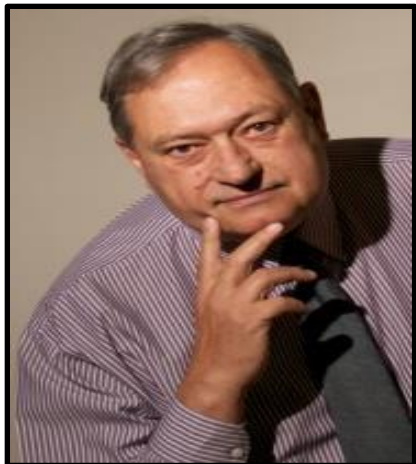


False Carding



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Time for a Joke

An elderly man in a bar had a couple of beers, and the bartender told him he owed 4 bucks. "But I paid, don't you remember?" said the customer.

"Okay," said the bartender. "If you say you paid, you did."

The elderly man then went outside and told a friend what had happened. The second man then ran in and ordered a beer.

When it came time to pay, he said, "But I paid you, remember?"

The barkeep replied, "If you say you paid, I'll take your word for it."

That customer walked out, saw an old friend, and told him about the free drinks. His friend hurried into the bar and began to drink high balls.

Suddenly, the bartender leaned over and said, "You know, two men were drinking beer earlier, neither paid and both claimed that they did. The next guy who tries that is going to get a punch right in the nose."

"Don't bother me with your troubles," the third patron responded. "Just give me my change and I'll be on my way."

Hand #1

False Carding on Defense



To maintain trust, you should try to tell your partner the truth whenever bidding or signalling. There are times, however, when it behooves you to discard irrationally on defense to confuse declarer.

Here's an example:

<u>North</u>	
♥ A J 84	
<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
♥ K 5	♥ 10 9 3
<u>South (Declarer)</u>	
♥ Q76 2	

If you play low, declarer has no choice but to play the A♥ next.



Hand #2

Another Defensive False Card

Here's another example of false carding to deceive declarer.

South is trying to pick up the ♥ suit for 4 tricks.

	<u>North</u>	
	♥ Q84 2	
<u>West</u>		<u>East</u>
♥ 3		♥ J965
	<u>South (Declarer)</u>	
	♥ A K 107	

Declarer will usually go wrong because of the concept of Restricted Choice.

Hand #3

Restricted Choice



The concept of **Restricted Choice** is a probability calculation when an opponent drops a high honor.

Here is an example with 4 outstanding ♦'s:

South lays down his A♦, and West plays the 8♦. The 4♦ is played from dummy, and East follows with the Q♦.

<u>North</u>	
♦ K 10 5 4	
<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
♦ 9 8	♦ Q
<u>South (Declarer)</u>	
♦ A 7 6 3 2	

South plays his 2♦, and West plays the 9♦. What should Declarer play from the dummy?

The concept of **Restricted Choice** says you should finesse with the 10♦. It will pick up the entire suit 2 out of 3 times.

Another Joke

An FBI agent arrives at a farm in the rural midwestern USA. He tells the farmer he wants to carry out an inspection of the farm, checking for contraband and other suspicious activities.

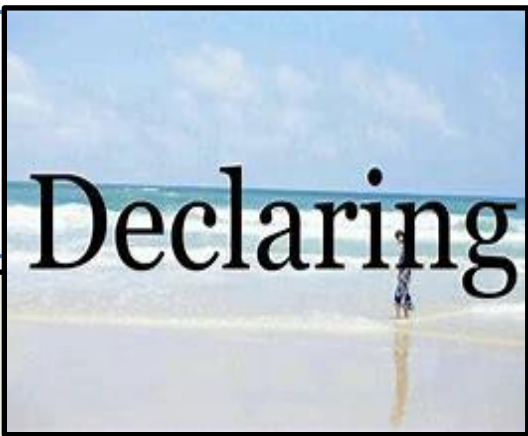
The farmer says, “OK, I’ll cooperate, you can go anywhere you like, just please stay out of that top field.” The FBI agent gets angry, whips out his badge and says, “Now you listen here. You see this badge? This badge gives me absolute authority. If I show this badge, I can go anywhere and do anything, and NOBODY can stop me!” He storms off and the farmer shakes his head sadly and goes back to work.

About 5 minutes later he hears screams coming from the top field, the one he told the FBI Agent to stay out of. He comes running over and sees a couple of his farmhands standing at the fence watching as the FBI Agent runs around the field trying to get away from the enormous bull charging full pelt after him. As he arrives, the FBI agent sees him and breathlessly shouts, “Help! Please! You’ve got to help me!”

The farmer shouts back, “Why don’t you show him your badge?”

Hand #4

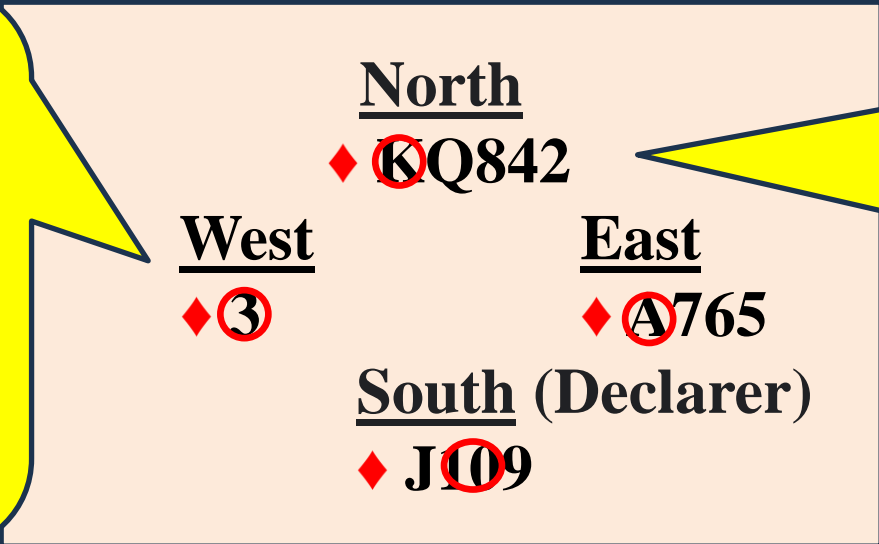
False Carding When Declaring



The concept of **False Carding** also applies to you playing misleading cards as declarer.

These are far more common than defensive false cards but are often overlooked by even advanced players. Get used to discarding higher cards than your lowest in a suit, so long as it doesn't cost you a trick. Defenders determine their plans of attack by their partners' leads and what you play.

South is in 4H and gets an obvious singleton \spadesuit lead. He calls for the $\heartsuit K$ from dummy, and East takes his $\heartsuit A$. What \spadesuit should South play?



South must play his $\heartsuit 10$ to fool East. West would have led the $\heartsuit J$ from $\heartsuit J103$ and the $\heartsuit 10$ from $\heartsuit 1093$.

Hand #5

My Best False Card as Declarer



As reported by Alan Truscott in the *New York Times* (1989).

<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
			2S*
Pass	Pass	3H	Pass
4H	Pass	Pass	Pass

Lead: A♠

West
 ♠ ~~A~~Q10642
 ♥ J3
 ♦ ~~10~~92
 ♣ 76

North
 ♠ J8~~7~~5
 ♥ AK74
 ♦ J743
 ♣ 10

East
 ♠ ~~9~~
 ♥ 86
 ♦ A865
 ♣ A98542

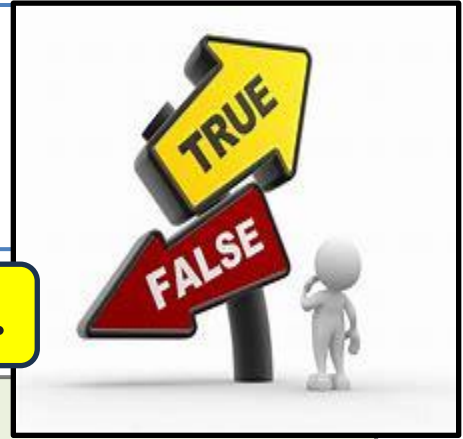
South
 ♠ ~~K~~3
 ♥ Q10952
 ♦ KQ
 ♣ KQJ3

North leads the A♠; the 5♠ from dummy; and the 9♠ from East. As South, I faced losing the A♠, a ♠ ruff and 2 aces. How should I have proceeded?

I false carded with my K♠! Not wanting to set up dummy's J♠, West switched to his 10♦. My losing ♠ eventually went on dummy's J♦.

Hand #6

One Last False Card by Declarer



A famous false card by Ely Culbertson at the Cavendish Club.

North	East	South	West
		1D	Pass
1S	Pass	1NT	Pass
3D	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

North
 ♠ AQ32
 ♥ 86
 ♦ QJ1098
 ♣ J7

Lead: 5♥

West
 ♠ 765
 ♥ K975
 ♦ K4
 ♣ K864

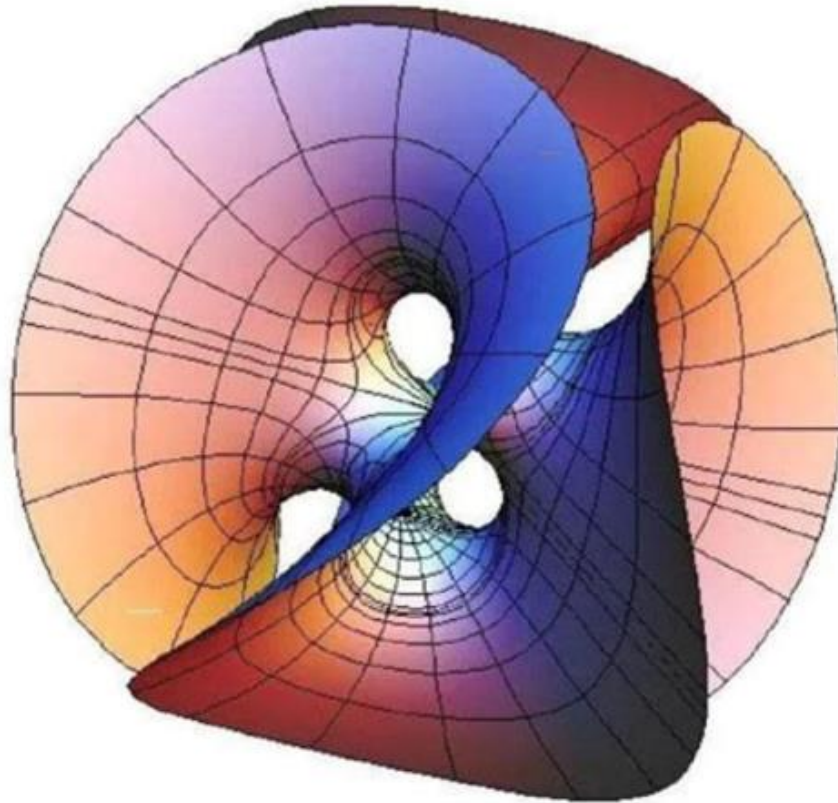
East
 ♠ 1098
 ♥ J1032
 ♦ 65
 ♣ AQ93

West leads the 5♥; the 6♥ from dummy; and the 10♥ from East. How should South proceed?

South
 ♠ KJ4
 ♥ AQ4
 ♦ A732
 ♣ 1052

Ely won the 1st trick with his A♥! He crossed to dummy's Q♠, and took the ♦ finesse. When West got in, who would blame him for leading a low ♥?

**My blanket when I'm trying to
find the long side at 3 am**



Time for the Game