



U3A Intermediate Bridge

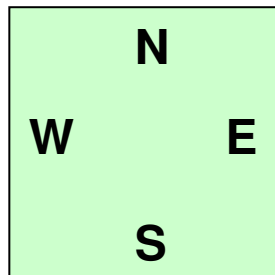


While waiting for 2pm

You are West. What do you bid and why?

E	S	W	N
3♥	P	?	

♠ A 7 6 4
♥ K
♦ A K 3
♣ A 8 7 6 5



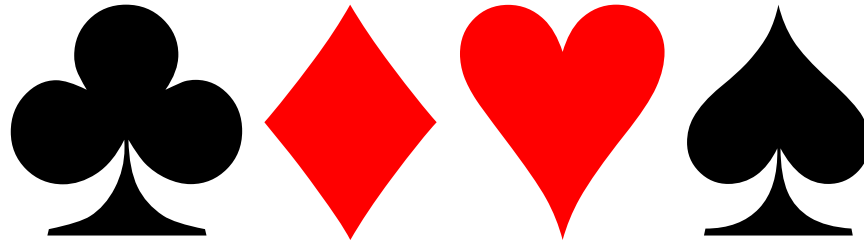
From BRIDGE #146 pg1 p7



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count



Steve Bailey



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Week 10 ... of the week

Procedure of the week:

Do not return your bidding cards to the bidding box until **after** the opening lead has been turned the right way up.

Hint of the week:

If you don't write the contract down on a record card, raise the relevant bidding card at an angle out of the box after you return the cards to the box.



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

From last time – *This page is what you want to learn and use.*

Only apply the **Losing Trick Count** in a suit contract after a **FIT**.

Less useful with a balanced hand

In each suit, work out how many of the top three tricks you will fail to win - missing from “ACE, KING, QUEEN”.

Add the four suits together.

- L0 gets 0LT Nothing to lose.
- L1 gets a maximum of 1LT Do you have the “Ace”?
- L2 gets a maximum of 2LT Do you have “Ace” and / or “King”?

Opener at 1-level is assumed to have 7LT.

Responder is assumed to have 9LT at the 1-level, 8LT at the 2-level.

Subtract total for partnership from 18 for a recommendation.



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

There are **refinements** to the system. You can use them if you are completely happy with the basic system.



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Queens

A432 2LT (KQ)

Q432 2LT (AK)

Both are 2LT, but they are obviously of [different strengths](#).



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Queens

A432 2LT (KQ)

Q432 2LT (AK)

Both are 2LT, but they are obviously of [different strengths](#).

So instead rate an unsupported Q as $\frac{1}{2}$ loser in an L3+ suit.
Support is one of the other picture cards (A K J).

AJ432 2LT (KQ)

Q432 2½LT (AKq)

AQ32 1LT (K)

QJ3 2LT (AK)

QT3 2½LT (AKq)



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

How many losers here?

♠ Q 5 4 3

♥ Q J 3 2

♦ A 8 7

♣ Q 2



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

How many losers here?

♠ Q 5 4 3	2½	(A, K, L3+ suit unsupported Q)
♥ Q J 3 2	2	(A, K) <i>L3+ suit supported Q</i>
♦ A 8 7	2	(K, Q)
♣ Q 2	2	(A, K)
Total	8½	



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Refinements:

We have just seen

- Unsupported Queen

Add $\frac{1}{2}$ loser



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Refinements:

- Unsupported Queen Add $\frac{1}{2}$ loser
- Hands without Aces Add $\frac{1}{2}$ loser



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Refinements:

- Unsupported Queen Add $\frac{1}{2}$ loser
- Hands without Aces Add $\frac{1}{2}$ loser
- Hands without Aces or Kings Add 1 loser



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Refinements:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| • Unsupported Queen | Add 1/2 loser |
| • Hands without Aces | Add 1/2 loser |
| • Hands without Aces or Kings | Add 1 loser |
| • Hands with 3 or 4 Aces | Remove 1/2 loser |



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Refinements:

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| • Unsupported Queen | Add 1/2 loser |
| • Hands without Aces | Add 1/2 loser |
| • Hands without Aces or Kings | Add 1 loser |
| • Hands with 3 or 4 Aces | Remove 1/2 loser |
| • Unsupported Q in a suit partner bid | Remove 1/2 loser |



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Refinements:

- Unsupported Queen Add $\frac{1}{2}$ loser
- Hands without Aces Add $\frac{1}{2}$ loser
- Hands without Aces or Kings Add 1 loser
- Hands with 3 or 4 Aces Remove $\frac{1}{2}$ loser
- Unsupported Q in a [suit partner bid](#) Remove $\frac{1}{2}$ loser

There are more refinements, but this will do!

Remember Js, 10s and 9s make a hand more valuable.

To remember the refinements think "A,K,Q".



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Assumptions about partner's hand

<i>Type</i>	<i>Point range</i>	<i>Assumed</i>
Opener (1-level)	12+	7LT
Responder (1-level)	6+	9LT
Responder (2-level)	9+	8LT
Overcall	8+	8LT
Opener (strong 2-level)	20+	4LT
Take-out double	12+	7LT



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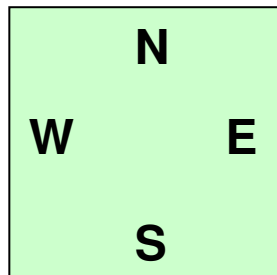
Week 10 More Losing Trick Count



A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable.

♠ A K 6 5 2
 ♥ K 8 6 5
 ♦ 9 6
 ♣ A 5

♠ J 9 8 7
 ♥ -
 ♦ K Q 5 4 3 2
 ♣ J 8 3



♠ Q 10 3
 ♥ Q 10 7
 ♦ A J 10 7
 ♣ 10 4 2

♠ 4
 ♥ A J 9 4 3 2
 ♦ 8
 ♣ K Q 9 7 6

I'll give you a couple of minutes to go through the bidding for this in your heads.

Then we'll have a straw poll of the final contracts and then go through the reference bidding.

N is dealer.

Both are vulnerable.



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable.

<p>♠ J 9 8 7 ♥ - ♦ K Q 5 4 3 2 ♣ J 8 3</p>		<p>♠ Q 10 3 ♥ Q 10 7 ♦ A J 10 7 ♣ 10 4 2</p>	<p>♠ A K 6 5 2 ♥ K 8 6 5 ♦ 9 6 ♣ A 5</p>	<p>N 1S¹ ?</p>	<p>E P²</p>	<p>S 2H³</p>	<p>W P⁴</p>
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1) 14HCP, 5422
2) 9HCP, no L5suit
3) 10HCP, 6511
4) 7HCP, 6430. Too weak to overcall ♦ at 3 level or to double for takeout.

♠ 4
♥ A J 9 4 3 2
♦ 8
♣ K Q 9 7 6

What is N's next bid – and why?



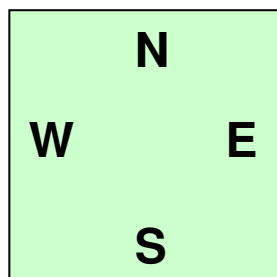
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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable.

♠ A K 6 5 2
 ♥ K 8 6 5
 ♦ 9 6 *14HCP*
 ♣ A 5

♠ J 9 8 7
 ♥ -
 ♦ K Q 5 4 3 2
 ♣ J 8 3
7HCP



♠ Q 10 3
 ♥ Q 10 7
 ♦ A J 10 7
 ♣ 10 4 2
9HCP

♠ 4
 ♥ A J 9 4 3 2
 ♦ 8
 ♣ K Q 9 7 6
10HCP

N	E	S	W
1S	P	2H	P
4H ⁵	P	?	

5) **FIT**. S has shown 9+HCP. Could be as few as 23HCP. Normal methods would probably bid 3H, though if you add in 1Pt for the L5♠ and for the two L2 suits, there is enough for 4H.

LTC says: 6LT (one better) + presumed 8LT = 14LT. 18 - 14 = 4. Bid 4H game.

What next?



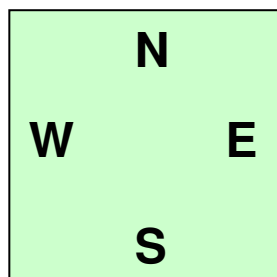
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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable.

♠ A K 6 5 2
 ♥ K 8 6 5
 ♦ 9 6 *14HCP*
 ♣ A 5

♠ J 9 8 7
 ♥ -
 ♦ K Q 5 4 3 2
 ♣ J 8 3
7HCP



♠ Q 10 3
 ♥ Q 10 7
 ♦ A J 10 7
 ♣ 10 4 2
9HCP

♠ 4
 ♥ A J 9 4 3 2
 ♦ 8
 ♣ K Q 9 7 6
10HCP

N	E	S	W
1S	P	2H	P
4H	P	?	

S has only 5LT, not presumed 8LT, “three better”.

5LT + presumed 7LT = 12LT,
 18 – 12 = 6.

So LTC says contemplate a slam.

Is it sensible to bid it directly?
(Hint – no!)

What to do?



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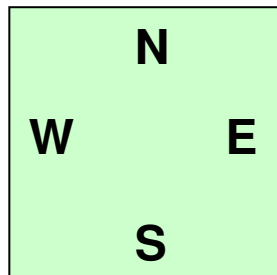
Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable.

♠ A K 6 5 2
 ♥ K 8 6 5
 ♦ 9 6 *14HCP*
 ♣ A 5

	N	E	S	W
♠	1S	P	2H	P
♥	4H	P	4NT ⁶	P
♦	5H ⁷	P	6H ⁸	P
♣	P	P		

♠ J 9 8 7
 ♥ -
 ♦ K Q 5 4 3 2
 ♣ J 8 3
7HCP



♠ Q 10 3
 ♥ Q 10 7
 ♦ A J 10 7
 ♣ 10 4 2
9HCP

♠ 4
 ♥ A J 9 4 3 2
 ♦ 8
 ♣ K Q 9 7 6
10HCP

6) S can't Cue bid here, he has no non-trump aces. But he can use Blackwood to ask for aces.

7) "I have two aces".

8) Only missing 1 ace. Bid the small slam.

9) EW don't want to double here.



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable. 6♥ by S

N	E	S	W
1S	P	2H	P
4H	P	4NT	P
5H	P	6H	end

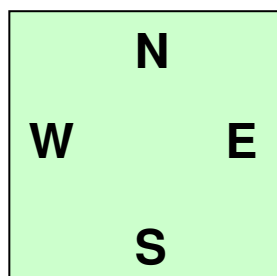
W's opening lead?

♠ J 9 8 7

♥ -

♦ K Q 5 4 3 2

♣ J 8 3



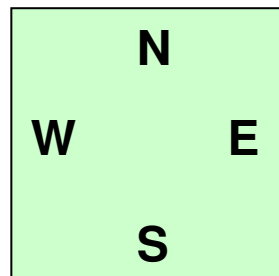


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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable. 6♥ by S

♠ A K 6 5 2
 ♥ K 8 6 5
 ♦ 9 6
 ♣ A 5



♠ 4
 ♥ A J 9 4 3 2
 ♦ 8
 ♣ K Q 9 7 6

♠
 ♥
 ♦ K
 ♣

W's opening lead ♦K.
Top of honour sequence of 2.

South makes a plan.
He observes NS have 10 trumps. There are 3 out.

♥ Q 10 7
He counts losers in his hand.

He has two losers:
 ♥J to the queen if the trumps split 3-0.

♦8

He is going to lose the first ♦8 trick. What can he do about ♥J?



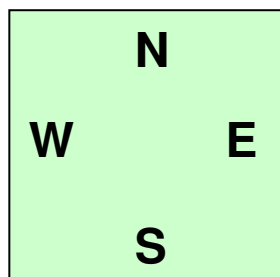
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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable. 6♥ by S

♠ A K 6 5 2
 ♥ K 8 6 5
 ♦ 9 6
 ♣ A 5

♠
 ♥
 ♦ K Q
 ♣



♠
 ♥
 ♦ 7 10
 ♣

♠ 4
 ♥ A J 9 4 3 2
 ♦ 8
 ♣ K Q 9 7 6

If the Q is with E, a finesse of the ♥J will work. Preserve ♥A to allow this.

Trick 1: ♦K, ♦6, ♦7, ♦8.

E plays ♦7, which W sees as a low card. As EW are playing reverse attitude, this is saying “I have third round control – I have the Ace”.

W work out 7 is low from his
 ♦ K Q 5 4 3 2.

Trick 2: W follows with ♦Q which S trumps (low).

♦Q, ♦9, ♦10, ♥2.



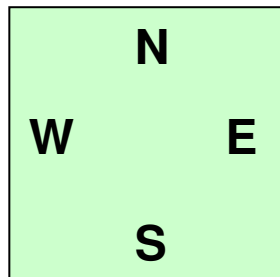
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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable. 6♥ by S

♠ A K 6 5 2
 ♥ **K** 8 6 5
 ♦ -
 ♣ A 5

♠ -
 ♥ -
 ♦ **2**
 ♣ -



♠ 4
 ♥ A J 9 4 **3**
 ♦ -
 ♣ K Q 9 7 6

♠ -
 ♥ **7**
 ♦ -
 ♣ -

To allow the ♥J finesse, S leads a low trump to N's ♥K at trick 3. Hopefully drawing 2 trumps, but in this case only one and seeing W is void.

Therefore the finesse is needed **and is guaranteed to work.**

So at trick 4 N leads a low heart, drawing the ♥10, to S's ♥J.

And with Trick 5 leads ♥A drawing the final trump, ♥Q.



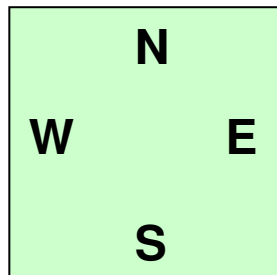
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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

A sample deal, Dealer N, both vulnerable. 6♥ by S

♠ A K 6 5 2
 ♥ 8
 ♦ -
 ♣ A 5

♠ J 9 8 7
 ♥ -
 ♦ 5
 ♣ J 8 3



♠ 4
 ♥ 9 4
 ♦ -
 ♣ K Q 9 7 6

♠ Q 10 3
 ♥ -
 ♦ A J
 ♣ 10 4 2

And now S makes the remaining 8 tricks with:

♠ A K ♥ 9 8 4 ♣ A K Q

Dummy's ♥8 being used to (unnecessarily) trump a fourth

♣.

6♥✓

6 * 30 = 180

game 500 (vulnerable)

slam 750 (small slam)

SCORE 1430



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count

Apply the **Losing Trick Count** in a suit contract after a **FIT**.

In each suit, work out how many of the top three tricks you will fail to win - missing from "ACE, KING, QUEEN". Add the four suits together.

- Unsupported Queen Add 1/2 loser
- Hands without Aces Add 1/2 loser
- Hands without Aces or Kings Add 1 loser
- Hands with 3 or 4 Aces Remove 1/2 loser
- Unsupported Q in a **suit partner bid** Remove 1/2 loser

Opener (1-level)	12+HCP	7LT
Responder (1-level)	6+HCP	9LT
Responder (2-level)	9+HCP	8LT
Overcall	8+HCP	8LT
Opener (strong 2-level)	20+HCP	4LT
Take-out double	12+HCP	7LT

Subtract total for partnership from 18 for a recommendation.



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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 shall.

NS have the pair number of their table.

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?

Tea & coffee.

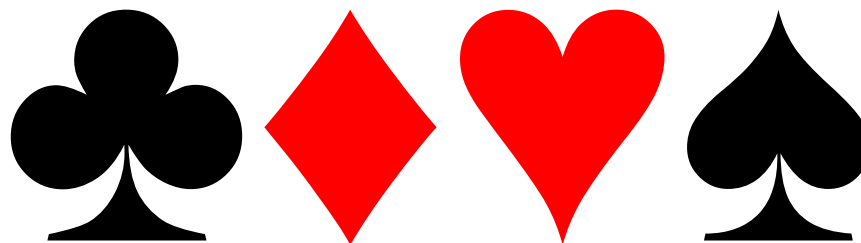
PLAY



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Week 10 More Losing Trick Count



The end

(Set hand references follow.)



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Week 10 Set Hands

A discussion of each set hand. To see the content of each LTC hand, you will need to read the book.

Blue = Book result

Red = Group result from travellers.

A lower case n e s w suffix is used to denote declarer.

Scores are all given from NS perspective.

+ve is better for NS, -ve for EW.

Hand sources:

SLM = A Robson: Slam

BHE = B Magee: Better Hand Evaluation (2 hands) + adjusted deal

Each hand may be rotated with respect to the books. The hand positions can be determined by locating the A♠ or similar.



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Week 10 Set Hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
1	N	None	SLM#7 A♠=S	5S=n +450 NS top	5S=s +450 NS top	4S-1n -50 NS bottom



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Week 10 Set Hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.			
2	E	N/S	BHEpg66L3 See below	2S=s +110 NS mid	2S=s +110 NS mid	3S-2s -200 NS poor	3C+1e -130 EW good

N: A♠ etc, see BHE

E: S T9 H AT95 D KJ C J8752

S: A♠ etc, see BHE

W: S 83 H AT63 C AQT9

3S-2s is an overbid by one trick (should be 2S-1) and an underplay (should be 2S=).

The 3C+1e is an excellent play by EW, who observed W could takeout double S's 1S. It would have been an EW top except for the very bad 3S-2s result.



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Week 10 Set Hands

Dlr Vul Source Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.

3	S	E/W	BHEpg62P6	2H+1s	2H=s	2H=s
			See below	+140	+110	+110
				top	bottom	bottom

E↔W

N: S QT7 H KJT3 D Q75 C 974

S: S J H Q9542 D K96 C KQT3

An instruction had been attached to this deal:

"Read after bidding"

"If NS are not in a Heart contract, rebid the deal."

This board is identical to board 6 except for who is dealer. It has a completely different outcome.



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Week 10 Set Hands

#	Dir	Vul	Source	Dir = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
4	W	All	SLM#17	6H=e	6H-1e	4H+1e
			A♠=E	-1430	+100	-650
			N↔S	EW top	NS top	poor

The “correct” opening lead of 3♠ allows 6H=.

The “wrong” opening lead of A♦ manages 6H-1, so not an ideal example hand.



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Week 10 Set Hands

Board 5 omitted.



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Week 10 Set Hands

#	Dlr	Vul	Source	Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.		
6	S	E/W	BHEpg62P6	3S=e	2S+2e	3S=e
			See below	-140	-170	-140
				EW par	EW top	EW par

E↔W

N: S QT7 H KJT3 D Q75 C 974

S: S J H Q9542 D K96 C KQT3

An instruction had been attached to this deal:

"Read after bidding"

"If NS are not in a Spade contract, rebid the deal."

This board is identical to board 3 except for who is dealer. It has a completely different outcome.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2014-15



Week 10 Set Hands

#	Dlr	Vul	Source	Dlr = Dealer, Vul = Vulnerability.	
7	S	All	SLM#17	6H=n	4H+1n
			A♠=S	+1430	+650
			♣↔♦	NS top	NS bottom