

Fourth

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Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club

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Rule of 11 Fourth Best Leads

Subtract the numeric value of the fourth best spot from eleven. This is the number of higher cards in yours and the opponents' hands.

If you can see more cards than this number, then partner did not lead fourth best. (Perhaps a singleton or doubleton.)

Example:

The 4♥ is led against 3NT and dummy comes down with:

♠QJ75 ♥Q65 ♦1098 ♣KJ7

You, South, have:

♠AK10 ♥73 ♦Q53 ♣AQ653

1. What do you have to play from dummy?

2. For review, what would West lead against 3NT from the following?

a. J1092 b. J1043 c. J10432 d. J10942

e. KQ43 f. KQ643 g. KQ643 (noe)

h. KQ1042 i. QJ954 j. QJ842

k. KQJ42 l. KQJ42 (noe)

m. AJ1092 n. AJ1042 o. AJ432

p. AK532 q. AK54 r. AKJ32 s. AKJ1098

t. AQ42 u. KJ42 v. AQ432 w. AQ432 (noe)

x. A543 y. K543 z. K5432 aa. K5432 (noe)

3. If declarer plays low from dummy, what does East play from K103?

Answers: 1. Queen. A confident play of a low card will work against weak players but should never be done.

2. a. J, b. 3, c. 3, d. J, e. 3, f. K or 4, g. 4, h. K, i. Q, j. 4, k. K, l. K, m. J, n. J. o. 3, p. 3, q. 4, r. K, s. A, t. dnl, u. dnl, v. 3, w. dnl, x. dnl, y. dnl, z. 3, aa. dnl

3. the 10

West: ♠98632 ♥AJ942 ♦4 ♣108 East: ♠4 ♥K108 ♦AKJ762 ♣942

Legend: noe = no outside entries; dnl = do not lead from this suit