

Have you ever played a hand where everything is against you? All the finesses lose, none of the suits break, Singleton kings are getting tricks for the opponents. You are not showing any maturity and are pouting and complaining. Making the contract? Not gonna happen. Screw it. I give up, just get it over with. Next hand.

Been there? I have. Don't go there anymore. It's a bad place. Momma told you to stay away from these kinds of places.

Everybody played the same hand, but you had "bad luck" (maybe it's been that way for you your entire life?) We need to change how we react to "bad luck". This is one of those lemon/lemonade things. This could be your big chance. If you get rid of the pout you might come out of this OK.

Other pairs are running into the same problems. If you can muster up a little more maturity, you might be able to play for only down-1. That could be a winner! Have you ever noticed that some club members seem to be amused by bad cards and bad suit splits? They shrug and smile. Their smile seems to say, "what an unusual break". What it really says is "what a break!" They know if they play the situation well from here on out, they can score big. Learn from them. Now, when the suit breaks 5-1, don't get down. Smile. Shrug it off. This is a good time for a fist pump. A bad split is just what you were hoping for.

Save your down times for the places where you could have made the contract but went down two. The finesse worked but you used a little too much intellect and didn't take it. Just the average players take finesses. You're thinking that the double squeeze is the safer route. Plus, it's flashier and it's worth the price of admission (\$6) to see the looks on the opponents faces after you have completed this coup. Where can you get this kind of enjoyment for only \$6?

Back to the down-2 dilemma. The big plan didn't work. Don't rationalize that you still had a good plan, but something went wrong in the implementation. No. This is not the time for that. This is the time to cuss (under your breath); to roll your eyes; to slap your forehead; to place (bang) your head on the table. The whole table knows you botched this. Act like you know it too. Confession is good for the soul. You'll feel better. The table may be stressed with your behavior, but it is you we are worried about.

Simply summarized:

- Bad splits → fist pump
- Bad play → head bump

Just a guess, but this advice is probably not sanctioned by the club.

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