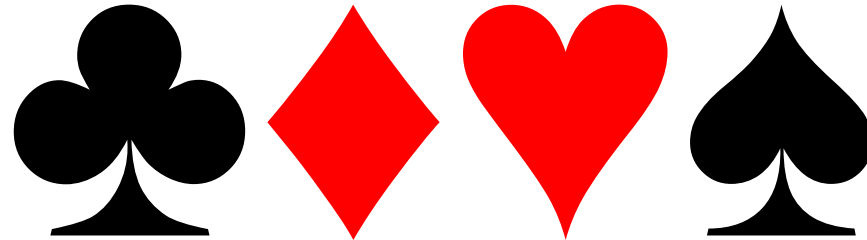




# U3A Intermediate Bridge

Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead



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# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT 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*



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT 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 Defence**

1] Think about the bidding before making first lead [and always face down].



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

### **As Defence**

2] You need to have already discussed what your partner likes when leading a suit they have bid.

*Some people like you to lead your highest card in their suit. RWPB and other experts reckon this to be less than optimal, but...*



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

### **As Defence**

3] Lead through strength to weakness.

*That way if your LHO (left hand opponent) plays low, partner can judge how high he has to play to just win the trick.*

*While if LHO plays high, partner (hopefully) can play higher.*



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

### As Defence

4] In NT try to establish your pair's long suit and keep an entry so it can be used.

*Your pair's long suit may not be **your** long suit. It may be your partner's.*



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

### **As Defence**

5] In a suit contract remember your long suit is likely to be trumped quite soon. It may be worth getting rid of trumps.



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

### **As Defence**

6] Remember what your partner led and return that suit ASAP.

*There are signals that can affect this...*





# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

### **As Defence**

7] Setting up cross-trumping is good.



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

*Reviewing last time*

**Opening lead against a suit contract.**

RWPB page 192

- 1 Lead top of a sequence headed by an honour.
- 2 Don't lead a doubleton.
- 3 Lead your partner's suit.
- 4 Lead low to show interest in the suit.  
Lead a high intermediate to show dislike of suit.
- 5 Never lead away from an unsupported Ace.
- 6 Lead trumps if other suits are unappealing.



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

**Opening lead against a no trump contract.** RWPB page 212

Four guides...

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



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

No Trumps contracts are often a race to establish a long suit first.

### **Choose the suit to lead**

- 1a If your partner has bid, lead his suit if you can.
- 1b Otherwise lead your own long suit unless declarer/dummy have bid it.
- 1c Otherwise lead an unbid suit?



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

### Choose the card within the suit

- 2 Top of a sequence to an honour
  - 2a Full sequence
  - 2b Top of broken sequence
  - 2c Top of an internal sequence
  - 2d Top of an internal broken sequence
- 3 Fourth highest card.

*When combined with choosing the suit, this becomes the familiar “Fourth highest of longest and strongest suit to an honour unless something better exists”.*
- 4 A high intermediate from rubbish.



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

Against a suit contract, a sequence is 2 cards to an honour. Thus

ⓐK   ⓀQ   ⓄJ   ⓂT   Ⓣ9

Against a No Trump contract a sequence is 3 cards with certain holes allowed.

**2a full sequence** – 3 in a row

ⓐKQ   ⓀQJ   ⓄJT   ⓂT9   Ⓣ98

**2b broken sequence** – 2, miss 1, 1

ⓐK.J   ⓀQ.T   ⓄJ.9   ⓂT.8   Ⓣ9.7

**2c internal sequence** – full sequence with just one card above it.

A.ⓄJT   A..ⓂT9   K.ⓂT9   Q.Ⓣ98

*Andrew Robson's definition is slightly different (H, gap, seq of 2)*

**2d internal broken sequence** – broken sequence with just one card above it. (AR's H, gap, seq of 2 applies here as well)

A.ⓄJ.9   A..ⓂT.8   K.ⓂT.8   Q.Ⓣ9.7



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

Note that with these guides:

(i) You are promising to hold the card one below and the card either two or three below.

*eg Q promises J T or J 9*

(ii) In the internal sequence cases, it is now permitted to lead away from an ace.

You need to agree with partner whether you are using PM's Internal sequence definition or AR's.



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

**3      If you don't have a sequence then lead the fourth highest of your longest and strongest suit to an honour (AKQJT)**

Again it is permissible here to lead away from an unsupported Ace.

Do lead the fourth highest, not the top of a local sequence including the fourth highest:

Q T 6 5 2      lead the 5 not the 6





# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

Having lead the 4<sup>th</sup> highest, which can be identified by being a low card – an honour will be top of a sequence, a high intermediate will be “high from rubbish” – the **Rule of Eleven** comes into play.

Both your partner and declarer subtract the card you lead from 11 to work out how many cards above the lead card are held by the three non-opening-lead hands. They can see dummy and their own hand and can thus work out what is in the other hand.

eg from Q T 8 7 opener leads 7.

$11 - 7 = 4$ , so there are four cards above the 7 to be located.

Dummy has K 5 3, so there is one above 7.

You have A J 9 6, so that is three above 7.

Therefore all four are found, so declarer has no card in the lead suit above a 7. (He has 4 2.)

If Dummy plays K take it with A, if he plays 5 or 3, play 6 leaving opener's 7 to take the trick!



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

If your long suit is particularly bad and in a weak hand, then leading it is pointless – even if you can establish the suit with partner's help, you won't regain the lead to take advantage of it.

That is the time to try to establish partner's long suit.

If declarer / dummy have 25..28 HCP between them and you have only 1..2 HCP then partner has 10..14 HCP which may be enough to do damage. Try to work out from the bidding what his long suit is.

Did declarer / dummy avoid Stayman? Maybe they don't have a major?

RWPB:

When you are very weak, you must not lead your own long suit. Lead your strongest short suit, hoping to find partner with length and the entries to establish it.



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead

### 4 A high intermediate from rubbish.

If you are leading from a suit NOT headed by an honour (AKQJT), then lead a high intermediate so partner can tell

you have no honour in this suit

you do have length in this suit

it isn't the fourth highest in the suit

What is a high intermediate?

Usually 9 8 7 6.

Sometimes partner will have to work out whether a card is a high intermediate or a fourth card from the context.

eg Is a 7 from Q T 8 7 or from 9 7 4 3 2?

*This can be hard...*

Usually lead second highest from rubbish

9 **7** 4 3 2      8 **6** 5 3      9 **8** 7 6 5      9 **7** 5 4 3 2



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 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.



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 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**

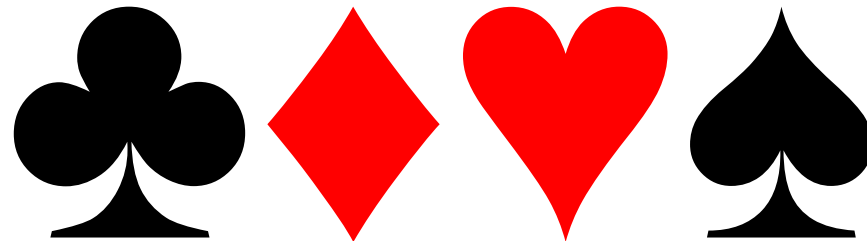
**PLAY**



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



Week 10 Play & NT Contract Opening Lead



The end



# U3A Intermediate Bridge



## Week 10 Set hands

- 1 AR Opening Lead #2 (AS=N)
- 2 AR Opening Lead #11 (AS=W)
- 3 AR Opening Lead #14 (AS=S)
- 4 AR Opening Lead #21 (AS=E)
- 5 AR Bridge Common Mistakes #26 (AS=N)
- 6 AR Bridge Common Mistakes #137 (AS=W)