

Discards

Discards by the defenders can be an effective way of communicating to their partner on what to lead or not what to lead when partner is next on lead.

Note:

1. This can be very important as the next lead may defeat the contract!!
2. As Declarer you can ask what your discard system is

There are many discard card systems in use from basic to more advanced.

Basic Systems

1. Discard cards of the suit you do not want
2. Discard a card of the suit you want

Advanced Systems - Attitude

1. 7 and above in a suit is **Encouraging**
2. 6 and below is **NOT Encouraging**

Some People play the reverse of above

3. 7 and above is **NOT Encouraging**
4. 6 and below is **Encouraging**

Note:

3 & 4 is called Reverse Attitude and is played widely as it allows you to usually signal more than one suit.

This can also be used to give "Count" – the number of cards in a suit

Preferential Discards

Discard the suit you do not want,

5. 7 or above means you want the Higher of the two ranked suites lead, but not trumps.
6. 6 or below means you want the lower of the two ranked suites lead, but not trumps.

Example Diamonds are being played

Your partner plays the 6C meaning he wants a Heart lead when partner gets in.

If the 8C is played meaning he wants a Spade Lead when partner gets in.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The first discard you make is the agreed suit that you will always hang on to

You may not have the right card to discard

The hand gets Squeezed and you cannot hold onto every suit winner