in a Minor as partners are far much more likely to support a Major than a new Minor.</p>															
179	<p>After opening 2♠ or 3♠ do not bid again and leave all decisions to partner. Opening 2♠ or 3♠ are limit bids so why would you want to bid again ??</p>															
180	<p>If you manage to push the opponents to the 5 level do not Double them. If they go off you are getting a good board any way. If you Double and they now make it all your good work of pushing them to the 5 level has been negated.</p>															
181	<p>If one of the defenders ruffs in and you are about to overruff Think Again. It might be better to discard a loser instead. If you overruff then you might be open to a trump promotion by the unfriendly defenders in following situation.</p>															
182	<p>Third hand doesn't play high in this situation :- Partner leads 4th highest and dummy has two small cards and you have AQ5 of the led suit then follow with the Queen, not the Ace. If you follow with the Ace and declarer has the king, declarer will be able to hold up and cut you off from your partner. If you play the Queen declarer will certainly not risk holing up now if the Queen is played</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="292 1413 719 1518"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">9 6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">J 8 4 3 2</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">A Q 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">K T 7</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>No declarer will hold up here when you play the Queen unless they have had a peek at the cards. See Schmucl Lev Bols Tip (4) for more details.</p>		9 6		J 8 4 3 2		A Q 5		K T 7							
	9 6															
J 8 4 3 2		A Q 5														
	K T 7															
183	<p>If the bidding is about to subside in the two level, you as the last player must do everything in your power to BALANCE in a situation like this:</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="164 1704 400 1816"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td style="text-align: center;">E</td> <td style="text-align: center;">S</td> <td style="text-align: center;">W</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♦</td> <td></td> <td>NO</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td></td> <td>NO</td> <td>NO</td> <td>?</td> </tr> </table> <p>West should try and bid at all costs as he knows his partner has values. West can now bid with as few as 7/8 points and if he doubles he is merely showing the other two suits. Better to bid. Maybe the opponents will take push to three level and it will be easier to defeat a three level contract than a two level contract. If they don't take the push you might make 2♥ or 3♣ or at worse go one off.</p>		N	E	S	W	1♦		NO	1♠	NO	2♦		NO	NO	?
	N	E	S	W												
1♦		NO	1♠	NO												
2♦		NO	NO	?												
184	<p>If somebody makes a passive lead then don't expect that player to have an Ace King suit otherwise they might have led from the Ace/king suit initially.</p>															

210	<p>No obvious way to generate extra tricks THINK DUMMY REVERSAL whereby you ruff enough times in the long hand that the short hand becomes the dominant trump drawing hand, most commonly found in 5-4 fits. In Spade contract, spades broke 4-0 so try ruffing 2 clubs in long hand first.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="159 342 874 499"> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>A Q 7 6 2</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td>♠</td> <td>K J 8 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>A K 5 2</td> <td>W</td> <td>E</td> <td>♥</td> <td>J 7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td>7 6 3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>♦</td> <td>A K T 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td>S</td> <td>♣</td> <td>Q T 9</td> </tr> </table>	♠	A Q 7 6 2		N	♠	K J 8 3	♥	A K 5 2	W	E	♥	J 7	♦	7 6 3			♦	A K T 2	♣	3		S	♣	Q T 9
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♥	A K 5 2	W	E	♥	J 7																				
♦	7 6 3			♦	A K T 2																				
♣	3		S	♣	Q T 9																				
211	<p>In second seat a DOUBLE of 1NT shows 15+ points and is for Penalties. In FOURTH SEAT it also says I would have Doubled the weak No Trump- I am the one with the good hand, 15+ points.</p>																								
212	<p>BE FLEXIBLE. One of the criteria for making a JUMP reply in new suit is 16+ points and self supporting suit so with 2♥</p> <p>♠</p> <p>♥ A Q J T 7 3 2</p> <p>♦ A 9 5</p> <p>♣ Q 6 4</p> <p>It is absolutely right to reply 2♥ when partner opens 1♣. However when partner rebids 2♣ now rethink and be prepared to support Clubs as you know they have five or more.</p>																								
213	<p>With KT98543 opposite 7 or KT9854 opposite 73 and a lack of entries, play low from hand twice and pray for a doubleton Ace. Doubleton Ace occurring has more chance than a precise doubleton QJ</p>																								
214	<p>Once you have pre-empted DO NOT BID AGAIN – a pre-empt is a Limit bid.</p>																								
215	<p>If you and partner have a fit and the opponents are bidding and you have three small in their suit you can work out that partner has a singleton or even a void and your hand value goes up in leaps and bound.</p>																								
216	<p>In 4th seat you only need a FOUR CARD SUIT to PROTECT- it's better to protect and push the opponents out of their comfort zone- why let them play in 1♦.</p>																								
217	<p>If you have a suit that could be established such as AK65 opposite 432 play it early and if suit breaks 4-2 no worry but if it does break 3-3 then you can establish the thirteenth card while you still have entries – also you might still be able to ruff the thirteenth card in dummy with a trump (assuming you haven't drawn trumps) if the suit has broken 4-2.</p>																								
218	<p>When splintering, it is best not to splinter into a singleton Ace as partner will not be able to evaluate the rest of the hand and will expect your 13/14 points in the other three suits.</p>																								
219	<p>If somebody makes a trump lead rather than an unbid suit then they probably have awkward holding in those other suits so should you be looking for a queen then that player is more likely to hold the queen you are looking for.</p>																								
220	<p>When you embark on a cross ruff cash all the outside winners first and then proceed to do your cross ruff. If you do the cross ruffing first they may throw cards in those outside Aces and you might not get to make them at the 11th hour</p>																								
221	<p>If partner Opens 4♠ he really should not have two Aces but he could have Ace of his long suit and a singleton so if you want to make slam try cue-bid lowest Ace to give partner chance to show singleton now</p>																								
222	<p>Needing 1 trick from 8 opposite KJ654 play this suit as early as possible and play low and try that King and hope second person has played low from Ace- put the pressure on the opposition.</p>																								
223	<p>With KQ943 opposite T85 needing four tricks finesse Ace first – if no ace appears come back to hand and finesse again BUT if 4th player has held up the Ace then declarer is bound to come back to hand and finesse again and now Jack Is promoted (nice Con) for partner in situations like this :-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">K Q 9 4 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J 7 2 A 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">T 8 5</p> <p>if last player plays Ace straight away then declarer is bound to finesse the Jack.</p>																								

224	Second hand playing low also means that second hand SHOULD NOT RUFF IN before partner has had a chance to play to the current trick.
225	With A8632 opposite 954 keep playing low for two rounds and you keep control of the suit as you still have the Ace.
226	Partner opens the bidding and you have a very strong 2 suited hand BID SLOWLY as you need to exchange as much information as possible so with:
	♠ A 9 8 5 4 reply 2♠ only when partner opens 1♥
	♥ 4
	♦ 3
♣ A K J 7 5 4	
227	Partner opens the bidding 1♣ and you have
	♠ 5 4 reply 1♦ rather than 1♥
	♥ A K 4 3 a) you must bid up the line
	♦ J 8 7 3 b) if partner has Hearts and now bids them then the stronger hand
♣ 9 5 4 will be playing the contract	
228	You bid slowly when you don't know where the hand is going and you want to get to your best fit. Bridge players with Strong Hands do it Slowly.
229	If you have good source of tricks and reasonable 14/15 points and stopper in opponents suit, but not as balanced as you might like to be you can overcall 1NT - slightly off centre bid.
230	If both opponents are freely bidding new suits and in 4th seat you have 15/16 points PASS- your partner cannot have anything.
231	With K T 9 6 5 4 3 opposite 7 the best way to try and contain your losers to just two is to play low card twice and hope for doubleton Ace which is much more likely than doubleton Q J.
232	If you have a VOID and the opponents bids this suit then your hand GOES UP IN VALUE since any values in partner's hand are now likely to be outside that suit.
233	Opposite a Passed partner, a 1NT rebid now shows 18/91 as the opener is virtually on his own opposite a partner who might have Zero points.
234	If you lead an Ace and there is no future in the suit led because dummy has either a singleton or very good cards in this suit then if partner drops a LOW CARD he is asking for the LOWER SUIT and if he drops a particularly HIGH CARD he is asking for the HIGHER SUIT- this is as a SUIT PREFERENCE SIGNAL.
235	If you have all the Aces and Kings and good back up hand prefer to play in 7NT a) to get better Match Point score and b) just in case there is a bad trump split and you can then rely on another suit to make your contract,
236	With K 6 opposite Q 8 7 5 4 3 needing to keep losers in this suit to no more than One play low towards the King and if it wins now play low card from each hand and pray for a doubleton Ace.
237	In 4th seat when the bidding goes 1NT NO NO. With:
	♠ A93 ♥ QJ874 ♦ K ♣ T972
	I think you should venture in with 2H, but only do this in 4 th seat as you know partner must have some values as the contract has so far just subsided in 1NT. In second seat do not make the same bid.
238	Somebody leads 4th highest 3 and dummy has A92 and you have T754 - firstly you know the person has led from precisely a 4 card suit, secondly you know he doesn't have KQJ or he would have led top of sequence,. Therefore you must play dummy's Ace to make sure you block the suit between the 2 defenders. In situations like this

	<p style="text-align: center;">A 9 2 Q J 6 3 K 8 T 7 5 4</p>
239	A defender who discontinues playing his long suit suggests that that defender has no further interest in his long suit because he has no entries left on the hand. Therefore, if you, as declarer, are looking for some high cards (Queens and Jacks for finessing), the high cards are likely to be in the other defender's hand.
240	Needing no more than 1 loser in the following suit combination K64 opposite Q7532 you have to play somebody for doubleton Ace and finesse him and then play a low card from each hand.
241	<p>Looking for the Queen of trumps in following situation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">K 7 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Q 9 3 6 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A J T 8 5</p> <p>Left Hand opponent makes you ruff in short hand before you have had chance to test trumps NOW play that opponent for missing Queen.</p>
242	The only artificial bid in a transfer sequence is the initial 2♥ or 2♦ reply to the 1NT bid- all the rest of the bids should be natural and if responder repeats the suit he is now showing 5-4 in the transferred suit plus the other suit.
243	<p>With 6-5 distribution and minimum hand consider opening in the higher ranking suit even if the lower ranking suit is longer and then you will not have rebid problems so with:</p> <p>♠ J ♥ A K J 7 6 ♦ J 8 7 5 4 3 ♣ K</p> <p>open 1♥ and then happily rebid 2♦</p>
244	Drop Misfitting hands as quickly as possible before you get too high.
245	With two four card suits, if you bid your rotten suit, the opponents will not lead it if you end up in No Trump- always a good reason to bid that suit.
246	<p>Negative Doubles are part of Replying theory so do remember to</p> <p>a) consider them each time there is intervention b) remember to use them</p> <p>Since a reply only needs 6 points so does a Negative Double only need 6 points- it is UNLIMITED.</p>
247	If you have same suits as the opposition and 15 points KEEP PASSING – partner cannot have anything at all can he?
248	<p>If your overcall has no pre-emptive value then don't bother to make it if you have lousy suit so with:</p> <p>♠ Q7643 ♥ 98 ♦ A54 ♣ A54</p> <p>Don't bother to overcall 1♠ when they open 1♥. If they open 1♥ then do overcall 1♠ but it's still not a great overcall as you don't really want Spades led do you?</p>
249	In a No Trump Contract, "Third hand should play high" but with AQ6 play the Queen and declarer, if he has the King will not be able to hold up and declarer will not be able to cut communications between the two defenders – See the Lev tip from Bols Tips : BOLS-EXPERT-TIPS

250	Avoid 2NT as a reply to partner's Opening bid of 1 of a Suit- there is always something better. This is particularly applicable if you are already a Passed Hand and maybe partner has opened light.
251	With 6-5 distribution and minimum hand consider opening in the higher ranking suit even if the lower ranking suit is longer and then you will not have rebid problems so with ♠ J ♥ AKJ76 ♦ J76532 ♣ K prefer to open 1♥ and you will be OK to rebid your Diamonds next.
252	Very seldom should you join in after the opponents Open 2♣ but with: ♠ K Q 7 6 5 2 ♥ 7 4 ♦ A J T 9 ♣ 3 I think you should join in with 2♠ or even 3♠ and get nice surprise when partner supports and you can disrupt the opponents' progress
253	Third hand should play high but with AQ6 play the Queen and declarer, if he has the King will not be able to hold up and declarer will not be able to cut communications between the two defenders – See the Lev tip from Bols Tips: BOLS-EXPERT-TIP
254	If there is an overcall of 1NT and opener's partner has 8+ points then he MUST DOUBLE for PENALTIES in same way you Double an Opening 1NT bid for Penalties.
255	In 4 th seat USE RULE of 15 so with: ♠ T9 ♥ AQ654 ♦ AJ72 ♣ 75 Do not open as you will be opening the door to the opposition. If your high Card Points plus your spades do not equal 15 then throw the hand in otherwise the opposition will come in and be able to outbid you.
256	If partner CONVERTS an INFORMATIVE DOUBLE into a PENALTY Double then LEAD A TRUMP
257	If there is a choice between playing in two 6-2 fits it is best to play in the weaker player's long suit otherwise you might not be able to get to that hand.
258	With: ♠ AQ976 ♥ J43 ♦ KQT ♣ 72 Playing Weak No Trump, in first and second seats open 1NT and then you have no rebid problems but in 3 rd and 4 th seats when you do not need to have a rebid ready, cut your losses and open 1♠.
259	With: ♠ 6 ♥ 965 ♦ 5 ♣ AKQT8765 Only reply 2♣ when partner opens 1♥ and give partner a chance to rebid - DON'T be preclusive.
260	If you lead King against a No Trump contract you are telling partner to UNBLOCK and if he has the Queen or Jack to now throw it. So the suit doesn't get blocked, if he has neither of these cards he is expected to give the COUNT instead. so that in situations like this KQT54 opposite J7 by chucking the Jack under partner's King partner knows it is safe to continue

<http://bridge-tips.co.il/?p=7278>⁽¹⁾

(2) טיפ מספר 14 מתוך 94 טיפים של מומחים בקישור: <http://bridge-tips.co.il/?p=7886>
(3) הסבר בקישורים:

<http://www.gravesendbridgeclub.org/CB/competing/UnassumingCueBid.html>

http://www.pattayabridge.com/conventions/Unassumingcue_main.htm

<http://bridge-tips.co.il/?p=7886> ⁽⁴⁾

Source : H. Schogger

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