

## Drawing (bad) trumps

You are in 4Sp and have these spades:

{declarer}		{dummy}
Q8754		K92

This is not an ideal trump holding !

Nevertheless there is a way to play this combination.

What you are hoping for is that a defender plays their Ace on one of your *low* cards (and not on one of your Hons).

Imagine the cards as follows :

{declarer}	A6	{dummy}
Q8754	--- ----	K92
	J103	

well seeing all four spade holdings it's not too taxing to find a solution.

*i)Lead the 4 towards the K.*

*ii)Lead the 2 towards the Q { and don't play the Q ! }*

Well that was lucky of course and if the cards had been dealt like this :

{declarer}	J106	{dummy}
Q8754	--- ----	K92
	A3	

we would have needed to play as follows :

*i)Lead the 2 towards the Q.*

*ii)Lead the 4 towards the K { and don't play the K ! }*

The method therefore is to try to lead past wherever you guess the Ace is, and to duck the lead on the way back.

Heres a full hand :

K10765	N	Q94
QJ10	----- -----	654
AQ7	S	KJ2
Q7		AK54

Trick 1 )- North leads the 9 Hrts and South wins with the K Hrts.

Trick 2)- South leads the Ace Hrts.

Trick 3)- South leads a small Hrt and you win with the Q.

All that remains is to draw trumps. Either lead the 5sp to the Q and if it wins , duck on the way back or lead the 4 to the K (and if it wins ) duck on the way back. Clearly we can't do both however !

Don't worry if you misguess some of the time where the Ace actually is {we all do ! }. Sometimes though there are clues and in our above example we might deduce that it is N who is more likely to hold the Ace spades. Do you see why ?

