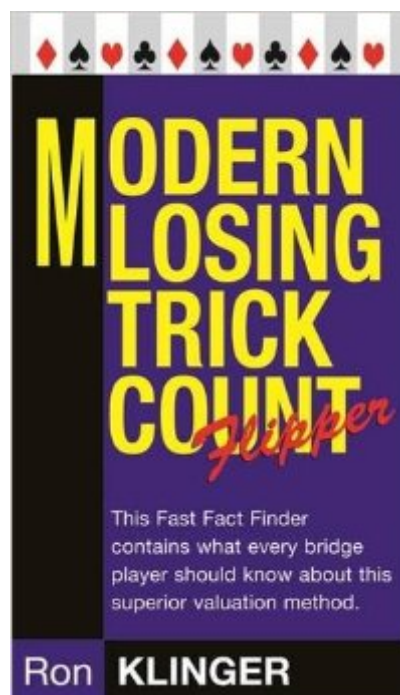


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# Modern Losing Trick Count Flipper (Master Bridge Series)



## Synopsis

The Losing Trick Count is a way of measuring the trick-taking potential of a trump contract. It enables you to calculate the playing-strength, the tricks in your own hand and to estimate those in your partner's hand. Used correctly the LTC is a vastly superior valuation technique for accurate bidding.

## Book Information

Series: Master Bridge Series

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## Customer Reviews

In the late 1950's, the Italians began a long streak of World Bridge Championships. And various people pointed out flaws in Standard American bidding. The range of our opening 1-bids was too great. And so on. But when I read the excellent book by Belladonna and Avarelli (two members of the winning Italian team) about the Roman Club system of bidding (this came out in 1959 in the U. S.) I was immediately struck by the emphasis on the number of losers in suit contracts: The number of losers is easy to estimate. xxxx or xxx = 3 losers. Axxx or Axx or KJx or QJx = 2 losers. And so on. An Ace or a King covered a loser in opener's hand. To open the bidding, you needed at least 12 high card points and no more than 7 losers. Suit bidding put a big emphasis on finding out which losers were covered by one's partner. In the present book, Ron Klinger explains a slightly more precise version of calculating losers to arrive at good suit contracts. He starts with a formula: Add your losers to your partner's losers and deduct the sum from 24 to estimate how many tricks you will take. We learn details about how to count losers and how to adjust the losing trick count for trump suit quality, and controls. And there are examples about how to reach (or avoid) games and slams. It's certainly worth reading. By the way, I think that when it comes to competitive bidding, most of

these ideas often go out the window if your side and the other side both have long trump suits. The number of trumps you and your partner have in your suit plus the number the opponents have in their suit is roughly equal to the number of tricks you can take in your suit plus the number they can take in theirs! This is sometimes called "the law of total tricks.

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