

Chalk Talk # 3

Series of Three-Tip Talks

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Warren Watson

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

Bidding Tip

Partner opens 1♣ and you bid your 4-card suits up the line and bid your highest ranking 5-card or longer suit.

Partner opens 1♣ and you hold the following hands.

♠QJ1094	♥QJ1098	♦2	♣32	1♠
♠QJ1094	♥QJ109	♦32	♣32	1♠
♠QJ109	♥QJ1098	♦32	♣32	1♥
♠QJ109	♥QJ109	♦9876	♣2	1♥
♠AQJ10	♥QJ109	♦K876	♣2	1♦

Declaring Tip

Missing the King.

If you are missing the king, you always finesse for it with a ten-card or lower fit. With an eleven-card fit, just cash the ace playing for the drop.

♠A9876

♠QJ1053 run the queen through.

♥A98762

♥QJ1054 play the queen (in case it gets covered to the ace).

Defensive Tip

Plan Ahead

When dummy comes down, you plan right away what you will play in each suit if declarer leads towards it.

Dummy, LHO, comes down:

♠AQ32 ♥KQ3 ♦KJ4 ♣J32

And you hold:

♠K109 ♥A54 ♦A765 ♣K54

If declarer leads towards the dummy:

- in ♠'s: you will play the nine smoothly unless declarer plays the Jack then you will cover smoothly.
- in ♥'s: you will duck once unless declarer plays the jack.
- in ♦'s: you will play the 5 smoothly and hope declarer takes the finesse to partner's queen.
- in ♣'s: If declarer leads towards the Jack, you will play small smoothly and wait to take the queen if declarer has it.

You make four plans before declarer plays from the dummy at trick one.