



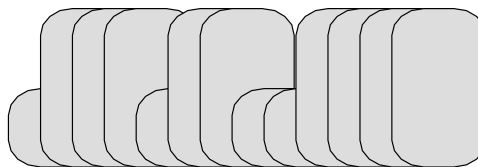
Playing No Trump Contracts

The play of the hand

- The **DECLARER** is the player who plays the hand
- **DUMMY** (Declarer's partner) places their cards face up on the table
- The **OPENING LEADER** is the opponent on declarer's left
- Declarer makes **all** decisions in the play of the hand; **both their own and DUMMY's cards**
- A **TRICK** is a collection of 4 cards – 1 from each player in turn
- A player **must follow suit** if possible
- If a player can't follow suit, they can play any other card
- **Highest card of the suit led wins** the trick
- The next trick must be played **from the hand which won the previous trick**.
- This continues until **all 13 tricks** have been played.

How the cards are placed

- The cards are placed individually in front of each player
- The cards are placed **vertically** (towards us) if we win the trick
- The cards are placed **horizontally** (towards opponents) if we lose



Declarer's Plan for the play

- **Work out your plan** before playing any cards. The steps are as follows
- Count **how many top tricks** you can cash immediately without losing the lead
- Work out **how many more tricks** you need
- Inspect the two hands for **possible sources of the extra tricks**. These could come either from **establishing a long suit** or **taking finesses**
- Think about any **possible problems**, eg keeping entries to the long suit being established