

TEST YOUR BRIDGE TECHNIQUE

ENTRY MANAGEMENT

David Bird • Tim Bourke

♠ K Q J 10 4
♥ 7 2
♦ A K 5
♣ 10 9 6

♦ J led

♠ A 5 2
♥ K 5
♦ 7 6 2
♣ A K Q 8 4

TEST YOUR BRIDGE TECHNIQUE

ENTRY MANAGEMENT



David Bird
Tim Bourke

MASTER POINT PRESS • TORONTO

© 2004 David Bird & Tim Bourke. All rights reserved. It is illegal to reproduce any portion of this material, except by special arrangement with the publisher. Reproduction of this material without authorization, by any duplication process whatsoever, is a violation of copyright.

Master Point Press

331 Douglas Ave.

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

M5M 1H2

(416) 781-0351

Website: www.masterpointpress.com
www.masteringbridge.com
www.ebooksbridge.com
www.bridgeblogging.com

Email: info@masterpointpress.com

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Bird, David, 1946-

Entry management / David Bird & Tim Bourke.

(Test your bridge technique)

ISBN 978-1-55494-113-1

1. Contract bridge. I. Bourke, Tim I. Title. III. Series: Bird, David, 1946- . Test your bridge technique.

GV1282.435.B57 2004

795.41'53

C2004-904597-0

Editor

Ray Lee

Cover and interior design

Olena S. Sullivan/New Mediatrix

Interior format and copy editing

Luise Lee

Printed in Canada by Webcom Ltd.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

09 08 07 06 05 04

INTRODUCTION

This book is designed to accompany *Entry Management*, Book #1 in the *Bridge Technique series*. It will give you the opportunity to practice playing in contracts where special attention has to be paid to the entry situation.

Before the problems section starts we have included a brief review of some of the techniques required to create extra entries. These may suffice for solving some of the early problems in the book. Later on, more advanced techniques will be required. Don't worry if you fail to spot the winning line of play when you first attempt a problem. The necessary technique will be clearly explained in the solution that follows.

Whether you find the problems in this book a gentle jog or a hard slog, we are sure you will enjoy the journey. Next time you face such situations at the table you will be much more likely to spot the solution.

HOW TO MANAGE YOUR ENTRIES

Entry management ensures that you are in the right hand at the right time and is an important part of planning the play of a hand. It may involve special techniques within a single suit — to create extra entries or to avoid blockages that would kill a necessary entry.

One such technique is needed on this deal:

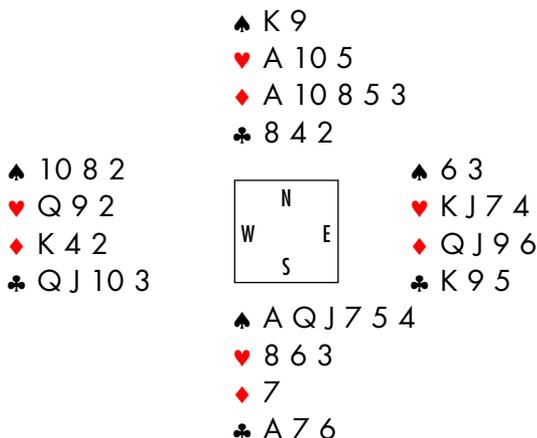
	♠ 9 4 3											
	♥ A J 9 3											
	♦ J 10 9											
	♣ 6 5 2											
♠ 6 2			♠ K 8 7 5									
♥ 10 8 6 5			♥ 2									
♦ 7 4 2			♦ 8 6 5 3									
♣ 10 9 8 4			♣ A J 7 3									
	<table style="width: 100%; height: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">N</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">E</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">W</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">S</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	N		E	W				S			
N		E										
W												
	S											
	♠ A Q J 10											
	♥ K Q 7 4											
	♦ A K Q											
	♣ K Q											

You arrive in 6♥ and West leads the ♣10 to his partner's ace. Back comes a club and you win in your hand. The next move is obvious. Yes, you stop to make a plan! To avoid losing a spade trick, you will need to find East with the ♠K. That's not the end of the story, though. If East holds four or more spades, you will need three entries to dummy so that you can take three spade finesses.

After winning the second round of clubs, you should draw one round of trumps with the king. When you lead the ♥Q at Trick 4, West follows suit. It is then safe to overtake with dummy's ♥A. By overtaking the queen with the ace, you promote the value of dummy's jack and nine of hearts. In fact you promote them into the second and third entries that you need to the dummy.

East shows out on the second round of trumps but this causes no problem. You finesse the ♠Q and justice is done (your opponents may not agree) when the finesse wins. You return to dummy by taking a marked finesse of the ♥9 and repeat the spade finesse. Finally you cross to dummy's ♥J and finesse yet again in spades. East did indeed hold ♠K-x-x-x, so your elegant maneuver in the trump suit proved to be necessary.

Sometimes entry management is just a fancy name for making plays in the right order. When you need to set up a side suit in dummy, it may be necessary to use the entries that dummy's trump holding provides.



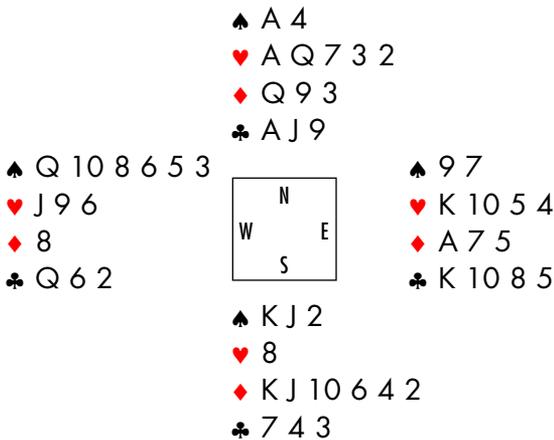
West leads the ♣Q against your contract of 4♠. (3NT would have been more sensible, yes, but you like a challenge.) You win with the ♣A and see that you have two heart losers and two club losers staring you in the face. How should you play the contract?

The only chance to dispose of a loser is to establish dummy's diamond suit. Since you will have to take three diamond ruffs and then return to dummy to enjoy the long card, you will need four entries to the dummy. The red aces will give you two entries. The other two entries will have to come from the trump suit and this will mean taking an 'unnecessary finesse'.

After winning the club lead, you cross to the ♦A and ruff a diamond. You then, very casually, play a spade to the nine. Yes — the

finesse wins! A second diamond ruff is followed by a trump to the king and a third diamond ruff with a high trump. Now all that remains is to draw West's last trump and to cross to the ♥A. You can then discard one of your losers on the established card in diamonds. If West had made an inspired opening lead in one of the majors, this would have killed the contract.

Sometimes the only entry management that is needed is to win the opening lead in the right hand. An inexperienced player might go wrong on this deal:



West leads the ♠6 against 3NT. You win in your hand with the ♠J and pause to make a plan. Do you? It's too late! When you play on the diamond suit East will hold up his ace until the third round. With no entry to the South hand you will score only two diamond tricks. There will be no way to recover.

The right time to make a plan is *before* your first play from dummy. Here you have four top cards outside the diamond suit. By adding five diamond winners to this total, you will make the game easily. To guarantee an entry to the established diamond winners, you should win the opening lead with dummy's ♠A. It will then make no difference if East holds up the diamond ace for two rounds. When you regain the lead, you will be able to cross to the South hand with the ♠K.

Let's look next at some plays that aim to avoid a blockage in a suit. Would you have seen the danger on the next deal?

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

TEST YOUR DECLARER PLAY!

This book is designed to accompany *Entry Management*, Book 1 in the *Bridge Technique* series.

Why should you want to polish your entry management technique? There are two very good reasons. The first is that it is often relatively easy play to control your entry situation. Often you need do nothing more than be alert to potential problems. The second reason is that the opportunities to use this technique, or to defend against it, will arise in nearly every bridge session you play. So the rewards to be gained are considerable.

The basic principles of entry management are straightforward, but applying them is not always so easy. Rest assured that some serious challenges await you in these pages!



DAVID BIRD has written more than fifty previous books, including the award-winning *Bridge Technique* series (with Marc Smith). A regular contributor to many bridge magazines, he lives near Southampton, England.



TIM BOURKE is a world-renowned collector of interesting bridge hands, whose previous books include *Countdown to Winning Bridge* (with Marc Smith) and *Saints & Sinners* (with David Bird). He lives in Canberra, Australia.



MASTER POINT PRESS