

Counting

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What can we count?

- Trumps
- Long or important suits
- All suits and full distribution
- Points

Counting Trumps

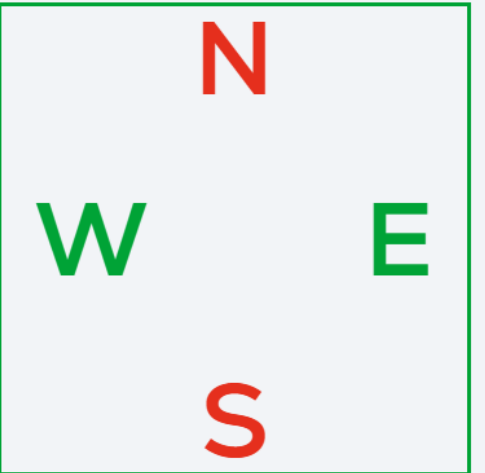
- Most important thing to count
- Dangerous if a trump is left out
- Often lose tricks by taking too many rounds
- Add your cards together – two ways
 - Add two (or one) every new round until 13
 - 13-our cards. Subtract two (or one) every round

♠ Q J 8 6 3

♥ 10 7 4

♦ A 7 3 2

♣ 5



♠ A K 7 2

♥ 8

♦ K 8 6 4

♣ K J 4 2

Counting important suits

- What is important suit?
- We need suit to break 3-2, 3-3, 4-3, etc.
 - AKQ2-987
- The suit opponents attack – how many losers
- Focus on one first, then second

♠ A K Q 5



♠ 10 9 8

♠ Q
♥ Q 9 6 5
♦ K Q 7 6
♣ K 6 4 3

N
W E
S

♠ A K 10 8 6
♥ A 10 7
♦ A 5
♣ A 9 2

Counting points

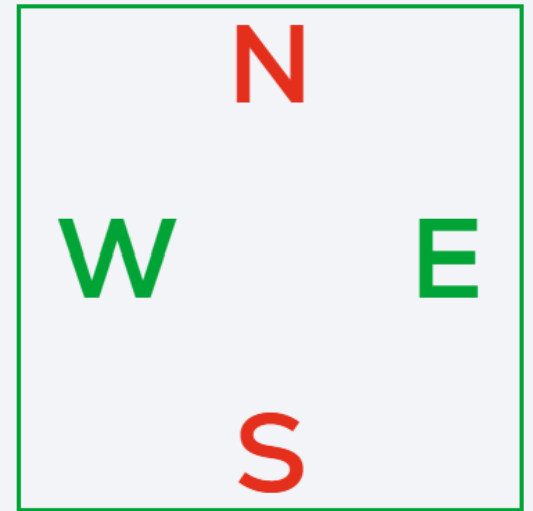
- 40 points in total
- Add yours and partners – 2 ways
 - Add to the total any time an honor is played
 - 40-your points. Subtract when honor played
- Bonus if remember which honors missing
- Also smart during defense
- Yours + dummy's points
- Usually more info about declarer

♠ 4

♥ Q 8 7 6

♦ A J 10 2

♣ A 7 5 4



♠ A Q J 6

♥ A K J 5

♦ 6 5

♣ K 9 2

Counting all suits + distribution

- Counting all suits
- Make a suggested distribution
- $C+D+H+S$ must equal 13
- Any information from the bidding
- What is certain and suggested
 - Did someone show out, or was all cards played in the suits

Summary

- Two ways of counting – adding or subtracting
- Tournament will be a bit different
- First two boards we only count trumps
- Board 3-5 we count the important suits
- Board 6-8 we count points
- Board 9-10 we try to get the full distribution