

A 4-week class for advancing players to follow JJ's class. Title: Diving Deeply into Defense, Part I.

Part I of a more detailed description of defense, concentrating on the importance of the auction in forming a defense plan and covering selecting an opening lead, passive vs. active defense, common dummy types, and third hand play (including signaling partner). In other words, conducting a partnership defense up to the end of trick 1.

Topics, week by week:

Week 1: Overview: Planning the Defense

Content:

- Welcome: set expectations. Review what JJ covered. Explain what this series will cover.
- Overview of defense. Before dummy goes down, we make a plan. Once we see dummy, we refine it
- Defense starts with the auction:
 - *What is the contract? How many tricks do you need? How many do you think you have? How can you develop more tricks?*
 - *What does declarer have (points/shapes)*
 - *What does dummy have (points/shapes)*
 - *Auctions in which partner bids: how does this change what you visualize?*
- Common hand shapes
- Points commonly associated with common auctions; estimating how many points partner might have

Exercises in visualizing the opponent's hands in notrump auctions when partner passes. When partner bids.

Exercises in visualizing the opponent's hands in suit auctions when partner passes. When partner bids.

Handout: Common hand shapes.

Week 2: Opening Leads: Active vs. Passive

Content:

- Reprise last week; questions.

- Why the opening lead is so important (refresh material in Heart course)
- Passive leads vs. active leads: what are they. **Exercise** in differentiating leads (sample hands).
- Passive leads vs. active leads: how do you choose? Importance of your estimate of partner's points. Importance of dummy type.
- Why is dummy type important? How dummy type suggests the type of defense
- What are the 3 common dummy types? Definition and hands that represent an example. **Exercise** in identifying the type of dummy in a notrump auction when partner passes/bids. **Exercise** in identifying the type of dummy in a suit auction when partner passes/bids.
- Combination of appropriate type of lead for the auction, whether partner bid, and contents of your hand dictate what suit to lead.
- Active lead or passive lead: which is appropriate for each anticipated dummy type? **Exercises** in identifying what suit to lead in a notrump/trump auction when partner passes/bids.

Handout: Summary of dummy types.

Week 3: Opening Leads: What Card?

Content:

- Reprise last week; questions.
- Opening lead depends on numerous factors: (1) suit vs. notrump, (2) how many tricks you need to take, (3) how many tricks you think partner may have, (4) how declarer plans to make the contract (dummy type).
- Opening leads vs. notrump contracts—refresh material in Heart course. Refine for specific auctions per Eddie Kanter, Chapter 1. **Exercise** in selecting opening leads vs. notrump. (Has partner bid? Dummy type? Your hand? Partner's hand? How will declarer plan to make his contract?)
- Opening leads vs. suit contracts—refresh material in Heart course. Refine for specific auctions per Eddie Kanter, Chapter 2. **Exercise** in selecting opening leads vs. suit contract. (Has partner bid? Dummy type? Your hand? Partner's hand? **How will declarer plan to make his contract?**)

Handout: Lead summary with examples.

Week 4: The Lead is Made; Now What?

Content:

- Reprise last week; questions.
- Now that you see dummy, you can refine your plan:
 - More about points and counting points—an ongoing process that affects your plan. **Exercise:** How many points does declarer have? What might they be?
 - OMG, the dummy you thought LHO had isn't the dummy LHO said they had: changing your approach. **Exercise:** altering your defense plan when dummy type is known (review of material in week 2+).
- Introduction to signaling. refresh material in Heart course. Refinement/additional material from Kantar. Why we signal. How we know what to signal.
- Advantages and disadvantages of the following signaling systems:
 - Standard
 - Upside down
 - Odd-even
- Third hand play: refresh material in Heart course. Refinement/additional material from Kantar Chapter 3.
- **Exercise:** Third hand play (theory).
- **Exercise:** Signaling partner

Handout: Signaling approaches.