

## CARD PLAY FUNDAMENTALS: PART FOUR

### DEFENSE AGAINST NO TRUMP CONTRACTS

**Quote of the week: Don't put all of your eggs in one basket. Use an egg carton like everyone else and stop being such a poser.**

#### The Rule of Eleven:

1. The Rule of Eleven application can only be used when you are certain that your partner's opening lead is the "fourth down" from the suit lead. Once this has been ascertained, you begin to count.
2. The Rule of Eleven states that when your partner faces his opening lead, you subtract the number of that card from the number 11. The result is the number of cards higher in that suit contained in the hands of you, the dummy and the declarer.

Example One: Contract = 3NT. Opening lead = Seven of Spades.

Dummy

S: K65

Partner

S: QT87

You

S: AJ92

- a. How many cards, higher than the Seven of Spades does the declarer hold? \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Assume that the declarer calls for the Six of Spades from the dummy. What card should you play? \_\_\_\_\_. What card should you return to your partner? \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Assume that the declarer calls for the King of Spades from the dummy. What card should you play? \_\_\_\_\_. What card should you return to your partner? \_\_\_\_\_.

Example Two: Contract = 1NT. Opening lead = Four of Hearts.

Dummy

H: T96

Partner

H: Q874

You

H: KJ5

- a. How many cards, higher than the Four of Hearts does the declarer hold? \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Assume that the declarer calls for the Ten of Hearts from the dummy. What card should you play? \_\_\_\_\_. If you win the trick, what card should you return to your partner? \_\_\_\_\_.

Example Three: Contract = 3NT. Opening lead = Five of Clubs.

Dummy

C: 763

Partner

C: K9854

You

C: AJ2

Note: This one is a bit tougher! 1. Recognize that partner may have more than four cards in the led suit. 2. Your play of the cards must allow for partner to "collect" all available winners in the chosen suit.

- a. How many cards higher than the Five of Clubs does the declarer hold? \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Regardless of what card that declarer calls from the dummy, what card should you play? \_\_\_\_\_. What card should you return to your partner? \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers will be provided in next week's lesson.