

Here is another example of the forcing defence.

This time the contract although not particularly easy does have a number of chances and if the declarer cared to crane their neck and see what we actually hold , could make 11 tricks !!

Keeping our cards close to our chest we start the defence with the Ace Hrt lead.

Contract 4Sp

	K42
	7652
	A107
	KJ6
{you}	
Q76	
AK983	
Q62	
Q9	
	(declarer)
	AJ1093
	J4
	KJ9
	A108

{Trick 1 } Ace Hrts lead { perhaps the declarer plays the J to try and put us off }. It doesn't.

{Trick 2 } King Hrts lead .

{Trick 3} We lead another Hrt *forcing declarer to trump*.

The real reason why we continue leading Hrts { knowing declarer will ruff } is on this hand because we don't want to take the risk of opening a new suit { and helping declarer}.

Declarer trumps the Hrt leads but is not much further on.

ie they still have to draw trumps , they still have to work out how to play clubs and how to play diamonds. As I say 11 tricks are possible but many declarers would end up with only 9 tricks.

If declarer plays spades such that we win with our Q we will continue the forcing defence , leading another Hrt forcing declarer to use up another trump.

Thus whenever you realise that declarer is out of a suit you should prepare to continue leading the suit to force declarer to trump.

BEWARE !!!! this is the best defence whenever the declarer is out of a suit.

If however it is the DUMMY that is out of a suit { or if both declarer and dummy are out of a suit } then you must not lead the suit { as dummy can ruff to declarer's advantage}.

	K1054	
	J	
	A875	
{you]	KJ65	You lead the K Hrts { which wins the trick }.
762		Now it will do no good forcing dummy to ruff
KQ986		(and will help declarer). You will have to try
962		something else !The lead of the Ace clubs
A9		followed by another club might pay ...
	AQ983	
	4	
	KQJ4	
	1087	