

Jim's Lesson's Week 3 #1 Covering (look at dummy)

Board 3

South Deals ♠ 8 5 2

E-W Vul ♥ 8 6 4 3

♦ A J 7 3

♣ J 4

♠ J 7 3

♥ J 10 7

♦ K 8 5

♣ Q 9 7 2



♠ 10 9

♥ A 5 2

♦ Q 9 2

♣ A K 10 8 3

♠ A K Q 6 4

♥ K Q 9

♦ 10 6 4

♣ 6 5

Covering:

We have had a lesson on when "not to cover". This week we see a holding in dummy that is one of the few times that the 2nd person playing to a trick (a defender) should play a high card or "cover" the card led by the declarer.

When Should This Be Done?

Covering a ten when looking at A/J/x or A/J/x/x in dummy is one example of when the defender in the 2nd seat should cover.

NS 2♠; NS 2♥; NS 2♦; EW 2♣; Par +110

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
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1 ♠

Pass	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
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Pass	2 ♠	3 ♣	Pass
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Pass	3 ♠	All pass ¹	
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1. Lead 7 clubs

3 ♠ by South

When you cover in front of dummy's ace, you force declarer to give up his entry or risk losing 2 tricks in that suit. Sometimes covering even wins other tricks for the defenders. Try not covering on this hand and declarer now has 3 diamond tricks and 2 entries to dummy. This would allow him to make his contract of 3 spades (9 tricks) instead of only 8 tricks.

Other times the defender playing 2nd to a card played by the declarer should play a high card

such as a king or queen. This should be done if you think it is important to knock out the ace in the dummy. A holding in dummy such as A/J/10/x might require this play. This is a more advanced type of play and is for another day. I just want you to think of what playing high will do for you and what playing low might do for the declarer.