

Your choice: Thursdays at 9:30am or 4:15pm

- **Jan 8: Filling out the Convention Card**
- **Jan 15: Signaling (Carding), Etiquette, Procedures & Leads**
- **Jan 22: Bergen raises**
- **Jan 29: Jacoby 2NT**
- **Feb 5: New Minor Forcing**
- **Feb 12: Recap Negative, Takeout + Support Doubles**
- **Feb 19: 4th Suit Forcing**
- **Feb 26: Recap Rules of 7, 11, 15, 17, 22 + more**
- **Mar 5: Recap Cue Bids**

Rule of 1

This may be obvious:

If there is just 1 trump out **that is higher than yours**, leave it out!

You're in 4 ♠. You have 8♠s between you and dummy, and the defenders have 5. You draw 2 rounds of trumps with the A & K, and the Q is still out.

Rule of 6

Again, this may be obvious:

If you open a major and repeat it, you should normally have 6+ cards in that suit.

If you open a minor and repeat it, you may only have 5+ cards in that suit.

Rule of 7

This mathematical rule is an aid to declarer to cut communications between the defenders when he plays in a **no-trump** contract. It is an attempt to minimize tricks taken by the opposition in declarer's weak suit.

If the declarer subtracts the total number of cards in his own hand and the dummy from 7, the result is the number of times declarer should hold up with his Ace. 4

Rule of 7: S is in 3NT, 6 ♥ led

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 985
♥ 4
♦ K98
♣ QJ10983

♠ Q102
♥ KJ962
♦ J72
♣ 75



♠ J764
♥ Q103
♦ Q1043
♣ A2

♠ AK3
♥ A875
♦ A65
♣ K64

Rule of 11

Again, used in a **NT** contract. You are declarer. When LHO leads and you ask RHO “are your leads standard?” If the answer is yes, you hope that LHO has led “4th best from longest and strongest”.

Let’s say they lead a 4 (suit doesn’t matter). Subtract 4 from 11 – then there are 7 cards higher than the 4 between the other 3 hands.

You know how many in your own hand, you can see the dummy and count those cards, so you then know how many RHO holds and it helps you decide what to play from dummy and your own hand.

Rule of 11: E is in 3NT, 6♦ led

Board 2

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A K 9 8
♥ 9 8 7
♦ Q J 5 3
♣ J 4

♠ 10 4
♥ J 10 2
♦ 8 2
♣ A 9 6 5 3 2



♠ Q 7 6
♥ A Q 6 3
♦ A 9 4
♣ K Q 8

♠ J 5 3 2
♥ K 5 4
♦ K 10 7 6
♣ 10 7

Rule of 11: N is in 3NT, 3♠ led

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K 5 2
♥ 9 8 7
♦ K Q J 5 3
♣ J 4

♠ Q J 8 7
♥ K 5 4 3
♦ 10 7 6
♣ 10 7



♠ A 10 9 3
♥ J 2
♦ 4 2
♣ A 9 6 5 3

♠ 6 4
♥ A Q 10 6
♦ A 9 8
♣ K Q 8 2

Rule of 15

Helpful when opening in 4th seat and you wonder if your hand is strong enough to do so.

Count your HCP and add the number of ♠s you hold. If that reaches 15 or more, open the bidding. If not, generally pass.

Rule of 15 – 3 passes to you, what do you bid?

1. ♠A1042	♥K7	♦J95	♣K943
2. ♠K9	♥J83	♦K975	♣A943
3. ♠9	♥KJ83	♦KQ75	♣A843
4. ♠9	♥AJ83	♦975	♣AK1043
5. ♠KQ1096	♥AJ8	♦97	♣1043
6. ♠9543	♥KJ	♦QJ52	♣KQ9

Rule of 17

Used when your partner opens a weak 2. Count your HCP and add the number of cards you hold in your partner's suit. If that reaches 17 bid 2NT.

It's a forcing bid, asking your partner to bid an outside entry (A or K) in a side suit. If your partner bids 3 of the suit, denying any entry to their hand, a NT contract is unlikely.

Your choice then is to leave them in 3 of their suit or raise to game if you have support and think you can make it

Rule of 17 – partner opens vulnerable 2♠, what do you bid?

1. ♠K2	♥Q54	♦AQJ8	♣K32
2. ♠5	♥KQ98	♦AQ98	♣KJ42
3. ♠KQ2	♥AQJ875	♦-	♣6543
4. ♠5	♥KQ72	♦KJ87	♣AQJ4
5. ♠QJT92	♥AK43	♦-	♣AQJT
6. ♠65432	♥QJT	♦AT9	♣AT

Rule of 22

Use to determine whether you have an opening one bid in 1st or 2nd seat) when HCP don't reach the usual 12.

Count your HCP and add the length of your two longest suits. If this reaches 20 and you have 2 quick tricks (AK in a suit or 2 Aces, or an A and KQ combo) then open the hand.

A good example of this is a hand with 2 five card suits, only 10 HCP and two Aces.

Rule of 22: H = High card points; L = Length of suits; QT = Quick tricks

What is the **HLQT** in each of the following hands?

1. ♠KQ9432 ♥QJ542 ♦- ♣52

2. ♠AJ9432 ♥A9542 ♦- ♣95

3. ♠KQJ94 ♥965 ♦AT52 ♣5

4. ♠J964 ♥KT852 ♦AQ ♣95

Rule of 160

If the ages of your opponents
add up to 160 or more ...
don't underestimate their
ability!!

Next Thursday **Mar 5 – Cue Bids**
(this will be the last class of the
current series – starting a new
series of 10 classes on **June 25**)

