

BARRY RIGAL



BREAKING BRIDGE RULES

THE

FIRST HAND PLAY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	5
1. THE OPENING LEAD	7
Underleading an Honor Sequence	8
Underleading an Ace Against a Suit Contract	11
Misleading Partner with Your Spot Card Lead	14
Not Leading Partner's Suit	16
Leading High from a Two-Card Honor Sequence Against Notrump	18
Leading Unsupported Honors	20
Which Suit to Lead?	25
Majors or Minors?	26
2. UNUSUAL PLAYS FROM HONORS	29
Cashing Out	29
Leading Low from a Doubleton Honor	32
Pin and Win	40
Surrounding Plays	44
Repeating the Finesse	49
Breaking Up the Endplay	50
Entry-Creating and Entry-Destroying Coups	53
Gambits	56
Avoiding the Ruffing Finesse	60
Unblocking Plays	63

3. DECEPTIVE PLAY WHEN LEADING TO A TRICK 67

Leading a Low Card from a Sequence of Honors	67
Underleading 'Dangerous' Honors	71
Leading the 'Wrong' Card from a Sequence	76
Leading an Unsupported Honor	78
Switching to Unsupported Honors to Create Losing Options For Declarer	80
Misleading Declarer About High Cards	85
The Lord Giveth and the Lord Taketh Away	87
Putting Declarer to the Guess Prematurely	88
Preventing the Safety Play	90
Putting Declarer to the Guess as to Whether to Duck or to Win	92
Leading, or Switching To, a Deceptive Trump	95

4. NEUTRALIZING THE OPPONENTS' WEAPONS 99

Safety Plays	100
Gambit Safety Plays	103
Determining Which Honor to Lead Toward	109
Spots Before the Eyes	112
Running the Defense Out of Ammunition	117
Keeping Your Powder Dry	120
Unusual Percentage Plays	121
Focusing on Entries	124
Entry-Creating Plays	129
Leading a High Card to Create an Entry	131
Timing the Duck	135

5. DECEPTIVE PLAY BY DECLARER 139

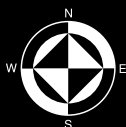
Discovery Plays	139
Tempting the Cover	142
Vanishing Trump Tricks	155
The Power of the Closed Hand	165
Avoiding the Cover	171

MAKING THE WRONG MOVE AT THE RIGHT TIME

Rules are made to be broken, and bridge is no exception. The first of a planned four-book series on cardplay, this book deals with situations where the player who is on lead — defender or declarer, at the start of the deal or in the middle — needs to do something that involves ostensibly ‘breaking the rules’. Not, obviously, the rules of bridge itself, but the well-tried adages that every player is taught – the rules of thumb that work most of the time. Knowing when to break those rules is one of the marks of an expert player.



BARRY RIGAL (New York) grew up in the UK and is a professional bridge writer and commentator. He contributes regularly to various magazines, and is the head VuGraph commentator at World and European events.



MASTER POINT PRESS
978-1-55494-153-7