

# Watson Bridge Index

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<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/bridge-index.htm>

## Number One Defensive Rule

Last revised June 27, 2022

<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/aaDefense/No1DefensiveRule.pdf>

### **Keep a Low Defensive Footprint.**

On defense, a player must break open (play for the first time) as few suits as possible for the declarer. Overcalls and lead-directive bids are so key to the defense because they often give partner indication of a safe suit to break open.

Exception: Taking partner off endplay. Sometimes partner will not have enough exit cards and will need a suit to be played by his partner.

Exceptions to leading partner's suit:

- You have a natural lead in an unbid suit like the Ace and King or three touching honours.
- Leading the dead suit to the right when it is your dead suit and partner is marked for points in the suit is a very good lead.

If you have one touching honour to a card in the dummy, you cannot touch the suit.

Exceptions:

- Surrounding play.
- You have KQ109 and the dummy to the right has Jxxx. Lead the King and then partner can lead through the Jack.

See also:

<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/aaDefense/LeadingPartnersSuit.pdf>

<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/aaDefense/SurroundingPlay.pdf>