



Adventures in Bridge

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Hold-Up Plays

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General

- When we have the master card, we can hold-up (not win it immediately) for a variety of reasons.
 - One reason is to give the opponents an opportunity to make a mistake - shift to another suit.
- Hold Up to cut communication between the opponents
 - Create a “Safe Hand” and a “Danger Hand”
- Give the opponents a “problem” – create the appearance of a position that does not exist.

NT Contracts

- Holding up from Axx opposite xx.
- Holding up from Axx opposite xxx.
- Holding up from Kxx (after they take their Ace).
- When not to hold up --- there is a worse opening lead.

Not Just NT Contracts

- Ax opposite xx – holdup to prevent them from having communication later.

Special Situations

- Bath Coup – AJx
- Hold-Up with multiple stoppers
 - AKx
 - AQx – low lead to the King.
- AJ Doubleton – give appearance of AJx (opponents don't assume you always do the right thing)

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