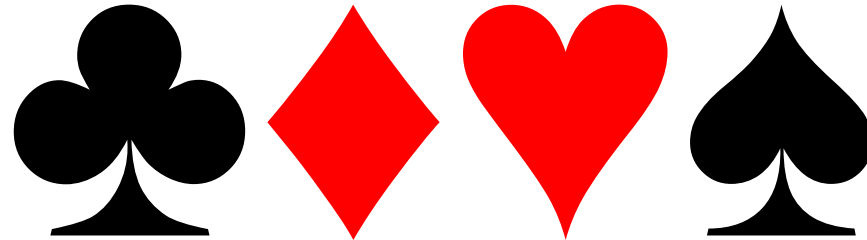




U3A Intermediate Bridge

Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead



Steve Bailey
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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Before we look at a few playing tips and techniques, I want to review filling in travellers again.

One thing I did notice was that several times two travellers for a board said one thing and the other two said another. That suggests some of you are not showing **your** traveller to the player on **your left** for checking and that some of you are not **checking** the traveller of the player to **your right**.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

First person, add the board number

Board	7					Score	
NS	EW	Contract	By	Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
1							
2							
3	6	4S+1	N	KD	11	450	
4							
5							
6	9	4S✓	S	3C	10	420	
7	10	4S-1	S	3C	9		50
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							

Travellers.

- 1: Determine the NS pair
Use that row.
- 2: Determine the EW pair
Put that number in the EW column
- 3: Write the contract as bid and the result (4S+1 etc)
- 4: Write who was declarer
- 5: *Ignore Lead*
- 6: Write the number of tricks made (0..13)
- 7: Write the score in NS or EW as a positive number
- 8: Show it to player on your left for checking.

Make it legible



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Now you can have a go at spotting the mistakes in some of last week's travellers. The table numbers have been changed to protect the guilty.

Note that there may be more than one way of "resolving" an entry. The answers I provide here are worked out by comparing with other entries at different tables on the same traveller, by looking at the other 3 travellers and by looking at the hands played to see what was likely to have happened.

So...



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
4	10	4H	E	11		650



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
4	10	4H	E	11		650
4	10	4H+1	E	11		650



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead


Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
5	11	3N+1	E W	10		430



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead


Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
5	11	3N+1	E W	10		430
5	11	3NT+1	E 	10		430

I know it is picky, but writing 3NT helps as many folk have handwriting where an “N” can be confused with an “H”.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
5	11	3N+1	E W	10		430
5	11	3NT+1	E 	10		430

I know it is picky, but writing 3NT helps as many folk have handwriting where an “N” can be confused with an “H”.

On a similar note, please write the + or – between the contract and the over/under tricks, not on top of them:

“3NT+1” or “3NT-1”

rather than

“3NT⁺1” or “3NT⁻1”



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
3	9	2S-2	W	6		100



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
3	9	2S-2	W	6		100
3	9	2S-2	S	6		100
3	9	2S-2	W	6	100	←

Two possible resolutions, work out which is correct from the cards...



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
2	8	2S	S	5		150



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
2	8	2S	S	5		150
2	8	2S-3	S	5		150



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
8	2	1NT	W	5	200	



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
8	2	1NT	W	5	200	
2	8	1NT-2	W	5	200	



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
		4S	W	10	420	



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Pair No		Contract	By Lead	Tricks	NS	EW
NS	EW				+	-
1		4S	W	10	420	
1	7	4S✓	W	10	→	420
1	7	4S✓	N	10	420	

Two possible resolutions, work out which is correct from the cards...



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

These next few slides are not from RWPB, though that has advice on this topic which we will look at another week.

As Declarer

- 1] Do not rush at the first trick,
when dummy goes down, THINK
 - a] How many tricks can definitely be made
 - b] How many have to be found and where these are coming from
 - c] How easy communications will be between your 2 hands
 - d] Make a plan on these thoughts and stick to it as best possible.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

As Declarer

2] Think about the opponents' bidding. This will give you an idea where their strengths are.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

As Declarer

3] Keep the 'danger hand' off lead. (Danger hand is the one able to run a sequence of winning tricks or lead a making finesse through you.)



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

As Declarer

4] REMEMBER either the number of cards played in a suit OR whether a key card has been played. (eg a card which will set up a winning sequence for YOU.)

This is essential for trumps and advisable for all four suits.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

As Declarer

5] If in a suit contract, decide whether to draw trumps or not.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

As Declarer

6] Lose your losers first (as long as not too many), so that you have control when it matters.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

As Declarer

7] Keep a winner in the opponents' suit as long as possible. Do not set up winning tricks for them.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

As Declarer

8] Try to make small trumps in the short hand independently .



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

Opening lead against a suit contract.

RWPB page 192

Six guides...

As always, there may be occasions when you have to violate them, but they stand as good advice.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

1 Lead top of a sequence headed by an honour.

In the suited case 2 cards makes a sequence.

You are trying to flush out higher cards and promote the next card in the sequence.

A promises K

K promises Q and denies A *exception on next slide*

Q promises J and denies K

Also denies A as would not underlead an A (*see 5*)

J promises 10 and denies Q

Also denies A as would not underlead an A

10 promises 9 and denies J (*Treat 10 as an honour here*)

Also denies A as would not underlead an A



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

1 Lead top of a sequence headed by an honour.

From KQxx,

K promises Q and denies A

However if you have **only AK** (not AKx or AKxx etc) lead K. The fact that A didn't appear will tell partner you have just those two cards.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

2 Don't lead a doubleton.

It is a risky play and goes wrong more often than it works.

You may lead it if your partner bid it.

If you lead the suit, lead the top card. This may conflict with rule 1, be careful.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

3 Lead your partner's suit.

If partner has bid, lead their suit unless you have a much better lead (eg a singleton).

Lead top of a sequence if you can.

Lead low to show interest in the suit.

Lead a high intermediate to show dislike of suit.

Don't lead away from an unsupported Ace.

*Some people like "top of suit" to be led so that partner "knows".
RWPB cautions against this.*



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

4 Lead low to show interest in the suit.

Lead a high intermediate to show dislike of suit.

Lead low if you have one or more unsupported honours.

K 9 **3**

Q 10 5 **2**

Lead a high intermediate to show dislike of suit.

9 **7** 3 2



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

5 Never lead away from an unsupported Ace.

A J 9 **4** NO, NEVER

If you have some **great** reason for leading this suit, you should lead the Ace, but this really only applies in No Trumps contracts.

Note that with **A** K 9 4, the lead of the supported Ace (top of a sequence) is recommended.



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead

6 Lead trumps if other suits are unappealing.

But not a singleton trump. If you have only one, the rest will be with your partner – don't spoil his holding.



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Week 9 Play

In today's play,

I want us to concentrate more on the opening lead and the play of the hands. Therefore please bid as the slips with each hand.

After it has been played, we can discuss the bidding if you are unhappy with it.



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Week 9 Play

Play

Divide yourselves into pairs and then into tables.

This week I do not plan to ask you to move, in future weeks we may.

NS have the pair number of their table. (North has back to screen)

EW have the pair number of their table plus 6.

When you have played a hand, pass it to the next numbered table in sequence. The highest numbered table passes to table 1.

And one last thing – as part of the learning process – I would like the partner of whoever has just bid to take whatever action is standardly required (announcing 1NT to be 12-14 points, ALERTing a conventional bid, ...) – AND ALSO to give a brief description to the other three players on what the bid means.

Any questions?

Optional coffee... 20p

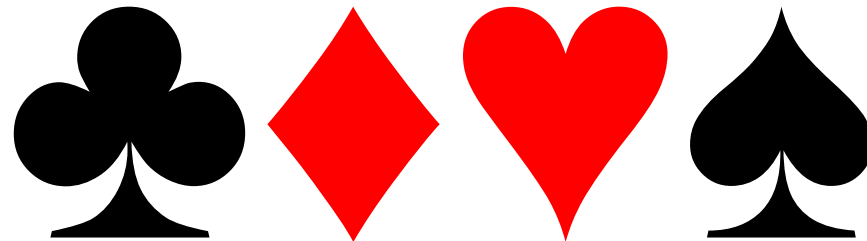
PLAY



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Week 9 Play & Suit Contract Opening Lead



The end