

Lead trumps against sacrifice bids, even a singleton trump.

When the opponents have taken a sacrifice and suggested fewer high card points than your side, how will declarer be planning on taking their tricks? Only by ruffing.

Sacrifices are usually bid on distribution, if the opponents don't have much distribution, they will usually just let you play your contract. Therefore, when the opponents do sacrifice, it is often vital to lead trumps early to cut down their ruffing potential.

WEST

What should West lead after this auction?

♠ A 7

West North East South

♥ A K J 5 2

1 H 2NT* 4H 5C

♦ 9 4 3

Dbl p p p * both minors

♣ A 7 6

West must lead a low club (in case east has the club king) It is tempting to lead a top heart to take a look at dummy but in an auction like this one , it could prove costly as North is likely void or short in hearts.

The best defense to maximise the penalty is to **lead trumps at every opportunity.**