

## Review -card play

Drawing trumps when the trumps don't break.

In 4 Sp :	AKQ2	-----	7654
	65		43
	AQ72		KJ1098
	542		AK

The opponents lead the A + K Hrts and then a club.

You lead the Ace + King spades and realise that the trumps haven't broken , that an opponent had started with 4 trumps and cannot be prevented from winning a trump trick.

On this hand the way to deal with the problem is to draw a third trump and then *leave the last trump outstanding*. Declarer simply plays the winning diamond suit; at somepoint the opponent with the last trump will no doubt trump a diamond but that will be their last trick.

We adopted the strategy of leaving 1 trump outstanding because we had no difficulty in taking the rest of the tricks. We had plenty of established winners.

Here things are different.

In 4 Sp :	AKQ2	-----	7654
	KQJ		43
	Q72		KJ1098
	432		AK

The opponents lead a club.

You lead the Ace + King spades and realise that the trumps haven't broken , that an opponent had started with 4 trumps and cannot be prevented from winning a trump trick.

However -we do not play a third trump. What we do do is to leave trumps alone for the moment { leaving an opponent two trumps } and instead play a diamond and start to establish the diamond suit.

When the Ace diamonds is played we will regain the lead as soon as we can. When we do we will draw one more trump and leave only one trump outstanding.

We play diamonds until the opponent with the master trump decides to trump.

Thus there was a different strategy with this type of hand.

The method is to:-leave two trumps outstanding when we *still have to lose tricks in a suit which needs establishing*.

Look back at the diamond suit in each of the hands if you are unsure.

In (i) the diamonds were AQ72 ----- KJ1098.

All the diamonds were winners { were already *established* } and so having drawn all but the last trump , the diamonds could be played .

In (ii) the diamonds were Q72 ----- KJ1098.

Now a diamond still had to be lost before the suit became established.

The declarer could not afford to release control of the trump suit before losing the lead in diamonds and so drew only two rounds of trumps before leading a diamond.