

MINI UNIT 7 Ruffing in the Short Hand ♠♥♦♣

1. Extra Tricks by Using Dummy's Trumps

- When playing a suit contract, declarer may be able to use the power of the trump suit to trump losers in the dummy.
- Whenever dummy has a shortage in a side suit, try and score extra tricks by ruffing with dummy's trumps.
- You need to do this before drawing trumps.

Example – A Grand Slam

Contract: 7♠ Lead: ♣Q

Dummy	Declarer
♠ J643	♠ AKQ102
♥ 5	♥ A32
♦ AQ87	♦ K42
♣ K432	♣ A9

- You have 11 sure tricks – this is a scary contract – you need 2 more tricks.
- Thankfully dummy has a shortage in the heart side suit. So plan to ruff the two small hearts with trumps in dummy.
- Declarer needs to do this while there are still trumps in dummy.
- Declarer should win the first trick with ♣A, play ♥A and ruff the small heart with dummy's ♠3. Back to hand with a trump and now ruff the ♥2 with dummy's ♠J.
- Declarer now draws the opponents' trumps.
- Declarer can count 5 spade tricks, 2 small heart ruffs in the dummy, 3 top diamonds, the ♥A and 2 top clubs.
- This makes 13 tricks – Hallelujah!

2. Take ruffs before drawing trumps

Don't draw trumps if you need to ruff losing cards in dummy.

Contract 4♠ by East – Lead ♥K

♠ 1098	♠ AKQ76	Win with ♥A and play another heart so that dummy has no more hearts. Win any return and come to hand with a top trump (assuming opponents return a minor suit). Ruff your losing heart in dummy. Only now should you draw trumps, again hoping that they divide 3-2.
♥ A7	♥ 643	
♦ AK6	♦ J53	
♣ A9652	♣ Q3	

Quizzes ♠♥♦♣

1)	Contract 6♠ by Declarer. How can Declarer make the contract assuming a ♣ lead?	DUMMY ♠ 8 5 3 ♥ 6 ♦ A Q 8 2 ♣ A 7 5 3 2	DECLARER ♠ A K Q 6 4 ♥ A 9 5 ♦ K J 10 3 ♣ 4	Losers: 0♠ 2♥ 0♦ 0♣ Winners: 3♠ 1♥ 4♦ 1♣ - potentially 2 extra ♠ winners if split 3:2 Declarer can ruff the two losing ♥s. Win lead, play ♥A & ruff ♥ in dummy. Back to hand with a ♦ & ruff last ♥ in dummy, then draw trumps.
2)	Contract 4♥ by Declarer. How can Declarer make the contract assuming a ♦ lead?	DUMMY ♠ 5 2 ♥ 7 2 ♦ A K 6 5 4 ♣ 9 7 3 2	DECLARER ♠ A K 6 ♥ K Q J 10 9 3 ♦ 8 2 ♣ 5 4	Losers: 1♠ 1♥ 0♦ 2♣ Winners: 2♠ 0♥ 2♦ 0♣ - 5♥ winners once ♥A is played. Declarer must ruff the third ♠ in dummy before drawing trumps. Win the lead and play ♠A, ♠K and then the ♠6. Only then draw trumps

SET BOARDS

<p>Board 7 ♠ 8 7 South Deals ♥ 8 2 None Vul ♦ A K 8 6 4 ♣ 9 7 5 3</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%; vertical-align: top;"> ♠ Q J 6 4 ♥ 6 5 4 ♦ 10 9 5 ♣ A K 8 </td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"> <table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> </td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> </td> <td style="width: 25%; vertical-align: top;"> ♠ 10 9 5 3 ♥ A 7 ♦ Q J 7 ♣ Q J 10 6 </td> <td style="width: 25%; vertical-align: top;"> ♠ A K 2 ♥ K Q J 10 9 3 ♦ 3 2 ♣ 4 2 </td> </tr> </table> <p>West North East South</p> <p>Pass 1 NT Pass 1 ♥</p> <p>All pass 2 ♥</p> <p>Lead: ♣ A</p>	♠ Q J 6 4 ♥ 6 5 4 ♦ 10 9 5 ♣ A K 8	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> </td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 10 9 5 3 ♥ A 7 ♦ Q J 7 ♣ Q J 10 6	♠ A K 2 ♥ K Q J 10 9 3 ♦ 3 2 ♣ 4 2	<p>North (7 HCP) has no fit, not enough points to bid at 2 level so has to bid 1NT (does not promise stoppers). Theme: do not draw trumps, ruff in short hand Lead: ♠A (top of seq.) Losers: 1♠ 1♥ 2♣ Winners: 2♠ 0♥ 2♦ 0♣ Play: Once ♥A is forced out can make 5 ♥ tricks. We can make an extra trick ruffing 3rd ♠ in Dummy. If we draw trumps now good defence would win & play another ♥ & now North would have no trumps left for a ruff. So immediately play ♠A & ♠K & then ♠2 which we ruff in North. Now we can afford to draw trumps. Makes 10 tricks.</p>
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