

BRIDGE TECHNIQUE SERIES

SAFETY PLAYS



David Bird • Marc Smith

CONTENTS

Chapter 1 What is a Safety Play?	5
<i>Key points</i>	9
Chapter 2 Playing for Safety in Individual Suits	10
<i>The opponents hold the jack</i>	11
<i>The opponents hold the jack and ten</i>	11
<i>The opponents hold the queen</i>	12
<i>The opponents hold the queen and ten</i>	14
<i>The opponents hold the queen and jack</i>	15
<i>The opponents hold the queen, jack and ten</i>	17
<i>The opponents hold the king</i>	18
<i>The opponents hold the king and queen</i>	18
<i>The opponents hold the king and jack</i>	19
<i>The opponents hold the king and ten</i>	22
<i>The opponents hold the king, jack and ten</i>	23
<i>The opponents hold the ace and king</i>	24
<i>The opponents hold the ace and queen</i>	25
<i>The opponents hold the ace and jack</i>	26
<i>The opponents hold the ace, queen and jack</i>	27
<i>Key points</i>	28
<i>Quiz</i>	29
Chapter 3 Full Hand Safety Plays	33
<i>Discovery play</i>	34
<i>Comparing two chances</i>	35
<i>Combining two chances</i>	38
<i>Safety plays to retain entries in a single suit</i>	41
<i>Repeating a 'successful' finesse</i>	43
<i>Safety plays involving a two-way finesse</i>	44
<i>Key points</i>	45
<i>Quiz</i>	46
Chapter 4 Safety Plays with Trumps	49
<i>Safety plays to avoid a ruff</i>	51
<i>Safety plays to establish a side suit</i>	52
<i>Safety plays within a trump suit</i>	54
<i>There's no justice</i>	56
<i>Key points</i>	57
<i>Quiz</i>	58

INTERMEDIATE

The **Bridge Technique Series** is designed to take the reader through the most important aspects of card-play technique at bridge. Each book of the series focuses on a different topic, and wherever possible the tactics and strategy are considered from the point of view of both declarer and defenders.

SAFETY PLAYS

Safety plays are card-play techniques that are used to maximize your chances of making a certain number of tricks, often by giving up a trick that did not necessarily have to be lost. In essence, these plays are used to ‘take insurance’ against an extremely unlucky lie of the opponents’ cards. This book explains how to work out safety plays in a suit in isolation as well in the context of the whole deal.



DAVID BIRD has authored more than forty previous books, including the well-known ‘St Titus Abbey’ series and several co-authored with Terence Reese. He writes two newspaper columns in the UK, and his work appears regularly in numerous bridge magazines in the UK and the US.



MARC SMITH’s previous books include *Countdown to Winning Bridge* (1999, with Tim Bourke) and *25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know* (1999 American Bridge Teachers Association Book of the Year, with Barbara Seagram). He is a regular contributor to a number of bridge magazines.



MASTER POINT PRESS