

# TRUMP LEADS – WHEN

- **Dummy has a Ruffing Value**
  - direct raise as dummy likely has some shortness
  - declarer has shown 2 suits
  - you have a stack in declarer's non-trump suit
  - dummy has splintered showing a singleton
  - dummy has bid Trash Stayman indicating a Stiff Club
- **Opponents have a True Preference Auction**
  - it shows true support (not a false preference)
  - you have a stack in declarer's non-trump suit
- **Opponents have Enough Strength to Show Their Hands**
  - a preference in a strong bidding sequence shows true support
- **Partner Has Opened 1NT**
  - you & partner have most of the high cards
  - opponents will need crossruffs to make the hand
  - opponent has shown a 2-suited hand & will need to do some ruffs
- **After a Conventional Bid by the Opponents**
  - Michaels or Unusual
  - Responder seems unhappy in his preference
  - you have a stack in the convention bidder's non-trump suit
  - looks like partner may have a stack in the convention bidder's non-trump suit
- **Partner Passes your Takeout Double**
  - he has 5-6 very strong trumps & wants to pull declarer's trumps, so lead your stiff trump
- **Other Leads are Terrible**

## DON'T LEAD TRUMPS - If

- **You have a Singleton** – may damage partner's trump holding
- **May Endanger a Potential Trump Trick**
  - you have 2 or 3 trumps to the 10 or J (even 9xx can cost)
- **Suspect Dummy has a Side Good Suit to Dump Losers** – lead aggressively
- **Their Bidding Suggests Strength & Tricks** – lead aggressively