The background features a light yellow-to-gold gradient with several large, semi-transparent gear shapes scattered across it. On the far left, there is a vertical strip with a colorful, abstract, and textured pattern in shades of purple, blue, orange, and red.

Making a Plan

A.G.'s 4-step plan
Promotion and Length

The Plan

- ☀ Attend to the contract.
- ☀ Assess your situation in terms of winners, losers.
- ☀ Survey your resources.
- ☀ Plan your attack.

Assess Your Situation

- ☀ In a notrump contract, first **count your winners**. How many tricks in succession can you catch without losing the lead?
- ☀ In a suit contract, first **count your losers**. How many of the cards in your hand will lose if you lead them?

Counting Winners

3NT

Dummy

♠ 7 5

♥ 7 3 2

♦ A Q 10 6 3

♣ A 9 2

Declarer

♠ A 8 2

♥ K 5

♦ K J 8 5 4

♣ K Q 3

3NT

Dummy

♠ A 6 4

♥ K 9 6

♦ K 8 2

♣ 9 7 6 3

Declarer

♠ K 8 5

♥ A 3 2

♦ A 10 4

♣ K Q J 10

3NT

Dummy

♠ 8 3

♥ Q J 7 6

♦ K Q J 8 5

♣ 9 2

Declarer

♠ A K 6 2

♥ A K 4

♦ 10 9 4

♣ A K 8

Counting Losers

4♠

Dummy

♠ K 4 3

♥ A Q 2

♦ 6 4 3 2

♣ J 10 7

Declarer

♠ Q J 10 8 7 6

♥ 6 3

♦ A K

♣ Q 4 3

3♥

Dummy

♠ A 7 6 4

♥ K 9 6

♦ 9 8

♣ 9 7 6 3

Declarer

♠ 9 8

♥ A Q 4 3 2

♦ A 10 9

♣ Q J 10

3♦

Dummy

♠ 8 3

♥ Q J 7 6

♦ K Q J 8 5

♣ 9 2

Declarer

♠ 10 9 6

♥ A K 4

♦ 10 9 4 2

♣ A K 8

Promoting High Cards

- ☀ When cards in a suit are almost high
 - ☀ you can promote them by playing the suit until opponents higher cards are played
 - ☀ then you need an entry to reach them
 - Dummy K Q J 10
 - Declarer 5 4 3 2 *the suit has an entry*

 - Dummy K Q J 10
 - Declarer 2 *the suit has no entry*

Establishing a Long Suit

- ☀ Opponents' cards in the suit
 - ✱ An even number of cards will tend to divide unevenly
 - ✱ An odd number of cards will tend to divide as evenly as possible
- ☀ Compare the opponents' cards to the unbroken string of top cards you have in the suit
- ☀ Take your losses early (usually)

Establishing (Developing) Suits

3NT

Dummy

♠ Q 10 5
♥ K 7 2
♦ 7 5 3 2
♣ K Q 5

Declarer

♠ A K 7
♥ A 10 9
♦ 9 8 6 4
♣ A J 4

3NT

Dummy

♠ 6 5 4
♥ 9 8 2
♦ A K 4 3 2
♣ 10 3

Declarer

♠ A K 8
♥ A K 5 4
♦ 7 6 5
♣ A K 2

3NT

Dummy

♠ A 6
♥ A 4
♦ Q J 9 8
♣ Q J 7 4 3

Declarer

♠ K 9
♥ K Q 3 2
♦ K 10 7 6
♣ K 10 8

Guidelines for Defense (NT)

☀ What suit to lead

- ☀ The suit that offers your side the best chance of being established
- ☀ Your partner's suit
- ☀ Your longest suit

☀ What card

- ☀ The top of an honor sequence
- ☀ Fourth highest
- ☀ Top of a doubleton

Guidelines of Defense (Suits)

☀ What suit to lead

- ☀ Partner's suit
- ☀ A safe suit
 - A suit with an honor sequence
 - A suit with no honors
 - A short suit (in hopes of ruffing)
- ☀ Trump

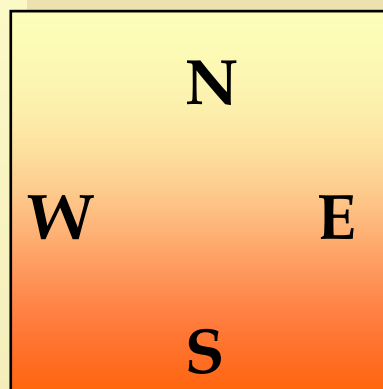
☀ What card

- ☀ Top of an honor sequence
- ☀ Top of doubleton
- ☀ Low card (fourth highest of four or more)

Dealer: East

♠ 9 2
♥ K Q 6 5 2
♦ 10 6
♣ 10 8 4 3

♠ A K J 4 3
♥ 10 3
♦ Q 9 7
♣ K 7 2



♠ Q 10 6 5
♥ J 8 4
♦ K J 3
♣ A Q 6

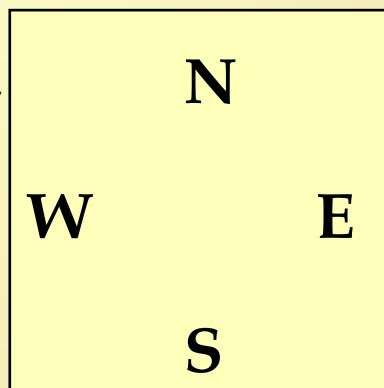
♠ 8 7
♥ A 9 7
♦ A 8 5 4 2
♣ J 9 5

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Dealer: East

♠ 7 6
♥ K Q 8 5
♦ A K 7 5
♣ 9 8 4

♠ Q J 10 9 8 3 2
♥ 9 6
♦ 10 9 3
♣ A



♠ 5 4
♥ J 10 4 3 2
♦ J 6 2
♣ K 5 3

♠ A K
♥ A 7
♦ Q 8 4
♣ Q J 10 7 6 2

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