

## OPENING LEADS

One of the most important topics of Bridge game is about Opening leads. We hereunder provide some material about Opening Leads both in No Trump contract and Suit contract. Improvements and modifications have been made on these and what we present here is not exhaustive.

We would like to present the subject under 5 headings:--

(1) Opening Lead (2) Rule of 11 (3) Rule of 10 & 12 (4) Journalistic lead and (5) Rusinow leads

Opening lead :- Selecting the best suit and the best card in that suit is like "Well begun is half done"

The possible suits are > Partner's suit., Unbid suit, Our own suit and a card thru dummy's strength, Our short suit in opponent's suit contract, Visualising partner's good long suit and leading it in NT contract . Aggressive and passive leads and suits containing Honour sequence like KQJ, QJ10 etc.

After selecting the suit, opener has to select the correct card.

From 3 worthless cards, lead the top. (MUD)Middle and later higher card is not much used nowadays and we do not recommend playing lowest from worthless 3 cards . In NT contract, lead 2<sup>nd</sup> top card from 4 worthless since we do not want that suit to be returned by partner.

In partner's suit > If you have a doubleton, lead the higher.

If you have supported the suit and you have 3 cards without Honour, lead Top of nothing.

If you have supported the suit and have 3 cards with Honour, lead the lowest,

If you have supported the suit and have honour sequence, lead the top honour.

If you have a suit with internal sequence (KJ109), lead the J. There is difference in approach for this KJ109 combination between Rusinow and Journalistic conventions.

From hands containing both A & K, like AKx lead A. If doubleton AK, lead K and next lead A.

More to come